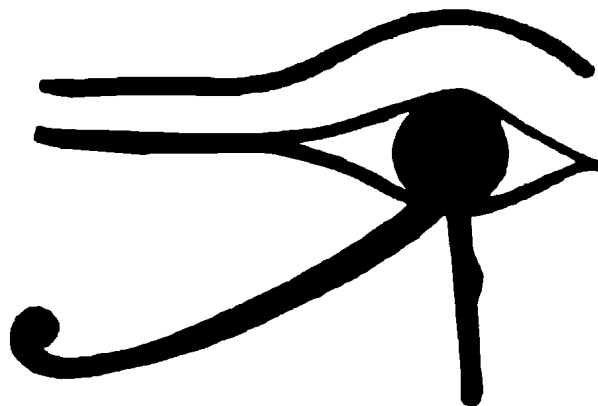


**The
Quarterly Circular
of**

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THE
EGYPT



STUDY CIRCLE

**March Quarter 2004
Volume XVIII No. 9**

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Pages 197 – 220**

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Cover of the Month: 1880 (December 7th). Returned Letter printed envelope, enclosing a letter for a Mr. Wirth of Alexandria, charge shown with handstamped '2' (piastres) Postage Due, with Alexandrie-Depart cds in black. Post Office Form 125a. Extremely rare. Ex the Kurt Wolfsbauer collection, further items from this collection which were not auctioned by David Feldman are available from Greg Todd at the address below.

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EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE OFFICERS

President:	Mr. J. Sears, FRPSL 496 Uxbridge Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4SL.
Chairman:	Mr. P.R. Bertram, FRPSL 11 Bishop's Way, Buckden, St Neots, Cambs PE19 5TZ.
Deputy Chairman:	Mr. J.S. Horesh, U.K.
Secretary:	Mr. J.M. Murphy. 109 Chadwick Road, Peckham, London SE15 4PY. egyptstudycircle@hotmail.com
Treasurer:	Mr. G.A. Jeyes 4 Ravine Court, Meridan Close, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset BH13 7JU
Editor:	Mr. E. Hall 6 Bedford Avenue, Little Chalfont, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6PT edmund.hall@virgin.net
Librarian:	Mr. D.J. Davis Church View Cottage, Church Road, Upton Snodsbury, Worcestershire WR7 4NH
U.S.A. Agent:	Mr. C.F. Hass P.O. Box 3435, Nashua, NH 03061-3435, U.S.A.
Egypt Agent:	To be appointed.
Antipodean Agent:	Mr A. J. Chisholm 13 Arden Way, Wilton, Wellington 6005, New Zealand.
Committee:	Mr. D. H. Clarke.

Forthcoming Meetings.

May 8	AGM & Postage Due Markings and Stamps	Robin Bertram
July 10	Egyptian Postcards and their Publishers	Mohamed Nofal
September 11	The French Connection, 1798-1956	Peter Grech
November 13	A Tour around Egypt in Postmarks	Cyril Defriez

Meetings are normally held at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London. Members usually congregate in the ground floor bar from 1pm onwards and meetings commence at 2pm.

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Report of Meeting January 10, 2004

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Robin Bertram (Chairman), Peter Andrews, Mike Bramwell, John Clarke, John Davis (Librarian), Cyril Defriez, Mostafa El-Dars, Ted Fraser-Smith, Peter Grech, Edmund Hall, Charles Hass (USA), Stanley Horesh (Deputy Chairman), Alan Jeyes (Treasurer), Mike Murphy (Secretary) and Lewis Said.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Chadwick, John Chellingsworth, Tony Chisholm, Antonello Fumu, Vic Goode, André Navari, Keith Pogson, Sami Sadek, Tony Schmidt, Brian Sedgley, Ibrahim Shoukry, Lucien Toutounji and Betty Watterson.

The Chairman welcomed members and wished them a Happy New Year, and in particular Charlie Hass, our visiting colleague from the United States, though he regretted the circumstances of the visit, being the funeral of our good friend Norton Collier, the No 1 collector of Sudan in the UK, who died just before Christmas.

The Chairman mentioned the forthcoming trip to visit our New Zealand colleagues, for which last-minute arrangements are being made, and said how much he and many other members were looking forward to it.

The Secretary mentioned philatelic queries received from two overseas members - Antonello Fumu in Italy and Tony Chisholm in New Zealand, the former of which was dealt with successfully. He also announced that *L'OP* No 3 of the new series was soon to be published, and that Hisham Bassyouny (ESC 391) had been re-elected President of the Philatelic Society of Egypt in Cairo, with Hassan el-Morsi Abdou as his Deputy. Ibrahim Shoukry (ESC 423) has been elected to the committee. Our members are to be congratulated on these appointments.

The Treasurer reminded members that 2004 subscriptions fell due on January 1 and that under new rules those failing to pay by April 1 face a penalty charge to renew membership. The Editor, who was congratulated on producing all four issues of the *Quarterly Circular* in a calendar year, made an appeal for material with colour illustrations for the next issue.

At the instigation of Brian Sedgley, Charlie Hass addressed the meeting on the recent abundance of forgeries appearing on the internet auction site Ebay, with particular reference to a group of fake classic postmarks purporting to be from the Egyptian Offices Abroad - Jaffa (spelled Jaffa rather than Iaffa, so fairly easy to spot!), Tenedos, Rodi, Metelino etc. He also mentioned the well-publicised circumstances of a company named ADT Investments, which has been forced by Ebay to amend the wording of its entries to acknowledge that what it is selling are forgeries of Iran and other countries as well as Egypt and Sudan. Ebay, which acts merely as a facilitator between seller and buyer and does not "run an auction" with its concomitant responsibilities, cannot be held to be at fault when erroneous material is sold; but members were warned to beware. If something seems too good to be true, it probably is!

Ted Fraser-Smith then presented his display on "Agency" postal markings, a topic which had intrigued many members by its apparent opacity but of which (almost) all became clear by the end of a fascinating and revealing afternoon, aided by Ted's painstaking research into an area hitherto completely unexplored but full of promise for years of study to come.

Ted explained that he was dealing with postal markings - used mainly to cancel the stamps, but also occasionally apparently as transit or arrival marks - first sighted from about 1963 and probably still in use today, bearing the Arabic wording *bareed ahly* بريد اهلى (literally, "national post") or *wakalat-bareed* وكالة بريد ("postal agency"). Some of these were circular date stamps of the normal pattern, with Arabic above and English or French in the lower half; but more were large (up to 5cm x 3.5cm) double rectangles bearing only a single town name in English, and all other documentation in Arabic.

The rectangles all carry a date in Arabic in the centre box; all state either *bareed ahly* or *wakalat-bareed* at top right in Arabic, all carry a "town name" (for want of a better description) in English and Arabic below the date box. And at top left in Arabic is either a street name (*shareh* ...) or the name of a small and almost insignificant place, unknown to the world outside and so immensely difficult to translate. Quickly came the

realisation that “postal agency”, on both types of marking, was most often found in conjunction with street names, ie, these are postmarks based on larger towns. But what about the countryside?

Faced with making an initial classification of something never before studied, and with something over 120 covers to deal with, Ted sought inspiration in the work he had done on transliterating an all-Arabic 1984 Egyptian Post Office guide to the newly instituted Postcode system, quickly realising that Postcode numbers defined not only large areas of the country into coherent masses, but also that comparison of postcodes could reveal which tiny hamlets shared a postcode, and hence a geographical area, with larger towns.

This made sorting and translating a good deal easier, though the markings are often not well struck, and Ted was able to show almost 60 sheets, usually with two covers per sheet, of material never before examined, together with detailed maps explaining where the villages lie, and how the Postcode system divides the country into manageable areas.

As the meeting progressed it became increasingly apparent that the double-rectangle markings seem to refer to a modern version of the old Rural Post, with the top-left “village” indicator taking the place of the old-fashioned “cartouche”, which was kept in the village postbox and used by the visiting postman to indicate the source of collection: the stamps were cancelled with a Rural cds only on arrival back at the Post Office terminus of his route.

How the present system is organised remains a mystery. There was much discussion of privatisation of uneconomic parts of the postal service, as collections from tiny villages must surely be; and Mostafa el-Dars explained that “bareed ahly” might indicate precisely the opposite of what appears - “national” post might mean something like “people’s post”, i.e. non-governmental post. The meeting also discussed “sub post offices”, perhaps serviced from a small village store or tea shop, which sold stamps and offered other services (registration marks are known on these covers; so is AR) in places without a full post office, or, in larger towns, where there is some distance between regular POs. But transit marks on the envelopes indicate that at some point this mail was transferred into the regular postal system for onward transmission.

The meeting was lost in admiration at Ted’s unique research, which, despite its depth, leaves unanswered almost as many questions as he has resolved. The two systems seem remarkably similar, though one apparently serving towns and the other villages (this is not exclusive): so why should they have two names? Two periods of privatisation? Where exactly - and what - were the services provided? Who provided these handstamps (they are all similar, but not precisely so, so no central control?), and who physically used them? Who carried mails from the “sub post office” to the regular mails? How were the “*wakalat-bareed*” paid for their services?

Here’s a challenge: will all members please please go through their material, look out anything with the characteristic double-rectangle or an “agency” or “agent” cds, and send Ted photocopies at 8 Grisedale Road, Great Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1TU (or send scans to egyptstudycircle@hotmail.com). This is a remarkable and novel area. It has already been in operation 40 years. It needs and will reward further study. Let’s see what we can do.

The Chairman thanked Ted Fraser-Smith for leading a thought-provoking and immensely well-researched meeting on a completely new topic, and remarked that it couldn’t have been led by a better man, thanks to his self-taught knowledge of Arabic. The painstaking depth of his study had left the meeting dumbfounded, and eager for more in a new collecting area for all of us. Members showed their appreciation in the time-honoured fashion.

Examples of some of these covers are shown on page 210.

Marian and Stanley Horesh invite all members of **The Egypt Study Circle**, and their partners, to luncheon on Sunday, 6th June 2004 at their flat, 55 Latymer Court, Hammersmith Road, London W6 7JE. RSVP before 23rd May (telephone 020 8748 5133). Parking can be arranged. You will be welcome at 12.30pm. for 1pm.

Report of Meeting February 28, 2004

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Leon Balian (Egypt), Luca Biolato (Italy), Mike Bramwell, John Clarke, Cyril Defriez, Mostafa El-Dars, Mark Freeman, Peter Grech, Edmund Hall, Stanley Horesh (Deputy Chairman), Costas Kelemenis (Greece), Mordecai Kremener (Israel), Hany Makram (Egypt), Mike Murphy (Secretary), Anatole Ott (Sweden), Peter Smith (USA), Vahe Varjabedian (Egypt), Richard Wheatley and Dick Wilson (USA).

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Peter Andrews, Robin Bertram, Margaret Chadwick, John Davis, Ted Fraser-Smith, Alan Jeyes and Betty Watterson.

The Deputy Chairman welcomed members and particularly our nine colleagues from overseas, and noted the efficacy of arranging meetings to coincide with Stampex (and Philatex, as it happens, this year). Envious good wishes were expressed to our colleagues meeting in rather different circumstances on the beach in New Zealand.

The Secretary noted the coincidence of the date being the 82nd anniversary of Lord Allenby's declaration of the end of the British protectorate and the inception of Egyptian independence under King Fuad I. He regretted having to announce the death of Jürgen Settgast (ESC 158), former Director of German Archaeology in Egypt and of the Egyptian section of the Berlin Museum and a strong supporter over many years of the ESC auction as both buyer and seller.

The ABPS had apologised to the Circle and to members of the family of Ibrahim Chaftar Bey for having erroneously published the name as Bey, I.C. in the list of signatories to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in its 2004 Handbook, and promised to rectify the error.

The spring Auction was ready for despatch, and the Secretary announced arrangements for those with internet access to see some of the lots illustrated on the Egypt Study Circle page on MSN Groups; photocopy illustrations will be provided to those without the internet. In answer to a question, he said that almost half of the members appeared to have internet access, and there was discussion of publication of a list of email addresses and members' collecting interests. In an attempt to explore thoroughly the security aspects, it was eventually decided that the matter would be further discussed at the AGM.

The Secretary reminded members that 2004 subscriptions fell due on January 1 and that those failing to pay by April 1 face a penalty charge to restore membership. Vahe Varjabedian showed the updated CD-Rom version of his *Perfins of Egypt* booklet, which is available to members for £10 from vahev@hotmail.com or 6 Mohamed Galal Street, Heliopolis, Egypt.

The meeting then saw displays of "ten sheets" from 12 members. Brief details are as follows:

John Sears showed a colourful display of Maritime Mail, co-ordinating postcards of the vessels - including a rare card of the *Palestina* - with covers showing postmarks of ships on various lines, including the Khedivial Mail Line, Lloyd Triestino, Italian Piroscafi, and so on.

Stanley Horesh, in similar vein, showed markings struck by Post Offices Aboard Ship, including examples of Uffizio Natante (used on Third Issue only), the Indian Sea Post, the Romanian Alexandria-Constanta (and vice versa) markings, rettas struck on board, and the German Kais.Deutsche Marine-Schiffspost (military) and Deutsche Seepost (civilian).

Peter Smith chose as his topic Ten Para, and showed a quite astonishing array of covers with 10-para stamps, encompassing the issues from 1866 to 1888 and including for each a 10-para cover (domestic printed matter) and combinations (including blocks of four) making up the 40-para letter rate. Highlights included a Second Issue 10-para wrapper from Beirut; a mixed franking of 1867 10pa plus Italian 5ct for international printed matter; an amazing 1879 10pa on 2 1/2pi, used on January 1, the day of issue, with surcharge inverted(!); examples of three of the four colours of the De La Rue issue - legally - on a cover with the 1pi rate made up with a pair of 5pa; and a 20pa due on an unfranked cover that should have had a 10pa stamp.

In a complete change of pace, **Mostafa el-Dars** showed how his collecting interests had changed since he joined the Circle, illustrating many quirks of modern-day Post Office practice, and also including four anonymous picture postcards sent on the same day to Princess Hochiar Ibrahim at Munira Palace in 1911. Who was her secret admirer?

Richard Wheatley showed research on the Port Said Paquebot CDS, explaining the different types, and how and when damage to Type I was rectified. He suggested that Type 2 remained undamaged as it must have been the reserve stamp, kept locked away except when needed.

Luca Bialato displayed some real wonders, including an unknown seal of the Delegazione Sanitaria di Alexandria of 1888, and several shipping-related covers and entires, including evidence for the extension to Egypt of the services of the Smirne Steamship Navigation Co (its cachet on a Smirne-Alexandria letter); and the Danube Navigation Company (Port Paye on a letter from Nice to Alex). He also showed Ufficio Natante without Alex or Cosp.

Postcards from the turn of the century were shown by **Peter Grech**, who had full sets of the beautifully produced Golden Kiosk, Cairo, issues showing embossed mice eating stamps of the 1880 Egypt issue, Sudan camels and Sudan tax stamps; and also a full set of 12 cards illustrating Arabic and foreign-language Egyptian newspapers from 1910.

Anatole Ott displayed his researches into Parcel Cards used for overseas, which will form a *QC* article in the near future. He asks members to help with photocopies of any examples, together with three specific questions: when was drawback introduced; were there parcel cards before 1880; and are regulations for use of fiscal stamps of the receiving country known? Anatole is at Södermalmsbrinken 6, S 43169 Mölndal, Sweden.

Egypt's most recent definitive issue, which started in 2002 and comprises 10, 25, 30, 50pi, £E1, 110, 125, 150, 225pi and £E5, was shown by **Cyril Defriez**. He noted wide perforation variations even in stamps of the same dimension, and that Gibbons has misordered the issue. See illustrations on page 208.

Mordecai Kremener showed a series of photocopies, on account of the difficulty of transporting his collection across national boundaries, of outstanding Second Issue material, including covers bearing 2pi plus 2x10pa, 4x1pi, a remarkable Registered cover franked by the issue's 5pi and 1pi stamps, and usage in January 1872, the last month of the issue's validity.

Vahe Varjabedian's display was of local documents where the 3-piastre Government fee, which should have been "paid" in fiscal or revenue stamps, had been covered by normal definitives, against regulation. Examples from 1919 to 1940 included colourful strips of 3x10m Crown overprint and several blocks of 6x5m, from cities as well as country towns.

Finally **Leon Balian** gave some indication of his future plans, which include detailed publications of specific topics. Well under way is the French Post Office, which will include a history and listings of all stamps and postal stationery. He will also update his catalogue with colour illustrations since 1998, and prices in \$US instead of £E. And he plans further volumes on relationships in De La Rue and Harrison issues between control numbers and watermarks; controls of new issues from 1962; and plate flaws on all stamps from 1940 to 1980.

The Deputy Chairman thanked members for having produced a fascinating afternoon of such diverse material. He described "the amazing nooks and crannies" of the ways members amused themselves as quite different from the mere collecting of stamps, and applauded the open minds that allowed for such wide and varied interests.

Congratulations to our member Mordecai Kremer (ESC 291), who won a gold medal in Bangkok for his "Egypt, The Pyramid and Sphinx Issues 1867-1906".

New members:

- ESC 578 **Gordon Anstee**, B21 San Remo Towers, Sea Road, Boscombe, Dorset BH15 1JS
(Egypt 1866-1875)
- ESC 579 **Miss Adelene Simmers**, 6 Peat Way, Portlethen, Aberdeen AB12 4XN
(Stamps/postal history of Egypt, stamps/postcards with Ancient Egypt theme)

Change of address:

- ESC 564 **Amgad Bassili**, 672 Munich Circle, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2V 2L6
- ESC 575 **Jean-Marie Delelis**, 23 Rue des Dames, 17138 Puilboreau, France
- ESC 562 **Ralf Dreyer**, Chargé d'affaires, Delegation Yemen, c/o European Commission, rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium. By Diplomatic Pouch

Resigned:

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| ESC 331 | Philip Simpson | ESC 359 | T.A. Simpson |
| ESC 386 | Robert Soeder | ESC 501 | George Anagnostoulis |

Lapsed:ESC 372 **Jim Wilkerson****Deceased:**ESC 126 **C Th J Hooghuis****A “Croquis”/Sketch for the 1926 King’s Birthday Stamp****Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)**

Recently (January) a dealer in Beirut had an interesting item in his “Ebay Store”. I include a picture of it (See page 209). It was described as a “croquis” of an “adopted enlarged hand-painted proof”, made by Ahmed Ibrahim, an Egyptian artist, and signed by him. It is very well done, and the colour is a reasonably good match (somewhat lighter) to the issued stamp. The “croquis” is thus a modern, hand-made reproduction, and it is offered as such, with no intention to deceive. The price asked is \$200.00. Whether it is worth that as an object of art is a matter for the collector to decide, but it surely took a considerable amount of the artist’s time to produce, and much skill. There are apparently other stamps that have been copied similarly. I thought the existence of these items should be recorded, for after they have been dispersed by sale to various individuals, their origin and nature may become lost. They then might be mistaken for proofs contemporary with the issue.

Description (As given by the vendor)

Egypt 1926 KING Fuad 56th Birthday adopted enlarge handpainting proof CROQUI in dark and light violet without value inscription mounted on card signed by the Egyptian Artist Ahmed Ibrahim a wonderful and Fabulous show pieces very fine attractive and scare. PLEASE SEE THE SCAN. Bid with confidence all our materials are 100% Authentic. If you are the winning bidder please add to your payment 4\$US for Worldwide Shipping in a registered letter via LibanPost Service. We accept only, US\$ in cash payment or cashier check & Money order check add 5\$US Bank Fees. Thanks and happy bidding. I am APS Member 185459 ready for any question and inquiry. “DEAR VISITOR PLEASE PASS BY MY E-BAY STORE”

(Editor: I have taken the liberty of adding two more of these items with the descriptions as follows. Illustrations can also be found on centre page 209)

Egypt 1956 The Republique Eagle Issue two handpainted proof croqui 50m and 1E Pound in multicolors red magenta, green and black mounted on cards signed by the Egyptian artist Ahmed Ibrahim very fine beautiful and attractive .(those stamps used as Consular Fee Stamp

Egypt 1887 The First Revenue Issue 10m adopted enlarged handpainted proof croqui in geen and black mounted on card signed by the Egyptian artist Ahmed Ibrahim attractive and scare.

A New Express Discovery

Sherif Hesni (ESC 550)

As I was looking through my Express collection, I noticed this cover which I thought would be interesting to share with ESC members.

It was mailed from Alexandria to Cairo, franked with three 10 mills Farouk three-bars (SG 442, Bal 522), and was intended to travel by the registered express service. The stamps and cover are postmarked Alexandria Express dated 25 October 1953.



But since the 30m franking was insufficient, paying only for the postage (15m) plus registration (15m), the rectangular Express cachet was annulled by using the same cachet inverted on top of it; plus (centre bottom, the oval) another apparently previously unrecorded all-Arabic cachet which reads “Express Mail Fee Insufficient”.

If any member has come across a similar cover, please contact me or send information to the Editor for publication.

Perfins on Egyptian Stamps: Update









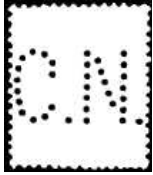



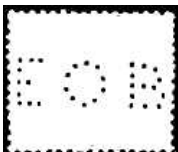
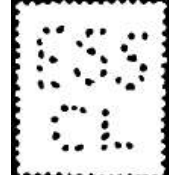
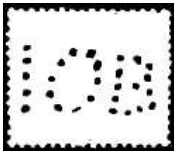
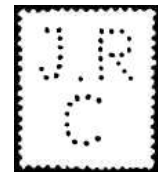

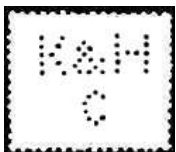
Vahe Varjabedian (ESC 390)




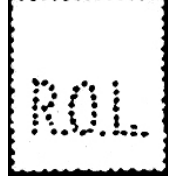
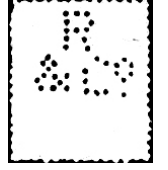
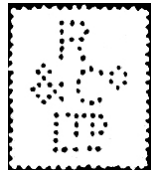







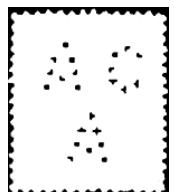
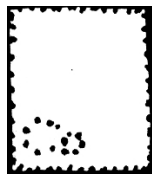
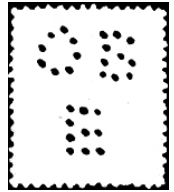
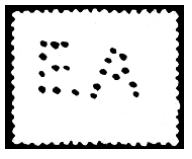



It is almost four years since I published my booklet about Egyptian perfins. Since that time a huge quantity of information and a great number of discoveries have come to light in a very short period that for long years ago had been lost in the dark.

I am proud that with my work and with the help of many sincere perfin collectors, I have been able to achieve a part of a big work.. There is still much to do in this field, but it is a sincere pleasure to see Egyptian perfins attracting a good deal more interest among world perfin societies, and that the number of Egyptian perfins collectors is increasing.

Here I present my latest update list, together with brief details about each firm. It is interesting to note that the number of firms using perfins has increased from 33 in 1999 to 38 today. More information about each company can be found in my booklet.

Finally, I should like to thank all my colleagues all over the globe. And especially the members of the Egypt Study Circle and the GB Perfin Society for having helped me so much during the last four years to accomplish this study.

	THE AGRICULTURAL BANK OF EGYPT BANK /CAIRO 1910-1915		BANCO COMMERCIALE ITALIANA BANK /Alexandria 1923-1936
	BANCO COMMERCIALE ITALIANA PER L'EGITTO BANK /Alexandria 1923-1935		BANCO ITALO EGIZIANO BANK CAIRO & Alexandria 1930 -1960
	BANQUE MOSSERI BANK/ Alexandria 1900—1914		CREDIT LYONNAIS Alexandria BANK /Alexandria 1896 -1953 2 TYPES
	CREDIT LYONNAIS CAIRO BANK / CAIRO 1900 -1958		COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE CAIRO BANK / CAIRO 1898 -1938
	COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE CAIRO BANK CAIRO 1907 -1954		COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE PORT SAID BANK / PORT SAID 1908 - 1953
	COMPTOIR NATIONAL BANK D'ESCOMPTE ALEXANDRIA Bank / Alexandria 1920 -1953		CARVER BROTHERS AND COMPANY LTD COTTON DEALERS / PORT SAID 1900
	ESTABLISSEMENT OROSI- BACK SHOPPING CENTRE / CAIRO & Alexandria 1900 –1908		ESTABLISSEMENT SAMAAAN SEDNAQUI CAIRO Ltd. SHOPPING CENTRE / CAIRO-1900 –1908
	IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK BANK / CAIRO, Alexandria & PORT SAID 1917 - 1927		J. ROLO & CO. TEXTILE INDUSTRIES /Alexandria 1923 -1955
	KORTENHAUS AND HAMMERSTEIN ALEX. CHEMICAL PRODUCTS Alexandria 1898 -1914		KORTENHANS AND HAMMERSTEIN CAIRO CHEMICAL PRODUCTS Alexandria 1912 -1922

	L. SAVON AND COMPANY LTD. SHIPPING AGENTS PORT SAID 1912 –1922		OTTOMAN BANK BANK /CAIRO-Alex Minia, Ismailia, Port Said 1914 –1958 5 Different Types
	PHILLIPS ORIENT ELECTRONICS COMPANY CAIRO 1931 -1941		R. O. LINDEMAN COTTON DEALERS Alexandria 1908 -1922
	REINHARD AND COMPANY LTD COTTON DEALERS Alexandria CAIRO 1921—1956		REINHARD AND COMPANY LTD COTTON DEALERS Alexandria CAIRO 1921—1956
	SOCIETE ANONYME DU BEHERA REAL ESTATES /Alexandria 1921 –1933		THOMAS COOK & SONS TRAVEL AGENCY CAIRO, ALEX. PORT SAID ASWAN 1940 2 Different Types
	VACUUM OIL COMPANY OIL COMPANY CAIRO, Alexandria, PORT SIAD MINIA 1914 –1963		FORD MOTOR CO. CAR COMPANY Alexandria 1929 -1932
	RACCAH SONS & CO. DEALERS 'Alexandria 1899 SEEN ONLY ON ONLY ON STAMPS		SHELL COMPANY OF EGYPT OIL COMPANY / CAIRO 1948 –1961
	MISR PETROLEUM OIL COMPANY CAIRO		AL CHARK ASSURANCE INSURANCE COMPANY CAIRO 1957
	SIMMS & GARABED DEALERS /CAIRO 1922		OTTOMAN BANK EGYPT BANK/CAIRO Alexandria
	ELIE AGOURI LAWYER /Alexandria A lawyer Puncturing his correspondence stamps may be for fun !	  	The origin of these three firms not known

An Egyptian Album

*Two of our members, Tony Schmidt and Luca Biolato, have spoken at recent meetings of the staggering find of a nineteenth-century album stuffed with early Interpostals. The dealer **Greg Todd** details its contents.*

The recent find of an album in a collection brought some surprising discoveries. Glued in the front of the album was a large coloured label with the Royal Coat of Arms of Italy. So we can assume that the album was started at the time the Interpostals and Posta Europea were reasonably current, the euphoria surrounding the accession of King Vittorio Emmanuel II having taken place in 1861. While this is conjecture, the album itself is almost certainly of an early 1860s vintage: as a stamp dealer of 30 years' standing, one becomes used to types of albums and the feel of the paper. I have illustrated some examples from the album (See page 207).

The album contained Interpostal Seals from their inception, and the following is not exhaustive but provides only a partial listing with some interesting confirmations of existence and one or two "new" listings.

Kehr Type I. 1, 3, 4a, 5, 7, 8, 9* Kafer-Zajat (*sic*) on buff, 10, 11* Michalla on yellow (as mentioned but not seen by Kehr), 13, 14, 15, 16, 16b, 17a.

Kehr Type II. 18a, 18f, 19 (on cream rather than pale grey), 20, 21a, 22, 23, 23b, 24, 25a, 26, 27, 28, 29a, 30 (in grey green but stained), 30a, 31d, 32, 33, 34, 35, 35a, 36, 37, 38, 38a.

Also included are the previously unlisted Kehr Type II of Alessandria in green; Kehr Type II of Mansura in deep blue; Kehr Type II of Zagasik in grey; Kehr Type II of Zifta in pale green.

Kehr Type III. Again the spellings shown may differ from those printed by Kehr. The Seals present are listed below.

39, 39c, 40, 41b, 42, 42a Benha in blue grey, 43, 44, 44a, 45, Costantinopoli in vermilion on white (Kehr 46), 46a, Damanhur in green (Kehr 47), 47a, 48, 50, 51a, 51b, 52, 53, 53a, 54, 54a, 55, 56, 57, 58, 58a, 59, 60a, 60b, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 65a, 66, 66a, 67, 68.

Kehr Type IV. 76, 78, 79, 80, 81a, 82, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100a, 101, 102, 103, 103 (1), 104, 105, 106.

Kehr Type IVa. 107a, 109a, 111, 112, 113, 115, 116, 117a, 118, 119, 119a, 121, 123, 125, 126, 127, 130, 131, 134a, 137a, 138, 139a, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 148, 149, 151.

There are also some **Type V** and **Type Va** examples, none of which is other than mentioned by Kehr, also complete runs of the gold and embossed seals (Kehr Types **Ve**, **VI**, **VIA**, **VIB**), yet no examples of the vermilion-only Interpostals issued in 1879, or indeed, anything dated after that date.

Posta Europea. I have taken the Types from Kehr-Balian-Smith listings and Earliest/Latest recorded dates of use are from the Balian listing. The cancellations are all, unfortunately, cut-outs, but include:

Type III. Damiata: Manuscript dated (2.11.1857) Posta Europea-Damiata in blue green - Earliest recorded date of use (previously 3.5.1858). **Galiub:** Manuscript dated (18-9-1865) Posta Europea-Galiub in pale blue green - Latest date by seven months (previously 21.2.65). **Mansura:** Manuscript dated (14.10.1856) Posta Europea-Mansura in blue green - Earliest recorded date (previously 16.7.1857). **Suez:** Manuscript dated (6.4.1863) Posta Europea-Suez in blue green - Latest recorded date (previously 17.2.1863).

Type V. Benha: 6 Jan 1865 in black. **Birket-El-Sab:** 29 Jan 1865 in black - Latest recorded date of use (previously 19 Nov 1864). **Damanhour:** 23 Dec 1864 in black - Earliest recorded date (previously 2 Jan 1865). **Damanhour:** 5 Feb 1865 in black. **Damiatia:** 28 Feb 1865 in blue - Latest date (previously 21 Feb 1865). **Kafer-Zayat:** 23 Aug 1864 and 28 Dec 1864 both struck in black. **Mansura:** 23 July 1863 in blue. **Michalla:** 2 Jan 1865 in black. **Samanud:** 12 Feb 1865, pale blue. **Suez:** 14 Nov 1864 and 12 Dec 1864 both



Some illustrations from An Egyptian Album



New Issues: Definitives 25.5.2002-30.6.2004, Bal. 863-872. See page 220



50th Anniversary of Police Day Bal.1621/2



Return of Sinai to Egypt Bal.1623



Anniversary of Cairo Bank Bal.1624



Olympic Gold Medal Weightlifters Bal 1625/6



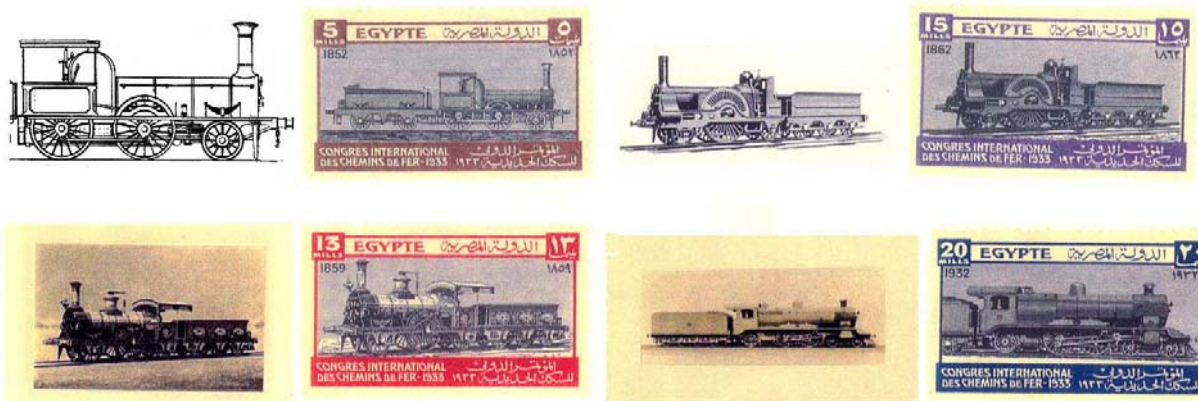
Anniv. Al Akhbar Bal 1627



50th Anniv. of the Revolution of 1952 Bal 1628



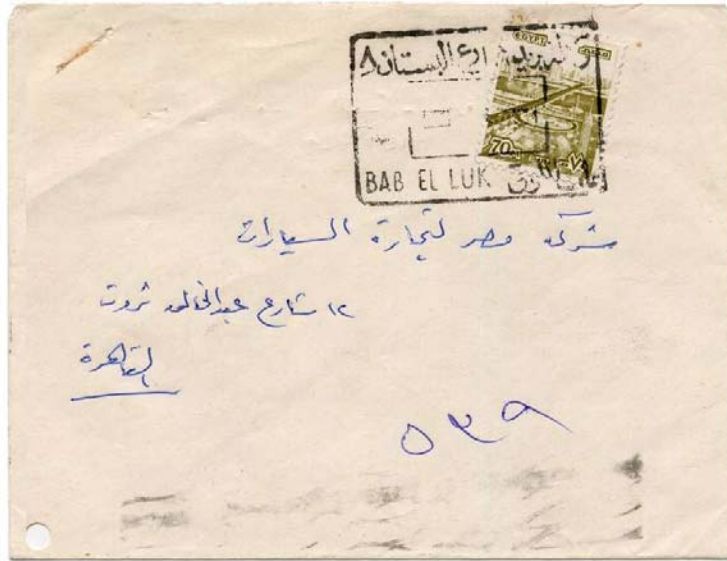
Centenary of the Aswan Dam Bal 1629



Railway essays. See page 211



Some imaginative sketches. See page 202



Examples of Agent/Agency postmarks. See page 198

struck in deep blue. **Tanta:** 12 Nov 1863 in pale blue. **Zagazik:** 29 Oct 1864 and 17 Nov 1864, both struck in black. **Zifta:** 14 Feb 1865 in pale blue.

Type VI. Alessandria: In black dated 3 April 1865. **Cairo:** In blue, dated 30 March 1865.

Posta Europea Unadopted Essays. Finally, the truly important part of the album, the essays for the Posta Europea. I shall deal with the second row first - the circular 'Posta Europea / Bono Per / Mansura' essays. These are all in black on card paper with the 10 para value in pale yellow, 20 para in deep grey blue, 30 para in green and 1 piastre (Tarif^a) on white. They are similar to the adopted cancellations of the Posta Europea, Kehr Types V and VI. Balian² lists these in his Essays chapter with a square frame around the stamps: traces of this frame can be seen on three of these values, and is complete on the 30 para.

According to Peter Smith's book³, there were two recorded sets of the circular essays for stamps to pre-pay the Posta Europea postage. Whilst I do not know the whereabouts of these two sets, I feel that the set illustrated here will probably make a third, to which one has to add the remarkable block of the 30 para value printed in green shown in Luca D. Biolato's monumental work⁴ on the Posta Europea.

On the top row of the page was a set of Essays in framed rectangular format in black on white card paper. I had been shown one of these previously in my lifetime, by former ESC members Manfred and Karin Roth, of Germany. This however, I take to be a full set of these elusive essays, printed in black: 1 piastre, 1 piastre 20 para, 2 piastre and 3 piastre. These essays are not recorded by Peter Smith. However, they appear to be slightly later in date than the "Mansura" Essays, as the face values are much more in line with the Posta Europea rates.

I would welcome any further information. **Greg Todd** (International Association of Philatelic Experts).

(Editor: This article, originally published on the internet, is used here by kind permission of Greg Todd.)

References:

- 1 Ernest A Kehr & Philip Cockrill, *The Posta Europea & 1984 Catalogue of Egypt Interpostal Seals*, Philip Cockrill, 1984.
- 2 Leon Balian, *Stamps of Egypt catalogue*, Nubar Press, Chubrah, Egypt, 1998.
- 3 Peter A S Smith, *Egypt: Stamps & Postal History, A Philatelic Treatise*, James Bendon, Limassol, Cyprus, 1999.
- 4 Luca D Biolato, *La Posta Europea*, Libreria Giovanni Carnevali, Foligno, 1996.

Railway Congress Stamps

In view of the interest in the Railway Congress stamps as shown in the recent *QC*, I thought members might like to see the actual copy used for the vignettes of the stamps (See page 209). These came from the Hewett archive. More essay material appears on page 325 of the *Egypt* book. **Peter Smith** (ESC 74)

IS THIS YOUR LAST MAGAZINE?

Subscriptions for 2004 were due on January 1. Thank you to all members who have paid up ... but to those who haven't, please bear in mind that subs unpaid after April 1 will result in suspension of membership - and no more QCs - until the full amount plus an administration fee of £5 has been paid.

Treasurer: Alan Jeyes, Flat 4 Ravine Court, Meriden Close, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset BH13 7JU

Cover Census of the “British Army Post Office/Egypt” C.D.S.
Part 1 — The 1882 Egyptian Campaign

Richard S. Wilson (ESC 230)

The information for this cover census comes from the usual sources such as stamp exhibitions, dealer inventories and stock lists, auction catalogues, internet sources, John Firebrace’s Nineteenth Century Wars in Egypt and the Sudan, and my collection. I reviewed many of the important Egyptian stamp auctions for the past 40 years including the Byam, Danson, and Firebrace sales, among others. Peter Smith estimates that upwards of twenty covers exist from the Egyptian Campaign of 1882. This suggested that I ought to look further to see what more might be out there. My research has recorded 38 covers from this campaign with the BAPO/EGYPT date stamp and I am sure others remain unrecorded in collections, archives, and dusty attics and storage areas. For instance, the Sandbach correspondence came to light in 1988 with its wonderful selection of covers pertaining to the British military in Egypt from 1882 to 1898. I also record information on stamps found on piece and off cover with the BAPO postmark. I am sure that this is far from a complete stamp listing but it provides information about the dates of use of the circular date stamps.

The British Army Post Office Corps (a company of approximately 44 officers and men) arrived in Alexandria on August 21, 1882, opening an office in the Tribunal followed by a field post office in Ramleh. On the 23rd most of the company departed and on the 24th opened an office in Port Said. They continued down the Suez Canal arriving at Ismailia on August 26 where another office was opened. Subsequently mobile field post offices were established at Tel-el-Mahuta (August 27), Kassassin (September 3?), Tel-el-Kebir (September 14), and Cairo (September 16). Most of the corps left Egypt to return to England on October 7. Additional details may be found in references 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The table below summarizes the cover census data, the details of which are appended. .

	<u>Total</u>	<u>BAPO A</u>	<u>BAPO B</u>	<u>BAPO C</u>	<u>BAPO –</u>	<u>BAPO ? *</u>
Total #	38	4	16	2	15	1
EARLIEST Cover	AU 24 82	SP 15 82	26 AU 82	24 AU 82	SP 8 82	SP 3 82?
Stamp	AU 29 82	SP 4 82	AU 29 82	SP 14 82	SP 9	---
LATEST Cover	OC 4 82	OC 4 82	SP 24 82	SP 2 82	OC 4 82	SP 3 82?
Stamp	OC 5 82	SP 30 82	SP 25 82	SP 19 82	OC 5 82	---
OFFICERS' RATE	34	3	15	2	13	1
SOLDIERS' RATE	4	1	1	0	2	0
Stampless	11	0	7	0	4	0
Stamped-GB	18	4	8	1	5	0
Stamped-Egypt	4	0	0	1	2	1
Post cards-GB	1	0	1	0	0	0
Post cards-Egypt	3	1	0	0	2	0
Post cards-Indian	1	0	0	0	1	0
DESTINATION						
England	25	4	9	0	12	0
Scotland	7	0	4	0	3	0
Wales	3	0	3	0	0	0
Egypt	2	0	0	1	0	1
Switzerland	1	0	0	1	0	0
* Cover #8, code and date of c.d.s. not known.						

The earliest cover date is AU 24 82, and the latest OC 4 82, although there is a stamp with the OC 5 82 date. I did not come across any registered covers but Smith reports he knows of one registered letter with this date stamp. There are 34 covers to or from officers and others (10 stampless and 24 stamped) and only four with the soldiers’ concessionary rate (#6 and 37 are stampless and #20 and 30 have 1d. stamps). Covers with code letter “C” above the date are the scarcest with two known, followed by four with the “A” code, 15 with no code letter, and 16 covers with “B” code. The two incoming covers (#1 and 8) have the date stamp on the reverse side while the others (all outgoing) have the date stamp on the front.





Cover Census of the "British Army Post Office / Egypt" C.D.S. – 1882 War

Cover #	Date of BAPO Postmark	BAPO Postmark	Other Markings	Destination	Stamps	Comments	Source-Page
1	24 AU 82	BAPO C (on reverse of cover)	Abergele 17 AU 82 c.d.s. and 181 beehive cancel	Egypt	2 x 1d lilac and 1/2d. Green	Incoming cover from Abergele, North Wales to Lieut. Sandbach, R.E., A Troop, Royal Engineers, Field Force, Egypt. The BAPO/C datestamp is used as a transit/receiving mark on the reverse of the cover. The Army Post Office opened at Port Said on August 24. Dash instead of dot between POST OFFICE. Also, this is one of two covers where the day precedes the month.	e-Bay January 2003
2	26 AU 82	BAPO B	NW/T.P.O./M. b/s: RHYL C SP 5 82 and Abergele A SP 6 82.	Abergele, Wales	2½d. (plate 23)	Addressed to Henry R. Sandbach. Postmarked the day the British Army Post Office opened at Ismailia. Letter enclosed dated August 25. Dots between BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE. This is the other cover with the day proceeding the month	PC
3	AU 28 82	BAPO B	No other known markings	Lanark, Scotland	2½d. (plate 22) - marginal copy	Addressed to Lady Lockhart from Capt. S. MacDonald Lockhart, Life Guards. Originally endorsed "No stamps available" and "2½." Byam lot #890 and Firebrace lot #1105.	B-114, FA-7 & 24
4	SP 1 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d mark on front. B/s: Long Melford	Long Melford, England	stampless	Addressed to either Sir William or Lady Parker from their son Lt. Hyde Parker of the King's Liverpool Regiment serving with the Royal Irish Regiment. Endorsed "On Active Service. No Stamps Available." Lot #364	D-44
5	SP 2 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d mark on front.	Lanark, Scotland	stampless	Addressed to Lady Lockhart from Capt. S. MacDonald Lockhart, Life Guards. Endorsed "No stamps available." The Household Cavalry was at Mahsamah at this time. Lot #1106.	FA-6 & 24
6	SP 2 82	BAPO B	B/s: Kewes 14 SE 82. T marking and 1d. correctly charged	Lewes, England	stampless	Addressed to Mrs. Stevenson from Pte. George Stevenson, Army Hospital Corps, Ismailia. Authorized by David Pringle, Captain of Orderlies. Lot #1109	F-66, FA-35
7	SP 2 82	BAPO C	Front transit marking: Ismailia 5 SE 82. B/s: Brigade 13 SE 82	Brigue, Switzerland	1 piastre	Addressed to Mrs. Tyndall from Lt. Douglas J. Hamilton, Coldstream Guards. Lot #1108.	F-70, FA 34 & inside front cover
8	SP 3 82 ?	BAPO ? (on reverse of cover)	Ismailia c.d.s.	Ismailia forwarded to Kassassin	1 piastre	Posted at Alexandria, addressed to Mr. Spencer Carr c/o Sir Garnet Wolsey (sic). Stamp is cancelled with the Alexandria A duplex SEP 2. Code and date of BAPO c.d.s. is not known. Cover damaged on opening. Lot #362, no photo.	D-44

9	SP 4 82	BAPO B	B/s: Gosport 14 SE 82	Gosport, England	2½d. (plate 22)	Addressed to Mrs. Vincent Caillard from her husband, Lt. V. H. P. Caillard, RE. Byam lot # 889 and Firebrace lot #1110.	B-114, F-62, FA-35
10	SP 4 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d mark on front. B/s: Long Melford	Long Melford, England	stampless	Addressed to either Sir William or Lady Parker from their son Lt. Hyde Parker of the King's Liverpool Regiment serving with the Royal Irish Regiment. Endorsed "On Active Service. No Stamps Available." Lot #365	D-44
11	SP 5 82	BAPO B	Red London backstamp SP14 1882	London, England	2½d.	Four strikes of the BAPO c.d.s. on the front of the cover. Addressed to Mrs. North (?). Envelope flap has embossed red regimental coat-of-arms. Lot # 31826.	DF-253 & 257
12	SP 5 82	BAPO B	B/s: Greenock SP ? 82.	Colintraive, Scotland	3 x 1d.	Addressed to Col. Campbell from E. P. Campbell. Letter enclosed written at Ismailia on September 4. No dot between POST OFFICE.	PC
13	SP 5 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d. b/s: Blandford B SP 14 82	Blandford, Dorset, England.	stampless	Endorsed "From Egyptian Expedition." Addressed to Mrs. Harris.	RLB Lot# 26
14	SP 8 82	BAPO --	No other known markings	Colchester, England	20 paras postcard	Addressed to Mrs. Agnes Robertson from Kassassin. Message dated September 7 discusses "a brief engagement." Byam lot #893 and Firebrace lot # 1111..	B-114, FA-35 & 7
15	SP 10 82	BAPO --	T and 2½d mark. B/s: Long Melford	Long Melford, England	stampless	Addressed to either Sir William or Lady Parker from their son Lt. Hyde Parker of the King's Liverpool Regiment serving with the Royal Irish Regiment. Endorsed "On Active Service. No Stamps Available." Lot #370	D-45
16	SP 11 82	BAPO --	T and 2½d. E.C. B.C. SP 25 1882 b/s: F 10 London F.C. 25 SP 82 in red square, London E.C. 10 SP 25 82 P.	London, England	stampless	Addressed in pencil to J. R. Robinson, Manager, Daily News. Manuscript Brindisi. Cover has been disinfected as indicated by the chisel slit. No dot between BRITISH ARMY.	PC
17	SP 11 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d.	Lanark, Scotland	stampless	Endorsed No Stamps Available. The illustration only shows the front of the cover.	Smith, p.595
18	SP 13 82	BAPO --	No other known markings	Gosport, England	2½d. (plate 22)	OHMS (crossed out) blue envelope addressed to Mrs. Vincent Caillard from her husband, Lt. V. H. P. Caillard. Lot # 365	CV-50 & 2
19	SP 13 82	BAPO B	No other known markings	Canterbury, England	1d. Postcard	Written by General Gerald Graham, September 12, at Kassassin to his sister Mrs. Durant. Card has been disinfected as indicated by a chisel slit. No dot between POST OFFICE.	PC
20	SP 15 82	BAPO A	No other known markings	London, England	1d	Addressed to Messrs Cassell Potts, publishers from Gunner G. Hunter, 4/1, LDRA, and authorized by Major G Noyes, Ramleh Camp, Egypt. Byam lot #894 and Firebrace #1114.	FA-36 & 7

21	SP 15 82	BAPO B	T and 2½d.	Abergele, Wales	stampless	Addressed to H. R. Sandbach. OHMS (crossed out) cover to Wales, m/s "Active Service No Stamps Available" - b/s: Abergele SP 26 82. Vertical disinfection slit. Letter dated 9/16 (should be 14) at Tel-el-Kebir enclosed. Lt. Sandbach's engineers were on the British left near the 2nd. Division troops. No dot between POST OFFICE. Lot # 177.	P-12
22	SP 17 82	BAPO B	B/s: Long Melford 27 SO 82	Long Melford, England	2 x 1d. Plus ½d.	Addressed to Sir William Parker from Lt. Hyde Parker serving with the Royal Irish Fusiliers (1st Division). Danson lot #371 and Firetrace lot #1115.	D-44 & 45, F-63, FA-36 & 7.
23	SP 17 82	BAPO B	B/s: Bristol SP 27 82	Bristol, England	2½d. (plate 22)	Addressed to Mrs. Brackenbury by Captain J. W. Brackenbury, R.N., commander of H.M.S. Thalia stationed at Ismailia during this period. No dot between POST OFFICE. Lot #1408	RLI-57
24	SP 24 82	BAPO B	Canceling the stamp is the BA/E 13-bar obliterator.	Abergele, Wales	2½d. (plate 23)	Addressed to H. R. Sandbach from Lt. Arthur E. Sandbach. Letter enclosed written at Ismailia, September 23. No dot between POST OFFICE.	ESC
25	SP 25 82	BAPO --	B/s: Blandford B OC 9 82	Blandford, Dorset, England.	3 x 1d.	Cover is addressed to Mrs. Harris	PC
26	SP 25 82	BAPO --	b/s: Indian FIELD FORCE P. O. No. 2 EGYPT SEP 23 (backstamp of origin)	Edinburgh Scotland	2½d. (plate 23)	Addressed to 5 North Street, David Street, Edinburgh. Described in the Quarterly Circular # 86 but no other information is known.	QC#86
27	SP 26 82	BAPO A	B/s: London S.W. CS OC 3 82	London, England	2½d. (plate 22)	Addressed to L. T. d'Ezencourt	Phillips
28	SP 27 02	BAPO --	Gramond OC 9 82	Midlothian Scotland	Indian 1½ anna posts card	Addressed to Mrs. Craigie Halkett by her husband Lt. Duncan Craigie Halkett of the Seaforth Highlanders. Message dated September 22	C-62 Lot # 359
29	SP 28 82	BAPO A	Originating office mark on front. b/s: FPO EGYPT No. 2 SEP 26 (Cairo)	Weston-Super-Mare, England	20 paras postcard	Addressed to General James S. Rawlins from his son, Lt. George William Rawlins of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment at Camp Abbassiah, Cairo. Lot #7929	CA-159 & plate 132.
30	SP 28 82	BAPO --	No other known markings	Glasgow, Scotland	1 d.	Addressed to Miss Sarah McKay from No. 109, Pte. Hugh McKay, countersigned by the Lt. Col. Of the Queens own Cameron Highlanders. Information from a photocopy made January 22, 1978 from James Bendon at the New York Postal History Show.	PHD

31	SP 29 82	BAPO --	No other known markings	London, England	20 paras postcard	Addressed to Mrs. Chalmers from Major Norman Chalmers, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. Lot #1112	F-68, FA-35 & 7
32	SP 29 82	BAPO --	B/s: Newport Mon: OC 9 82, Brecon OC 10 82	Newport, England	1d embossed, ½d. green and 1d. lilac	Addressed to Mrs. Lloyd Barrow from Surgeon-Major T. S. Lloyd Barrow. Forwarded from Newport to Brecon, Wales. Danson lot #374, Firebrace lot #1117.	D-46, F-64 & xii, FA-36 & 7
33	OC 1 82	BAPO --	B/s: London 9 OC 82, 2½ correctly charged but no T marking applied.	London, England	stampless	Addressed to Sir F. H. Doyle from Captain F. G. Doyle, Dragon Guards. Endorsed "Expeditionary Force, Egypt No Stamps." Lot #1118.	F-65, FA-36
34	OC 1 82	BAPO --	No other known markings	London, England	2½d.	Addressed to Mrs. Pollard	PHD
35	OC 2 82	BAPO --	B/s: Ryde B OC 11 82	Isle of Wight, England	4 x 10 paras	Addressed to Miss Cramer. Cover endorsed at lower left "Cairo 1 Oct 82 CPC" Lot # 1119	F-69, FA-37 & 7
36	OC 2 82	BAPO --	Front: Cairo 2 OC 82 T.L. b/s: (##) FFPPO EGYPT No.2 OCT.1, (Cairo) Blackwater Hants ? ? 82 (faint), Farnborough Station A OCT 11 82	Farnborough, England	1 piastre rose	Addressed to Mrs. C. R. Pennington. Cover is from Major Charles Richard Pennington of the Bengal Staff Corps. Danson lot # 376 and Firebrace lot # 1091.	D-46, F-75, FA-6 & 32, QC#86
37	OC 4 82	BAPO --	No T marking but 1 in manuscript correctly charged.	London, England	stampless	Addressed to Mrs. McCarthy from Pte. J. McCarthy, King's Royal Rifle Corps. Authorized by Col. Ashburnham. Byam lot #894 and Firebrace lot #1120.	B-114, F-67, FA-37 & 36
38	OC 4 82	BAPO A	B/s: Long Melford.	Long Melford, England	2½d. (plate 22)	Addressed to either Sir William or Lady Parker from their son Lt. Hyde Parker of the King's Liverpool Regiment serving with the Royal Irish Regiment. Endorsed "On Active Service. No Stamps Available." Lot #375	D-46

	<p>BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE/EGYPT A Covers 20, 27, 29 and 38.</p> <p>The four covers are all addressed to England. Cover #20 is a soldier's letter with the 1d. rate. Covers # 27 and 38 bear the 2 1/2d. stamp and #29 is an Egyptian 20 paras postcard.</p>
	<p>BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE/EGYPT B Covers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, and 24.</p> <p>This date stamp was in use for about a month from the opening of the army post office in Ismailia on August 26, 1882 until at least September 25. Cover #2 has the date before the month while all of the other covers but one (#1) have the month before the day. Because of their contents or unit location a good number of the covers suggest that this was used at Ismailia. Both the latest cover, #24 dated SE 24 82, and the latest stamp (on piece) dated SE 25 82, are cancelled with the BA/E 13-bar obliterator.</p>
	<p>BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE/EGYPT C Covers 1 and 7.</p> <p>Cover 1 is incoming from Wales with the BAPO/C c.d.s. applied to the reverse side. It is dated 24 AU 82. It was most likely applied at Port Said, the main distributing office where the mailbags for the various units were made up and then sent to the front. Cover 7 is addressed to Switzerland and postage is paid with the 1 piastre rose Egyptian stamp.</p> <p>BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE/EGYPT (no code letter) Covers 14, 15, 16, 18, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and 37.</p>
	<p>BRITISH ARMY POST OFFICE/EGYPT (no code letter) Covers 14, 15, 16, 18, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, and 37.</p> <p>Covers 14, 15, 16 and 18 were probably postmarked at Kassassin and the later eleven covers postmarked at Cairo. There is a 12 day gap between the two offices, SP 13 82 for #18 and SP 25 82 for cover #25.</p>

I welcome any and all corrections and additions to the information in this article. I hope that this will lead to the revelation of new covers not heretofore reported. Scans or photocopies would be appreciated as well as other details that might not be apparent. I'll include such information in a revised version and will send each contributor or other interested collector a copy. You can reach me by postal mail or e-mail.

Richard S. Wilson — 53 Middle Patent Road — Bedford, New York 10506 —U.S.A.
 Tel: 914-234-7456 Fax: 914-234-7292 e-mail: dadu@optonline.net

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5. Web site of *The Postal and Courier Services* www.tafsc.com/PostalHistory.htm.

STAMPS OFF COVER or on PIECE			
DATE	BAPO	STAMP	COMMENTS
AU 29 82	BAPO B	Egypt 10 paras	<i>L'OP</i> July 1945, p. 309.
SP 4 82	BAPOA	2½ d. Plate 22	D-44, lot #366
SP 4 82	BAPO B	2½ d. CD/DC	Paul on piece
SP 6 82	BAPO A	SG 172-lilac	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
SP 8 82	BAPO A	SG 172-lilac	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
SP 8 82	BAPO B	2½ d. Plate 23	D-44, Lot #368
SP 8 82	BAPO A	2½ d. Plate 22	D-44, Lot #367
SP 9 82	No code letter	Egypt 10 paras	D-45, Lot #369
SP 10 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 22	PC
SP 13 82	B	2½ d.	CRL Lot 2531
SP 14 82	BAPO C	2½ d. Plate 21	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
SP 16 82	No code letter	Egypt 1 piastre	D-45, Lot #369. Day slug inverted.
SP 18 82	BAPO B	2½ d. Plate 22	D-44, lot #368
19 AU 82	BAPO C	2½ d. Plate 22	<i>L'OP</i> July 1945, p. 309. "Off cover" and day before month
19 AU 82	No code letter	Pair 2½ d. on piece	CRL Lot 2531
SP 22 82	BAPO B	2½ d. Plate 22	E-Bay, January 2003
SP 23 82	BAPO A	Egypt 1 piastre	D-45, Lot #369
SP 24 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 22	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
SP 25 82	BAPO B	2½ d. Plate 22	<i>L'OP</i> July 1945, p. 309. "On piece" with killer BA/E. D-45, lot #373
SP 25 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 22	D-44, lot #368. Included in this lot is another copy cancelled by the BA/E killer.
SP 29 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 22	PC
SP 29 82	No code letter	SG 166-1d. Venetian red	D-372
SP 30 82	BAPO A	SG 166-1d. Venetian red	E-Bay, December 2001, LR marginal black of 30
OC 2 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 23	PC
OC 2 82	No code letter	East India anna	D-46, lot #377
OC 4 82	No code letter	East India 2 annas	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
OC 5 82	No code letter	Indian 9 pies	<i>QC</i> 86, June 1973
OC 5 82	No code letter	2½ d. Plate 23	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
AU 29 - SP 20	BAPO B	2½ d. Plate 22	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
SP 2 - SP 11	BAPO C	2½ d. Plate 22	<i>L'OP</i> October 1947, p. 207
AU 28 - OC 1	all	Various	FA-32, Lot # 1094

SOURCES:

- B -- *Byam's Egypt*, October 24 & 25, 1961, Robson Lowe Ltd., London
C -- India Postal History The Dr. Soli F. Contractor Collection, December 16, 1999, Spink & Son Ltd., London
CA -- Corinthia Auktionen, 118th Auction Sale, October 23-29, 1999.
CRL -- Christies Robson Lowe, Zurich, November 1, 1984
CV -- Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, Ltd. Derby, England, Worldwide Auction, Sale # 633, December 7, 2002
D -- *The Col. J. R. Danson Collection of Egypt*, April 28, 1977, Robson Lowe International Ltd., Geneva
DF -- Austria, Levant, Greece & Middle East, December 4-7, 2002, David Feldman, SA., Geneva, Switzerland
ESC -- Egypt Study Circle web site, military section.
F -- *Nineteenth Century Wars in Egypt and Sudan*, John Firebrace, The Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund, Bristol, England, 1997
FA -- *The John Firebrace Collections of Military Postal History*, May 16, 2001, Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, Ltd., Derby England
P -- M. D. Piggan Postal Auction # 149, Feb. 6, 2002, Tansley, Derbyshire, England.
Paul -- Eric Paul Stamps List #49, internet search 28 July 2003.
PC -- Private Collection
PHD -- Information obtained from a postal history dealer, 1978.
Phillips -- Phillips Auctions, May 28, 1988.
QC -- *The Quarterly Circular, Egypt Study Circle*
RLB -- Robson Lowe, Bournemouth, auction of March 3, 1978.
RLI -- *The "Royal" Collection of Egypt*, Robson Lowe International, London, November 5, 1981.
Smith -- Smith, Peter A. S., *Egypt, Stamps & Postal History, A Philatelic Treatise*, James Bendon, Limassol, Cyprus, 1999.

New Issues

Cyril E.H. Defriez (ESC 172)

All stamps are printed in lithography by Postal Printing House, Arab Republic of Egypt, without watermark and with glossy gum.

Commemorative stamps

Catalogue Number	SG2230 Bal.1621 SG(MS)2231 Bal.1622	SG2232 Bal.1623
Occasion	50th Anniversary of Police Day	20th Anniversary of the Return of Sinai to Egypt
Date of Issue	25 th January 2002	25 th April 2002
Designer	Hossam Mostafa	Saied Abdel Aziz
Design	Police Emblem	Wind-surfers and Diver
Denomination	30 Piastres 30 Piastres	30 Piastres
Stamp Dimensions	50x30 mm 80x50 mm	30x50 mm
Perforation	12.8x13.25 Imperforate (Min.Sheet)	13.25x12.8
Quantity Printed	200,000 20,000	200,000
Supplementary		

Catalogue Number	SG2233 Bal.1624	SG2244 Bal.1626 SG2245 Bal.1625
Occasion	50th Anniversary of Cairo Bank	Olympic Gold Medal Weightlifters
Date of Issue	15 th May 2002	1 st June 2002
Designer	Saied Abdel Aziz	S. A. el Badrawi
Design	Bank Building	Ibrahim Shams (London 1948) Khidre el Tourney (Berlin 1936)
Denomination	30 Piastres	30 Piastres 30 Piastres
Stamp Dimensions	30x50 mm	30x50 mm 30x50 mm
Perforation	13.25x12.8	13.25x12.8 13.25x12.8
Quantity Printed	200,000	50,000 50,000
Supplementary		Issued together in horizontal pairs se-tenant.

Catalogue Number	SG2246 Bal 1627	SG(MS)2247 Bal 1628	SG2248 Bal 1629 SG2249 Bal 1630
Occasion	50th Anniv Al Akhbar (newspaper)	50th Anniv. of the Revolution of 1952	Centenary of the Aswan Dam
Date of Issue	15 th June 2002	23rd July 2002	15th August 2002
Designer	S. A. el Badrawi	S. A. el Badrawi	S. A. el Badrawi
Design	Emblem over World Map and Building	Stamps of 1952 and Eagle Emblem	The Aswan Dam
Denomination	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	30 Piastres 30 Piastres
Stamp Dimensions	50x30 mm	80x95mm	50x30 mm 50x30 mm
Perforation	12.8x13.25	Imperf. (Min.Sheet)	12.8x13.25 12.8x13.25
Quantity Printed	200,000	40,000	100,000 100,000
Supplementary			Design spread over horizontal pairs se-tenant.

See pages 208/209 for illustrations

Definitive stamps 25.5.2002

New Pharaonic designs. Off-set and Rotogravure. Postal Printing House, Cairo. Designers, Lydia Farid Said el Badrawi and Mahmoud Yousry. Glossy gum, no watermark.

S.G.	Bal	Value	Design.	Date of Issue	Dimensions	Perforation
2234	863	10p	20th Dynasty Wall Painting	25.5.02	25x30mm	12.8x13.25
2235	864	25p	Sesostris (statue)	30.6.02	25x30mm	11.25x11.25
2236	865	30p	Merit Aton	25.5.02	25x30mm	11.25x11.25
2237	866	50p	20th Dynasty Wall Painting	30.6.02	30x25mm	13.25x12.8
2242	867	£E1	Pyramid of Snefru	30.6.02	30x25mm	11.25x11.25
2238	868	110p	Ka-Aper (bust)	4.6.02	25x42mm	11x11.5
2239	869	125p	Psusennes 1	20.6.02	25x42mm	11x11.5
2240	870	150p	Tutankhamun holding; spear	15.6.02	25x42mm	11x11.5
2241	871	225p	Rameses II obelisk, Luxor	25.5.02	25x42mm	13.25x12.8
2243	872	£E5	Karnak Temple ruins	1.6.02	25x42mm	13.25x12.8

Note that Gibbons has misordered the issue, putting the £E values after the piastres values even though the £E1 is of lesser face value than four of those that follow. See page 208 for illustrations.



Definitives first day issue postmark. The date in the centre depends on the date of issue.

Police Day

Return of the Sinai

Anniversary of the Cairo Bank



Olympic Weightlifters

Anniversary of Al Akhbar

Anniversary of the Revolution

Aswan Dam

Editorial

Within this *QC* you may have noticed two references to eBay and to suspicious material being offered (See pages 198 and 202). I recently bought Dr. J. Ceresa's book *Russian Postage Stamps 1917-1923, Pocket Forgery Guide. North Western Army* (2004), where he mentions the "...material on the internet has been plagued with high catalogued digital fakes". He also mentions a forger who offers overprints at low value, \$10 or so, and then returns the money if questioned by the buyer: "they seldom do" admits the forger. I myself have seen badly produced covers supposedly from the Israeli/Arab wars. Recent articles in the *Guardian* about forged autographs have reckoned that about 80 per cent are simple and poor forgeries. There are records signed by artists who have nothing to do with the record; and felt-tip pen autographs on pictures before the invention of felt tips! Perhaps most disturbingly, when an artist approached eBay about these forgeries of his autograph eBay was quite unresponsive, dismissing it with "...the web site is simply a venue to bring buyers and sellers together.." It did however stop a large auction, albeit at a late stage. Be warned!

**EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (GENERAL ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2003.**

INCOME	2002		2003	
Subscriptions	2,734.50		2,651.44	
Auction account	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Bank deposit interest received (net)	48.56		26.14	
Sale of ties - 3 (2002 1)	7.00		15.00	
Donation	34.68		15.00	
Advertisements	<u>285.00</u>		<u>-</u>	
		4,109.74		3,707.58
EXPENDITURE				
Photocopier written off	1.00		-	
Library costs (net)	119.33		-	
Meeting room hire	626.25		605.25	
Cost of quarterly circulars	3,511.48		2,600.37	
Affiliation fee B.P.S.	35.40		36.00	
New issues	8.24		5.60	
Insurance	18.80		18.80	
Cost of ties sold - 3 (2002 1)	3.80		11.40	
Membership cards	-		65.38	
Flowers	-		20.00	
Officers' stationery and telephone	125.60		159.27	
President/Chairman's postage etc	63.04		104.15	
Bank charges	<u>-</u>		<u>1.90</u>	
		<u>4,512.94</u>		<u>3,628.12</u>
(Deficit)/surplus for the year		(403.20)		79.46
Surplus at 1 January 2003		<u>8,809.46</u>		<u>8,406.26</u>
SURPLUS AT 31 DECEMBER 2003		<u>£ 8,406.26</u>		<u>£ 8,485.72</u>
ASSETS	2002		2003	
Photocopier written off	-		-	
Stamp collection at catalogue valuation	2,535.70		2,535.70	
Circle library and records	-		-	
Stock of ties 50 (2002 62) at cost	235.60		224.20	
cost 2004 room hire prepaid	-		570.00	
Due from library account	60.00		60.00	
Cash at bank				
Current account	1,666.12		710.42	
Deposit account	4,615.85		4,641.99	
Cash in hand	<u>22.99</u>		<u>13.41</u>	
		9,136.26		8,755.72
LIABILITIES				
Members' subscriptions 2004	180.00		270.00	
Cost of remaining quarterly circular	<u>550.00</u>		<u>-</u>	
		<u>730.00</u>		<u>270.00</u>
		<u>£ 8,406.26</u>		<u>£ 8,485.72</u>
Representing				
Accumulated surplus		<u>£ 8,406.26</u>		<u>£ 8,485.72</u>

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

S W Bunce

Chartered Accountant

6 February 2004

The Story Behind the Stamp: Balian 39-40, 20 Dec. 1933,
ARMSTRONG WHITWORTH ATALANTA AW.15



The 5 and 10 millieme stamps from the set for the International Aviation Congress held in Cairo in December 1933 depict an Armstrong Whitworth Atalanta Aw. 15. This four-engined high-wing 17-seat transport was built for Imperial Airways and Indian National in 1932. Spars and inner wing ribs were made from steel strip with the remainder of the ribs and most of the wing covering of wood. The fuselage framework was constructed of steel strip formed into channels with the cabin area covered in plywood, while the rear of fuselage was covered in fabric.

The tail unit was a monoplane cantilever type mounted at base of the fin, which was faired into the fuselage. It had balanced elevators and rudder with the landing gear fixed undercarriage, partially enclosed within the fuselage, consisting of two axles hinged on the fuselage centreline and two telescopic struts fixed to the top longerons. It was designed to carry a maximum load of 17 passengers and luggage, but this number was reduced in order to give each passenger the space and comfort necessary for travel in hot climates. The high wing position enabled the passengers to obtain an unrestricted view. Technical detail are:

Length, 71 ft 6 in (21.79m)	Height: 14 ft	Span, 90 ft 0 in (27.43m)
Max speed, 156 mph (251 km/hr) at 3,000 ft (914 m)	Cruising speed 125 m.p.h.	Stall speed, 51 m.p.h
Wing area, 1,285 sq ft	Weights empty, 14,832 lb	Weights max, (All-Up) 21,000 lb (9,525 kg)
Climb, 21.5 min to 9,000 ft	Service ceiling, 14,200 ft	Range: 640 miles
Engines, Four 340 hp Serval III 10 cylinder radials.	Crew, Two pilots and a radio operator in cockpit	Passengers, 9 with accommodation for up to seventeen.

Speeds of 120mph or 130mph were the norm, and aircraft usually flew no higher than 9,000 feet (although the Atalanta, a four-engine monoplane designed specifically for the mountainous regions of Africa, could reach 10,000 feet).

By 1931 Imperial Airways had a fleet of 22 aircraft of various makes, none of which was really competitive. The mainstay aircraft was the Handley Page HP.42, which had a perfect safely record and a cruising speed of 100mph. In the early 1930s these older airliners could not compete with the Fokkers and the Douglas DC-2s that were entering airline service with KLM and other airlines. Imperial Airways was hampered commercially by the restriction of using British aircraft only at this time.

During the late 1930s the British aircraft industry attempted to catch up in the airliner market. Imperial Airways had placed a large order for the successful Short "Empire" flying boat for its long-haul flights to Australia. While the airline was awaiting the new flying boats it needed a new airliner to fly the route to South Africa (Cape Town). The Armstrong-Whitworth Atalanta, which was specially designed for this route, filled the gap and flew the Cape Town route reliably until the new flying boats were introduced in 1937.

Atalanta, designations and names			
G-ABPI	Arethusa*	1932	Sold 1933
G-ABTG	Amalthea	1931	Crashed, Kisumu 1938
G-ABTH	Andromeda	1932	Withdrawn 1939
G-ABTI	Atalanta	1932	To RAF 1941
G-ABTJ	Artemis	1932	To RAF 1941
G-ABTK	Athena	1933	Burnt out, Delhi 1936
G-ABTL	Astraea	1933	To RAF 1941
G-ABTM	Aurora	1933	To RAF 1941
* originally Atalanta later Arethusa			