

The  
Quarterly Circular  
of  
**THE**  
**EGYPT**



# STUDY CIRCLE

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**Carmichael  
& Todd**  
**PHILATELISTS**  
PTS  
GREGORY C.G. TODD

**EGYPT.**

**De La Rue Ipi. ultramarine used on Advice of Receipt form #39, cancelled at Alexandria (June 8, 1886) with 'Tripoli/Syrie/Turquie' confirmation of arrival datestamp below (June 11, 1886). Reverse showing further Alexandria datestamp of distribution to sender (June 17, 1886). Rare.**

(نمبر ٣٩ ٨٩)  
ADMINISTRATION DES POSTES D'ÉGYPTE  
مصلحة البوستة المصرية

**AVIS DE RÉCEPTION** علم التسليم

L'Expéditeur de l'objet suivant (1) *Lettre recommandée*  
موسل لارسالية الاتي بيانها وهي (١)

portant le N<sup>o</sup> *24489* et l'adresse de M. *Ch. Saporio*  
*à Tripoli*  
بوسم جناب روضو عليها نمرة

désire savoir s'il a été reçu. يوجب الاستعلام عما اذا كانت تسلمت ام كيف

L'Employé des Postes.  
مستخدم البوستة  
*J. Saporio*

L'envoi ci-dessus désigné m'a été remis contre reçu le *11 Juin 86*  
لارسالية الوصحة اعلاه تسلمت بالاىصال اللازم بتاريخ  
1886 سنة ١٨٨٠

Signature,  
لاعضا  
*مروسي*  
*مروسي*

(1) Indiquer la nature de l'envoi, si c'est un objet recommandé, une lettre de valeur déclarée, ou un colis postal avec ou sans valeur déclarée.  
Cet avis doit être renvoyé, sous recommandation d'office, au bureau d'origine, muni de la signature du destinataire; si ce dernier ne consent pas à le signer son refus et la remise de l'envoi doivent être attestés par l'employé du bureau de destination, lequel utilise à cet effet la formule ci-dessus en la modifiant. Le bureau d'origine se charge, ensuite, de le faire tenir à l'expéditeur, comme objet recommandé.  
Au moment de l'expédition on doit attacher cette formule à l'envoi avec une épingle, excepté pour les colis postaux, pour lesquels elle doit être attachée au bulletin d'expédition.

(١) يتوضه نوع الارسالية اذا كانت مسجلة او خطاب ذا قيمة مقررة او طرد بوستة مؤمن او غير مؤمن عليه  
يصبر رد هذا العلم مسجلا رسميا للمكتب المرسل الاصلى بعد امضائه من المرسل اليه فان لم يقبل امضاه يتوضه من مستخدم المكتب المرسل اليه عن ذلك وعن تسليم الارسالية على هذا المطبوع بعد اجرا تعديله به ثم على المكتب المرسل الاصلى ان يسلم هذا مسجلا للمرسل منه  
يحال تصدير الارسالية يرفق بها هذا المطبوع مشموكا بدبوس انما تستثنى من ذلك طرود البوستة اذ يقتضي ارفاق المطبوع المذكور بحافظة ارسال

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### Meetings dates for 2014

Two meetings remain for this year, one each at **Stampex**, in the Design Centre, Islington, North London; and one at the **Victory Services Club**, Seymour Street, Marble Arch, Central London.

<b>Sept 20, 2.30pm</b>	<b>Stampex</b>	<b>(1933 Railway Congress (Simon Arzt</b>	<b>Armen Varjabedian Richard Wheatley</b>
<b>Nov 1, 2pm</b>	<b>Victory Club</b>	<b>(Cassette Envelopes (1919 EEF Air Mail</b>	<b>Peter Andrews Lucien Toutounji</b>

For meetings at the Services Club, members usually meet in the ground-floor bar from 1pm.

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**Website: [egyptstudycircle.org.uk](http://egyptstudycircle.org.uk)**

**Report of the Meeting, July 19: Greg Todd, The First Issue**

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Peter Andrews (Chairman), John Davis (Deputy Chairman/Librarian), Mike Murphy (Secretary), Brian Sedgley (Treasurer), Sami Sadek (Committee), Mike Bramwell, John Clarke, Cyril Defriez, Peter Grech, Paul Green, Neil Hitchens, Malcolm Lacey, Atef Sarian, Ronny Van Pellecom (Belgium).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Edmund Hall (Editor/Webmaster), Jon Aitchison, Angela Child, Mostafa El-Dars, Ted Fraser-Smith, Pauline Gittoes, Alan Jeyes, Stephen Schumann, Lucien Toutounji.



*1863-64 essays for proposed adhesive stamps. Above, black on white with four denominations; below, black on colour with four values, the forerunners of Egypt's Interpostal Seals*

On a blazing July London day, members able to attend at the Royal Philatelic Society were treated to a right royal display of staggering range and depth in Greg Todd's treatment of the First Issue. The topic attracted two members – Neil Hitchens and Malcolm Lacey – to attend their first Circle meeting, and they were far from disappointed by the wealth of material on show.

From forerunners to the advent of the 1867 Penasson issue, Greg was able to show a gold-medal range of stamps and postal history in no fewer than 139 sheets, accompanied by a laconic and informal address, leaving plenty of time for members to examine the beautifully laid out sheets. For those unable to be there, Greg has kindly supplied a memory stick containing the whole display: we hope to have it up on the website in the very near future.

Full of anecdote and fascinating glimpses into the auction world, the talk ranged from his initial interest in Egypt – when he was able to purchase a massive block of 53 of the First Issue 1-piastre – the biggest block known (ex Byam, Kuyas, Antonini, Fikry), to his intense delight and relief at being able to buy highlights from the Queen's Royal collection when she sold material to fund the purchase of the 1840 FDC with ten Penny Blacks attached.

Among the almost unbelievable range of material shown were essays (1863-64) for even earlier stamps by the Posta Europea – two sets of four of which only three examples are known, and displayed on the album pages on which they were found. These followed a staggering display of Posta Europea folded letters with the full range of handstamps, and preceded a remarkable display of the pre-stamp Government Post.

Before the First Issue Muzzi Bey (the display includes an autographed letter, *right*) was at pains to make sure that the stamps were going to be acceptable, and a wide range of essays was prepared, including one fanciful view of Alexandria lighthouse. These are shown in 11 sheets before we reach the famous Pellas essays which eventually became the selected design.



On display were blocks of four (or larger) of all the proofs, immensely useful for plating because multiples of the issued stamps are either non-existent or virtually unobtainable, together with perforation trials in abundance, including a suggestion that some might in fact have been trials for the 1867 issue using remainders of the first issue. Most unusually, he was able to display half-sheet of the watermarked paper that gave Pellas such trouble in perforating, together with a full explanation of all the perforation varieties..

After that comes a full range of the design varieties on each stamp, taken value by value including a lower right corner block of ten of the 1-piastre with marginal lettering and the only multiple showing both sides of the interpanneau margin.

The stamps are augmented not only by examples used on folded letter or cover (or newspaper in the case of the 5-para), showing retta cancels, normal, registered, double-rate and postage-due covers and the earliest use of the Affrancatura Insufficiente handstamp but also usage from the offices in Constantinople and Gedda and combinations with Austrian, French, British and Italian consular offices.

Also on display were covers with the 2pi bisects authorised during July and August 1867 and – much more surprisingly and easily overlooked – a cover from Cairo to Alex of July 27, cancelled in blue, bearing an intact 1pi stamp. Probably unique.

From Alexandria, January 27 1867, and from Cairo, March 2, 1867 were shown the only two three-colour combinations recorded – with a 1pi, 2pi and 5pi from Cairo and 1pi, 2pi and 10pi from Alexandria. Both on small piece, but both quite remarkable. The whole display, truth to tell, was quite remarkable, and remarkably comprehensive.



*Three-colour combinations from Cairo and Alex – the only ones recorded*

This report could spread over many pages – alas, we have not enough space. But suffice it to say, as the Chairman noted at the end of an astonishing day: “Many thanks indeed, Greg, for a quite astonishing display”.

It should be added that earlier the Chairman had welcomed members, and that Edmund Hall was congratulated on being elected President of the Forces Postal History Society. The Secretary noted that the first two 2014 issues of the QC were now on the website for members to see – and to judge whether they could save the Circle money by foregoing the printed version; an appeal for members to volunteer to speak at 2015 meetings.

And after all that came the mini-auction, ably supervised in the absence of Jon Aitchison by John Clarke. Unfortunately, only four members had volunteered five lots each, so although bidding was spirited, the upshot was £11.15 commission only to Circle funds. Please bring more lots next time....

## The “Imprimés” Postmarks of Cairo.

**Roland Dauwe (ESC 498)**

For many years I have been especially interested in these rather scarce postmarks and hope to add to the answer on Query 118 from John Davis (*QC* 248, p.19) some more information concerning their use. In fact, a first listing was already provided by the late Lars Alund (ESC 105) in *QC* 186 (1998), p.278, and for convenience we are mentioning his type numbers and referring to his drawings.

First of all we have to say that the “imprimés” postmarks are recorded only for Cairo and all but one are bilingual Arabic-French.

### TYPE 1.

The first known type (Alund PM-1) appears early in the 1950s and seems to be rare. Apparently Alund saw this type only once on a stamp and I have it on SG 399 (*Fig. 1*), dated 13 March 1953. This type is the only one with the word *imprimé* written in the singular, but it seems from the marking on our stamp that the final S-plural was removed or damaged. The full legends are: *matbu'at / al-Qahira // CAIRE / IMPRIME*. The date bridge consists of the day, the month in two letters, the year abbreviated to the last two digits and the hour. Diameter 29 mm.



*Fig. 1*

The next group of postmarks (Alund PM-2-4) is more complicated.

### TYPE 2.

The first ones seem to have been introduced in 1958. They have the legend: *safra al-Qahira / matbu'at* (number 1 or 2) // CAIRE / T. IMPRIMES / (1 or 2). The diameter is 31 mm. There is a very distinct difference between the two numbers.

Type 2.1: the mark nr. 1 has a date bridge with the month in two letters and the hour indicated between two hours (e.g. 8-9) followed by A or P. It was used largely for cancelling postage due stamps on the back of letters sent by military personnel, and this over a brief period running from about August 18 to 28, 1958.

Type 2.2: the mark nr. 2 has a date bridge with the month in roman cyphers and the precise hour (e.g. 12.20), followed by AM or PM. It is also found used for cancelling postage due stamps, though over a longer period: Alund mentions 23 June 1958 and the last date we have recorded is 28 April 1959 (*Fig. 2*). This stamp was clearly used to cancel letters as well, as we have SG 583 obliterated with it on February (?) 1959.



*Fig. 2*

### TYPE 3.

A new set of similar postmarks was introduced in 1959, differing from the 1958 type only in the date bridge which mentions, for both numbers, the day, month (two letters) and the year (last two digits), but without the hour. The only difference we found between both numbers is how the month March is written: MR for type 3.1, and MA for type 3.2. We have only seen both postmarks on covers sent abroad, and have recorded the use of type 3.1 between March 3 and April 17, 1959, type 3.2 between February 23 and April 5, 1959 (*Figs. 3-4*).





Fig. 3



Fig. 4

I have great doubts about the existence of Alund's type PM-4, with CAIRO written in English. We have never seen that postmark and are convinced that it is in fact the 1958 type 2.2. It is sometimes difficult to see, especially when the cancellation was not sharply applied, whether there is a 1 or a 2 and the final E of Caire can look appear as an O. However, the date bridge, as figured by Alund, is definitely that of type 2.2.

#### TYPE 4.

A new set was introduced in 1961 (Alund type PM-5) and can easily be differentiated from earlier types by its larger size (35 mm). Other differences are the omission of the Arabic word *safra* and the T., LE CAIRE instead of CAIRE, and the date bridge, again with the hour, all in cyphers and written in Arabic. It seems there are no differences between the numbers 1 and 2. The earliest date we have seen is March 1961 and the latest 25 November 1964. This latest date is on an insufficiently franked letter from Geneva to Cairo, with the postage due stamp of 12 mills obliterated by type 4.1 (Fig. 5). Furthermore, I have noticed both numbers on several postage stamps, such as SG 603, 613, 769, 772, 796.

TYPE 5. The latest "imprimés" postmark I have seen was used in the mid-1970s and was unknown to Alund. It is of the same type as the last, though smaller (26 mm) and the date bridge is again in western cyphers. Until now we have seen number 2, but it is very likely that number 1 should exist as well. The only date we have recorded is 6 July 1975, on an International Reply Coupon of the Arab Postal League (Fig. 6).

Fig.5



#### TYPE 6.

This is censor mark specially used for printed matter. It has a hexagonal shape with the legend *matbu'at* in Arabic, and a circle (?) under it. We have seen it once on a wrapper sent from Berlin (German Democratic Republic) to Cairo (Fig. 7). The date of the German postmark is not legible, but the stamp was issued in 1970.



Fig. 6

Apart from the censor marking we have never seen the "Imprimés" postmarks used on printed matter, though all of them mention this in both Arabic and French. The fact that for a period of about 25 years those stamps were ordered and renewed regularly is an indication that there was a need for them. Is it possible that the growth in the use of printed matter since the Second World War made it necessary to increase

controls, as such material could be mailed at a lower special rate? We have seen a lot of printed matters sent abroad, but always with normal postmarks. Is it possible that these postmarks were used only on domestic





printed matter? The fact that the censor mark was on a piece that was entering Egypt seems to confirm that supposition. The fact that printed matter is rarely kept in archives and is more generally thrown away could explain the rarity of the postmarks. The reason for their brief use to obliterate postage due stamps (Type 2) and international mail (Type 3) remains unknown.

From the above it is clear that many questions remain as to their use. Maybe the Egyptian members of the ESC can confirm their local use on printed matter, but any information from the ESC members is very welcome.

*Fig.7*

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### Savoy Hotel, Cairo - New Cachet?

**John Davis** (ESC 213)

I have a friend who has acquired the annoying habit of producing, as far as I am concerned, unknown or unseen cachets of Egyptian hotels. As I have long since ceased collecting hotel post material, I am somewhat out of date, but I have not seen this hotel dated cachet before. Dated 20 JAN 1905, it is struck in red across a 1 millième first De La Rue definitive placed across the flap of a one piastre postal stationery envelope with Savoy Hotel Type 2 cancelling the “stamp” on the front; it was sent to Switzerland.



The cachet itself reads SAVOY HOTEL CAIRO in a double oval with the date across the inner oval, the outer oval having “perforations” - *see illustration*. Has anyone seen another one?

**Bottle Mail and Basil Benwell Rees**

**John Sears (ESC 188)**



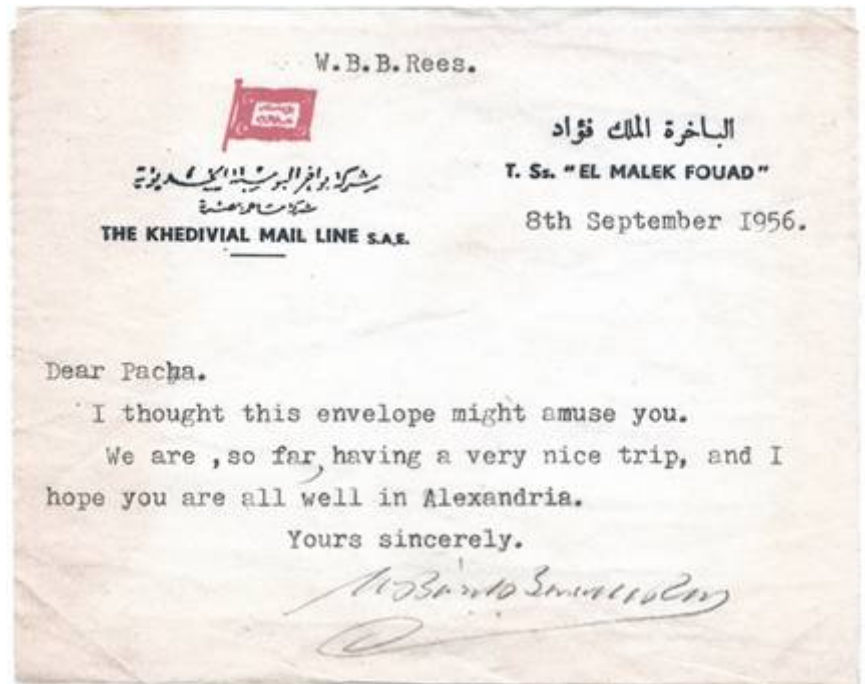
Following up on Edmund Hall's article on *Bottle Post* (QC 248, March 2014, pp.17-19), I illustrate (left) another example of "Bottle Mail" with the ships' marks of the SS *El Malek Fouad* and the SS *Nefertiti*. In fact this was the same vessel, renamed *Nefertiti* in 1956 while remaining in the same ownership. I cannot confirm the exact date. The cover was posted at Toreo, Messina, on 17.9.56, and on the reverse is the arrival mark of Alexandria, 21.9.56.

Below is the letter (dated 8th September 1956) actually enclosed in the envelope. The

Name "W.B.B.Rees" also reappears, typed at the head of the letter, and with a certain amount of imagination the signature could be read as "W.Basil Benwell Rees", the addressee - Ahmed Mazloun, the gentleman who followed Ibrahim Chaftar as President of the Philatelic Society of Egypt. I can confirm that these items were in the collection of the late Dennis Clarke.

The question remains, who is W B B Rees? Is there another "Hendry" about?

(See back page)



**David Worrollo**

The Circle is sad to have to record the death at the end of July of David Worrollo (ESC 659) from heart problems after a short illness. David joined the Circle in November 2010 and was a regular attender at our London meetings and keen buyer in our auctions. Though as a young man his collection was not yet advanced, he was an eager questioner and researcher and clearly intended to build into a collector of note. We are sorry to see him go.



Army Stamps and Their Rates

John Davis (ESC 213)

**A. Postage Due on military cover 1938**



*Fig. 1 - I.S. (Inland Section) L postage due charge probably struck in London, and 3d stamp affixed and cancelled at Exeter*

An item sent to the Hon. Sec. and passed to me for comment is a 10 millièmes Fouad Army Post cover posted at M.P.O. Abu Sueir on 17 DE 38 at 6.50PM. It is addressed to Exeter. In addition to the stamp and two date-stamps of the military post office, there is a boxed "T" of Egyptian type and 3d I.S. L? (it is not clear) with a British 3d postage due stamp cancelled at Exeter. Presumably the query is why the boxed "T" was applied in Egypt, resulting in the 3d charged to the recipient by the British Post Office. (See Fig. 1).

At first sight the query is valid in that the 10 millièmes stamp was correct for the surface rate; however, there is also a faint note above the address saying '9 enclosures' which does not show up in the picture. That fact would most probably mean that the weight of the item would have exceeded the 20 grams limit for the surface concessionary rate of 10 millièmes. Accordingly, the Egyptian postal clerk would have struck the boxed 'T' mark alerting the 3d



*Fig. 2 - Similar cover to Chepstow also from M.P.O. Abu Sueir on 22 MR 39*

A similar cover to Chepstow with 3d I.S. K, also sent from Abu Sueir, must also have been over 20 grams although it is fair to say that some got away with it while other covers have been charged incorrectly.

Restrictions appertaining to the Postal Concession meant that such mail could only be addressed to Great Britain and the Irish Free State, as it then was, and posters giving the details were supplied to N.A.A.F.I. sites where the special postboxes were located. The original Concession commenced on 1 NO 32 with the so-called N.A.A.F.I. seals and a poster was issued on that occasion, but the system changed on 1 MR 36 when the Army Post stamps were issued. Restrictions of destination remained in place and letters posted other than in the designated boxes also contravened the regulations. I have covers illustrating both these issues.

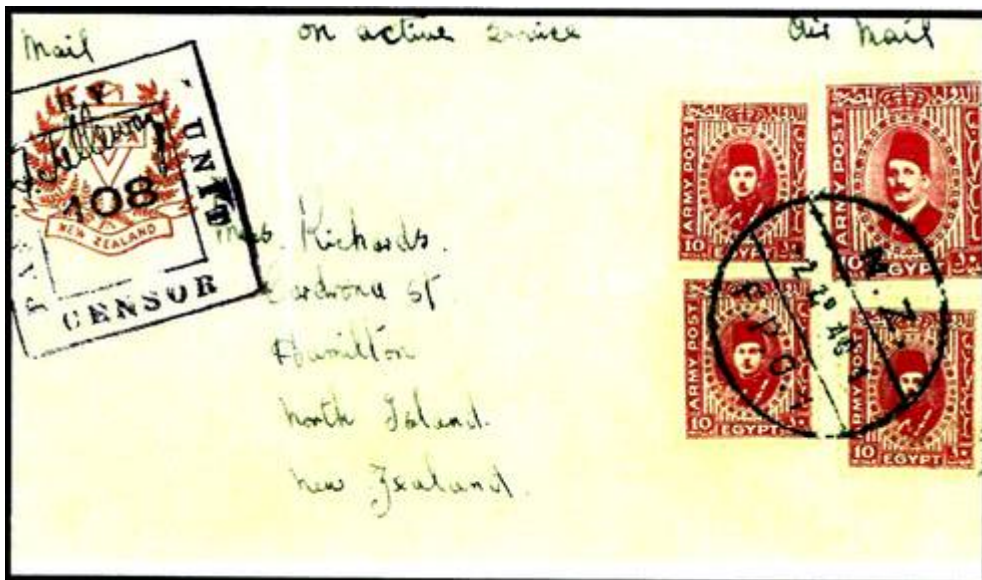
**B. Question Time**

For those of us who collect British Forces material the use of Fouad and Farouk Army Post stamps is “bread and butter” and, until recently, I had become quite blasé about finding anything new.

However a friend in New Zealand sent me copies of several items with these stamps used together and I thought – so? When, on reflection, I decided to look through literally hundreds of covers to see what I had in my own collection, I found none.



*Fig. 3 - Seventy millièmes airmail rate for overweight cover to New Zealand posted from N.Z. F.P.O. 1 in March 1940 with both kings' stamps*



*Fig. 4 - New Zealand YMCA cover sent by standard 40 millièmes airmail rate, also from N.Z. F.P.O. 1 and displaying both kings' stamps.*



On consulting another member who has a large collection of Concession material, I was equally surprised to find that he too had none. The questions are therefore: “How common is this?”, and “Does it occur only on mail to New Zealand?”

Of four such items sent to me (as copies) all are from the same New Zealand Field Post Office and all are dated either in 1940 or 1941. However, since all are addressed in different handwriting, and to different addresses in different New Zealand locations, “philatelic” does not appear to apply. The towns in question are Wellington, Christchurch and Hamilton. Fig.4 illustrates the standard 40 millièmes airmail rate that applied for most of the Concession period.

Please look through what you have and advise: 1. Does this phenomenon occur on mail to anywhere else? 2. How common is this occurrence?

### Query 119 from Peter Heim (ESC 384) – Traffic CDS



Can any member explain the meaning of Egypt’s “Traffic” postmarks? The word is often found alone with the town name, and translated from “safarayat”, which we see on many TPO markings and usually consider to mean “travelling”. But this appears to make little sense when used with a single town name; and it is also found in conjunction with some of the smaller post offices. Can anyone please explain its use?



### Egyptian Offices Abroad: Genuine or forged Cancellation?

**Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)**

Not infrequently, and especially just recently, major auction houses have included lots that consisted of stamps with cancellations of Egyptian Offices Abroad. Some of these lots are full of forgeries, especially of the rarer offices. If any reader has bought some of these, it is important that they be examined - even though the strikes may seem genuine at first sight.

I have had over 60 years’ experience with the Offices Abroad, and have had my share of being stung. As a result I have built up defences, good ones I think. To share my knowledge with members of the Circle, I would be glad to examine items that can be scanned to me, and I could give a prompt report. Scan to <passmith@umich.edu>. (please **do not** send the original item).

### Membership changes

#### **Change of Address:**

**ESC 579** Miss **Adelene Simmers**, 5 Margaret Allan Grove, Sauchen, Inverurie, AB51 7JW

#### **Deceased**

**ESC 659 David Worrollo**

## New Issues and a visit to Egypt

Mostafa El-Dars (ESC 556)

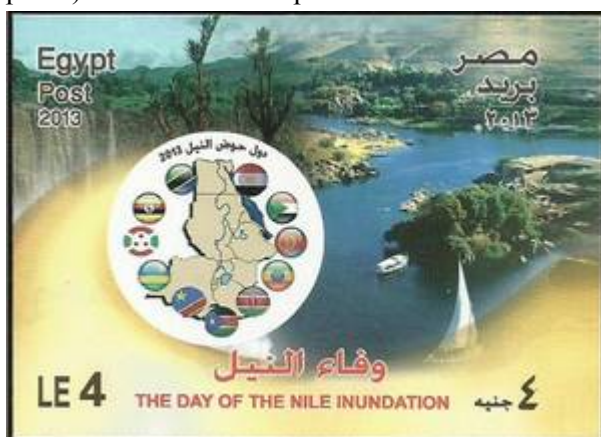
The holy fasting month of Ramadan usually involves a very special happy and friendly environment that affects all aspects of life in Egypt. For a long time I had been longing to spend Ramadan in Egypt, to relive my happy childhood memories. So this year I decided to surprise my family and friends by visiting to spend the month with them. And of course the visit was not only for friends and family...

Ramadan started on June 29 and ended on July 28 (the hottest month of the Egyptian summer). During my stay in Cairo I managed to make four visits to the Philatelic Bureau in Ataba Square: it proved very difficult indeed to obtain all of the stamps I wanted, largely because of the heat (the mercury reached 46C!) and the short fasting working hours of the staff.

However, with my undoubted charm (and the occasional little gift) I managed to succeed in getting through the problems of an office in a truly sad state of boredom and inattention, and in gaining (almost) all of the stamps issued in 2013 and 2014.

### 2013 issues

The most interesting group of those issued in 2013 is the “commercial” issue of three stamps, with new face values of £E4, issued on December 17 (see FDC above, also *QC 227*, p.94 and *QC 246*, p.258). The first is a replica of the 2007 commercial stamp issued for Marsa Alam “Utopia” resort; and the second a replica of the “Medinat Makadi” Hurghada stamp of 2008. The third stamp is a new one, representing Sahl Hasheesh, the Old Town of Hurghada.



The commemorative stamps comprise a single miniature sheet celebrating the “Day of the Nile Inundation” (October 25, left) together with 19 stamps marking the anniversaries of various different events. What seemed very strange to me was the enormous variety in face value of these stamps, without apparent reason or explanation. There were, for instance, two stamps of £E1, five of £E2, six stamps with face value £E3 and five priced at £E4.

The other main issue of interest is the set of two stamps (issued October 6, left) marking the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the October War victory of 1973. Apart from “Egypt Post 2013” the £E1 stamp with a photograph of the Egyptian High Command – General Saad el-Din el-Shazly, President Anwar







Left, Post Day se-tenant strip of three. Right, Youth soccer, Tourism Day



From left, January 25 Revolution, 1952 Revolution, World Postal Day



Left, World Islamic Council; se-tenant Return of Sinai block; World Environment Day



Above, FDC with 'regular definitives:  
Below, 'extra' definitives: from left, 50p green, £2.5, £3 in green and £4 in brick-red





Sadat and Marshal Ahmed Ismail Ali – is printed only in Arabic(!). The £E4 stamp, showing Egyptian troops lifting the national flag over the Bar-Lev Line, is printed only in English.

Other commemorative stamps for 2013 are:

- £E3 se-tenant strip of 3 – Post Day (Tutankhamun) – January 2
- £E1 Anniversary of 2011 Revolution – January 25
- £E3 African Cup of Nations youth football – April 24
- £E2 se-tenant block of 4 – Return of Sinai to Egypt – April 25
- £E3 World Tourism Day – June 5
- £E3 Anniversary of 1952 Revolution - July 23
- £E2 Silver Jubilee World Islamic Council – September 21
- £E3 World Environment Day – September 27
- £E4 World Post Day – October 9

The definitive set for 2013 was issued on October 7 (*see FDC*), comprising values of 50pi, £E1, £E3 and £E4. Extending the basic set, however, I was able to obtain the 50pi in a different colour (green for orange), another stamp of £E2.5, the £E3 in different colours (green for bistre), and the £E4 similarly (light red for brown). I am not sure when these stamps were issued.



The two 2014 miniature sheets: the Nilometer and the Aswan High Dam commemoration



From left, the Heritage block of four, Women's Day, Postal Training, and Day of the African Child



The two 2014 stamps I was not able to find in Cairo: left, marking the third anniversary of the January 25 Revolution; and right, the European-Mediterranean Postal Union issue





2014

Up until the end of my visit, the commemorative stamps of 2014 consist of two miniature sheets with face value £E4. The first, issued for “Post Day” as usual on January 2, shows a contemporary Egyptian painting of the Nilometer by Mohammed Sabry.

Continuing the river theme, the second celebrates 50 years of “altering the Nile stream”, in other words, marking the building of the Aswan High Dam, showing the monument and the flags of Egypt and Russia (today’s red-white-and-blue version, not the USSR flag of 1964!). This stamp, most unusually, is printed in Arabic and Russian rather than another European language.

There appear to be no definitive issues for 2014, but up to the end of July there had been eight further commemorative stamps, four at £E1 (se-tenant for World Heritage Day, April 18), one at £E2 for International Women’s Day (March 3); another at £E2 marking the African Regional Postal Training Centre (June 1). and a £E3 issue for the Day of the African Child (June 17).

\* On January 25 2014 Egypt issued a £E2 stamp marking the third anniversary of the 2011 Revolution; and on July 9, together with Cyprus, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco and Slovenia, a joint issue of a single stamp for Euromed, the European-Mediterranean postal union, for which Egypt designed the stamp (see *QC* 246, page 263).

**Note:** We are grateful to Dr El-Dars for his update on Egypt’s New Issues. Though, largely because of the difficulty of obtaining such material from the Philatelic Bureau in Cairo, the Circle has decided to bring its collection of New Issues to an end, several members are still interested in contemporary stamps going forward, and we shall do our best to publish more about forthcoming issues insofar as we can obtain the information.

### Mystery of the New Definitives.

**Edmund Hall (ESC 239)**

I have written about the latest definitives before: in *QC* 243 p.85 of last December I portrayed three new definitives - 50pt, £E1.5, and £E2.5. Since then a £E3 (Ramesses II) and £E4 (Akhenaten) have been issued, and the 50pt and £E3 have been issued with a colour changes. No sooner had I published my last article on the subject than I discovered further colour change for the £E4 stamps and a £E1 stamp. Other puzzling and conflicting information has come to hand.

At the Spring Stampex I obtained an FDC identical to the one shown by Mostafa above.

However the FDC is dated 7/10/2013, which is later than two covers I have with two of the stamps. Also it has the orange 50pt stamp rather than the emerald, which

would be the one issued about that time. I reported the orange 50pt in *QC* 243. Both eBay and Delcampe auction websites have similar FDCs on offer with the same stamps and date.



£E3 used to pay registered letter dated 29/9/2013. Cover with orange 50pt dated 20/9/2012

I checked the Universal Postal Union website for any information on these stamps via the World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP), which states “the aim of creating a database...” to show “..authentic postage stamps issued by UPU member countries”. It hopes to help philatelists avoid “stamps that have been issued illegally and labels that are claimed to be stamps”. Those stamps authenticated by the organisation go back to January 2003.

The website records the four stamps on the FDC with the identical date, 7 October 2013. No reference at all is made to the other definitive stamps, although all the released commemoratives appear to be there. All the stamps have been offered on Delcampe, which provides the date on which the item was entered. Checking some of these dates shows that some of the stamps were offered for sale before 7/10/13.

				
FDC	7/10/13		7/10/13	
Earliest CV seen	20/9/12	3/4/14	3/4/14	28/11/11?
Delcampe	(2012?)	5/11/13	5/11/13	29/12/11
Stamp Magazine	none	7/10/13	7/10/13	none
WNN	7/10/13		7/10/13	
				
FDC		7/10/13		7/10/13
Earliest CV seen		29/9/13		
Delcampe	25/1/13	4/10/13	5/3/13	5/11/13
Stamp magazine	none	7/10/13	none	7/10/13
WNN	none	7/10/13	none	7/10/13

The August *Stamp Magazine* illustrated several new issues for Egypt, among which are four of the definitives in question, to which they give colours 50pt deep emerald green, £E1 grey background, £E3 mauve background and £E4 golden olive background. I have checked back to 2009 though earlier *Stamp Magazines* for new issues but there is no mention of the other definitive. I made a similar search in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, to no avail: the last mention of Egypt New Issues was August 2013, covering stamps from December 17, 2009 to May 27, 2010. It notes that the stamps were received in July 2013.



Now if one accepts the WADP recording as stamp gospel. then the 50pt orange, £E2.5, £E3 blue and £E4 pink are not accredited stamps. I think, however, there is little doubt that they are genuine Egyptian issues with dates of issue for the £E2.5 about mid/late 2011, 50pt orange mid-2012, and £E3 blue early 2013. The 50pt green £E1, £E3 and £E4 late 2013. One or more of them may have actually been issued on the date shown on the FDC, October 7, 2013. Whether the FDC actually came from the philatelic office, or more likely an enterprising dealer, it was probably a convenience to put four of the stamps on one cover and subscribe one date to them.



But why the orange 50pt and not the green? I go with the cock-up theory: a lad was given the job of sticking the stamps on with an instruction to use the 50pt stamp. The instructions failed to specify which one, and the nearest to hand was the orange one!



Some other internet offerings are the £E1 with part or all the background missing. One of my covers (*above*) has a part missing background £E3 stamp, used with the 50pt green. I suspect that the £E3 was issued for the £E3 registered letter rate, which subsequently risen to £E3.5

**Editor's note.** I wrote my article before seeing the similar one from Mostafa El Dars, so removed my FDC. Taken in conjunction with the above, I think that the confused state of stamp issues in Egypt and the challenge for collectors is all too clear.



*A whole sheet with doctor blade (?) fault but offered as a misprint. Interesting, because it shows how the sheet is made up and a printing number.*

### Ready for battle

Tony Chisholm (ESC 288), our long-serving Antipodean Agent and Matarangi host par excellence, has been going through a hard time at the hands of the Kiwi surgeons recently, including another six-hour op at the end of August. But wife Jenny says that he was quickly in conversation with the nurses afterwards – and will soon be ready to do battle over New Issues with the Egyptian Philatelic Bureau once more. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

## Egypt Cassette Mailers – A Study and Catalogue

Ruud van Dam (non member)



*Fig 1. Sample cassette mailer*

### **Preface**

This study was carried out for a stationery sub-set of a computer related philatelic collection. The cassette mailers qualify for this collection because they all show a picture of an audio cassette on the front of the envelopes (*Fig. 1*). Early microcomputers used tape cassettes for data storage and some even used the standard audio tapes. The cassette mailers turned out to be interesting, and worth a separate study on account of the complexity of the issue history.

The objective of this study is to improve the understanding of these cassette mailers and to develop an unambiguous and flexible cataloguing system.

### **Acknowledgment and Bibliography**

The results of the study, as described in this document, could only have been achieved with the much appreciated support of two of my philatelic friends: Larry Dodson, USA, author of the *ATA Handbook Computers on Stamps and Stationery*; and Wobbe Vegter, South Africa, author of the web-based exhibit *Egypt's Cassette Post* at <http://wvegter.hivemind.net/abacus/Cassp0A.html>

The basis for this study was also laid by several predecessors who published their study results in the following articles and/or catalogues.

Lucien S Toutounji – *The New Cassette Post* (1990, QC 154, pp.74-75)

Leon Balian (LB) – *The Stamps of Egypt* (1998)

M Barker & C Hass (ESC) *Audio Cassette Postal Stationery Envelopes of Egypt* (1998, QC 186 pp. 271-277)

Joseph H Chalhoub (JHC) – *Cassette Envelopes* (2003, in *The Nile Post Handbook and Catalog of Egyptian Stamps, section XIII - Postal Stationery*)

Magdi Moukhtar Abdel-hadi (MMA) – *Egypt Stamps Handbook* (2010)

### **Introduction**

The Egypt Cassette Post was introduced in December 1989. In an advertisement the new service was announced as: “Cassette Post – The newest mail service by The National Postal Organization – We send your tape cassette message safely in Egypt and abroad.” This service was important because Egypt had a relatively low level of literacy at the time and also a large migrant work force. With the service came a series



of colourful pre-stamped mailers and special rules and procedures implying:

- All cassette post items are handled as registered material.
- No other materials except cassettes up to 50gr may be sent.
- The postal employee fills out the name and address of the sender and receiver on the mailer, writes the identity information of the sender and the cassette on the back of the mailer, packs the cassette with a protective card, closes the mailer and enters it into the postal service.

The service started with two kinds of mailers; one for domestic use and one for use within the Arab Postal Union. Later a mailer for the rest of the world was added. To reflect rate increases for destinations abroad two stamp rates were replaced. The last change was a new stamp design for domestic use. When the service was discontinued, remaining envelopes were used for administrative correspondence recognisable by the use of handstamped cancellations.

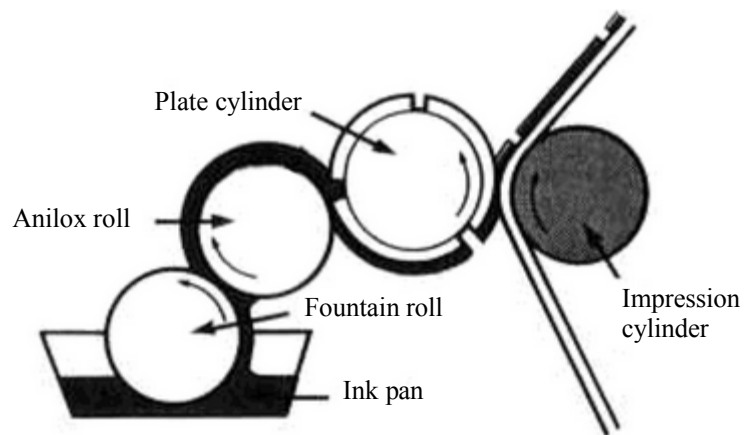
### Collecting

For collectors the cassette post mailers are a real challenge. Although the set comprised only six basic designs, the production process resulted in nearly every production run introducing a new envelope type. Another complication is the lack of reliable historical records. Even the accuracy of the date of issue mentioned in the first day cancels is unreliable; several of them seem to be used more to please the collectors than record a historical fact. Even worse is the number of printing errors and printing waste, without any philatelic value, that has been put on the market.

The above made it extremely difficult to generate consistent catalogues during, or shortly after, the period of actual use. Also the traditional cataloguing strategy turned out not to result in a practical outcome. This study will discuss the most complicating aspects and comes with a cataloguing system that avoids these obstacles that jeopardise the results.

### Printing

The majority of the cassette mailers were made at the Postal Printing Authority in Cairo by flexography. This printing process uses flexible relief plates made of a light-sensitive polymer. It is a relatively simple technique using plates made with a basic photographic process. Flexography needs a relief plate for every colour used. The cassette mailers are all printed in two colours apart from those with a text under the back flap, which requires an extra colour. Flexographic printing, certainly at the time, had a rudimentary quality because of the simplicity of the printing process (*Fig. 3*). The low-viscosity and fast-drying ink is transported by the fountain roll from the ink pan to the anilox roll. This essential part is very finely engraved to ensure that an equal thin layer of ink is brought on to the higher parts of the relief plate. With the help of the impression cylinder the relief plate places the ink directly on the material to be printed.



*Fig 2. Flexography*

Flexography has at least two weaknesses:

1. The control of an equal ink distribution to the relief plate is vulnerable, which may easily lead to colour differences or blurred and even smeared images.
2. The direct contact between relief plate and material to be printed leads to a speedy wear of the relief plate. As a consequence these plates need to be replaced within a relatively short period of time.

In late 1999 or early 2000 flexography was replaced by offset, a far more advanced printing technique without the abovementioned drawbacks, resulting in printings of constantly higher quality.

## Colour

By tradition colour is an important aspect in identifying different issues, but it is also troublesome. Reproducible measuring of colour is a high-tech activity far beyond the possibilities of collectors. Even having the equipment required is not of much help, because there is no good reference information and above all; colour is not stable but degrades over time.

The best practice is to use colour charts with standardised names as provided by the major catalogue publishers like Stanley Gibbons and Michel. But even these are of limited help because changing light conditions, differences in paper and the colour vision deficiency of many male collectors disturb the accurate identification of colour for the item at hand. Existing catalogue listings for the cassette mailers use lots of fancy names for colours, without any reference, making them a very vague tool for identification.

## Cataloguing

When do we speak of a different issue? It is the first and most important question when cataloguing. The answer, however, is not as obvious as it looks, because the more items are examined, the more differences can be detected. So a practical balance is required. Particularly for the cassette mailers it may be clear that variations and errors inherently associated with production methods should not be identified as a reason for defining a new issue.

Print quality and colour shades are therefore not obvious characteristics. It is better to look for more consistent and easy to measure differences. The catalogue presented in this study is built on this idea, as further explained in the section describing the front imprints. The next sections give short descriptions of the various characteristics used in the catalogue.

A special note should be made about the administrative cancellations. There are plausible reasons to identify a mailer with such a marking as a separate issue. A more clear and flexible way however is to catalogue these markings separately and use their codes as suffixes to the codes of the mailer on which they were found. The latter is the approach followed by this study.

## Dates of issue

Although mailers exist with a first day cancellation (*right*), there are no historical records available for the various mailer types. Therefore no issue dates are listed in the catalogue.

Instead the order of listing is according to denomination, with the exception of the new design for the domestic rate, which is listed last. This makes a clear distinction between two separate designs for the same denomination.



The only consensus that could be more or less found in existing catalogues was that for the first use of the various rates.

## Imprinted Stamps

### A – £E 1 Qait Bey Mosque

Rate for domestic destinations.

The design is as Michel 1144, Scott 1285A and Yvert 1401. This stamp is not listed by Stanley Gibbons.

There are two types, of different size.

Envelopes are reported with two different first day cancels. The date 1-12-89 is the same as for the £E 2 envelope and 28-2-90 is the issue date of the single stamp. It is not certain, but the latter date is probably the correct one.



Fig 3. Section A



**B – £E 2 Al Azhar Mosque**

Rate for destinations within the Arab Postal Union.

The design is as Michel 1134, Scott 1286 and Yvert 1396. This stamp is not listed by Stanley Gibbons.

One type is known with a distorted frame and another with a retouched frame.

Envelopes are reported with a first day cancel of 1-12-89, the same issue date as for the single stamp.

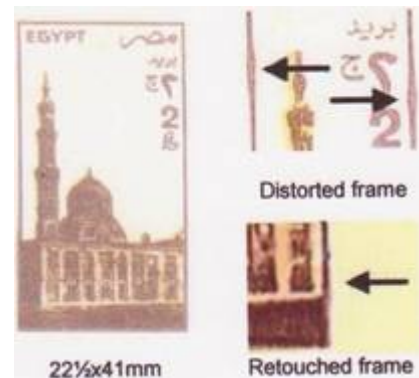


Fig 4. Section B

**C – £E 2½ Sayeda Nefissa Mosque**

Increased rate for destinations within the Arab Postal Union. There is no corresponding stamp design.

Known is one type with a deformed frame. Envelopes are reported with a first day cancel of 1-7-93.

The flexographic printed envelopes are mostly coarsely diagonal ruled, although fine parallel versions exist. In many cases however the ruling is, due to the poor printing, not visible.



Fig 5. Section C

**D – £E 3½ Bust of a Princess, Ramses II period**

Rate for destinations outside the Arab Postal Union. There is no corresponding stamp design.

There is one general type, printed in several colours. On some the background ends at the shoulders.

Envelopes with different first day cancels are reported. The earliest found is 1-8-93.



Fig 6. Section D

**E – £E 4 Head of Mummy-case of Queen Merrit Amoun**

Increased rate for destinations outside the Arab Postal Union. There is no corresponding stamp design.

There is one general type, printed in two colour combinations. The imprinted stamp has no frame.

Envelopes are reported with a first day cancel for 1-2-94.



Fig 7. Section E

**F – £E 1 Mohamed Ali Mosque**

Rate for domestic destinations. New design with no corresponding stamp.

Beside the various colours there are differences in the size of the stamp and the shape of the denomination, white and coloured. Below the frame the name of the printing house is mentioned: two names exist “Postal Printing House” and “Postal Printing House Cairo”

Envelopes are reported with a first day cancel of 28-2-94.



Fig 8. Section F

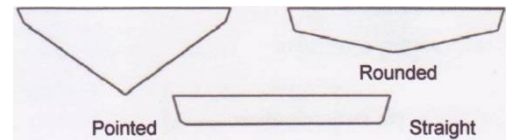
### Cassette images

Although, if you ignore the various colours, all the cassette images (*right*), appear to be the same, this is not in fact the case. At least three different dimensions are found and are listed in this catalogue. None of the previous catalogues has mentioned these variants.



### Envelopes

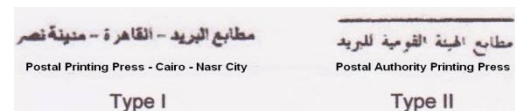
The envelopes come in a wide range of size, varieties of paper and shape. There are three types of flap (*Fig. 9*). The folding process resulted in envelope sizes with a tolerance of  $\pm 1\text{mm}$ . Measurements should be made across the centres of the sides rather than top or bottom.



*Fig 9. Flap variants*

### Flap imprints

A few envelopes come with the name of the printing house printed beneath the flap. There are two types.



*Fig 10. Under-flap imprints*

### Back imprints

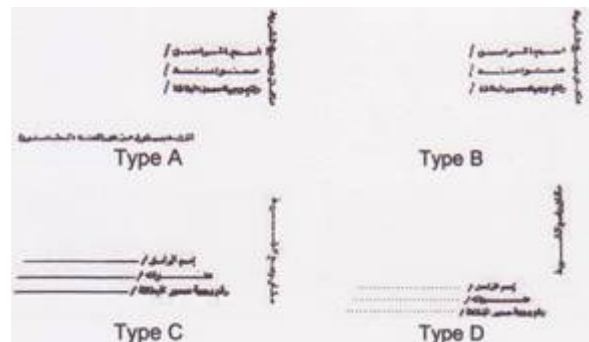
There are four types of back imprint (*Fig. 11*). All have place for three lines of sender information asking for Name, Address and Origin of identity card. The vertical text reads: Type and manufacture of the tape.

Type A has a base line with the warning: You are responsible if the item infringes the law.

Type B is missing this warning.

Type C has another text style and sender lines.

Type D has an inverted vertical text, and dotted sender and address lines. The positions of sender information and vertical text may vary widely with respect to each other for this type.



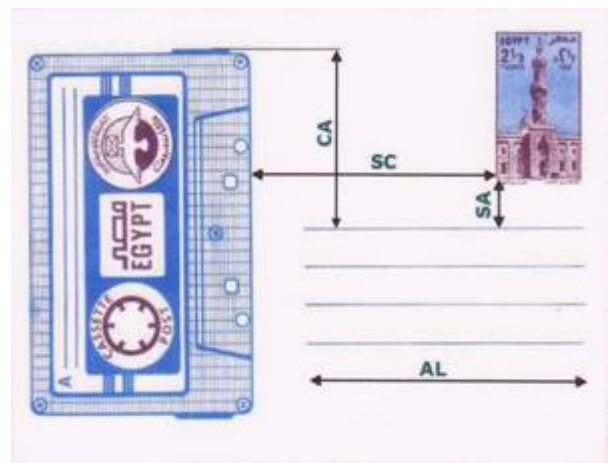
*Fig 11. Back imprint – sender information*

### Front imprints

The front of the envelope shows three elements: stamp, cassette and address lines. Extensive analysis indicates that the positions of these elements relative to each other (*Fig. 12*) determines to a high degree the issue type of the envelope.

The full identification can be made using these four dimensions and: denomination, colours, flap type, envelope size, back imprint and flap imprint.

For the colours a general indication is sufficient. This also applies to the paper type, which is not strictly necessary to identify a separate issue.



*Fig 12. Front imprint – measurable variants*



## Administrative correspondence

As stated above, envelopes remaining after the service was discontinued - probably short after the year 2000 - were used for administrative correspondence recognisable by the use of special handstamped cancellations.

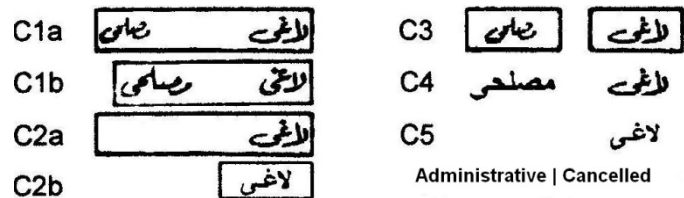


Fig 13. Types of administrative cancel

The most common of them, with a possible identifying code, are shown here (Fig. 13). These codes may be used as a suffix to the code of the envelope to provide a unique identifier. The handstamps occur in various colours and are positioned virtually at random, normal or inverted, across the stamp and/or cassette.

## Catalogue

The accompanying catalogue is a summary of all cassette envelopes seen or reported. Of those merely reported, rather than seen by me, all the details listed here are not always known, and therefore the section is left empty. This catalogue provides a cross-reference between earlier published catalogues. In several cases, due to the lack of detail, issues presented in one catalogue may cover more than one item listed in another catalogue.

## Codes and abbreviations used in the Catalogue table heading:

Code	Suggested, 3 position (Section – Group – Item), catalogue code. Sections A/F are each divided according to the most practical method. A stamp size, B none, C back imprint, D colour/background, E colour, F size/value/printer. <i>The code can be used in combination with the cancel codes e.g. F3c+C1a</i>
Den	Denomination
Sw/Sh	Stamp width and height in mm (outside of left and bottom frame)
Cw/Ch	Cassette width and height in mm (centre frame and over notches)
Type	Print method      F = Flexography, O = Offset
Ru	Ruling type      D = Diagonal, P = Parallel, N = None, na = not applicable
Col	General colour combination of Cassette/Frame Bl = Blue, Br = Brown, Gr = Green, Gy = Grey, Or = Orange, Pu = Purple. <i>The gradual shift of brown to purple sometimes makes identification difficult.</i>
Pap	Paper type      Cr = Cream, La = Laid, Wh = White, Ow = Off-white
Mw/Mh	Mailer width and height in mm (at the centres of the sides)
BI	Back Imprint      Codes as mentioned above
FI	Flap Imprint      Codes as mentioned above
AL	Length of Address Lines in mm
SA	Distance of Stamp to Address Lines in mm
SC	Distance of Stamp to Cassette in mm
CA	Distance of top of Cassette to Address Lines in mm

## Catalogue Cross-Reference

LB	Leon Balian (1998)
ESC	Egypt Study Circle (1998)
JHC	Joseph H Chalhoub (2003)
MMA	Magdi M Abdel-hadi (2010)
WV	Wobbe Vegter (page numbers of web exhibit, early 2014)

\* We are grateful indeed to Mr Van Dam, of the Netherlands, for offering this fascinating article. Members who might seek to follow up should contact him on [rvdam@hetnet.nl](mailto:rvdam@hetnet.nl)

Ref	Stamp		Cassette		Printing		Mailer		Back		Front					Cataloguing Cross-reference					Remarks	
	Den	Sw	Sh	Cw	Ch	Typ	Ru	Col	Pap Flap	Mw	Mh	BI	FL	AL	SA	SC	CA	LB	ESC	JHC		MMA
A1a	1P	22½	41½	60	101	F	na	Gr/Br	Cr	R	184	114	A	90	17	89	58	B03	E1.1	S1	nc	06
A1b	1P	22½	41½			F	na	Gr/Pu	Cr	R	183	114	A	I				B03	nc	nc	C01	
A1c	1P	22½	41½	60	101	F	na	Gr/Pu	Wh	R	156	124	C	64	18	57	55	nc	nc	nc	nc	15
A2a	1P	22	40	60	101	F	na	Gr/Pu	Cr	R	185	125	A	90	28	83	69	B04	E1.2	S1a	nc	09
A2b	1P	22	40	59	100	F	na	Gr/Pu	Ow	R	158	126	B	75	32	61	64	BOS	E1.3	S1b	C03	11
A2c	1P	22	40	59	100	F	na	Gr/Br	Ow	R	159	125	B	75	22	67	62	B05	E1.4	S1c	C03	13
A2d	1P	22	40	60	101	F	na	Ye/Br	Wh	R	160	125	B	77	23	68	59	B05	E1.5	S1d	nc	14
A2e	1P	22	40			F	na	Ye/Br	Cr	R	185	125	A	I				B04	nc	nc	C02	
B1a	2P	22½	41	60	101	F	na	Bl/Br	Cr	S	182	117	A	90	19	81	51	B01	E2.1	S2	COS	39
B1b	2P	22½	41	60	101	F	na	Bl/Br	Cr	R	184	113	A	90	19	88	59	B02	E2.1	S2	C09	
B1c	2P	22½	41	60	101	F	na	Bl/Br	Cr	R	185	113	A	90	19	86	63	B02	E2.2	S2b	C09a	40
B1d	2P	22½	41	59	100	F	na	Bl/Br	Cr	R	184	113	A	90	20	88	58	B02	nc	nc	nc	41
B1e	2P	22½	41			F	na	Bl/Br	La	R	182	117	A					B02	nc	nc	C09c	
C1a	2½P	23	40	60	101	F	D	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	160	125	A	75	14	66	49	B07	nc	S3	C10	42
C1b	2½P	23	40	60	101	F	D	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	160	125	A	75	13			B07	E2.5-1	nc	C10	
C2a	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	160	126	B	75	13	66	49	B06	nc	nc	C11	46
C2b	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	D	Bl/Br	Wh	R	159	127	B	75	24	63	64	B06	E2.5-8	S3o	C11	47
C2c	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Br	Wh	R	160	125	B	76	25	61	61	B06	E2.5-10	S3u	C11	48
C2d	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Pu		R	160	126	B	76	24			B06	nc	S3v	C11	
C2e	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	P	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	161	126	B	77	15	70	49	B06	E2.5-4	S3i	C11	45
C2f	2½P	23	40			F	P	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	160	126	B	77	20			B06	E2.5-3	S3h	C11	
C2g	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Br	Wh	R	165	126	B	81	17			B06	E2.5-6	S3K	C11	
C2h	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	D	Bl/Pu	Cr	R	173	126	B	77	27	68	65	B06	E2.5-9	S3s	nc	
C2i	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Br		R	177	126	B	76	25			B06	nc	S3z	nc	
C2j	2½P	23	40			F	D	Bl/Br		P	175	125	B					B06	nc	nc	C11a	
C3a	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	D	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	153	126	C	65	19	55	55	B06	nc	nc	C13	70
C3b	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	D	Bl/Pu	Ow	R	153	126	C	65	18	55	55	B06	nc	nc	C13	75
C3c	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	D	Bl/Pu	Ow	R	153	126	C	62	18	55	55	B06	nc	nc	C13	82



Ref	Stamp		Cassette		Printing		Mailer		Back		Front						Cataloguing Cross-reference						Remarks
	Den	Sw	Sh	Cw	Ch	Typ	Ru	Col	Pap Flap	Mw	Mh	BI	FL	AL	SA	SC	CA	LB	ESC	JHC	MMA	WV	
C3d	2½P	23	40	60	101	F	N	Bl/Pu	Wh	R	156	C		64	20	58	55	B06	nc	nc	C13	50	gap in 2nd line and short 4th line
C3e	2½P	23	40	59	100	F	N	Bl/Pu	Wh	S	156	C		63	28	54	62	B06	nc	nc	C13d	54	
C3f	2½P	23	40	60	101	F	D	Bl/Pu	Ow	S	155	c		72	29	54	62	B06	nc	nc	C13d	49	
C4a	2½P	23	38	59	97	0	N	Bl/Br	Ow	P	153	D		65	27	52	60	nc	nc	nc	C12a		
C4b	2½P	23	38			0	N	Bl/Pu	Ow	P	152	D		63	17	50	60	nc	nc	nc	C12a	55	
D1a	3½P	21½	28	59	100	F	D	Ye/Pu			164	A	I					B08	nc	nc	C14		
D1b	3½P	21½	28	59	100	F	D	Ye/Pu	Wh	R	160	B		77	34	67	58	BOS	E3.5-2	S4b	nc	90	
D2a	3½P	21½	28	59	100	F	D	Br/Pu	Wh	R	163	A	I	82	24	69	48	B09	E3.5-1	S4	C15	86	
D3a	3½P	21½	28	59	100	F	D	Pu/Br	Wh	R	158	B		76	35	65	61	nc	E3.5-3	S4c	C16	91	stamp with incomplete background
D3b	3½P	21½	28	59	100	F	D	Gy/Br	Ow	R	159	B		75	36	62	64	nc	nc	nc	nc	93	stamp with incomplete background
E1a	4P	21	27	59	100	F	N	Or/Bl	Wh	R	162	A		81	26	72	47	B10	E4.1	S5	nc	95	
E1b	4P	21	27	59	100	F	N	Or/Bl	Wh	R	162	B		82	26			B10	nc	nc	C17		
E2a	4P	21	27	59	100	F	D	Bl/Br	Wh	R	158	B		75	37	65	63	B10a	E4.2	S5a	C18	96	
F1a	1P	21½	27	59	100	F	D	Or/Gr	Ow	R	160	B		77	33	71	60	B11	E1.8	37a	C04		White value
F1b	1P	21½	27	59	100	F	D	Or/Bl	Ow	R	162	B		81	27	70	49	B12	E1.7	S7	C04	18	White value
F2a	1P	21½	27	59	100	F	D	Or/Gr	Ow	R	162	A		81	27	68	47	B11	E1.6	S6	C0S		Coloured value
F2b	1P	21½	27	59	100	F	D	Or/Bl	Ow	R	165	B		81	29	70	49	B12	nc	S6d	nc		Coloured value
F3a	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	N	Gr/Pu	Ow	P	152	D		65	38	55	60	nc	nc	S9	C06	36	Postal Print House
F3b	1P	21½	28	59	96	0	D	Gr/Pu	Wh	P	152	D		65	39	54	60	nc	nc	nc	C06		Postal Print House
F3c	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Br	Wh	P	152	D		63	38	52	60	nc	nc	nc	C06	27	Postal Print House
F4a	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Pu	Cr	P	152	D		63	29	52	60	nc	nc	nc	nc	38	Postal Print House Cairo
F4b	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Br	Wh	P	152	D		67	36	53	60	nc	nc	nc	nc	33	Postal Print House Cairo
F4c	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Br	Wh	P	152	D		65	40	53	59	nc	nc	nc	nc		Postal Print House Cairo
F4d	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Br	Wh	P	152	D		63	28	52	60	nc	nc	nc	nc	35	Postal Print House Cairo
F4e	1P	21½	26	59	96	0	D	Gr/Br	Wh	P	152	D		63	38	52	60	nc	nc	nc	nc	20	Postal Print House Cairo
F4f	1P	21½	26					Gr/Br			146	D						nc	nc	nc	C07		Postal Print House Cairo, very small mailer



### Bottle Mail Revisited (from page 56)

**Mike Murphy adds:** A wonderful thing, the internet .. a quick trawl revealed that William Basil Benwell Rees (1902-67) not only served as a temporary lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from December 8, 1939 (gazetted in the *Navy List*), but that there is also a Study Circle connection.

Basil Benwell Rees was a member of the family of the late Michael Barker, for long one of our stalwarts and for years in Alexandria involved in a whole range of social and business activities of Egypt. The Benwell connection is revealed in the Barker picture family archive at <http://levantineheritage.com/barker.htm>.

Given that he was the elder son of William Benwell Rees and Ethelreda (nee Barker), the fact that he was spending time travelling back and forth in the Mediterranean – and dropping bottle mail over the side occasionally – is perhaps not so surprising.

### Report on Philakorea (Seoul), August 7-12, 2014

**Richard S Wilson** (ESC 230)

I just received the Palmars for the Philakorea 2014 World Stamp Exhibition. There were four exhibits in the traditional philately and postal history sections and one in the one-frame sections.

Egyptian Official Stamps 1893-1922	<b>Mahmoud Ramadan</b> ESC 358	Egypt	83pts Vermeil
Egypt Postage Prepaid (EPP) Military Datestamps 1941-1947	<b>Hisham Bassyouny</b> ESC 391	Egypt	75pts Large Silver
Postal History of Egypt 1875-1913	<b>Nael Hamdy</b> non member	Egypt	82pts Vermeil
Egypt Maritime Mail Routes 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	<b>Hany Salam</b> ESC 580	Egypt	93pts Gold
Egypt – The Three Millièmes Army Post Stamps 1936-1941**	<b>Richard S. Wilson</b> ESC 230	United States	88pts **

\*\* One-frame exhibits are not awarded medals

### Salon Planète Timbre, June 16-20, 2014 at the Floral Park Paris.

Egypt Maritime Mail Routes 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	<b>Hany Salam</b> ESC 580	Egypt	92pts Gold
The crescent & star cancellation of Egypt (1882 - 1920)	<b>Mahmoud Ramadan</b> ESC 358	Egypt	78pts Large Silver
Delta light Railways	<b>Ibrahim Shoukry</b> ESC 423	Egypt	78pts Large Silver