

The  
Quarterly Circular  
of  
**THE  
EGYPT**



# STUDY CIRCLE

March Quarter 2015

Whole Series No. 252

Volume XXII No. 5

Pages 97-120

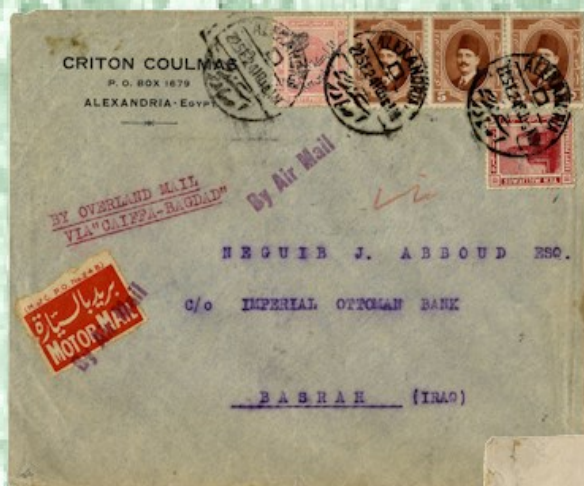
## CONTENTS.

Officers 97, Meetings 98, Invitation to Egypt 100, Members 102, Book review iv

## ARTICLES.

Suez Canal Error: The Shredder's Story	Sherif Samra	p99
Postal Rates Rise – and a Registration Surprise	Sherif el-Kerdani	p99
Emirates Battles the Forgers	Mike Murphy	p100

## Peter Smith – A “tribute issue”



# Carmichael & Todd PHILATELISTS

PTS

As many of the E.S.C. Members may know, I am delighted that both I and Corinthia Auktionen of Zurich have been entrusted with the sale of the Peter Smith collection of EGYPT and the SUDAN.

Peter had always wanted his collection to be sold by auction rather than intact. When we discussed this in November last year in Dexter, Peter said that he had once asked Dr. William Byam why he had turned down a large offer for his remarkable collection intact. Dr. Byam had answered that he wished that everybody who had admired items in his collection would be able to get the chance to bid for them in an open auction suitably lotted.

I have done my best with the lotting, with 850 odd lots, many remain on Peter's exhibition album pages as his comments on his stamps and covers were always going to be more informative and pertinent than mine!

Hopefully most of the mixed lots will be able to be viewed through scans on the web and all single lots will be available for viewing on Corinthia's stand at the London FEPA Exhibition in May, 2015. There will also be pre-sale viewing in Zurich which is a delightful town (especially so in May) and I feel sure that many collectors will wish to attend the auction. Corinthia will be delighted to assist with Hotels etc. and flights to Zurich take just 75 minutes from Heathrow or Gatwick.

Carmichael & Todd will also have a stand at the London FEPA Exhibition and I invite all customers to visit me there and discuss Peter's collection with me. Hopefully, also, to have a look at my stock at the same time!

I will miss Peter greatly, he was ever reliable in his opinions and we were in constant touch by e-mail, as he was always a great help to me when authenticating dubious items handed to me for certification. He was a man who had time for everybody and I will miss our jaunts travelling the highways of America in his van to visit Exhibitions. He wrote what I consider to be the finest single volume book on one country's Stamps and Postal History ever written and was awarded the Crawford Medal by the Royal Philatelic Society to mark this outstanding achievement. I hope the Peter Smith auction catalogue will prove to be a fitting legacy and will take its place, in the libraries of all collectors of Egypt, alongside his masterwork.

**Gregory Todd, A.I.E.P., FRPSL. ESC 585**



**REGISTERED from RODI, June 1877**

From one of Peter's pages

**P.O. BOX 111 LYMINGTON HAMPSHIRE ENGLAND S041 6ZJ**

**Telephone 01 590 682 683 [toddytripzinc@gmail.com](mailto:toddytripzinc@gmail.com)**

**VAT No. GB 561 9567 09**

### Meetings dates for 2015

The Europhilex meeting will be held at the **Premier Inn** just across from the Design Centre. Two meetings will be held at 2pm in the **Victory Services Club**, Marble Arch, London. The February and September meetings are at 2.30pm at **Stampex** (Feb 18-21 and Sept 16-19)

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

<b>May 16</b> 2-4.30pm	Europhilex <i>Europhilex May 13-16</i>	AGM, Ten Sheets, informal meeting	All members
<b>July 18</b> 2-5pm	Services Club	Egypt Postage Rates Egypt Air Mail Rates	Edmund Hall John Sears
<b>Sep 19</b> 2.30-4.30pm	Stampex <i>Stampex Sept 16-19</i>	New Issues collection Revenues etc.	Cyril Defriez Richard Wheatley
<b>Nov 14</b> 2-5pm	Services Club	Consular Posts	John Davis

### EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	John Sears, FRPSL, 496 Uxbridge Road, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 4SL. john.sears@btinternet.com
<b>Chairman:</b>	Peter Andrews, 10 Hatches Mews, Braintree, Essex CM7 9FZ. ancientone@btintemet.com
<b>Deputy Chairman/ Librarian:</b>	John Davis, Church View Cottage, Church Rd, Upton Snodsbury, Worcs WR7 4NH john.davis2@btinternet.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mike Murphy, 109 Chadwick Road, Peckham, London SE15 4PY egyptstudycircle@hotmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Brian Sedgley, 6 Mullberry Way, Ashted, Surrey KT21 2 FE brian.sedgley@talktalk.net
<b>Editor/Webmaster:</b>	Edmund Hall, 6 Bedford Avenue, Little Chalfont, Amersham, Bucks HP6 6PT edmundhall@chalfont.eclipse.co.uk
<b>Publicity Officer:</b>	Vacant – volunteer sought
<b>North America Agent:</b>	Trent Ruebush, 6704 Donegan Court, Alexandria, Virginia 22315, USA tkruebush@gmail.com
<b>Egypt Agent:</b>	Dr Ibrahim Shoukry, Apt 1, 10 Kamal El-Tawil St (Ex-Montaza), Zamalek, Cairo, Egypt ishoukry@link.net
<b>Antipodean Agent:</b>	Tony Chisholm, 13 Arden Way, Wilton, Wellington 6005, New Zealand j_t_chis@clear.net.nz
<b>Committee:</b>	Dr Sami Sadek, The Oaks, 19 Sinah Lane, Hayling Island, Hants PO11 0EY sami.sadek@ntlworld.com Vahe Varjabedian, 6 Mohammed Galal St, Apt 61, Heliopolis 11341, Cairo, Egypt vahev@hotmail.com

All contents © copyright Egypt Study Circle, London, and the contributors.

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

## Report of the Meeting, February 21

PRESENT: John Sears (President), Peter Andrews (Chairman), John Davis (Deputy Chairman/Librarian), Mike Murphy (Secretary), Edmund Hall (Editor/Webmaster), Brian Sedgley (Treasurer), Jon Aitchison, Mike Bramwell, John Clarke, Ted Fraser-Smith, Pauline Gittoes, Peter Grech, Paul Green, Neil Hitchens, Sherif Samra (Egypt), Atef Sarian, Tony Schmidt, Armen Varjabedian (Egypt), Vahe Varjabedian (Egypt), Richard Wheatley. Guest: Helen Grech.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Angela Child, Cyril Defriez, Mostafa El-Dars, Alan Jeyes, Ronny Van Pellecom.

The Chairman welcomed a good attendance to Spring Stampex, and especially our three visitors from Egypt, and moved quickly to pay tribute to the late Peter Smith, by far our longest serving member, a leading light of the Circle for very many years, and author of the Egypt "bible". He asked Edmund Hall to explain the make-up of this QC, which is intended as a memorial to a great collector, and members then stood for a minute's silence in memory of Professor Smith.

There was then a brief introduction by Sherif Samra (ESC 311), President of the Philatelic Society of Egypt, to the two Cairo exhibitions being organised in the run-up to the major celebration in January next year of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Egyptian postage stamps. For brief details see page 100.

Admin was dealt with quickly – we are happy to welcome new members in Amr El-Etreby from Egypt and Sun Yu Ng from California – and it was announced that 29 members had chosen to help the Circle's funds by reading the QC online, We are grateful that so many made the choice; and hope it will be more in future.

**The Live Auction** that followed produced some surprises, but 11 of the 19 room bidders and 18 of the 23 who bid by email were able to add to their collections, with 99 of the 194 lots sold. Rather against the pattern of recent live auctions, the email bidders were much the more successful, winning 64 of the lots for a total of £1634 against 35 that went in the room for £1059. The recent pattern has been about a 50-50 split. All of the ten sellers were successful – but a plea to future vendors: it is clear that better-quality items are more attractive than run of the mill. Especially when they are offered at attractive starting prices. Before postage costs, the commission realised for the Circle is close to £400 – a satisfactory and entertaining afternoon.

**Auction 53**, which was completed late in mid-November, sold 291 of its 533 lots, very nearly 55 per cent and more than in recent auctions, which have hovered around the 44-48 per cent mark. There were 17 sellers and 46 bidders, two of them for the very first time.

There is still, however a tendency for lots to go to a single bid at the starting price: 154 of them in this case, virtually half of those sold, and in many cases that single bid was very much higher than the reserve. In similar vein, 13 of the bids matched the winning price but arrived later and so lost out. It was fascinating to watch the usual flurry of early bids, with 13 bidders in the first four days, Most bids were received for one of the First-Day covers, with Lot 131 attracting nine bids and moving up from £5 to £17.20. Eight lots went for over £100 – always something to gladden an auctioneer's heart!

The whole auction was wrapped up – with material passed on and sellers paid out – in 12 days, which must be a record. Overall, the total for lots sold amounted to something over £5200, which is good news for the Circle, with commission due (before postage is paid for) of some £780. Postage, however, is a killer - thank you, Royal Mail – and in the future we shall need to be tougher on seeking postage for heavy or bulky items. "Normal" postage (ie, not registered) of over £10 is terrifying, and it was galling too to have to spend £2.15 to send a single stamp to its successful buyer! The postage total of over £100 cuts severely into our commission.

Which makes our thanks to Dr Sherif Samra all the more profound for his generously offered service as a "courier" between Cairo and London; and the same thanks go to those who have donated material for auction, including André Navari, Jack Graham, Ibrahim Shoukry, Mostafa El-Dars and former member Hillary Shaw. Without such generosity of spirit we would be a lesser society.

## Suez Canal Error: The Shredder's Story

Sherif Samra (ESC 311)

The Philatelic Society of Egypt and the Egypt Study Circle have both become increasingly concerned in recent years at the growing number of “modern varieties” coming out of Egypt, and suspicions have been raised about the “preservation”, or perhaps “resurrection”, of flawed stamps that should have been destined for the dustbin. Despite extensive discussions with Egypt Post and the Post Office Printing House, it has not proved possible to stem the flow of “doubtful” so-called varieties.

But some progress is being made, and I am very happy indeed to be able to report not only official but eyewitnessed figures accounting for the precise number of examples actually available of the recent and much sought-after Suez Canal/Panama Canal gaffe issue (see *QC* 251, December 2014, p.iii). I hope that this might be the first step in a process of authentic accounting of all issues and of waste destroyed.

On August 5 2014 a se-tenant set of three stamps was issued to mark the start of work on digging the “parallel” Suez Canal. Immediately it was spotted that the centre stamp illustrated the Panama Canal in error, and the stamps and their accompanying FDC were withdrawn. The issue was replaced within three days of the error being spotted, so it is said. And Egypt Post rushed to collect up all copies of the withdrawn stamps.

On December 2 2014, at the Post Office Printing House, I was a member of a committee selected to witness the destruction of the recovered material. I can report that:

- 2,070 sheets of 45 stamps were printed, ie 93,150 stamps in 31,050 complete sets
- 403 sheets were originally set aside as defective on account of printing faults, ie 6,050 sets
- Most of the 25,000 remaining sets were distributed to post offices as usual for sale
- But 1,500 of those 25,000 sets were retained for use on First Day Covers.

The numbers recovered after the error was noticed were:

- 19,411 of the 23,500 sets, representing 1,294 sheets though many fragmentary
- 999 First Day Covers, and four blank FDC envelopes

I saw all of the recovered material, as well as those sheets originally set aside as flawed, destroyed by shredder – consigned to the flames is not the way it is done these days – on December 2. As a result, it is 100 per cent certain that no more than 4,080 sets of three and 497 First Day Covers were in circulation to be bought by the public during the few days of sales.

NB, Details on the Philatelic Society Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Philatelic-Society-of-Egypt/242258475869265>

### Postal Rates Rise – and a Registration Surprise

We are grateful indeed for notification by Dr Sherif el-Kerdani (ESC 456) that Egypt's postal rates were increased again on January 1 2015 by Circular 932/2014 which stated (removing the bureaucracy-speak), that internal ordinary mail was increased by 25 per cent as follows: Up to 20g, £E1.50; 20-50g, £E2.25; 50-100g, £E2.50/£3.50 (print not clear); 100-250g, £E4.00; 250-500g, £E5.50; 500-1000g, £E8.50; 1-2kg, £E13.00.

Fees for ordinary and government money orders are increased to £E1.50 from £E1.25; fees for parcel notification raised to £E3.5 from £E3.25; and registration remains at £E2.00 “and £E1.00 for businessmen”. Intrigued by this latter, we asked Sherif to clarify. Back came the answer:

There is neither an application nor a registration for “businessmen”. To qualify for the half-price rate one need simply go to any post office with a thousand or more letters to send by registered mail to receive the £E1 per cover rate. It was noted that the system is “rarely seen nowadays”.

## Invitation to celebrate in Egypt

In January the Philatelic Society of Egypt organised a very successful "First Continental Philatelic Exhibition" over six days in Cairo with a series of well-attended lectures and a resounding list of exhibits. These included Crescent & Star cancels, Sudan 1897 overprints, the Rural Post, Shibin el Kom postmarks, Airmail 1926-1939, Hotel mail 1890-1921, Official slogans in royal Egypt, French Post Offices, Official stamps, Handstamps for undelivered mail, and Cassette envelopes.

The event was a great success, and our Egyptian colleagues are very much looking forward to the second in the series, from June 11-14, in the Opera House complex. The PSE is very keen for ESC members to attend or to exhibit, and extends a wide-ranging welcome. Dr Sherif Samra is willing to carry and safeguard the exhibits of any member who is unable to attend in person

Both of these exhibitions are forerunners to the major event, which will come in early January next year (January 2 is Post Day), when the society and the Egyptian Post Office will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Egyptian postage stamps in some style, with a full-scale exhibition and programme of events, again in the Opera House complex on Zamalek.. There is even talk of arranging a combined Christmas break in Egypt, followed by the exhibition.

Please contact Dr Sherif Samra via the Secretary for further details.

## Emirates Battles the Forgers

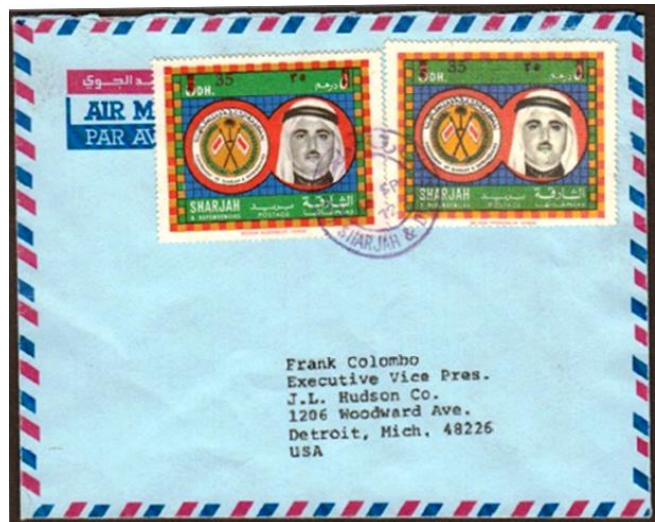
**Mike Murphy (ESC 240)**

Interesting news from the Emirates has been passed on by our new member Khalid Omaira (ESC 684) of Abu Dhabi. In a hard-hitting report by the Documentation and Study Committee of the Emirates Philatelic Association, two Pakistani forgers of Emirates postmarks and stamps are named and shamed.

Abdulla M T Khoory, president of the association, reports that the committee is monitoring forged items of the Emirates prior to unity that are offered for sale mainly on the internet. "We are doing our best to stop such activities," he says, "as they are damaging the image of philately. We are trying our best through official channels and taking legal measures against those who resort to such malpractices."

The committee's report, in English and Arabic, states that forged material has been offered for sale since 2012, and that with the co-operation of dealers and philatelists the sole source was found to be two Pakistanis (whom we shall not name for legal considerations), one of them expert in designing and fabricating such fakes, the other in offering them for sale, claiming when confronted that the material had been bought from the estate of a deceased dealer.

The report illustrates a number of covers in which genuine stamps are used with forged, indeed completely fake, postmarks – from Umm al Quwain, Ajman, Fujairah and Sharjah, and a single example of a forged stamp (*right above*) alongside a genuine example, cancelled with a forged postmark of Sharjah.



Though we seem to be less subject to forgeries of this sort in Egypt, we are grateful to our new member for passing on the information, and wish the Emirates well in taking on the forgers.

*Emirates Philatelic Association, PO Box 33333 Dubai, UAE. Email epa@epa.ae*

### Peter Smith – A “Tribute Issue” QC

Professor Smith – known around the world by his initials “PASS” with which he marked his exhibition items – has crossed the path of all Egypt collectors, influencing all our collecting especially with his monumental book *Egypt: Stamps and Postal History, a Philatelic Treatise*, the book he decided to write for himself when the Circle found itself short of time and will. But he will be remembered just as much for his kind and gentlemanly care in nourishing less experienced collectors with his never-failing care and attention in answering queries whether erudite or crass. The Circle devotes this QC to his memory with some pages from his remarkable collection, and thanks members who have written to express their appreciation of a great collector and a great man.

■ Why did a French philatelist join the ESC? Because of Peter’s book. I don’t remember where I read the announcement of publication of Peter Smith’s *Egypt*. Nor do I remember how I ordered it, only that it arrived wrapped in a US mail-bag that I have kept. What I do recall well is my impression after reading the book: for the first time I was able to say “At last, it is possible to present virtually all periods of a country’s postal history in a single volume.” At the time I was a keen collector and student of the postal history of three or four countries. Sources were numerous, but also very scattered through several books, and reviews not always accessible to a French collector.

For me Peter’s book’s summarised two centuries of the postal history of a country that I had crossed from time to time. And all of it in less than 1000 pages: a dream for an avid postal history literature reader. Of course not everything was revealed in detail ... that was not the plan. But one crucial detail especially important to me was the immensely useful list of sources at the end of each chapter, an index and a select bibliography. And among these notes are mentions of a mysterious (at the time) QC and on the (not numbered) page 878, an advertisement for a philatelic society: The Egypt Study Circle.

So I decided to join the ESC. But the story does not end there. In 2004 I produced a CD-Rom of my collection, mainly covers and cards, and sent it to the ESC. I don’t recall who suggested I should send it to Peter Smith, but some weeks later I received a very kind letter in which he suggested: “ ... I gather that you have been concentrating on covers. Now it is time to pursue the stamps: the ordinary are quite common, but the imperfs, inverted watermarks and plate varieties are a challenge ...”. I did not have the opportunity to write again, but today I can say: “I am doing that, Peter. I have begun to study the stamps, particularly for plate numbers.” Requiescat in pace, Peter Smith, we miss you - **André Navari, ESC 534, France**

■ The world of Egyptian philately has suffered a great loss with the passing of Peter Smith. I first met Peter a number of years at The Collectors Club in New York when he was editor of *The Collectors Club Philatelist*. As a neophyte Egyptian collector I found him to be gracious and over time I appreciated his knowledge and his willingness to share it with others. He was never too busy to get back to you with a response to an inquiry. I was most grateful when he agreed to give a talk to the British Empire Study Group a few years ago even though it meant staying over in New York for another day.

I was fortunate to see his last philatelic display this past November in New York City at the stamp dealers’ show. His *Egypt Stamps & Postal History* sits in my bookcase within an arm’s reach from my computer as a reminder of a fine gentleman who will be missed by all who knew him. - **Richard S. Wilson, ESC 230, USA**

■ Since I joined the ESC 35 years ago Peter Smith marked every stage of my journey through Egyptian philately. Any topic I turned to had been imprinted by Peter’s incredible research and published articles. That masterly diversity was demonstrated by his “tour de force” of single-handedly producing “The Book”, which is the generous legacy to us of his vast knowledge.

I first met him at London 1990 at the Alexandra Palace, and we corresponded frequently. He was always interested, always ready to help. When Ronny Van Pellecom and I produced the book on Ramleh, Peter contacted me to bemoan the fact that I had not sought his help. He provided extra information and illustrations of rare covers, enabling us to publish an addendum, and compounded that kindness by gifting me some duplicates with Ramleh Station postmarks. An extraordinary man.

During a visit to the USA four years ago I tried unsuccessfully to contact him by e-mail, and there was no reply to his phone number. In view of his advanced years, my wife and I feared the worst. Happily it was only because he had moved house and his new address had not yet filtered to the ESC; it was wonderful then to speak with him. This time there is no new telephone number, and we are all the poorer for it. Good bye, Peter. - **Pierre Louis Grech, ESC 266, UK**

■ I had the distinct pleasure and honour to meet Peter Smith at a stamp exhibition in Atlantic City in August 2001 when I bought his book and explained that I was writing a postal history of Egypt under the Muhammad Ali dynasty and in presenting it with a brief description of the political and economic situation of the time, since I felt it would give a broader understanding of the postal issues. He encouraged me, but also warned of the amount of work required. I asked for his support, and soon found that he was 100 per cent right: I had seriously underestimated the time and effort necessary. Over 12 years my family and I visited him and his wife Mary at their homes in Ann Arbor and later in Dexter. They were always gracious and hospitable hosts. We also met at Chicagopex in October 2011, when he very generously turned over to me nearly all of the photographs and drawings still in his possession after publication of his book. Though he had transferred copyright to the Circle, he thought it would gladly give permission to use them in my book. In addition I was, over the years, fortunate enough to obtain a large amount of material on which I have based my work. I was exceedingly saddened to learn of Peter's passing, and had hoped that he could have seen my published work, for which his comments and feedback have been my main guidance. Without his material, it would not have been possible. I miss him very much and will always remember his kindness, generosity and impressive understanding of Egypt's philatelic history. I feel blessed to have known such an outstanding personality and will remember him as an intellectual giant whose work is a unique philatelic guide for all who share a fascination with Egypt and its postal history. - **Sami Fereig, ESC 569, Canada**

■ Although not entirely unexpected, news of Peter's death came as a little shock. Over a long period we had quite regular contact, originally by writing, later by email. Generally, I was on the 'asking side', and Peter providing the answers, always very quickly and precisely. I had the pleasure of meeting him several times in London, last time at the Circle venue at London 2010. As late as October 2014 we exchanged opinions on his article about modern Sudan overprints in the *Camel Post*, and Peter sent me one of these as a present. As late as November he commented upon the scan of an early Beyroust postmark I sent him: unfortunately for me it was a "nice forgery". I shall certainly miss him! - **Anton Jansen, ESC 383, Netherlands**

■ I first met Peter Smith in 1979 when I was spending a year studying in London. Over the years I corresponded frequently with him, sending him photocopies of postal history items I had questions about. He was invariably kind and patient, always willing to share his knowledge with a younger and much less experienced collector. I last saw Peter at a large stamp show in New York City in late October, where both Peter and I were exhibiting. Peter was having difficulty getting around and was a bit hard of hearing but as alert mentally as always. I was surprised and saddened, therefore, to hear of his death just a few weeks later. We have all lost a good friend and an outstanding contributor to our understanding of Egyptian philately. - **Trent Ruebush, ESC 249, USA**

---

### Membership changes

#### **New members:**

- ESC 688** Dr Amr El-Etreby, 43 Ahmed Oraby Street, Mohandessin 12411, Giza, Egypt  
(Pictorial issues 1914,1915,1921,1922, Crown overprint, OHHS & OHEMS overprints)
- ESC 689** Dr Sunyu Ng, 69 University Drive, Menlo Park, California 94025, USA  
(Maximum cards with Pyramids, Aswan, Luxor or Hotel postmarks, postal history, postmarks)

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

- ESC 324** **Bob Brier**, 4525 Henry Hudson Parkway # 1110, Bronx 10471, United States
- ESC 393** **Andy Gould**, 56 James Street, Selsey, Chichester, PO20 0JG
- ESC 597** **Malcolm Lacey**, 108 Dalestorth Road, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts NO17 3AA
- ESC 686** **Moheb Rizkalla**, GPO Box 6288, North Sydney, NSW 2060, Australia

- Resigned:** ESC 438 **Roger Thomas**                      ESC 622 **E A Blinko**                      ESC 648 **Marc Van Daele**



## ARMÉE DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE

HANDSTAMP USED IN THE FIRST MONTHS OF THE NAPOLEONIC EXPEDITION:

**ARM. DE LA MED<sup>NÉE</sup>  
I<sup>RE</sup> DIV<sup>ON</sup>**

LETTER DATED INTERNALLY 17 SEPTEMBER 1798, AT CAIRO

ADDRESSED TO ROSETTA.



12 COVERS RECORDED (WOLFSBAUER), FROM MAY, 1798, TO APRIL 1799



HANDSTAMP IN THE INTERIOR OF THE LETTER

(IT SHOWS THROUGH THE PAPER ON THE OUTSIDE)

# THOMAS WAGHORN'S OVERLAND MAIL: 1835-1841

A FAST MAIL SERVICE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND INDIA VIA OVERLAND TRANSIT OF EGYPT.

## CALCUTTA TO BORDEAUX; 4 JANUARY, 1839



FRENCH P. O. AT ALEXANDRIA

17 FEBRUARY, 1839



ON THE BACK.

MALTA QUARANTINE

SIDEBOTTOM TYPE 3.

## LONDON TO CANTON, CHINA: 5 MARCH, 1838



INITIALS *G.W.W.* OF  
GEORGE W. WHEATLEY.  
WACHORN'S AGENT AT  
FALMOUTH

"ANGLETERRE PAR CALAIS"

SIDEBOTTOM TYPE 4A.

RATED 12 SHILLINGS 8 PENCE IN RED

THE WAGHORN HANDSTAMPS WERE APPLIED IN BRITAIN, FRANCE, OR INDIA, NOT EGYPT.

*The FIRST SPECIFIC LEVANT STAMP*

*January 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864: 6 Kopeks indigo.*

*Used AT Alexandria; '785' cancellation*



*THIS IS one of the two KNOWN examples so used.*

**1866: 2 kopek 'P.O.П.и Т.' Issue**

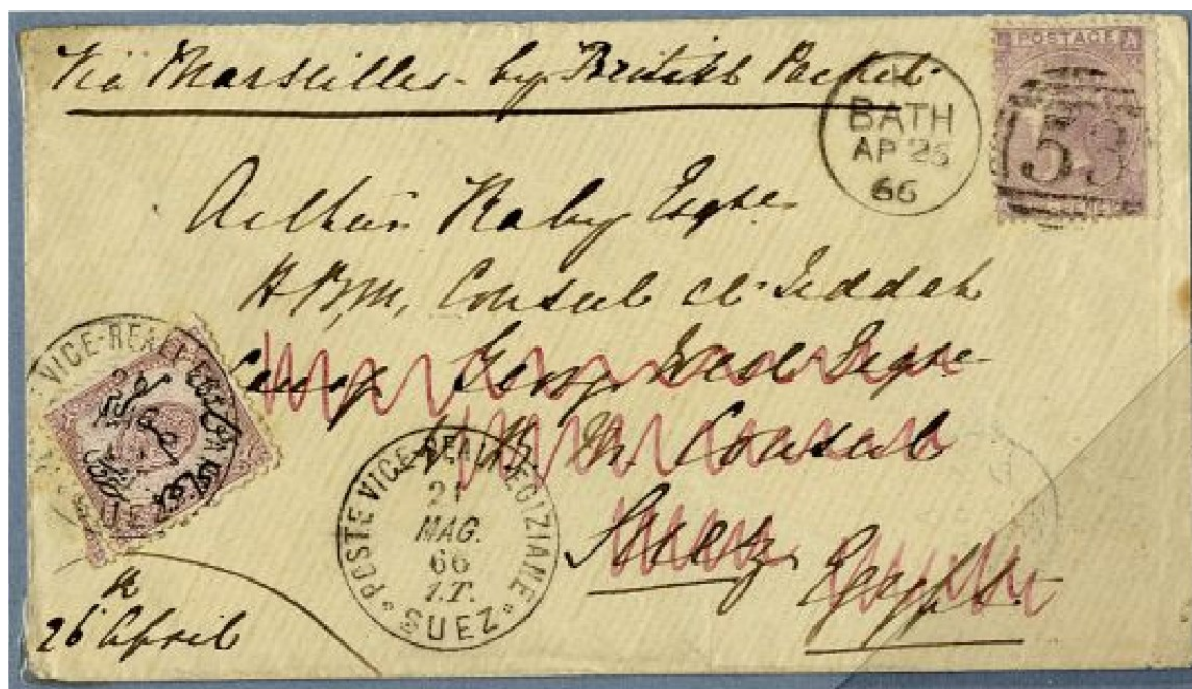
HORIZONTAL NETWORK

*Block of six, cancelled '785' at Alexandria.*



## MIXED FRANKING WITH THE BRITISH POST

BATH TO JIDDAH VIA SUEZ: APRIL-MAY, 1866



6<sup>D</sup> PER OUNCE VIA MARSEILLE TO SUEZ; 1 PIASTER, PER 10 GRAMS FROM SUEZ TO JIDDAH (ARABIA).

ZIFTA & MIT GHAMR TO ENGLAND: AUGUST, 1866



1 PIASTER PAID FOR 10G. TO ALEXANDRIA; 6<sup>D</sup> WAS CORRECT FOR ENGLAND VIA MARSEILLE, AS MARKED, BUT THE LETTER WAS DEBITED FOR THE HICHER RATE VIA BRINDISI, 8<sup>D</sup> PER ½ OUNCE.

**1866: THE FIRST WAY OF COLLECTING POSTAGE DUE.  
BOXED "AFFRANCATURA / INSUFFICIENTE"**

CALCULATED AS DOUBLE THE REQUIRED POSTAGE LESS THE AMOUNT ALREADY PAID;

20 PARAS ( $\frac{1}{2}$  PIASTER) PAID, BUT 1 PIASTER REQUIRED;  $2 \text{ Pi.} - \frac{1}{2}\text{Pi.} = "1\frac{1}{2}"$ .



THE AMOUNT DUE IS HANDWRITTEN

DOUBLE WEIGHT REQUIRED 2 Pi.;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  PAID,  $4 \text{ Pi.} - 1\frac{1}{2} = "2\frac{1}{2}"$



THE 2 IS HANDSTAMPED, THE  $\frac{1}{2}$  IS HANDWRITTEN



FOUNDED 1921  
SWITZERLAND'S OLDEST  
STAMP AUCTION HOUSE

# THE PETER A.S.SMITH COLLECTION

196 - 200 CORINPHILA AUCTION  
27 - 30 MAY 2015



CORINPHILA  
AUKTIONEN AG  
WIESENSTRASSE 8  
8034 ZÜRICH  
SWITZERLAND  
PHONE +41 (0)44 3899191  
FAX +41 (0)44 3899195  
info@corinphila.ch  
www.corinphila.ch



CORINPHILA  
VEILINGEN BV  
HEEMRAADSCHAPSLAAN 100  
1181 VC AMSTELVEEN/  
AMSTERDAM  
NETHERLANDS  
PHONE +31206249740  
FAX +31206249749  
CORINPHILA.NL

## EGYPT & SUDAN

Stamps and Postal History

The Peter A.S. Smith Collection

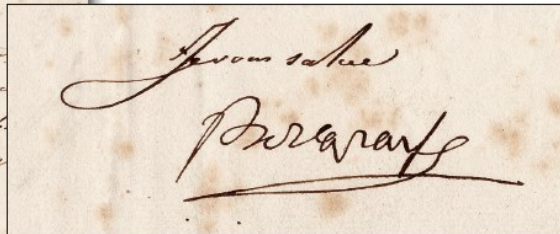
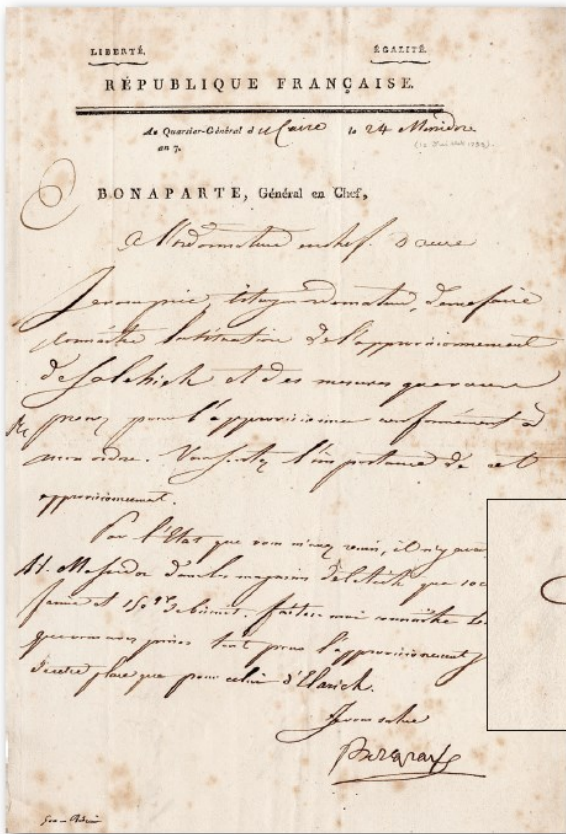
**THIS MARVELLOUS COLLECTION**

**WILL BE AUCTIONED BY**

**CORINPHILA 27-30 MAY 2015**

CORINPHILA 27-30 MAY 2015 • THE PETER A.S. SMITH COLLECTION

CORINPHILA -YOUR CONSIGNMENT WILL BE IN THE BEST COMPANY

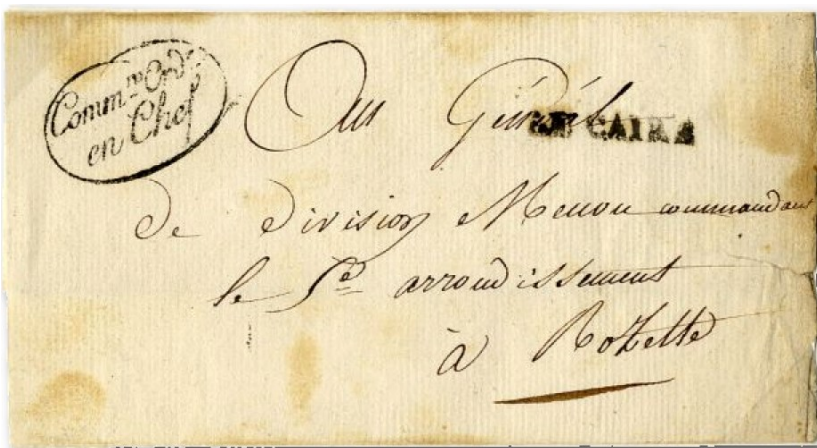


Napoleon Bonaparte  
as General in Egypt

Signature, (Napoleon) Bonaparte (au Quartier-Général du Caire)



Two covers with  
'Commissaire Ordonnateur en Chef'  
of which only 8 covers have been recorded.



Free complement catalogues are offered to members of the Egypt Study Circle. These can be requested from:

CORINPHILA Auktionen AG  
Wiesenstrasse 8  
CH-8034 Zürich  
Schweiz / Switzerland

**ENSURE** you mention you are a member.

## 'CANAL MARITIME DE SUEZ'

PORT SAID TO ISMAILIA: 6 AUGUST, 1868

(DATED INTERNALLY)



RPSL CERT. EX ACKERMAN, CHAFTAR, ANTONINI, VON UEXKULL, BIOLATO

DOUBLE-WEIGHT FOLDED LETTER: 20 CENTIMES PER 10 GRAMS.

THE ONLY COVER FRANKED WITH TWO COPIES OF THE 20 C. KNOWN  
(ONE TRIPLE-WEIGHT COVER IS ALSO KNOWN).

THIS COVER IS NUMBER SIX IN THE LIST BY BOULAD, RINGSTRÖM, AND TESTER  
OF THE 21 KNOWN COVERS.



SALONIKA to PATRAS

POSTED ON BOARD; LETTER HEADED "SALONIKA, 23 SEPTEMBER 1871"



ex YATES; ex FOX

GREEK 20 LEPTA FOR POSTAGE DUE FOR ONWARD CARRIAGE. ARRIVAL IN PATRAS 29 SEPTEMBER.

THE LARGE OVAL CANCELLATION IS INDECIPHERABLE,  
BUT IS PROBABLY THE KHEDIVIAL MAIL LINE CACHET.

("FROM THESSALONIKA" IN BLUE CRAYON.)

STAMPS OF THE SECOND AND THIRD ISSUES:



ISSUED 1 JANUARY, 1872

DIE PROOF OF THE 1 PIASTER



BUT TWO DIE PROOFS ARE KNOWN

STAMPS CANCELLED ON  
THE FIRST DAY OF USE



THE OUTGOING ISSUE USED

IN THE GRACE PERIOD, JAN. 1-31



OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, DATED 29 December, 1871

(photoreduced copy of the lower half; the original is too large to show)

<p>Administration des Postes Egyptiennes. Direction Generale — AVIS — Nouvelle emission de timbres postes.</p> <p>L'Alte. Khedive a daigné approuver l'emission de nouveaux timbres postes de 5, 10, 20, 40, et de 1/2, 2/2 et 5 Piastres qui seront mis en vente le 1<sup>er</sup> Janvier 1872.</p> <p>Durant ce même mois faculté est faite de se servir indifféremment des timbres-postes actuels et de ceux du nouveau modèle pour l'affranchissement des lettres, des échantillons et des imprimés. Avec le 1<sup>er</sup> Février 1872, les premiers cessent d'avoir cours pour être changés avec des nouveaux d'égale valeur, et les correspondances qui en fussent revêtues seront considérées comme non affranchies.</p> <p>La conversion des timbres-postes actuellement en usage pourra se faire dans tous les bureaux de l'Administration jusqu'au 31 Mars 1872, et après ce terme ils ne seront plus admis à quelque titre que ce soit.</p> <p>Cet avis avec le tableau contenant le fac simile des nouveaux timbres postes restera affiché au guichet d'affranchissement des bureaux pendant toute la période ce temps susindiquée.</p> <p>Le Directeur General Muzze Bey</p> <p>Alexandrie, le 29 Decembre 1871</p>	<p>Egyptian General Post Office. NOTICE New issue of Postage labels.</p> <p>H. H. the Khedive has been graciously pleased to sanction the issue of new descriptions of Postage labels. The respective value of the new labels will be 5, 10, 20, 40 Paras &amp; 1/2, 2/2 &amp; 5 Piasters.</p> <p>These labels will be put in circulation on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January next and will be exclusively adopted from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1872. Their promiscuous use with the present ones will be freely admitted up to this latter date after which the old postage stamps ceasing to be of any value whatever can be exchanged for those of the new issue at the Post-Offices of the realm during the whole of February and March 1872.</p> <p>After the 1<sup>st</sup> of February letters, patterns or printed papers bearing postage labels other than those of the new issue and not bearing any of the latter will be considered as totally unpaid.</p> <p>It should however there be any postage labels of the new issue on the correspondence in question such correspondence will be treated precisely as if no postage labels other than those of the new issue were attached to it.</p> <p>These regulations will be strictly enforced.</p> <p>The present notice is to be kept affixed at the entrance of each office during the aforementioned period (that is to say from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1872) together with a fac simile of the new postage labels.</p> <p>The Postmaster General Muzze Bey</p> <p>Alexandria, December 29<sup>th</sup> 1871</p>
---	--

## 1872: FIRST PRINTING

1 PIASTER, PERF.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{3}$

THE LARGEST MULTIPLE OF THIS VALUE KNOWN



PLATE POSITIONS DETERMINED FROM  
IRREGULARITIES IN THE PERFORATION

131	132
141	142
151	152
161	162

20 PARAS, PERF.  $12\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{3}$



SHEET POSITIONS

3	4	5	6
13	14	15	16
23	24	25	26

ONE OF THE LARGEST MULTIPLES KNOWN.

*POSITION 5 SHOWS A MAJOR PLATE FLAW (THE OTHER POSITIONS SHOW SOME MINOR FLAWS)*

## 5 PIASTERS OF 1884

### THE UNIQUE EXAMPLE ON COVER.

9 JANUARY, 1884: PIACENZA, ITALY, TO ALEXANDRIA, UNFRANKED



**RATE CALCULATION: THE COVER HAD TO BE TRIPLE-WEIGHT (>30 GRAMS). POSTAGE AT 20 CENTESIMI (32 PARAS) = 60C. OR 96 PARAS; DOUBLED = 192 PARAS. ROUNDED UP BY REGULATION TO 200 PARAS = 5 PIASTERS.**

**THE ITALIAN POST OFFICE AT ALEXANDRIA WAS CLOSED IN 1884, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT A GRACE PERIOD WOULD FOLLOW, DURING WHICH LETTERS BETWEEN ITALY AND ALEXANDRIA WOULD BE CHARGED ONLY THE 20C. RATE THEN IN EFFECT, INSTEAD OF THE UPU RATE OF 1 PIASTER.**

**THE FACT THAT THIS COVER SHOWS NO EVIDENCE OF BEING HANDLED BY THE ITALIAN POST OFFICE AT ALEXANDRIA INDICATES THAT IT HAD ALREADY BEEN CLOSED, AND THE BRIEF GRACE PERIOD WAS IN EFFECT.**

**ALTHOUGH THE CONSENSUS IS THAT THE ITALIAN POST OFFICE CLOSED ON FEB. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1884, THAT DATE PROBABLY INCLUDED THE GRACE PERIOD.**

**NO OTHER EXAMPLE OF THE 5 PIASTERS ON COVER IS KNOWN, AND THIS MAY BE THE ONLY SURVIVING EXAMPLE IN ANY FORM OF THE REDUCED RATE IN THE GRACE PERIOD. THE MS. '5' ('G?') AT TOP LEFT PROBABLY STANDS FOR 5 (PIASTERS) (OR 'GRAMS?')**

## DE LA RUE ISSUES: 1889-1920

1889

PAINTED ESSAY IN THE ACCEPTED DESIGN

(DE LA RUE ARTIST)



ISSUED STAMPS

APRIL, 1889

TYPOGRAPHED BY  
THOMAS DE LA RUE & CO.

WATERMARKED CRESCENT & STAR.  
PERFORATED 14 (COMB)



CONTROL (PLATE) NUMBERS

PRINTED IN THE SHEET CORNERS IN PLACE OF THE PREVIOUS INSCRIPTIONS



ONLY ONE PLATE, NUMBERED 1 FOR EACH VALUE, WAS USED FOR THE LIFE OF THE ISSUE.

PRINTED IN SHEETS OF FOUR PANES OF 60.

## RECESS-PRINTED ESSAYS

1906: BRADBURY, WILKINSON & Co.

### PERFORATED SPECIMEN



CLOUDY BLUE SKY  
WITHOUT SPECIMEN



SKY EVENLY SHADED WITH BLUE LINES  
WITH SPECIMEN PERFORATION



### 1969: POSTAL PRINTING AUTHORITY EXPERIMENTS



EGYPT EXPERIMENTED BRIEFLY WITH LINE ENGRAVING, BUT PRODUCED ONLY EIGHT STAMPS BY THIS METHOD IN 1962-1972

## 1914 Pictorials

THE IMPERFORATES OF 1918, WATERMARKED AND GUMMED.



FOUR SHEETS OF EACH VALUE WERE ORDERED IMPERFORATE IN JANUARY, 1918,  
BY ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL A. GOLDSTEIN. IN THE SALE OF THE PALACE COLLECTIONS IN 1954  
WERE SHEETS OF 200 OF THE LOW VALUES AND OF 100 OF THE HIGH VALUES.

SOME OF THESE IMPERFORATES WERE USED,  
BUT IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THEY WERE SOLD OVER THE COUNTER



CANCELLED AT ALEXANDRIA IN MARCH, 1920

## OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 1915 PROVISIONAL: 2 MILLIEMES ON 3 MILLIEMES

### ESSAY

GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS, BOUQAQ



ONLY ONE HORIZONTAL STRIP OF TEN WAS PREPARED.

### AS ISSUED



THE SURCHARGE PLATE WAS MADE UP BY REPETITION OF A HORIZONTAL STRIP OF TEN MADE UP FROM LOOSE TYPE. THERE ARE TEN TYPES, DIFFERENTIATED BY SMALL VARIANTS IN THE ARABIC, IN EVERY ROW.

### INVERTED WATERMARK





# 1926 DEFINITIVE OFFICIALS

ISSUED MARCH-APRIL, 1926

## DIE-PROOF ESSAYS

SHOWING ALTERNATIVE SHADING OF THE BACKGROUND



## THE SET IN THE ORIGINAL COLORS



THE 10 MILLS. AND 15 MILLS. OF THE 1933, AND 20 MILLS. OF 1935, IN NEW COLORS



## KING FUAD'S BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATIVE

ISSUED APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>, 1926, THE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH BY THE LUNAR CALENDAR.

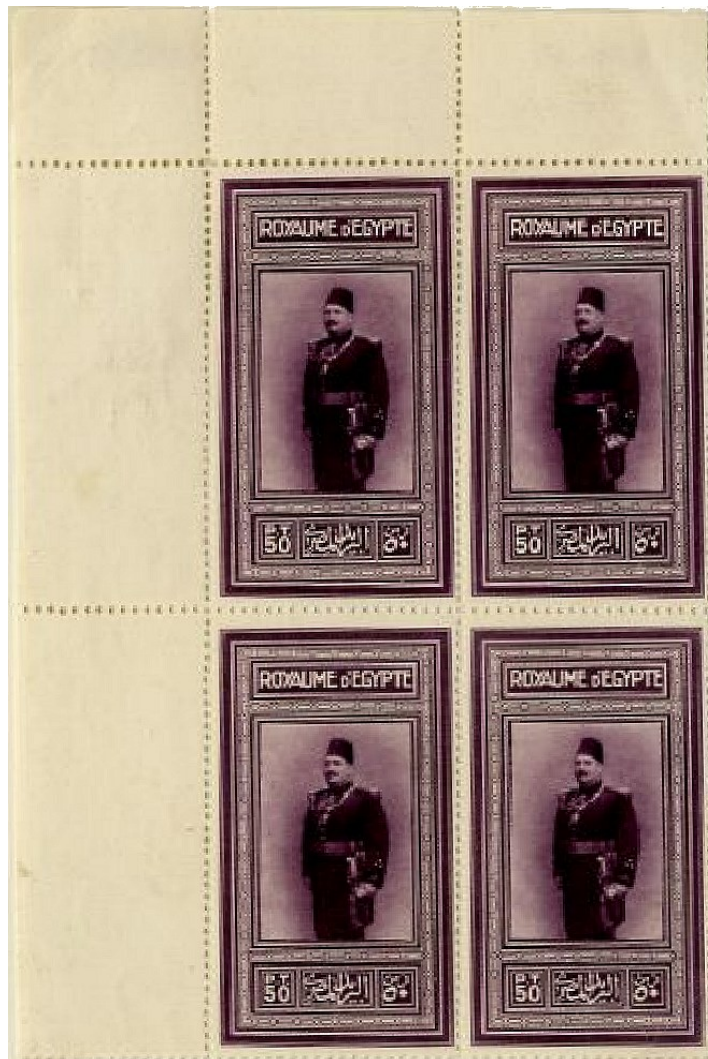
**ADOPTED ESSAY  
BY VERRUCHI BEY,  
ARCHITECT TO  
THE PALACE.**



**HARRISON'S PREPARED  
19 BICOLORED  
COMBINATIONS, SOME  
WHICH REMAIN IN THE  
CAIRO POSTAL MUSEUM**

THE SILVER IN SCRIPT ION WAS ADDED LATER FOR USE AS GIFTS AT THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE

### THE ISSUED STAMP



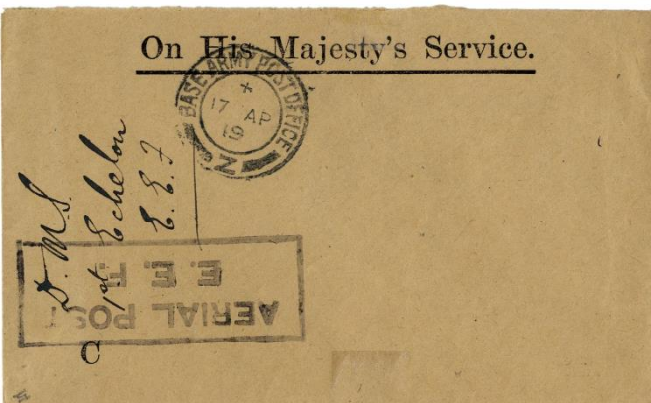
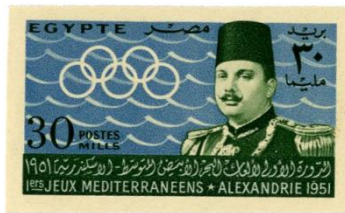
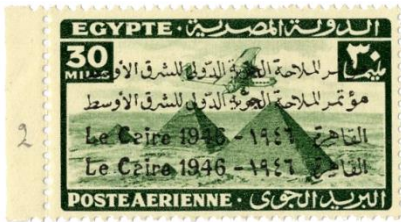
THE SHEETS WERE PRINTED WITHOUT CONTROL NUMBERS.

Editorial

Grateful thanks to the help of Walter Brühlmann of Corinphila and Greg Todd for supplying scans from Peter Smith's collection which has enabled this tribute edition to be published. The scans as supplied have been used to recreate Peter's pages but for technical reasons I have made small alterations due to page size and variants in the typeface used by Peter.

I soon gave up trying to match exactly Peter's pages and of course no fiddling with the pictures or alterations of the write-up have taken place. Some of the scans may not be quite of the depth I would have liked, but despite this I hope you find this a worthy edition of the *QC*. It is unlikely that we shall ever see such a wonderful collect again. Walter Brühlmann also supplied me with some individual ones, without any write up, but of higher quality which I have used on the front cover and here

I for one am counting my pennies, not for any of the magnificent pieces shown here but for some of the other delectable items that will be offered. I wish you well in your bidding so we can all help to fulfil Peter's wishes about his collection, as laid out by Greg Todd on page ii.



**Book review: EGYPT: FROM THE POSTAL CONCESSION UNTIL SUEZ 1932 TO 1956**  
**Part 1: Until 1st May 1941 by JOHN DAVIS**



Some twenty years ago, after publishing his monumental *British Empire Campaigns & Occupations in the Near East, 1914-24 - A Postal History*, John Firebrace persuaded John Davis to continue the work. To publish more on the military postal history relating to Egypt up to, and possibly after, the Second World War. John has soldiered on, and after twenty years' effort the first part has arrived.

It starts however not where Firebrace ends in the early 1920s but with a prequel, with the first two chapters being a Historical Background. These chapters cover the 1882 campaign, the Soldiers' Stamp 1898 and a little on WWI. These succinct chapters make for interesting reading and add to the enjoyment of the book.

The next nine chapters deal in depth with the concession period, the labels and the Army Stamps. John Hobbs (*British Forces in Egypt Postal Service 1932-40*) is often referenced and the author updates or refutes some of Hobbs's conclusions in the light of new data that has come to hand since his book was published thirty years ago. Hobbs has served us well, but John's book is now the new bible for the concession period.

One chapter deals well with the E series datestamps, another on military censorship at the beginning of the Second World War. One aspect with which I took issue was the chapter on the start of World War II, which starts well but then tacks on a small section on Axis forces. It is little more than a passing reference to them, and for the German Forces the *Palmenstempel* and the *Tuispäckchenmarke* are included and given weight. But the *Tuispäckchenmarke* (parcel stamp) was not issued until 1943, three months before the German surrender, and is nothing to do with Egypt or the start of the war. One irritation is the front index, which under chapter headings, give part numbers, not referenced in the main text, but does not give page numbers. To find anything means flicking through the whole book. But that is a delight, because colour is used throughout.

What is very much welcome is the appendix on the datestamps, with earliest and latest recorded dates and a comprehensive list of the covers with the small green Army stamp etc.

The book, originally intended as one work, has for technical reasons been split into three volumes, of which this is the first. This explains why the Introduction mentions sections that are not in this volume and why German Forces seems oddly out of place here. Naturally I snapped up the first copy John brought to a meeting and I eagerly await the next two volumes so they can grace my philatelic library. A splendid work that is a must for anyone interested in the military philatelic history of Egypt.

**Edmund Hall**

Details: Size A4, card-bound, comprising more than 200 pages and over 150 illustrations, almost all in full colour. Obtainable from the author/publisher at a discounted price of £40.00, plus postage and packing, using the insert voucher for members of the Egypt Study Circle and FPHS sent with the December *QC*.

U.K. 1st Class £3.20 2nd Class £2.80 Europe Airmail £8.00. Zone I Airmail £12.85 Surface £8.00 (includes Canada, U.S.A. and Egypt). Zone II Airmail £13.60 Surface £8.00 (includes Australia, New Zealand)

Please contact the author, John Davis, at [john.davis2@btinternet.com](mailto:john.davis2@btinternet.com) or via the Hon. Sec. of either of the above Societies. Alternatively, write to John Davis at: Church View Cottage, Church Lane, Upton Snodsbury, Worcestershire, WR7 4NH, United Kingdom