

Holy Land Postal History

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF THE
POSTAL HISTORY OF ERETZ-ISRAEL



מעטפה מקבוץ אפיקים שהגיעה, למרות המצור, אל הנמען – חייל פלמ"ח מגדוד הפורצים – בקיבוץ מעלה החמישה. חותמת מוצא "דואר אפיקים/מנהלת העם" וחותמת מעבר של בית המיון בירושלים (ה"רוזטה")

Cover from Kibbutz Afikim (Minhelet Ha'am postmark) that, in spite of the siege, made its way to a Palmach soldier in Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha. Struck on transit with the Jerusalem Sorting Office Minhelet Ha'am postmark (the "Rosette") (See article on p. 58).



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Mail Services to Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha during the War of Independence, May to June 1948

M. Pondak, Ma'ale Hahamisha

The postal services of Jerusalem during the War of Independence are well known and documented, mostly in letters and articles. Each small detail of the development of the postal services has been checked, noted and published. We know much about the mail service to Jerusalem by uncommon air mail routes, or by roundabout routes by soldiers or people who managed to leave Jerusalem during the siege, and finally the two mail convoys that left after the opening of the Burma Road. But little is known about mail that arrived in Jerusalem and particularly to the two settlements near Jerusalem, Kibbutz Kiryat Anavim and Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha¹.

Mail to these settlements was handled by Jerusalem's postal service from the Mandate period. Kiryat Anavim had a local post office, Ma'ale Hahamisha had a post box (number 5032) in the Mea Shearim post office. This branch, in the Geula neighborhood, was very convenient because "Tnuva", the center for transporting agricultural produce, was also in this neighborhood. Before the outbreak of the War of Independence, a post box was rented in the Main Post Office, number 1067. This box was used by Kibbutz Ma'ale Hahamisha until the establishment of the Mobile Postal route in 1954.

Towards the end of the Mandate period, an area in central Jerusalem, nicknamed "Bevingrad", which included both the main post office and the Mandate sorting office, was sealed off. Access to this post office was impossible, except to the Jewish postal clerks. Some of these would bring me letters or pass them on to another address in Jerusalem. As a result, due to my work in "Tnuva" and my daily trips to Jerusalem, I became the Kibbutz's "postman". Each day, I would take the letters from the Kibbutz and return at night with the letters that were handed to me that day. Despite the many difficulties, this arrangement continued until the establishment of the Minhelet Ha'am post offices in Jerusalem on the 9th May, when once again mail was sent to the Mea Shearim branch.

The letters that arrived during the siege of Jerusalem can be divided into two groups: private mail for the Kibbutz and its members, and "soldier mail" for the soldiers of the "Scavenger Platoon" (Gdud Haportzim) of the Palmach, who were billeted at the Kibbutz. The soldiers slept in tents or in the guest house, "Beit Pepperman", which became a soldiers home during the War.

Civilian Mail

Only four letters of this kind remain in my collection from this period, and only because they were addressed to the Kibbutz's secretariat and not to private individuals. The letters have a Tel Aviv departure handstamp and an arrival

handstamp of the Jerusalem mail sorting branch ("Rosette"). Three have a Minhelet Ha'am dispatch handstamp and are franked with 3mil "Tirat Tzvi" JNF stamps with a violet "Doar" overprint (Fig. 1). 3 mils was the tariff for printed



Fig. 1: *A cover addressed to Ma'ale Hahamisha, P.O.Box 1067, Jerusalem. Sent from Tel Aviv, cancelled with "Minhelet Ha'am" postmark and with Jerusalem sorting office "Rosette" on transit.*

matter as is stated on some of the envelopes. The fourth letter is cancelled with the trilingual Tel Aviv handstamp of 18th May.

The obvious question is, how did these letters get to Jerusalem during the siege? We will try to answer that question after first describing some letters from the "Scavenger Platoon" who were billeted in Ma'ale Hahamisha and Kiryat Anavim.

Soldier Mail

Figure 2 shows a cover sent from a soldier in the platoon to Tel Aviv on the 16th May. The cover demonstrates one method of mail delivery for the soldiers to the outside world and shows the place of collection of letters to the address. On the top part of the cover, the following is written and then crossed out: "To Yakov Shechter, Main Bus Station, Second Floor, Room 5". On the back is "In writing to the bus station, you must specifically state for Arye Katz, Scavenger Platoon, Kiryat Anavim".

On page 506 of the Palmach Book² there is the following extract from a letter: "Jerusalem front 13/5/48... well, write a note and place it in an envelope with the address (and inside a heavy and valuable letter) Ma'ale Hahamisha B. Friedman



Fig. 2: Cover from a Palmach soldier in Qiryat Anavim flown to Tel Aviv on 16 May 1948. Forwarding return address via the office in the Tel Aviv central bus station is noted but crossed out at the top (Courtesy Y. Rimón).

and my name to the offices of “Egged” central bus station, room 5... Yehuda (Yehuda’le Tzfati fell in the battles for control of the Latrun area)”. On page 255, there is another extract from a letter written by a Palmach member: “Ma’ale Hahamisha 14/5/48... I have already received many letters from you... Yair Rosenblatt (fell in the Latrun area)”.

There is also the following oral evidence given to me by Ziva Golan, secretary of the “Scavenger Platoon” at that time: “Up to the First Cease-Fire, only a few letters arrived, brought in by Israel Galilee who got to Jerusalem in a “Piper” plane. After the letters arrived by jeeps traveling along the Burma Road or by ‘Piper’ to Jerusalem and from there by soldiers to Beit Pepperman”.

I have four covers to soldiers of the “Scavenger Platoon”. Three of them are handstamped with the “Rosette” handstamp of the Jerusalem sorting office on their way to addresses in Ma’ale Hahamisha (Front Cover). In these cases, there is no evidence of a Tel Aviv connecting address and it appears that the route was different. Two of the covers have Minhelet Ha’am handstamps and therefore it is clear that they were posted before the declaration of the State, and, thus, between May 2nd and 14th. A third, posted from Afula, has a 10mil Mandate stamp

overprinted "Emergency Mail, Afula", and was probably sent between the 2nd and 4th May, but there is no cancel on the stamp (Fig. 4). The letter without the "Rosette" handstamp carries a postmark of the first day of Israeli postal services, 16/5/48. It is possible that this letter was one of those brought in by Israel Galilee by "Piper" when he visited the "Scavenger Platoon" or by one of the jeeps which arrived with soldiers via the Burma Road.

I would like to thank Hans Muentz and Zvi Shimony for their help in preparing this article.

References:

1. Y. Rimon, "The Forwarding Addresses of Besieged Jerusalem", HLP# #32 (1987).
2. The Palmach Book (Vol. 2), published by the Kibbutz Hameuhad, 1953.

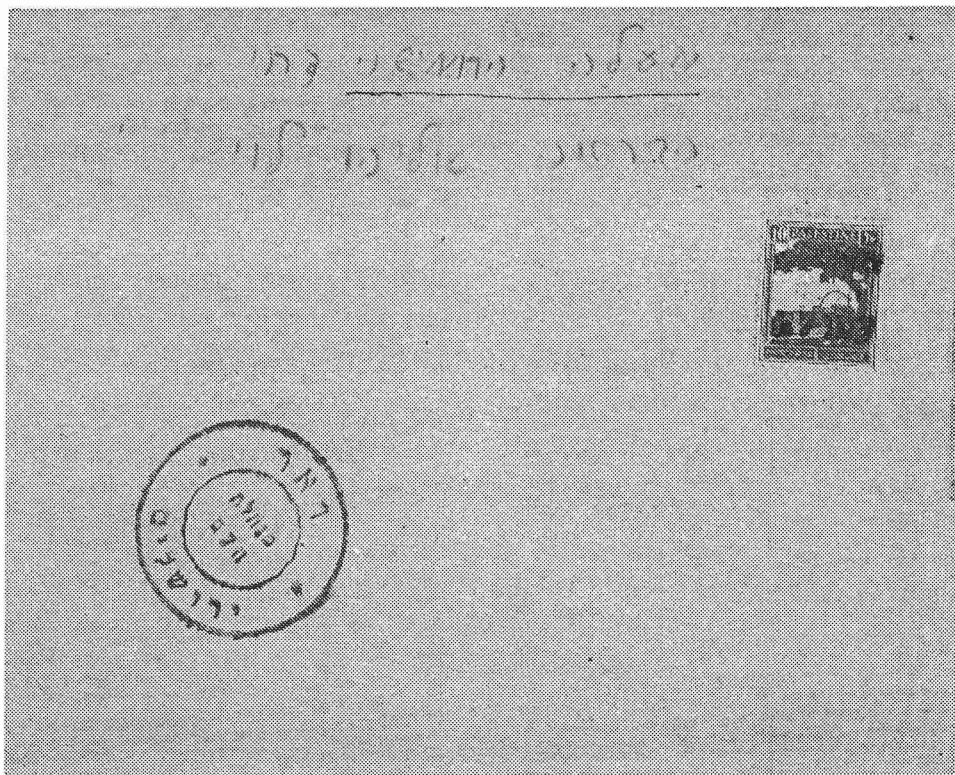


Fig. 4: Cover to Palmach soldier in Ma'ale Hahamisha from Afula, probably sent between 2-4 May 1948. Franked with an uncanceled 10 mil Mandate stamp with an "Emergency Post Afula" overprint.

Double Courier Letters from Jerusalem to London - a Review

Z. Alexander & W. Loeb, London

In the autumn of 1988, Zvi Alexander first reported five courier letters from Jerusalem to London whose features raised some questions¹. In the meantime, a sixth cover from the same correspondence has been discovered, and further information has come to light. We have received the personal recollections of Mr Gabriel Tsifroni, who was the Jerusalem representative of several newspapers at that time. Messrs Chaim Shamir, Itamar Karpovsky and Marvin Siegel have given helpful comments, which we published in BAPIP Bulletins (1989)².

We feel that it is not likely that the questions which these items have raised will be clarified further in the future. Therefore we now wish to summarize and discuss the information. Briefly, all six covers were sent by air mail by Shmu'el Itzhaki - a journalist who worked in Jerusalem - to the London representative of the "Jewish Morning Journal" of New York. These letters contained news from Palestine which Mr Itzhaki compiled and sold to various Jewish periodicals abroad.

The details of Itzhaki's fascinating personal history have now been established. He was born in Vilna and lived in Greece when the Nazis invaded the country in 1940, whence he fled to Palestine. He re-married and settled in Jerusalem, working as a translator and journalist. The extreme "Stern Gang" wrongly suspected him of collaboration with the British Police and assaulted him - but subsequently apologized. In his flat in February 1948, he was unharmed by the British bombing of Ben Yehuda Street. He remained in Jerusalem during the subsequent Seige.

The earliest cover from Itzhaki (Fig. 5) dates from June 1945 and bears, on the reverse in manuscript, the name of his business - "The Jewish World News Service" and the rubber handstamp framed cachet of his address. The other five covers of Itzhaki's correspondence all date from the 1948 Interim Period and are courier letters. The covers all bear Censor cachets and two also bear the oval cachet of the Louis Tourist Agency in Nicosia. Five were franked with Cypriot stamps to the value of 5 piastres. Four of the letters were cancelled by the Nicosia d/c handstamp, and one was not cancelled. On one, Itzhaki gives his location in Jerusalem (Fig. 6), on one in Tel Aviv, and on three, both alternatives are given (Figs. 7 & 8). The two other covers were illustrated in the HLPB Bulletin (Figs. 29, 30)¹.

The features of the six covers are detailed in the Table.

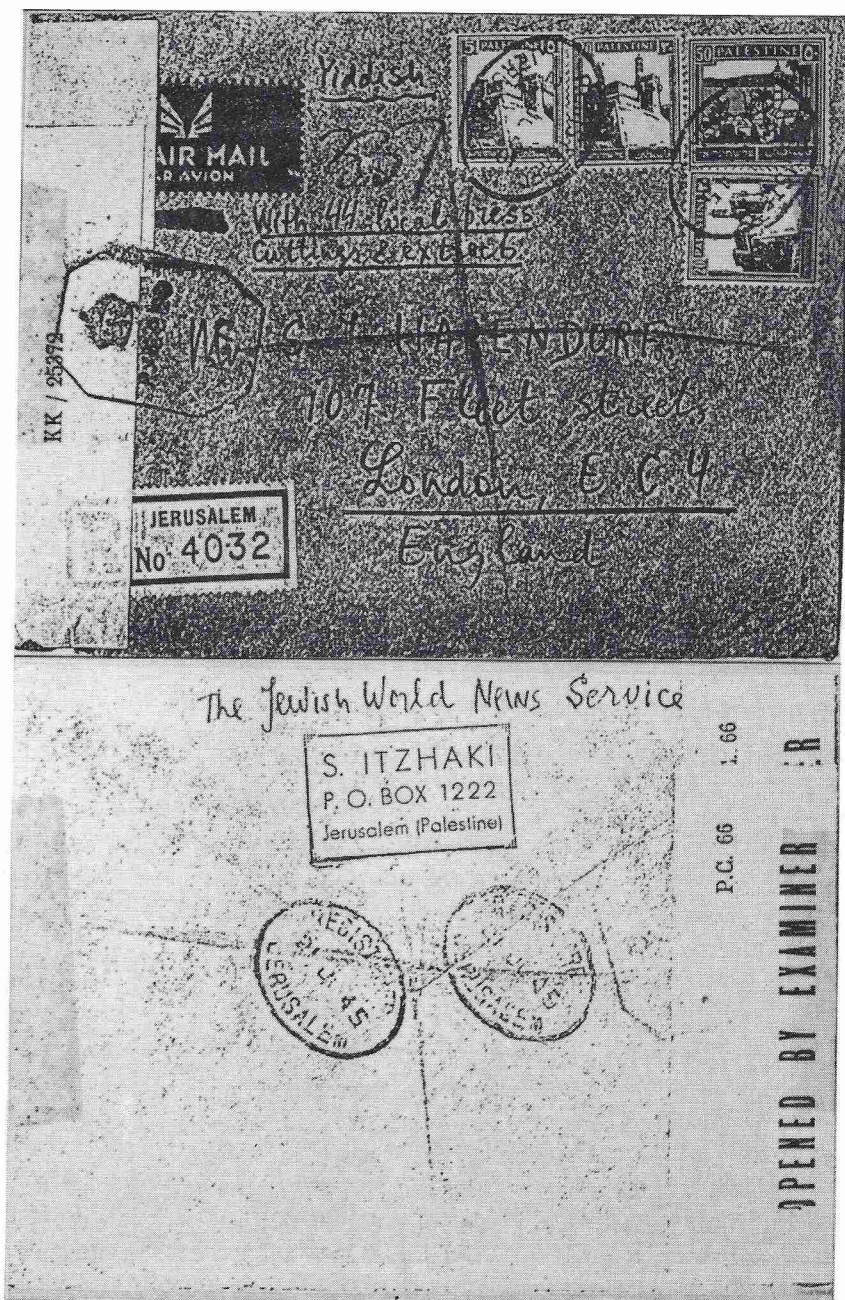


Fig. 5: Front & Back of Itzhaki wartime (1945) cover from Jerusalem with press cuttings to the same address in London. He gives his address as "The Jewish World News Service".

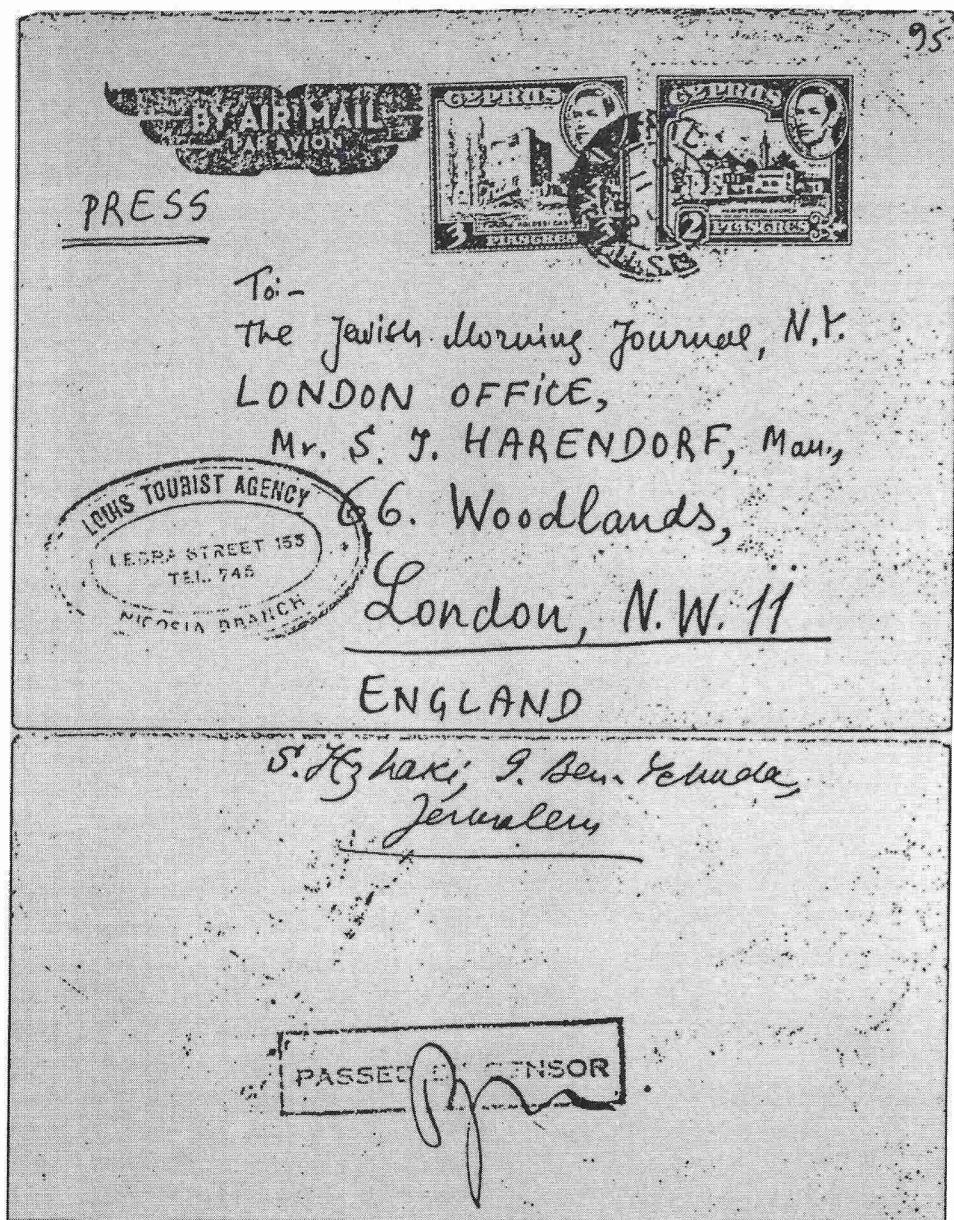


Fig. 6: Front & back of Itzhaki Double Courier letter, during the Siege of Jerusalem, giving his address in Jerusalem only, forwarded by the Peltours service in Cyprus, bearing a 11th of June 1948 postmark of Nicosia & Louis Tourist Agency cachet of Nicosia.

Table: The Features of the Six Covers

Figure No.	Itzhaki's Address	Censor cachet & Signature	Louis Cachet	Franking Stamps	Postmark Date
5	P.O.B.1222 J'salem	—	—	Palestine 95 mils	21 JU 45
(a)	c/o P.I.O. Tel Aviv	English	yes	Cyprus 5 pi.	11 JU 48
6	9 Ben Yehuda, J'lem	English	yes	Cyprus 5 pi.	11 JU 48
(b)	Both, typed	English	no	Cyprus 5 pi.	22 JU 48
7	Both, handwritten	English	no	Cyprus 5 pi.	22 JU 48
8	Both, typed	Hebrew	.no	Cyprus 5 pi.	None

Notes: (a) HLPN No. 36, Fig. 30; (b) HLPN No. 36, Fig. 29.

Several problems relating to these covers need to be discussed.

The Location of Itzhaki and the Nature of his Letters. There is no doubt that Itzhaki wrote from Jerusalem. All five covers bear his Jerusalem return address. Two of the covers state this exclusively. On the others, the Tel Aviv address 'care of P.I.O.' is substituted, or added as an alternative. We believe that while postal services to besieged Jerusalem were still haphazard, Itzhaki gave his address in Tel Aviv as a more reliable and convenient destination for replies and for any returned letters.

We have not been able to ascertain the meaning of Itzhaki's abbreviation 'P.I.O.' in his Tel Aviv return address. It was clearly sufficiently well known in Tel Aviv during 1948 not to require additional details. The likeliest meaning of the initials is 'Press Information Office'. The alternative possibility of 'Palestine Information Office' is less likely: Once the name Israel was publicised on 14th May, it was rapidly and enthusiastically adopted. 'Palestine' would not have remained in the titles of public bodies.

Except for Mr Harendorf, the addressee common to all of the covers, there are major and minor differences between their features: addresses and return addresses either typed or in manuscript, the presence of censors' and Tourist Agency cachets, and the dates of cancellation in Cyprus. As can be seen, no two of the covers are identical. We conclude that Itzhaki prepared and posted each of the letters separately, on different dates and with different contents in each.

Where Were the Censor's Cachets Applied? Four covers bear the British boxed CID Censor cachet with an English endorsing signature. The opinion that these marks were applied in Cyprus cannot be sustained. All five Interim Period letters from Itzhaki entered the Cypriot postal facility in Nicosia as routine civil air mail. In 1948, three years after the end of the war, there was no postal censorship in Cyprus at all. We therefore believe that the English censor marks on four of Itzhaki's letters were applied in Jerusalem. That is certainly the case for the fifth letter, which bears the single line Military Censor cachet and manuscript endorsement in Hebrew (Fig. 8). This very rare Censor handstamp was used in Jerusalem (Fig. 9).

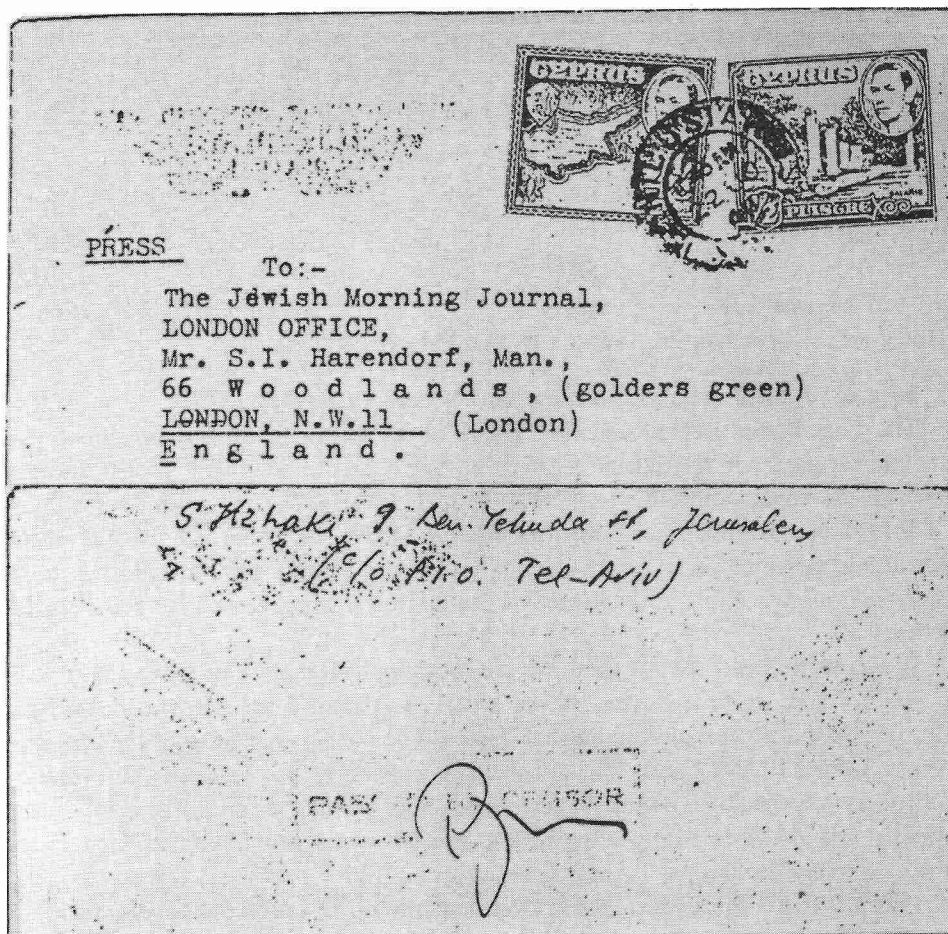


Fig. 7: Front & back of Itzhaki Double Courier letter, during the Siege of Jerusalem, giving his address in Jerusalem as well as an alternative address in Tel Aviv. Forwarded most probably by the Peltours Service through Cyprus, bearing a Nicosia 22.6.1948 postmark.

Until 13th May, according to Mr Tsifroni, journalists in besieged Jerusalem submitted their despatches to the British Mandate Press Office, whose Censor was located at the main Post Office in Jaffa Road. When the British left, the main Post Office was seized by the Hagana and the Censor handstamps were taken to the Jewish Press Office, which was located at 5, Ben Yehuda Street. Some weeks later, after the Burma Road was opened in late June 1948, the Press Office was moved to Tel Aviv.

Mr Karpovsky doubts that the departing British Censor would have left behind his handstamps, to fall into Hagana hands. But we accept the truth of Mr

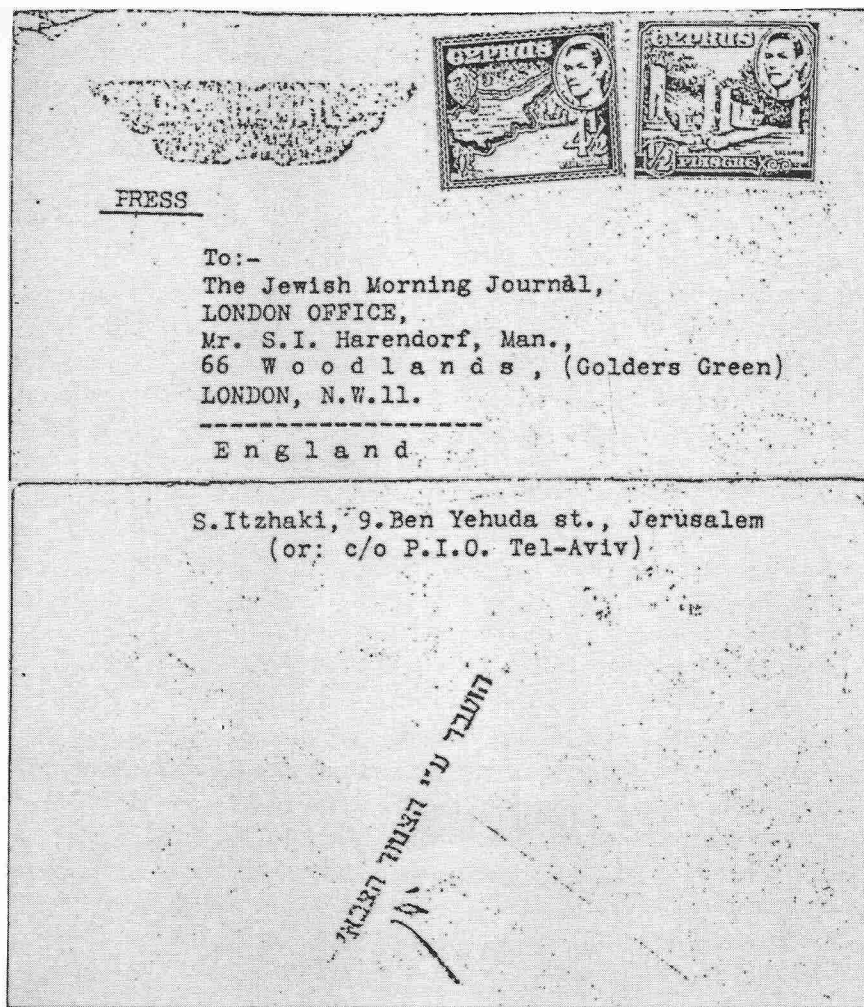


Fig. 8: Front & back of Itzhaki Courier letter. Correct Cyprus Airmail franking of 5 piaster, uncanceled, and may have left Cyprus by Courier. Censored by the Israeli Military Censor in Jerusalem. Very few examples have been recorded of this red censorship cachet which was used in Jerusalem.

Tsifroni's account: the departing British officials left behind large quantities of stationery, handstamps, machines and other equipment. They only removed stamps and postal orders, which had cash value.

At the same time we agree with Mr Karpovsky's view that if an Israeli Censor had used the seized British Censor handstamp he would have signed his endorsement in Hebrew, and not in English. Therefore, we are certain that these four covers were submitted to the British Press Office, and were censored, prior to

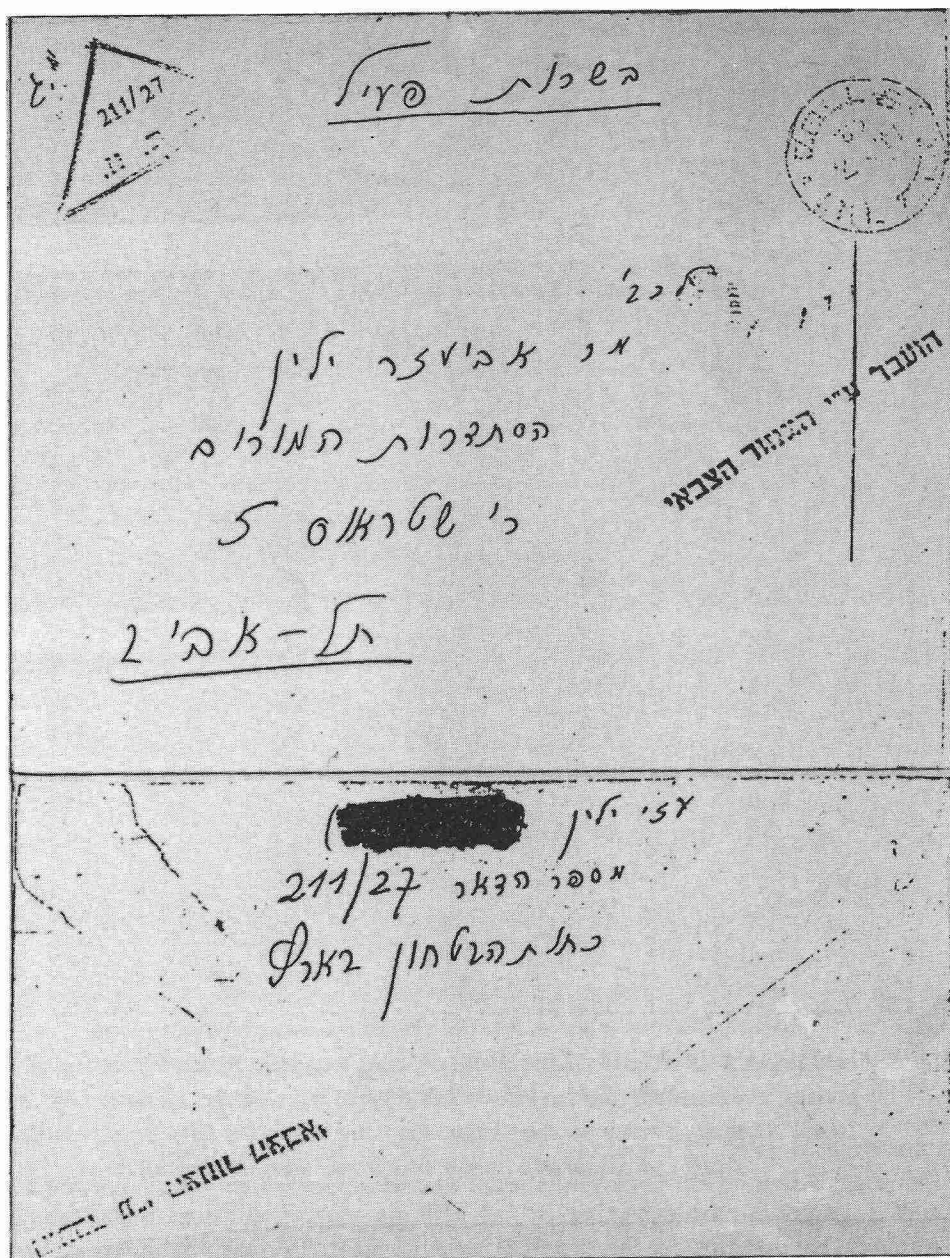


Fig. 9: Front & back of an officer's letter of the Etzioni (Jerusalem) Brigade 65th Batallion which had the triangular cachet K.B.A. 211/27. Postmarked A.P.O. 5 of Jerusalem, dated 14.7.1948. The only other example recorded of the Hebrew red censorship cachet which is shown in Figure 8 above.

14th May 1948. However, had these letters then also been forwarded by the British, they would have been franked with Palestine stamps and cancelled by a Mandate Jerusalem handstamp – whereas they were actually franked and posted in Cyprus. This will be explained below.

How Did the Letters Leave Jerusalem? Towards the end of the British presence, press despatches from Jerusalem could be transmitted only by wireless – with some difficulty. A strictly controlled amount of official Army and Civil Administration mail was conveyed out of the city by a Piper military plane. The late Messrs Kanner and Spiegel documented two further categories of mail that left the besieged city by the Piper plane: soldiers' letters, and press despatches³. These flights began on 16th April, and Itzhaki's letters must have left Jerusalem by this route.

Itzhaki's fifth letter, censored with the Hebrew cachet, is clearly of a later date than the other four. Unfortunately, the Cypriot stamps which franked it were not cancelled to prove this fact. It was handled and censored by the military authorities in Jerusalem before it was conveyed to Cyprus for posting.

None of Itzhaki's five Interim Period covers show any trace of having been franked initially with Palestine Mandate stamps. This indicates that an arrangement was in existence between Jerusalem's Jewish correspondents and The British Censor during late April and early May 1948, when the British Mandate was still in force, but their civil administration was no longer able to convey the mail out of the city. In accordance with this arrangement, Itzhaki continued to submit his letters for censorship to the British Press Office, as required. But he left them unfranked, retrieved them censored, and arranged their despatch by the Piper plane. It is the only plausible sequence of events, which fits and explains all the features of the four covers with British Censor markings.

There is evidence for similar co-operation between the Press Censor and foreign correspondents during the early days of the new State of Israel, whilst postal services abroad were erratic. Press despatches were sometimes handed back to reporters after censorship to allow them to find a faster route by courier. In his *Monograph on Postal Censorship in Israel*⁴, Norman Gladstone shows such an unfranked courier cover from Israel addressed to New York, endorsed with a censor cachet in Hebrew and English, but only meter franked in Paris on 10th August 1948. Likewise Ben Remington illustrates⁵ a courier cover from Israel to the "Boston Daily Globe", which was censored by the Foreign Press Censor in Tel Aviv on 1st May 1949, but was franked with a Belgian stamp and postmarked in Brussels two days later.

How Did the Letters Reach Cyprus? The letters were conveyed to Cyprus by air from Haifa, along the route organized by the Peltours Travel Agency. This service started on 14th May, 1948, and operated at irregular intervals until the end of July. It is described in detail in the HLPB publication "Israel Foreign Postal Links"⁶. Two of Itzhaki's letters were cancelled in Nicosia on 11th June, and both have the

Louis Tourist Agency cachet. The other three letters do not bear this cachet. Two of them were cancelled in Nicosia on 22nd June, 1948. The Cypriot stamps on the fifth letter unfortunately remained uncanceled – and it is the only cover bearing the rare Hebrew single line military censor cachet. The fact that four covers were cancelled in Nicosia in pairs, on two dates only, indicates that the letters probably reached Cyprus in batches.

Are There Other Examples of this Type of Mail? To our knowledge, the five covers of Itzhaki's 1948 Interim period correspondence are the only known examples of Peltours courier letters that originated in Jerusalem. As such, they are furthermore unique in being 'double courier' letters: going first from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv by military aircraft, and then by charter plane from Haifa to the Louis Agency in Cyprus, who introduced them into the normal postal facilities.

Acknowledgements: We are very grateful to Martin Davis for making available illustrations of the three covers in his possession.

The biographical details of Shmu'el Itzhaki were kindly researched and provided to us by Gabriel Tsifroni of Tel Aviv.

We would like to thank Shamir, Karpovsky and Siegel for their helpful communications.

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1. Z. Alexander, HLPH II 36 (1988) p. 917.
2. Z. Alexander & W. Loeb, BAPIP #124 (1989) p. 127 and #125 (1989) p. 182.
3. Kanner & Spiegel, BAPIP #41 (1962) p. 12 and #56, p. 6.
4. N. Gladstone, "Postal Censorship in Israel 1948-1978", p. 81.
5. B. Remington. BAPIP #119 (1988) p. 345.
6. Ch. Shamir & M. Siegel, "The Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel, 1948 (Vol. III): Israel Foreign Postal Links", Jerusalem (1991) p. 60.

Mail Connections with Jordan

L. Fisher, Ra'anana

In the last year, Jordan and Israel have negotiated and signed a peace treaty, after many years of conflict. In the first instance Israeli residents holding foreign passports were allowed to cross the border to visit Jordan. Many hoped that direct postal relations would be established.

After the peace treaty was signed, two covers were sent to 'test the waters'. The first was sent to "Israel, Egypt" (Fig. 11). This cover took three weeks to arrive.

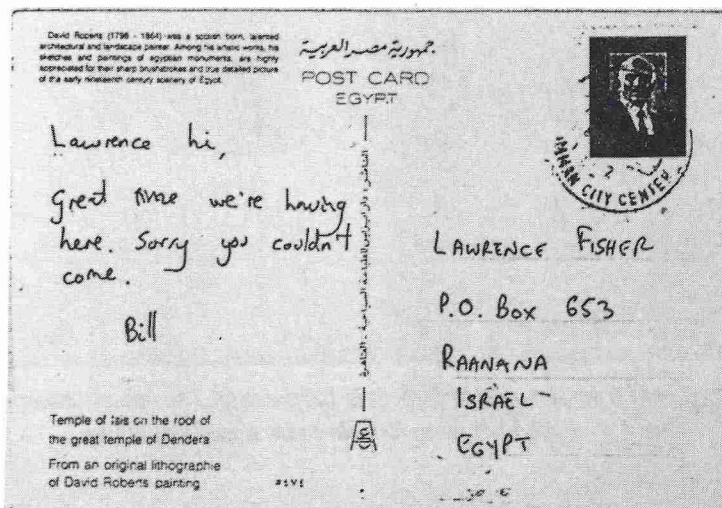


Fig. 11: Cover sent from Aman to Israel via Egypt.

The second (Fig. 12), sent directly, arrived without any special markings except for two blue rectangular indentations. These are the same blue rectangular indentations seen on the cover sent from England (Fig. 13). Thus, one can surmise that since postal relations had not yet been reestablished, the postcard was sent via England. This is in direct contrast with previous mail connections in which any mention of Israel, elicited a "Return to Sender" response.

Postal relations were formally reestablished on 6th February, 1995, as can be seen in Public Notice #12/95 (s. Back Cover). The rates for airmail service as published in this notice were to be:

Letters up to 20gr	1.40 NIS
Packages up to 500gr	33.00 NIS
Each additional 500gr	8.00 NIS

Fig. 15 and the postcard on the Back Cover are two postcards sent directly from Jordan to Israel. The first was posted on 4th February, two days before the re-

establishment of postal relations. The second was posted on the 6th February, the first day of postal relations.

One can only hope that other Arab countries will follow Jordan's lead and reestablish direct postal relations with Israel.

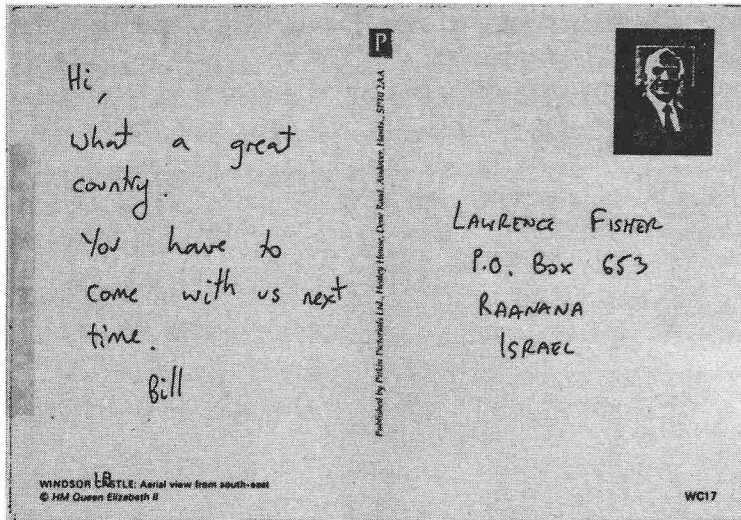


Fig. 12: Cover sent from Amman to Israel via England(?). The indents cannot be seen in the photocopy but do exist under the stamp.

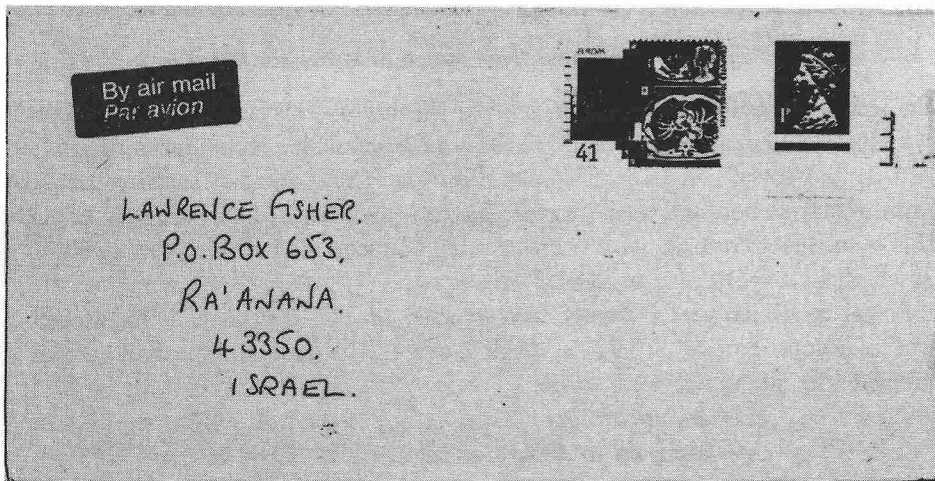
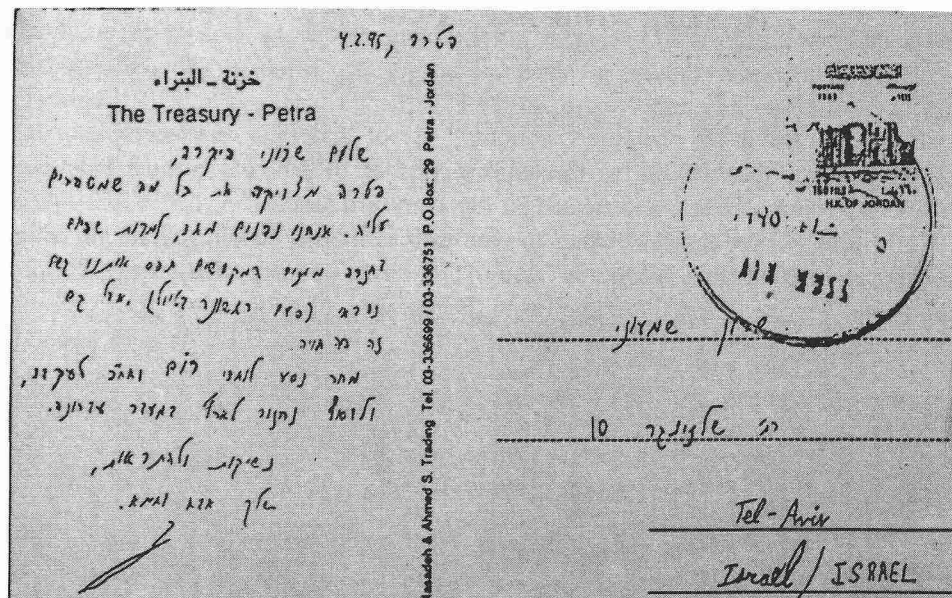


Fig. 13: Cover received from England. The two indents are barely visible on the selvedge of the 1p stamp.



*Fig. 15: Card sent one day before the reestablishment of postal ties.
(Courtesy Zvi Shimony).*

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A Most Unusual "Economy" Use

Arthur M. Hochheiser

It is well established that the "economy" use of materials was foremost in the minds of the authorities during the entire period of British control over Palestine. Numerous examples have been cited in the literature.

It is equally obvious that when the authorities of the fledgling State of Israel took over in 1948, this "economy" use of materials was extended, especially into the Postal Service. Many Palestine Postal Forms were used directly by crossing out "Palestine" and inserting "Israel" above it (Fig. 17). In many other instances, a

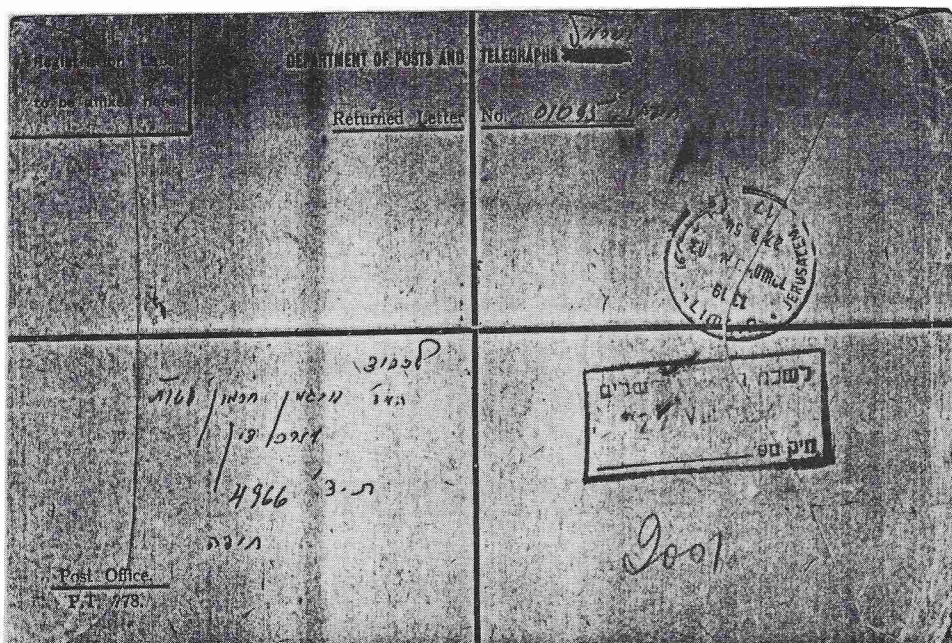


Fig. 17: Form with "Palestine" crossed out and "Israel" inserted.

handstamp reading "מדינת ישראל" (State of Israel) was used with or without a second line "טופס זמני" (Temporary Form) (Fig. 18). Other examples of changing the name exist. Figure 19 shows a handstamp in English reading "State of Israel".

Shown in Figure 20 is a Palestine Postal Form P.T. 95, "Notice of Determination of Telephone Agreement". One must remember that all branches of communication including the "Telephone" system were under the control of the Postal Service. What is of interest to us here is the reverse side of this form shown in Figure 21. On this reverse, an Israeli Postal Form 45.ט.ד (P.T. 45) was printed in the identical shape. This form, moreover, duplicates the contents of the Palestine

Postal Form P.T. 45 shown in Figure 22. The essence of P.T. 45 was to request that a copy of the existing telephone agreement be forwarded for amendment. Copies of Palestine P.T. 45 contained printing on the back for mailing whereas the back of Palestine P.T. 95 was blank, allowing this form to be "economy" useful. Such use may well be unique.

My thanks to Zvi Shimony for translating the contents of 45 ט.י. I would also like to thank Yaron Reinhold of Azor, Israel for securing this form for me.

מס' 45 - פורמט זמני - מדינת ישראל

INLAND PARCEL POST DESPATCH NOTE

<p>Insured for מבטוח ל</p> <p>(Pounds to be written in words) (כתוב הכובות באותיות)</p> <p>Gross weight in grammes (if insured) המשקל הגולמי בגרמים (אם מבטוח)</p>	<p>Number to be affixed here מס' להדבק כאן</p> <p>Postage Paid דמי הדואר</p> <p>Mils מיל</p>
---	---

Herewith parcel(s) bearing the address given below בזה חבילה(ים) בעלת הכתובת להלן

Name שם

Address כתובת

Impression of seal used to close the parcel. חותמת הדואר

(SEE OVER) (האזר על חבילה)

Fig. 18: Form showing "State of Israel - Temporary Form" (in Hebrew) insert.

Fig. 19: Handstamp "State of Israel" on P.T. 205 form.

WALLACH

ד"ר ואלך מכירות פומביות

Dr. WALLACH PUBLIC AUCTIONS

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דרך יבנה 17, רחובות ת.ד. 1414 רחובות

טל. 08-9467274, 08-9461010, פקס. 08-9464946

Telephone No. _____

GENERAL POST OFFICE
JERUSALEM.

19__

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION OF TELEPHONE AGREEMENT.

With reference to the Final Reminder respecting the account for telephone _____ No. _____ sent to you on _____, I hereby give you notice that, in the event of payment not being made before the _____, your Agreement for Telephone Service will be determined on that date and in addition to all outstanding accounts, liquidated damages will be claimed in accordance with Clause 6 of the said Agreement.

I am, _____


Your obedient servant

POSTMASTER GENERAL.

81742-10000-2.12.40-G.C.P.

Fig. 20: Palestine Postal Form - "Notice of Determination of Telephone Agreement" (P.T. 95).

ד.ט. 45



מס' 36/ג/3555 ר. 16609/ת

הנהלת ~~המבחן~~ מדור הטלפונים - הקניון

תאריך: 18.12.78

א.נ.

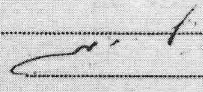
בקשר עם החקנת ~~המבחן~~ סר פיוני הקניון

4998: 16609

20.11.78 ביום

נא להמציא למשרד זה את העתק חוזה הטלפון שברשותך/כם
לשם הכנסת השנויים הדרושים.

בכבוד רב,


הנהלת ~~המבחן~~ מדור הטלפונים - הקניון

דכבי מא. כ/3 אלמ. הס"ח

9663.7

אל-מאיה

1157 / 5.50 / 7000

Fig. 21: Reverse of Mandate Form P.T. 95, printed with Israeli form '45.ט.ד'.

P.T. 45

משרד הדאר הכללי
ירושלים

בתשובה נא להזכיר

פ"ת 36 וק' 36

1934 11 11

11.11

בקשר עם קביעת
11-6-25
ביום

אשמח אם כב' יואיל להמציא למשרד זה בהקדם הכי אפשרי
את העתק חווה הטלפון שכרשותו לשם הכנסת תקונים בו.

אחרי תקון יחזירוהו לכב'.

בכבוד רב

ג. ה. ובסמך

המנהל הכללי של הדאר

כמויות 1000 ק"מ/2
10/11/34

29671-4000-12.2.36-S.O.P.

Fig. 22: The original Mandate form P.T. 45.

The Palestine "Albinos"

Arthur M. Hochheiser

The term "albino" is used to designate a fully uninked impression which was intended to have a colored design. In philately, this refers to stamps or stationery on which an impression exists without any inking. Stationery items may be either those intended for general public use or forms printed for internal use by the Postal Administration itself.

Such colorless impressions may occur in two ways. (1) An "albino" may result because two sheets of paper had been applied for inking onto the printing base at the same time. Only the upper sheet receives the printing ink. The lower sheet receives only the impression of the printing plate through the top sheet. (2) An "albino" may result if no ink is applied to the printing plate. This sheet will be impressed with a colorless image.

The only example of a Palestine "albino" stamp is listed in the Bale Catalogue as #16d, the 5 pi London I. This stamp has a double overprint, only one of which is the "albino". This was applied, as explained above, when two sheets of stamps were placed onto a printing base at the same time. The lower sheet received the "albino" impression. The same sheet was then properly placed onto the printing base and it received a fully inked impression. This is illustrated in Figure 23a. The "albino" overprint is more readily discernible from the back of the stamp (Fig. 23b). Readers are advised to check the backs of all copies of this stamp for this variety. Your time will be worth the effort: the #16d lists at \$2000 in the Bale Catalogue and only a small number are known to exist. They had to be part of a full sheet. The others are still out there.

Another interesting example of an "albino" has been found on a Palestine Postal Administration form. This was caused, as explained above, by the failure to apply ink to the printing plate before the card was printed. The front of the card, a Form P.T. 42, was printed normally (Fig. 24). However, the back (Fig. 25a) is completely "albino". Some accenting in pencil has been added to the "albino" to clarify some of the impression details that are on the card. A normal printing is illustrated with it (Fig. 25b).

In philately, normally the term "albino" is used for impressions which are such true errors as described above. However, "albino-like" impressions are found on stamps on which part or all of the design to be colored is raised. This method of printing is termed "embossing". This involves the distortion of the paper in the shape of the design. There are varieties of this type of printing. Embossing may be used without color of any sort. Such examples are said to be embossed in colorless relief. This is called "Die Plain". Embossing with the use of color at the moment



(a)



(b)

Fig. 23: (a) The fully inked impression of the 5 Pi London I; (b) the “albino” overprint as seen from the back.

Fig. 24: The front of a Postal Administration form (P.T. 42).

TEL

(a)

You are requested to note that the TELEPHONE
NUMBER of has been changed
to

(b)

الرجاء ان تاخذوا علما بان تمرة تلفون
قد تغيرت الى

נא לרשם לפניך שמספר ההלפון של
הוחלף ל

10555-1000-15.8.97. L.J.S.P.

Fig. 25: (a) The "Albino" back of Figure 24, and (b) a normal impression of the back of form P.T. 42.

when the reliefs are raised is termed "Relief Stamping". If the raised portion of the die is colorless, this is called "Cameo Stamping". If the raised portion of the die is to be in color, this is called "Die Stamping".

Among all of the issues of Palestine, there are no known examples of embossing found on the postage stamps themselves or stamps applied for use on postal stationery. However, some Revenue Stamps were prepared by embossing. Shown in Figure 26 is the 100 mil in red, printed by "Cameo Stamping". This is one value of



Fig. 26: 100 mil embossed revenue stamp on a rental contract.

a set of eleven different stamps. The frame of each value differs in design and shape. The stamps are known in shades of orange, red, blue, violet and vermillion. However, two values were printed "Die Plain" in colorless relief for use on bank checks (7 mil and 10 mil). Obviously, there was no desire to have colored imprints on the blank bank checks. These, of course, are not true "albinos" but rather "albino-like".

There is one other example of a partial "albino" impression in philately. This is called "Confetti Albino". It results from foreign matter, usually pieces of paper, falling onto a sheet already placed onto a printing base before printing. After the

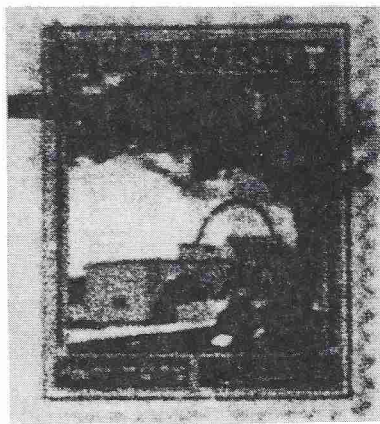
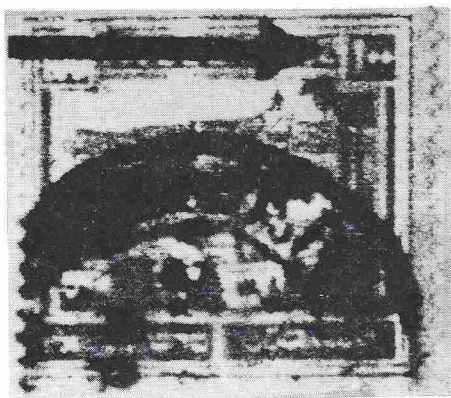


Fig. 27: Palestine stamps with "Confetti Albino" flaws.

printing is completed, the foreign matter falls off leaving a blank spot on the printed sheet (Fig. 27).

I would like to thank Nathan Zankel and Gary Theodore for providing me with material and information contained herein. I would also point out that some of the information in this article was obtained from the textbook "Fundamentals of Philately" by L.N. & M. Williams, published by The American Philatelic Society.

LOCAL POSTS OF MOROCCO

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Rishon Le Zion Postal Services during the British Military Administration

E. Leib, Haifa

During the British Military Administration (Nov. 14, 1917 – July 1, 1920) there was no post office in Rishon Le Zion. Postal services were supplied to the local population by a number of post offices located in the vicinity of the colony. At the first stage these were stationary offices of the Army Postal Service. Later on these were offices of the Occupied Enemy Territory Administration.

Army Postal Service

Following the occupation of southern Palestine by the E.E.F. (Nov.–Dec., 1917), stationary army post offices were deployed in various strategic locations and within larger towns. These stationary army offices were ordered to serve the civilian population as well. A number of offices were in close proximity to Rishon Le Zion and supplied its postal needs.

“APO SZ45” opened in Jaffa in the last days of 1917. As Jaffa was at a distance covered by horse-pulled carriage in only 2–3 hours, this office could easily be used by Rishon Le Zion inhabitants to send and collect mail. This is demonstrated very well by the cover (Fig. 28) mailed in early Feb. 1918, at “APO SZ45”. The cover, originating in Rishon Le Zion, was mailed unfranked, as no stamps were yet available, attracting the charge of 1p upon delivery in Alexandria. The sender, Mr. Gluskin, general manager of the vineyards, clearly put his return address as Jaffa in the lower left corner.

The Jaffa Post Office was used by citizens of Rishon Le Zion during the entire period.



Fig. 28: Postage free cover from RLZ, mailed in Jaffa on Feb. 4, 1918; taxed 1p in Alexandria.

"FPO GM1": This was the Post Office of the G.H.Q. in Palestine (1st Echelon). On Jan. 21, 1918, the F.P.O. moved to Beer-Salem, south-east of Rishon Le Zion. "FPO GM1" became the main post office in Palestine. All the mail from the other post offices was channelled through "FPO GM1" for sorting and censorship. It appears that civilians usually had no access to this office. Mail from Rishon Le Zion sent through this office usually falls into the category of pre-paid mail.

It is already well known that during the first months following their issuance, stamps were only available at APO SZ44, APO SZ45 and FPO GM1. Civilian mail from rural places was accepted at neighbouring post or administrative offices and the postage fees collected. The item was usually handstamped with the handstamp of the accepting office. A manuscript notation of the fee paid was marked before the item was transferred to FPO GM1 (mail from Hebron - to FPO SZ44) where the adhesives were affixed and cancelled. Pre-paid mail is quite rare and difficult to find.

The pre-paid mail recorded from Rishon Le Zion usually falls into one of two groups:

a) The early group, up to the end of April 1918. On this small group the handstamp of the accepting office was not struck. Only the pencil note of the fee paid is seen - on some covers - under the postage stamps affixed at FPO GM1*.

As there is no postmark of the office at which the mail had been accepted initially, it cannot be identified.

Three of these covers of the early period bear a pair each of the ungummed 5m (S.G. 2). On all three the stamps were cancelled on March 12, 1918, and all were mailed to Cairo. One of these covers is shown in Figure 29. On this cover the manuscript notation 1pt can be seen on the top right corner. The two covers shown in Figures 30 and 31 bear each a pair of the gummed 5m (S.G. 4) cancelled at FPO GM1 on April 19, 1918. The return address is clearly seen on both.

b) Pre-paid mail showing the handstamp of the accepting office. In all reported cases (but one) this office was APO SZ32. The exception is one cover handed in at FPO DM.1

"FPO DM1": This office of the ANZAC Division H.Q. was located, in the relevant time, at Jerusalem - Bethlehem area. Only one such pre-paid cover originating in Rishon Le Zion is known so far (Fig. 32). It had been mailed and paid for at "FPO DM1" on March 12, 1918, the stamps affixed and cancelled three days later at "FPO GM1".

The stamps are a pair of the 5mil cobalt-blue (S.G. 2). This is the only Rishon cover from the period up to the end of April showing the handstamp of the

* The identification of this pre-paid mail is based solely on the manuscript notation of the fee, and expert opinion is recommended when assessing such items.

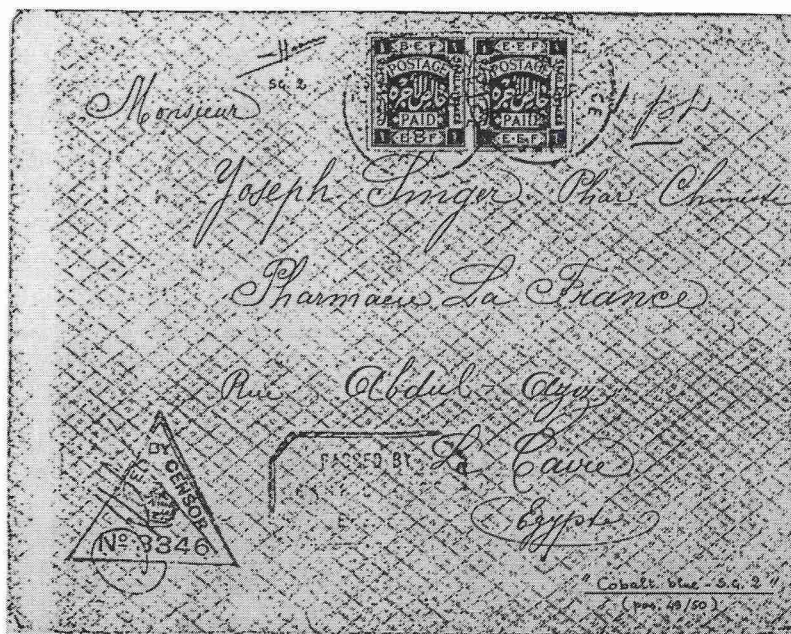


Fig. 29: Pre-paid cover from RLZ to Cairo, with a pair of 5m stamps cancelled "FPO GM1, 12 March 1918".

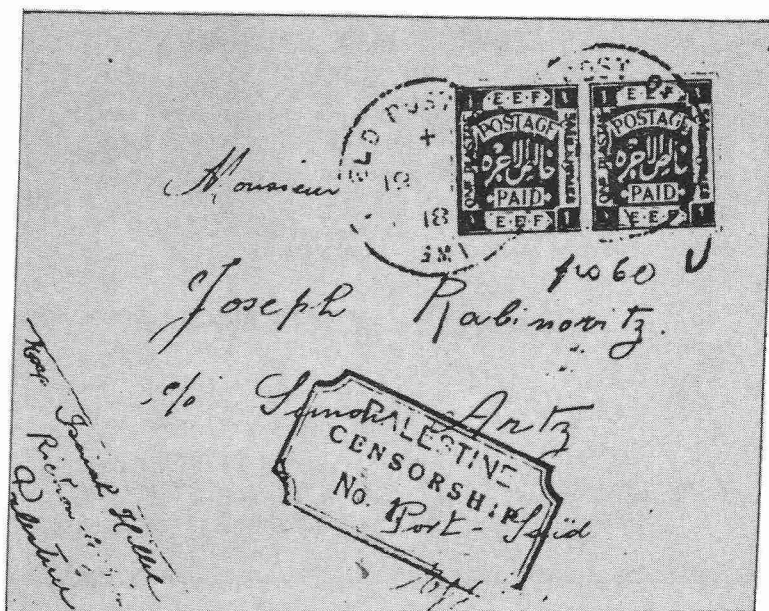


Fig. 30: Pre-paid cover from RLZ to Port Said, with a pair of 5m stamps cancelled "FPO GM1, 19 April 1918".

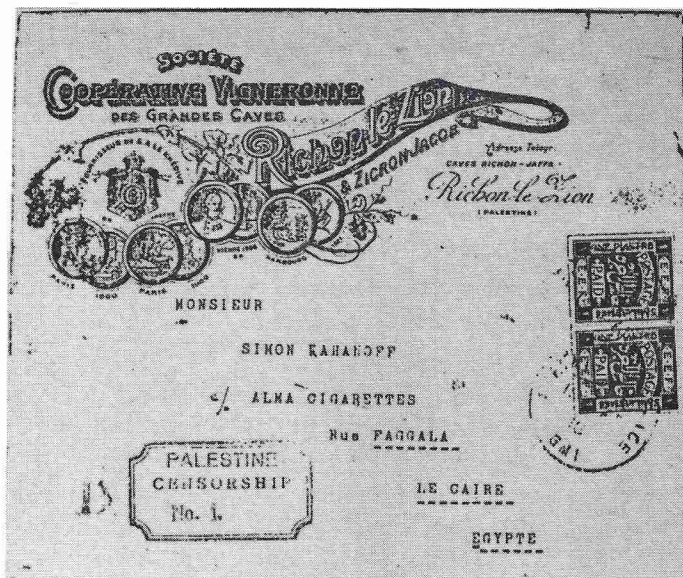


Fig. 31: Pre-paid cover from RLZ to Cairo. The stamps were cancelled by "FPO GM1, 19 April 1918".

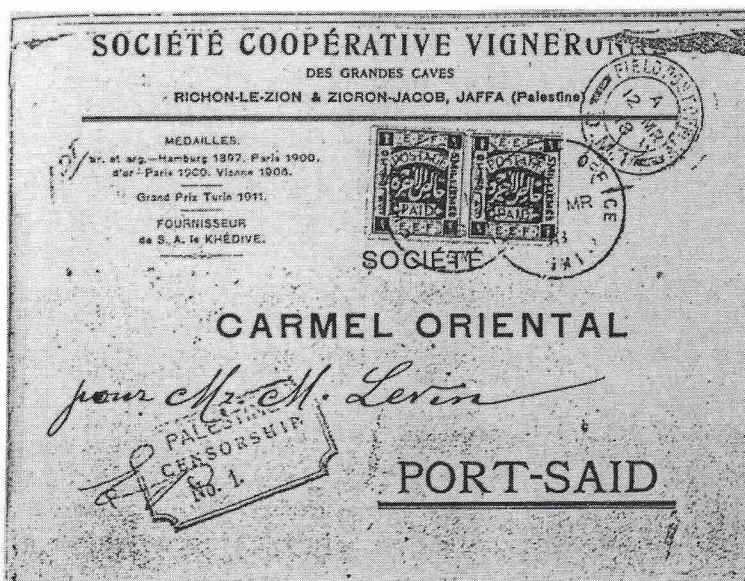


Fig. 32: Pre-paid cover from RLZ, handed in and pre-paid at "FPO DM1, 12 March 1918". A pair of ungummed 5m stamps were affixed and cancelled "FPO GM1, 15 March 1918".

accepting office. It should be mentioned that about five pre-paid covers bearing the 1p indigo (S.G. 1) are known. They are all classified as originating from Bethlehem, but the addresses of some suggest that they also originate from Rishon Le Zion.

“APO SZ32”: This office moved to Beer-Salem by early March 1918. Due to its short distance from Rishon Le Zion, it handled most of the colony’s mail. All of the Rishon Le Zion pre-paid mail sent during the period May to July, had been handed in at this Office. These covers always show the “APO SZ32” postmark with date ranging between May 5 to July 9, 1918 (Fig. 33). The stamps were affixed and cancelled on a later date (one or two days) at “FPO GM1”. It has to be mentioned that this office accepted mail from other colonies in the vicinity of Rishon Le Zion – Rehovot for example. Two registered pre-paid covers have been recorded: one dated May 7 to Cairo (Fig. 34), the second dated May 16, to Geneva.

With the distribution of stamps to the various post offices came the end of the procedure of pre-paid mail. The earliest cover bearing stamps cancelled at FPO SZ32 is shown in Figure 35. The date of the postmark is July 15, 1918. Therefore it can be deduced that stamps were supplied to APO SZ32 between July 9, and July 15, 1918.

APO SZ32 continued to accept mail from the citizens of Rishon Le Zion and to supply a full range of postal services, until it was transferred to Egypt in March 1919.

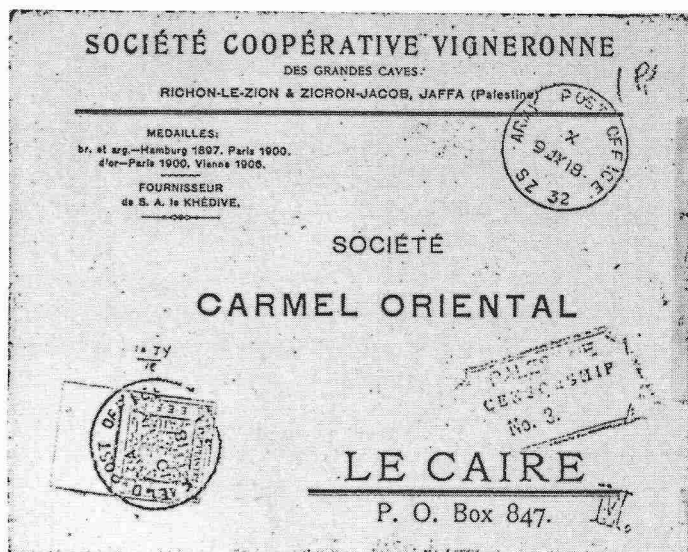


Fig. 33: Pre-paid cover from RLZ mailed and pre-paid at “FPO SZ32, 9 July 1918”, the last recorded date for pre-paid mail. The 1p stamp was cancelled a day later.

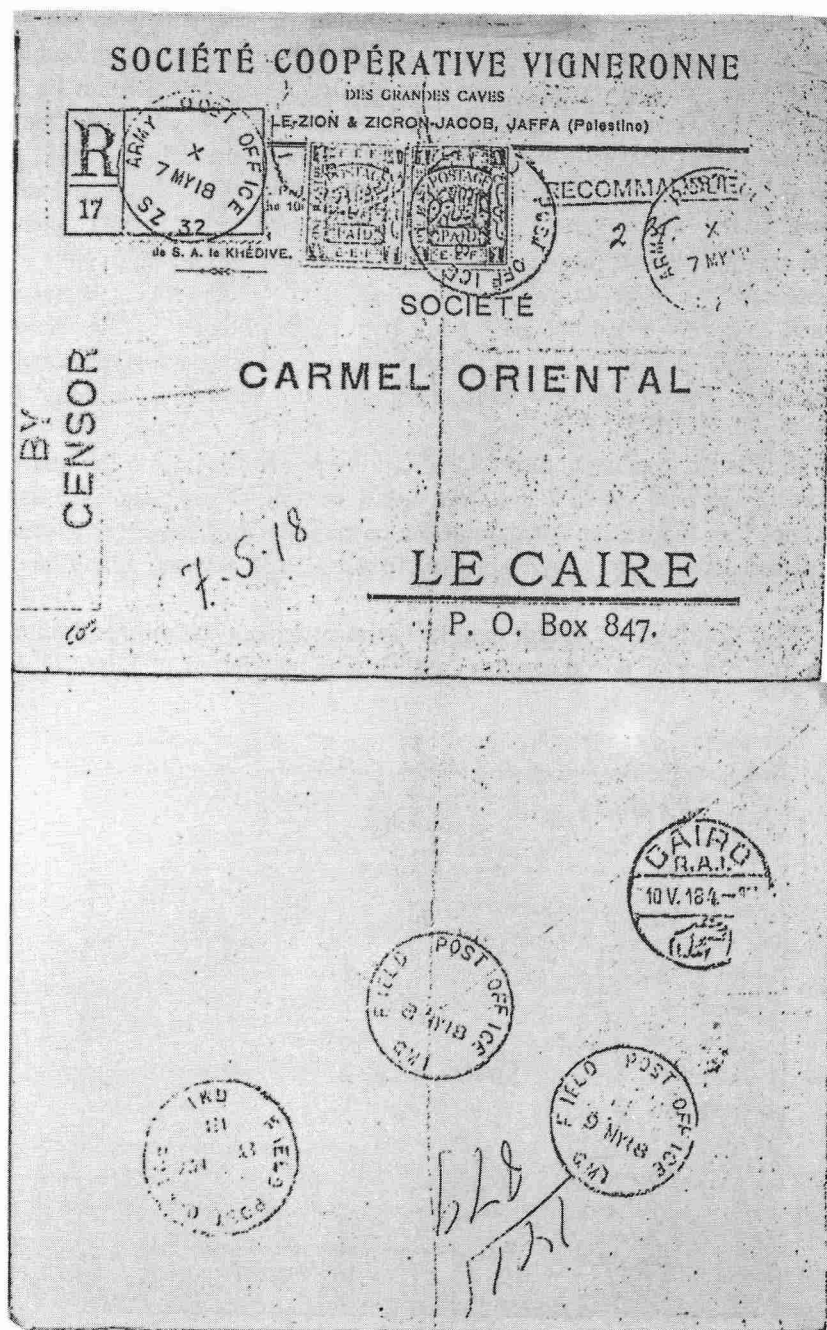


Fig. 34: Registered pre-paid cover from RLZ, mailed and cancelled at "APO SZ32, 7 May 1918".

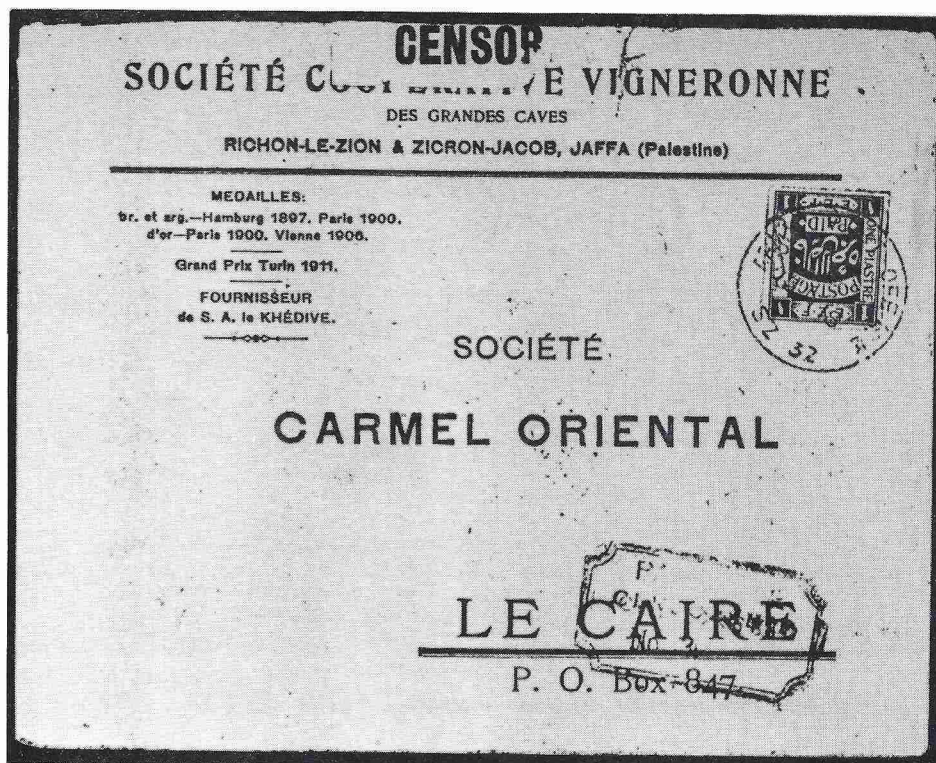


Fig. 35: Cover bearing a 1p stamp, cancelled at "APO SZ32, 15 July 1918".

"APO SZ18": One of the first stationary Army Post Offices deployed in south Palestine following the occupation by the E.E.F.. It was stationed in Ramleh probably in November, 1917 and remained there until it was replaced by "Ramleh OETA" post office.

It was only natural for the population of Rishon Le Zion to use this post office as Ramleh is only a few miles away. A letter from Rishon Le Zion mailed at APO SZ18 in December, 1918 is shown in Figure 36.

O.E.T.A. Postal Services

The Occupied Enemy Territory Administration (O.E.T.A.) came into being in December, 1918. This administration was responsible also for the civil postal system. The O.E.T.A. post office of Jaffa replaced APO SZ45 on December 15, 1918. Mail from Rishon can be found mailed from this office.

In March 1919, an O.E.T.A. post office was opened in Ramleh as a sub-district of Jaffa. The family correspondence shown here seems to suggest that Rishon Le Zion was included in the Ramleh sub-district. The postcard from Rishon to

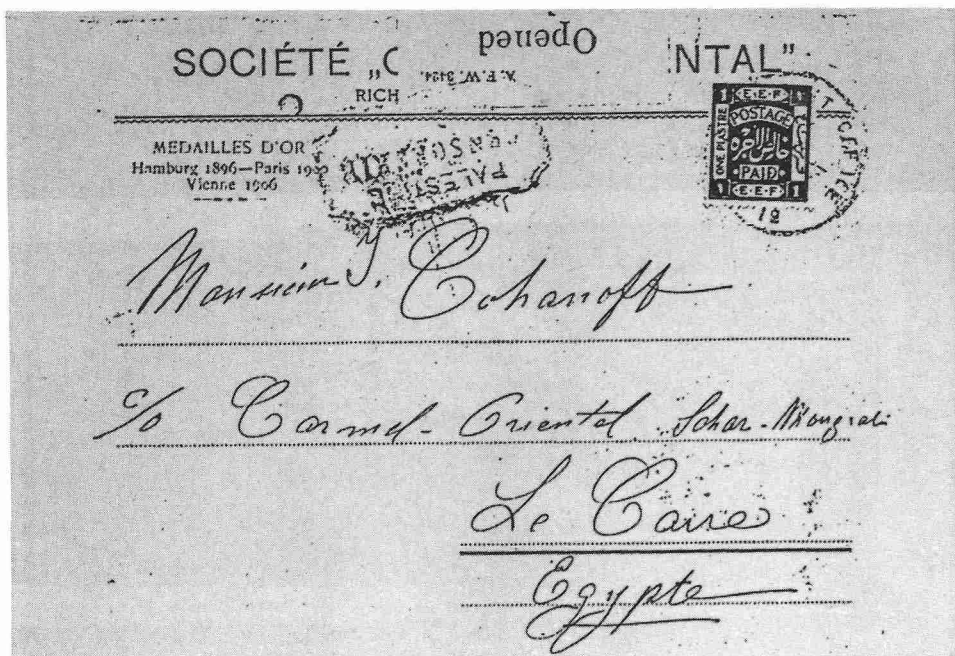


Fig. 36: Cover from RLZ mailed in Ramleh, "APO SZ18, Dec. 1918".

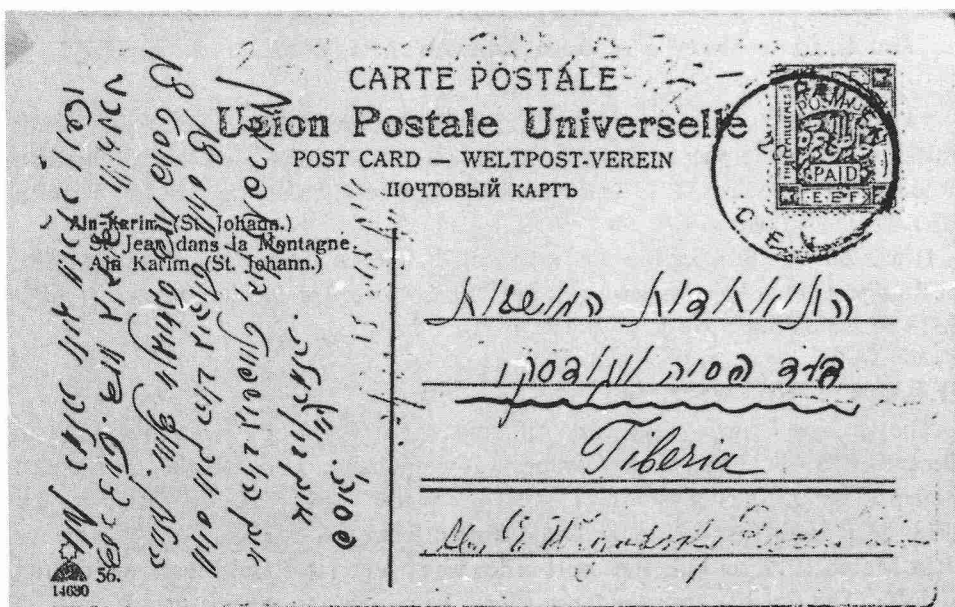


Fig. 37: Postcard from RLZ to Tiberias, mailed in "Ramleh, 20 June 1919".

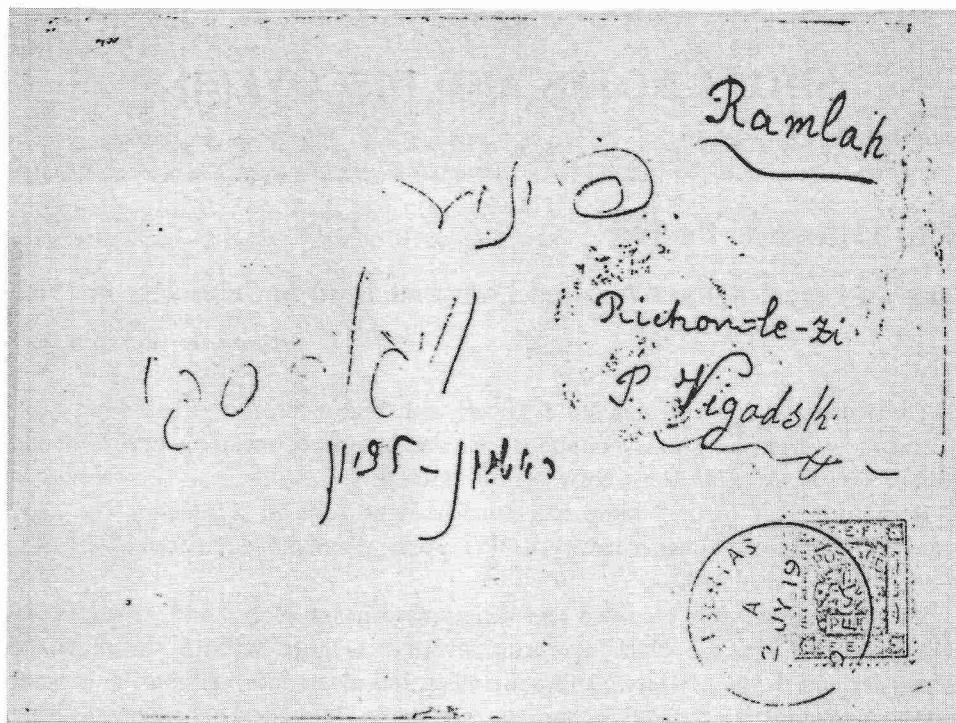


Fig. 38: Incoming mail to RLZ, addressed via Ramleh, July 1919.

Tiberias (Fig. 37) was mailed in Ramleh on June 20, 1919. The cover sent on the opposite direction (Fig. 38), from Tiberias to Rishon on July 2, 1919 is clearly routed to Ramleh. It bears on the back "Ramleh OET" arrival postmark, dated July 5, 1919. This cover, together with other similar items reported, is quite significant because incoming mail is important in the attempt to identify the office supplying postal services to a certain place.

As mentioned in the beginning, there was still no Post Office in Rishon Le Zion when the Military Administration of the country came to its end, and the Civil Administration was installed on July 1, 1920. The Post Office of Rishon Le Zion was finally opened during April, 1921.

* * * * *

* * * * *

* **SHORT NOTES AND DISCOVERIES** *

* * * * *

The Ottoman Period

Russian Levant 4 Para Inverted Overprint Used in Jerusalem in 1902

(Norman J. Collins)

The Russian Levant 4 para on 1 kopek with blue overprint is listed with the overprint inverted as Stanley Gibbons 36a and unpriced, meaning that Gibbons cannot supply or quote for a copy of this rarity.

Recently a pair of this stamp has come to light, used in Jerusalem. The pair, shown in Figure 39, is cancelled by ROPiT postmark (Collins/Steichele) type 641, dated 7th February 1902.

I have not previously recorded this variety used in the Holy Land, either as SG 36a or as SG 37a, the black overprint inverted. George Muentz, the philatelic expertiser and doyen of Holy Land philatelists, has also confirmed that he has not previously recorded either SG 36a or 37a used in the Holy Land. The item has been expertised by Silvano Sorani.

Thus this pair is one of the great rarities of the Holy Land.

**Fig. 39: Pair of Russian Levant SG 36a,
used in Jerusalem and cancelled by
postmark type 641, dated
7th February 1902.**



Acknowledgement: My thanks to George Muentz for checking his records and confirming that the above pair are the only examples he has recorded used in the Holy Land.

References:

- (1) Stanley Gibbons Overseas and Europe catalogues.
- (2) "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine, 1840-1918", English Version by Norman J. Collins & Dr. Leopold Dickstein, Vol. II, published by W.P.C. 1992.

Two Unreported Variations of the "Kaifa R.O.P.i.T." Postmark

(Norman J. Collins)

Two unreported variations of the "Kaifa R.O.P.i.T." postmark of the Russian Post Office in Haifa were recently discovered. They should be added to the Russian Haifa section of the book "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840 - 1918", English Revised Edition, Volume II, as follows:

	614 ROPiT KAIFA 4 - V - 1911 ? Violet	One example recorded as a dispatch mark. Extremely Rare
	615 ROPiT KAIFA 13 - VIII - 1912 ? Black	One example seen as a receiving mark. Extremely Rare

The differences between the above and postmark type 612 are the positions of ROPiT and KAIFA in relation to the date block.

Jaffa 1909 Local Overprints: Commercial Franking on A.R. Cover

(Norman J. Collins)

The Jaffa local overprints, Pulhan 0227 I to VI, produced to commemorate the accession of Mohamed V as Sultan, generally are only known philatelically used. The only covers I had seen, until the cover shown in Figure 40, had only philatelic frankings.

Figure 40 is a cover from Jaffa to France which is both registered and A.R.. The franking is 2x10 para, 3x20 para and 1 Piastre, three Piastres in all: 1 Pt postage, 1 Pt registration and 1 Pt A.R. fee. The item was posted on the 4th October 1909 to Theodore Champion & Co., the Paris Stamp Firm. Despite the address the item is obviously commercial. There is no arrival mark, but this would have been applied to the accompanying A.R. receipt which had to be returned to the sender.

This cover also has a registration cachet (ST type 22/19), which is only the second example I have recorded. It also has an A.R. cachet (ST 22/20) of which only two other examples have been recorded, both in 1897.



Fig. 40: Registered & A.R. cover from Jaffa, with commercial franking of the Jaffa 1909 local overprint stamps.

This cover, therefore, is one of the great rarities of the Holy Land, both due to the correct usage of the stamps, and a unique combination of registration and A.R. cachets.

References:

- (1) Turk Pullari Katalogu, by Ali Nusret Pulhan, 1970.
- (2) Turkish Postmarks of the Holy Land, by Anton Steichele, 1981.

Jerusalem 'Clock' Telegraph Mark on Telegramme

(Norman J. Collins)

All of the examples I had seen of the Jerusalem 'Clock' Telegraph dated mark until recently, were on telegraph receipts. George Muentz also confirmed that he cannot remember seeing an example on a Telegraph Form, at least in the last twenty years. The exception is the copy shown below in Figure 41.

TELEGRAMME تلفرافنامه

دولت ملیه عثمانیه تلفراف اداره سی

ADMINISTRATION DES TELEGRAPHES DE L'EMPIRE

L'Etat n'accepte aucune responsabilité à raison du service de la télégraphie

دولت امارات عثمانیه مسئولیت قبول نمیکند

Retransmission ou Expédition			RECEPTION		
سرقه ترسیه No d'expédition	کشیده برکتان transmis à	Date	مادور Signature de l'employé	مادور Signature de l'employé	Date
		4/8/14			4/8/14
		11. 4. 25			11. 4. 25

Voie Indio, Kzentnelles اشارت برینله

Pour موردی تاریخ ساعت روز ماه سال

N° 6231 Mols/12 Date 4/8/14 11. 4. 25

Himeni Chops-chimciwobathugawa
maseltour lemechouchaslaia

Fig. 41: Telegramme of 4th August 1914, with clear example of the 'Clock' telegraph mark, Steichele type T21.

The 'Clock' mark is very rarely seen fully struck, but the example shown below (which is the finest I have seen) clearly shows the date of 4th August, 1914. It is struck in violet. The Clocks indicate that the telegramme was sent at 4-25 pm.

Acknowledgement: My thanks to George H. Muentz for his help and advice.

Hungarian Field Post Privilege Card Used in Palestine, 1917

(Norman J. Collins)

Austro-Hungarian forces in Palestine during World War I, generally used ordinary postcards or envelopes for their mail. These sometimes had the unit cachet applied. Recently a formula Field Post Privilege Card for Hungarian troops



Fig. 42: Hungarian Field Post Privilege Card, used in Jerusalem, 27th September 1917.

has come to light (Fig. 42). The card has the German Military Mission postmark, dated 27th September 1917, and the Austro-Hungarian censor mark ZENSUR-IERT.

This is the only example of such a card used in Palestine I have seen, as is also the case for George Muentz.

Can anyone else show another example of this type of card used in Palestine?

Acknowledgement: My thanks to George H. Muentz for his help and advice.

The British Mandate Period

Unusual Postal "Notices" (*Arthur M. Hochheiser*)

Most of the features of the Postal Administration in Palestine under British control were patterned after their counterparts in Great Britain. To this extent, forms for Postal Administration use were numbered, preceded by the letter "P" in Great Britain and "P.T." (for Posts (&) Telegraphs) in Palestine. Numbering the forms facilitated their reorder since forms, in general, were intended for continuous use. The reissues were frequently different in size, style or layout but the content was the same.

However, there were exceptions. Many forms contained a "NOTICE" intended for posting for public information. These "NOTICE" forms generally did not contain a P.T. # and they were usually printed in the three languages in use in Palestine. They were not numbered since there obviously was no intent to reissue them (Fig. 43). Note that the content of this form was strictly for postal use. The size of this form is 8" x 13.5".

Figure 44 is unusual. It shows a public information form printed without the customary "NOTICE". This form does not contain the usual heading "Palestine Posts, Telegraphs & Telephones". The contents of this form were intended for the use of the telephone subscribers. It is 6.5" x 8.5" in size.

Figure 45 is more unusual. This form, P.T. 444, is printed as a "NOTICE". Once again the heading "Palestine Posts, Telegraphs & Telephones" is missing. The form is intended as an informational notice to telegram users. Since the King's Birthday would reoccur every year, the continuing use of this form was deemed necessary. Hence the P.T. number. The postmaster at this post office had the form glued to pressed fiberboard. Holes were punched for ready mounting and this mounted form was then stored for reuse. The form is 8.5" x 10.5" in size.

Note that all three forms contain "Printer's Legends", each by a different printing firm. Note, too, that the contents of the three forms represent the three major facets of usages under the guidance of the Postal Administration. These were: 1) mail, 2) telephone, 3) telegraph. Secondly, the contents of these forms are interesting in themselves as is the wide disparity in size.

In consequence of the serious inconvenience occasioned by the numerous requests to Telephone Exchanges for Post Office time the Postmaster-General regrets that it will not be possible to comply with such requests between the hours of 9.0 a.m. and 5.0 p.m. until further notice.

GENERAL POST OFFICE

JERUSALEM

20. August 1926.

نظراً لشدة الصعوبات التي تجري بواسطة كثرة الطلب من «الأكشنجات» مراكز التلغون عن الوقت المضبوط يتأسف مدير البريد العام بان يعلن ان طلبات كهذه لا يمكن تلبيتها ما بين الساعة التاسعة صباحاً والخامسة مساءً لغاية اعلان اخر.

٢٠ آب ١٩٢٦

לרגלי האו נעיסמות הרצינית הנגרמת עי דרישות הרכות למרכז התלפון עבור זמן משיך הדארי המנחל הכללי מצטער שלא יהיה אפשר למלאות אחרי דרישות כאלה בין השעות 9.0 לפלחצ ו 5.0 אח'הצ עד מודקה חדשה.

20 אונוסט 1926

7900-2000-R.M.P.

Fig. 44: Public information form without the customary "Notice".

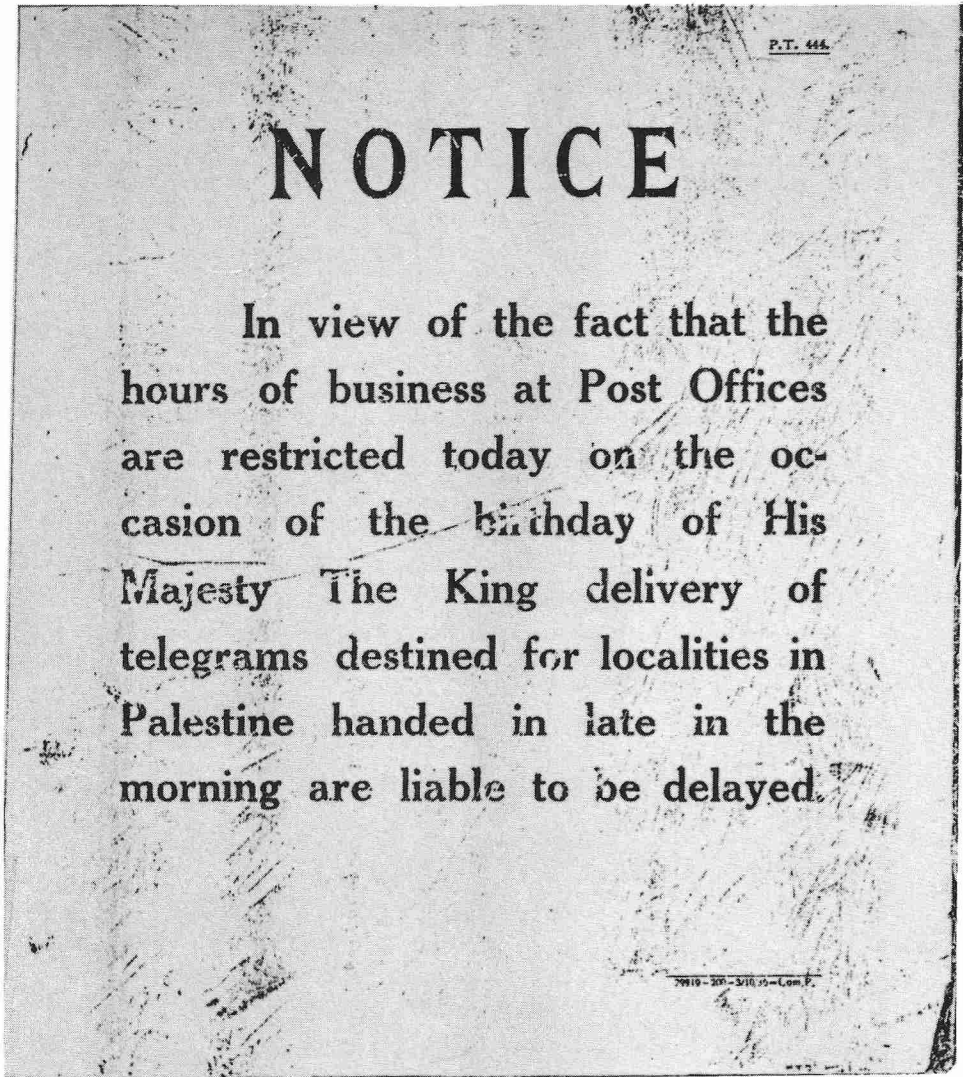


Fig. 45: P.T. 444 printed as a "Notice" but without the heading "Palestine Posts, Telegraphs and Telephone".

A 1922 Official Postal Notice *(Eddy Leibus)*

With the exception of the 1st Local Overprint, exact dates of issue of the overprinted stamps of Palestine are unknown. Part I of the official post office notice, shown in Figure 46, gives the date of issue of the 13mil "London II" stamp: - 5th November, 1922.

Part II suggests that British Postal Orders with mixed usage of British and Palestine stamps might exist. It also illustrates the exchange rate between the two currencies at the time.

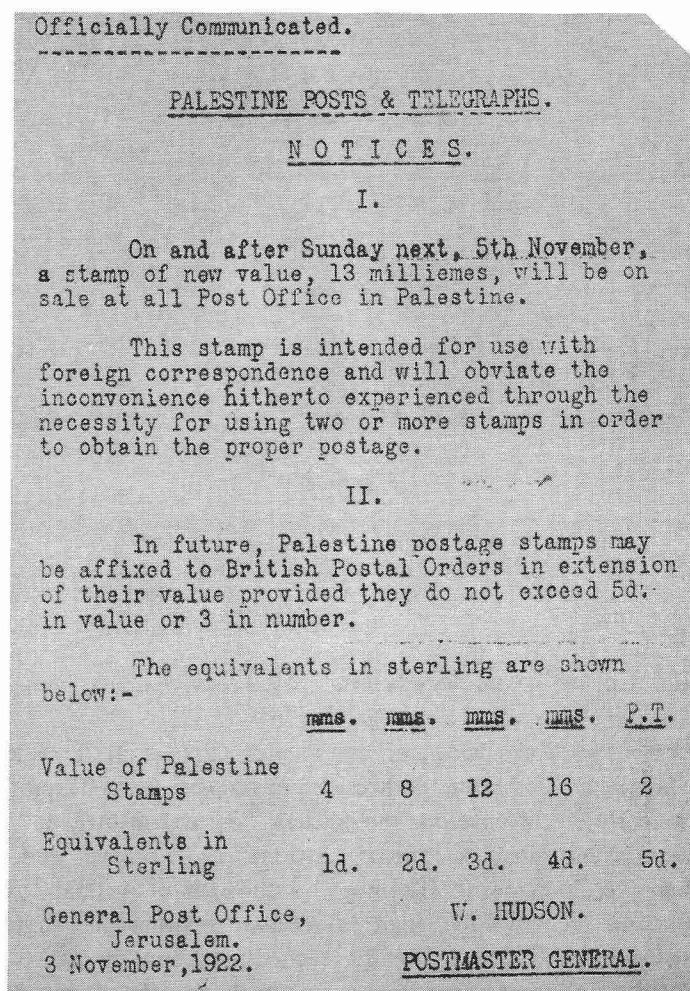


Fig. 46: A 1922 Official Postal Notice.

Bad Hebrew Translation

The Telegram Form shown in Figure 47, brought to our attention by Ephraim Kendler, was translated into Hebrew by the Mandate authorities. The line, "This Form must accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram" was also translated into Hebrew, but the translation of some of its words makes no sense at all.

We have already met with some such senseless translations, in various Palestine postal forms.

PALESTINE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.
 إدارة البريد والتلغراف فلسطين
 משרד הדואר והתלגרף כ"א

95

Office Date Stamp
 طابع التاريخ
 חותם המועד

TELEGRAM
 التلغراف
 התלגראם

This Form must accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram
 יצא ארסל מזה הטפסה עם כל טלב בחפוש מזה התלגראם
 דוגמה יד צריכה לשלם לאיקה דרישה חגונעת למברק עצמו

Received at 15 4 0
 נתקבל ב

Handwritten German text:
 Jesuiss' gross moech' ...
 bitte wegen uebergabe kinder schulmeuser
 mit Jesuiss' oder anderen vertrauensvollen
 persoenlichkeiten verhandeln und uns offiz
 iell mit einreichen zuzunehmen mitzuerlich

Figure 47

A Misrouted Letter from Jerusalem (Emmanuel Mann, Jerusalem)

In April 1946 Mrs. Lea Zweig, of the Talpiot Quarter in Jerusalem, wrote a letter to my father, Dr. I. Mann, who resided in Arnona (near Talpiot), Jerusalem (Fig. 48). She wrote on the envelope the address "Jerusalem-Arnona". A confused post office clerk in Jerusalem deciphered "Arnona" as "Amman" and, accordingly mailed the letter to Transjordan. The postal authorities of Amman, on noting the mistake, wrote on the envelope, "not to Amman Transjordan" in red ink, and returned it to Jerusalem, where it finally reached its destination.

On the enclosed photocopies you can see the hand-written remark as quoted above on the front of the envelope, and the postmark of Amman on the back.

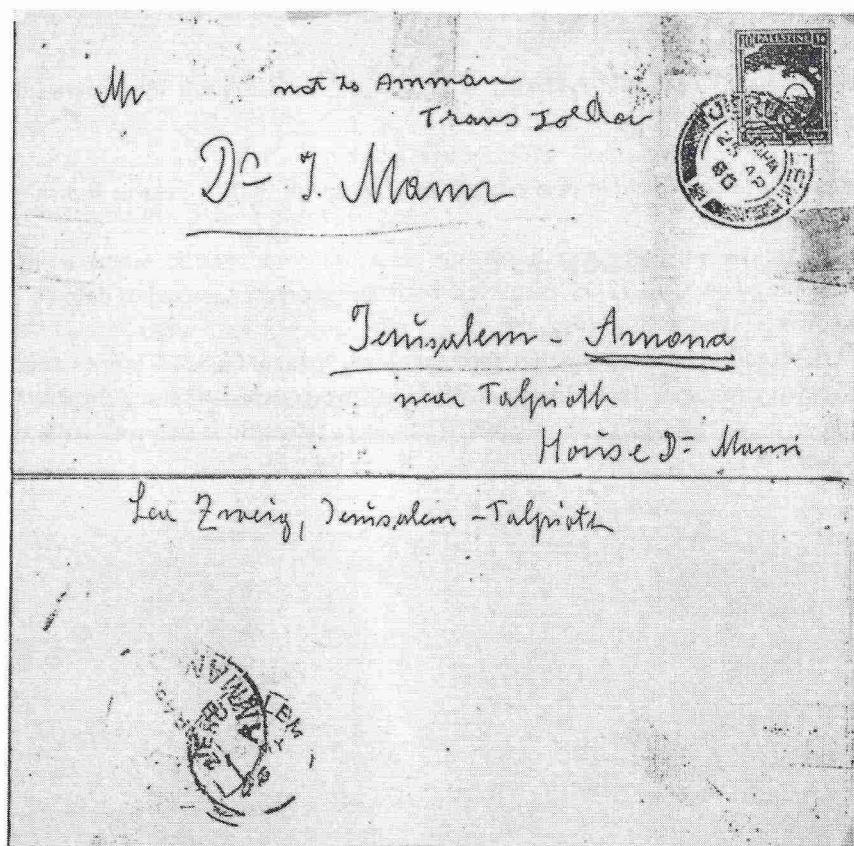


Fig. 48: A cover misrouted to Amman instead of to "Jerusalem-Arnona".

The State of Israel

Error in "Massad" Labels (Brought to our attention by *Zohar Noi*)

A set of computerized self-adhesive franking labels ("Massad") was issued for each day of the recent stamp exhibition "Jerusalem 3000", held in Jerusalem during Hanukka, 1995.

In this issue, there was a glaring error, as some of the labels issued for the "Opening Day", 16/12/95, displayed both an incorrect Gregorian date as well as an incorrect Hebrew date (Fig. 49).

It should also be noted that the registered "Massad" labels were issued without a registry number! In addition, EMS labels were issued without the EMS emblem and without the Latin letters EMS. They were issued in a strip of 10 instead of the regular 6.

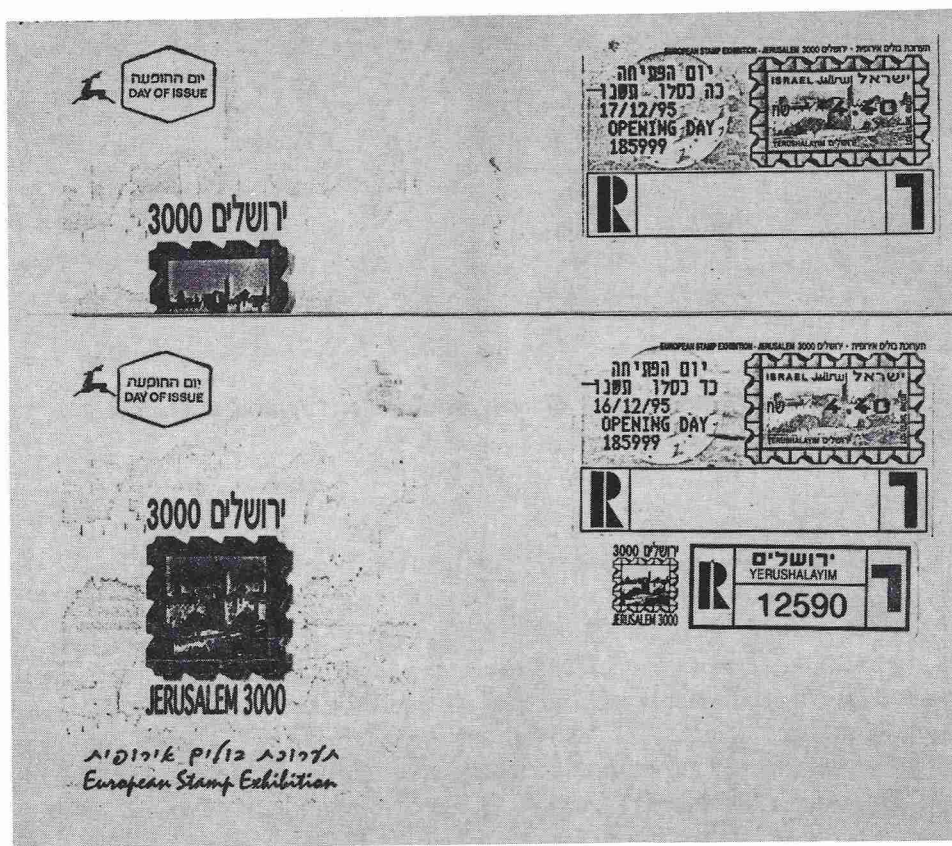


Fig. 49: The upper FDC has a label with an incorrect date (one day ahead).
The lower label is the correct one.

* * * * *

GENERAL NEWS

* * * * *

New Cancellations and Post Offices

(Compiled by J. Nachligal)

A. Special Cancellations (see also Fig. 50).

- 6.9.95: "The Prime Minister's Conference on Peace Tourism", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 8.9.95: "50th Anniversary of "Dan" Cooperative, 1945-1995", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 11.9.95: "17th Pentecostal World Conference. From Jerusalem to all Peoples", Yerushalayim.
 1.10.95: "Gathering of the Society for Protection of Nature. Migrating Birds know no Boundaries", Shimshon (M.P.).
 10.10.95: "Qessem Babulaut - The Third Philatelic Exhibition", Nazerat Illit.
 23.10.95: "Medpartenariat Israel 1995. Israel Export Institute", Yerushalayim.
 5.12.95: "Yitzhak Rabin, Born - 1922, Assassinated - 1995. Shalom Chaver", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 7.12.95: "International Civil Aviation Day. The Aeroplane in Your Lives". Yerushalayim.
 14.12.95: "Hanukka", Yerushalayim*.
 14.12.95: "Philately Day", Yerushalayim*.
 14.12.95: "Cinema - 100 Years", Tel Aviv-Yafo*.
 14.12.95: "70 Years Fire and Rescue Services in Eretz Israel", Rishon Leziyyon*.
 16.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000", Yerushalayim*.
 16.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Opening Day", Yerushalayim.
 17.12.95: "Zeppelin and Balloon Flight - Elat-Akaba", Elat.
 17.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Youth Day", Yerushalayim.
 18.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Europe Day", Yerushalayim.
 18.12.95: "Israel Stamp Week, 18-25.12.95", Yerushalayim.
 19.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Telecard Day", Yerushalayim.
 20.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Philately & Postal Authority Day", Yerushalayim.
 20.12.95: "The Ninth Convention of Israeli Philatelists", Yerushalayim.
 21.12.95: "Yerushalayim 3000. Jerusalem Day", Yerushalayim.
 24.12.95: "Christmas, Noël", Nazareth.
 28.12.95: "100 Years of Cinema", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

* These were used as special postmarks for the F.D. of the corresponding stamp issue.

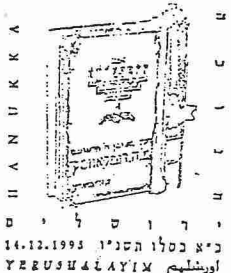
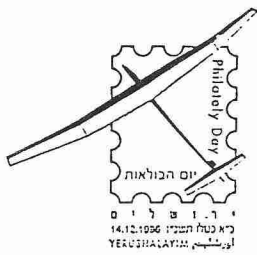


Fig. 50: Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM



כ"ה כסלו תשנ"ו • 16.12.1995

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM



כ"ד כסלו תשנ"ו • 17.12.1995

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM



כ"ה כסלו תשנ"ו • 18.12.1995

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM



כ"ו כסלו תשנ"ו • 19.12.1995

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM

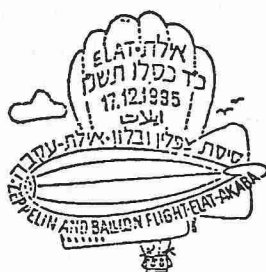


כ"ז כסלו תשנ"ו • 20.12.1995

ירושלים • ירושלים • YERUSHALAYIM



כ"ח כסלו תשנ"ו • 21.12.1995



ירושלים • כ"ה כסלו תשנ"ו • YERUSHALAYIM



Fig. 50 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.



Fig. 50 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

- 31.12.95: "The Exhibition of Education in Israel in Commemoration of Yitzhak Rabin", Yerushalayim.
 3.1.96: "40th Anniversary of Bar Ilan University", Ramat Gan.
 15.1.96: "21st World Wizo International Conference", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

B. Definitive Cancellations

- 20.9.95: "Ariel 2 (Zahal)", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Quarter B, Ariel.
 5.10.95: "Tel Aviv-Yafo 321", for the Weizman Postal Branch, 58 Weizman St.
 12.11.95: On this date 32 new or replaced handstamps were put into use in various Post Offices as follows. **Southern Region:** "Ashdod 1" (instead of Ashdod 1), "Elat 1" (instead of Elat 1), "Elot 1 M.P." (instead of Elot M.P. without No.), "Holon 1" and "Holon 2" (instead of Holon 1 and Holon 4), "Qiryat Mal'akhi 1" (instead of Qiryat Mal'akhi 1), "Yeroham 1" (instead of Yeroham 1); **Yerushalayim:** (sorting) "1-4" (instead of 1, 2, 64, 63), (Bet Hakerem Branch) "5" (instead of 30). **Tel Aviv-Yafo:** (Philatelic Services) "1-3" (instead of 1 - 3), (Even Gvirol Branch) "4, 5" (instead of 156, 243), Sorting "200 - 202, 204 - 207, 209" (instead of 234, 236, 248, 251, 249, 22, 231, 20). **Haifa:** (University Agency) "1, 2" (instead of 15, 86), (Geula Agency) "4" (instead of 78), (Hod Karmel - Dania Agency) "5" (instead of 16).

For more details concerning these 32 handstamps, see the following article by G.S. Sheaffer.

- 3.12.95: "Rehovot 3", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Miltzin St., Rehovot. (This postmark was used before in Rehovot Main P.O.).
 4.12.95: "Ashdod 37", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Quarter 5, Even Ezra St., Ashdod. (This postmark was used before in Ashdod Main P.O.).
 4.12.95: "Qiryat Gat 2", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in the Southern Gate. (This postmark was used before in Qiryat Gat Main P.O.).

- 7.12.95: On this date, 5 new handstamps were put into use in various Post Offices as follows: "Nazerat Illit 1", "Qazrin 1", "Umm El Fahem 1", "Tel Aviv-Yafo 203", "Yokneam Illit 1".
- 21.12.95: "Yehud 4", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Qiryat Hasavyonim, Moshe Dayan Road, Yehud. (This postmark was used before in Yehud Main P.O.).
- 21.12.95: "Ramle 4", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Qiryat Menahem, Commercial Center, Ramle. (This postmark was used before in Ramle P.O.).
- 24.12.95: "Yerushalayim 147", for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Ramalla Road, Aqab Village. (This postmark was used before in Hordus Branch, Yerushalayim).

On the Introduction of New Rotating-Date Postmarks

Gad P. Sheaffer, Haifa

The Notice to the Public 126/95 informs the public about the introduction of 32 new postmarks in various postal branches around the country (See the update by I. Nachtigal in this Issue). The first date of these new postmarks is supposed to be 12/11/95, and they replace 32 older postmarks, whose last date is the 10/11/95.

There are some noteworthy issues about this introduction, that I would like to mention in brief:

1. These postmarks are just the first wave of about 1530 new postmarks, that will replace all the postmarks now in use. The new postmarks are oval shaped, manufactured in Germany, and have rotating date wheels. The first postmark of this type, HOLON 4, was experimentally introduced on 23/12/90, and is called type C9 in the Nachtigal and Fixler postmark catalog (part 3); see also Figure 51.
2. The previous wave of mass postmark replacements occurred in 1991–1992. Then, as now, most of the postmarks in use (some since the early fifties), were replaced. These postmarks were manufactured in Israel (by Lederman, in Haifa), and the main improvement there has been the use of larger characters for the date and place names. The appearance of these postmarks was sufficiently different from previous postmarks to warrant granting it a new type name, (C11) in the Nachtigal/Fixler catalog. Most of the postmarks from this (1991–1992) 'wave' have been in use for barely four years and are in very good shape. The previous big overhaul of the postmarks in use before that happened in 1951, with smaller 'waves' of introductions in 1958 and 1961 (mostly due to changes in the official transliteration of Hebrew place names). The accelerated rate of postmark replacements in the last years seems to be hardly justifiable. Also, the current type (C9 rotating date) was tried and probably decided upon in 1990, so it was doubly strange that all the postmarks were replaced in 1991–1992. In

some cases postmarks were introduced for only a few months, as in the Gaza Strip where most of the postmarks were replaced by the C11-type a few months after the agreements on the termination of Israeli postal services in the Gaza Strip were signed.

3. The new type of rotating date postmarks is not the first attempt to change to rotating date postmarks. The dual date (Hebrew and Latin) nature of the Israel postmarks makes the design of these postmarks very challenging. There were a number of phases to this effort:
 - The first attempt was made in 1963, when rotating date postmarks were introduced in the three large cities (Type X11 in the Nachtigal/Fixler catalog)¹.
 - During August–September 1988, several hundreds of rotating date postmarks (type C5 in the Nachtigal/Fixler catalog)¹ were manufactured and introduced in various postal branches. This was a kind of “skunk works” operation, and the postmarks were introduced (and later withdrawn from service) without any official notice whatsoever. Therefore the introduction dates are approximate at best and the withdrawal dates unknown. Some of these postmarks are still in use in various places, and can be seen on regular mail.
 - From 1990, four types of rotating date postmarks were introduced in a number

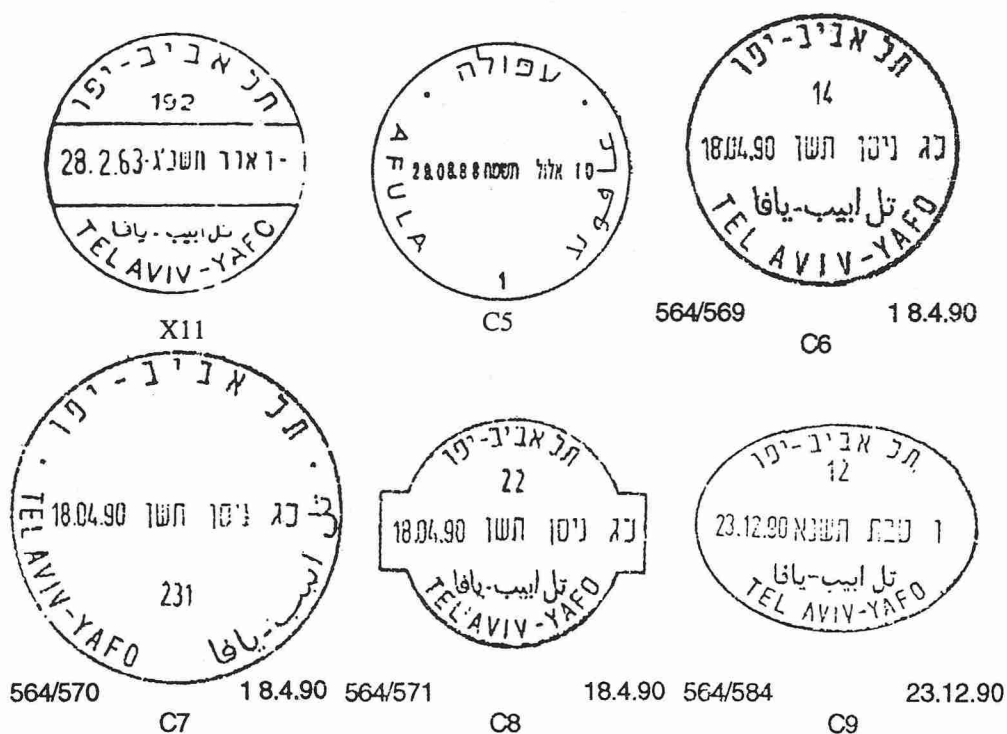


Fig. 51: Various types of the rotating-date postmarks (some - experimental) introduced by the Israeli Post through the years.

of postal branches. These are termed types C6-C9 in the Nachtigal/Fixler catalog. Type C9 is the one that was picked to become the standard type.

4. For a number of years the postal authority has avoided replacing old postmarks with new ones of the same number (in places where more than one postmark existed). Having no clue what postmarks were in use, they adopted a system of adding only brand new numbers in each location. They thus hoped to avoid having more than one postmark of the same number in a given place. As a result, there is no correlation between the highest number used in a given place and the number of postmarks in use there.

Someone in the postal authority must have realized that this "inflationary" method could not be sustained. In Tel Aviv they would have reached 4-digit numbers within a few years. Looking at the numbers used in the current introduction, and talking with the people involved, it would seem that the postal authority is determined to use this opportunity to set things in order. They intend to computerize the postmark stock and start keeping track of the postmarks in use. They have no plans (or hope) of catching up with the status and state of the postmarks currently in use in the field. It's a pity - all the data they would have needed is handily available in the 3 parts of the Nachtigal/Fixler catalog. Exactly just how clueless the Postal Authority is regarding the current stock of active postmarks is amply illustrated below in the account of a single Notice to the Public.

5. The Notice to the Public 126/95 contained numerous errors, most of them pertaining to the postmarks allegedly taken out of service.
 - All the 8 postmarks (Tel Aviv 234, 236, 248, 251, 249, 22, 231 and 20) that according to the Notice were to be withdrawn from service in the Sorting House in Tel Aviv on 10/11/95 (because they were to be replaced with the new rotating date postmarks) were in fact not in use since 1993. According to the people in the Sorting House, these were returned to the Operations Section (Agaf Hatiful) that year and probably destroyed then. As a result no Last Day cancellation could be had of those postmarks.
 - A similar thing happened in Jerusalem. None of the 5 postmarks (1, 2, 30, 63 and 64) that were to be taken out of service on 10/11 could be found.
 - In Holon, postmarks 35 and 41 were taken out of service instead of 1 and 4 claimed by the Notice to the Public. In a phone conversation the manager of that branch claimed that these (35 and 41) were the only postmarks he has been using in the last years.
 - In Eilat the Eilat 1 postmark mentioned is claimed to be lost long ago.
 - In Yeroham the manager of the postal branch claims that the 'Yeroham 1' postmark that was to be withdrawn on 10/11 was lost a year ago. In reality the Postal Authority announced the withdrawal of this postmark more than two years earlier, on 24/10/93 (Notice to the Public 93/93). This illustrates facts known to most collectors:

- In many cases the post office managers ignore the Notices to the Public, keep the postmarks that were officially withdrawn and continue to use them.
- On occasion, persons in the Postal Authority do not read its own Notices to the Public. Some years later they go and ask each post office manager what postmarks are in use. Some responses are incorrect. This is seen quite often in cases where the Notices to the Public contradict information contained in previous Notices.
- In Netanya, the post office manager claims that the 'Netanya 3' postmark was lost, and thus Last Day cancellations could not be provided. Not to disappoint the collectors he sent them instead a cancellation of that date of the 'Kefar Witkin 3' postmark that was not mentioned at all. I have my doubts if the latter postmark was withdrawn from service at all.

These errors are all symptoms of the same root cause – no one in the Postal Authority has any idea what postmarks are in use. Information contained in previous Notices is ignored – perhaps knowing very well how little correlation these have with reality. Accurate data painstakingly collected by Nachtigal and Fixler in the series of catalogs they published is ignored and there is no database of postmarks in use. Let us hope that with this round of overhauling all the postmarks, the situation will be corrected.

6. The new postmark introduced in the Eilat mobile post office ('Eilat' 1) lacked any indication of being used in a mobile post office. The small car symbol, always used in mobile post postmarks, is gone. The author had drawn the attention of those in charge to this omission. A decision was made to order a new postmark (with a car), and to continue using the one without the car (introduced on 12/11/95) until it arrives.
7. The 126/95 Notice contained a small footnote saying that the Tel Aviv 200-209, and the Jerusalem 1-5 postmarks were put into service on the 12/9/95 (two months before the official introduction), due to a "vital need". There are a number of interesting points concerning this footnote:
 - It seems that these postmarks were sent directly from the principal engineer of the Postal Authority to the Sorting Houses in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, without involving the editor responsible for publishing the Notice to the Public. It turned out that the "vital need" was the high holiday season that arrived "unexpectedly". The New Year greetings caused a sudden, "impossible to foresee" increase in the number of letters sent – a fact that immediately required new postmarks.
 - The pressure must have been so strong that the 'Jerusalem 2' postmark broke before the Notice to the Public was published, and was sent back to Germany for repair. As a result, no First Day cancellation could be obtained of this postmark on the official 12/11/95 date.
 - Of the 10 Tel Aviv postmarks mentioned in the footnote, two were not mentioned in the body of the Notice. 'Tel Aviv 203' was introduced a few weeks

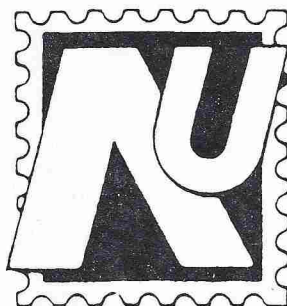
later – on 7/12/95 (Notice 135/95). Postmark 'Tel Aviv 208' is still "missing in action".

To conclude, the Postal Authority spares no effort (and the taxpayers money) to upgrade all postmarks now in use. They have decided to change all the postmarks, old and new, to a rotating date type. They also seem to be determined to turn a page and introduce some order into the chaos that is currently reflected from the Notices to the Public. Let us hope they succeed, and that future updates on postmark changes can become more concise.

References:

- (1) I. Nachtigal & B. Fixler, "Regular Postmarks of Israeli Post, 1948-1990", Part 1.
- (2) I. Nachtigal & B. Fixler, "Cancellations of Israeli Post – Slogan Cancellations 1948-1994", Part 3.

אוניסטמפס בע"מ UNISTAMPS LTD.



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מכירות פומביות
בולי ישראל וחץ

PUBLIC AUCTIONS
ISRAEL & WORLD WIDE STAMPS

New Stamps and Postal Stationery

Stamps

The following stamps have been issued during the last period.

- 5.12.95: In memory of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin – 30 days after his assassination (IS 5).
- 14.12.95: Hanukka, depicting a miniature Hanukka Lamp crafted in Ghetto Lodz in 1944 (IS 1.50); Philately Day, 1995, showing a person flying a model plane (IS 1.80); Fire Fighting and Rescue Services (IS 1 (x2)); Cinema 100 years (IS 4.40).
- 16.12.95: Miniature sheet – Jerusalem, City of David, 3000 years – issued for the opening of “Jerusalem 3000” European Stamp Exhibition, incorporating three stamps (IS 1.–, 1.50, 1.80) and sold for IS 6.
- 20.2.96: Miniature sheet – Murals of the Dura-Europos Synagogue, Syria, 3rd Century – incorporating three stamps (IS 1.05, 1.60, 1.90) and sold for IS 5; Dairy Cattle Breeding in Israel (IS 4.65); Various sport scenes – first part of a new definitive series (IS 1.05, 1.90, 2.–).

Postage Labels

- 16.11.95: Klussendorf postage label “Season’s Greeting from the Holy Land”, both without machine number and with No. 023 (s. Fig. 55, middle row right).
- 16.12.95: To commemorate the “Jerusalem 3000” Stamp Exhibition: (1) A special Klussendorf postage label (with machine No. 008 and without any number) (s. Fig. 55 bottom left), (2) 16.12–21.12.95: “Massad” CPL’s (self adhesive) with a special design and with different text of the printed ‘postmark’ for each day of the exhibition (Fig. 52).

In the beginning of February, 1996, the Postal Authority decided to stop the use of Klussendorf machines for economic reasons. The Haifa-landscape postage label that was planned to be issued was not and for the time being will not be issued.

Postal Stationery

- 14.12.95: Three non-denominated pre-stamped airmail **postcards** with “stamps” showing famous sites in Jerusalem (sold at IS 2 each), and the reverse with the same site but at wider angle (Fig. 53). They may be considered a continuation of the postcard “Tourism Set” (Cf. HLP#60, p. 1122).
- 18.12.95: **Illustrated Telegrams** or, as we nicknamed them, Telegram Cards (Type IV), were first issued in Israel in June, 1989 (s. HLP#14, p. 1106). Telegram Folders were issued in July, 1994 (s. HLP#15, p. 1056). Now three more Telegram Folders of this series were issued, numbered 311, 312, 313 and inscribed in Arabic (and/or English) like so: 311 – Merry Christmas, 312 – Happy New Year, 313 – Merry Id-El-Fitter (Fig. 54). On the back fold there is the Postal Authority logo and the ‘identity number’ of the telegram.







<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>יום הפתיחה כז כסלו תשנ"ו 16/12/95 OPENING DAY 185999</p> 	<p>16.12.95</p> <p>יום הפתיחה <i>Opening Day</i></p>
<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>יום הנוער כז כסלו תשנ"ו 17/12/95 YOUTH DAY 185999</p> 	<p>17.12.95</p> <p>יום הנוער <i>Youth Day</i></p>
<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>יום אירופה כח כסלו תשנ"ו 18/12/95 EUROPE DAY 185999</p> 	<p>18.12.95</p> <p>יום אירופה <i>Europe Day</i></p>
<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>יום הטלכרט כז כסלו תשנ"ו 19/12/95 TELECARD DAY 185999</p> 	<p>19.12.95</p> <p>יום הטלכרט <i>Telecard Day</i></p>
<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>רשות הדואר והבול כז כסלו תשנ"ו 20/12/95 POSTAL & PHILATELY DAY 185999</p> 	<p>20.12.95</p> <p>יום הבולאות ורשות הדואר <i>Philately & Postal Authority Day</i></p>
<p>הערכת כלים אירופית - ירושלים 3000 - ISRAELI STAMP EXHIBITION - JERUSALEM 3000</p> <p>יום ירושלים כח כסלו תשנ"ו 21/12/95 JERUSALEM DAY 185999</p> 	<p>21.12.95</p> <p>יום ירושלים <i>Jerusalem Day</i></p>

Fig. 52: The special CPL's issued for each day of the "Jerusalem 3000" European Stamp Exhibition, 16-21.12.95

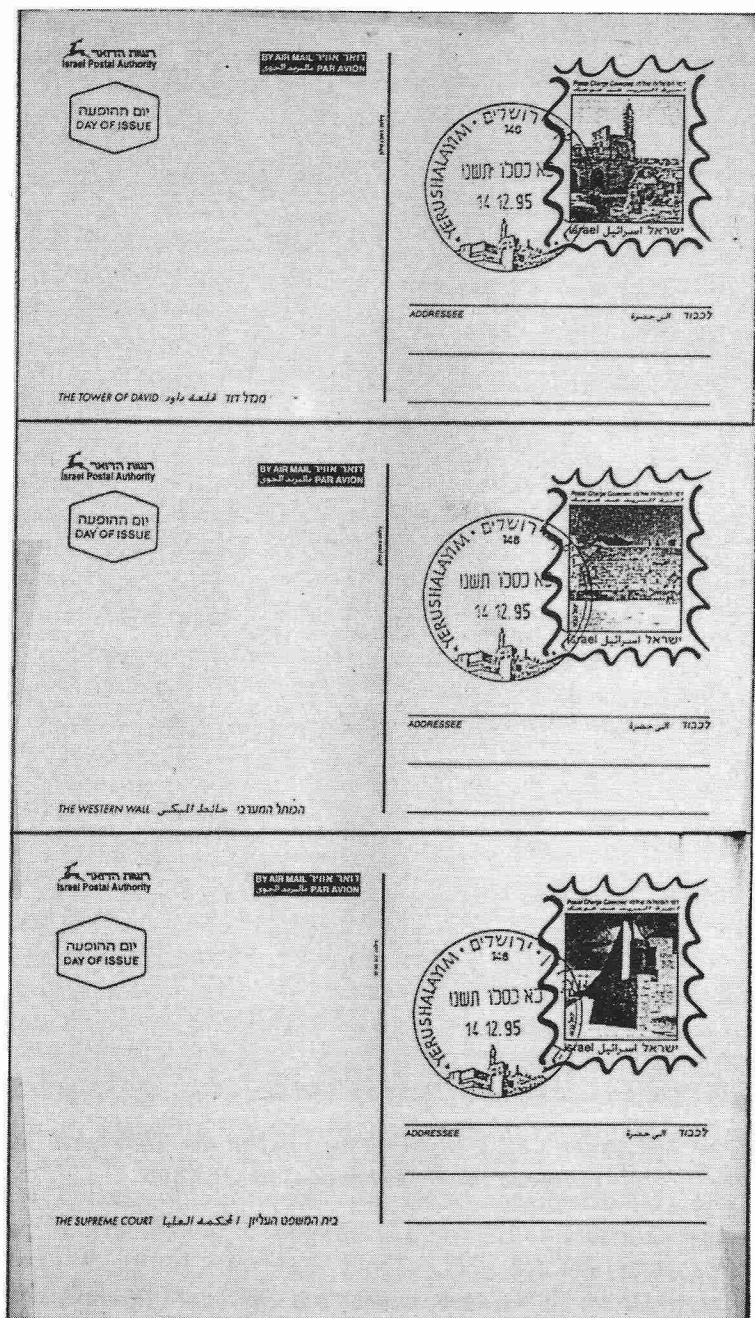


Fig. 53: Three non-denominated pre-stamped airmail postcards with “stamps” showing famous sites in Jerusalem.



Fig. 54: One of the three Telegram Folders, issued on 18.12.95, with Arabic legend "Merry Id-El-Fitter".

The Klussendorf Tourist and Christmas Postage Labels - a Review

Z. Noi and L. Fisher

Klussendorf Labels have been issued annually for Christmas since 1992. Various Christmas scenes were depicted. From mid-1994, the usage of these labels was expanded and various tourist sites were chosen.

The tourist labels were issued by the Philatelic Service on the First Day at a face value of 30 agorot. Christmas labels were issued with nominal values of IS 0.75,

0.85, 0.90, 1.00. In Christmas, 1994, a single value of 30 agorot was issued, but when the new machine began operating, a single value of 30 agorot was also issued.

Two types of paper were used: with phosphor and without (W/O). Some of the labels were printed with phosphor and some without.

Two types of machines were used in the Philatelic Service:

Machine "A" - prints values in the format **,5 **,30.

Machine "B" - prints values in the format *0,05 *0,30.

At the time of writing, machine "A", the older of the two, is out of order.

Machine number 023, being now "out of the country", printed an unknown number of Bethlehem labels without phosphor. The Philatelic Service was supposed to supply Bethlehem tourist labels. Because the machine in the Philatelic Service was out of order, these were mistakenly supplied to a dealer out of the country. After discovery of the error, it was too late and they printed Bethlehem labels on paper with phosphor.

Acre paper without phosphor was mistakenly installed in machine 015. This was only discovered when the machine ran out of paper and they were forced to permanently put Acre labels in the machine - but with phosphor.

Table 1 is a summary of all known tourist labels and Table 2 likewise for the Christmas labels. Figure 55 shows some examples of the various existing illustrated Klussendorf postage labels.

Table 1: Summary of all Known Tourist Labels

Site	Type of Paper		Machine "A"		Machine "B"		Machine Nos.		First Day	
	w/o Phos	Phos	w/o Phos	Phos.	w/o Phos.	Phos.	w/o Phos.	Phos.	w/o Phos.	Phos.
Acre	X	X	X	X		X	015,028	015,023,028	028 21.6.94	023 4.10.94 015 20.10.94
Bethlehem	X	X	X			X	023*	023**	21.6.94	mid 95
Church of Holy Sepulchre		X		X		X				23.8.94
David's Citadel	X		X		X				21.6.94	
Jaffa	X		X		X		004, 033		033 21.6.94 004 17.7.94	
Kfr Nahum	X	X	X	X	X	X			23.8.94	Beginning of '95
Mezada		X		X		X				23.8.94
Nazareth	X		X		X		018		21.6.94	
Tiberias	X	X	X	X		X	035	035	21.6.94	End of 1994
"Jerusalem 3000"		X				X		008		16.12.95

* There were two machines, one in the Philatelic Service and the other in Bethlehem. There was a 1mm difference between the two.

** Sent with orders of Bethlehem labels out of the country. Printed by machine 023 instead of by the out of order machine of the Philatelic Service.

Table 2: Summary of Christmas Labels

Site	Date of Issue	Philatelic Service	Philatelic Service 023	Bethlehem 023	Nazareth 018
Bethlehem	2.11.92	X	X	X	
Bethlehem	16.11.93	X	X	X	
Bethlehem	27.11.94	X	X	X	
Nazareth	28.11.94*				X
Nazareth	16.11.95	X	X	X	

* The Nazareth issue of 28.11.94 exists also cancelled on 27.11.94.

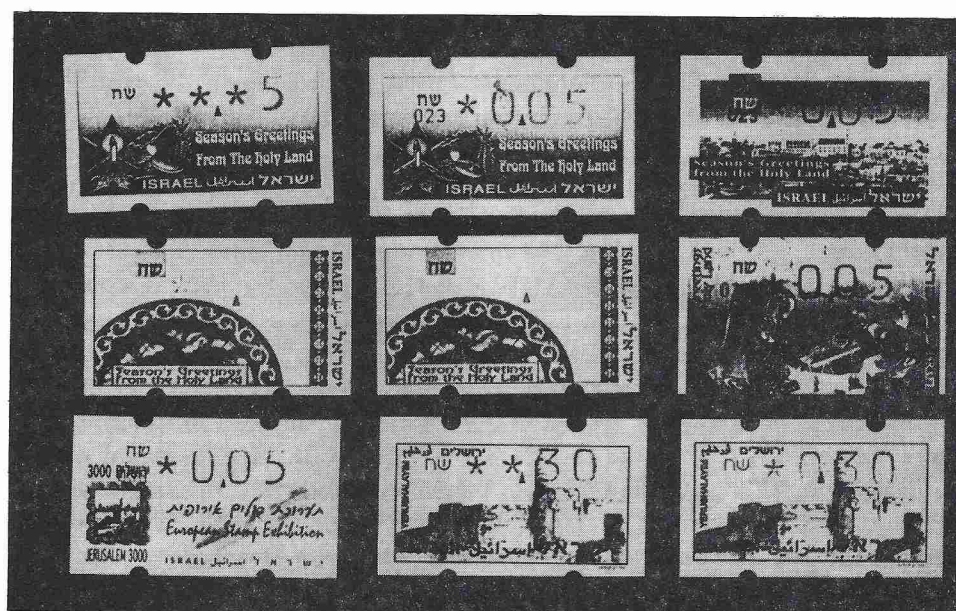


Fig. 55: Various examples of the Klussendorf labels showing the different machines.

Holy Land Awards in "Jerusalem 3000" European Stamp Exhibition

The European stamp exhibition "Jerusalem 3000" was held in Jerusalem, Binyanai Hauma, during Hanukka, 16-21 December 1995. It was held in conjunction with four European countries: Bulgaria, France, Germany and Luxemburg.

Here are the awards given to Holy Land and Judaica exhibits. The level of all the exhibits was the "National" except for those with Y - Youth, L - Literature, given in parentheses. This exhibition did not have a "State Level".

Large Gold Medal

- J. Hackmey, "Holy Land to 1948" (National Grand Prix)
- I. Karpovsky, "Holy Land - Forerunner Postal Services up to the year 1918" (Special Award for the 3000 Anniversary of Jerusalem)
- I. Karpovsky, "Transition Period 1948 - the Postal History of Jerusalem" (Israel Philatelic Federation Award)

Gold Medal

- J. Falk, "German Post in Palestine 1898-1914"
- A. Zakai, "World War I - from Egypt to Palestine"
- J. Billion, "The Near East"
- S. Petriuk, "Our Work - Our Hope: Ghetto Lodz 1940-5" (L)

Large Vermeil

- A. Ben-David, "Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840-1918" (L)

Vermeil Medal

- L. Fisher, "From War to Peace - the Arab Israeli Conflict" (Felicitations)
- B. Fixler & I. Nachtigal, "Israel Postmarks" (L)
- B. Grosser, "Holy Land - Forerunners" (Mayor of Jerusalem Award)
- Z. Aloni, "Domestic Mail between Three Postal Authorities"
- J. Handman, "Philately and Jewish History" (L)

Large Silver Medal

- Y. Amir, "Postal Story of the German Templars in Palestine 1868-1948"
- S. Berger, "Esperanto Philatelic Catalogue of Special Cancellations (part II) (L)
- S. Ladany, "The Greeting Telegrams of the Jewish National Fund" (L)
- A. Zakai, "Postal Service to the Negev during the Mandate and War of Independence" (L)
- Israel Philatelic Federation, "Shovel" (L)

Silver Medal

- M. Sondak, "Minhelet Ha'am Stamps of the Jerusalem Siege, May 1948"
 S. Blusstein, "Concentration Camps & Ghettos mail and W.W.II Jewish Mail"
 R. Berger, "Nos'on" (L)
 S. Berger, "Lexicon of Judaica: Jews and their Warks on stamps" (Part I, A-C) (L)
 A. Ben-David, "WPC Newsletter" (L)

Certificate of Participation

- A. Citron, "Mistakes in Israeli Stamps 1948-1995"

Out of Competition

- J. Levkovitz, "Revenues of the Holy Land".

Book Review

The Postal Markings of Mandate Palestine 1917-1948 by Michael Sacher FRPSL. (Published August 1995 by The Royal Philatelic Society, London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1N 1PE at £30 plus postage. Hardback A4 522 + xx pages, ISBN 0 900631 30 9).

This work is based on the research notes and published works of the late Michael M. Sacher. He was an avid researcher on all matters pertaining to the postal history of Palestine, from the military occupation in 1917, and through the British Mandate to 1948.

Michael was one of the most helpful researchers, always willing to share his information with fellow students. He was most thorough in his approach, recording not only the postmarks used in these periods and their earliest and latest dates as known to him, but also other aspects. These include instructional cachets, postage due cachets, censor marks and censor labels, meter franks, cachets relating to permits for bulk mail, certified official cachets and others. He also recorded forged marks and it is heartening to see these included. So few reference works on postal history include forged marks, yet it is important to alert students to these.

This work includes 2,800 line drawings or reproductions of marks together with 48 maps and tone illustrations. The work is divided into eight sections, with sub-sections for various aspects covered. The first section deals with the Army and Field Post Offices in Egypt and the EEF. This was originally published as a supplement to *The London Philatelist* in 1970 and is still a standard work on the subject.

The next section covers the postmarks and other markings of Mandate Jerusalem 1917-1948. This reprints the original published work of Michael and

his co-author Emanuel Glassman including revised dates of use known to Michael. Some official post office markings, Government and 'certified official' cachets have been moved to other sections, as have the original listings of registration labels. This remains the standard work on the postal history of Jerusalem for the period covered. This is the most comprehensive account of post office activity in Jerusalem ever published. Section 3 covers Haifa in a similar detail followed by a section on Jaffa and Tel Aviv.

Section 5 sets out Government 'Certified Official' and post office cachets. The original work published by BAPIP had been expanded with additional material. This was the standard reference work on the subject, not having been superseded. Now it has been brought up-to-date from Michael's notes. The section on registration labels used during the Mandate is the most comprehensive published listing and to my knowledge is the first such listing. This is followed by the cancellations of small towns and villages recorded by Michael, the listings for which include forged and bogus marks. The eighth and final section deals with TPO's of the Haifa-Kantara route which changed to Haifa-Rafa in the 1930's. A bibliography and index of place names completes the book.

Janice Sacher and Dr Jeffrey Schneider are to be congratulated for bringing the diffuse research notes of Michael Sacher to us in such easily readable form. This is the first time practically all aspects of the postal history of Mandate Palestine have been published under one cover, and will be most useful to future students, as Michael would have wished. There could be no better memorial to the memory of Michael Sacher, Scholar and Gentleman of the first order.

(Norman J. Collins)



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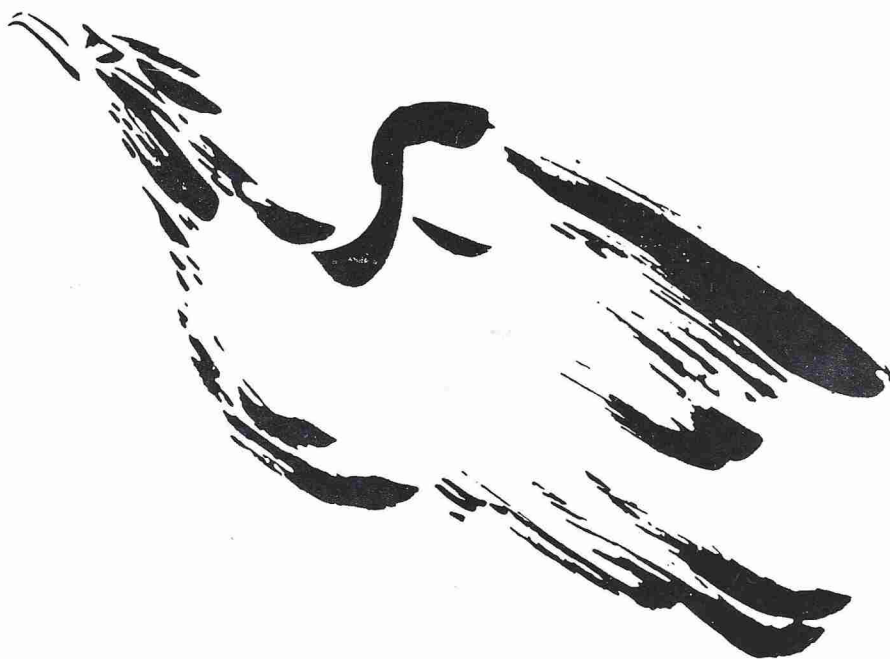
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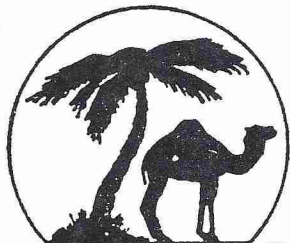


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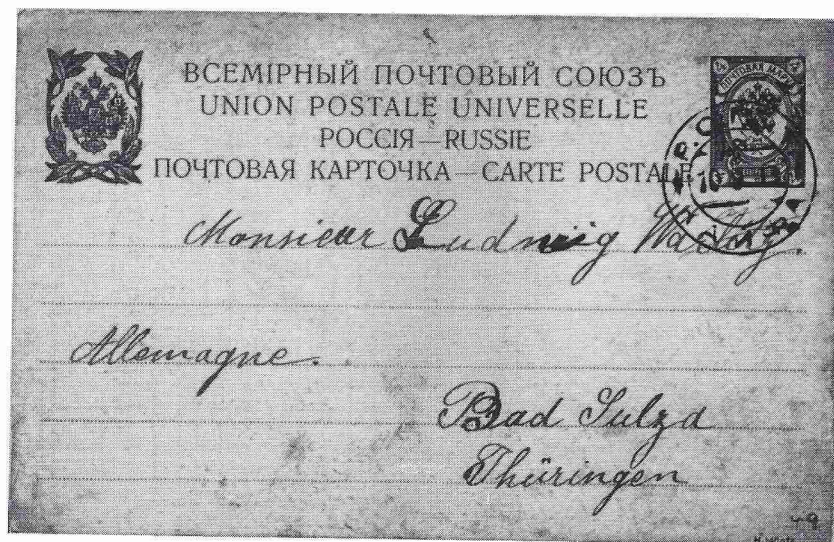
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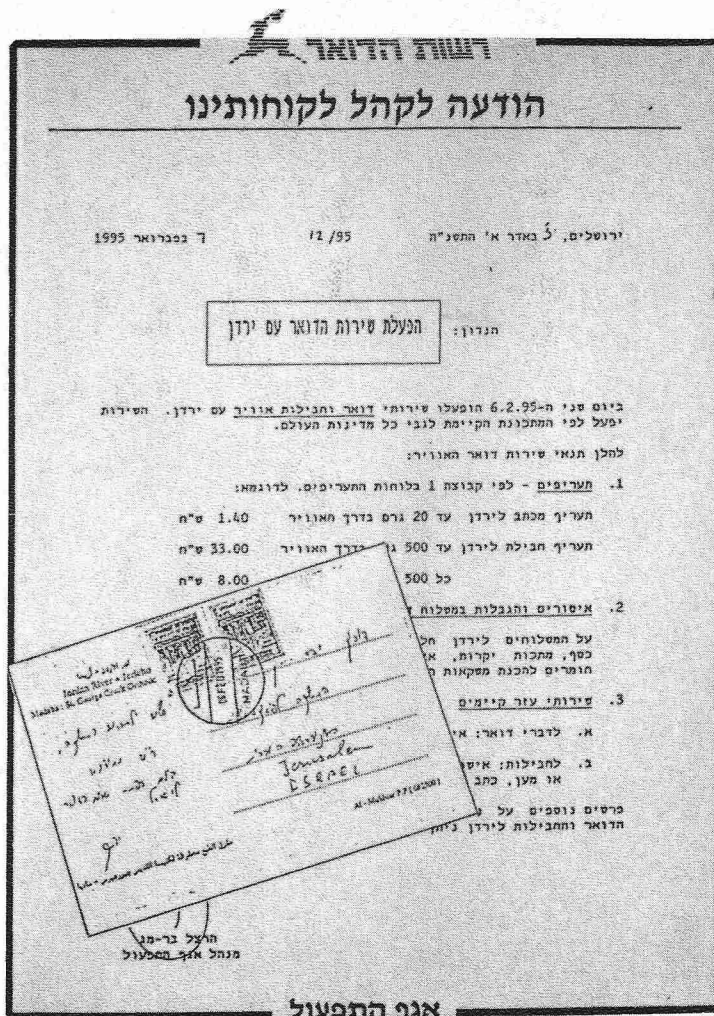


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Public Notice #12/95, announcing the initiation of postal service (airmail) Israel-Jordan. The insert shows a postcard from Madaba, Jordan, to Israel sent on the first day, 6.2.95
(See article on p. 71)

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