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<p>תערוכת ה-40 למדינת ישראל</p> <p>ISRAEL 40th ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION</p>		<p>PRICE NIS 2.40</p>	
<p>תקליטות</p> <p>AGRICULTURE</p>	<p>תעשיה</p> <p>INDUSTRY</p>	<p>התיישבות</p> <p>SETTLING</p>	<p>חניון</p> <p>EDUCATION</p>
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The Souvenir Sheet for Israel 40th Anniversary Exhibition

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 \* H O L Y L A N D P O S T A L H I S T O R Y \*  
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OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOCIETY OF THE POSTAL HISTORY OF  
 ERETZ-ISRAEL

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## C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
<i>The Emergency Mails in 1948: Part C - European Offices (continued) - Ch. Shamir &amp; M. Siegel</i>	723
<i>Two-Period Dispatch and Delivery in Besieged Jerusalem - Y. Rimon</i>	746
<i>The First Days of the Minhelet Ha'am Sorting Office in Besieged Jerusalem - I. Karpovsky</i>	752
<i>More about 1948 Army Postal Services from Besieged Units and Settlements - S. Adler &amp; Z. Alexander</i>	756
<u>Short Notes and Discoveries</u>	
<u>The Ottoman Period</u>	
<i>Some Previously Unrecorded Turkish Postmarks - N. J. Collins</i>	762
<i>The Closing of the Austrian Post Offices - J. T. Whitney</i>	763
<u>The British Mandate Period</u>	
<i>"Army Post Office SZ 55" Discovered - N.J. Collins</i>	766
<i>Tel Aviv or Jaffa or Both? - A. Groten</i>	767
<i>A Mimeographed Palestine P.T. Form - A.M. Hochheiser</i>	769
<i>An Inverted Universal Machine Slogan - A. Groten</i>	773
<i>Additional Information on the Allied Military Airmail in WWII - Z. Berest</i>	775
<u>The State of Israel</u>	
<i>Canadian Military Mail in the Middle East - Z. Berest</i>	780
<i>The First El Al Non-stop Flight to America - Z. Alexander</i>	782
<u>General News</u>	
<i>New Cancellations and Post Offices</i>	784
<i>New Stamps and Postal Stationery</i>	786
<i>Philatelic Items related to "Independence 40"</i>	787
<i>Holy Land Awards in "Independence 40"</i>	791

<i>Additions and Corrections to the Catalogue "Postal Stationery of the Palestine Mandate" - A.M. Hochheiser</i>	801
<i>Book Reviews</i>	805
<i>Overland Mail Baghdad-Haifa: Request for Information</i>	808
<i>Holy Land Auctions' Realizations</i>	809
<i>Advertisements</i>	810

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If you have not yet paid the 1988 Membership Fee (due in January!) please send by return of mail. Your Society needs it! (Have you thought otherwise?) Fees are: \$15 plus optional airmail delivery \$6 (USA, Canada, RSA), \$4 (Europe); NIS 24 in Israel.





THE EMERGENCY MAILS IN 1948Part C: EUROPEAN OFFICES

(Continued from HLPH #32)

Chaim Shamir and Marvin Siegel, Israel

(C) 24 Rue de Convalescences, Marseilles, France: Some publications mention a Mr. Pierre Roger at this address as a "drop" or secret address for mail destined for Israel of mostly English origin. Figures 1-3 are three examples of such correspondence. These letters were posted in late July or early August, 1948. Figures 1 and 3 were sent from England, which had only recently re-established postal relations with Israel on July 22nd. Figure 2 is a postcard from Canada. The first mail from Canada to Israel came by air and arrived in Haifa on August 12, 1948. Figures 1 and 3 have, on their backs, the handstamp of the "S.S. Pan York" (renamed "Atzmaut"), dated October 6, 1948; Figure 1 also bears a Tel Aviv trilingual postmark of March 10, 1949, more than 7 months after its original dispatch! All three pieces had their Marseilles address crossed out and were censored in Israel. Recent findings tend to disprove the suggestion that this address was a secret drop and that "Pierre Roger" was an agent in the service of the Jewish State. 24 Rue de Convalescences was the Jewish center of Marseilles as 143 Rue de Wagram was that of Paris. At this address were located the offices of the Jewish Agency's Chalutz Youth Movement, The Joint Distribution Committee (J.D.C.) and some subsidiary Agency organizations. However, the main office of the Jewish Agency in Marseilles was at 10 Boulevard Cassini. At the Rue de Convalescences' building entrance was an engraved metal plate which read AGENCE JUIVE POUR LA PALESTINE, HECHALUTZ. This organization was an official "cover" for Aliyah Bet and was responsible for, and in charge of, the immigration camps.

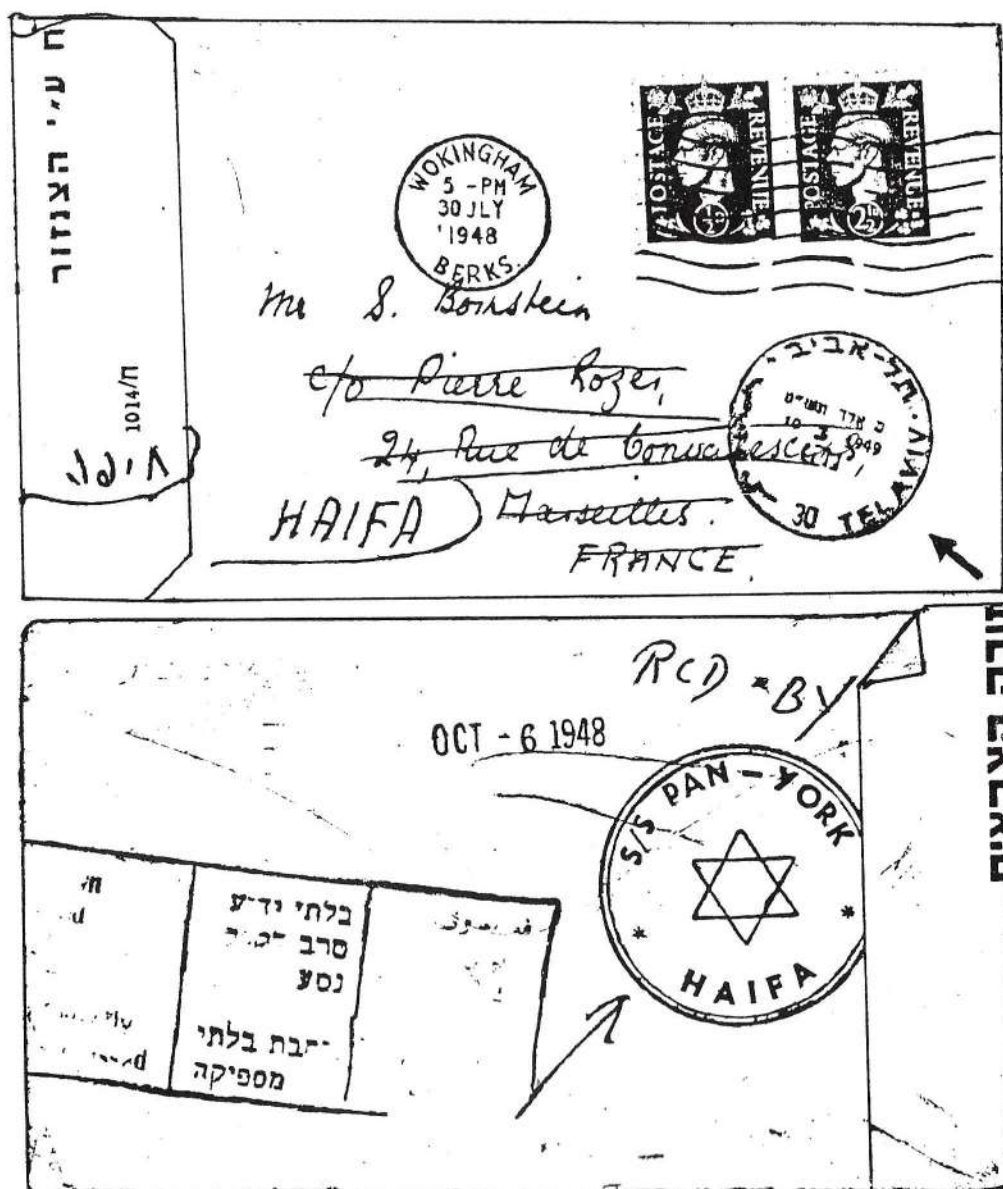


Fig. 1: Cover from England, addressed to S. Bornstein c/o Pierre Roger, 24 Rue de Convalescent Marseilles, France, postmarked Workingham 30.7.48. Marseilles address crossed out, Haifa Censorship and Tel Aviv Arrival Trilingual Postmark of 10.3.1949.

On back: Handcancel S/S Pan-York Oct. 6, 1948 and RCD-BY added by hand; also handcancel pertaining to undelivered mail.

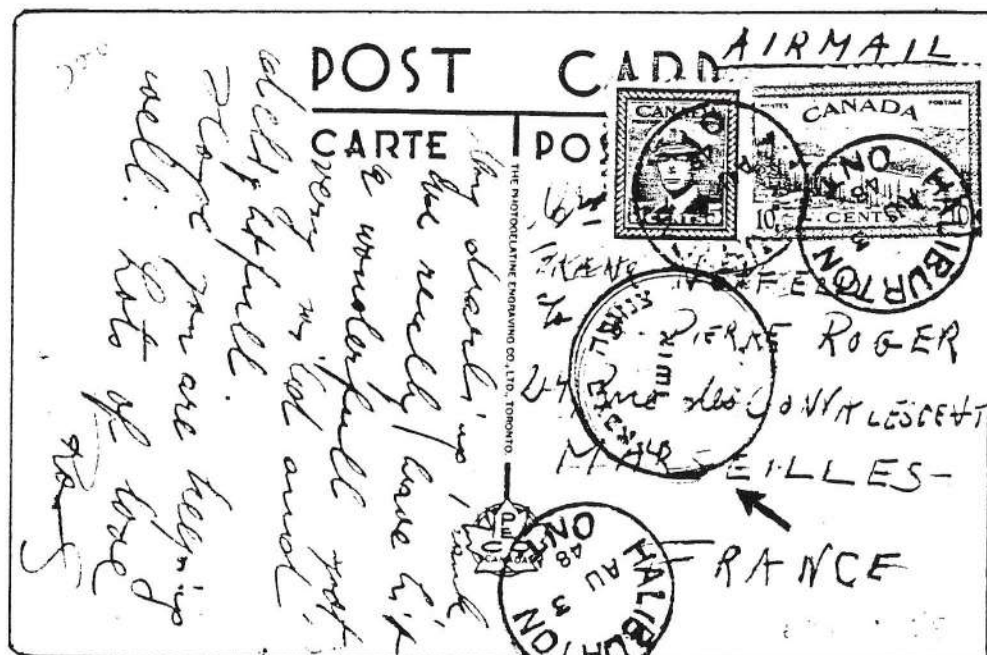


Fig. 2: Postcard from Haliburton, Canada 3.8.48 to Frank Noifeld  
c/o Pierre Roger, Marseilles.

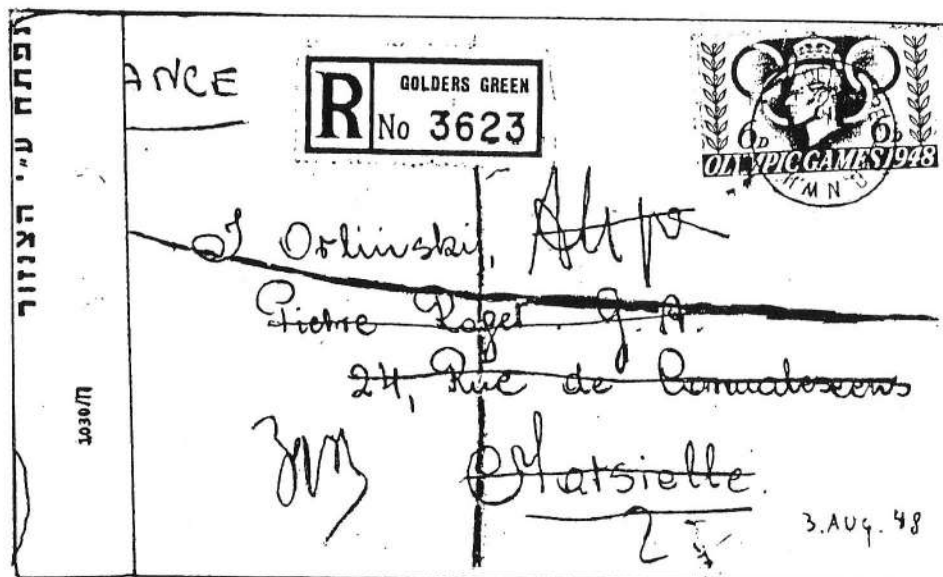


Fig. 3: Registered Cover from Golders Green, England 3.8.48,  
to S. Orlinski c/o Pierre Roger, Marseilles (crossed out).  
"S/S Pan-York", Oct. 6, 1948, handcancel and RCD BY added  
by hand on back of cover (not shown).



The Secretary of the Chalutz office in Marseilles was Mrs. Thea Bechar. Born in Holland, she fled to France when Nazi Germany invaded Holland in 1940. She crossed into Vichy France and hid until the German surrender. Subsequently she worked at the Orphanage of Marseilles's Jewish Community called "Orpege". In 1947 she was "drafted" to be the secretary of the Jewish Agency's Chalutz Youth Organization in Marseilles, due to her vast knowledge, contacts and fluency in French. Her husband, Mr. Abraham Bechar was a Hagana member and a Palmach radio operator. He was sent by the Palmach in late 1946 to Marseilles within the framework of Aliyah Bet. Another wireless operator sent there, was Colonel Uri Goren.

Within a radius of 50 kilometers and virtually surrounding Marseilles were a multitude of Jewish immigrant and transit camps, a few of these even located within the city itself. There was also a wireless station broadcasting and receiving messages from Palestine and later from Israel as well as from the immigration vessels. All Israeli and local Jewish personnel working at or for this Marseilles group used French code names. For example Abraham Bechar's was "Albert Bernard" (same initials). This system was developed to foil the constant surveillance efforts of British Intelligence, which they maintained on these camps and offices to prevent the sailing of Aliyah Bet vessels and so notify the Royal Navy to prevent them from reaching and disembarking their passengers on Palestine's shores.

The establishment of the State of Israel brought great relief to these personnel as the operation itself acquired official and legal status not previously enjoyed. However, all operations systems and procedures were retained. At this time large movements of Israeli personnel to and from Israel commenced. Shlichim and delegates from all political branches, groups, kibbutzim, youth organizations, Palmach members and



European language speakers came and went. Each one almost certainly carried a few letters as a favor to friends and relatives. Every day, at the Chalutz Office on 24 Rue de Convalescences, large amounts of mail arrived. All mail that the French Postal Authorities didn't know how to process (e.g. addressed in Chinese, Japanese, etc.) were delivered to this office. The French Post of Marseilles had unilaterally decided that all of the problematic mail received there belonged to the Chalutz, as it was Jewish and they would know how to handle it. Much mail addressed to immigrants arrived after they had already departed for Israel; due to lack of personnel and facilities, it became an impossible task to find these people for delivery purposes and regretfully much of it was simply discarded.

Immigrants wrote very little so that most of the letters originated from the Israeli or local Jewish staff. Mr. Alfred Miller, a local person, was in charge of administration. His duties included the purchase of supplies, liaison with the other local police and postal services, including that of the staff. All letters sent to Israelis had to be addressed c/o A. Miller. Figure 4 is an example of such a letter written on October 23, 1948 and posted subsequently with a Holon return address. It is franked only with two 10 mil First Holiday Issue stamps cancelled by a Tel Aviv trilingual postmark. On its top right corner was handwritten "Par Avion" and it was addressed to "Albert Bernard, c/o A. Miller" at the Marseilles address. Since Mr. Bechar had already left for Israel, the Marseilles address was crossed out and his Israel address added. It was returned to Israel on November 3, 1948, as per its French postmark.

From information confidentially obtained it seems that Mr. Pierre Roger was the code name of a shaliach from the English Habonim Youth Movement who accompanied a large group of immigrants on their way to Israel. Each immigrant vessel's crew



Fig. 4: A cover sent from Tel Aviv to "Albert Bernard c/o A. Miller, 24 Rue de Convalescences, Marseilles" and returned to Israel.

included at least three Israelis. One accompanied the immigrants and spoke their language; the second was a Palmach Radio Operator and the third was a PAL-YAM seaman to navigate the ship, avoid the British Navy and Arab Ports. Almost all of the vessels were manned by non-Jews with little or no experience in the troubled Mediterranean waters. This explains the mandatory presence of the Israeli seaman.

No evidence has yet been uncovered that would indicate that any flights carrying Emergency Mail originated from Marseilles. Such procedures were obviously judged to be too expensive for the new State.

(D) Jewish Agency, Via Reno No. 2, Rome, Italy: The head of this office was Mr. Arie Oron\*, who later was appointed Israel's

\* Mr. Oron's name was originally "Shtern" and he was so known in 1948.



first Consul to Italy in 1948. The two covers shown in Figures 5 and 6 were sent from there in 1948. Figure 5's cover has

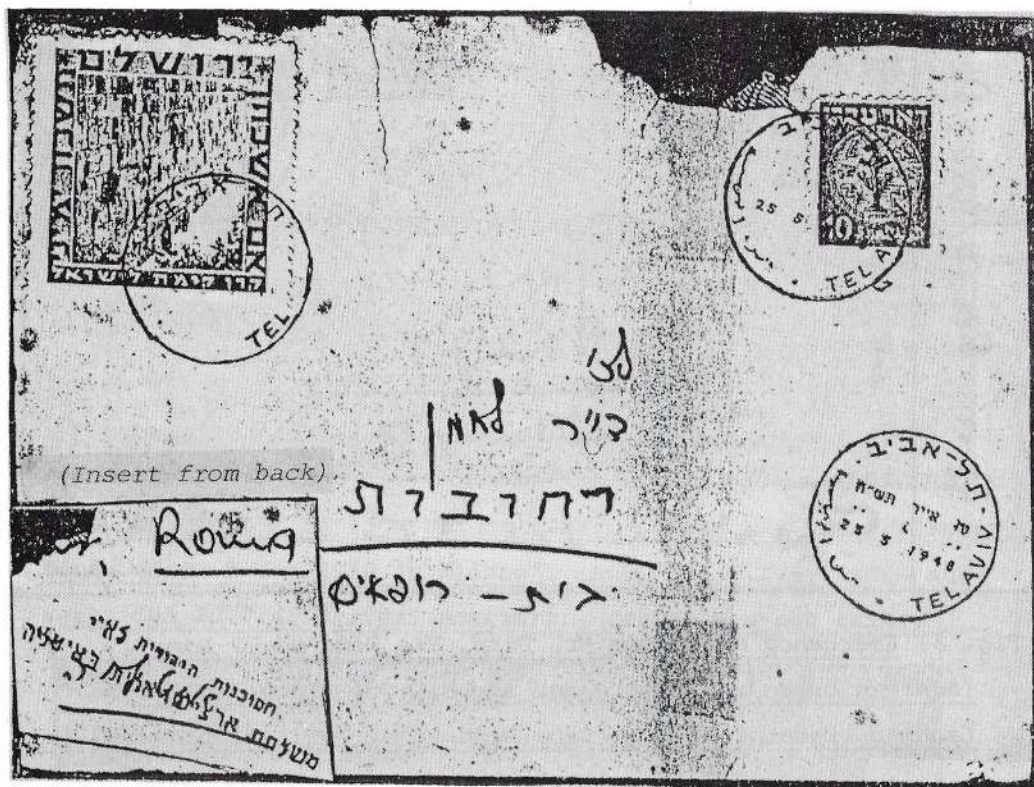


Fig. 5: Emergency Mail from Italy - Cover from Rome with Hand-stamp (in Hebrew) "Jewish Agency for Palestine/Israel Delegation in Italy". K.K.L. and Do'ar Ivri stamps cancelled Tel Aviv 25.5.48.

a weak Hebrew backstamp which reads "JEWISH AGENCY FOR ERETZ YISRAEL/ERETZ YISRAEL DELEGATION IN ITALY". Figure 6's cover was sent from Mr. Ezra, Via Reno No. 2, Rome. Both are addressed to the same Dr. Lachman in Rehovot. They were carried by courier and arrived by ship on May 24, 1948\*\*. Both covers have K.K.L. labels in addition to the usual 10 mil Do'ar Ivri frankings.

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 \*\*See HLPN No. 27, p. 301, for additional discussion of seamaill of this period.

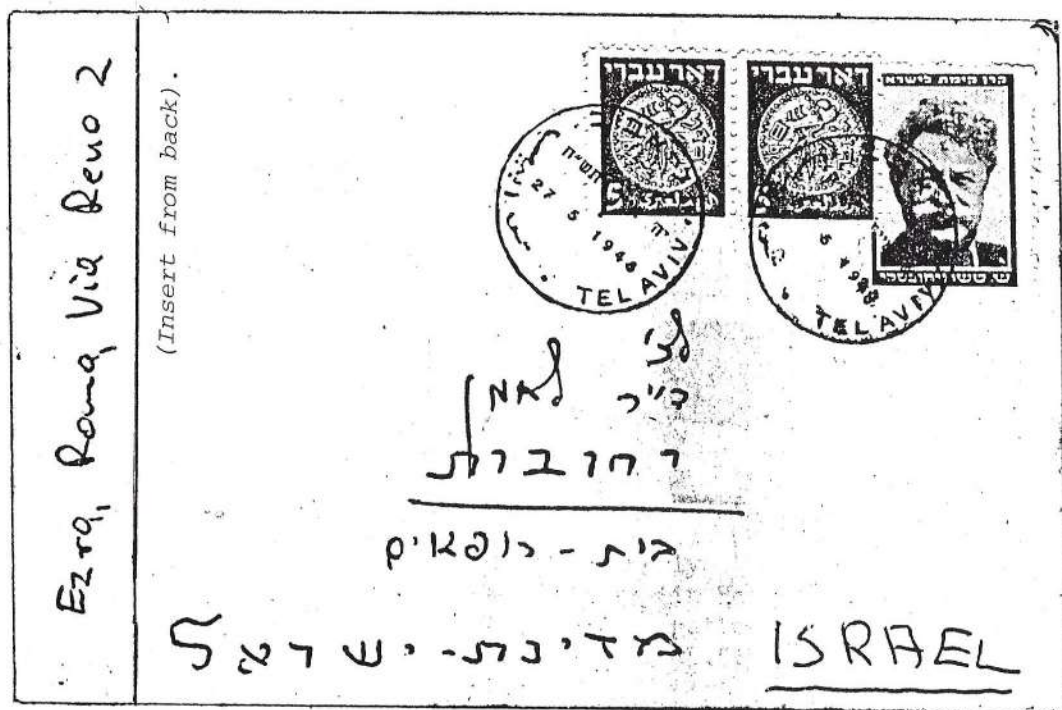


Fig. 6: Emergency Mail from Mr. Ezra, Via Reno No. 2 Rome  
(Address of Jewish Agency and Israeli Consulate) to Dr.  
Lachman, Rehovot. K.K.L. Label and Do'ar Ivri stamps cancelled  
Tel Aviv 27.5.48.

There were also Israel or Zionist Offices in the Italian cities of Venice, Naples and Milan. Figures 7 and 8 are two examples of Emergency Mail sent through the Milan Office. Located at Via Unione No. 5, it was the Jewish Center of Milan, as 24 Rue de Convalescences was that of Marseilles. Figure 7's cover, without Israeli franking, has a K.K.L. label cancelled by a Hebrew handstamp reading 'DELEGATION OFFICE - 2 July 1948 - Milano'. The arrival is a trilingual one of Herzliya, dated July 20th. Figure 8's cover was sent on July 5th and has the same Hebrew handstamp on its K.K.L. label. However, this cover was franked in Tel Aviv on July 19th with two 5 mil Do'ar



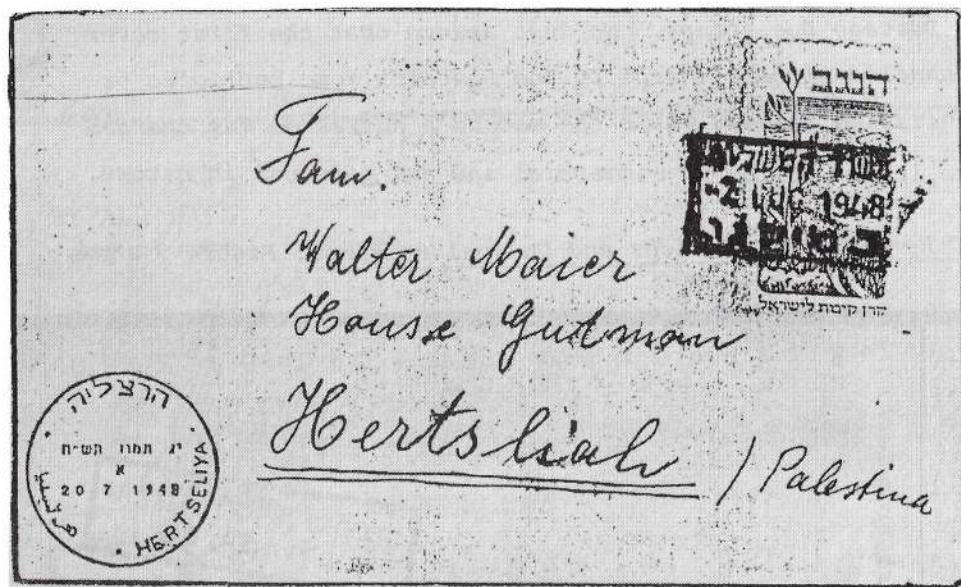


Fig. 7: Emergency Mail From Milano (Italy), sent via the "Delegation Office 2 Iug 1948 in Milano", cancelled K.K.L. label and Hertzliya 20.7.48 arrival postmark. Letter was not taxed.

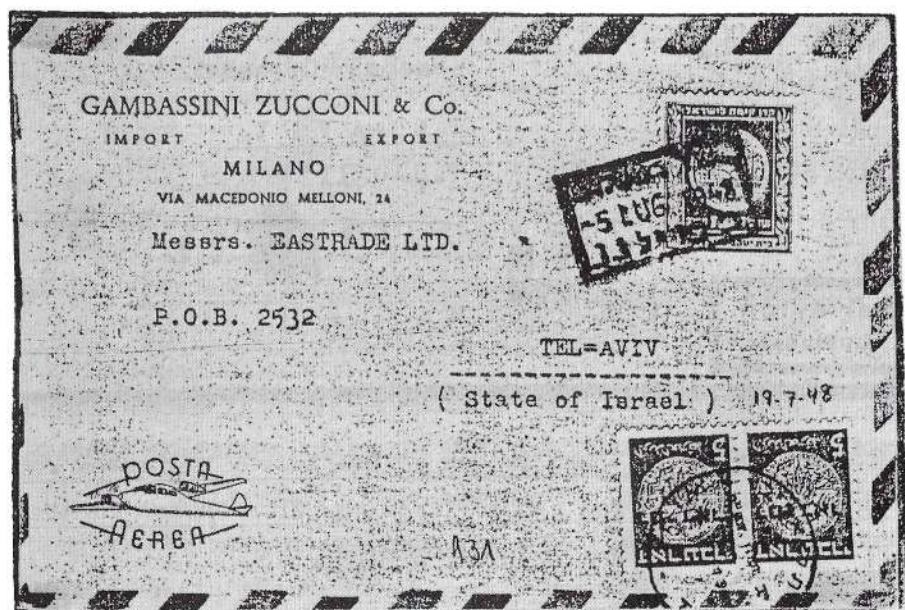


Fig. 8: Emergency Mail dispatched via the Zionist Office in Milano (Italy) to Tel Aviv (Rectangular Boxed Cachet (in Hebrew)). Two 5 m Postage Due stamps cancelled by Tel Aviv 19.7.48.

Ivri Postage Due stamps. We must assume that the first cover was handled without charge by the Post for some patriotic or humanitarian reason, while the second's addressee was charged since it was obviously commercial and not personal in nature.

(E) Other European Offices and Unusual Routings: Figure 9 shows

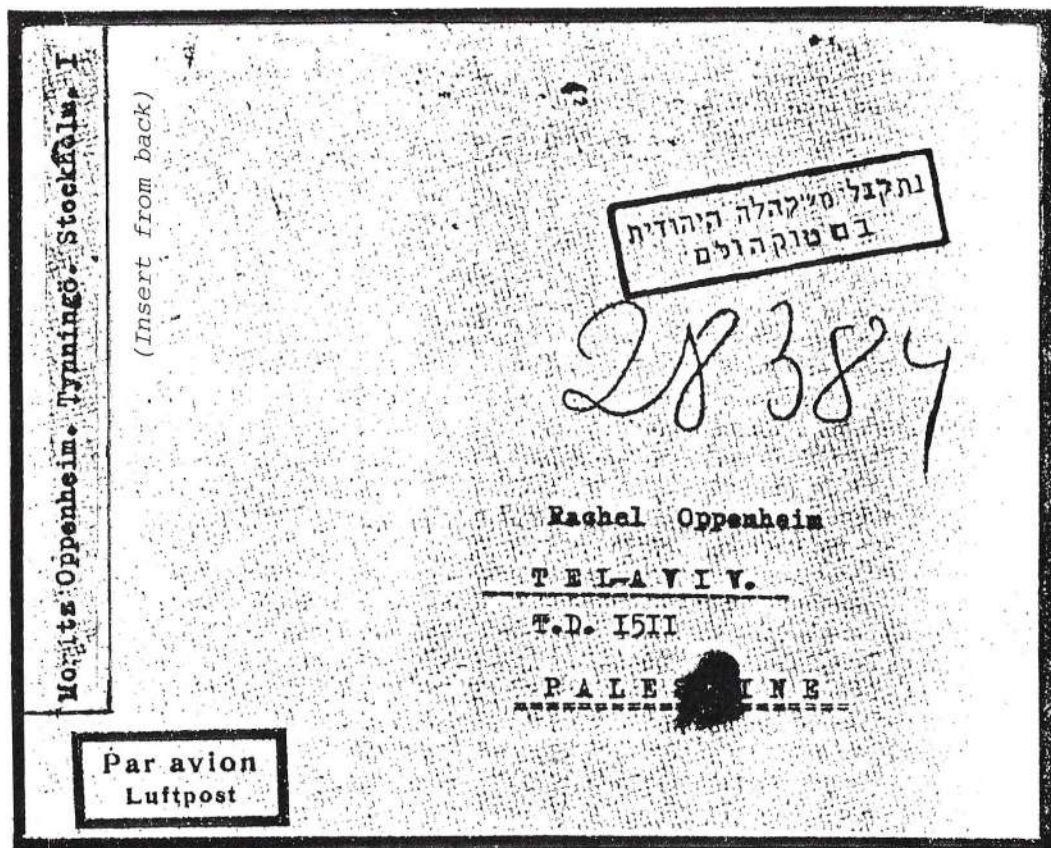


Fig. 9: Emergency Mail from Sweden to Tel Aviv - Unstamped cover with rectangular boxed cachet "Received from Jewish Community in Stockholm".

a cover from Stockholm to Tel Aviv with the unusual Hebrew hand-stamp "RECEIVED FROM THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN STOCKHOLM". Figure 10 is a business letter sent from Malta on July 4, 1948 by air



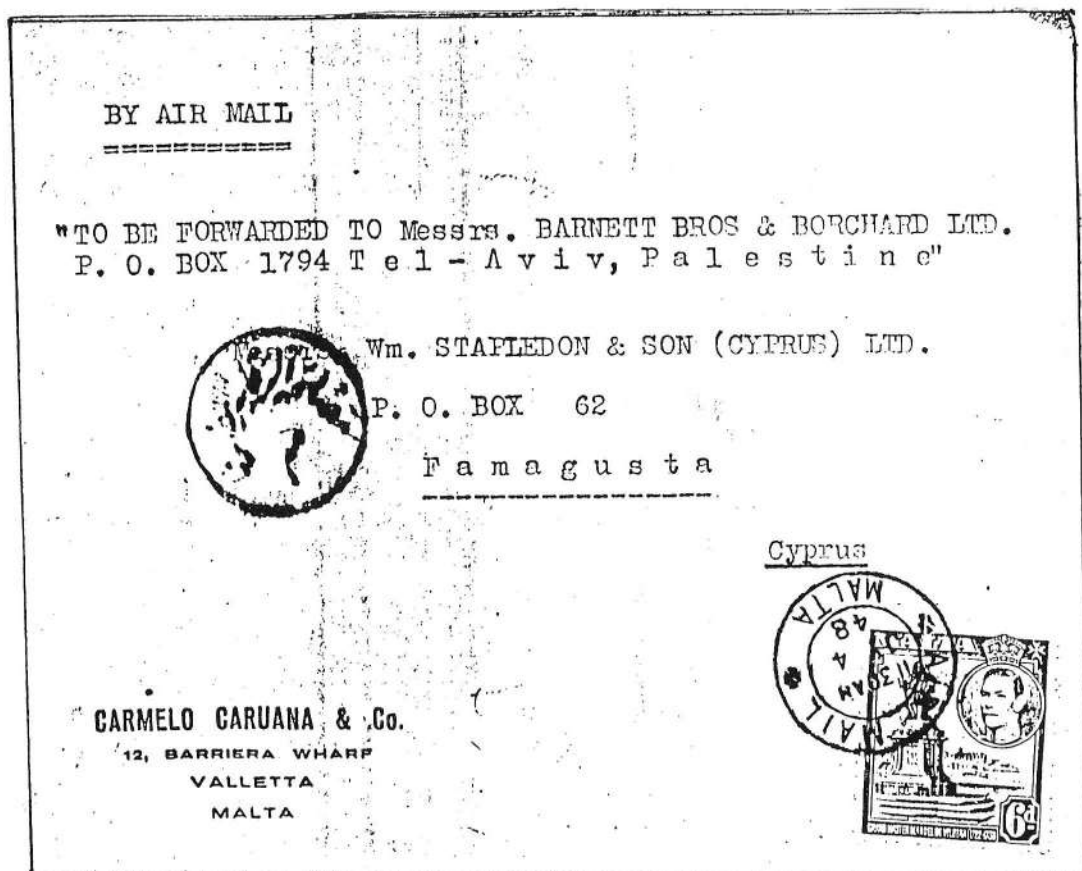


Fig. 10: Emergency Mail from Malta, addressed to a Cyprus firm to be forwarded to Tel Aviv.

to a Cyprus-based firm with typed instructions on its face "TO BE FORWARDED TO MESSRS. BARNETT BROS & BORCHARD LTD., P.O. BOX 1794, TEL AVIV PALESTINE". The cover also has an Egyptian censor handstamp as the mail route from Malta to Cyprus passed through Cairo. Apparently the Malta addressor resorted to his Cyprus contact believing that service existed between Cyprus and Israel, although none existed from Malta to Israel. Figure 11 is of an interesting cover whose return address is Munich's Jewish Agency

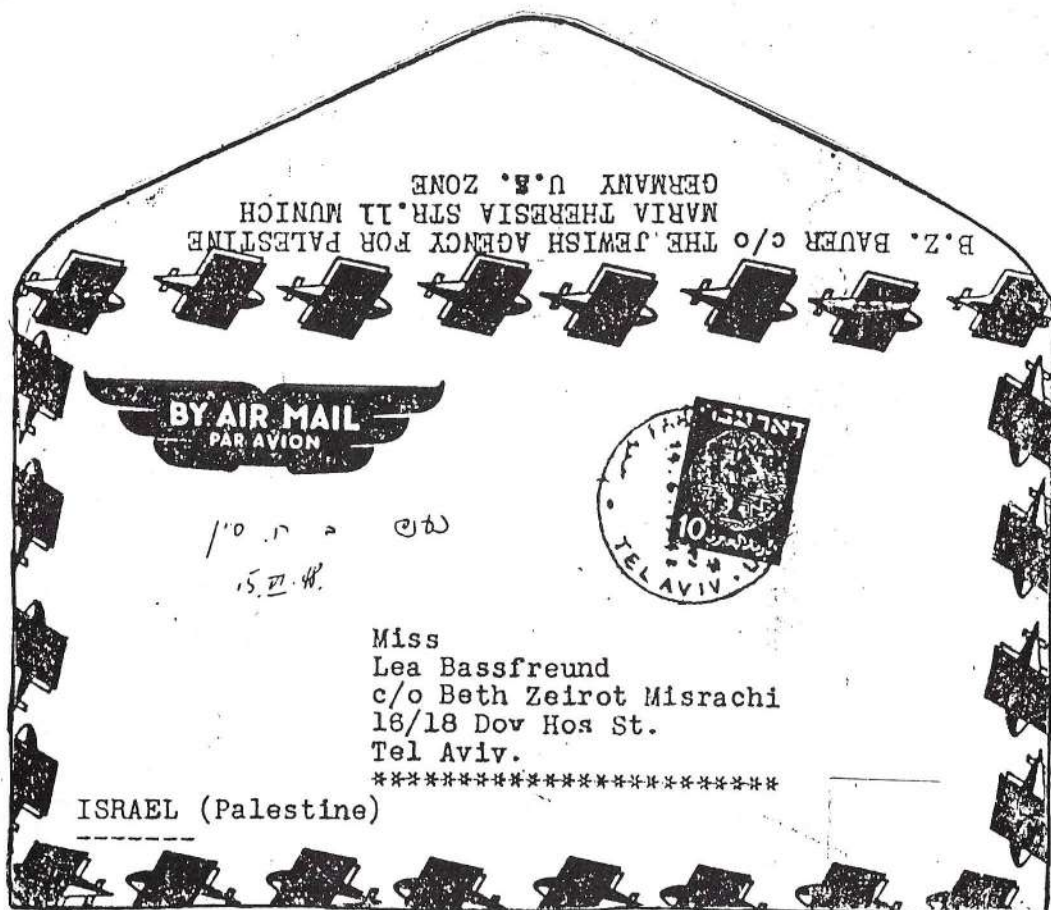


Fig. 11: Unofficial Mail from Germany (U.S. Zone) to Tel Aviv,  
via the Munich Offices of the Jewish Agency. 10 Mil D.I.  
Postage Due stamp, postmarked "Tel Aviv 14.6.48".

Office. It was carried by a courier from there to Tel Aviv, where the Post affixed a 10 mil Postage Due stamp and cancelled it on June 14, 1948.

Many different and ingenious means were used to send mail to Israel. Figure 12's cover from Switzerland is an example of an unusual choice of courier. Its enclosed letter was written on June 2, 1948 to Petach Tikva and mentions in its contents that "a student is traveling tomorrow to Israel and I will give him





Fig. 12: Family correspondence from Binningen (Basel) to Petah Tikva, written on the 2nd June 1948, delivered by courier, franked and posted in Tel Aviv, 15th June 1948.

this letter". It was posted in Tel Aviv on June 15, 1948 after being franked with a 10 mil stamp. In Figure 13 a Swiss cover can be seen originally posted on May 5, 1948. It was returned to the sender with the French handstamp "AIR MAIL SERVICE SUSPENDED". The sender was not deterred: he dispatched it again, this time with a courier, who arrived on one of the CSA flights. He dutifully posted it in Haifa on May 23, 1948, after adding a 10 mil Do'ar Ivri stamp. Figure 14 is a cover first posted in the French Zone of Occupied Germany to Lydda, Palestine, but sent back as per its handstamp "RETURNED TO SENDER - NO SERVICE".

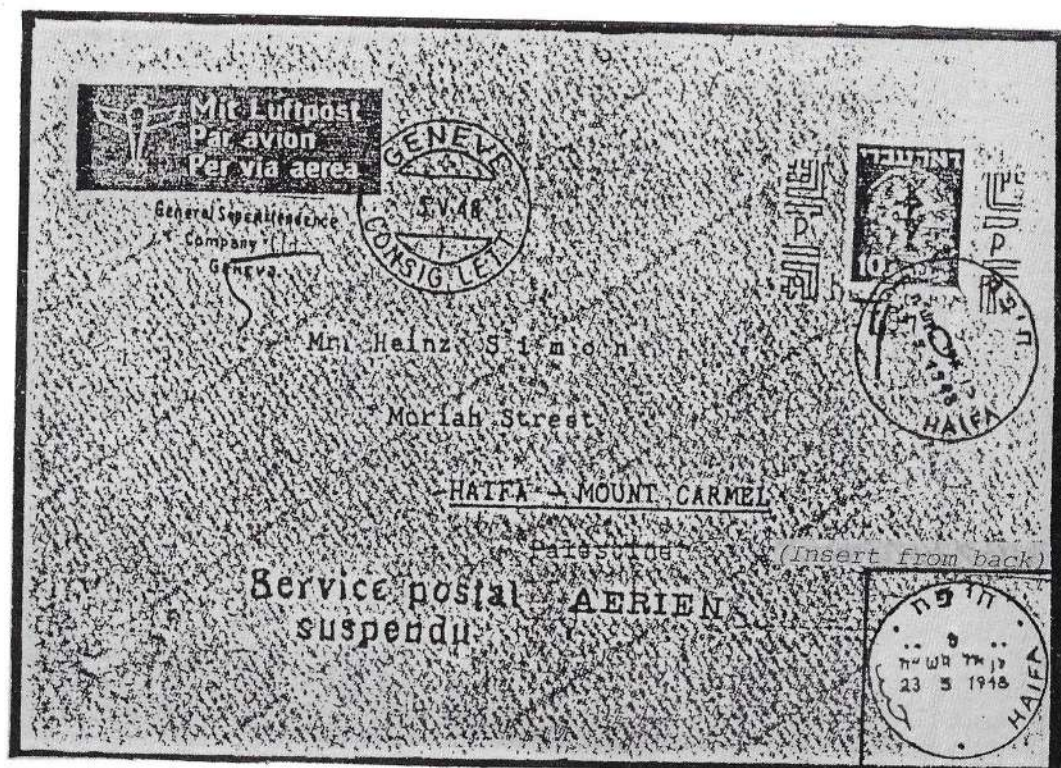


Fig. 13: A cover from Geneva, sent on 5.5.48, returned to sender ("Air Mail Service Suspended"). Retailed with courier and posted at Haifa on 23.5.48.

It was then given to a courier who posted it in Israel without franking. However, the Israeli censor handstamp applied in Tel Aviv authenticates its arrival. Apparently it arrived after July 11, 1948, the date that Lydda was captured by the Israel Army, as it has no other Israeli forwarding address.



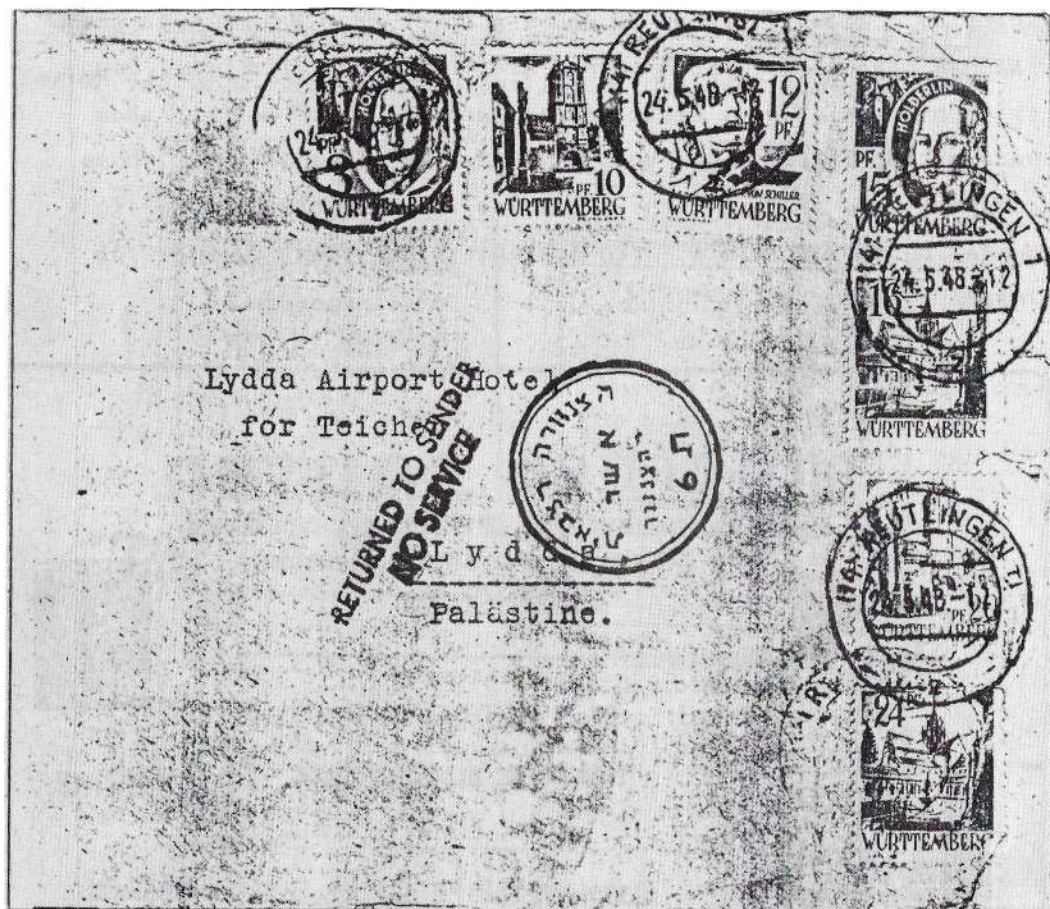


Fig. 14: A cover from Reutlingen (French Zone of Germany) to Lydda Airport Hotel. Sent on 24.5.48, it was returned to sender, then remailed via a courier, posted and censored at Tel Aviv.

The ship Kedmah on its last voyage before it commenced to transport sea mail for the Israel Post, carried Emergency Mail as usual. Covers from this shipment, which originated in various countries, all bear a circular bilingual handstamp reading "KEDEM PALESTINE LTD., T/S/S KEDMAH". This mail seems to have been prepaid to the shipping company since all these letters were posted in Israel with 10 mil stamps apparently affixed by the

shipping company. Figure 15 shows a cover from France with this 'KEDMAH' handstamp. Such covers are also known from other countries of origin, e.g. Great Britain and Holland. Most of them were posted in Haifa on June 15, 1948. One is also known whose postmark date is June 16th. This was the date the "Kedmah" left Haifa, bound for Europe, with its initial shipment of OFFICIAL Israel Post sea mail.

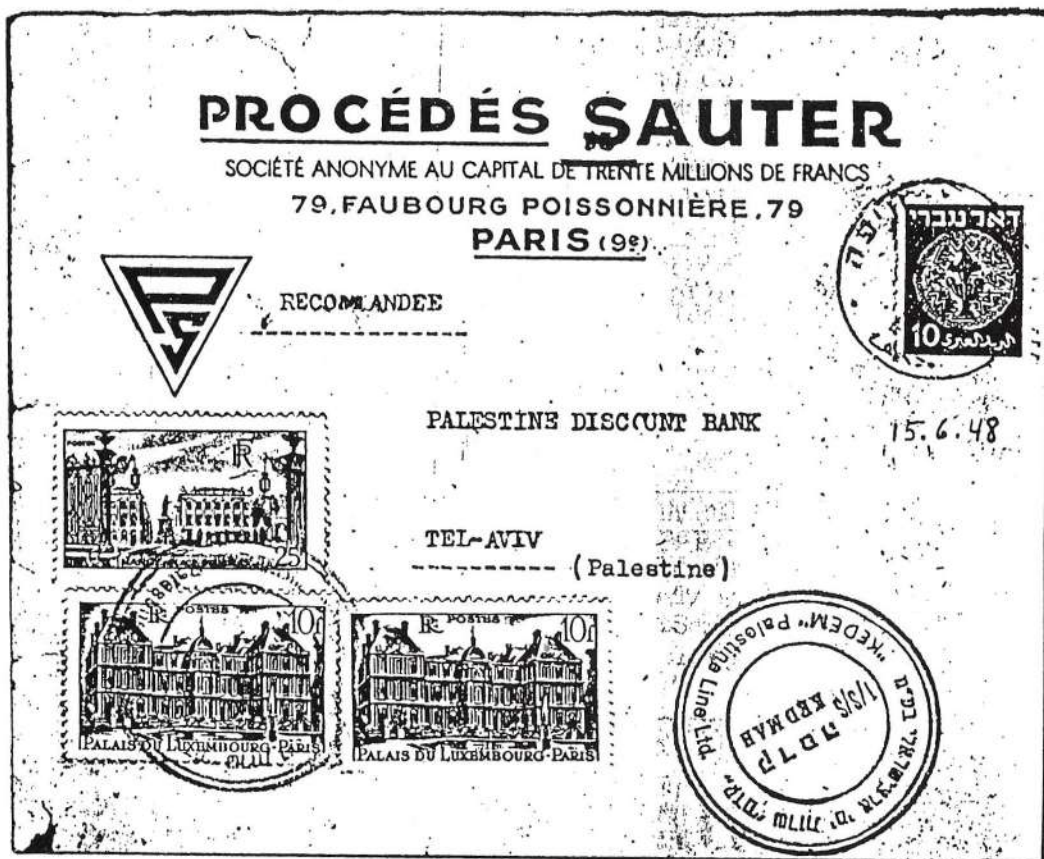


Fig. 15: A cover from France sent via the ship Kedma. Handstamped "Kedem Palestine Line Ltd T/S/S Kedmah". Franked with French and D.I. stamps and postmarked "Haifa 15.6.48".



The three advertisements shown in Figure 16 appeared in the German-language Israeli newspaper YEDIOT CHADASHOT in May, 1948.

<p>ידיעות חדשות</p> <p>יום ב' א' אייר תש"ח 10.5.48</p> <p><b>Eingeschriebene Luftpostbriefe</b></p> <p>nach allen Ländern der Welt, auch MIT ANTWORT sowie 5 kg</p> <p><b>HILFSPAKETE</b> durch:</p> <p>"RECORD" TA, Gruzenbergstr. 14</p> <p>"TRANSORIENT" TA, Har Sinal Str. 2</p> <p>H. Mueller TA, Ben-Jehudastr. 12 Tel. 6338</p>	<p>ידיעות חדשות</p> <p>Sonntag, den 10. Mai 1948</p> <p><b>Luftpostbriefe</b></p> <p>nach allen Ländern der Welt</p> <p>10 Gramm — 200 mils</p> <p>Antwortbrief: 10 g — 100 mils</p> <p>Wir erhalten bereits Empfangsbestätigungen für durch uns abgesandte Luftpostbriefe.</p> <p><b>Transorient</b></p> <p>Ascher Jaakow Co., TA, Har Sinal Str. 2 (bei der gr. Synagoge); Hedwig Müller, Ben Jehudast 12, Tel. 6338. (*)</p>
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... nehmen weiter an:

**Eingeschriebene Luftpostbriefe**

nach allen Ländern d. Welt, auch mit Antwort. Der erste Brief-Transport ist in bester Ordnung angekommen.

Nur durch:

"RECORD", TA, 14 GRUZENBERG STR.

Fig. 16: Various advertisings from the German-language Israeli newspaper Yediot Chadashot during May, 1948.

The earliest is dated May 10th and advertises companies that accept airmail "to all countries". The May 16th advertisement specifies that the fee for such service will be 200 mils for a 10 gram letter and 100 mils for a postcard. The last advertisement mentions that the first letter shipment arrived abroad safely. These mail-forwarding agencies operated in a very simple way. They turned over the accumulated mail destined for countries abroad to CSA crew members. They in turn posted the mail when they arrived in Europe. They were paid for their services in hard currency (US Dollars or English Pounds). These payments were



that the cover was carried by the Czech Flight Captain, whose name might have been "Boner", to Prague for posting.

Possibly the most unusual Emergency Mail covers known are those shown in Figures 18 and 19. The first was posted in Afula

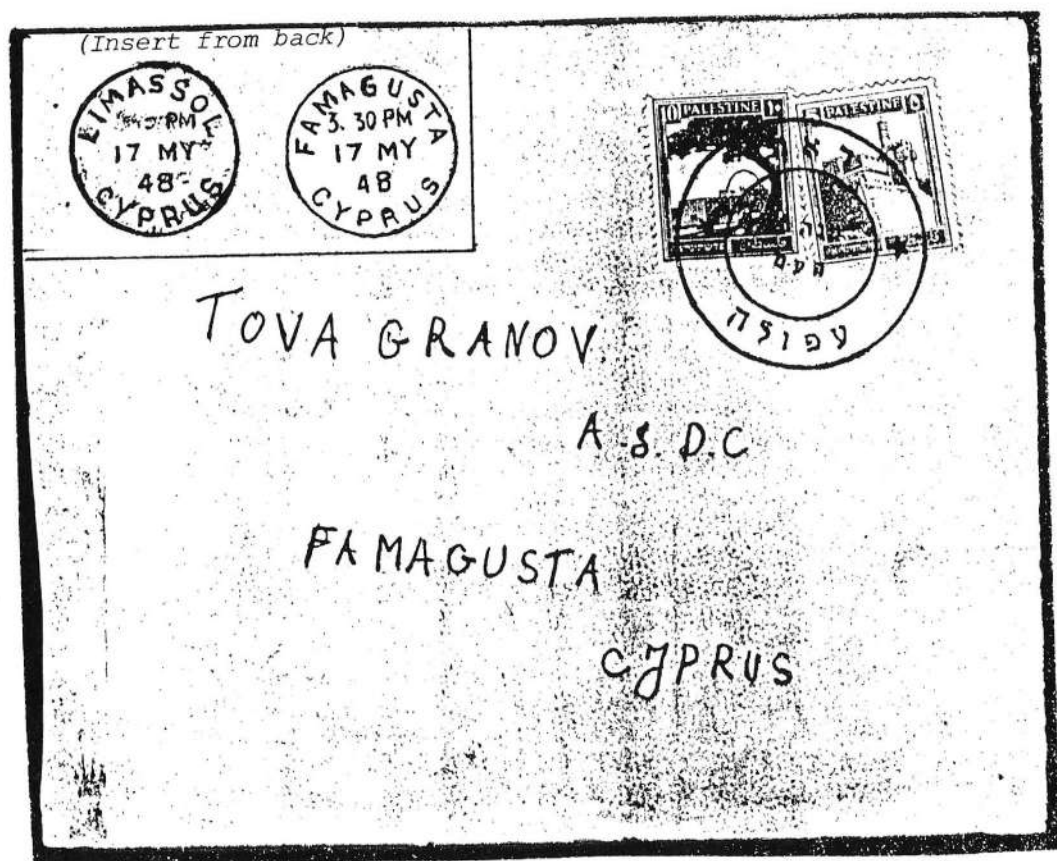


Fig. 18: A courier letter to AJDC Famagusta. Mandatory stamps cancelled by Interim Period Afula handstamp of May, 1948. Transit and arrival postmarks of Limasol and Famagusta (17.5.48).

during the Transition Period, franked with two Mandate pictorial stamps totaling 15 mils. This was the proper sea mail rate for its Cyprus destination. The cover was addressed to Tova Granov,



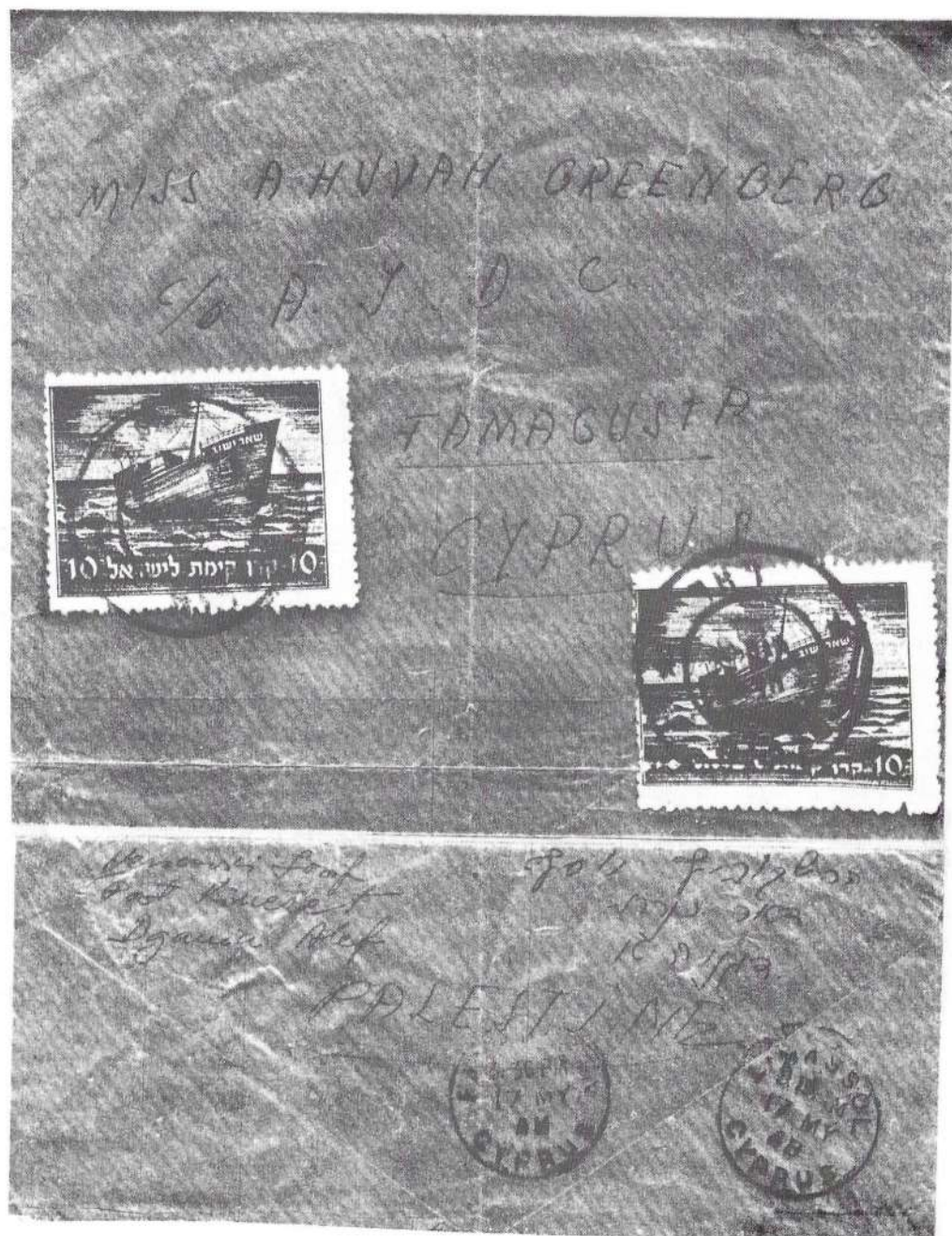


Fig. 19: A surface mail letter from Kibbutz Degania A to Famagusta, Cyprus. Franked Minhelet Ha'am stamps, cancelled Tiberias, Minhelet Ha'am, Limasol and Famagusta, May 17, as transit and arrival. (Courtesy Y. Shabtai).

A.J.D.C. (American Joint Distribution Committee), Famagusta Cyprus. This cover poses the question: Since postal relations between Cyprus and Israel/Palestine were non-existent, how was it carried to Cyprus for their acceptance? The only possible explanation has to do with the Tel Aviv Office of the A.J.D.C. They must have sent it by courier on the return trip of the S.S. Dolores. For details of this voyage see HLPH No. 27, pages 291-3. Once in Limassol, the courier posted it. The Cyprus Post either ignored or did not notice the undated Hebrew postmark and processed and delivered the letter. Of course the use of such a postmark for International Mail violates UPU regulations, which state that such cancellations must be at least partially in Latin letters and fully dated.\* The other example of a similar rarity (Fig. 19) was mailed from Tiberias, the nearest Post Office to Degania Aleph. Thus the dispatch postmark is the Minhelet Ha'am Tiberias all-Hebrew Postmark. The addressee is also someone in the A.J.D.C.'s Famagusta Office and it has the same two Cyprus arrivals as Figure 18. However, this cover is even more unusual in that its franking of two overprinted K.K.L. labels was only legal when used as inland postage. Such frankings on mail sent abroad are contrary to the regulations of the Minhelet Ha'am Postal Authorities and of the U.P.U.,\*\*

Some continued to use the Emergency Mail Services after the establishment of normal Postal Relations because it was generally cheaper, and they lacked trust in the Postal Services. However, by August 3, 1948, the Israel Post could confirm having established full or partial (without registered or parcel post services, etc.)

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\* U.P.U.'s Execution Regulations (Reglement d'Execution) of the Universal Postal Convention, Article No. 192.

\*\* See Annex to Circular No. 1 (Minhelet Ha'am) of April 25, 1948, referring to Foreign Mails or mails abroad.



relations with some 40 countries. This was truly a remarkable achievement accomplished under the most difficult circumstances. Because of continued progress in establishing Postal Relations, the new Israel Post Administration could no longer tolerate interference with their functions by the Emergency Mail Services. Therefore, on August 12, 1948, they published in the local press the following announcement: "Postal Order - Only the Postmaster General is authorized to collect and deliver mail except for certain specific categories. Persons sending mail by unauthorized channels are liable to a penalty or fine of LP 50 for every letter". This message was elaborated in Public Notice No. 51, issued on August 16, 1948 (Fig. 20). Simply stated, the specified

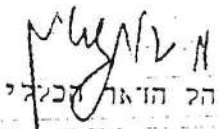
<u>מדינת ישראל</u>	
<u>הממשלה הזמנית - משרד התחבורה</u>	
<u>מחלקת הדואר הטלגרף והטלפון - לשכת המנהל הכללי</u>	
=====	
<u>הודעה לקהל מס' 51</u>	
<u>הנדון :- הובלת מכתבים על ידי חנוות פרטיות.</u>	
<p>מודיעים בזה כי למנהל הכללי של הדואר יש זכות יחיד להוביל מכתבים חוץ ממכתבים מסוגים מסוימים המפורטים בפקודת בתי הדואר וגם זכות יחיד למילוי כל שורות הלווי של איסופם, שליחתם ומסירתם של מכתבים חוץ ממכתבים מהסוגים הנ"ל.</p>	
<p>כל אדם הפוגע בזכויות הנ"ל יאסם בעבירה ויהא צפוי לקנס בסכום של - 50 לא"י על כל מכתב שלגבו נעשתה העברה ובית המספס יהיה רשאי לצוות על החמרת המשפט.</p>	
 מנהל הדואר הכללי	תל אביב - יא' באב תש"ח 16.8.48 בר/חת

Fig. 20: Notice to the Public No. 51 forbidding the usage of unofficial mails, threatening the offenders with heavy fines.



threat in this order was to stop the use of the unauthorized mail services on the payment of a 50 Lira (approximately \$200) fine for every letter intercepted. This was a very large sum of money indeed in those days and testifies to the gravity with which the Israel Post viewed the continued operation of the Emergency Mail Systems. The threat gradually accomplished its purpose. After August the quantity of Emergency Mail rapidly decreased. By October 1948 it was negligible, except from those countries with which Israel still had not established postal relations. From these the Emergency Mail continued, being mostly processed through Paris' Jewish Agency Office.

The foretold Emergency Mails performed a great service at a time when there were no other means of communications with the outside world. They certainly boosted the morale, in Israel and abroad, of the valiant heroes and their families who were fighting for Israel's newly declared Independence.

The authors believe that they have provided the best possible survey of these Emergency Postal Services within the scope of present knowledge. Additional information and research will always be welcomed and full cooperation and acknowledgement is pledged to any and all such efforts.

Acknowledgements and Bibliography: See pp. 638-9 of HLPH #32, in the first part of this article.

TWO-PERIOD DISPATCH AND DELIVERY IN BESIEGED JERUSALEM

Y. Rimon, Haifa

Whenever a transition between two distinct postal administrations occurs, mail items which represent in some form two administrations or even three are of special interest to postal historians. The transition in 1948 from the British Mandate Post to the Israeli Post through the Minhelet Ha'am Post, offers many such examples, most of which are philatelic in nature but some are of genuine commercial use.

In the case of Jerusalem such items can be counted on the fingers of one hand, due to the early and unplanned discontinuation of the Mandate postal services at the end of April 1948, and the long period until the Minhelet Ha'am Post started to operate on 9 May 1948.<sup>1</sup> For some time we believe that there are examples of letters which were, with high degree of certainty, sent by both the Mandate and Minhelet Ha'am Posts. But recently information surfaced which strengthened this belief and helped solve the puzzle of an 'enigmatic' postcard, revealing that it was an item delivered by both of these two postal systems.

Let us first deal with the outgoing mail. A few letters are currently known to be franked by Mandate stamps and cancelled by the Jerusalem S.C. cancellations on 9 and 10 May (Figs. 21 and 22). This poses a problem since we know that the S.C. handstamp was withdrawn from use in the H.P.O. on 23 April. The only suggested and acceptable explanation for these letters is that they were sent between 26 April, the last known date of the Mandate Post in Jerusalem<sup>1</sup>, and 9 May, the beginning of the Minhelet Ha'am Post. When the postal services were reactivated, mail from mailboxes was collected and cancelled for dispatch in the Sorting Office. Since the Sorting Office did not have a Minhelet Ha'am handstamp until May 13th<sup>2</sup>, it used Mandate S.C. instruments as a temporary stand-in. This relates to its later use in the Sorting Office

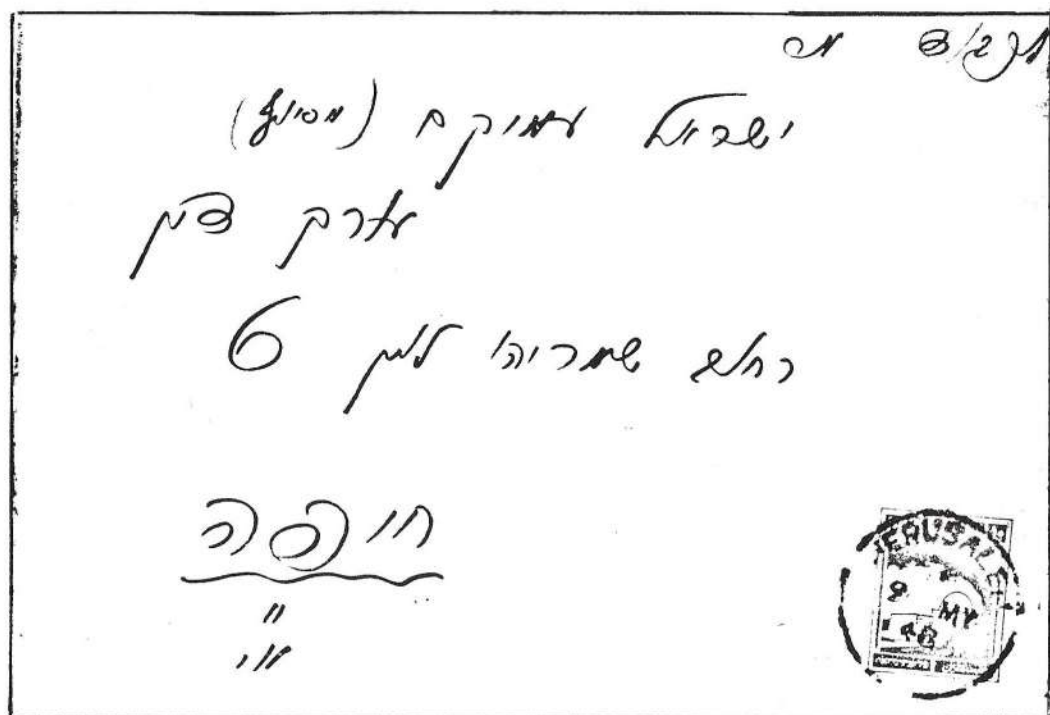


Fig. 21: Letter franked by a Mandate stamp, cancelled by a Jerusalem S.C. postmark (G&S type B14)<sup>5</sup> on 9 May '48.

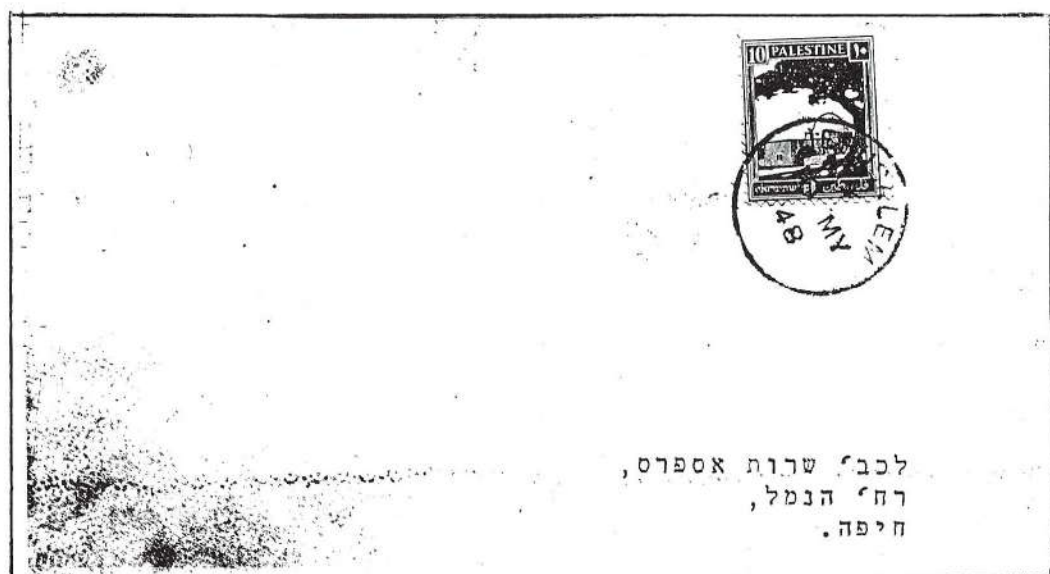


Fig. 22: Letter franked by a Mandate stamp, cancelled by a S.C. postmark (G&S Type B15)<sup>5</sup> on 10 May '48. (Courtesy

I. Karpovsky)



from June 16 to cancel telegrams.<sup>3</sup> But how did it get to the Sorting Office?

The answer came in the recently published memoirs of Mr. Gabriel Stern, who was the resident reporter of the "Al Hamishmar" newspaper in Jerusalem for many years.<sup>4</sup> He describes an anticipated meeting with an Arab friend in the Post Office where he says:

"I gave the postal clerk in the 'Head' Post Office a telegram... At this moment a mortar shell exploded with great noise on the roof of the Post Office.... And if I wrote 'Head' in apostrophes I really meant it, because the Post Office was evacuated from the main building which was then part of British 'Bevingrad', to the one story warehouse of the Silberstein Bros. behind the main Post Office. This was a shaky building which shuttered from the strength of the explosion, and although as far as I can remember the damage was not serious, a great panic broke out and the few clerks and even fewer customers fled away....

The Post Office region was then almost the only place where Jews could meet Arabs...and as for me, I kept there my connections with my Arab friends and also got once half a dozen eggs which were a rare food in Jewish Jerusalem. The approach to the region was very difficult: a very narrow path between barbed wires started in the Generali Building, in which only one person could pass in each direction; it was therefore, nicknamed 'The New Via Dolorosa'. This 'Neutral' zone was stretched all the way to the Municipality Building."

Thus, because of the inaccessibility of the main building in 'Bevingrad', the Post Office was relocated some time in April in a small temporary building outside 'Bevingrad', which was accessible to both Jews and Arabs. Consequently, after the Mandate Post ceased to operate, the Jewish clerks could get hold of the handstamps and some uncleared mail in the Post Office. This

gives credibility to our "theory" and explains the few items of two-period postal services that are known today.

For some time the author has been intrigued by an innocent looking postcard, which was part of a very large correspondence of Prof. S. Yevin of the Hebrew University. The postcard was mailed to him in Haifa on 26 April after they had also sent an earlier letter by Taxi Aviv. The postcard was cancelled by a Haifa D.C. postmark, i.e. it entered the Mandatory postal system (see Fig. 23). As was his habit for many years, Prof. Yevin inscribed on it: "Received 12.5.48/Replied 16.5.48". (Such

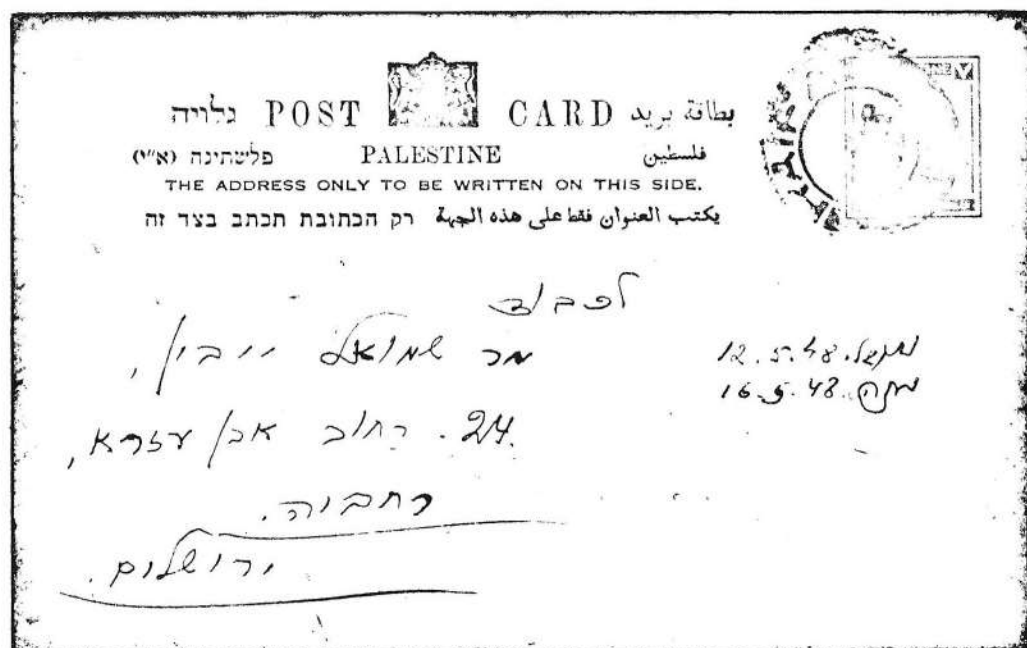


Fig. 23: Postcard mailed in Haifa, cancelled by a Haifa Mandate postmark on 26 April '48. Delivered to the addressee in besieged Jerusalem on 12 May '48.

inscriptions can be found on all his correspondence as far back as 1934, as can be seen in Figure 24). Thus, we can be sure

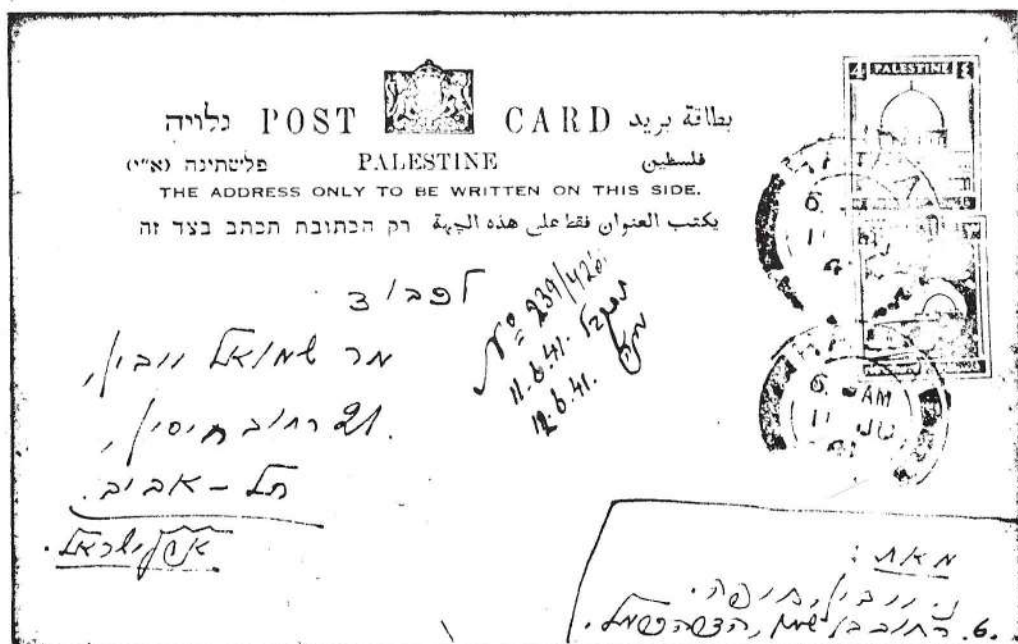
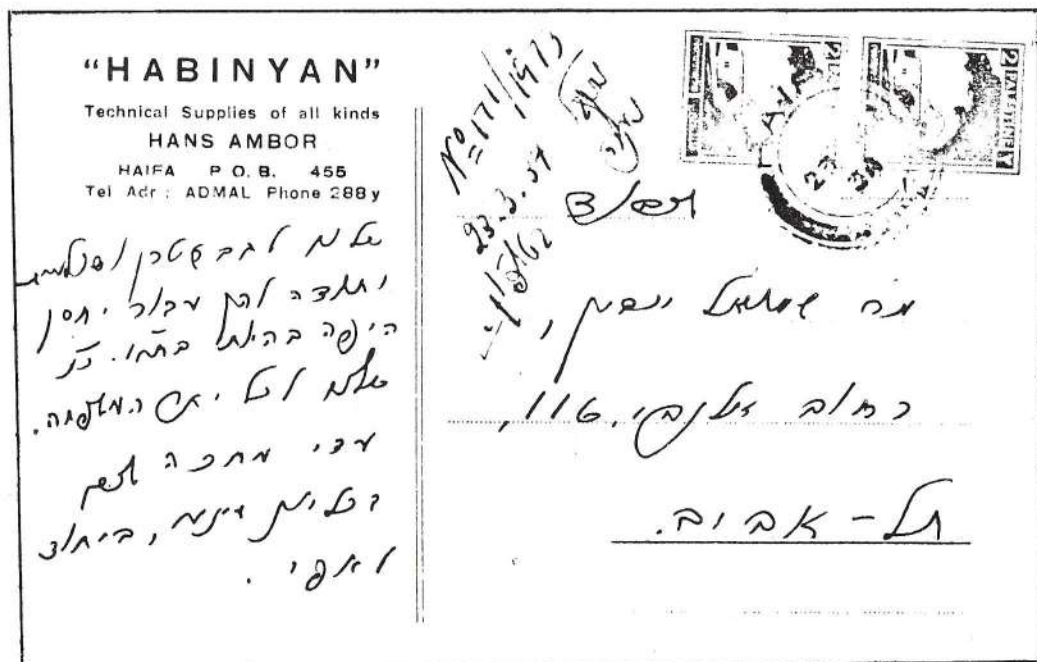


Fig. 24: Postcards received by Prof. S. Yevin on 23 March '34 and 11 June '41 with his handwritten notes recording the date of arrival.



that he indeed received the postcard on 12 May '48. But how could he receive a postcard in Jerusalem on this day, when Jewish Jerusalem was under siege and a postcard which had been caught in the defunct Mandate postal system? The only logical explanation seems to be this: The postcard reached Jerusalem via the Mandate Post but was not delivered. When the Jewish clerks emptied the Mandate Post Office they must have taken also the mail directed to West Jerusalem addresses. When the mail services were renewed, it was delivered and thus Prof. Yevin finally got his postcard on 12 May '48.

These items are true transition items and though waiting 40 years to be explained and clarified, they shed an interesting light on the twilight period of two of the postal administrations in Jerusalem, 1948.

#### References:

- (1) Y. Rimon, "On the termination of the Mandate Post Office services in Jerusalem in 1948", HLPB No. 13/14, pp. 679 (Winter 1983).
- (2) I. Karpovsky, "The first days of the Minhelet Ha'am Sorting Office in besieged Jerusalem", in this issue.
- (3) I. Karpovsky, "The use of Mandate postmarks on telegrams during the transition period in Jerusalem", HLPB No. 17/18, pp. 898 (Winter/Spring 1984).
- (4) G. Stern, "On the terrace of Mousa the red-head" (in Hebrew), Al Hamishmar publications, pp. 35-36 (1986).
- (5) E. Glassman and M. Sacher, "The postmarks and other markings of Mandate Jerusalem", London (1982), pp. 12-16.

THE FIRST DAYS OF THE MINHELET HA'AM SORTING OFFICE IN  
BESIEGED JERUSALEM

I. Karpovsky, Hertzliya

As is known, on the 9th of May 1948 the Temporary Administration in Jerusalem opened three Post Office branches and equipped each with the provisional 'Minhelet Ha'am Jerusalem' handstamps. The Sorting Office, which dealt with mail from the post boxes, mail from the branches and other mail from outside the city, was not issued with such an instrument, due to some oversight; its instrument was therefore ordered locally and was supplied a few days later<sup>1</sup>: it is the well known "Rosetta" postmark.

This postmark was first mentioned by Fluri in his original article in 1973<sup>2</sup> and again in his subsequent handbook. In both he states that the first date of use of the "Rosetta" cancellation was May 11th, and shows a letter sent from the Hovevei Tora Yeshivah with this postmark.

It should be born in mind that Fluri suffered from poor eyesight, and his interpretations of dates were therefore, somewhat suspect. When I had occasion to visit him some six years ago and was able to inspect the particular envelope itself, it became obvious immediately that the date was, in fact, the 14th, with part of the '4' badly struck. Confirming this is the fact that this letter was one of several similar letters sent by this particular sender (see Fig. 25). The Yeshivah in fact never existed; the address was a cover for the Etzel for the purpose of sending its underground leaflets.<sup>3</sup> All of the other known examples are dated May 14th.

On the other hand, there are examples of commercial mail cancelled with the "Rosetta" postmark dated the 13th (see Fig. 26), where the postmark appears clear and without the later known distortions of the inner circle.

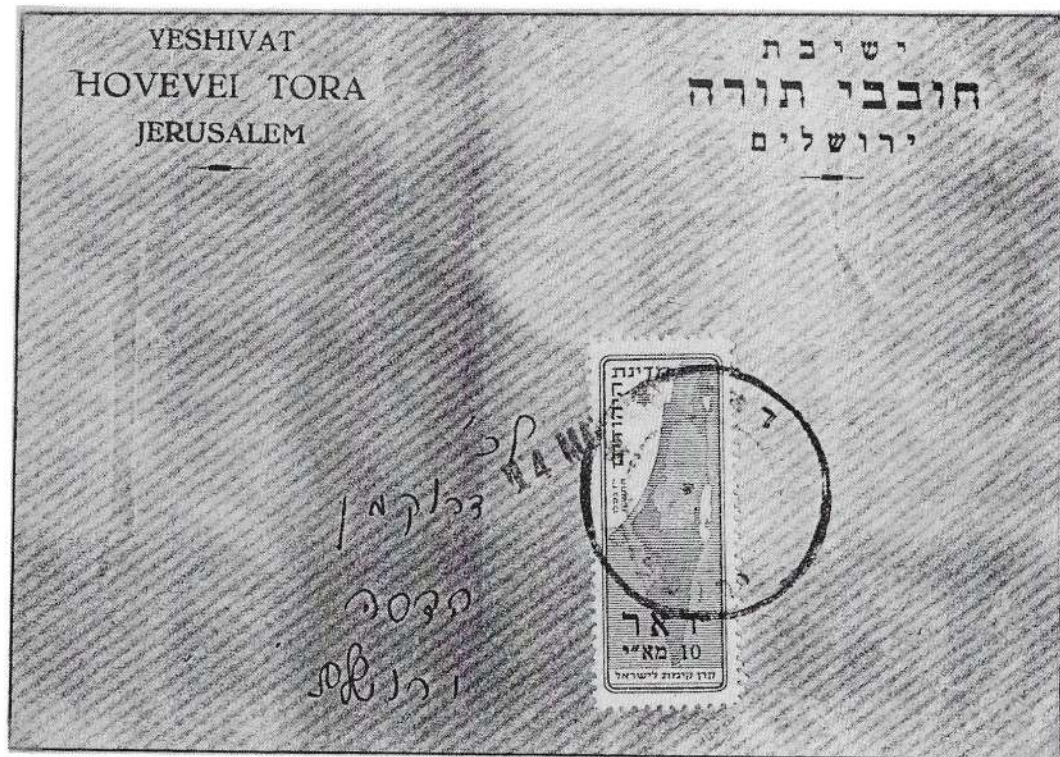


Fig. 25: A typical example of a "Yeshivat Hovevei Tora" cover with the "Rosetta" postmark of 14 May, 1948.

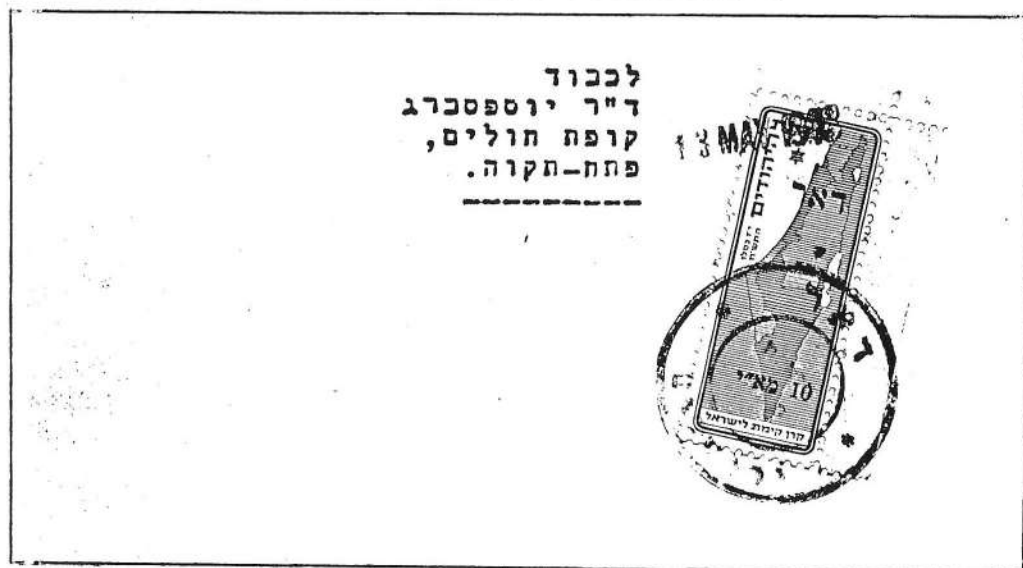


Fig. 26: A typical example of the "Rosetta" postmark on its first day of use (13.5.48).



The question thus is whether the Sorting Office also opened on May 9th? Examples exist in various private collections of commercial mail cancelled with the single circle Mandate postmarks, dated the 9th and 10th of May (Fig. 27 and Fig. 22 of the previous article). The suggestion is that these handstamps were used as a temporary stop-gap until the provisional instrument was received, and that therefore the Sorting Office did, in fact, open on the 9th.<sup>4</sup>

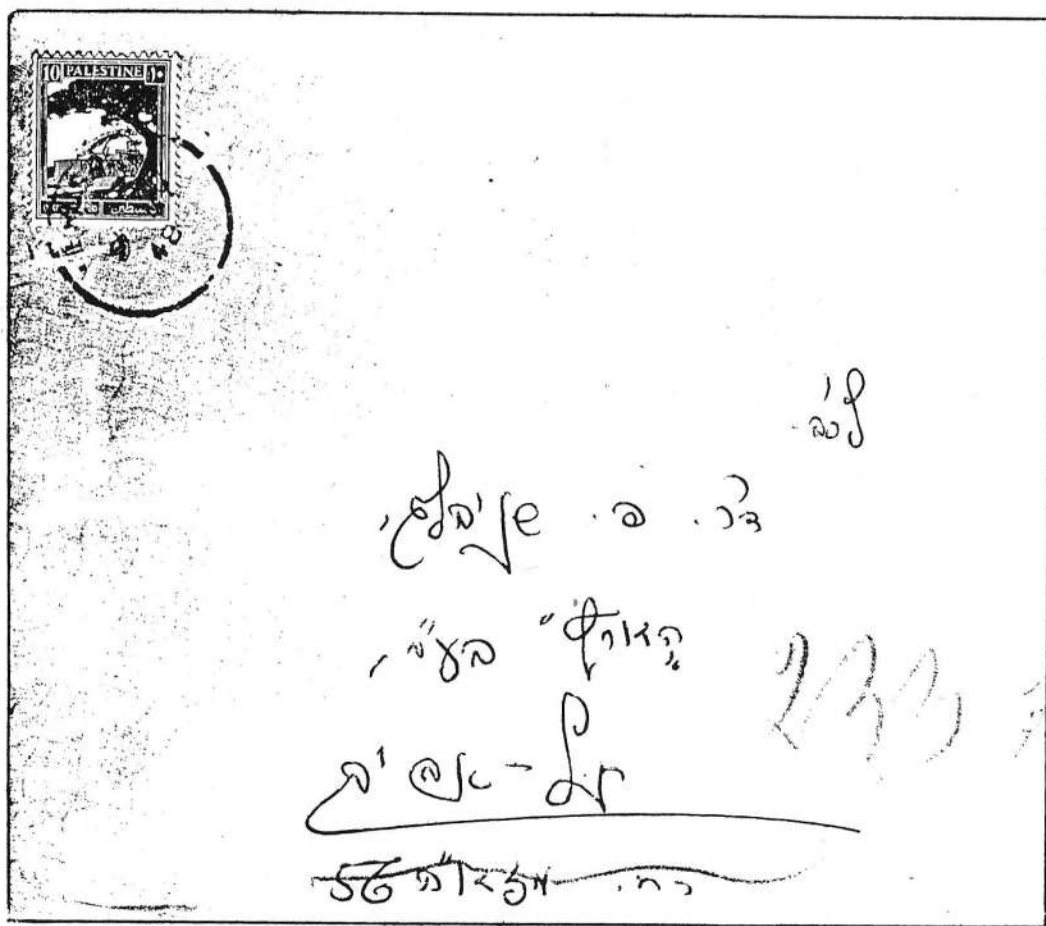


Fig. 27: A cover cancelled by a Mandate S.C. Jerusalem postmark  
on the day of opening of the Sorting Post Office in Rehavia  
(9.5.48).

The earlier postmark, that of the 9th, has a diameter of 26mm (similar to H. Hirst No. 46 in BAPIP Research Section's article<sup>5</sup>) and the later, that of the 10th, is slightly smaller (diameter of 24mm), with a star above the date\* (No. 48 in the a.m. article). After mid June this postmark is found as an arrival strike on telegrams.

It should be noted that these single circle cancellations are found in all cases only on Mandate stamps, and never on the local provisional ones. The reason could well be that these letters were sent between the period of April 26th to May 9th, so that they were "in suspension". Local mail posted between the 9th and the 12th, on which local provisional stamps were used, waited for the provisional "Rosetta" handstamp and were processed only when it was received.

No letters are so far known cancelled on May 11th or 12th. Any further information on any such letters will be welcome.

#### References

- (1) HLPH No. 11 (1982), p. 568.
- (2) E. Fluri, BAPIP, No. 74 (1973).
- (3) HLPH No. 17/18 (1984), p. 893.
- (4) Y. Rimon, article in this issue.
- (5) BAPIP No. 21 (1957).

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 \*Ed. Note: These are most probably Glassman & Sacher Types B14 and B15 respectively.

MORE ABOUT 1948 ARMY POSTAL SERVICES FROM BESIEGED

UNITS AND SETTLEMENTS

Siegfried Adler & Zvi Alexander

Following the excellent article by Tsachor and Rothman in Bulletin 31, we would like to describe two more covers from the besieged Negev.

The first cover which originated in the Dispensary of Kibbutz Urim, was addressed to the Supply Department of Kupat Holim (The Central Sick Fund) in Tel Aviv (Fig. 28). As the

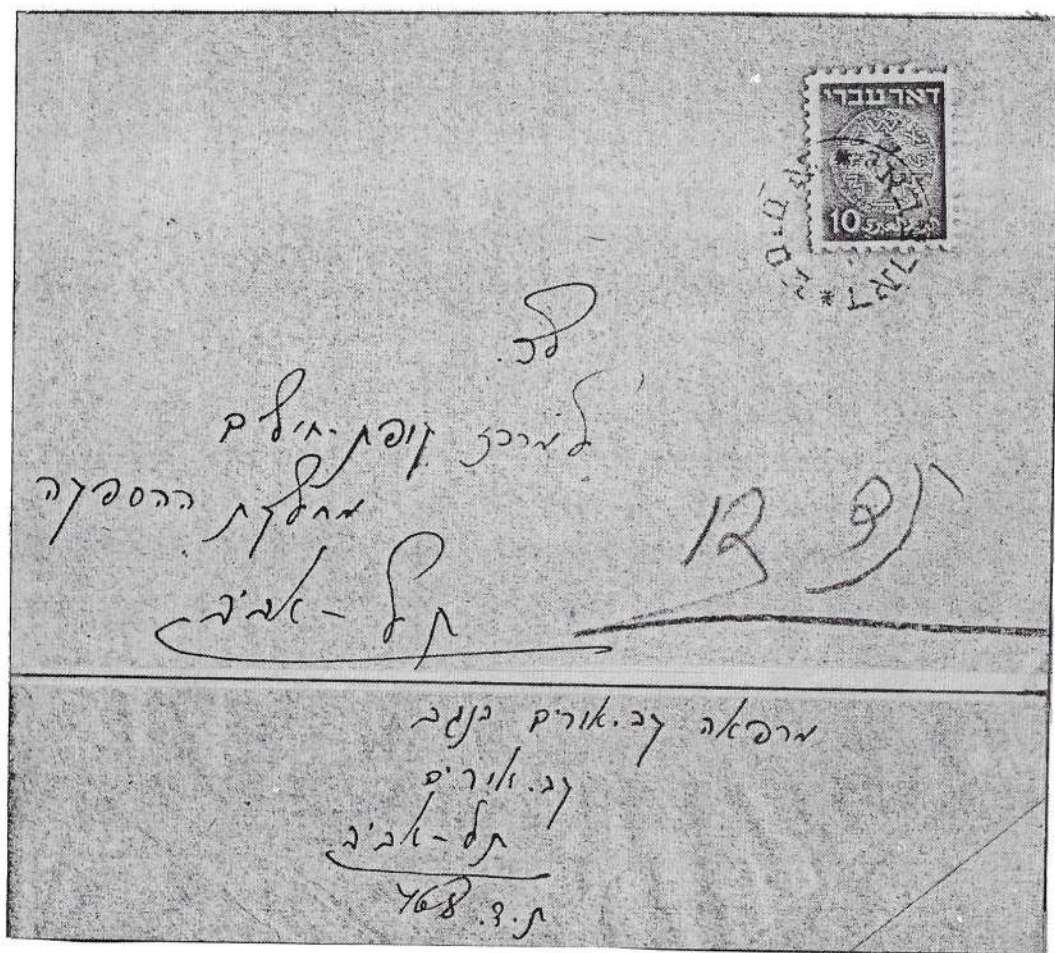


Fig. 28: A flown letter from Kibbutz Urim in the besieged Negev  
to Tel Aviv.



Jewish Settlements in the Negev were completely cut off by the Egyptian Forces (which occupied a line from El-Majdal in the west to the mountains and Hebron in the East and Bethlehem - see map in Fig. 29), the letter was most probably forwarded by air to A.P.O. H.Q. in Tel Aviv, from the Nir Am makeshift airfield.

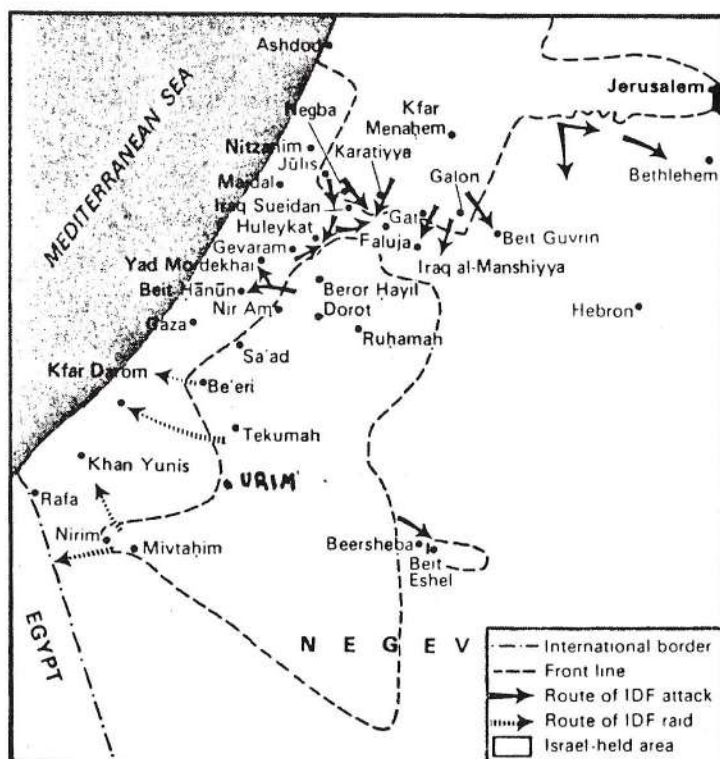


Fig. 29: A map of the Northern Negev before and during Operation Yo'av, 15-22 October, 1948.

Another proof of the letter being forwarded by air is the A.P.O. Base 'A' postmark on the Do'ar Ivri stamp. Had the letter been forwarded by courier or by convoy, it would have been deposited in a civilian Post Office, as it carried the correct

postage.\* The letter arrived in Tel Aviv between 22 and 27 of May, as those are the only dates known when Base 'A' did not use the date slug.

Although postage stamps were not supposed to have been cancelled by the A.P.O., it appears that during the very first days of the operation of the Army Postal Services this regulation was not followed strictly. As with all other Kibbutzim in the Negev, Urim had a P.O. Box in Tel Aviv, number 468.

The cover shown in H.L.P.H. No. 28, page 423, originating in Kibbutz Ruhama and which was postmarked with the dateless Base 'A' postmark, arrived probably in Tel Aviv by the same plane, and all our remarks relating to the Urim cover would apply to the Ruhama cover too.

The second, much travelled, cover was mailed in Tel Aviv on Aug. 16th, 1948, to Tamar & Moshe Gordon, A.P.O. 219/11, which was used at Kibbutz Dorot (Fig. 30). Gordon was a Signal Corps Officer of the Palmach 'Negev' Brigade, which defended the Negev area. His wife, Tamar, is the daughter of the late Dov Hoz, a leader of the Labour Party and the Hagana. Many streets in Israel are named after him and one of the famous Aliya 'B' ships, was named 'Dov Hoz'. The letter was written by her uncle Itzhak Hoz.

Although Gordon's H.Q. was in the immediate vicinity of Kibbutz Dorot, the letter did not find him, and it started its

-----

\*The writers have different opinions as to the location where the D.I. stamp was applied. Adler claims there were no D.I. stamps at that time in the Negev settlements, and therefore the stamps were applied in the A.P.O. in Tel Aviv. Alexander believes that the stamps must have been applied in the Negev, as there was no need by the postal clerk in the A.P.O. to apply such stamps, and furthermore he would not have done it without authorization or repayment. The readers are invited to voice their views on this subject.

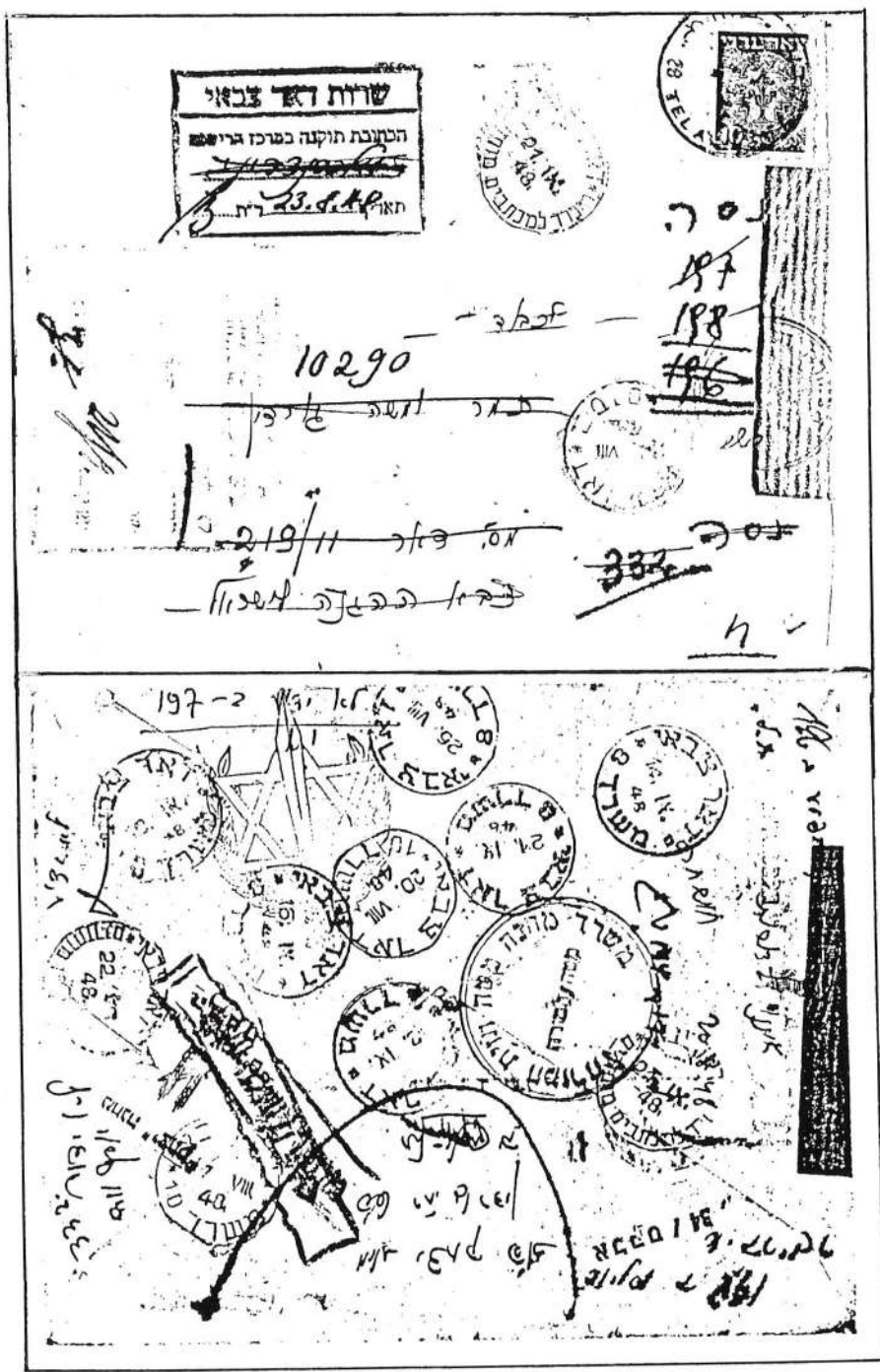


Fig. 30: A much travelled cover from Tel Aviv to M. Gordon in the besieged Negev.



long and convoluted journey. Posted in Tel Aviv on Aug. 16 it arrived, by air, on the 17th in A.P.O. 10 (Ruhama). It was sent back to Tel Aviv through A.P.O. 10, by air to A.P.O. 11 (Returned Letter Office) arrival on the 22nd. The address was corrected by the Registration center (Army Postal Services cachet - 23.8) to Alexandroni (Alexandroni Brigade defended the Central Front). This correction was made after the Army Number of M. Gordon - 10290 - was established in the Manpower Division. (Due to the wartime conditions the location identification was wrong). They therefore started to look for him in the Alexandroni Brigade area, as follows: A.P.O. Base 'A' Tel Aviv 24.8, in transit to A.P.O. 8 Natanya (Serving the H.Q. of the Brigade), from there to F.P.O. 196, serving the 32nd Battalion, back to A.P.O. 8 on 3.9, F.P.O. 197 serving the 33rd Battalion, back to A.P.O. 8 14.9, F.P.O. 198 serving the 34th Battalion Eastern Front Command, then located in Beit Lid (the round large cachet on the reverse). The letter was then returned through A.P.O. 8 on 21.9 to Army Postal Services (the large rectangular cachet), arriving same day, underlined 'Unknown' and 'Returned to Sender'.

Another interesting cachet is the one with the Palmach emblem of the Palmach training Depot 'Itzhak' in Beit Lid. As M. Gordon was a member of the Palmach they probably tried to find him there. We have not been able, as yet, to identify the cachet with the large Star of David, the swords & laurels. We thought that it was of the Air Transport Squadron in Ruchama, but checking with Airforce personnel stationed in Ruhama at the time, we did not receive such confirmation. Can any reader of HLPH help? Finally, there is a censorship cachet on the brown sealing paper, which was probably applied in Tel Aviv.

A general remark is in place here. It appears to us that in all the three covers which carry Minhelet Ha'am stamps,

shown in Tsachor & Rothman article, mentioned above, the stamps were applied by the senders, although some of the senders themselves may have different recollections. The idea that stamps were affixed en route applied only in cases where a private courier bought the relevant stamps upon arriving in Tel Aviv, and affixed them before posting through the civilian mail. The only other place where stamps could have been applied is in Nir Am, which could later charge the relevant Settlement for such stamps. (See also the two different views of the writers on this subject). This does not appear to be the case in the Nevatim and Beerot letters, as Do'ar Ivri stamps already existed and they surely would have been used by Nir Am as the stamps affixed on the Urim and Ruhama letters shown above. Finally had these letters gone through Nir Am, they would have been sent through the Army Postal Service and not through Civilian Post.

#### Bibliography

- (1) Kanner & Spiegel - Army Postal Services, 1962.
- (2) Natanel Lorch - One Long War, 1976.

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# O T T O M A N P E R I O D

## SOME PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED TURKISH POSTMARKS

(Norman J. Collins, G.B.)

Due to the good offices of Yakup Nakri of Istanbul, I am able to illustrate Proof strikes of two postmarks which have not as yet been recorded used. Also for the first time, a full strike of the NABLOUS - CAIFFA T.P.O. (Steichele 55/01) is shown (Fig. 31):

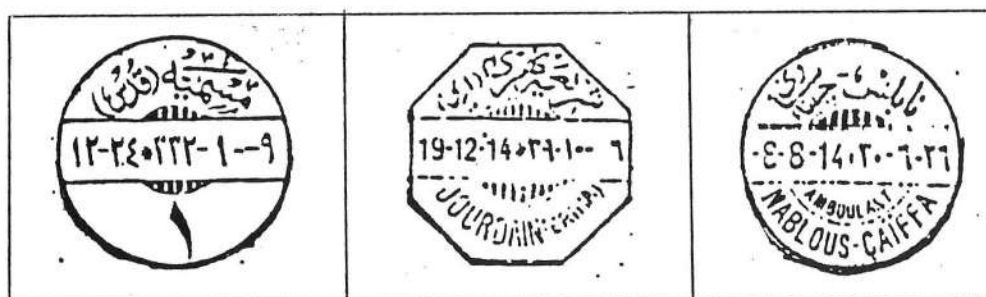


Fig. 31: Some newly recorded Ottoman postmarks of the Holyland.

- (1) All Arabic pmk for MISAMIYE (KUDUS) with number 1 at foot (KUDUS = JERUSALEM).
- (2) Octagonal postmark reading JOURDAIN (ERIHA), dated 19-12-14.
- (3) NABLOUS - CAIFFA T.P.O., dated 8-8-14.

Recently Joseph Wofchuck of New York sent me a most interesting cover posted in Gaza on 6th March 1915, which had an unrecorded negative seal cachet (Fig. 32). As Yakup can read the old Turkish script, I asked him to translate it. The result



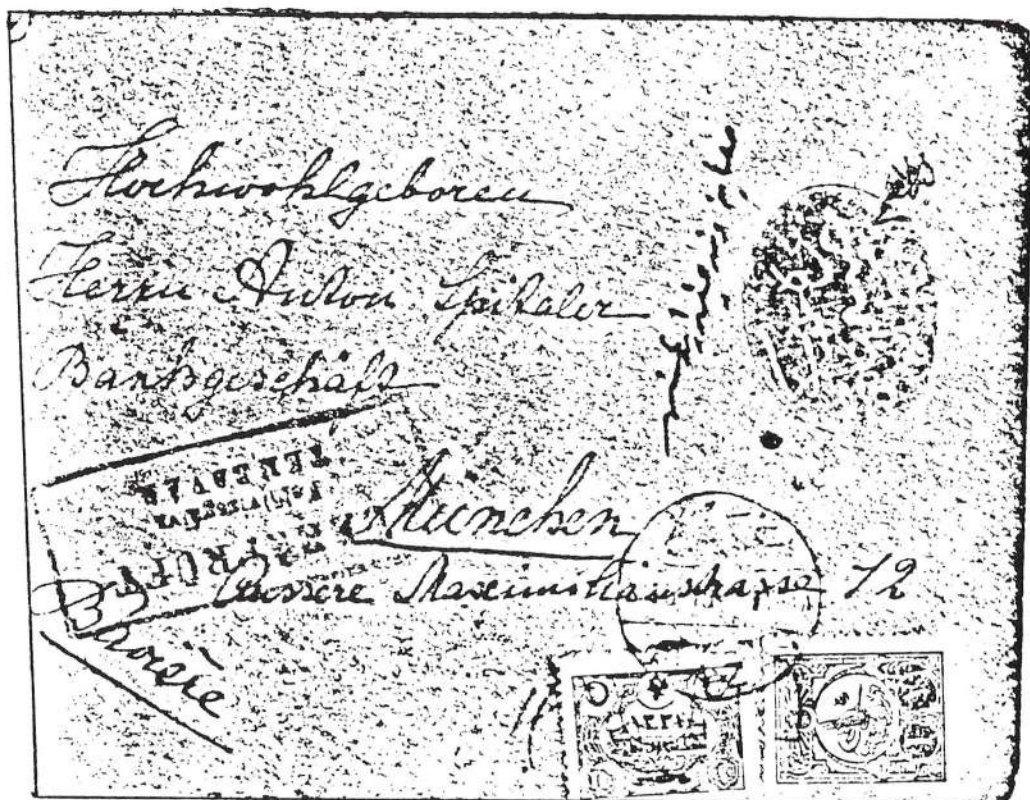


Fig. 32: A 1915 cover from Gaza with a Turkish negative seal cachet "Gaza Military Hospital Health Centre".

of his examination was that the seal reads: GAZA ASKERI HASTAHANESI SER TABIBI = GAZA MILITARY HOSPITAL HEALTH CENTRE.

I am grateful to Yakup Nakri both for supplying copies of the Proof postmarks from his own research archive and also for his continuing help with translations. I would also like to give my thanks to Joseph Wofchuck for the illustration of his important cover.

#### THE CLOSING OF THE AUSTRIAN POST OFFICES

(J.T. Whitney, G.B.)

The Austrian Post Offices in the Holy Land closed on September 30, 1914 after the outbreak of the War, thereby

ending the busiest of the Foreign Post Offices. The illustration shows an official form the back of which has been used as a last day souvenir (Fig. 33). The stamp is cancelled with

14. 9. 1914

10

JERUSALEM  
30. 9. 14  
POST

Laurent v. la fermier  
du Bureau de Poste Autrichienne  
le 30. septembre 1914

M

Wird erſucht bei dem k. k. öſterr. Poſtamt beſuch  
Est prie de se présenter au bureau des postes  
Empfangnahme von . . . . . Sendung vorzuſprechen.  
I. R. Autrichiennes pour y retirer . . . . .

Pi . . . . . pa

Jerusalem am:  
Jerusalem le:

K. K. Oesterr. Postamt.

Fig. 33: A last day souvenir (30.9.1914) of the Austrian P.O. in Jerusalem on the back of a P.O. form.

the Jerusalem "a" datestamp for 30.IX.14, beneath which is written "Souvenir de la fermeture du Bureau de Poste Austri-  
chienne le 30 Septembre 1914". Along the side is written in  
pencil "la grande guerre a éclatée le 4 Août 1914".

The Bulletin of the Holy Land Postal History Society (Vol. II, No. 28, page 408) showed a proof strike of the similar Jaffa double circle, code 'C'. It was sent from Constantinople on 19.VI.14 and Muentz notes, "...there is no proof that the instru-  
ment arrived in Jaffa and was put into service before the closing date..." The two pieces illustrated (Fig. 34) show that it was

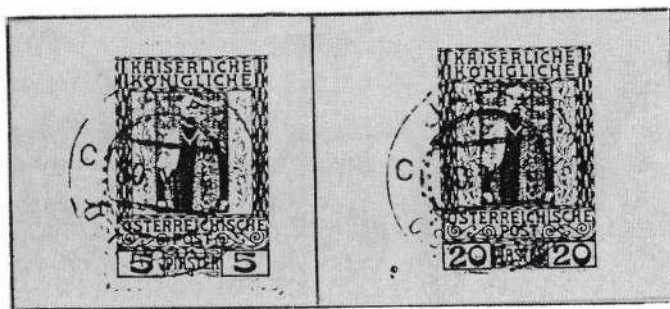


Fig. 34: Two cutouts with the rare Austrian postmark "Jaffa C"  
of 30 September, 1914.

received and in use by the closing date, 30.IX.14. Both are  
clearly legible "Jaffa C", though the dark colours of the stamps  
makes photocopies difficult. These are the first recorded strikes  
of what must be a very short lived instrument.



BRITISH MANDATE PERIOD

"ARMY POST OFFICE SZ 55" DISCOVERED

(N.J. Collins, G.B.)

None of the main authorities record examples of A.P.O. SZ 55, but on page 76 of "THE BRIEF HISTORY OF THE ADVANCE OF THE E.E.F." this A.P.O. is listed amongst those for G.H.Q. Lines of Communications, Postal Units.

In July 1987, I acquired at a Stamp Bourse the card illustrated (Fig. 35) and though the postmark number (first

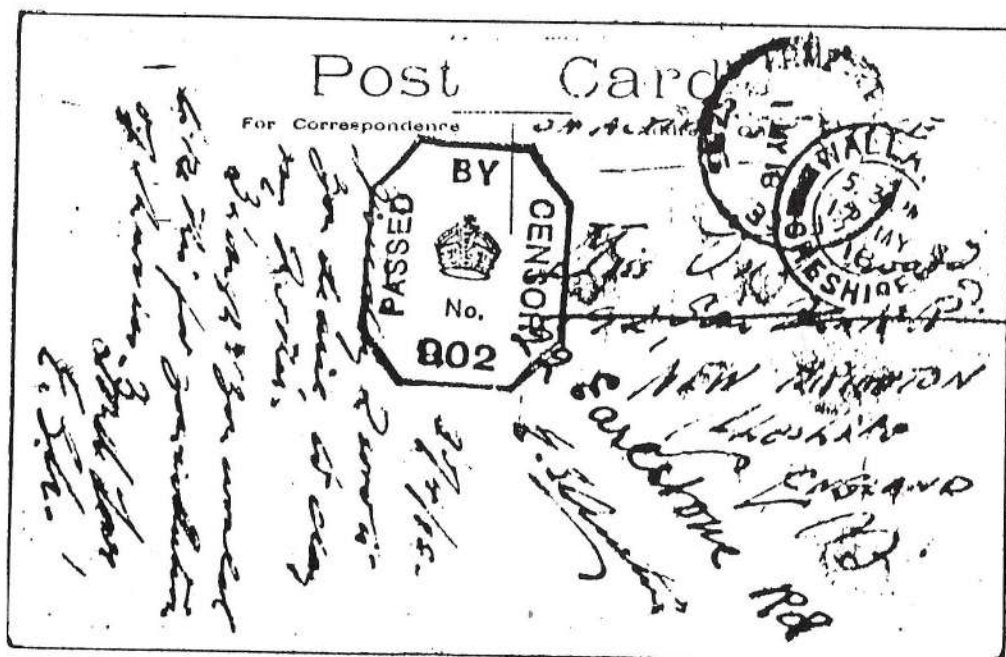


Fig. 35: A postcard with an unreported postmark "Army Post Office SZ 55", which preceded Field Post Office SZ 55.

figure) is slightly smudged, it is clearly a '5'. The only other figure it could have been is '35' and after examination by John Firebrace he has confirmed that it is not SZ 35 but rather SZ 55. Further points in its favour is the fact that it pre-dates

known copies of F.P.O. SZ 55 (1st November, 1918 is the earliest date known) and also the octagonal censor 902 is known in 1918 with F.P.O. SZ 55. Thus it would appear that A.P.O. SZ 55 had a short life before being re-designated F.P.O. SZ 55.

I can also record censor mark Kennedy & Crabbe type CM14 (Sacher type 27) with number '19' in the centre (Fig. 36). So far this is the only example recorded and is used in conjunction with postmark A.P.O. SZ 21, dated 12th May 1916.

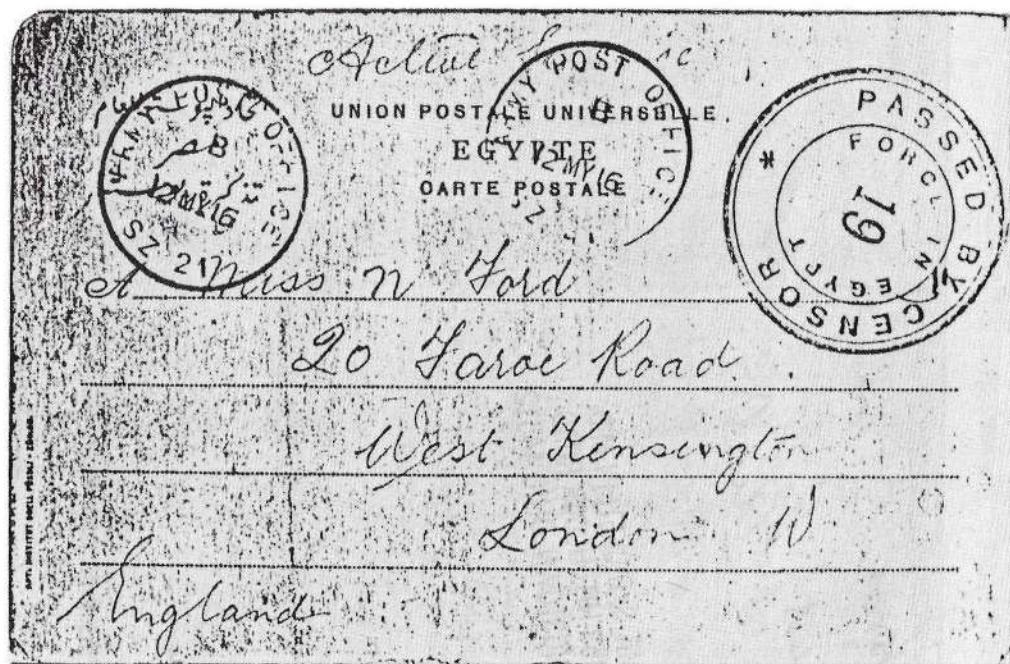


Fig. 36: A previously unrecorded censor mark No. 19 on a postcard from A.P.O. SZ 21.

TEL AVIV OR JAFFA OR BOTH?

(A. Groten, Fishkill, NY)

The Tel Aviv branch of the Jaffa Post Office opened 8 June 1920. Three postmarks, lettered 'Tel Aviv/Jaffa', were used at various times between then and April 1924, when the first postmarks made expressly for Tel Aviv came into use. Each of these



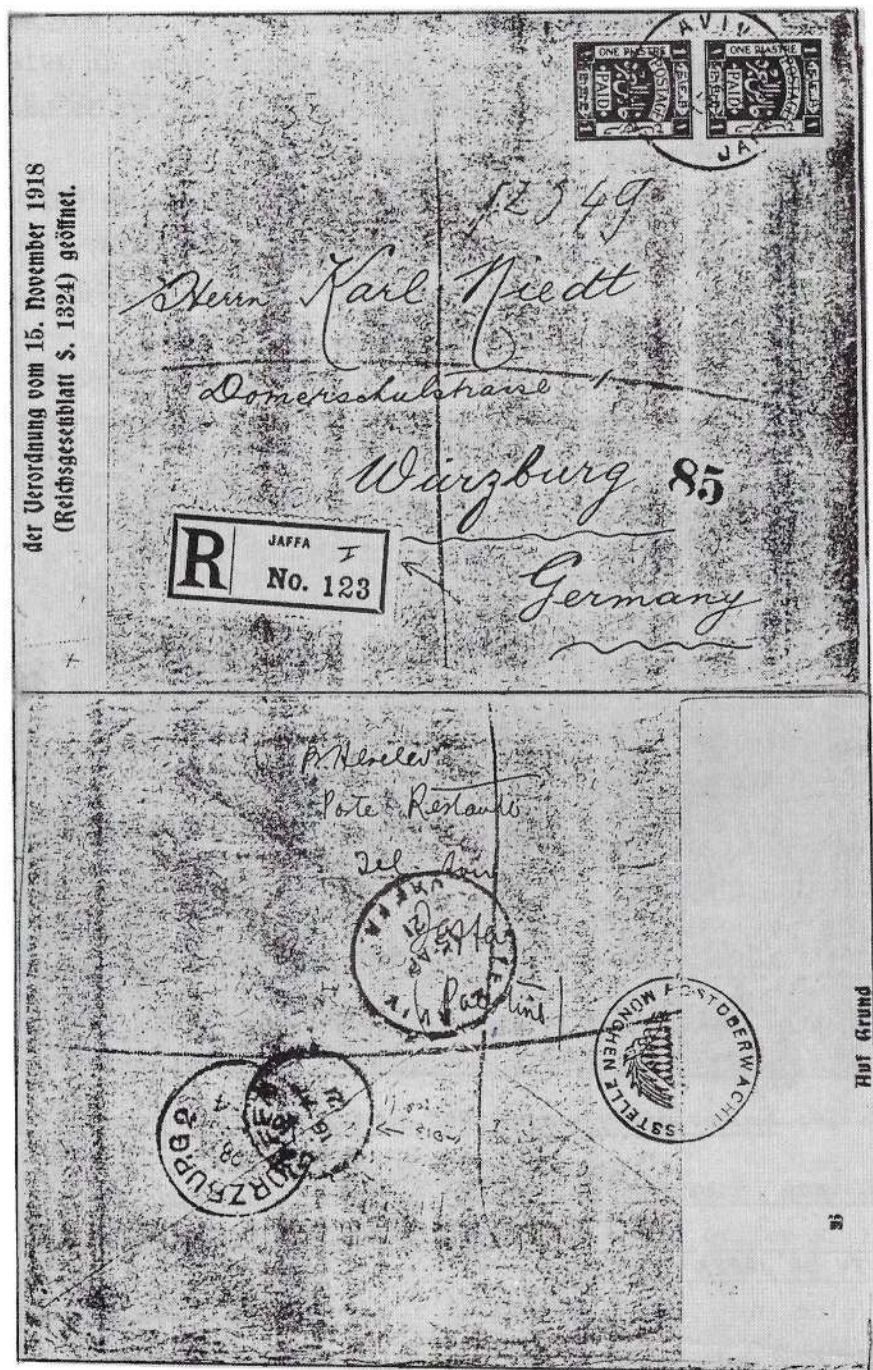


Fig. 37: A cover from the Tel Aviv branch of Jaffa P.O. ('Jaffa I')  
postmarked "Tel Aviv Jaffa".



three had 'Jaffa' removed at some time prior to the latest known date of the Tel Aviv/Jaffa types (26 December, '24). The earliest known date of such excision is 8 August '21 (for the skeleton type). Why the two designations were used concurrently can now only be a matter for speculation.

The cover shown here (Fig. 37) is dated 15 AP 21 with the Tel Aviv/Jaffa skeleton tying a pair of 'Jerusalem I' 1 piastre stamps, paying the correct overseas registry rate.

Several aspects merit comment. First, the registry label is imprinted 'Jaffa' with a Roman numeral 'I' added by hand, presumably designating the Tel Aviv branch. This makes sense since Tel Aviv was the first branch office of the Mandate Jaffa Post Office to open. Later, when the Tel Aviv Post Office became autonomous, the 'Jaffa I' designation was used by the Ajami branch. Incidentally, the earliest cover with a Tel Aviv label known to this writer is dated 12 June '22. Earlier ones presumably exist.

Second, a civilian monetary censorship label was placed on the cover in Munich during the time of financial crisis in Germany.

Third, the cover is backstamped with a 'Jaffa' postmark (Goldstein & Dickstein #313) in red. The use of red ink is of excessive rarity during the Mandate, except for the Postage Paid markings. Its use here is probably a freak occurrence, perhaps due to the clerk striking the wrong ink pad.

#### A MIMEOGRAPHED PALESTINE P.T. FORM

(A.M. Hochheiser, N.J.)

In recent years, an increasing number of forms have appeared which were used by the postal service in Palestine. These items of postal history provide a fund of interesting information of the period and represent an inexpensive previously

neglected area for a collector to pursue.

During the entire period in which Great Britain exercised control over Palestine, the postal authorities supervised many other services as well. The main ones were the telegraph, telephone, radio and wireless, all related to communications. To provide for the multitude of functions, many forms were issued during both the Military and Civil Administrations. Fig. 38

O.E.T.P.A. No. T. 6. T. 6. ٦

**OCCUPIED ENEMY TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION.**

ادارة بلاد العدو المحتلة של שטח האויב הנכבש

**PALESTINE — TELEGRAPHS.**

תלגרפים — פלסטין משרד התלגרף

C. No. 38173

Received cost of Telegram No. 15 وصافي اجرة التلغراف نمرة

Mills. 2988 مليم

Sender's Name *Director and B...* اسم المرسل

Address *Hebrew Pearl Street* שם השולח

Signature *Zion Bruno* החתימה

DATE التاريخ

STAMP الختم

4

Figure 38

is an example of a receipt for the cost of a telegram used during the Military Administration. Fig. 39 is an example of a form used for reporting damage to telephone equipment during

P.T. 179.

## DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

**DAMAGE TO TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT.**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that  
the \_\_\_\_\_ of your telephone  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ apparatus was found damaged today.

The faulty part has been replaced.

Under the terms of Telegraphs (Telephone  
Exchange Service Agreements) Regulations 1943,  
published in supplement No. 2 to the Palestine  
Gazette No. 1285 of 19th August, 1943, you are  
liable to be called upon to defray the cost of plant  
damaged whilst in your custody.

You will be informed of the cost by letter  
should it be decided to adopt this course.

Will you please acknowledge that the work  
has been carried out.

I am, \_\_\_\_\_

Your obedient servant,

for POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Postmaster General,

The work stated above was duly carried out.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

33340-12000-23.1.46-G.C.P.

Figure 39

the Civil Administration. All of these forms were preprinted by various printing firms in Palestine and they were generally numbered for ready identification in reordering.

Shown in Fig. 40 is a P.T. 786 "NIL RETURN FORM". This must have been a commonly used short form for reporting "no



**CONFIDENTIAL** P.T. 786

**"NIL" RETURN FORM.**

Office JAFFA

Period ended 31.3.1940

Return of Dismissals of Skilled Workmen

sw.22/20/A **NIL.** PT117/32/5

For The **DES DEN** Lawells

**APR - 1 1940** **DIVISIONAL ENGINEER WEST**

Cory & E. in C. **2777-3000-1.6.33.-S.O.P**

Figure 40

change" in a certain status, here to indicate "no dismissals of skilled workmen". Commonly used forms were reissued at frequent intervals, often by different printing companies, but always in similar format. Fig. 41 shows a mimeographed reproduction of a P.T. 786 form, obviously duplicated when a supply ran out at the Divisional Engineer North Office and before a reorder could be secured. This is the only P.T. form that I have ever seen reproduced and as such is exceedingly rare.

As a collector of these historic documents, I would be pleased to have anyone send me clear photostats of other such examples of

P.T. 786

"NIL" RETURN FORM

Office INTERNATIONAL ENGINEER.....

Period .....  
 ended 30th October.....1942.

Return of Dismissals of.....  
Staff.....  
112/32/5.....  
17.....

N I L

For H.R. 27678.....  
 The Registrar is Chief.....

.....1942. (Sgd.) W.E. CHESTER  
 Signature  
 INTERNATIONAL ENGINEER

Figure 41

used reproduced forms. They may be mailed directly to me or to the editor of this journal.

AN INVERTED UNIVERSAL MACHINE SLOGAN

(A. Groten, Fishkill, NY)

In the course of the research for my forthcoming monograph on Tel Aviv postmarks, I came across the enclosed cover (Fig. 42). Unfortunately, the city name is not fully struck, but I believe enough of it can be seen to state that it is from Tel Aviv.

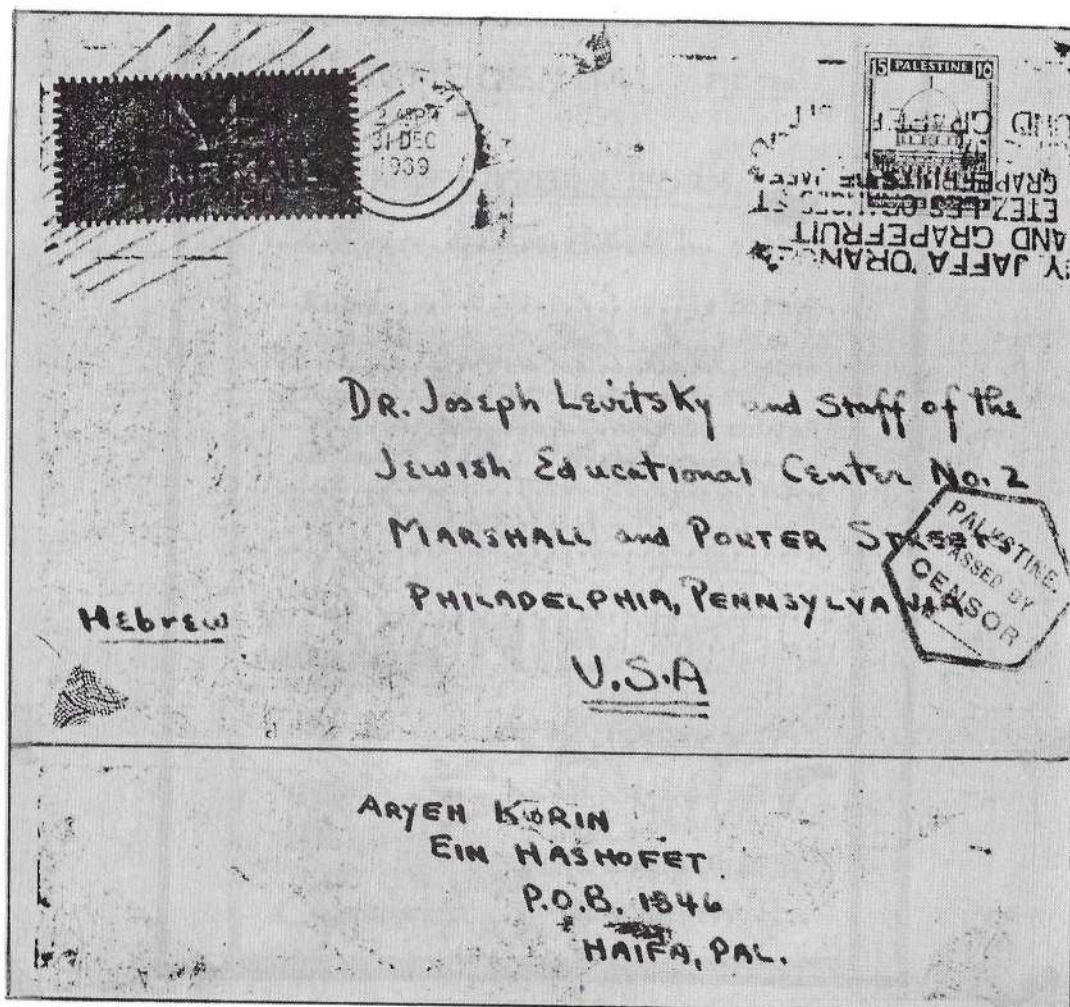


Fig. 42: An inverted "Buy Jaffa Oranges..." machine cancel of Tel Aviv, 1939.

While it is not a Krag machine cancel, I send it along in response to Collins' article in HLP# #31 (p. 573). Despite the return address of Haifa, it must have been handcarried and mailed from Tel Aviv, since Haifa had no such slogan cancel as this. Do any other readers know of other inverted Universal machine slogans?



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE ALLIED MILITARY AIRMAIL IN WWII

(Zvi Berest, Ramat Hasharon)

Referring to "The Allied Military Airmail to and from Palestine - World War II" by Fred Blau (HLPB #32, pp. 653-661) I show some photocopies of flight covers with information for our readers.

(1) Air Mail to Australia. Mail took a long time to reach Australia by surface mail. Airmail was introduced, but letters by air required stamps; the rate was 60 mils, which was quite expensive for private soldiers. From November 1940, postage was reduced to 9 pence. As only a small stock of Australian stamps were available, Palestine or Egyptian civilian postage stamps were permitted (see Figs. 43-45).



 <p><b>BY AIR MAIL</b> PAR AVION</p> <p><b>ACTIVE</b></p> <p>PER AIR MAIL</p>	<p><b>SERV</b></p> 
<p>This envelope must not be used for coin or valuables. It cannot be accepted for registration.</p> <p>NOTE: —</p> <p>Correspondence in this envelope need not be censored Regimentally. The contents are liable to examination at the Base.</p> <p>The following Certificate must be signed by the writer:—</p> <p>I certify on my honour that the contents of this envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters.</p> <p>Signature } Name only }</p> <p><u>V. Haldsworth</u></p>	<p>[Up to three letters may be forwarded in this Cover, but these must be all from the same writer. The cover should be addressed in such case to the Base Censor.]</p> <p>Address:—</p> <p><u>Mrs. E. V. Haldsworth</u> <u>"Coventry</u> <u>10 Francis Street</u> <u>Bondi</u> <u>New South Wales</u> <u>Australia</u></p>

Figure 43



Figure 44

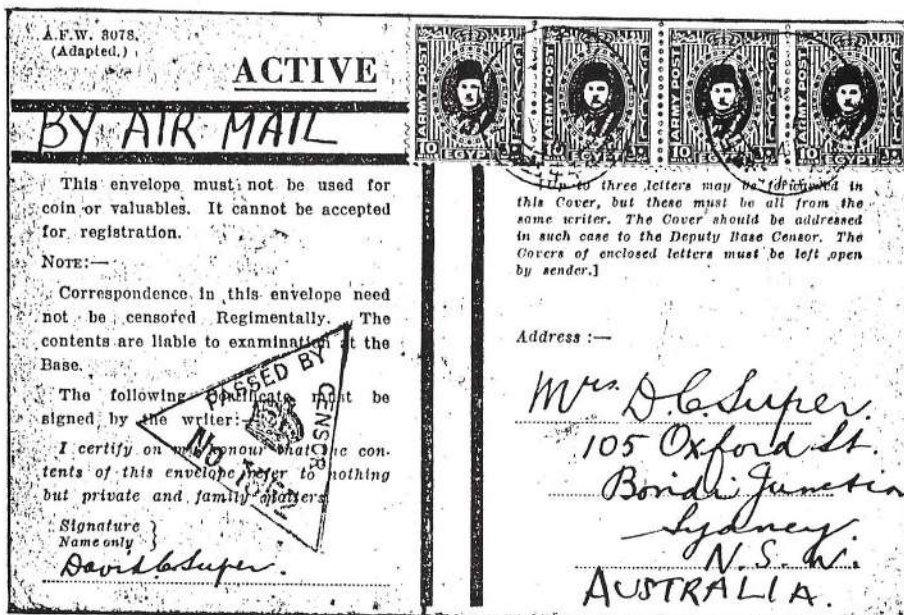


Figure 45



In Australia, a special Air Letter was printed to be used only by "members of Forces Overseas", at the 7 pence rate (see Fig. 46). This Air Letter must be quite rare, as the special Australian Catalogue prices it at \$75 (Aust.).

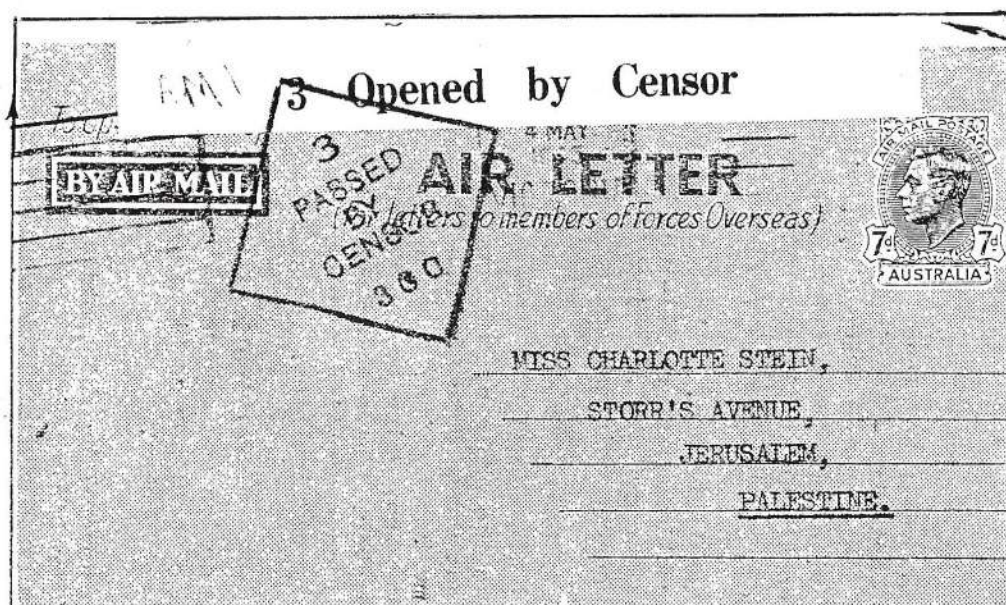


Figure 46

(2) Airgraphs. The article does not mention the use of Airgraphs, which were in great use in the M.E. During the first twelve months some 31,000 Airgraphs were posted between England and the M.E. (e.g. Fig. 47). Figs. 48 and 49 show two Airgraphs with different Czechoslovakian Field Post Office cancellations.

(3) Palestinian concessional mail. Fig. 50 shows a NAAFI Airletter to Palestine from the Jewish Brigade with the B A O R (British Army on the Rhine), with the concessional remarks in order not to pay postage.

(4) Polish Mail. Fig. 51 shows a registered cover to Palestine from the Polish Forces.



PT 749 D.

# PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES.

## AIRGRAPH

TO: GIDEON MARGALIT  
P.O.B. 4  
TEL. AVIV  
PALESTINE.

940421

Write the message very plainly below this line.

*Sender's Address: Mr H. J. A. Robson, 87 Holmstead Avenue, Epsom, Middlesex, England.  
My Dearest Gidi: What wonderful news you sent us in your last*

Figure 47

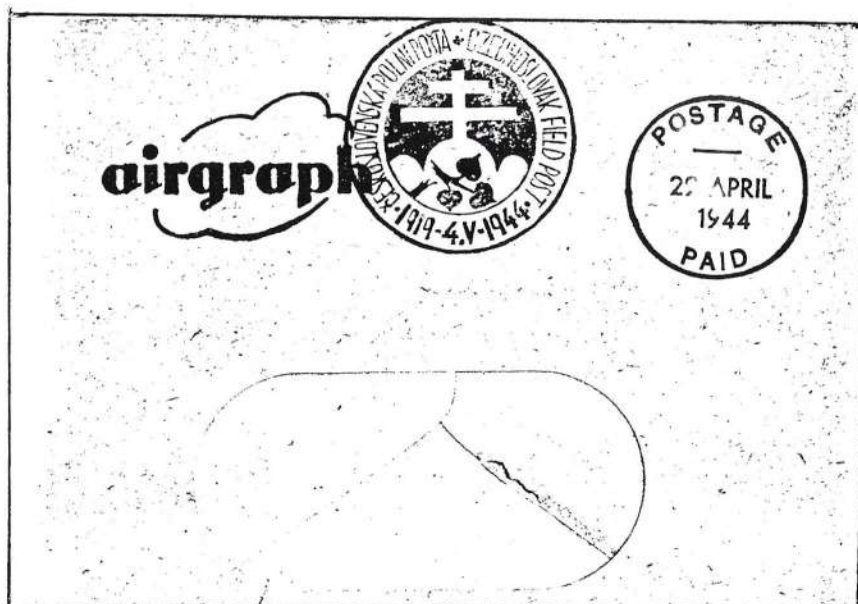


Figure 48

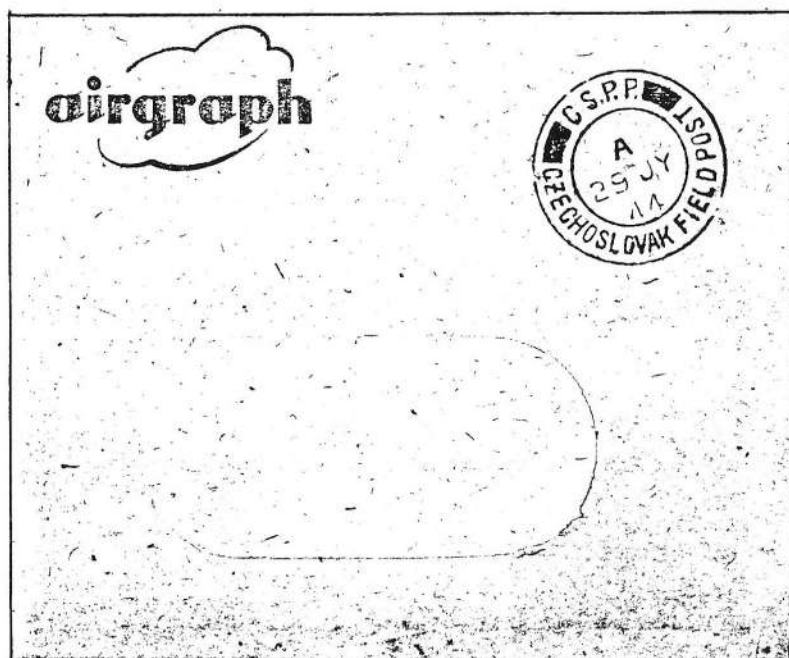


Figure 49

O.A.S.

LETTER FORM

Palestinian Personnel Council

Postage.

Mr. J. Quithner

Tel-Aviv

84, Ben-Yehoudah str.

Palestine

Stamp as for a 24.00 AF 860

BY AIR

(Insert from back)

Sender's name and address:

17175 Ste Quithner W

'S' Coy 3rd Bn. Pal. Reg.

B.A.O.R.

Figure 50

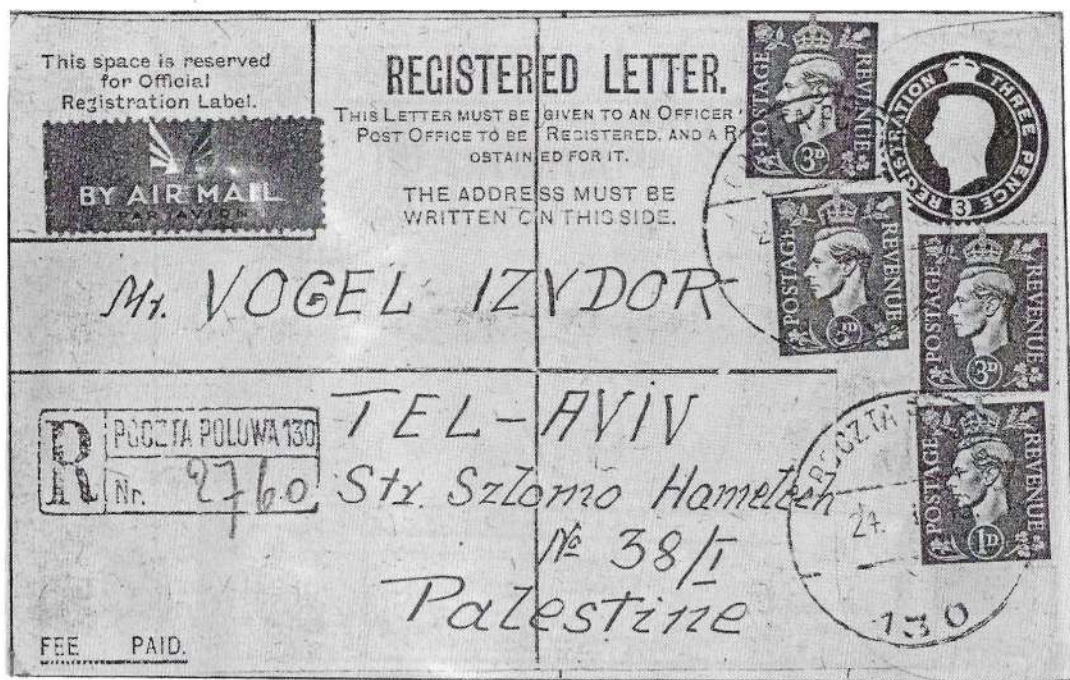


Figure 51

# THE STATE OF ISRAEL

## CANADIAN MILITARY MAIL IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(Z. Berest, Ramat Hasharon)

Recently a philatelic book was published in Canada by the Unitrade Press in Toronto, titled "Canadian Military Post Offices to 1986" by Lt. Col. W.J. Bailey (who served for a number of years with UNTSO in the M.E.) and Mr. E.R. Toop. The book includes information on the participation of Canadian Forces in the South African Boer War of 1899-1901, WWI 1914-18, the Siberian War of 1918-1919, WWII 1939-1946 and the CAPO and CFPO from 1950, which until now included the participation of Canadian troops with the different United Nations Forces, mainly in the Middle East (Egypt, Sinai, Gaza, Lebanon, Golan Heights and Cyprus).



CANADIAN  
CONTINGENT  
U.N.E.F.  
MIDDLE EAST  
CFPO 5002



**OPERATION**  
**DANACA**

CAPT. G. A. VANDERBURGH  
BOX 41, C.F.B.  
BORDEN, ONTARIO, CANADA  
LOM 1C0

From 1950 the Canadian Postal Corps was reorganized due to the Korean Conflict, and adopted the letters CFPO (Canadian Forces Post Office) and CAPO (Canadian Army Post Office). In our area the following numbers were allocated:

- CFPO 32: Gaza (12.8.57 to 29.5.67) UNEF I;  
CFPO 33: Rafah (16.4.57 to 15.2.67) UNEF I;  
CFPO 35: Abu Suweir, Egypt (25.9.56 to 5.9.57) and  
El Arish, Sinai (6.9.57 to 29.5.67);  
CFPO 111: Cairo, Egypt (8.1.74 to 4.6.74) UNEF II and  
Quneitra, Golan Heights (5.6.74 till now) UNDOF;  
CFPO 112: Rafah, Israel (30.1.74 to 12.7.74),  
Ismailia, Egypt (13.7.74 to 9.12.77) and  
Tel Aviv, Israel (10.12.75 till now);  
CFPO 113: Cairo (13.7.74 to 16.8.74) and  
Ismailia, Egypt (17.8.74 till now);  
CFPO 114: Naqoura, Lebanon (21.7.78 to 30.9.78) UNIFIL;  
CFPO 5002: Cairo (13.1.73 to 23.7.74) and  
Ismailia (24.7.74 till now);

CAPO 5049: Abu Suweir, Egypt (25.11.56 to 29.4.57) and  
Rafah (30.4.57 to 31.12.67).

United Nations Forces in Cyprus (UNFICYP) -

CFPO 27: Nicosia (21.3.64 to 15.2.67);

CFPO 28: -- (1.5.64 to 31.8.65);

CFPO 30: -- (12.8.74 to 30.9.74);

CAPO 5001: Nicosia (21.3.64 till now).

#### THE FIRST EL AL NON-STOP FLIGHT TO AMERICA

(Z. Alexander, London)

Back in January 1973, when I was managing the Israel National Oil Company, I was travelling to New York on El Al flight 15, with our company's legal adviser, Adi Ephrat. The Jumbo 747 took off in the morning, but half an hour later the pilot announced that we have some mechanical problems, and that after dumping the fuel in the sea we will be going back to Lydda. He landed at about ten o'clock, and as we had already passed the customs and immigration, we were all taken to Bat Yam Pan American Hotel, so that we would be in transit and not have to pass customs and immigration again. There must have been not more than 50 passengers all together, as we all travelled on one bus.

We were all taken back to the airport in the early afternoon and the pilot announced that for the first time in history, of El Al or any other airline, they would attempt to make a non-stop flight to New York. (They obviously had the option to land in Canada, if they ran short of fuel). I had asked the "Shalom Service" attendant to try and bring us some covers with the Lod Airport postmark. She hurried and succeeded in bringing some 10-15 covers, which were postmarked the previous day - 2.1.1973 - and which she distributed to the upper deck passengers and to the crew.

We asked the Captains to initial our two covers (there were four El Al Captains on the flight deck) and their four signatures appear on the front of the cover. They probably initialled the other dozen covers as well (Fig. 52).

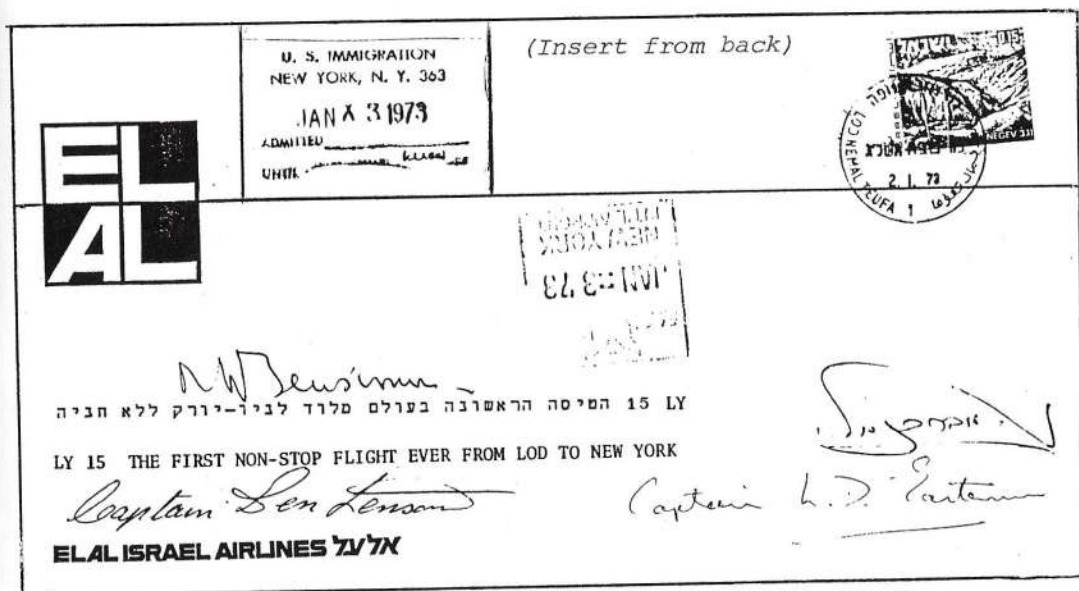


Fig. 52: A cover flown on the first non-stop flight Lod (Lydda)-  
New York (January, 1973).

Upon a successful, eleven and a half hour non-stop flight, we arrived in New York. I was trying all the time to figure out where could I obtain an arrival dated postmark. I explained my predicament to the Immigration Officer in New York and he was kind enough to apply his cachet on the reverse. El Al personnel at Kennedy Airport in New York also obliged and applied their cachet on the front.

As I was the only philatelist on board, I think that there are only two such covers, Ephrat's and mine, with an arrival mark in existence.



\* \* \* \* \*

\* G E N E R A L N E W S \*

\* \* \* \* \*

NEW CANCELLATIONS AND POST OFFICES

(Compiled by B. Fixler and I. Nachtigal)

A. Special Cancellations

- 24.12.87: "Cristmas Noel", Nazareth.
- 24.12.87: "Cristmas Noel", Bet Lehem.
- 26.12.87: "31st Zionist Congress", Yerushalayim.
- 26.01.88: "Australian Bicentenary", Beer Sheva.
- 26.01.88: "Do not waste water", Yerushalayim.
- 26.01.88: "Israel industry centenary", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 08.02.88: "Israel Food Week 88, Israel Export Institute",  
Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 29.02.88: "WJWV 5th World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans",  
Yerushalayim.
- 08.03.88: "International Women's Day", Shelomi.
- 08.03.88: "Le Colloque Israélo-Français sur Rachi", Ramat Gan.
- 14.03.88: "El Com 1988", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 14.03.88: "World Conference of Twin-Cities, Jerusalem", Yerushalayim.
- 22.03.88: "40 years of statehood international symposium, 21-24.3.  
1988", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 23.03.88: "Jumelage Sarcelles, France - Netanya, Israel, 23.3.88",  
Netanya.
- 29.03.88: "'470' World Championship, Haifa-Israel", Haifa.
- 29.03.88: "Israel's Philatelists greet Juvalux 88", Tel Aviv-  
Yafo.
- 06.04.88: "Regal assembly to celebrate the 50th year since the  
Second Immigration of the Jabotinsky Movement", Netanya.
- 14.04.88: "45th anniversary of the ghetto rebellion - assembly to  
commemorate the Holocaust and the brave valor," Lohame Ha-Getaot.

- 18.04.88: "Public Council for the Aged, ceremony for the distribution of the prize to the aged volunteer", Yerushalayim.
- 19.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Opening Day", Yerushalayim. A certain number of covers have been cancelled in purple ink.
- 19.04.88: "Anne Frank," Yerushalayim.
- 19.04.88: "40 Israel", Yerushalayim.
- 20.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Postal Authority Day", Yerushalayim.
- 21.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, 40th Anniversary of Israel. Youth Day", Yerushalayim.
- 21.04.88: "IDF demonstration '48 to '88", Ramat Gan.
- 22.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Aerophilately Day", Yerushalayim.
- 22.04.88: "Orientfahrt 1929-Ramla 1988", Ramla.
- 23.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Thematic Philately Day", Yerushalayim.
- 24.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, WPC Convention - Holy Land and Judaica Day", Yerushalayim.
- 24.04.88: "45th yahrzeit of the liquidation of the Zaglemnia communities, Poland", Yerushalayim.
- 25.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Jerusalem Day", Yerushalayim.
- 26.04.88: "National Stamp Exhibition Independence 40, Closing Day", Yerushalayim.
- 27.04.88: "Movement for a Good Israel. Appreciation to recipients of the IDF decorations", Ramat Hasharon.
- 03.05.88: "The GADNA generations assembly", Ramat Gan.
- 03.05.88: "Inauguration of the New Railway Station", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 05.05.88: "28th District Conference R.I. District 249 Israel, Rotary International", Zikhron Yaaqov.
- 05.05.88: "1988 Man and His Home Fair", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

B. Definitive Cancellations

- 16.12.87: "Beer Ya'agov 3", a new postmark in Beer Ya'agov Post Office.
- 17.12.87: "Omer 402 7", Francotype machine in Omer P.O.
- 17.12.87: "Gedera 407 7" Francotype machine in Gedera P.O.
- 11.01.88: "Qeta Azza", for the new Mobile Post Office of Gazza region, serving the following villages: Tel Sultan, Absan Al Saira, Absan El Kebira, Chazxae, El-Grara, Zueida, El-Mueazzi, El-Baridsh.
- 01.03.88: "Yerushalayim 85", for the new B.P.O. in Shatner Centre, Givat Sha'ul, Jerusalem (without the 'Stag' on the first day).
- 01.03.88: "Yerushalayim 1" with the Knesset building illustration. Additional postmark for the Knesset P.O.
- 02.05.88: "Kefar Weradim", for the new P.A. (grade B) in Kefar Weradim.

NEW STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY

The following stamps and postal stationery were issued during the last period:

- 26.01.88: Israel Industry Centenary, depicting Computers in Industry (NIS 0.10), Genetic Engineering (NIS 0.80) and Medical Engineering (NIS 1.40); Australian Bicentenary (NIS 1.-); Water Economy (NIS 0.40).
- 09.03.88: A new non-denominated stamp for domestic letters, depicting a sunflower, was sold for NIS 0.30. A new non-denominated aerogramme, for use to all countries, was sold for NIS 0.40. It has the same design as a previous aerogramme, a flying balloon, but in different colours.
- 19.04.88: National Stamp Exhibition INDEPENDENCE 40, depicting modern architecture in Jerusalem (NIS 1.-), as well as souvenir sheet with the same design, incorporating a stamp of NIS 2.-,



sold at NIS 3.- (see back cover illustration). Israel - 40 years of Independence and Memorial Day 1988 (NIS 0.40); also a souvenir sheet incorporating the same stamp and the regimental emblems of the Israel Defence Forces (Zahal), sold for NIS 0.60 (see back cover). Anne Frank (NIS 0.60).

09.06.88: Israel 40th Anniversary Exhibition - a souvenir sheet composed of eight stamps (Ag. 20 each) and one label, sold at NIS 2.40 (see front cover illustration).

27.06.88: Nature reserves in the Negev (Ag. 40, 60, 70); Centenary of Bnai Brith in Jerusalem; Archaeology in Jerusalem\* (Ag. 35; 7th Definitive Series).

#### PHILATELIC ITEMS RELATED TO "INDEPENDENCE 40"

Many philatelic items, e.g. stamps, labels, postmarks, folders, have been issued, mostly in Israel but also in other countries, in relation to the National Stamp Exhibition "Independence 40". Some of them are illustrated in the following space.

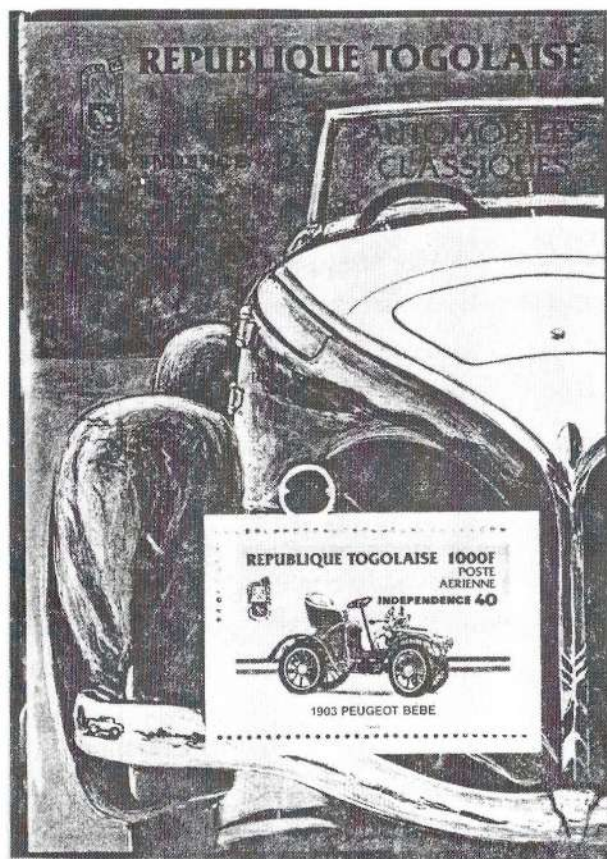


Special airship cachets and postmark to commemorate the 1929 Zeppelin Orientfahrt; issued on the Aerophilately Day of "Independence 40".

\* Date of issue postponed

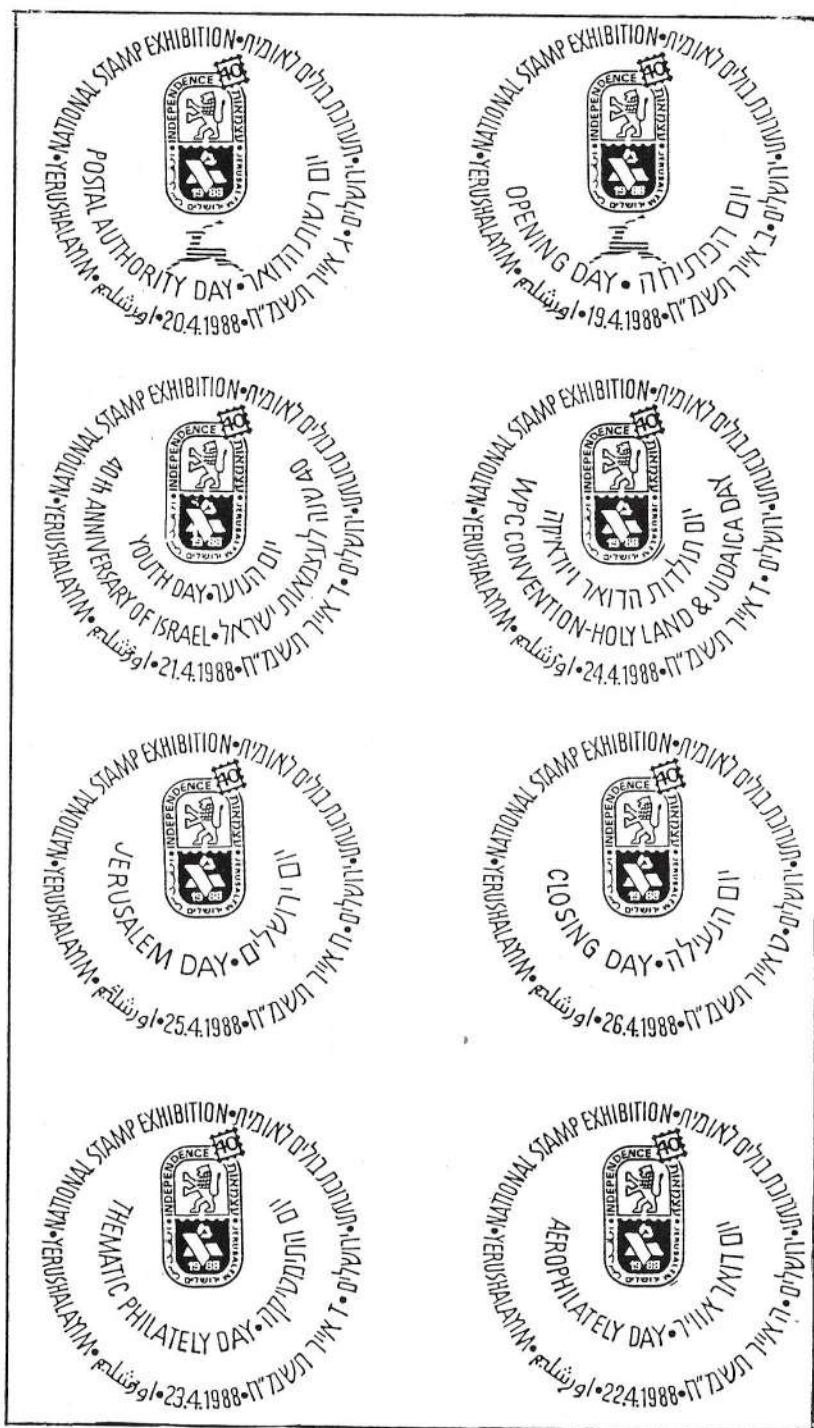






Special overprints "Independence 40" with the exhibition cachet on stamps of several countries and on an Austrian stamp's tab.





Israeli postmarks for the exhibition (for details consult the section "New Cancellations and Post Offices" in this issue).

### HOLY LAND AWARDS IN "INDEPENDENCE 40"

The National Stamp Exhibition "Independence 40" was held in Binyanei Ha'uma, Jerusalem, from 19 to 26 April, 1988, commemorating Israel 40-th Anniversary. It included international participation in the subjects of Levant, Holy Land and Judaica, submitted by members of Holy Land and Judaica Societies around the world as well as three National Philatelic Federations (France, Spain and Turkey).

The exhibition was composed of about 300 exhibits from 14 countries, spanning some 1250 frames and 27 literature items and was noted for its high philatelic standard and historical interest.

The awards given to Levant, Holy Land and Judaica exhibits were as follows: (I - International, N - National, S - State, Y - Youth, L - Literature)\*:

#### (1) Non-Competitive Class

##### Court of Honour

Salih M. Kuyas, Turkey, "Levant postal stationery".

Necip C. Arsman, Turkey, "Ottoman Empire postal history - classical period in the Middle East".

Mrs. J.M. Sacher, England, "Highlights from the late Michael Sacher collection".

Dr. Yeremiyahu Rimon, Israel, "Israel 1948 local and temporary postal services".

Raphael Livnat, Israel, "Foreign post offices in Jerusalem until 1917".

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\*Apart from the Youth and Literature Classes, the Competition Class was divided into three Sections in descending order of level - International, National and State - where each level has its own scale of awards.

Dr. Eddie Leibu, Israel, "Israel pre independence - the British Administration, 1917-1927".

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, "The British Administration in Palestine - selected pages from the B. Guggenheim's bequest".

Yaakov Shabtai, Israel, "Israel 1948 transition period".

Yacov Tsachor, Israel, "Doar Ivri - research of postage dues and postage rates".

Prof. Emanuel Eylan, Israel, "Red Cross and "Magen David Adom" in Israel".

#### Jury and Related Collections

Dr. Eddie Leibu, Israel, "Taxed mail of the Land of Israel, 1900-1950".

Yaakov Shabtai, Israel, "Israel - postage dues".

Shay Shabtai, Israel (Y), "Ten fateful years in the history of the Jewish People 1939-48".

Arie Ben David, U.S.A. (L), "20th Anniversary Publication - W.P.C."

Shay Shabtai, Israel (L), "Mail of underground detainees in British detention camps 1939-48".

W. Ising & H. Danesch, W. Germany (L), "Die Do'ar Ivri ausgabe von Israel" (by Y. Tsachor & S. Rothman).

#### Institutions and Invited Exhibits

J.N.F., Israel, "Jewish National Fund stamps".

Rishon LeZion Historical Museum, Israel, "Postal History of Rishon LeZion".

Museum of Holocaust mail, Israel, "Holocaust mail".

David Pearlman, England, "Picture postcards of Jerusalem 1892-1948".

Joel Aloni, Israel, "David Ben Gurion and the generation of the first years of Independence reflected from envelopes addressed to Ben Gurion".



Dr. Shaul Dagoni, Israel, "Holy Land & Judaica perfins".

Seigfried Adler, Austria, "The 'Tohu Wabohu' overprinting, 1948".

Hillel Faktor, South Africa, "Israel, a future filled with hope - original art work and artists' proofs".

Yehuda Levanon, Israel, "The Knesset postal history".

## (2) Competitive Class

### Large Gold Medal with Grand Prix

Jerome L. Byers, U.S.A. (I), "Forerunner posts of the Holyland 1418-1918".

E. Martin de Bostamente, Spain (I), "Classic Bulgaria".

Itamar Karpovsky, Israel (N), "Transition period 1948, cities under emergency conditions".

### Large Gold Medal with Special Prize

"Evyatar", England (I), "Turkish post in the Holy Land".

### Gold Medal with Special Prize

Stephen Rothman, U.S.A. (I), "The Doar Ivri issue".

Yasar X. Temiz, Turkey (I), "Postal marks of the Oriental part of the Ottoman Empire".

## Gold Medals

Louis Kestenbaum, U.S.A. (I), "Essays and proofs of early stamps of the State of Israel".

Silvano Sorani, Italy (I), "Holy Land - World War I and the military administration".

Itamar Karpovsky, Israel (I), "Transition period, Jerusalem 1948".

Zvi Salant, Israel (I), "Albania: 1913-1922 first issues until the double Skandenberg".

Yalgin R. Bicioglu, Turkey (I), "The War of Independence of Turkey, 1920-22".

Ziya M. Agaogollari, Turkey (I), "Postal marks used in the Levant part of the Ottoman Empire".

#### Large Vermeil Medal with Special Prize

Rachel Alexander, England (I), "Love of Zion".

Joseph Wofchuck, U.S.A. (I), "British forces in the Holy Land W.W.I. 1917-1920".

Jerome L. Byers, U.S.A. (I), "Palestine airmail".

Ervin Danek, Israel (I), "The post in the concentration camps and Ghettos 1939-1945".

Orkide Aslan, Turkey (Y), "The Ottoman Empire".

#### Large Vermeil Medals

Zeev Galibov, England (I), "The E.E.F. and Mandate period 1917-1948".

Moshe Shmueli, Israel (I), "The postal history of Beirut".

Robert B. Pildes, U.S.A. (I), "Doar Ivri".

Jacques Mahu, France (I), "Selection sur l'histoire postale de la Palestine".

"Amos Anon", Israel (I), "Postal history of Beer Sheva".

"Evyatar", England (I), "Palestine British Administration 1917-27".

Robert B. Pildes, U.S.A. (I), "Israel - transition period 1948".

Raphael Nachum, Israel (I), "The Ottoman Empire philately - some views".

Moshe Shmueli, Israel (I), "The post in Bulgaria during the 19th Century".

Otto Hornung, England (I), "Istanbul".

Dr. Zvi Shimony, Israel (N), "The postal services of Jerusalem, Safed and Rishon LeZion in the War of Independence".

### Vermeil Medals with Special Prize

Sigalit Kohn, Israel (Y), "Israeli stamp exhibitions".

### Vermeil Medals

Bernardo Grosser, Israel (I), "Ottoman and foreign post offices in the Holy Land".

Hanan Shiftan, Israel (I), "German relations & operations in the Holy Land".

Avraham Zakai, Israel (I), "World War I - from the Suez Canal to Jerusalem".

Emanuel Glassman, Israel (I), "Mandate Postmarks of Jerusalem".

"Evyatar", England (I), "Postal history of Arab Palestine 1948-9".

Albert Haskiya, Turkey (I), "Airmail activity between Turkey and the Holyland".

Diether A. Bahner, W. Germany (I), "Theresienstadt/Terezin".

Justin Gordon, U.S.A. (I), "Mail from concentration camps and Ghettos".

Pierre Deracinois, France (I), "Varietes du Proche Orient (1919-1930)".

Yehuda Kleiner, Israel (I), "The German military mail in the Ottoman Empire, 1914-1918".

Dorothea Freising, Turkey (I), "Postal marks used in Asia Minor, 1865-1923".

Moshe Shmuely, Israel (I), "Around the Russian borders, October 1917 - October 1923".

Kalman Bar-Ilan, Israel (N), "Doar Ivri - a study collection: perforations and paper varieties".

M. Kremener, Israel (N), "Egypt 1867-75, second and third issue".

Emine Serdaroglu, Turkey (Y), "The First World War".

Joseph Aron, Australia (L), "Forerunners to the forerunners: a pre philatelic postal history of the Holy Land".

Edward W. Proud, England (L), "The Postal history of British Palestine 1918-1948".



### Large Silver Medals with Special Prize

Nukhet S. Yardimci, Turkey (Y), "Turkey rail road stamps and documents".

### Large Silver Medals

Dottie Miller, U.S.A. (I), "Holocaust Migration".

Harry F.R. Woodley, England (I), "Palestine - the Blues and the Jerusalem I overprint".

Ronnie Shiers, England (I), "The Doar Ivri issue".

David Stern, South Africa (I), "Highlights of Israel from 1948 to 1954".

Dushi & Ali Kovacs, Israel (I), "Postal services in the Holy Land 1863-1914".

Carlos Goldstein, Venezuela (I), "Postmarks of the small towns during the Palestine mandate 1918-1948".

Ronald M. Lee, Australia (I), "Australian Imperial Force in Palestine W.W.II".

Avraham Zakai, Israel (I), "Mail to Jewish settlements and in the Independence War in the Negev 1941-1950".

Jakob Niesen, West Germany (I), "Postal History of Nahariya".

Sam Simon, U.S.A. (I), "Postal History of the Concentration Camps 1933-1945".

Ragip E. Serdaroglu, Turkey (I), "Foreign post offices in the Ottoman Empire".

Arman Arikan, Turkey (I), "German, British and French post offices in the Levant".

Silvano Sorani, Italy (I), "Polish military post in Egypt and Palestine".

C.Th.J. Hooghuis, Spain, (I), "Postal history of the Suez Canal and Sinai Campaign".

Yoel Slutzki, Israel (N), "Palestine 1927-1948: postal rates".

Zvi Efrat, Israel (N), "The Bible on stamps."

- Shalom Adesman, Israel (N), "Plants and animals in the Bible".
- Joseph Kohn, Israel (Y), "My Fatherlands nature".
- David Dorfman, U.S.A. (L), "Palestine Mandate postmarks".
- Mordechai Sondak, Israel (L), "Jerusalem postal services during the siege of 1948".
- Shimony and Glassman, Israel (L), "Holy Land postal history".
- Josef Levcovits, Israel (S), "Postage due (to pay) letters in the Holy Land".
- N. Bachrach, Z. Haramaty, Israel (S), "The Holocaust and Resistance in WWII".

### Silver Medals

- Donald Chafetz, U.S.A. (I), "Holy Land printed matter mail till 1948".
- Arthur H. Groten, U.S.A. (I), "The postmarks of Tel Aviv to 1948".
- Jack Galloon, South Africa (I), "A study of the low values of Doar Ivri plate blocks and tab blocks".
- "Libra", South Africa (I), "A study of the printing dates of the Landscape definitive issues of Israel".
- Albert Kahn, U.S.A. (I), "Unusual handling of Holy Land mail".
- "Barem", England (I), "Interrupted and disaster mail relating to the Holy Land".
- Mordechai Sondak, Israel (I), "Jerusalem postal history during the siege - 1948".
- Robert B. Pildes, U.S.A. (I), "Jerusalem, Interim Period - local issues stamps and postal history".
- Siegfried Adler, Austria (I), "The War of Independence 1948/9".
- H. Wermelskirchen, W. Germany (I), "Die Mobil-Post in Israel".
- Siegfried Adler, Austria (I), "The Sinai Campaign 1956-7".
- Angela Ruiz Vegas, Spain (I), "Turkish postal stationery".
- Shalom Berger, Israel (N), "International Reply Coupons".
- Meyer-Marcel Kohn, Israel (N), "Postal history of Rishon LeZion, 1882-1948".

Zvi Berest, Israel (N), "Military mail from Palestine and Israeli soldiers in W.W.II".

Zvi Efrat, Israel (N), "Biblical fauna".

Israel im BDPH Arbeitsgemeinschaft, West Germany (L), "Die Österreichische post in Palästina".

Norman J. Collins, England (L), "Palestine Mandate issues 1921-1948: The Crown Agents".

Julius Fletcher, England (L), "The civilian airgraph service in Palestine 1941-45".

Edward T. Superson, U.S.A. (L), "Poland occupied in W.W.II and the Holocaust (philatelic history handbook)".

Norman Gladstone, England (L), "Post war censorship to and from Palestine 1945-1948".

Dr. Helmut Seebald, Austria (L), "The Austrian UN units in the Near East".

Martin Genis, England (L), "B.A.P.I.P. Bulletin".

Dr. Oscar Stadler, U.S.A. (L), "The Israel Philatelist - journal of the Society of Israel Philatelists".

Walter Many, Switzerland (L), "Der Israel Philatelist - Schweizerischer Verein der Israel Philateliste".

Dr. E.M. Freitag, Netherland (L), "NIP - Bulletin of the Society of Netherland-Israel Philatelists".

Michael H. Bale, England (L), "Bale Palestine Catalogue, 1988".

Abraham Citron, Israel (S), "Errors in Israeli stamps - 40 years".

Dr. Baruch Hurwich, Israel (S), "Israel military mail 1948-9".

Dr. Eliahu Foa, Israel (S), "Israel meter postage stamps".

Israel Taychner, Israel (S), "Affaire Dreifus, Juifs et Prix Nobel".

Elieser Istner, Israel (S), "Synagogues in Israel and in the world".

#### Silver Bronze Medals

Walter Loewenberg, Spain (I), "Israel, Interim Period and first years".



Yoel Slutzki, Israel (I), "Sheqel definitives research collection".  
 Charles A. Tuteur, U.S.A. (I), "The 80 Minhelet Haam post offices  
 1948".

Dr. Helmut Seebald, Austria (I), "United Nations peace-keeping operations in the Middle East - the Austrian participation".

Kalman Bar-Ilan, Israel (N), "Definitives (Stand By) 1980-85  
 stamps: Sheqel and non denominated stamps".

Mordechai Sondak, Israel (N), "Mobile post in Israel".

Isaac Giner, Israel (N), "Israelia" (chapters in Israel history).

Lior Avraham, Israel (Y), "Israel stamps - the last decade".

Erez Navon, Israel (Y), "Israel stamps".

Arnon Amzel, Israel, "Nature in Israel".

Norman Gladstone, England (L), "Police and prison mail in Israel  
 1948-1986 (BAPIP Monograph)".

Israel Plate Block Society, U.S.A. (L), "The Israel Plate Block  
 Journal".

Dr. Eliahu Foa, Israel (L), "Catalogue of Israel meter postage  
 stamps - 2nd edition 1987".

Arnold Levi, Israel (S), "Forerunners: Turkish and the foreign  
 post offices in the Holy Land".

Abraham Citron, Israel (S), "Plate numbers of Israeli stamps for  
 40 years".

N. Bachrach, Z. Haramaty, Israel (S), "Israel's resurrection in  
 its land".

Eliezer Stöckel, Israel (S), "Netanya 1941-50".

### Bronze Medals

Jean R. Callebaut, France (I), "Periode interimaire avant la  
 creation de la poste Israelienne".

Maurice Daniels, S. Africa (I), "Used definitive printing dates  
 1960-1980".

- Mark Sommer, U.S.A. (I), "The fight for freedom - the postal history of the Zionist Revisionist Movement".
- Sidny Morginstin, U.S.A. (I), "The aerogrammes of Israel".
- Salomon Hassan, Spain (I), "Holy Land".
- Shalom Berger, Israel (I), "Judaica".
- Elieser Istner, Israel (N), "Mobile Post in Israel".
- Hyman Noa, Israel, "Stamp exhibitions in Israel 1945-1987".
- Nir Levi, Israel, "Swords and fencing in the Bible".
- Mark Sommer, U.S.A. (L), "Philatelic articles".
- Michael H. Bale, England (L), "Bale 1987 catalogue of Israel postage stamps".
- Oscar Shahar, Israel (S), "The history of Israel in Stamps".
- N. Bachrach, Z. Haramaty, Israel (S), "Memorial days of the fallen of Israel's wars".
- I. Nachtigal and B. Fixler, Israel, "Postal Points in Israel".
- David Kraus, Israel (S), "Jewish contribution to the world's civilization".
- Diploma: Avi Appel, Israel (Y), "David Ben Gurion centenary".



ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE CATALOGUE  
"POSTAL STATIONERY OF THE PALESTINE MANDATE"

by Dr. A. M. Hochheiser, Lodi, N. J.

With the publication of the catalogue in March 1984, comments on omissions and the need for corrections came from foreign countries as well as here in the United States. Major contributions were brought to my attention by a number of people.

By far the most information was brought out by Norman J. Collins of Merseyside, England. His research into the archives of the agencies of Great Britain which were associated with the postal history of the Palestine Mandate period added an additional fund of information.

In addition, I list in alphabetical order the others who made significant contributions which are incorporated in this "addendum and corrigendum": Wayne Menuz of San Jose, California. Rabbi Harold Salzman of Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Rolf Wernecke of Berlin, Germany. Harry F. R. Woodley of Surrey, England. Members of the Palestine Study Group of the Central Jersey Chapter of SIP.

ADDENDUM AND CORRIGENDUM:

Page 4: Dr. Alan J. Huggins should read Dr. Alan K. Huggins.

Page 8: Printer's Legend - Ltd. should read Ltd.

Page 10: As a result of the addition of PR13 several changes in the text are indicated consistent with the features of PR13.

Page 23: Under PRINTING: Delete - "With the exception of the stamps on RE2-3-4, which were embossed with a different die, all other printing was done by typography."

Insert - "All printing, including all dies for the stamp, was completed by typography. The original die used on RE1-4 was revised three times for use on RE5-21."

Change - "London" to "revised". Change "Jerusalem" to "Original".



At bottom of page: Change titles. "TYPOGRAPHY DIE" should read "ORIGINAL DIE" and "EMBOSSING DIE" should read "REVISED DIE".

At bottom left: Delete "Typography die used on RE1 and 5 thru 21." Substitute "Revised Die used on RE5-21."

At bottom right: Delete "Embossing Die used on RE2-3-4." Substitute "Original Die used on RE1-4".

Page 24: In the second paragraph: Delete the end of the paragraph from middle of the fifth line from the bottom starting with "In addition..." Insert "Since the stamps on RE-2-3-4 were printed on the folded flap, an outline of the stamp can usually be found impressed in the paper beneath the flap".

Page 25: Delete the heading atop the lower photograph to another page between pages 22 and 23. The page should be titled at the top PR13 - (Mar) 1929. Complete the description below the photograph.

SIZE: Large. FLAP: Pointed free corners attached at right.  
FEE PAID: Present. CROSS LINES: Same front and back. BACK: Cross lines only and printing identical to RE3 on page 34. PRINTER'S  
LEGEND: None.

PRINTING: The printing of this issue is identical to RE3 except that the stamp is missing. The completed envelopes except for the printing were sent from England to Palestine. These envelopes were prepared for regular issue as RE3. (See page 34). However, on a provisional basis, some envelopes were completed without the stamp to replace the last stampless large size registered envelope which obviously was in short supply or out of stock. Since this was used on a temporary basis only, this is the only truly provisional issue used during the entire Mandate period.

Page 27: FLAP SHAPE for 7-1 and 7-2 should read "R" instead of "C". This was manually corrected in some copies.

Page 28: Add to 4b: Backs of large size RE11-15-18 have some other differences in type than shown here notably a short Hebrew 'KAPH'.

Page 33: Add to the text: "A variety of RE 2 should be recognized. This may be found on the back of the envelope in the last word of the Hebrew text in the bottom line. Since Hebrew reads from right to left, this is the word before the period to the left. There is a diacritical mark (nekuda in Hebrew) present in some copies in the "vav" of "SHOVAR". This is present as a 'dot'.

Delete in text: "Embossed stamp. (See page 23)."

Insert in text: "Stamp printed by typography with a duplicated 'electro' of the original die used on RE1, which duplicated die was sent to Palestine. (See Editor's Note below)."

In the Editor's Note at the bottom of the page delete from "However, the copy of..." to the end of the paragraph.

Insert in the same place: "Records of the Crown Agents indicate that the die used for the stamps on RE2-3-4 was a duplicated 'electro' of the die used on RE1. This duplicated 'electro' was sent to Palestine and the records indicate that it was destroyed on March 20, 1929."

Page 34: Delete in the text "Embossed stamp. (See page 23)."

Insert in the text: "Stamp printed by typography with a duplicated 'electro' of the original die used on RE1, which duplicated die was sent to Palestine. (See Editor's Note on page 33)."

Page 35: In the text, change the word "embossing" to "duplicated electro".

In the text, change "(See page 23)" to "(See Editor's Note on page 33)."

Page 36: Add to the text: "The stamps have now been printed" from a revised master die.

Page 43: Change: Quantity Issued to 134,900.

Add: Under 12-1  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -2-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Under 12-2  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -2-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Page 44: In the second line of text after "...horizontal." add "printed from a newly revised master die."

Page 47: In text change color of stamp to "blue or deep blue".

Change "16-1a 47 mm." to "16-1a 47-47½mm." Add: under 16-2 2-2-4½.

Page 53: Change "Folded,..." to "Generally folded but known unfolded". Add to the end of the text at the top: "on 4 subject plates".

Page 56: Under PRINTING add: PC1 and PC2 were printed in two subject plates. PC5 was printed in 4 subject plates.

At end of text under PRINTING add: "In addition, the space between the stamp and the Coat of Arms will vary slightly. These cannot be recognized as separate types.

Page 62: In the text "The space between the stamp and the "D" of "card"..., change "D" of "card" to "Coat of Arms". Do the same under PC3-1 and PC3-2.

In the eighth line of the text "... (at least) two dies..." insert the "working" between "two" and "dies".

Page 63: In the title line "the Two Dies of the Stamp", insert the word "working" between "Two" and "Dies".

Page 65: In the text "... (at least) two dies)." ... insert the word "working" between "two" and "Dies". There are two types based on the "O" in "POST". The second, not illustrated, is distinctly narrower.

Page 66: In the text "... (at least) two dies..." insert the word "working" between "two" and "dies".

Page 67: Quantity issued should be 714,400.

Page 69: Quantity issued should be 1,044,800.

Page 70: Quantity issued should be 1,693,800. Change the Year of Issue to 1942. Add: 10-1a on softer grey buff stock.

Page 74: Under PC12-S delete "rubber handstamp".

Page 82: Change quantity issued to 97,600. Change Year of Issue to 1942.

Page 83: Add to text under PRINTING: Copies are known with the color of the burelage almost completely missing.

Page 97: ASHER should read ASCHER. Add under DANESCH & FLETCHER "Monograph published by BAPIP in 1983".



## Book Reviews

THE STAMPS OF PALESTINE MANDATE (1988) Specialized Catalogue. Bale's latest contribution to our libraries is a most welcome one indeed for a very practical reason - its predecessor (The 1984 Edition) is out-of-stock! This alone was reason enough for Michael Bale to issue his new edition. There are few differences in these two editions but these are important, correct and necessary. The Revenue Section has been greatly improved and there are some very important price revisions. Most of the evaluations with which this reviewer had disagreed in the earlier work have been revised in the correct direction. Thus, this new catalogue properly reflects the current trends that prices are stable of the common stamps, but stronger for the rarities, especially if these are basic stamps and not varieties. We dealers can certainly testify that Bale is entirely correct in revising upwards such numbers as S.G. #26 Second Setting, 28, 35, 38, 69 & 70 Used, 82a & 84 Mint, 82/4-25mm high value, Vertical Ribbed Mint Pictorials, Mint Horizontal Ribbed #97, 108 & 109, etc. His price reductions are also correct. These include Narrow Settings, #90 Mint Horizontal Ribbed and some Jerusalem III and Postage Due I Issues. In general our few criticisms involve amount and not direction as we feel he did not revise some of these enough. Also, we believe many of his control block listings do not adequately reflect their actual rarity. His obvious undervaluation of the #26 Second Setting Overprint Varieties (page 47) in the earlier work has been nicely corrected.

As always, paper, illustrations, printing, etc. are all of excellent quality. The work has now been expanded to 142 pages plus covers and is filled with important diagrams, charts and thousands of quotations. Its format is very clever and well-designed for collection purposes. We suggest that Mr. Bale

improve his Postal Rates page. He only need consult such collectors as Drs. Liebu or Groten or Don Chafetz to organize a much more complete and useful table of this important information. Also, we think the time has arrived for him to include the Postal Stationery of Palestine with current evaluations. We believe that this growing specialty now has more collectors than such themes as Revenues, Control Blocks and Booklets to which full treatment is accorded.

Overall, the work is excellent and recommended to collectors at all levels. In fact, it is difficult to imagine any serious philatelist not having this volume if he collects the Stamps of the Palestine Mandate.

(Marvin Siegel)

THE POSTMARKS OF MANDATE TEL AVIV by Arthur H. Groten. (Published by the S.I.P. Educational Fund in May, 1988; price \$10 postpaid, plus \$1 overseas).

The "missing link" of Palestine postmark handbooks has been the Tel Aviv markings. Now, a superb work has been completed by Arthur Groten that fills this major gap. This subject has hitherto been untouched by any cataloguer because of the complexity of the Tel Aviv markings which are greater in number and more intricate in variety than those of Jaffa, Haifa or Jerusalem. This most difficult of Mandate specialties has been rendered very much simpler by excellent full-size diagrams and charts, most all of which are published for the first time.

Groten has avoided the pitfall of presenting a myriad of illustrations of similar postmarks differing only slightly in dimension by showing only a sample of each type but tabulating the similar marks. Thus, the collector will basically use the table after first determining the type. His system of presentation is by size, decreasing from the largest to the smallest. Where

principal measurements are the same, secondary measurements of letters are arranged in order of decreasing size. This system of presentation by size instead of dates is much preferred. However, bar graphs of dates of usage are included where these will prove useful. He has followed the excellent system used by Emanuel Glassman in his Jerusalem handbook of sectionalizing the various marks by type. These, nine in number are: skeletons, single circle, double circle, registries, triangles, machine, post paid and department marks, exhibition and branch office postmarks. "Groten's system" will make life much easier for all those involved with the fascinating specialty of Mandate postmarks.

This writer has labored for years with the BAPIP Classification with mixed results, at best, as this was the only existing applicable reference. Now, these difficulties no longer exist. Tel Aviv covers have always been regarded as the least important of Mandate material. This situation will now certainly change as collectors realize the lovely intricacies and variations of a Tel Aviv Mandate postmark study.

Arthur Groten began collecting these materials only eighteen months before his manuscript was completed. This is surely a record of some sort and proves that hard work and dedication can overcome every obstacle. One can become an "expert" in any philatelic specialty, as Groten has become in this remarkably short period of time. It should serve as an example to all aspiring collectors.

The work is an excellent mix of diagrams, tables, historical notes and illustrations of some superb covers. It is succinct, easily legible and a pleasure to hold. It certainly belongs in the library of all Holyland collectors, even those not specifically collectors of this material, as an example of the finest in new knowledge and scholarship.

(Marvin Siegel)



HLPH SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS The following publications of our Society are available at P.O.B. 10175, 91101 Jerusalem:

"Jerusalem Postal Services during the Siege of 1948" by M. Sondak (see Review in HLPH 25-26, p. 258), for \$12 (incl. P&P by seamail) or NIS 17 in Israel.

"Forerunners to the Forerunners: a Prephilatelic Postal History of the Holy Land" by J. Aron (see Review in HLPH 32, p. 711), for \$17 (incl. P&P by seamail) or NIS 25 in Israel.

OVERLAND MAIL BAGHDAD-HAIFA: AN URGENT REQUEST

Urgently needed are full size photocopies of covers etc. with imprints, cachets or labels relating to the OVERLAND MAIL BAGHDAD-HAIFA and especially those going inwards towards Iraq/Iran.

I am now completing my tables listing these items and so far nearly eighty different items have been recorded. All items of this mail are important, so even if you have only one item, it may be the missing link and thus is important. Please add notes on the colour of imprints, cachets and labels, and most importantly the date of the postmark on the item. If you have any notices or posters relating to the service or other documentary, please let me have copies. Please treat this request as urgent and help me produce a reference work that is as complete as can be and do a service to our hobby. Please send any contributions to: Norman J. Collins, 21 Torrington Drive, Thingwall, Heswall, Merseyside L61 7UZ, G.B.

HOLY LAND AUCTIONS REALIZATIONS

(Compiled by E. Leibu)

Prices are in U.S. Dollars. 12% buyer's commission and 1.8% V.A.T. should be added.

Siegel's Holyland Philatelics, January 5, 1988 (no buyer's commission)

- \* 1921, "London I" 10 p (S.G. 69) used - \$450
- \* 1947, Ein Karim reg. cover to Poland, returned - \$281
- \* 1948, Do'ar Ivri rouleted mint tabs - \$251
- \* 1948, Do'ar Ivri plate block, group #128 - \$710

Negev Holyland Stamps, February '29, 1988

- \* 1900, German Post, reg. cover from Jaffa, franked by pair of 1p, 1884 issue - \$310
- \* Ottoman Post, Djenine (ST 16/04) on viewcard to Munich, 23.4.18 - \$450
- \* "Jerusalem 7" octagonal (ST 28/22) on Paneel Docket - \$1200
- \* 1934, first flight GAZA-LONGREACH (Australia) 10.12.34 - \$130
- \* 1948, Petach Tikvah machine cancel (D.12) on cover - \$235
- \* 1948, Jerusalem local issue, 5, 10 & 25 on Reg. FDC (May 9) to Tel Aviv by 1st convoy - \$1100
- \* 1948 Do'ar Ivri 20m perf. 10x11, imperf. between stamp and tab - \$1050
- \* 1957, Tabil souvenir sheet, completely imperf. - \$425

Lev Stamps, Tel Aviv, January 19, 1988

- \* Turkish post "Damas-Caifa 1" on entire - \$2400

Zodiac Stamps, May 3-4, 1988

- \* Turkish Post, "Haifa" (St 19/05) on reg. cover - \$600
- \* "Menchie Jaffa" original handstamp instrument of 1914 (?) - \$3000
- \* 1920, First Local Overprint, 5p with "Arabic Z" variety, unused - \$710

- \* 1948, Nehariya second slogan, 23 March '48 on cover - \$1250
- \* 1950, Negev full tab on official F.D. cover - \$1600

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WANTED! Letters or pieces of letters with green R-labels (DOAR RASMI). Please contact: Klaus Salten, Kölner Str. 81a, D-5353 Mechernich-Kommern, West Germany.

EXCHANGE mint thematical stamps, FDC, envelopes of Socialist countries for fauna, ships, football, Olympic, painting etc. of Israel. G. Goremykin, Box 403, Leningrad K-9 195009 USSR.

INFORMATION REQUESTED: Needed are full size photocopies of covers etc. of air mails from and to Israel during the period May 16, 1948 to August 31, 1949; for publication of philatelic work on early air mails, first and last flights to and from Israel. Covers must have legible departure and arrival postmarks with date included. Full credit will be given. Chaim Shamir, 4 Gissin St., Rishon Le Zion 75281 Israel.

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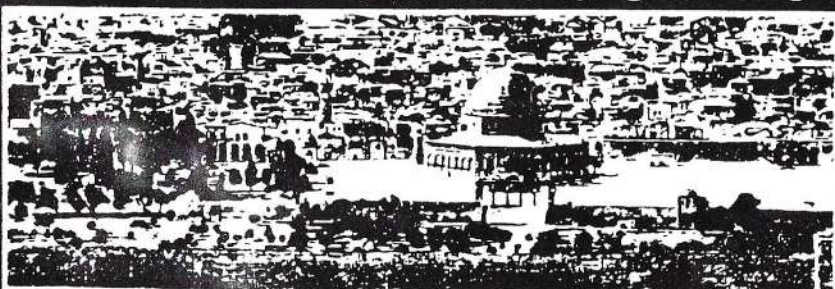
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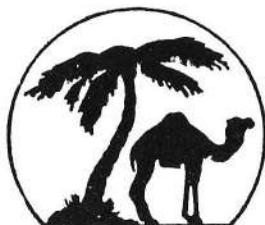
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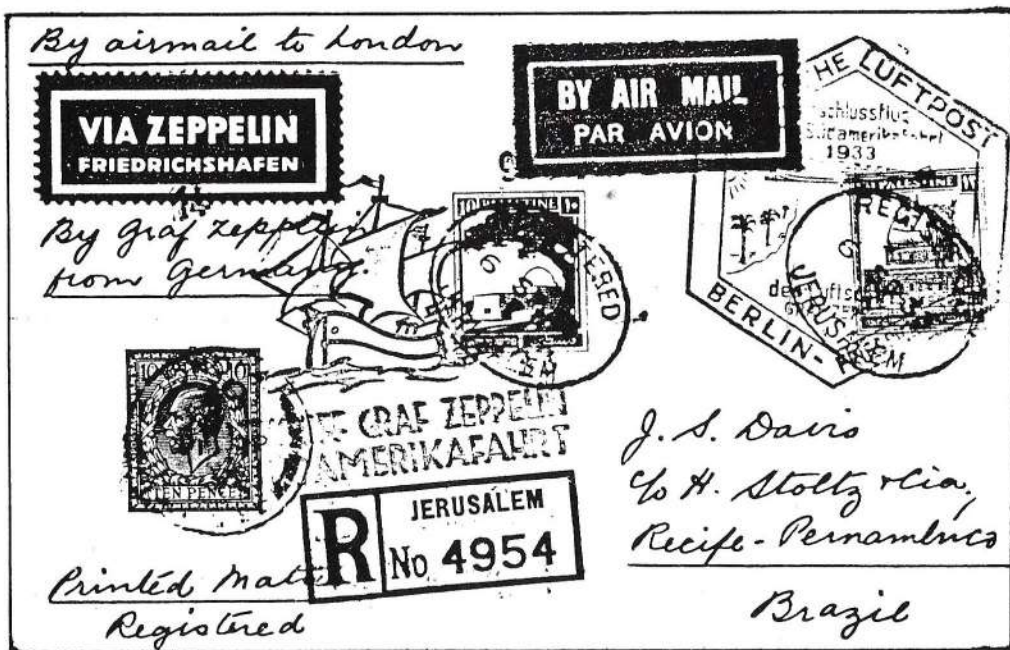
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