



CHAPTER #80

MEMBER

# ISRATHEME

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**From the Editor's Desk** - Nahum Shereshevsky

The last issue of the year gives your Editor the chance to tell the world his opinion about the ending year's issues, and this year is no exception. This year we had some more Sepharadi rabbies (hopefully the last ones), some more women (probably last ones too - they ran out of candidates), history, geography, environment, railways, architecture, cinema, animals, books. My choice for best stamp is two items - the Columbus stamp and the Spanish Expulsion sheet. The Supreme Court stamp is also nice. The Cinema stamps are OK, though I liked some of the other proposals for that set better. The "Worst set of the Year" is no doubt the Railway set (and I've heard that from many people), which can also claim the "Miss of the Year" title. Railways is a popular theme, but these stamps are plain ugly and one cannot figure out what is shown on them. The Kinnereth set is also a miss - I can figure out the sail boat and the fish, but could anyone tell me what is the green object on the third stamp? The Zoo animals: Of course they are nice to look at, but are they the kind of stamps we want to see in Israel? We are alarmed to see that our Philatelic Service is drifting toward producing stamps whose connection to Israel or Judaism is minimal, just to appeal to thematic collectors. The Philately Day - European Unification stamp can also be classified in that category, though it is better than having another Doar Ivri stamp-on-stamp! (Continued on P. 17)

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# CIVIL AVIATION IN THE HOLY LAND By ELIEZER SARAF

The first flying machine to appear in the skies of Palestine was a French Bleriot XI, piloted by Jules Vedrines, which was engaged in a Paris-to-Cairo air race around the Mediterranean. The year was 1913. The aircraft landed near Tel Aviv, spent a few days for repairs and then continued on its way. The Bleriot XI appears on the IS 50 value of the 1985 Beginning of Aviation in the Holy Land set (SG 950/Sc 900).

One year later, aviation came to Palestine in a far more serious way: War had broken out, and both sides fielded warplanes of various kinds. The legacy left by this activity was several airfields which continued in service until the 1930's.

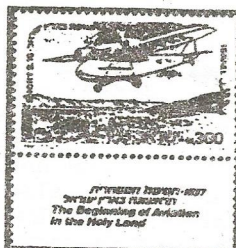
Then came the British Mandate, and with it rapid technical developments. Palestine was astride the air route to India. Mail was brought in by flying boats crossing the Mediterranean, landing at Haifa Bay or on the See of Galilee, and then transported to landplanes that went on eastward via Iraq and Persia. The first to arrive, in 1931, was a Scipio-Short S-17 Kent flying boat (951/901), operated by Imperial Airways. It started out from Marseille, passed Italy and Greece and landed at Haifa Bay on October 20, leaving the next day to Tiberias on the Lake of Galilee.



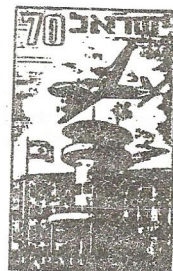
Bleriot XI



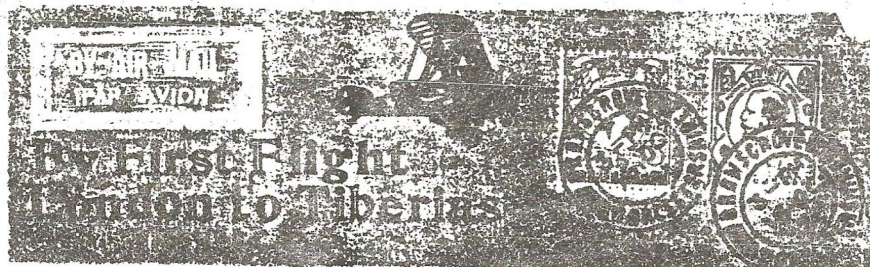
Scipio-Short S.17



Scion-Short S.16



Lydda Airfield



A cachet for the first London to Tiberias flight, 16.10.1931

Meanwhile, a small airstrip near Gaza was used by local landplanes, connecting Egypt with Iraq, Lebanon and Cyprus. This arrangement soon proved to be inadequate, and the authorities decided to build a modern airport near Lydda, on the way between Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

Construction started in 1935 and lasted for two years. Lydda (Lod) airport put Palestine firmly on the international air-route map, and it is still the main international airport in the country (named now after David Ben Gurion). A view of Lydda airfield is shown on an essay for an airmail stamp that was not issued. The Polish airline LOT established a regular flights service, as did the Italians via Rhodes. In the Holy Year 1933, a special Italian flight came to Palestine "on pilgrimage to the Holy Sepulchre". Egyptian airplanes also frequented the airport.



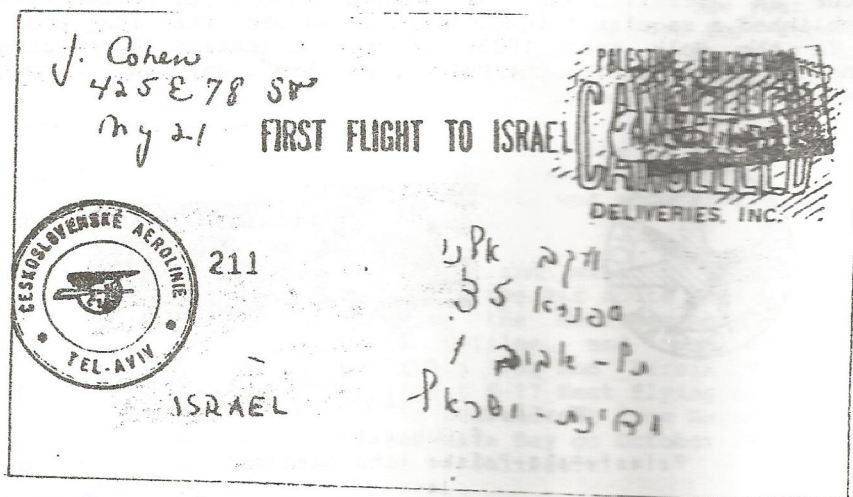
First Poland - Palestine flight, 27.10.1936

During the late 1930's, the Jewish magnate Pinhas Rutenberg, creator of the Palestine Electric Company, added a small air-taxi company, called "Palestine Airways", also known as PATCO, which served Palestine and its neighbouring countries. The company employed two Short Scion S-16 6-seater planes (952/902) and operated until 1940 when the two planes were impounded by the RAF.

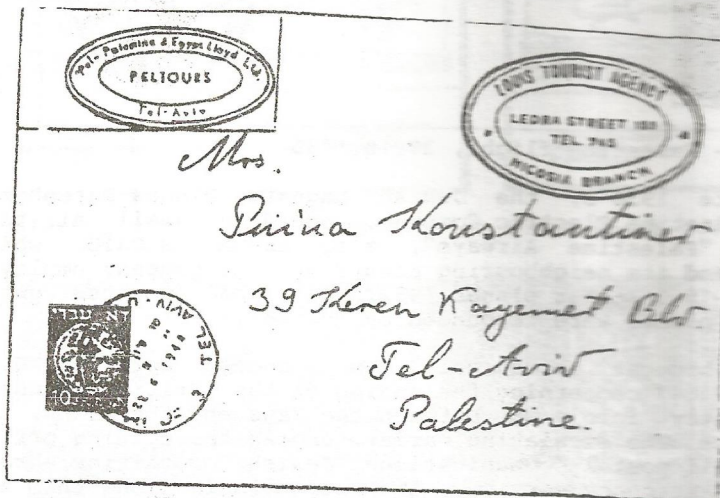
World War II brought about only few changes, but the U.N. resolution of 29.11.47 concerning the ending of the British Mandate plunged the country into a war between the Jews and the Arabs, the War of Independence. The escalating warfare caused the cutting off of the country from all postal communications. Jewish communities abroad organized several emergency services, the most notable among them are the "Peltours" airfreight from South Africa, and the PEDI service from the USA. Peltours, an established travel agency, collected letters in the famous "P.O. Box 18, Johannesburg", baled them into airfreight packets, which were forwarded by hired planes to Israel. Outgoing mail was collected by Peltours branches in Israel and sent to the company's offices in Cyprus or Europe by the same way. PEDI made use of an American law that permits anyone to transmit letters - provided that they are lawfully franked. Thus, letters were collected



and US stamps affixed, but cancelled PEDI (Palestine Emergency Deliveries, Inc.). The letters were then sent to Europe, and on to Israel by the Czech airline, CSA, the only airline willing to do so.



PEDI cover, sent from New York, flown to Israel by CSA (Czech airline)

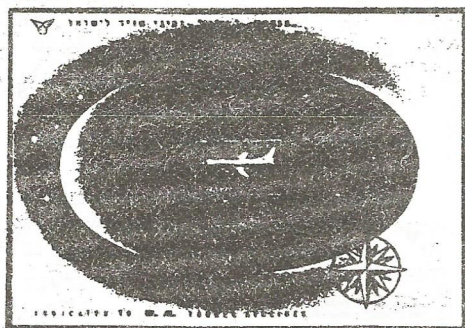


Peltours cover, sent through its Nicosia, Cyprus, office by courier plane to Tel Aviv and then by the Israeli mail. (postmark is Tel Aviv 22.6.1948 on Doar Ivri 10pr stamp).

One of Israel's first tasks was, therefore, to establish a national carrier, called EL AL ("upwards"), which began with a few demobilized army transports: a Stratocruiser, a Constellation, and a few Skymasters. One of EL AL's first missions was to bring Haim Weizman, who was elected as Israel's first president, home from Switzerland for his inauguration. In 1950 the route to New York was inaugurated, and soon EL AL began to show its flag in Western airports. Communist



countries (except for Romania) and most "third world" routes were off limits. In 1957 the company entered the jet age with the Britannia jetprop, followed later by the Boeing 707 and in the early 1970's the Boeing 747 "Jumbo". A stamp and a souvenir sheet honouring EL AL was issued in 1962 (237,237a/228,228a), showing a Boeing 707 in the EL AL colours. Following the peace with Egypt, EL AL inaugurated the Tel Aviv - Cairo line, for the first time since Independence.



EL AL souvenir sheet and stamp



First flight  
EL AL jet prop  
BRITANNIA, 1957



Lydda-New York first  
flight 25.6.50



Tel-Aviv Cairo first  
flight, 3.3.80



EL AL 40 years  
serving Israel

Another task in the early years of independence were the massive airlifts: "The Magic Carpet" (437/407, 1970) that brought to Israel some 100,000 Jews from Yemen, and "Ezrah and Nehemaya" (460/424, 1970)



"Magic Carpet" "Ezra & Nehemaya" World Refugee Year Youth Aliya

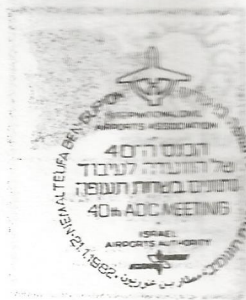
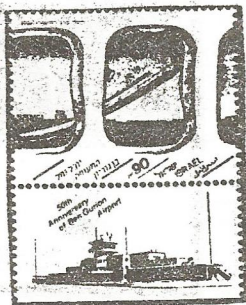
that brought a similar number of Jews from Iraq. These two operations are sometimes called "On Eagles' wings" (from the verse in Exodus 19,4), which is the subject of the 0.25 IL 1960 World Refugee Year stamp (186/178). A Yemenite girl and a DC-3 Dakota plane are also shown on the 10 pr. value of the 1955 Youth Aliyah set (105/95).

Israel also has an interior airline, called ARKIA ("to the skies"). Its most important task during its early years was providing a service to Eilat, the only "outback" in Israel. In 1964 ARKIA commissioned its Herald jetprops, and in 1977 the airline began its pure-jet era, starting regular and charter international flights to near-by European countries. There are also several "air taxi" outfits that manage to make a living.



ARKIA first flights: helicopter, jet-prop, jet, and 20th anniversary

As EL AL spread its wings, other airlines reciprocated, and Lod became a busy centre of activity that soon had to be enlarged. In the process it changed its name from "airfield" to "airport", and since 1974 it has been known as Ben Gurion International Airport. All these changes were reflected in the postmarks used by the local post office, see "What's in a Name", ISRA THEME #2. The jubilee of the airport was commemorated in 1986 with a stamp (1005/943), and a postmark that shows the Israel Airport Authority logo. Israel hosted two conventions of the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA) that were commemorated with special postmarks: the 40th ADC meeting (committee on airports data processing) in 1982, and EUR' AIRPORT 89, the 9th conference of ICAA Europe in 1989.



Ben Gurion Airport 50th Anniversary

ADC meeting

EUR' AIRPORT 89



## BOOK REVIEW

**SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS OF ISRAEL POST PART 2 1948-1992**  
by I. Nachtigal & B. Fixler, published by the Israeli Phil. Service

The book, which is bi-lingual (Hebrew-English), includes some 1570 special cancellations from 1948 to June 1992, and all are illustrated. The title is somewhat misleading, as the "part 2" does not refer to "special cancellations" but only to "cancellations" in general, part 1 deals with regular postmarks (published 1990) and part 3 deals with slogans (under compilation). In the main listing the cancellations are in chronological order, detailing under the illustration the catalogue number, day(s) of use, event commemorated, and place(s) of use. The postmarks are reproduced in full size and in good quality, except for a number of years where, I suppose, the original postmarks were unclear. After the main listing, there are a few appendices. The one which is of interest to thematists shows illustrated CDS's used at postal points, and your Editor is proud to mention that their inclusion is a result of an article in ISRATHEME ("Thematic Elements in Israeli Regular Postmarks", issue #1, December 1990). In addition there is a list of dates of use of Haifa and Ashdod cruise ship postmarks ("Bateaux de Plaisance").

There are also two groups of cancellations that are shown again - those used by Mobile Post units and those that include in them the word "Zahal" (IDF - denoting use in military-administrated territories). The authors call these two groupings "thematic", but they are in fact postal groupings. It should be kept in mind that this book was compiled by philatelists who are postmark experts (the leading ones in Israel) - not thematists - and therefore the emphases are accordingly, but this book is an essential tool for the thematic collector, filling a gap that existed for many years.

To make the book even more useful for thematic collectors, AYELET is planning to compile for it a detailed thematic index.

The book is available from the Israeli Philatelic Service, 12 Sderot Yerushalayim, 68021 Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel, for \$15 postpaid.

133 Special Cancellations

27.6.88 - 5.7.88

תחנות אירוע



**1294.** 29.6.88  
50 שנה למרכז הרפואי  
רמב"ם בחיפה  
50th Anniversary of  
Rambam Medical  
Center, Haifa  
Haifa



**1293.** 27.6.88  
שמורת טבע בנגב  
Nature Reserves  
in the Negev  
מצפה רמון  
חיפה Mizpe Ramon



**1292.** 27.6.88  
פסטיבל מחול בקרמיאל  
27.6. - 29.6.88  
Karmiel  
Dance Festival  
קרמיאל Karmiel



**1291.** 27.6.88  
100 שנה לבני ברית  
בירושלים  
Centennial of B'nai  
Brith in Jerusalem  
ירושלים Yerushalayim

A sample from the book, the reduction is in the printing of ISRATHEME

# 1. OTHER SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS, EVENTS and INSTITUTIONS

## 1. BETAR

The Betar (initials of "Yosef Trumpeldor Alliance") Movement is a right-wing movement, associated with the Herut political movement. There are a sport organization and a youth movement by that name. Betar is particularly strong in football, but has many participants in other branches of sport. As its strength is mainly local, the Betar gatherings, called "BETARYADA", have not been large-scale as the Maccabi and Hapoel gatherings.

a. 6.8.58 Tel Aviv-Yafo.

b. 26.7.73 Shimshon MPO.

## 2. ELITZUR

Elitzur is a movement consisting almost entirely of religious Jews, who do not participate in sports on the Sabbath and religious holidays. (This is the reason why there are no Elitzur football teams!) On its 50th anniversary in 1988 Elitzur held the second ELITZURYA.

a. 25.7.88 Yerushalayim (Jerusalem).

## 3. Postal Employees Sports Day.

Many government and municipal employees participate in active sports, but the only event to be commemorated postally was the Postal Employees Sports Day on the tenth anniversary of the State of Israel, Jerusalem, 8.5.58.



BETARYADA 1958



BETARYADA 1973



ELITZURYA 1988



Postal Employees Sports Day 1958

## 4. The Wingate Institute of Sport.

The Wingate Institute, near Netanya, is named after Charles Orde Wingate. Wingate was a British officer who served in Palestine during the late 1930's and helped training the Hagana underground. The inauguration of the Wingate Institute was commemorated by a postmark, Netanya, 3.9.58.





## II. OTHER SPORTS EVENTS BY BRANCH

Over its 44 years of independence many national and international sports events have been held in Israel, and some of them were commemorated by stamps and postmarks.

### 1. FOOTBALL (SOCCER)

For many years Israeli sports, and particularly football, suffered from Israel's political isolation. In the early 1970's Israel was expelled from the Asian Football Federation, and the Israeli team had to play against teams in Oceania and South America in the World Cup and Olympic preliminary games. Last year Israel was finally admitted to UEFA, the European Football Association.

- a. Asian Cup Finals, Ramat Gan, 25.6.64.
- b. FIFA Preliminary World Cup Games, Ramat Gan, 3.9.85. The postmark shows the flags of the four participating nations: Israel, Australia, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei.

### 2. BASKETBALL

- a. International University Basketball Tournament, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 3.8.66.
- b. Pre European Championship Basketball Tournament, Holon, 16.5.71.
- c. Maccabi Tel Aviv European Basketball Champion 1977, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 10.4.77
- d. 23rd European Basketball Championship for Women, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 12.6.91.
- e. Computer Games issue, 12.12.90. One of the 60 ag stamps shows a computer basketball game.
- f. The Thematic Association of Israel's 1st Annual Convention, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 26.3.91. The postmark incorporates a basketball, symbolizing sports as a philatelic theme.

### 3. VOLLEYBALL

- a. International Volleyball Spring Cup Tournament, Akko, 5.4.70.
- b. Volleyball Spring Cup, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 12.4.76.
- c. World Championship in Standing Volleyball, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 26.5.86.

### 4. SWIMMING

- a. Seven Nations Swimming Contest, Ramat Gan, 30.7.71.
- b. Eight Nations Swimming and Waterpolo Contest, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 3.7.86.

### 5. ATHLETICS

- 5.1 Running.
- a. The 10th Kinnereth Marathon, Tiberias, 17.12.86.
- b. Veterans' XX World Championship 1987, Netanya, 17.3.87

### 6. YACHTING

- a. 420 Class World Championship, 1970. Three stamps, IL 0.15, 0.30, 0.80, issued on 8.7.70 (SG 451-3/Sc 419-21). A postmark, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 12.8.70.

b. Haifa Sailing Week, Haifa, 20.3.89..

Note: For stamps with sailing boats in the design, see "Ships on Israeli Stamps", ISRATHEME #3, June 1991.



1a



1b



2a



2b



2c



2d



2e



2f



3a



3b



3c



4a



4b



5.1a



5.1b





6a 420 World Class Championship, 1970



6b

## CONTACTS

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\* Mr. MENASHE HERMAN, P.O. Box 553, 53104 GIVATAYIM, ISRAEL is interested in Olympics, basketball, football (soccer). He can write also in French, German, Spanish and Romanian.

\* Mr. ILAN GLASNER, Bezalel 3, 64683 Tel Aviv, ISRAEL, is a general collector and would like to exchange world-wide stamps.

\* Mr. YECHEAL BISKOVITZ, P.O. Box 10305, 52002 RAMAT GAN, ISRAEL, is interested mainly in mythological creatures. He also collects newspaper, telegraph and parcel post/train stamps.

\* Mr. ZVI RAPPOPORT, Dept. of Organ Chemistry, The Hebrew University, 91904 JERUSALEM, ISRAEL, would like to exchange with Chemistry collectors.

\* Mr. BARUCH KUPERMAN, P.O. Box 29318, 93801 JERUSALEM, ISRAEL, collects Chess, Olympics, Sports, Space, Art. He can write in most European languages, except French and Greek.

## NEW POSTAL RATES IN ISRAEL

As of December 23 1992, in NIS

Inland letter/postcard: 0.80 Registration surcharge: 2.80

Airmail postcard and aerogramme worldwide: 0.95

In the table the numbers refer to letters/printed, letters to zones

Zones: A-Europe; B-N. America, Africa, Asia; C-S. America, Pacific

	to 20g.	50g.	100g.	250g.	500g.
A	1.20/1.20	2.10/1.70	3.90/2.40	6.50/4.00	14.50/7.70
B	1.50/1.50	2.80/2.10	4.80/3.00	8.40/5.00	19.00/9.60
C	1.90/1.90	3.20/2.70	6.20/3.70	10.00/6.20	22.50/12.00

# METER CORNER - AIRLINES By Dr. ELIAHU FOA

At the end of the Second World War there was a great increase in air communications in the Middle East. This author happened to use air transport already in 1946 on a British Air Lines flight from Bassora in Iraq to Lydda (Lod) airport, and again in the same year from Lydda with the Egyptian Misr Air on its first flight to Cairo and from Cairo to Rome with TWA.

EL AL Israel Airlines was founded in 1948, and its development can be seen in the selection of meters shown here (figures 1-7). Notice the changes in the illustrated planes, the company logo and also the changes in the airport name.

Figs 8 and 9 are examples of ARKIA, Israel's inland airline.

With the development of EL AL's routes, foreign airlines started flying to Israel. Figs. 10 to 14 are a selection of meters from offices of some European airlines.



מטען אוויר  
**אל על**  
בכל יום לכל מקום



1. EL AL Air Cargo Everyday Everywhere (1959)



2. Fly EL AL Israel Airlines (1960)



3. Fly EL AL BOEING 707 International Jet (1962)



4. Travel in Good Company EL AL ISRAEL AIRLINES





5. EL AL - The Gateway for Export (1971)



6. EL AL KNOWS ISRAEL BEST (1979)



25. 2. 92



7. EL AL ("flag" logo, 1992).



8. ARKIA Israel Inland Airlines Ltd., Herald (1977)



9. ARKIA Israeli Airlines Ltd., DASH-7 (1982)



10. KLM (Holland) DC-7C the new KLM giant (1958)



11. AIR FRANCE (France) AIR FRANCE At Your Service Worldwide (1976)



12. SWISSAIR (Switzerland) SWISSAIR WORLDWIDE (1977)



13. ALITALIA (Italy) to AUSTRALIA every Monday (1980)



14. OLYMPIC (Greece) fly the OLYMPIC ticket we add warmth. (1982)



## NEW ISSUES

8.12.92

### PHILATELY DAY - EUROPEAN UNIFICATION NIS 1.50

Israel's Philately Day stamp this year is dedicated to the European Community, commemorating the "Single European Act". Israel, being very close to Europe, has signed many trade agreements with the EC over the years, and the coming unification will have a significant effect on our economy.

The stamps show several coloured upward graphs, representing hope for an economic growth. The background is blue and the graphs are encircled by the twelve golden stars of the EC flag, each star having a "shadow" in light blue. At the lower-left (position 3,2 of the grid) is a small Magen David, representing Israel. On the tab are the emblems of the IPF and the FIP. The FDI postmark shows an outline map of western Europe.



### 75 YEARS OF HEBREW FILM 80 ag., NIS 2.70, 3.50

The first film in Palestine was shot in the 1880's, but to be a "Hebrew Film" - by the definitions of those days - all four ingredients must be Hebrew: producers, plot, language and studio. The first film that fulfilled these four conditions is "Judea Liberated", shot in 1917. Each of the three stamps shows scenes from a film that was a landmark in the Hebrew cinema. On the tabs are the logos of the film's producers, and the years indicate when the films were first screened. THE FDI postmark shows a clapper.

### 80 ag. "Judea Liberated" - the first Hebrew film

"Judea Liberated" was produced by Yaacov Ben-Dov in 1917. Ben Dov set up the photography department of the Bezalel Art Academy in Jerusalem in 1907. Since 1912 he had been trying to produce a movie, but his dream was only realized during the First World War. Ben Dov was drafted to the Turkish army, was made a photography officer and was given a cinematographic machine. When the Turkish army retreated from Jerusalem, Yaacov Ben Dov kept that machine, and used it to shoot his film that documented 34 incidents that occurred during the first year of the British rule in Palestine (1917-8). The first scene was "The British Army Entering Jerusalem", December 11, 1917. There is an interesting story behind the shooting of this scene: Ben Dov had a dilemma, on one hand he wanted to document the event with his camera, but on the other, he was still a Turkish - that is, enemy -

officer! Eventually, his sense of historical duty prevailed... "Judea Liberated" was two hours long, but it hasn't been preserved as a whole film. Only a few shots that were incorporated in other films survived. Shown on the stamp is the 17th segment of part II, depicting "The Reception of the Liberator of the Holy Land, General Allenby, by the Jews of Jerusalem, Rabbis, Zionist leaders, and members of the Maccabi Youth Movement, 13th Sivan 5678 [May 24, 1918]". The man standing next to General Allenby is Dr. Chaim Weizmann. Also on the stamp is an illustration of an old movie camera, and on the tab is the logo of "Menorah Jerusalem", Yaacov Ben-Dov's production company, and the year 1918.

NIS 2.70 - "Oded the Wanderer" - the first Hebrew feature film

For a long time the attempts to produce a feature film in Palestine failed, but at last in 1932 two full-time feature films were produced. The first was directed by a Pole, Alexander Ford, and was edited in Warsaw, so the title of "The First Hebrew Film" goes to the second film, "Oded the Wanderer". The film is about the adventures of the boy Oded, who gets lost during a class outing. The director was Chaim Halachmi and the cameraman was Nathan Axelrod, both were among the pioneers of the Hebrew film. On the stamp is a scene from the film, featuring three boys, Shimon Pevzner, Michael Klinger and Moshe Tawill. A clapper can be found on the stamp as well. On the tab is the logo of the FAI production company and the year 1932.

NIS 3.50 - "This is the Land" - the first Hebrew talkie

"This is the Land", first screened in 1935, reviewed 50 years of pioneering in Palestine, combining documentary material and acted scenes. The producer was Baruch Agadati, a talented dancer, artist and film maker, who was famous for his Purim parties in "Little Tel Aviv" of the 1930's. The stamp shows a scene from "This is the Land" featuring Moshe Hurgel and the famous Habima theatre actor Shmuel Rodenski. A director's megaphone is seen in the lower-left corner. On the tab is the logo of AGA Film, the company that Agadati set up in 1930, and the year 1935.



Judea  
Liberated



Oded the  
Wanderer



This is  
the Land



FDI postmark



**DEFINITIVE SERIES: SONG BIRDS (PASSERIFORMES) 10, 20, 30, 90 agorot**

Although small in size, Israel has a large variety of habitats, as well as being located along one of the principal global bird migration routes. As a result, more than 500 aviary species may be found in Israel, offering plenty of activity for birdwatchers.

This series depicts song birds, 192 species of which are found in Israel. Each stamp shows the bird with its Hebrew and English names, and the tab shows another view of the bird, with its Latin name. The stamps were designed by the English bird illustrator James Smith, who made many drawings in Israel in 1990. This is a rare occasion where Israeli stamps are designed by a non-Israeli designer. The birds shown are:

- 10 ag. - Wallcreeper (*Tichodorma muraria*).
- 20 ag. - Tristram's Grackle (*Onycognathus tristramii*).
- 30 ag. - White Wingtail (*Motacilla alba*).
- 90 ag. - Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*).



Wallcreeper



Tristram's  
Grackle



White  
Wingtail



Swallow



FDI postmark

(From the Editor's Desk - Continued from first page)

The programme for 1993 looks interesting, though at this stage we know only the subjects of the stamps, not the designs - the Israeli Philatelic Service reveals this only a month or two before the day of issue. I'm wondering about the Balloons set - is this the 1993 "Issued-just-for-collectors" winner?

As in last year, the participants of the Annual Convention of the Israeli Philatelists choose the best stamp of 1992. The winners are, an descending order: Spanish Expulsion sheet; the leopard from the Zoo Animals set; Philately Day/European Unification. (It should be noted that each of the the Zoo Animals stamps was an entry for itself, as a set their combined votes were the highest compared to other sets). This year, for the first time, there was also a vote for the best special postmark. The winners: Israel's First Olympic Medal (11.8.92, see ISRATHEME #6, no. 11); World Columbian Stamp Expo '92 (22.5.92, #7 no. 23); Anemone FDI postmark (18.2.92, #6 no. 14). The Medal postmark is also my own choice, and I must say that there were many pleasing special postmarks in 1992. In fact, some FDI postmarks were better then their stamps!

## CHRISTMAS 1992

This year there are some interesting items for Christmas in Israel. Special Klussendorf labels were issued on 2.11.92, which are used in a machine installed at the post office in Bethlehem. The labels carry the inscription "Season's Greetings From The Holy Land" in English in white, with Christmas bells, a candle and the Star of Bethlehem in green and gold. The background is red, and the cliché number of that machine is 023. The machine will be in use until 8.1.93, and during that period two pictorial postmarks will be used in Bethlehem and in Nazareth. The Bethlehem one incorporates the star that is in the Nativity Church, which marks the exact place where, according to tradition, Jesus was born. In addition, all mail posted in the city will receive a sticker that reads "Via Bethlehem" in black on gold. The Nazareth postmark shows the top of the Basilica of the Annunciation.

The Philatelic Service will also issue the special labels from its Klussendorf machine, which has no cliché number. Special covers were sold, franked with a NIS 1.10 label (the airmail rate to Europe) from the Philatelic Service machine and postmarked with the Bethlehem pictorial postmark of 2.11.92 and carrying the sticker.

As in every year, special Christmas postmarks will be used in Bethlehem and Nazareth on 24.12.92.





# 1993 TENTATIVE STAMPS PROGRAMME

## February:

Nature reserves in Israel  
Bahai religion  
Menahem Begin  
Song birds (definitives)

## June:

Fight Drugs  
B'nei B'rith 150th anniversary  
14th Maccabi Games  
Road Safety - Children's drawings

## April:

Independence Day 5753  
Memorial Day - Medical Corps  
Holocaust Day  
Science terms for youth

## August:

Festivals 5754  
Sages of Israel  
TELAFILA 93 - souvenir sheet

## December:

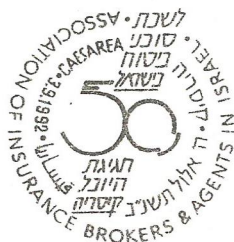
Philately Day - Centenary  
of first children's magazine  
Hanukka  
Balloons

## SPECIAL POSTMARKS September - November 1992

Note: '\*' denotes a postmark used for FDC of stamps.

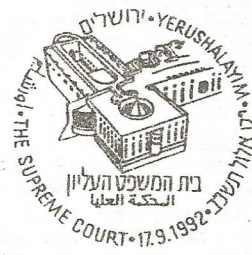
1. 3.9.92 BEN-GURION AIRPORT: First EL AL Flight Tel-Aviv-Beijing
2. 3.9.92 CAESAREA: Association of Insurance Brokers & Agents in Israel.
3. 15.9.92 QIRYAT ONO: Qiryat Ono - a City.
- \*4. 17.9.92 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): A Centenary of Books Jewish National & University Library 1982-1992.
- \*5. 17.9.92 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): The Supreme Court.
- \*6a 17.9.92 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): Zoo Animals.
- \*6b 17.9.92 RAMAT GAN: Zoo Animals.
- \*7. 17.9.92 TEL AVIV-YAFO-YERUSHALAYIM: 100 Years Jaffa-Jerusalem Railway Line.
8. 17.9.92 BINYAMINA: 70th Anniversary of Binyamina.
9. 18.9.92 TEL AVIV-YAFO: GENOVA '92 - Greetings from Israel's Philatelists.
10. 20.9.92 ZEFON YEHUDA MPO: 25th Anniversary of the [Jewish] Re-settlement of Gush Etzion.
11. 12.10.92 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): Railway centenary in the Holy Land 1892-1992
12. 29.10.92 TEL AVIV-YAFO: 500 Years Hospitality for Jews from Spain in the Ottoman Empire.

אל על - בייג'ין - אל על  
EL AL - Beijing - EL AL  
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First Flight Tel-Aviv - Beijing  
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ה' אלול תשנ"ב  
נ ת ב ג  
Ben-Gurion Airport  
מطار بن غوريون  
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