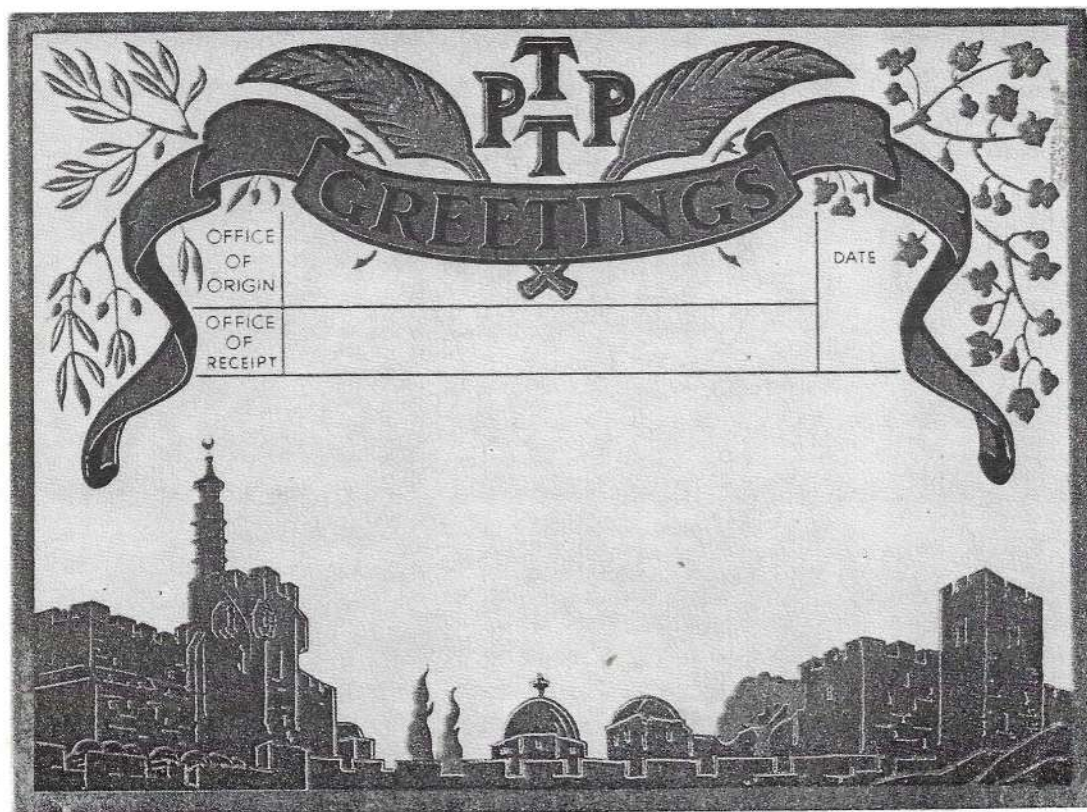


Holy Land Postal History

II
40

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



הגירסה האנגלית של מברק הברכה המעוטר, שהיה בשימוש בא"י בתקופת המנדט

The English version of the illustrated greeting telegram, used in
Palestine during the Mandate period (see article on p. 1091)



AUTUMN 1989

HOLY LAND POSTAL HISTORY

Official Bulletin of the Society of the Postal History of Eretz-Israel

Affiliated to the Israel Philatelic Federation
ISSN 0333-6875

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Society annual membership fee: \$18 (includes Bulletin by surface mail;

If Bulletin requested by air mail, additional annual fee:

Europe - \$4.-, U.S.A. - \$6.- (subject to postal rates' changes)

Back issues available 2-36: at \$4.50 each (regular issues),

\$6.- each (double issues & #32), Index for Vol. I - \$2.-.

Advertisement (price for members):

Full page - \$28, half page - \$18 per issue.

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Editorial – End of Volume Two

The second 5-year period of our Bulletin has come to an end with this Issue, No 40, and this completes the Second Volume, Nos 21-40 (1985-1989). The index for this volume will be published in a separate booklet, as in Volume One, and will be distributed to our members together with Issue 41. Then it will be possible for those, who are interested to bind Volume Two together with its Index. We hope that with the completion of Volume Three a comprehensive index of all the 3 Volumes will be published as well.

As in Volume Two, we will start renumbering the next issue's pages, to start the new Volume Three.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking all our past and present contributors for their efforts, and all our sponsors and members for their help and encouragement.

The Annual Membership Fee

Due to the continuous increase in recent years in the cost of paper and printing and due to the improvements of the Bulletin's method of printing, we are enforced to update the membership fee of the Society.

The annual fee for 1990 will be \$18 (including \$0.5 currency exchange expenses) or NIS 35 for Israeli members (but the sheqel fee will be linked to the \$ in case of devaluation). The airmail additional charges remain as previously: \$4 – for Europe, \$6 for America and South Africa.

For members who have already paid 1990's fees (according to the old rate) before 1st December 1989, there will be no increase.

The 1990 dues should be paid during January, 1990. Members are kindly requested to pay their dues as early as possible to facilitate proper operation of our Society and Bulletin.

We would like to remind our members abroad of the possible ways of paying the annual fees: (1) A \$US cheque. But please note that if cheques are sent in US\$ from non-USA countries, they must be drawn on American bank, otherwise the commission your bank charges us is formidable; (2) Cash (Registered letter); (3) A cheque in your country's currency (Please add 10% in this case, for expenses).

Illustrated Greeting Telegrams

Shaul P. Ladany & Zvi Shimony

This article has two purposes: to introduce and inspire our members to a rather neglected but nevertheless very interesting "philatelic" subject of telegrams and other related items, and to describe the illustrated greeting telegrams which have been in use during the Mandate and Israeli periods.

Telegrams as a service of the Post Office, is a fully legitimate subject of "formal" philately. It is acceptable at FIP exhibitions either as Postal History or Thematic material; telegraph stamps may be exhibited as Traditional Philately. There exist several catalogues of illustrated telegrams and of telegraph stamps. In Thematics, we refer to the inclusion of "illustrated telegrams" in any theme discernible in the illustration.*

It is not intended here to give a detailed review of Holyland telegraph postal history and forms, but only to interest the readers by describing the specific sub-field of illustrated greeting telegrams during the periods of the British Mandate and the State of Israel.

On June 4, 1989 the Postal Authority announced to the public (announcement No. 62/89) that from June 11, it will start to provide a new service: the dispatch of illustrated telegrams. The announcement made the impression of a totally new service which in the past had not been offered to the Israeli public. The facts, however, are slightly different.

Already during the British Mandate in Palestine, three Illustrated Greeting Telegrams were issued, English, Hebrew and Arabic respectively, with matching envelopes (s. Front Cover and Figs 1-2). The date of issue is unknown, but since Great Britain issued on January 1, 1936 a similar greeting telegram (like our English version, except for the lower portion) it can be assumed that they were issued on the same date or later. This British telegram, No. 2 on green's list¹ [Green, p. 11] was designed by Robert Gibbings. It can be safely assumed as well that the Palestine English Telegram was designed by the same artist.

These Telegrams were used until the termination of the Mandate postal service in Palestine. Some of the unused forms were found after the termination of the Mandate in various post offices: a few examples are known from Beth Lehem and Beer Sheva, where in 1948 these Forms saw philatelic use with or without stamps tied to them. However, the matching envelopes (at least of the Hebrew language version) saw bona fide postal utilization as ordinary envelopes by various

* One of the authors, S. Ladany, exhibited his collection of telegrams in the International "Bulgaria '89", in the section of Postal History.

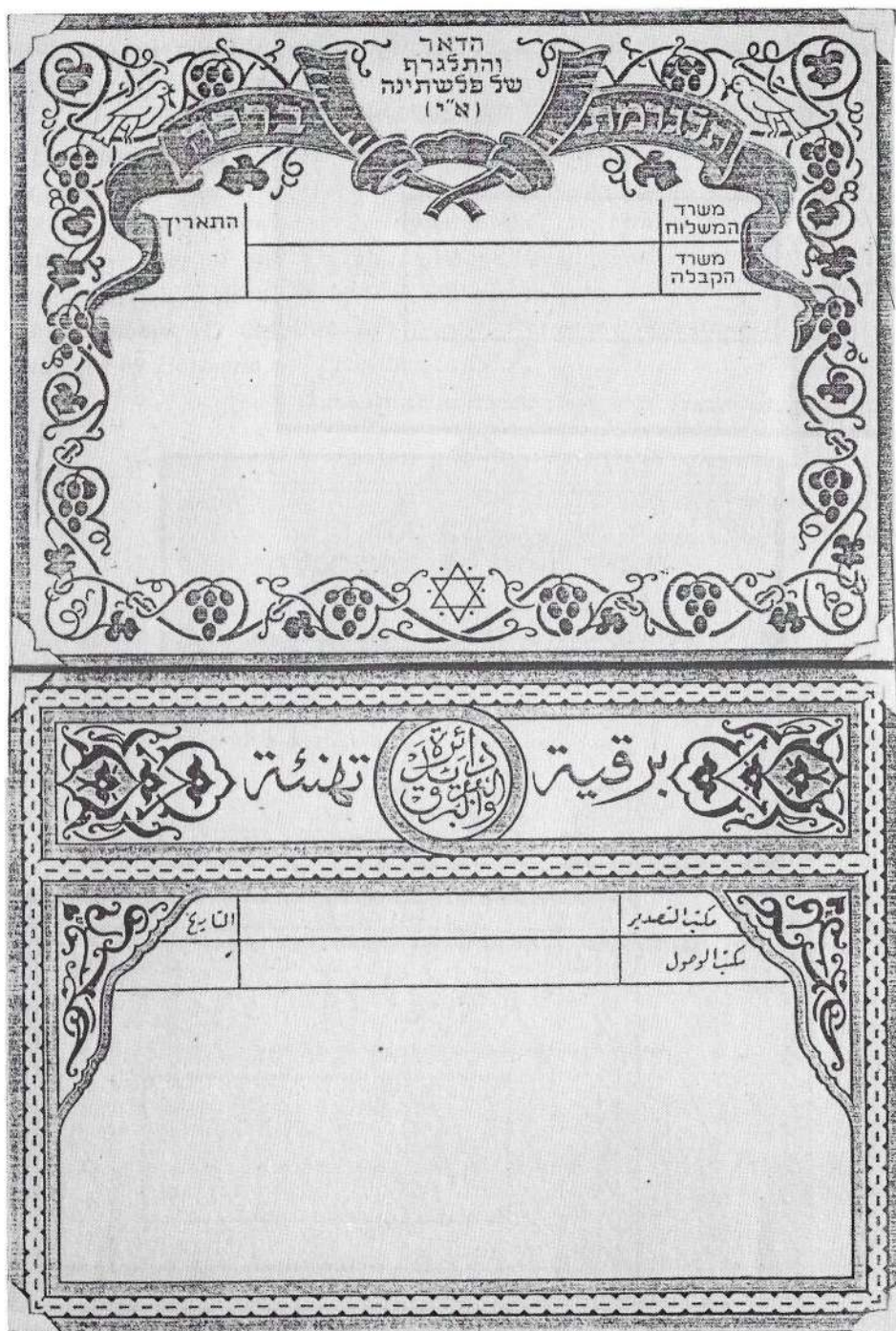


Fig. 1: Ornamental greeting telegrams of Mandate Palestine: (above) the Hebrew version, (below) the Arabic version.

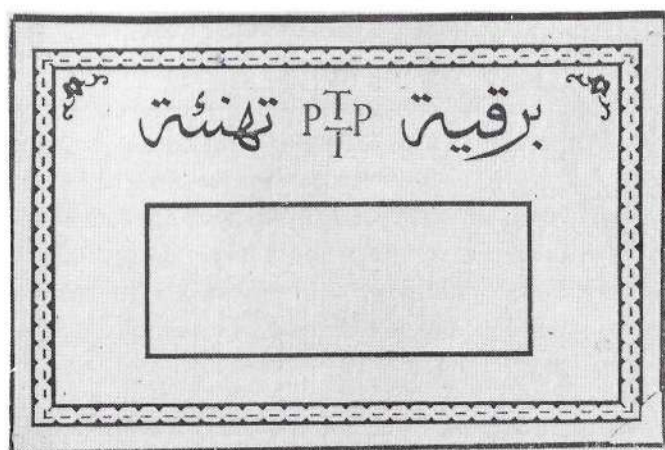
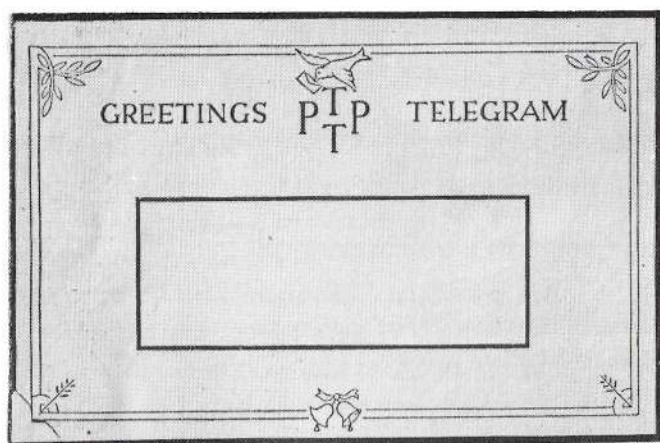


Fig. 2: The three versions of envelopes (English, Hebrew and Arabic) for the respective Mandate greeting telegrams.

Government offices during the austerity period. Figure 3 illustrates such a cover used in 1954 as a registered letter from Holon to Haifa; the reverse was used as the front side, where the address was written on an official sealing label.

On September 26, 1948, the Israeli post issued its second postal stationery set (the first being the "Doar Ivri Lettersheet"), simultaneously with the Festival Stamps of 1948: A multicolored ornamented telegram form (Type I) plus a special envelope for its delivery (Figs. 4 and 5). The envelope, bearing an oriental wrought-iron ornament design in blue on its left side, identical in shape to the red FDC of the 1948 Festival Stamps, is inscribed in Hebrew: "Greeting Telegram". They were catalogued by Heymann and Pertzalan, in 1953².



Fig. 3: The Mandate Greeting Telegram Envelope used in Israel, 1954, for sending an official registered letter.

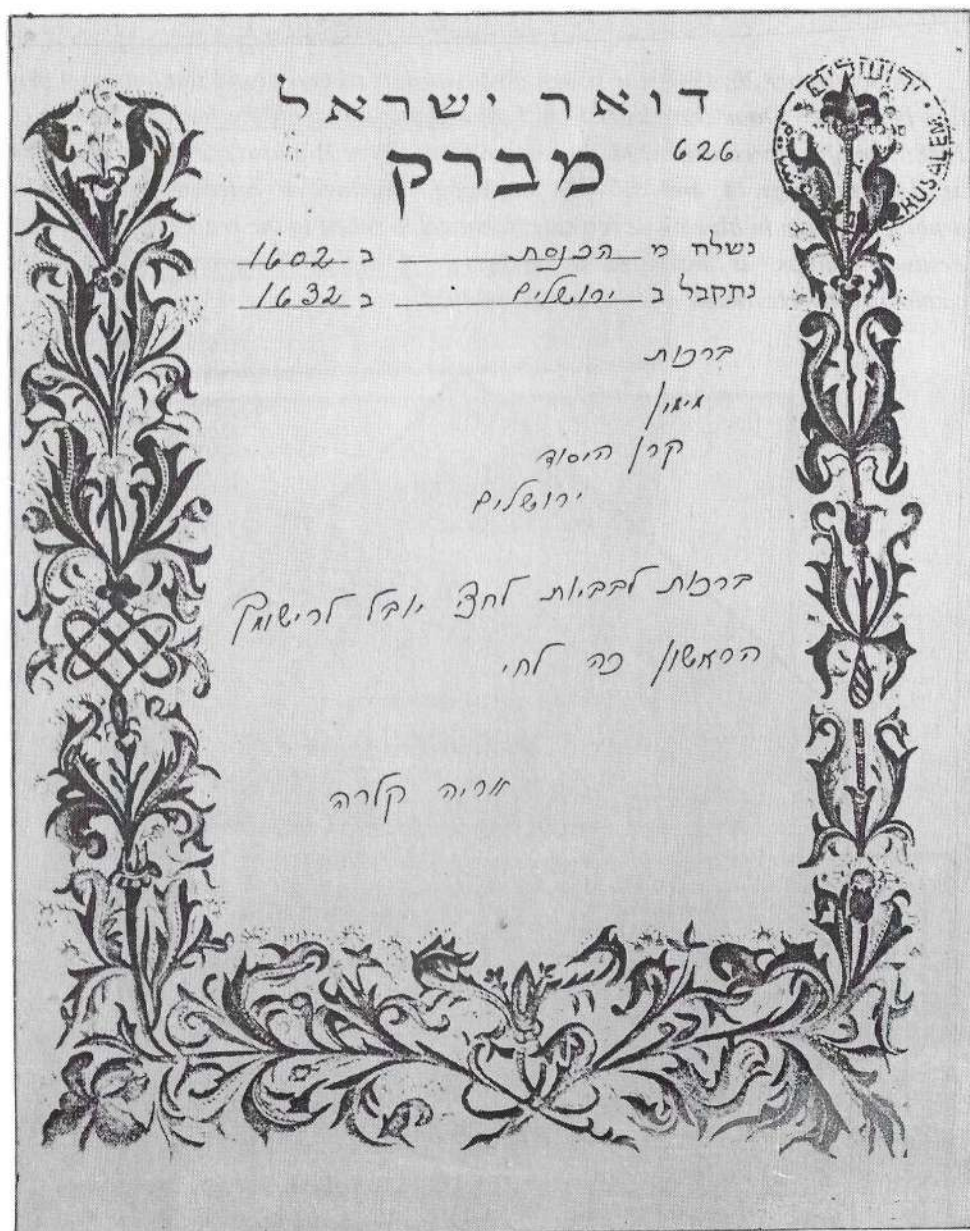


Fig. 4: The first Israeli illustrated greeting telegram (Type I).

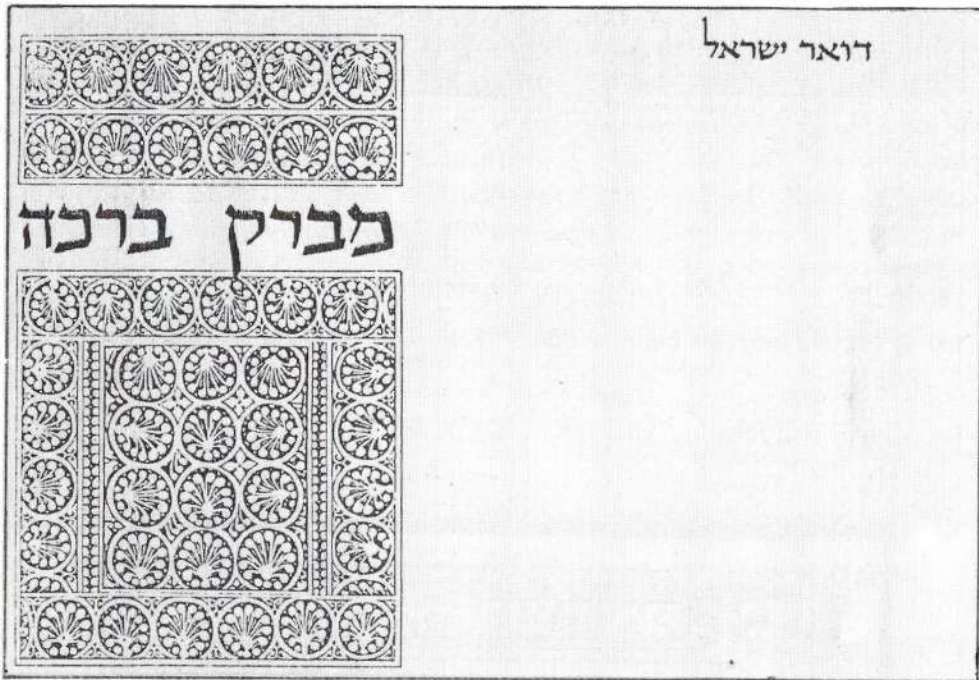


Fig. 5: The ornamental envelope used for the greeting telegram of Type I.

Sometime in 1953 a new type of greeting telegram (Type II; grey and brown) with a matching envelope was issued (Figs. 6 and 7). The form bore the headings (in Hebrew) "Telegram No." and "Telegram" printed with colored large size ornamental letters. It seems that the form did not have any upper selvage. This basic design was also used in later versions, issued at unspecified dates, having the features as described below:

- (a) Form with additional imprint (in Hebrew) "To" and "Address", and an upper **inverted** selvage, without a dividing line between the form and the selvage (Fig. 8).
- (b) Form as type (a), but with a dividing broken line between the form and the selvage (Fig. 9).
- (c) Form as type (b), but with an added printed greeting (Fig. 10). It is not clear how many different greeting forms of this type were issued.
- (d) Form as type (c) but with **straight** selvage (not inverted) and a squared number printed on the top right corner of the selvage (e.g. Fig. 11). Some thirty-five different greetings (corresponding to the numbers 1 to 35), were issued, according to the list in Figure 12. This list has been published in telephone

directories and other places. A special colorful poster to publicize these telegrams was issued by the Post Office (Fig. 12(a)).

Sometime in the sixties, the Type III greeting telegram form was issued. It had the same border ornamentation as Type II, but with the change that the large sized Hebrew word "Telegram" lacks ornamentation. In addition, it has the imprint (above the word "Telegram") of "Telegram No." and, in subtypes (a), (c), also "Post Office of origin" followed by dotted lines. Three subtypes exist:

- (a) An unnumbered form without any imprinted greeting (Fig. 13(a)).
- (b) As (a), but only one imprinted line ("Telegram No.") above "Telegram" (Fig. 13(b)).
- (c) A numbered form, (as in Type II (d)) from 1 to 35, with imprinted greetings (Fig. 14).

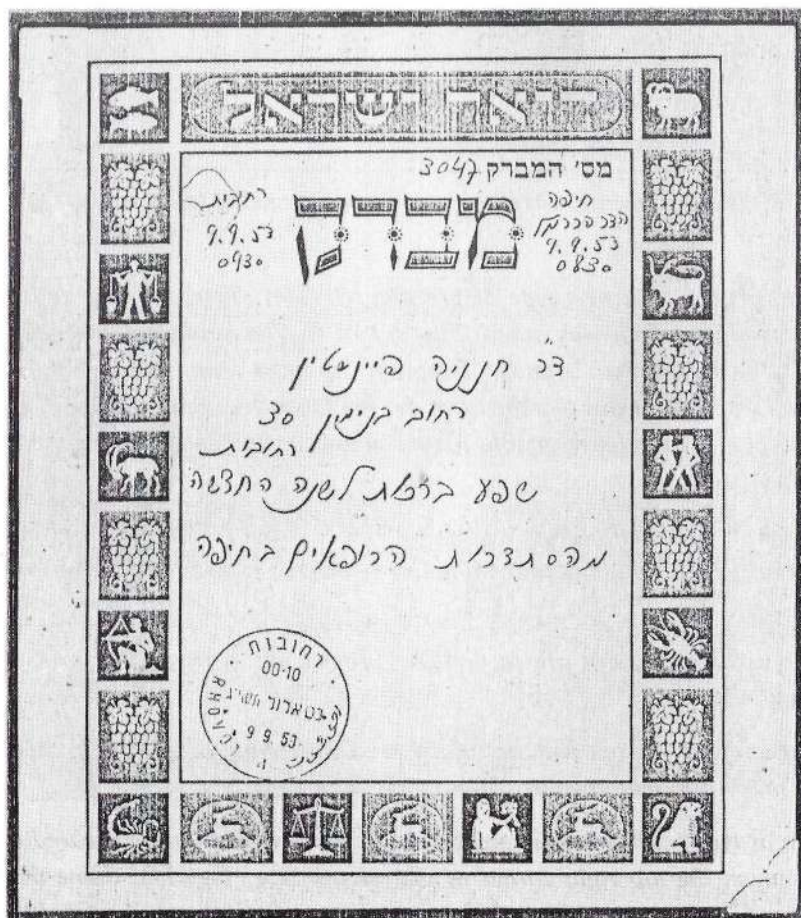


Fig. 6: The second Israeli illustrated greeting telegram (Type II).

ק ב ל ה

2

מס' המברק

נתקבל בשעה

ביום

חתימת השליח

חתימת המקבל

מס' המברק

אל:

המען:

ברכותי הלבביות
לנשואיכם

Fig. 11: Greeting telegram No. 2 of Type II(d).

שירות מוזל של מברקי ברכה

לרשותן נוסח קבוע של 35 מברקי ברכה שניתן לשגר באמצעות שירות 171. התזמנה נעשית ע"י ציון מספר המברק המבוקש. המברק "מסור" על טופס מעטור.

להלן רשימת הנוסחים:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 18. ברכותי הנאמנות ליום הולדתך. | 1. ברכותי הנאמנות לנשואים. |
| 19. ברכותי הנאמנות ליום הולדתך. | 2. ברכותי הנאמנות לנשואים. |
| 20. ברכות לבביות לחתונת הבית. | 3. מזל טוב ואחולאים לבנים לזוג הצעיר. |
| 21. מועדים לשמחה. | 4. שפע ברכות ואחולאים לבנים. |
| 22. שנה טובה ומאושרת. | 5. מיטב אחולאים ליום שמחתכם. |
| 23. לשנה טובה תכתבו ותחתמו. | 6. מיטב אחולאים ליום שמחתכם. |
| 24. ברכות לבביות לחתונת הכסף. מזל טוב לשנים רבות ומאושרות. | 7. מזל טוב להולדת בנים בכורכם. |
| 25. ברכות ואחולאים לבנים לחתונת הזהב. מזל טוב לאורך ימים ולשבעה טובה. | 8. מזל טוב להולדת הבן. |
| | 9. מזל טוב להולדת הבת. |
| | 10. מזל טוב. בת החילה סימן יפה לבנים. |
| | 11. מזל טוב. מזל טוב למזלך בן נאמן לעמו וארצו. |
| | 12. מזל טוב לבנים ולכל המשפחה, מזל טוב לגדלך למורה, לחופה ולמעשים טובים. |
| | 13. ברכותי הנאמנות כחכמים בנכם בעול המצות. |
| | 14. ברכותי הנאמנות לחכמים בנכם למצות. מזל טוב. |
| | 15. ברכותי הנאמנות לחכמים בנכם למצות. מזל טוב. |
| | 16. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 17. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 18. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 19. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 20. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 21. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 22. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 23. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 24. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 25. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 26. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 27. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 28. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 29. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 30. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 31. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 32. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 33. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 34. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |
| | 35. ברכות לבביות לבת המצוה. מזל טוב. |

Fig. 12: The list of the 37 texts of Type II(d) telegrams.



Fig. 12(a): A multicolored poster, published by the P.O. to publicize greeting telegrams.

ק ב ל ה

חותמת הדואר

מס' המברק.....

נתקבל בשעה.....

ביום.....

..... חתימת השליח

..... חתימת המקבל

מברק

מס' המברק.....

בית דואר המוצא:.....

אל:.....

המען:.....

Fig. 13(a): Greeting telegram Type III(a).

1104

מס' המברק 84

נתקבל בשעה

ביום

חתימת המקבל

חתימת השליח

משרד התקשורת
ירושלים
אב תשס"ז 79
מברק

מס' המברק 84

הכסף 3.5

מברק

אל: כח ע"ה וצ"ל. לעזון.

המען: קורא כי צורח 26

י

מזל טוב לנש ולבר מצוה

הזכו לגדלו, לחזרה לחופה ולמעשים טובים

יחידות ויונת /
הכסף

משרד התקשורת
ה.ט. 151

אם נתקבל המברק המקורי,
גא לבטל העתק זה.

Fig. 13(b): Greeting telegram Type III(b).

ק ב ל ה

2

מס' המברק

נתקבל בשעה

ביום

חותמת הדואר

חתימת השליח

חתימת המקבל

מס' המברק.....
 בית דואר המוצא:.....

מברק

אל:.....
 המען:.....

**ברכותי הלבביות
 לנשואיכם**

Fig. 14: Greeting telegram No. 2 of Type III(c).

Several printings were evidenced by different shades of color, and different sizes of letter spacing and fonts for both Types II(d) and III(b). It seems that all of these greeting telegrams of Types II and III, except for II(a), were delivered in ordinary unmatched telegram envelopes.

The new illustrated telegrams of June 11, 1989 (Type IV) are not in fact telegram forms, but rather Postal Authority illustrated cards with imprinted greetings (e.g. Fig. 15). They were mailed in a newly issued red and yellow imprinted telegram envelope, as shown in Fig. 16, which is First Day postmarked. There are twenty-six such illustrated telegram cards, with different illustrations and greetings (except Nos. 73, 90, 91 which are without illustrations).

The Postal Authority issued a pamphlet containing colored reduced sized photographs of all the telegram cards, and mailed them to postal patrons in a new red and yellow on white telegram envelope, which bears now also in English "Israel Postal Authority", as well as an advertisement to order the service via telephone. It should be noted that the numbers defining the cards do not appear on the cards themselves. We show them here as Figure 17 and its continuations, which are photo copied (except the last part) from the publicity pamphlet. These illustrations lack the Postal Authority imprint, which appears on the actual cards (except on Nos. 90, 91).

Most of the illustrated cards have humoristic colored designs by the artist David Harel and the printed greeting in script Hebrew letters. Style-wise they are definitely out of line with all the illustrated greeting telegrams issued up to the present all over the world.

Anticipating the Jewish New Year 5750, on 10 September, 1989, the Postal Authority issued an additional illustrated card (No. 60A) with the design of card No. 60, but imprinted "Happy New Year" in Hebrew and in English instead of "Happy Holiday" (Fig. 18). It was possible to send this telegram locally as well as to the USA and Canada until 13 October.

References

- (1) Doris M. Green, "The Greetings Telegram Service and Check List of All Issues", published by the author, England, 1967.
- (2) I. Heymann and M. Pertzalan, "Postage Stamps of Israel, Handbook and Catalogue", I. Heymann (publisher), Tel-Aviv, 1953, pp. 107-108.

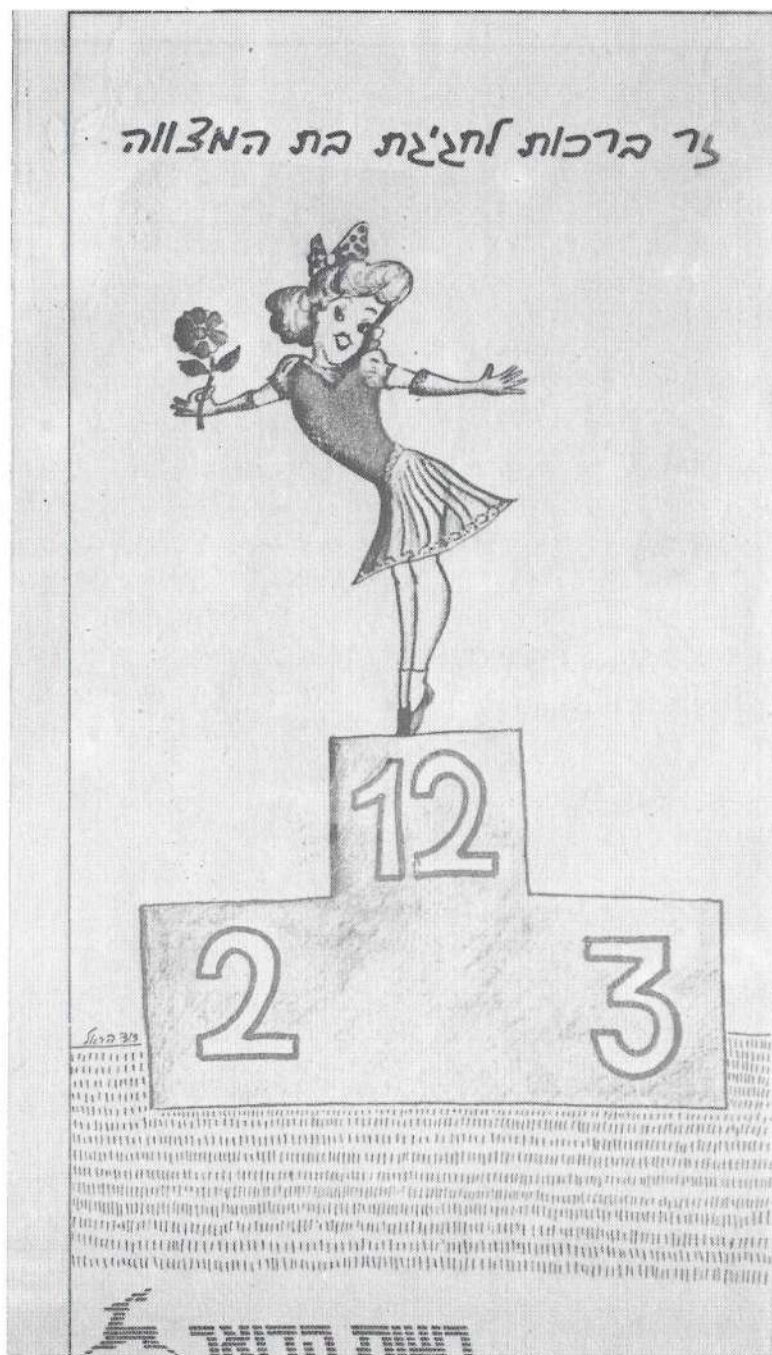


Fig. 15: Greeting telegram No. 50. One of the 26 new greeting "telegram cards" issued on 11 June, 1989.

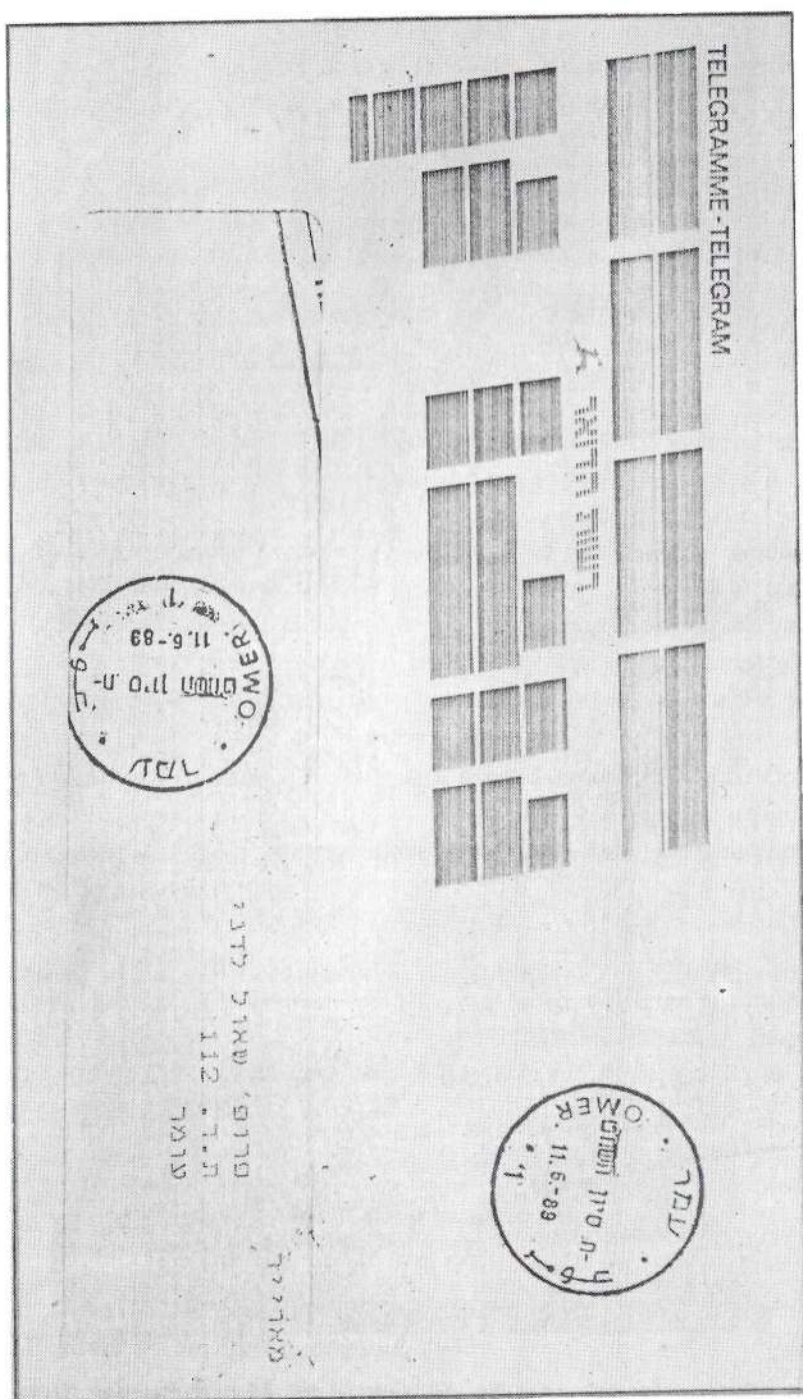


Fig. 16: The matching envelope for the new greeting telegrams; used on the First Day of Issue.

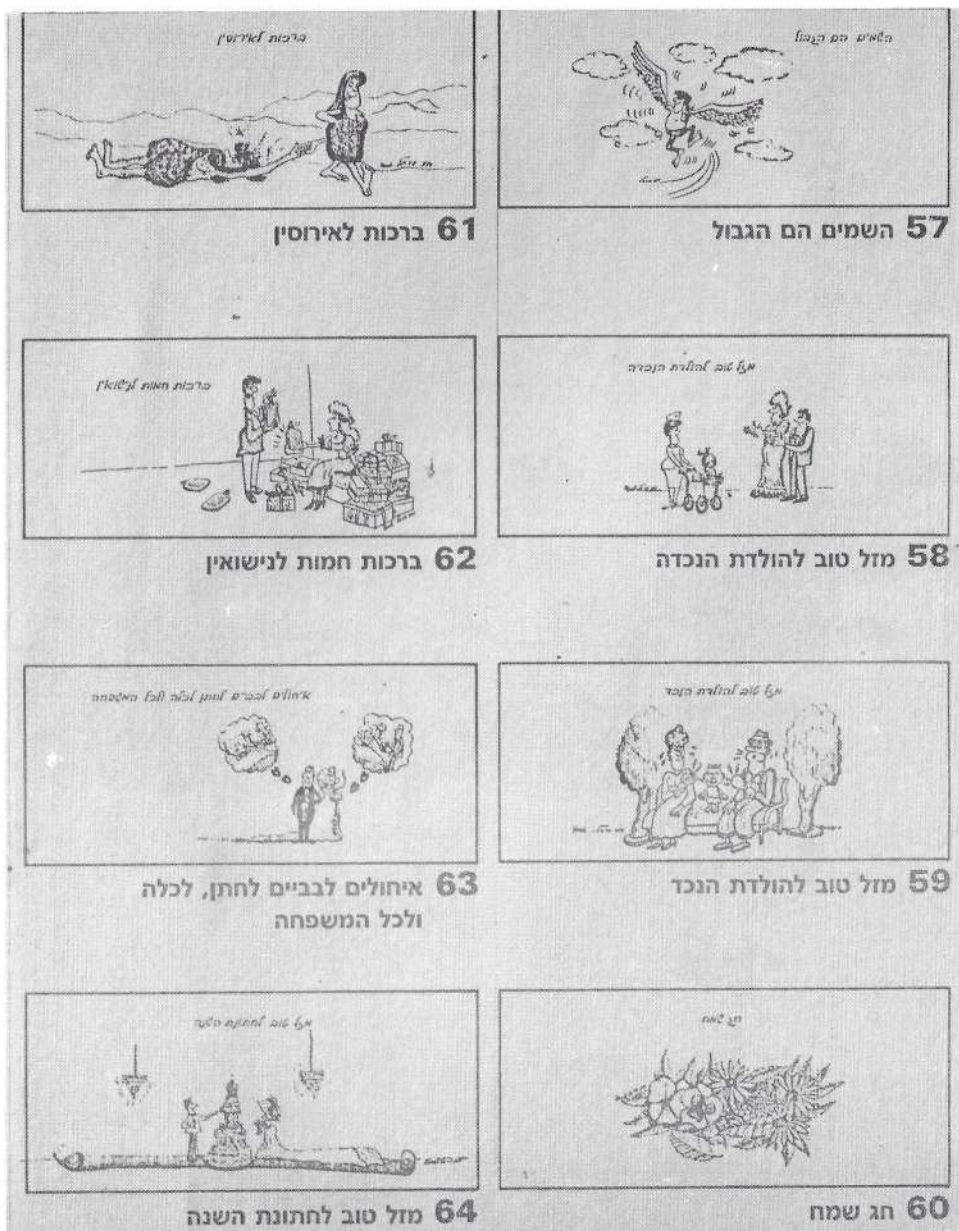
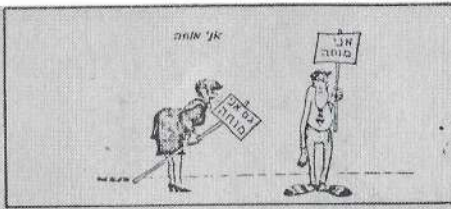


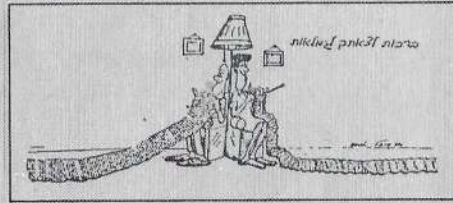
Fig. 17 (continued): The new greeting "telegram cards".



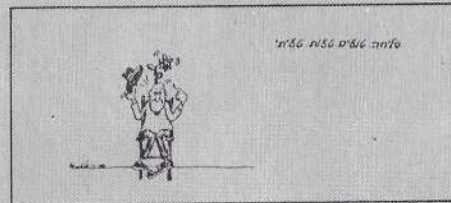
69 אני מוחה



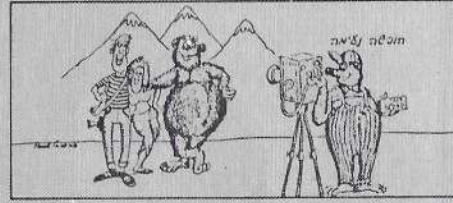
65 שפע ברכות לחנוכת הבית

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החלמה מהירה

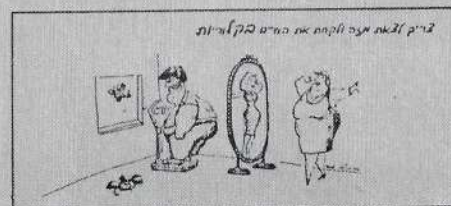
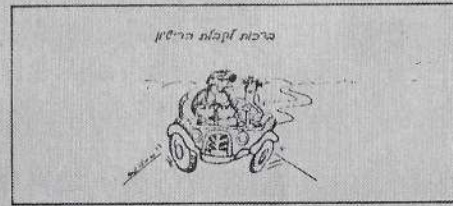
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72 צריך לצאת מזה ולקחת את החיים
בקלוריות

68 ברכות לקבלת הרישיון

Fig. 17 (continued): The new greeting "telegram cards".



Fig. 17 (continued): The new greeting "telegram cards".



Fig. 18: The Happy New Year "telegram card", issued on 10 September, 1989.

Postal Services of Safed, 1918-1920

E. Leibu, Qiryat Bialik

The postal history of the town of Safed, "capital" of the upper Galilee, has always attracted great interest among students and collectors of the postal history of this land. The reason is obvious: Safed has a very rich postal history during all three major periods of the Ottoman, British and War of Independence. From this aspect it is second only to Jerusalem and parallel to Rishon LeZion, offering many philatelic items of great interest, importance and rarity. In the following pages the postal history of Safed, immediately following the occupation by the "E.E.F.", will be described.

Safed was captured by the "E.E.F." on September 26, 1918. The local civilian population, which had suffered tremendously during the war, had an urgent need for postal communications. These were vital mainly to the large Jewish community, which before the war had lived primarily on the economic support provided by the Diaspora.

The British military authorities – responsible for the administration of the country – were generally anxious to respond to the needs of the civilian population. In order to supply postal services, military post offices were usually established in the larger towns following occupation. These offices handled military, as well as civilian mail. The sweeping success of the September offensive necessitated a sudden and rapid expansion of the Army Postal Service in Palestine, as well as in Syria and Lebanon. The following table shows the new post offices established¹:

Town	Date of Capture	Post Office	Earliest date recorded
Haifa	Sept. 23, 1918	SZ 57	Sept. 27, 1918
Tul Karem	Sept. 19, 1918	SZ 59	Oct. 5, 1918
Tiberias	Sept. 27, 1918	SZ 60	Oct. 14, 1918
Safed	Sept. 26, 1918	SZ 61	Nov. 1, 1918
Damascus	Sept. 30, 1918	SZ 62	Oct. 23, 1918
Beyruth	Oct. 8, 1918	SZ 8	Oct. 14, 1918
Tripoli	Oct. 18, 1918	SZ 9	Oct. 24, 1918

Apparently, Safed was not high on the list of priorities and about one month passed from the day of its occupation until a post office was established there. The earliest date known of APO SZ 61 is shown on an "OAS" postcard in Figure 19.

As FPO SZ 60 had been opened in Tiberias more than two weeks earlier than the office in Safed, its citizens had the possibility of forwarding their mail to Tiberias and mail it there during this short period. Such a postcard – with the message dated "Safed, Sept. 21, 1918", forwarded to Tiberias and mailed from there – is shown in



Fig. 19: "Field Post Office SZ 61, 1 Nov. 1918" – earliest date recorded, on OAS p.c. to London.

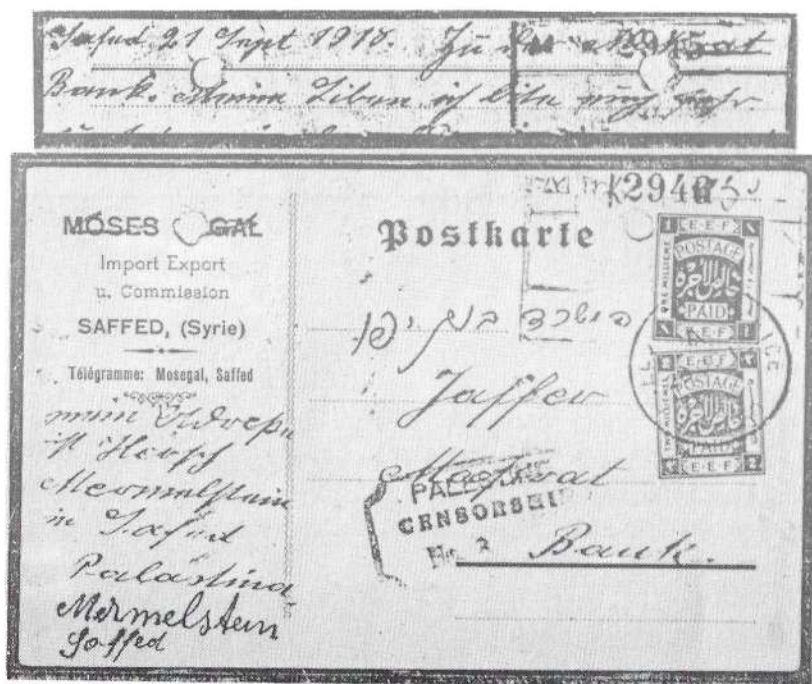


Fig. 20: Postcard dated "Safed, 21 Sept. 1918", forwarded to Tiberias and mailed at "FPO SZ 60" on Oct. 26.

Figure 20. The date of September 21 appears to be incorrect, or was the postcard written in anticipation of the rapid advance of the "E.E.F."?

"FPO SZ 61" operated in Safed continually for a period of about 3½ months, until the "OETA-EEF" administration took charge in February 1919. During its period of operation FPO SZ 61 handled all types of mail: OAS and official mail as well as civilian mail (Figs. 21-24). Registered covers of this period are quite rare.

Safed is the only place in Palestine where an Ottoman handstamp was re-introduced into use following the British occupation. Usage of the Ottoman postmarks was regular in the northern territories of Syria, Lebanon and Cilicia under the "E.E.F." occupation, where civilian post offices were re-opened by the "E.E.F.". This was not done in Palestine where army post offices of the SZ series handled civilian mail. For this reason, the usage of the octagonal Ottoman Postmark of Safed requires special attention. This instrument is known to have been used between December 9, 1918 to February 14, 1919² on both regular (Fig. 25) and registered (Figs. 26,27) mail. A total of only eight such covers are believed to exist.

Two covers mailed from FPO SZ 61, but originating in Tiberias, are worth mentioning. One is an Official cover of the Court of Tiberias addressed to Haifa, mailed from Safed on February 8, 1919 (not shown). The other is an OAS registered front, cancelled by FPO SZ 61 dated February 4, 1919. Alongside is the Ottoman handstamp of Tiberias (ST 50/06), struck in red ink! The reason why these covers were (or had to be) forwarded from Tiberias to Safed for mailing is not known. Was there any problem with the operation of "FPO SZ 60" in Tiberias during early February, 1919? (s. Fig. 29).

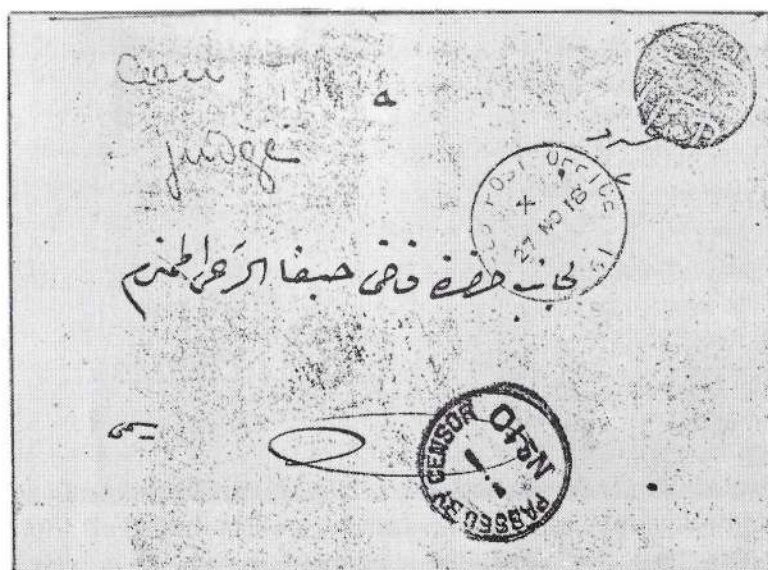


Fig. 21: Official stampless cover from Safed, cancelled "FPO SZ 61, 27 Nov. 1918".



Fig. 24: Similar registered cover mailed on Jan. 29, 1919. R-label above red registry cross, "Registered No. 179" in m/s.

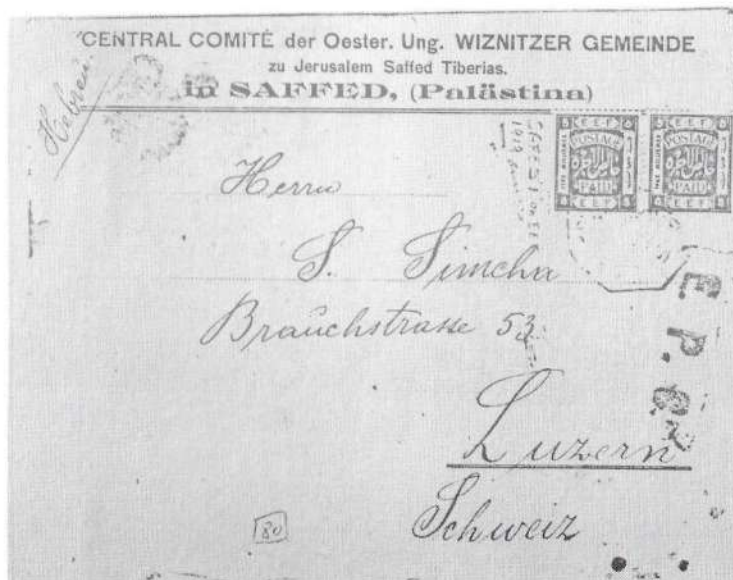


Fig. 25: Ottoman "Safed 1" cancelling pair of 5m stamps on cover to Switzerland, Feb. 14, 1919.

ERROR CORRECTION

In Issue #40 of HLPH (Autumn 1989), p. 1118, a wrong illustration erroneously appeared for Figure 24. The right cover is shown below. Readers are requested to affix this illustration in place of the wrong one.

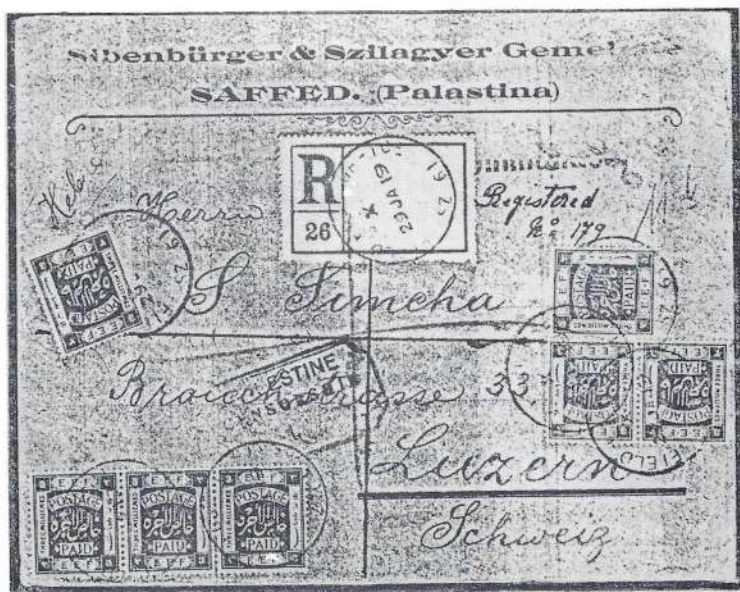


Fig. 24: A similar registered cover mailed on January 29, 1919. R-label above registry cross, "Registered No. 179" in m/s.

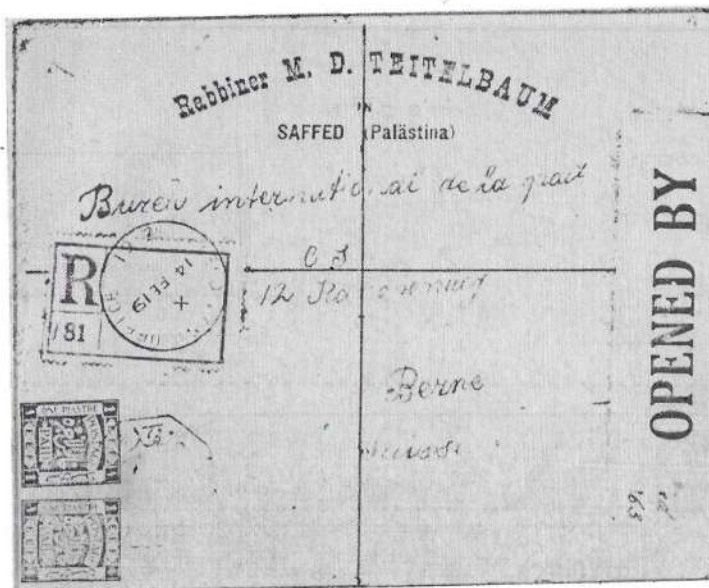


Fig. 26: Registered cover cancelled by the Ottoman postmark of Saffed, dated Feb. 12, 1919. R-label tied by "FPO SZ 61, Feb. 14, 1919". M/s "Registered No. 363" underneath censor label.



Fig. 27: Another registered cover with the Ottoman Saffed postmark in combination with the FPO handstamp, "Private" registered No. 373 and R-label No. 191.

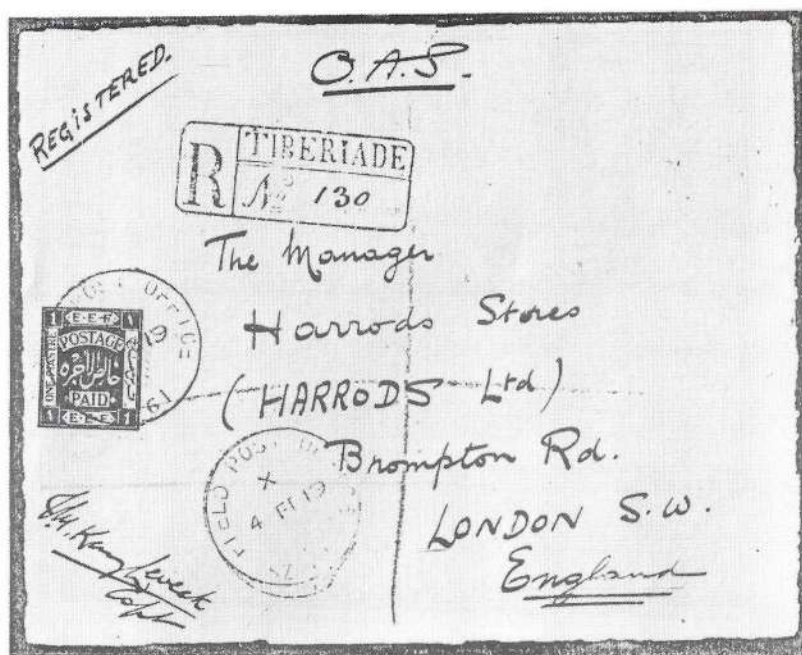


Fig. 29: OAS registered cover, showing Ottoman R-handstamp of Tiberias, mailed at "FPO SZ 61" on Feb. 4, 1919.

By the end of 1918 and early 1919, the administration of the post offices located within the towns and serving the population was transferred to the Occupied Enemy Territories Administration. This process started at the larger cities in mid-December 1918 and took some months to complete. In Safed, "FPO SZ 61" was re-designated "OETA-EEF Safed" by mid-February, 1919. The cover of February 16 (Fig. 30) is dated only two days later than the last date recorded for "FPO SZ 61" – February 14 (Fig. 26).

The "OETA" post office of Safed operated regularly until the civil administration took charge in July, 1920. This was an active post office providing all kinds of postal services. Registered covers, sent early in this period, are shown (Figs. 31, 32).

An interesting handmade form is shown in Figure 33. It is a "list of transit parcels" on which stamps of the value of 1.5 piastres were affixed for the "carriage" of each parcel, cancelled "Safed OETA, 5 March 1919". Another similar list is shown (Fig. 34) with stamps affixed in a similar manner on front and back, cancelled by the same postmark, dated March 13. The exact nature of these forms is not clear and several speculations can be made. Any information clarifying the purpose of these items will be appreciated.



Fig. 30: Early date of "SAFED-OETA", Feb. 16, 1919, on a cover to Luzern.



Fig. 31: Early cover of the OETA period. The R-label is cancelled on Feb. 19, 1919 while the stamps on Feb. 22. The cover shows the red registry cross and the R-label with m/s "457".

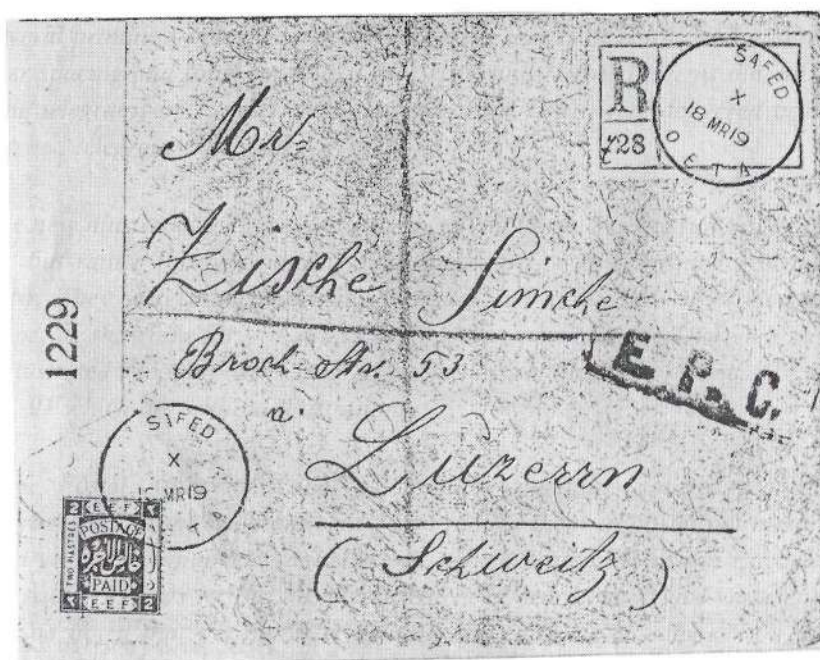


Fig. 32: Registered cover "Safed OETA, 18 MR 19". R-label shows the digit 7 (part of "728") by the same handwriting as in previous covers.

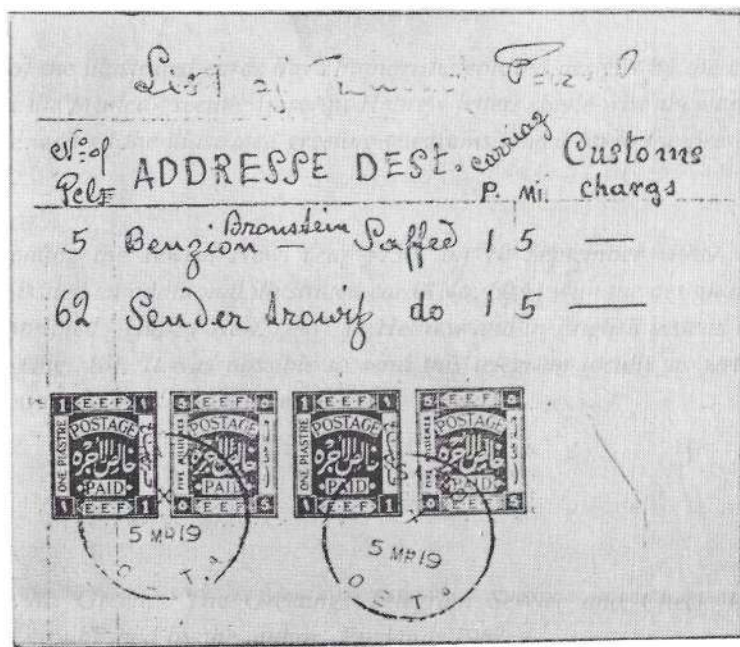


Fig. 33: "List of Transit Parcels"; stamps cancelled "Safed OETA, 5 March 1919".

No. of Parcel	ADDressee	Dest.	carriage		
85	D. Segal	Saffed	1 5	—	—
86	do	do	1 5	—	—
83	do	do	1 5	—	—
84	do	do	1 5	—	—
66	MS. Travitz	do	1 5	—	—
67	do	do	1 5	—	—
68	do	do	1 5	—	—
69	do	do	1 5	—	—
70	do	do	1 5	—	—
99	do	do	1 5	—	—
71	Maischewski	do	1 5	—	—

Fig. 34: Another list of Parcels, with stamps of 1p + 5m for each parcel listed (rest of stamps on reverse, not shown).

Of the matters discussed in these pages, the usage of the Ottoman octagonal "Safed 1" postmark is so extraordinary that it requires to be discussed. A close examination of about one half of the covers known (Figs. 25-27) has brought some interesting observations:

- (a) This handstamp was used to cancel the stamps.
- (b) On registered covers the "FPO SZ 61" handstamp was used – in addition to the Ottoman instrument – to tie the R-label and also as a backstamp.
- (c) The registered covers show a gap of two days between the date of the Ottoman (Feb. 12) and the FPO (Feb. 14) postmarks.

A possible hypothesis that explains the use of the Turkish postmark in Safed is as follows: a former employee or agent of the Turkish Post retained possession of this instrument. This person continued to act in some capacity as an agent of the FPO, collecting mail from the Jewish quarter, and bringing it to the FPO somewhere in the town or its immediate vicinity. This agent, on some occasions, cancelled the stamps on the covers he handled with this Ottoman postmark.

A close examination of the registered mail of "FPO SZ 61" (Figs. 26, 27, 31, 32) reveals some characteristics common to all these covers, which support the hypothesis suggesting the existence of this agent. All registered civilian covers mailed from "FPO SZ 61", show the following:

- (a) Origin in the Jewish quarter.
- (b) A registration cross in red (sometimes in addition to the regular registration cross in blue), made with a ruler.
- (c) A manuscript notation "Registered" with a number, of the same red ink, but not identical to the R-number on the R-label. The manuscript is very distinctive and there can be no doubt that all covers had been marked by the same hand before being processed at "FPO SZ 61".

These observations lead to the conclusion that an agent, or a post office employee, collected the mail from the Jewish quarter, marking in a distinctive way the registered mail (and keeping a record of it), before passing this mail on to the FPO. Had this man been a former employee or agent of the Ottoman post, it would have been possible for him to use the Ottoman handstamps. It is known that the retreating Turks did not collect their handstamps when they left.

Following into the "OETA" period, we meet the same distinctive hand writing again, this time on the R-label rather than beside it. We can only conclude that this person was a regular employee of the "OETA" post office.

References

- (1) Proud, E.B., "History of the British Army Postal Service 1903-1927".
- (2) Dorfman D., "Palestine Mandate Postmarks".
- (3) "Turkish Post in the Jewish Quarter in Safed", HLPB 17-18, p. 882.

The 1945 Commemorative Postcard

Arthur M. Hochheiser

In 1984, I had published my catalogue of the postal stationery issued in Palestine during the period of British control. Last year, I published a list of additions and corrections, made possible by help from various sources. Since that time, I have come across only one article with a bit of 'trivia' information but since it does help to explain one unlistable item regarding the postcard issued in 1945, I feel that it should be reported. In addition, contained in the source are other items of philatelic interest, especially as regards the Philatelic Exhibition held in Tel Aviv in 1945.

Every so often, a purchaser of envelopes for philatelic reasons is fortunate enough to find an enclosure which is philatelically meaningful. Shown here in Figure 35 is an article from a Palestine newspaper written in German, found in one such envelope. The lines of the text have been rearranged to square off the illustration. The article is an announcement of the first National Stamp Exhibition to be held in Palestine in 1945. The name of the newspaper was "Yedi'ot Hadashot" (New Information). The text is as follows:

"PHILA 1945"

The 1st National Stamp Exhibition in Eretz Israel

By Dr. Georg Hesky

About thirty years ago, during a Greek lesson, my teacher caught me checking stamps for watermarks and perforations. He showed no understanding for my hobby although the word "Philately" comes from the Greek language. Times have changed. Similar to the, at that time, frowned upon game of soccer, stamp collecting has become acceptable. More than one teacher has tried to get his students to start a collection and would use stamps to explain problems in geography, history, art and the print of foreign languages.

Even the attitude towards the adult "Philatelists" has changed. He is no longer considered an odd person but perhaps even admired because he is able to use the pleasure of a hobby and combine it with a secure capital gains investment. Although it is correct that good collections are worth a considerable amount of money, the real value is not in the monetary field but in the idealistic aspects of it.

No less than 118 objects of the leading collectors got to the exhibition. A jury chaired by the world-renowned philatelist, Dr. S. Ascher, will present medals designed by the engraver Murro of Jerusalem. There is also an engravers competition for the "Phila" for which about 50 designs are already on hand. These designs will also be exhibited and a sort of Gallup Poll will enable each visitor to air his or her views over the future design of our stamps. The final decision about the design will come from a jury chaired by the Postmaster General Mr. Webster.

High money prizes will be awarded to the winners and special prizes will go to the visitors whose views come closest to those of the jury.

Four foreign post office administrations are officially represented at the "Phila". Especially impressive is our own postal administration. We will have our own post office and all mail deposited there will receive commemorative postmarks which are created from an old English "Levante" postmark.

Two different exhibition postcards with imprinted special stamps will be issued and will be handed out to visitors, one pair each, as long as the supply lasts. Since this is a limited issue and is produced in a three-color print, these postcards will not only represent a nice souvenir but will also soon increase in value.

Whoever comes to the exhibition to enlarge his collection will not be disappointed since all the leading stamp dealers of the country will display their best material.

The exhibition will officially be opened on Sunday, April 8 at 12 noon. The opening ceremonies will be carried on radio. A gala evening, a Philatelic Congress, and the evening of closing ceremonies will complete the evening program of the four exhibition days during which the country will be "under the sign of the postage stamp".

Of philatelic interest is the paragraph shown in bold type in the translation. The postcard issue (Fig. 36) is PC 11. This postcard was printed in Palestine at the Atid Press in Tel Aviv specifically for the philatelic exhibition to be held in Tel Aviv in 1945. My catalogue does not list any "quantity issued" since that information in all other issues came directly from the Archives of The Crown Agents in England. The two different postcards referred to are the two different color combinations found in the cachet at the left; red-light blue and orange-blue. What is of interest is the statement that the postcards were handed out free to all visitors as long as the supply lasted and that the special "Phila" cancellations could be applied at the exhibition. While the statement indicated that the issue was limited, we have no information on the quantity issued. We must presume, however, that the greater number of these cards remained as souvenirs. This accounts for the large numbers of these cards available and their relatively low estimated value in the catalogue, a fair representation of their true value.

I wish to thank Dr. Paul Dickstein who edited the German text for me. Any further comments on the article or the newspaper in which it appeared will be welcome. A letter to the editor will be most welcome.

Dienstag, 3 April 1945

JEDIOTH CHADASCHOTH

„PHILA 1945“

Es ist jetzt wohl dreisig Jahre her, dass ich von meinem Lehrer ertappt wurde, als ich während d. Griechischstunde Briefmarken auf "Wasserzeichen" und "Zählungen" untersuchte. Es s'ellte sich heraus, dass mein Professor trotz des griechischen Stammes des Wortes "Philatelie" keinerlei Verständnis für meine Liebhaberei hatte, was er auch in unmissverständlichen Worten zum Ausdruck brachte.

Die Zeiten haben sich geändert. Ähnlich dem damals auch verbotenen Fussballspiel ist das Briefmarkensammeln schulfähig geworden, und mehr als ein Lehrer ermutigt seine Schüler zum Sammeln und bedient sich vielleicht auch manchmal der Marken, um seinen Zöglingen Probleme der Erdkunde, der Geschichte, der Kunst, des Drucks der fremder Sprachen anschaulich zu machen.

Aber auch die Einstellung gegenüber dem erwachsenen "Philatelisten" hat sich geändert. Längst wird er nicht mehr als eine Art Sonderling betrachtet, sondern vielleicht sogar bewundert, weil er es verstanden hat, die Annehmlichkeiten einer Liebhaberei mit der Nützlichkeit einer wertsteigenden, inflationsalcheren Kapitalanlage zu verbinden. Aber selbst wenn es richtig ist, dass gute Sammlungen häufig einen anschaulichen Geldwert repräsentieren, so liegt doch der Sinn des Briefmarkensammelns nicht im Materiellen, sondern im Ideellen.

Die 1. Briefmarken-Landesausstellung in Erez Israel

Von Dr. Georg Hesky

Nicht weniger als 118 Objekte der führenden Sammler des Landes gelangen zur Ausstellung. Eine Jury unter dem Vorsitz eines Philatelisten von Welt Ruf, Dr. S. Ascher in Jerusalem, wird Medaillen verteilen, welche der Jerusalemer Graveur Murro entworfen hat. Für die "Phila" wurde ferner ein Graphiker - Wettbewerben ausgeschrieben, für den bereits annähernd 50 Entwürfe vorliegen. Diese Entwürfe werden ebenfalls auf der "Phila" ausgestellt, und eine Art von "Gallup-Poll" wird es jedem Besucher ermöglichen, seine Ansichten über die künftige Gestalt unserer Briefmarken zum Ausdruck zu bringen. Die endgültige Entscheidung über die eingereichten Entwürfe fällt dann eine Jury unter dem Vorsitz des Postmaster General Mr. Webster. Hohe Geldpreise winken den Preisträgern und Sonderpreise jenen Besuchern, deren Ansicht dem Spruche der Jury am nächsten kommt. Vier ausländische Post-

verwaltungen sind auf der "Phila" offiziell vertreten. Besonders eindrucksvoll ist unsere eigene Postbehörde repräsentiert. Ein eigenes Postamt ist eingerichtet und wird die bei ihm aufgegebene Post mit Sonderstempeln versehen, welche den alten englischen, in der "Levanté" verwendeten Stempeln nachgebildet sind. Zwei verschiedene Ausstellungskarten mit eingedruckten Sondermarken kommen zur Ausgabe, von denen jeder Besucher ein Paar erhält, solange der Vorrat reicht. Infolge ihrer Herstellung im Dreifarbendruck und der beschränkten Auflage werden diese Karten nicht nur ein hübsches Andenken darstellen, sondern wohl auch bald im Werte steigen.

Wer die Ausstellung benutzen will, um Briefmarken zu erwerben, wird natürlich voll auf seine Rechnung kommen, da die führenden Markenhändler des Landes auf der Ausstellung ihr bestes Material zur Schau stellen.

Die Ausstellung selbst wird Sonntag, 8. April, 12 Uhr mittags, feierlich eröffnet, die Eröffnungsfelder wird durch Rundfunk übertragen. Ein Festabend, ein philatelistischer Kongress und ein Abschiedsabend für die Teilnehmer vervollständigen das Abendprogramm der vier Ausstellungstage, während deren das Land „im Zeichen der Briefmarke" stehen wird.



Fig. 35: Newspaper article on the 1945 Philatelic Exhibition



Fig. 36: Postcard PC 11 of the PHILA Exhibition

When did the TPO Routes of Biq'at Ha-Yarden, Haluza and Shiqmim Commence?

B. Fixler & I. Nachtigal

According to the Notices to the Public, the Travelling Post Office route of Biq'at Ha-Yarden was opened on July 14th, 1970 and that of Haluza and Shiqmim on October 5th, 1972.

The question is, did these TPOs actually start on those dates?

Before we can give an answer to this question we would like to clarify some points: (a) In every notification of a new TPO route, the places served have always been delineated, but not the line number and the times of arrival of the vehicle. (b) Each route has a number, from 1 to 53 (there are 53 of these today). (c) Each time table has the number of the route, and when making any changes these are made referring to the number. The numbering is carried out either by the Head Office in Jerusalem or by the area office in which the line operates.

Now let us discuss what is known to us about these three particular lines.

(1) The Biq'at Ha-Yarden line, whose base is in Jerusalem (route 40). As mentioned above, the Notice (No. 33/70) stated that this route would start on July 14th, 1970 to serve the following settlements: Nahal Qaliya, Gilgal, Masua, Argaman, Mehola – all in all, 5 points. However we have an official notice dated April 19th of the same year, which lists nine settlements to be served by this line (see Table 1).

It appears that route 40 operated initially on April 19th, and until it received its official, named, handstamp they used a regular instrument of the Jerusalem office. We do not know the number on this specific instrument.

If we consider the earlier notice, it becomes clear that the four settlements which are not mentioned in the later notice were not civilian ones, and therefore were not included later.

On 12 September, 1976, the name of the line was changed into "Habiq'ah".

(2) The Haluza route, based in Beer Sheva (route No. 37). According to the Public Notice No. 56/72, this line was opened on October 5th, 1972. But we have two earlier official timetables, both from 1971, dealing with route 37 without mentioning the name (see Tables 2,3). The first timetable, dated September 1st, 1971, states that the line operates after the asphaltting of the Revivim road, in September 1971. The second timetable, dated October 5th of the same year, states that the name has not yet been decided upon. It is interesting to note that the second timetable, dated October 5th, is exactly a year earlier than the official opening of the route. It could be that an attempt was made to open the route then, but for various reasons the opening was made a year later. On the other hand this could also have

been a printing error, with the year incorrectly typed as 1971 instead of 1972. In any case we have evidence that line 37, later called "Haluza", operated already on September 1st, 1971. We also know that here, too, until the official handstamp was received, the line used an instrument from Beer Sheva, which number we do not know.

(3) **The Shiqmim route**, based on Ashqelon (route 38). The Public Notice, No. 56/72, mentions that this line opened on October 5th 1972, serving 17 settlements. Here again we have an official timetable (Table 4), dated August 16th, 1971, with the number 38 but without any name, detailing 19 names. (The two which do not appear in the official notice are Bet Raban and Moaza Ezorit Hevel Yavne).

It appears that this line commenced on August 16th, 1971, and as before until the introduction of the formal "Shiqmim" instrument on October 5th, 1972 a handstamp (unknown number) of the base Ashkelon was used.

These are the facts known to us. We also checked the excellent publication by Hartwig Danesch of Germany, "Die Mobilpostämter der Israelischen Post", and found some differences. Firstly, his numbering (37, 38 and 39 respectively) differs from the official one. Secondly, "Biq'at Ha-Yarden" is listed as having opened on the official date, i.e., July 14th, 1970. Regarding the Haluza route, he states that the opening date is August 16th, 1971 / October 5th, 1972, and that until the introduction of the formal handstamp, "Beer Sheva 1" was used. Regarding the Shiqmim line, the date listed is as follows: mid August 1971 / October 5th, 1972. He says that until the Shiqmim instrument was introduced, the "Ashqelon 2" handstamp was used.

<p>מקור בולים ואביזרים ארצי ייבוא וייצור</p>	<p>בולי מוגרבי רח' פינסקר 5 ת"א 63323 טל. 03-289012, פתוח 19.00-20.30</p>
<p>אצלנו השיווק ישיר מן היצרן אל הצרכן מחירים סבירים והנחות בקניה מרוכזת * כל סוגי HAWID מקורי. * אלבומי IMPORTA, KA-BE, KOBRA * אלבומי שטרות ומטבעות, KA-BE, KOBRA * מלקחיים (פינצטות), מדבקות וסכיני חיתוך (גילויטינות) * ייצור אלבומי מעטפות – יחיד, כפול, אלבומי שורות וגליונות.</p>	<p>MOUGRABI STAMPS Ing. M. Kozma E. Tschernikowsky 5, Pinsker St.</p>
<p>אצלנו מבחר גדול של בולי חוץ, נושאים, יודאיקה, ישראל ועוד ועוד. אנו משלימים אוספים לפי הזמנות תבקר ולא תצטער...</p>	<p>TEL AVIV 63 323 (ISRAEL) Tel. G. 03-289012 / P. 08-473491 Telex: 341 118, Ext. 5668</p>

Table 1

אזור יהודה והשומרון – דואר
(Judea and Samaria – Post Office)
לוח זמנים דואר נע בקעת הירדן
(Biq'at Hayarden TPO time table)

בתוקף – 19.4.70 (Valid –)

קו מס' 40 (Line No.)

(Place)	(Km)	(Arriving)	(Leaving)	(Notes)
המקום	ק"מ	מגיע	עוזב	הערות
ירושלים (Jerusalem)	0		0900	
נחל קליה (Nahal Qaliya)	46	1000	1005	
יריחו משטרה (Jeriho Police)	14	1015	1025	
יריחו דואר (Jeriho P.O.)	1	1028	1030	מסירת משלוח
יריחו ממשל (Jeriho Administr.)	2	1035	1040	
גלגל (Gilgal)	17	1100	1105	
משואה (Masua)	15	1120	1125	
מחנה אריה (Camp Arye)	5	1130	1145	
ארגמן (Argaman)	15	1205	1210	
מחנה ברוש (Camp Berosh)	19	1235	1240	
מחולה (Mehola)	7	1250	1325	הפסקת צהרים
יריחו דואר (Jeriho P.O.)	71	1440	1450	קבלת משלוח
ירושלים (Jerusalem)	35	1530		
סה"כ ק"מ Total Kms.	247			

Table 2

לוח זמנים ד.נ. חדש בסיס באר שבע

אחרי סלילת הכביש רביבים צאלים מספטמבר 1971

(New TPO timetable, base Beer Seva,

after construction of road Revivim-Zeelim, September, 1971)

בתוקף מיום 1.9.71 (valid from)

קו מס' 37 (Line No.)

(Notes)	(Km)	(Leaving)	(Arriving)	(Place)
הערות	ק"מ	עוזב	מגיע	המקום
		08.30		באר שבע (Beer Sheva)
	8	08.55	08.40	חצרים (Hazerim)
סוכנות דואר	14	09.05	09.00	צה"ל (Zahal)
	37	09.40	09.30	נבטים (Nevatim)
	75	10.30	10.20	משאבי שדה (Mashabe Sade)
	84	10.55	10.40	רביבים (Revivim)
	109	11.30	11.20	צה"ל (Zahal)
	114	11.45	11.35	צאלים (Zeelim)
הפסקת צהריים	122	12.35	11.55	גבולות (Gevulot)
	142	13.10	12.55	אורים (Urim)
	174		13.45	באר שבע (Beer Sheva)

Table 3

לוח זמנים ד.ג. חדש – בסיס באר שבע (שם טרם נקבע)

(New TPO timetable – Base Beer Sheva (name not yet fixed))

בתוקף מיום 5.10.71 (Valid from)

קו מס' 37 (Line No.)

(Place)	(Arriving)	(Leaving)	(Km)	(Notes)
המקום	מגיע	עוזב	ק"מ	הערות
באר שבע (Beer Sheva)	08.30			
חצרים (Hazerim)	08.40	08.55	8	
מחנה יפה (Camp Yafe)	09.00	09.05	15	סוכנות דואר
משאבי שדה (Mashabe Sade)	09.50	10.00	58	
רביבים (Revivim)	10.10	10.25	68	
צה"ל (Zahal)	10.50	11.00	93	
צאלים (Zeelim)	11.05	11.15	98	
גבולות (Gevulot)	11.25	12.05	106	הפסקת צהריים
אורים (Urim)	12.25	12.40	126	בימי שישי וערבי חג
נבטים (Nevatim)	13.30	13.40	168	אוסף דואר מאופקים
באר שבע (Beer Sheva)	13.50		178	

Table 4

לוח זמנים קו דואר נע חדש בסיס אשקלון
(New TPO route timetable, Base Ashqelon)

בתוקף מיום 16.8.71 (Valid from)

קו מס. 38 (Line No.)

(Place)	(Arriving)	(Leaving)	(Km.)	(Notes)
המקום	מגיע	עוזב	ק"מ	הערות
אשקלון (Ashqelon)	08.30			
כפר אחים (Kefar Ahim)	08.33	08.43	26	
תלמי יחיאל (Talme Yehiel)	08.47	03.57	28	
ינון (Yinon)	09.01	09.09	30	
קואופ' הדרום הנגב (Coop Hadarom Hanegev)	09.14	09.19	33	
מ.א. יואב (M.E. Yoav)	09.22	09.27	34	
פרי הדרום (Peri Hadarom)	09.30	09.35	35.5	
כפר הריף (Kefar Harif)	09.41	09.50	39	
משמיע (Mashmia)	09.57	10.04	43	
ברורים (Berurim)	10.06	10.10	45	
בני ראם (Bene Reem)	10.14	10.24	47	
חצב (Hazav)	10.30	10.40	50	
בני עייש (Bene Ayish)	10.47	10.52	55	
נוה אבטח (Neve Evtah)	10.58	11.03	59	
כרם יבנה (Kerem Yavne)	11.10	11.22	69	
ישיבת כרם יבנה (Yeshivat Kerem Yavne)	11.26	11.36	70	
בית רבן (Bet Raban)	11.39	11.44	71	
מ.א. חבל יבנה (Moaza Ezorit Hevel Yavne)	11.48	11.53	71	
כפר אביב (Kefar Aviv)	11.58	12.06	74	
בניה (Benaya)	12.14	12.52	79	הפסקת צהרים
אשקלון (Ashqelon)	13.32		106	

The Green R-Labels of the Official Post of Israel Supplement I

Klaus Salten, W. Germany

After the publication of the article about green R-labels in HLPH No 37/38 (p. 958) I received several reactions from Israel. Some of them consisted of new important discoveries which persuaded me that a supplement to the article was urgently needed.

New Listing of the Labels

It is my Israeli penfriend Dusan Finci of Nahariyya to whom I owe a photocopy of a green R-label with imprinted name of AFULA (fig. 37). I have always wondered why little towns or villages, such as Yokne'am, had their own labels but an important town such as Afula had not. Now we have the proof that there is in fact such a label.



Fig. 37: The green label AFULA.

Two of my penfriends, Shaul Ladany and Micha Sender, have sent photocopies which astonished me very much. Beside the "normal" or well-known label of "BEER SHEVA", written with capital letters only, they found a label written with small letters "Beer Sheva" (Fig. 38). It obtains the Cat. No. 10Z in the following proposed new listing.

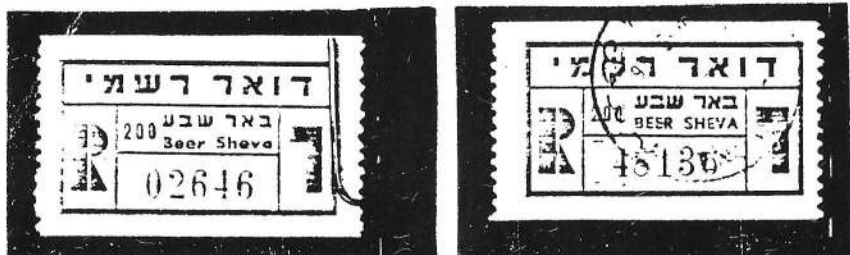


Fig. 38: Beer Sheva label, written with small letters (left) and a normal label.

Several circumstances force us to change the listing of the Borek catalogue. Realizing this, we would prefer a strongly alphabetic order which was not used in Borek. We prefer to use the same transliteration as is given on the labels themselves. The new proposed listing follows:

New No.	Borek No.	Place Name	New No.	Borek No.	Place Name
5	5	blank	22	23	NAZARETH
6	—	AFULA	23	24	Nazerat Illit
7	9	AKKO	24	25	PETAH TIQWA
8	10	ASHDOD	25	20	Qiryat Mal'akhi
9	11	ASHQELON	26	26	RAMAT GAN
10	12	BEER SHEVA	27	27	RAMLA
10Z	—	Beer Sheva	28	28	REHOVOT
11	13	BET DAGAN	29	7	TEL AVIV
12	14	ELAT	30	29	TIBERIAS
13	15	HADERA	31	30	TIRAT KARMEL
14	8	HAIFA	32	31	YAVNE
15	16	HERZLIYYA	33	32	YOKNE'AM
16	17	HOLON	34	33	ZEFAT
17	6	JERUSALEM	35*	34	blank
18	18	KEFAR SAVA	36*	37	HAIFA
19	19	KEFAR YONA	37*	35	JERUSALEM
20	21	Nahariyya	38*	36	TEL AVIV
21	22	NETANYA			

* Smaller Labels.

It should be stressed that there are some labels whose names are written in small letters. Known to me are "Nazerat Illit", "Qiryat Mal'akhi", and "Nahariyya". But there is no other town known to me beside Beer Sheva, with both possibilities. I would like to see labels of 4 towns (or fotocopies of them): Kefar Yona, Herzliyya, Tirat Karmel, and Yokne'am. Perhaps there is any among them written with small letters, too and their english spelling may be different than what was used here.

Sizes of the Labels

Micha Sender found out that there are two different sizes of the large type (Fig. 39). The difference in this case is of the total height of the label, i.e., referring to the paper's size while the sizes I referred to in the article were the measures of the frame lines. This is the common use. The measure of the paper depends on the cutting machine and is a matter of chance, which should not be listed in the catalogue.



Fig. 39: Different sizes of paper.

Rouletted Labels

I already presumed the existence of a rouletted HAIFA label. Recently I received such a label from my friend Yitzhak Onn (Fig. 40). Its Cat. No. will be 141.



Fig. 40: Rouletted HAIFA label

Postal Stationery

This chapter has to be further differentiated.

(1) The Covers of IPS

There are various 'labels' imprinted on the IPS covers. In earlier times they used a 'label' measuring 45×22 mm in light green and the registration number was handwritten. These 'labels' occur in two versions (Fig. 41):

(a) The Hebrew and Latin names of Tel Aviv-Yafo have changed their places, the Latin transcription being above the Hebrew one. (b) The other one is nearly the same 'label', but Hebrew and Latin name of T.A. appear in the usual placement, namely the Latin below. In fact there are some slight differences: Its size is 47×23 mm and the form of the letters "R" and "ר" is somewhat different. Also the number "200" is smaller, 2×5 mm, instead of 3×7 mm and the hyphen between "Aviv-Yafo" in the Hebrew name is shifted to the top of the letters.



Fig. 41: Two different early IPS imprinted 'labels'.

Second, we have a 'label' that was shown in the previous article in HLPH, measuring 110×45 mm. We can distinguish two varieties of this type (Fig. 42):

(a) A light green type. The Hebrew and the Latin names of T.A. are written with slim letters. (b) The other one is a very dark blackish-green type. The Hebrew and Latin names of T.A. are written with fat letters. Here we find a flaw like a full-stop behind the Hebrew word 'תל'.

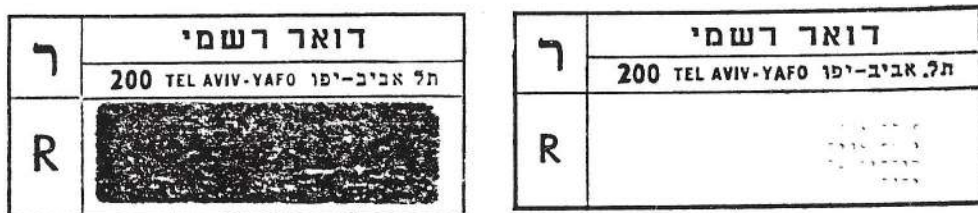


Fig. 42: IPS imprinted 'labels' with slim letters of T.A. (left) and with thicker letters. (Reduced).

Third, we have a label which is similar to the last ones, but in turquoise color. Its size is 114×47 mm and the letters are larger and fatter (Fig. 43, left). The Hebrew words "DO'AR RISHMI" are written in rounded letters with small distances between them. In the Hebrew and Latin transcription, we find a hyphen not only between "AVIV" and "YAFO" (Tel Aviv-Yafo) but also between "TEL" and "AVIV" (Tel-Aviv), thus reading "Tel-Aviv-Yafo".

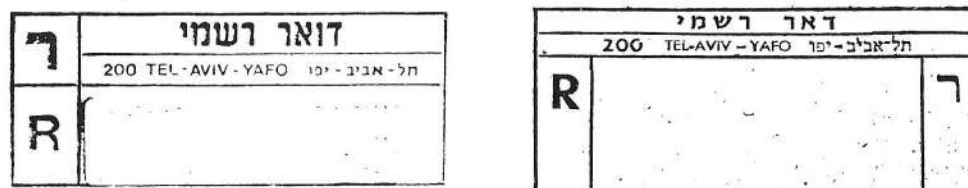


Fig. 43: Two additional varieties of the IPS imprinted 'labels'. (Reduced)

Fourth, we have a 'label' of 124×55 mm (Fig. 43 right), printed in greenish-grey. Here we have the letter "ר" (Resh) on the right side of the label and the Latin R on the left side. Again we find a hyphen between "Tel" and "Aviv" in both Hebrew and Latin names. This time the Hyphen between the Hebrew letters is shifted to the top of the letters. It is remarkable that the vowel "ר" (Vav) is missing in the word "DO'AR".

(2) Covers of ZAHAL (IDF)

Three interesting new examples of this kind have been noticed:

(a) An imprinted 'label' which has an additional space at the bottom with the Hebrew inscription "acknowledgement of delivery" (Fig. 44). Here we find the vowel "VAV" in the word DO'AR, which is unusual on Zahal 'labels'!



Fig. 44: A Zahal 'label' with "AR".

(b) Another label in turquoise has an additional field below that of the number "300" (Fig. 45). It is also divided into two parts as the field above it, but the word "ZAHAL" is missing in the right field. The left field of the third row bears the legend "identifying number" whereas the right field has the inscription "locality's name" (both in Hebrew).

צבא הגנה לישראל

דאר רשמי			
R	300		ר
	מס' מזהה	שם הישוב	
	166202		

Fig. 45: A Zahal 'label' with additional fields.

(c) The third item is again rather surprising, because of its printing colour: It is printed in red(!) and measures 59 × 29 mm (Fig. 46).

צבא הגנה לישראל

רשום

דאר צבאי

יחידים (רישום ציוד וגיוס), תשי"ז—1956

סירת פרטים על רכב/ציוד

דאר רשמי			
R	צה"ל 300		ר
	№ 181304		

Fig. 46: A red imprinted Zahal 'label'.

(3) Other Postal Stationery

What I have called "other postal stationery" should preferably and correctly be named as "postal stationery of the Bank of Yisrael". I have several such covers of Haifa and T.A.. There is supposed to be a similar 'label' of Jerusalem, but I have not yet seen such a cover. All these covers bear a cachet in Hebrew: "Acknowledgement of Receipt".

(a) Tel Aviv 'labels': There are green and blue labels. We can distinguish at least three types of the green labels. First we have a light green variation and second a greenish-grey one. Both have the number "200" and the Latin "Tel-Aviv Yafu" with a hyphen between "TEL" and "AVIV" but not between "AVIV" and "YAFO". Third we have a very dark green version with the number "202" and without Latin transliteration (Fig. 47).

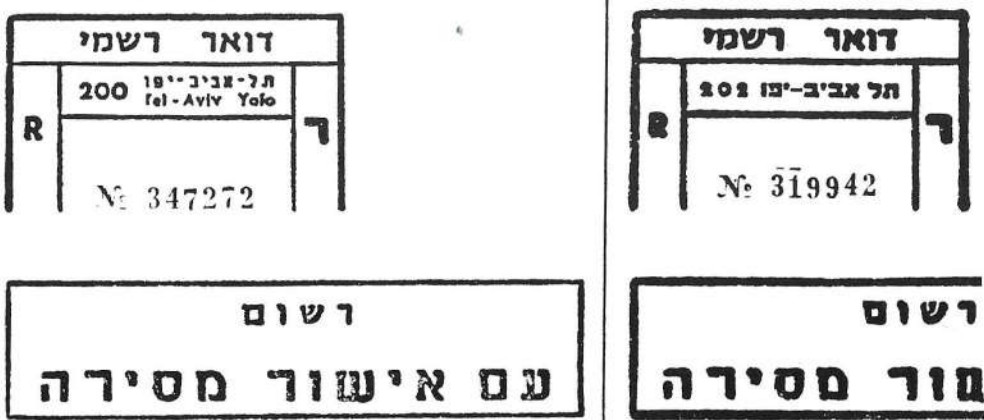


Fig. 47: T.A. 'labels' of Bank Yisrael with and without Latin transliteration.

We can notice at least two types of blue labels (Fig. 48). Both are printed in very dark blue, nearly black, and have the number "200". The Hebrew characters are obviously different. Also one type reads "Tel-Aviv-Yaffo" and the other reads "Tel-Aviv-Yaffo".

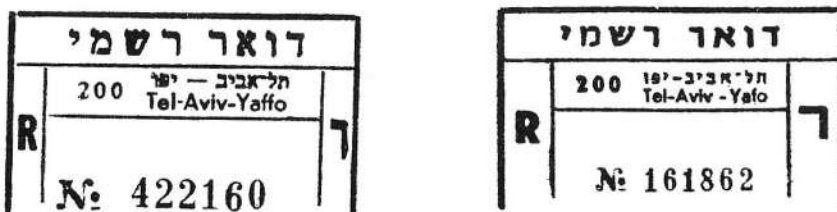


Fig. 48: Two types of Bank Yisrael T.A. 'labels' in blue.

(b) Haifa 'labels': There is only one type of Haifa known to me, which has already been published in the recent HLPH article.

It can be presumed that there are more different types of imprinted R-labels of IPS, Zahal, and Bank Yisrael. Therefore, I hesitate to list the postal stationery of Do'ar Rishmi until more material is reported.

The Labels' Numerators

Examining the registration numbers (numerator) carefully, we can establish that there are some important differences amongst them.

Most of the labels have five-digit numbers, but we can find some exceptions: Ashdod, Bet Dagan, Elat, Nahariyya and Zefat have four-digit numbers (see e.g. Fig. 49). All rouletted labels seem to have a six-digit number (Fig. 50), while perforated T. A. labels may have both five-digit and six-digit numbers (Fig. 51).



Fig. 49: A Nahariyya label with four-digit registration number.



Fig 50: Rouletted labels of T.A., Jerusalem, Haifa and the blank one, with six-digit registration numbers.

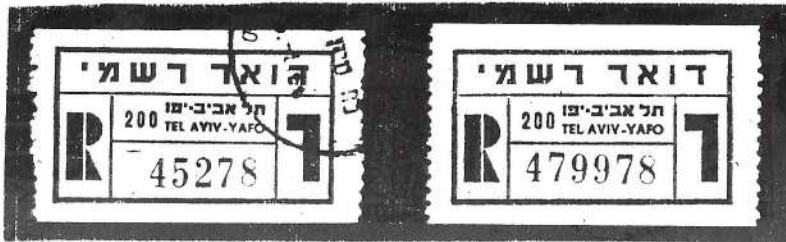
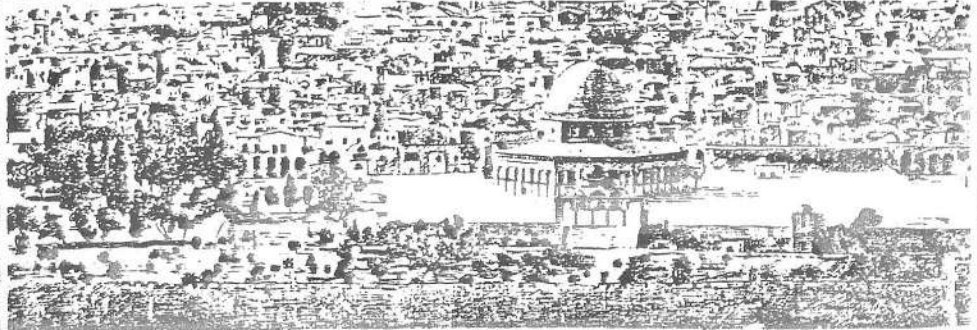


Fig. 51: Preforated T.A. labels with five-digit and six-digit registration numbers.



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* * * * *

* SHORT NOTES AND DISCOVERIES *

* * * * *

The British Mandate Period

Postal Fee Questions and POW Mail (M. Seigel, Ramat Gan)

Recently we have seen two early 1930 telegrams sent from Hamburg, Germany, to Jerusalem with the unusual boxed handstamp **CHARGES TO BE COLLECTED. 26... MILS.** The '26' is of course handwritten. The messages in both cables concerned commercial shipments. The handstamp on the item illustrated is in black (Fig. 52) while the second's marking was in red. Why was the telegram taxed? Since the sender pays for all transmission charges at the time he presents his message at the telegraph office, what additional service was requested that merited the extra charge? We can only surmise that an extra delivery service was involved. Perhaps the addressee had made special arrangements with the nearest Office of the Telegraph to be **immediately** informed, irrespective of the hour of day or night, of the arrival of any cable, instead of having to wait for normal delivery; in other words, some sort of "special delivery" of a telegram. Readers comments are invited.

In the course of our philatelic pursuits, many World War II POW covers and cards have been seen originating from German Lager VIIIB. Quartered in that camp were Palestinian Jews who had been captured while serving in the British Army. Most of these were volunteers who had fought in the early Western Desert (Egypt and Libya) Campaigns and who were subsequently sent to Greece in 1940 to bolster that ally's defense against the Nazi onslaught. As is known, the British effort failed and some thousand odd were captured in Greece or in the disastrous Crete Campaign that followed. Most mail from this Camp VIIIB are cards of the type shown in Figure 53 with various German, Egyptian or Palestine censor handstamps. Since the mail is of POW origin, postage was not required and is never seen on Lager VIIIB pieces of mail. Also never seen are Holyland arrival postmarks. However, the card shown in Figure 54 is most unusual as it bears both a handwritten and a handstamped **LUFTPOST** as well as a red boxed handstamp "**Taxe Percue...RM 40 Rpf**" (with the '40' handwritten). "Taxe Percue" here can be loosely given the meaning **FEE PAID** or **FEE ACCOUNTED FOR**.

The 40 pfenning (Rpf) was a surcharge for airmail handling instead of regular transmission. Since the sender was a POW, no fee was requested either in Germany or in Tel Aviv when the card was delivered. This is as per the testimony of the

addressee. The handstamp itself was applied in Germany. It must be surmised that the card was turned in to a civil Post Office where a clerk applied the handstamp in question and then passed it on for transit through some neutral country, probably Turkey. We wonder how the fee of 40 pfenning was calculated since mail service of the usual type was non-existent because of the War then raging. As to the reason for the POW specified LUFTPOST, we must believe that he had something very important to say or shrewdly realized that there was nothing to be lost and perhaps much to be gained in time, by specifying AIR MAIL on the card. Another interesting aspect here is that the sender's name (lower left corner of the front) is different on the two cards although they were both obviously sent by the husband of the addressee. This was nicely explained by Mr. Uri Shalit, who himself had spent four years as a POW in Lager VIIIB, as follows: Each POW had certain mailing privileges and some did not fully utilize these. For friendship or favors, they allowed fellow POWs to use up these privileges by sending mail not in their own names but in the names of the fellows who had passed on their mail privileges.

While discussing POWs, we offer for study an interesting 4-page document entitled LETTERS TO PRISONERS OF WAR IN GERMANY AND ITALY (Fig. 55). The production information on its back page is 34/G.H.Q.P./5,000/4-41, Cairo. Apparently after the disastrous Greek Campaign, enough inquiries were received from the families of the region's POWs, concerning Post and Parcel procedures, to warrant the printing of this leaflet. Subjects covered included the special rules for sending letters and parcels to POWs in Germany and Italy.

CHARGES TO BE COLLECTED		PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES.	
26 MILS	70	TELEGRAM	تلغراف
This form must accompany any equity respecting this Telegram.	Service Instructions.	تعليمات ادارية	הוראות משתמש
Handed in at	Hamburg	سارفي	מסבד
Time	13.02	التاريخ	היום
Received at	4.9	وصل في	تمتد
To	Lcd Emanuel Friedman	ال	ה
	Jerusalem		
	Verschiffet alles Antwerpen		
	Levantelinie		
FROM			

Fig. 52: A 1930 telegram from Hamburg to Jerusalem, with the handstamp "Charges to be collected 26 Mills".

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Stempel: 18.3.42
Geprüft: Nr. 114
Postkarte

An
MRS. MARGIT RICHFIELD

Gebührenfrei!

Absender:
Vor- und Zuname: CPL. J. RICHFIELD
Gefangenennummer: 7044
Lager-Bezeichnung: M-Stammlager VIII B
Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort: 76. GORDON STR.
Straße: TEL-AVIV
Land: PALESTINE
Landesteil (Provinz usw.):

Fig. 53: A typical POW card from German Camps.

Kriegsgefangenenpost
Stempel: 18.3.42
Geprüft: Nr. 128
Postkarte

Handstempel: TAXE PERCUE RM (40) Rpf
Luftpost
LUFTPOST/AIR MAIL

Gebührenfrei!

Absender:
Vor- und Zuname: M. J. VAN
Gefangenennummer: 5321
Lager-Bezeichnung: M-Stammlager VIII B
Deutschland (Allemagne)

Empfangsort: TEL-AVIV
Straße: 76. GORDON STREET
Land: PALESTINE
Landesteil (Provinz usw.):

Fig. 54: A POW card with the handstamp "Taxe Percue..RM (40) Rpf".

Letters to Prisoners of War in Germany and Italy

1. General Notes.

(a) Letters to prisoners of war should be brief and clearly written, otherwise they are liable to delay or non-delivery. The address must be written in *ink*.

(b) Writers must be careful to give no information likely to be of military, political or economical value to the enemy, and they must be careful not to say anything (such as abuse against the enemy) likely to bring about retaliatory action against the recipient.

(c) No photographs or pictures of any kind may be enclosed.

(d) Letters are conveyed post-free.

(e) If the sender is a serving soldier he must give his name and rank (without number or unit) on the back of the envelope; if he or she is a civilian, he or she must put the full address there.

(f) A soldier may put only his name (without any address) in the letter.

If he desires an answer, he must put c/o The Prisoners of War Missing and Wounded Bureau, British Red Cross, War Organisation, 9 Shariah Malika Farida, Cairo, as his address at the head of the letter, and register his service address with the Bureau.

2. Special Rules for letters to Prisoners of War in Germany.

(a) Letters for prisoners of war in Germany, France or Alsace should be addressed as follows:—

If the name of the camp is known:—

Poste de Prisonnier de Guerre
Kriegsgefangenpost

Franc de Port
Gebührenfrei

(Name)

(Rank)

(No.)

Englischer

(Name of Camp),

Allemagne (Deutschland).

This address should be written not only on the envelope but also on the letter itself.

If the name of the camp is not known, address thus:—

Poste de Prisonnier de Guerre
Kriegsgefangenpost

Franc de Port
Gebührenfrei

(Name)

(Rank)

(No.)

Prisonnier de Guerre Britannique en Allemagne aux soins
du Comité International de la Croix Rouge.

Agence Centrale,

Palais du Conseil General,

Geneve, Suisse.

Fig. 55: Part of an instruction booklet about "Letters to Prisoners of War in Germany and Italy".

Mandate and British Postal Forms (Arthur M. Hochheiser)

During the period of the Palestine Mandate, the Civil Administration was furnished with a series of forms for use by its postal system which were necessary for providing for the various services it had to perform. These forms were designated with the letters "P.T." for Posts (&) Telegraphs. There were many hundreds of such different forms in use and one can appreciate that they must have been copied from counterparts in the British Postal System itself.

Shown in Figure 56 is form P.T. 589, here used in 1945 in Palestine. On this form errors were to be reported in the handling of certain mailed items; small letters, postcards, large letters, packets, newspapers, parcels. Of incidental interest is the fact that no printer's legend is to be found on the form which would have indicated where the printing was undertaken. Most P.T. forms were printed by firms in Palestine and had the printer's legends. However, here the character of the type and the absence of Hebrew or Arabic texts would seem to indicate that this form was printed in England.

Further proof of this is found in Figure 57, showing the same form printed for use in the British Postal System. It is coded according to the British system P. 1126 B. with a printer's legend (Revd. 100379/28). Note that the texts are almost identical in both illustrations, with only the references to "Banker's Letter" below and "London Offices..." above having been eliminated in Figure 56.

Of major interest to Mandate collectors is the fact that the British form in Figure 57 was used in Palestine in 1929. This was an obvious "Interim" usage. There is no way of knowing when the P.T. 589 form itself was first introduced.

LETTER AND PARCEL POST ERRORS.

P.T. 589

Name of Office in fault

JERUSALEM

Description of Mail (i.e., whether Letter, Parcel, or Combined)

REQUESTED

Date of Bill and Time of Despatch

11/14/45 DESPATCH

Nature of Error

MISSENT

Signature of Reporting Officer



Particulars of Postal Packets irregularly treated.

HOW ADDRESSED.

* No. for each town.

Time or Place where posted.	Clock, Time or Index.	No. of Letters, Signs, Date Figures Stamp or Trefoil.	PROPERLY ADDRESSED ITEMS.	INCOMPLETELY OR INCORRECTLY ADDRESSED ITEMS.	Small Letters Post-cards.	Large Letters.	Packets and Parcels.	Whether in correct items.	Correct address of item.
-----------------------------	-----------------------	---	---------------------------	--	---------------------------	----------------	----------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------

JERUSALEM MS 2167

EXP

TELETYPE

L.A.J. SINKOVITZ

MISSENT EXP

Mr. *Mr. Gabor*

To note the mis-sending.

The Postmaster.

Noted.

14-6-1945

H Postmaster.

Fig. 56: Form P.T. 589 for reporting errors in the mailing of letters and parcels.

LETTER AND PARCEL POST ERROR									
P. 1126 B. (Rev. 100579/28)									
Name of Office in fault (When reporting London, it must be stated whether the Bag or other receptacle received from the Inland, E.C., or Foreign Section, or from a Letter Office in London. When reporting a T.P.O. the full designation of the Mail must be given.)									
Location of Mail Parcel, or Combined Parcel, whether Letter, <i>Com. Letter</i>									
Date of Mail and Time of Despatch <i>10.8.22 8.29</i>									
Nature of Error <i>Misent</i>									
Signature of Reporting Officer <i>[Signature]</i>									
POSTMASTER'S RECEIPT									
Particulars of Postal Packets irregularly treated.									
REL. No.	Date.	Time of No.	HOW ADDRESSED.	No. for each item.	Whether in bag or bundle or loose in bag.	Correct address of item.			
Place where posted.	Date.	Index of Letters, Date, Signs or Stamp Figures	PROPERTY ADDRESSED ITEMS	INCOMPLETELY OR INCORRECTLY ADDRESSED ITEMS.	Small Large Letters and Parcels.	Proper address of item (It is to be filed in at Reporting Office.)			
<i>9/8/22</i>			<i>Barnwell.</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>Edelred Barnwell</i>			
			<i>24/7/18230</i>						
Mr. <i>A. Dawson</i> To note the mis-sending <i>24/7/18230</i> Head Postmaster.									
The Head Postmaster. Noted. <i>14.8.22. [Signature]</i> <i>12/8</i>									

Fig. 57: The British Form P. 1126 B. from which the P.T. 589 was copied.

Some Remarks about the Mandate 7 Mils Postcard

(M.H. Bale, Ilfracombe)

We thought it might be of interest to show the enclosed Mandate 7 mils violet postcard (Hochheiser PC10), which is clearly postmarked HAIFA, 15th October 1942 (Fig. 58). It pre-dates the Hochheiser issue date of February 1943 by about four months*. I feel this is somewhat of a discovery after all this time.

Also enclosed is a photocopy of a similar postcard but with a print Error on which the last letter in the Hebrew word "PALESTINE" is left with virtually just the top of the letter appearing (Fig. 59). We have not noticed this Error before.

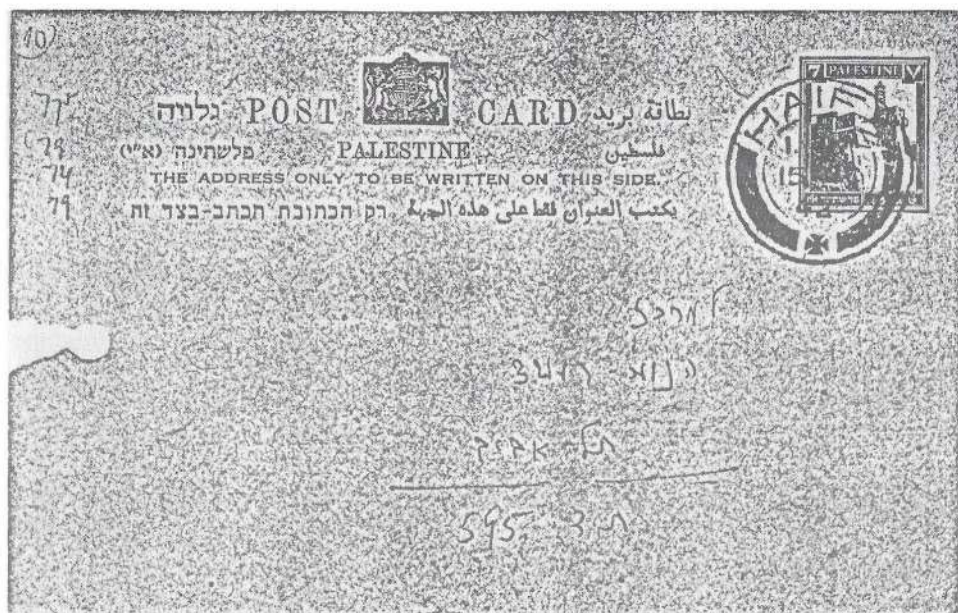


Fig. 58: Palestine Mandate 7 mils postcard (Hochheiser PC 10),
cancelled 'Haifa 15 OC 42'.

* Ed Note: Hochheiser's "Additions and Corrections to the Catalogue", published in 1988, corrects the year of issue to 1942 (see HLP# # 33/34, P. 804).

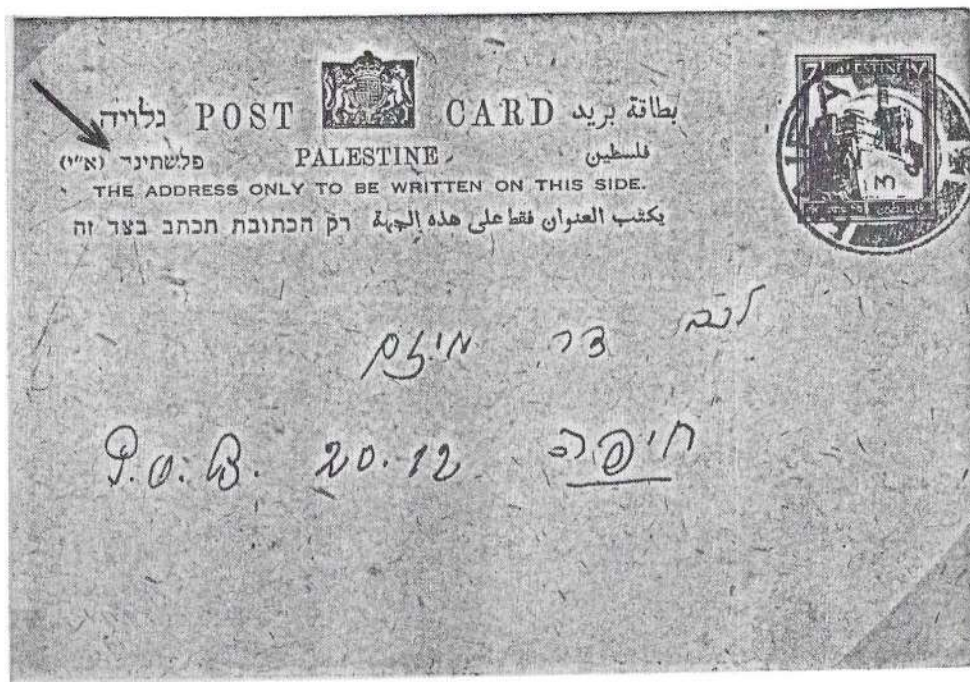


Fig. 59: Printing error – Last letter in Hebrew 'Palestine' partly missing.

The Interim Period

An Unrecorded Air Force Cachet on a Flown Cover from Jerusalem

(I. Karpovsky, Hertzliya)

I recently acquired a military letter sent on June 12th, 1948, from an unknown address to Leah Goldman at Kibbutz Hamadia (next to Beit She'an). My curiosity was immediately raised because on the face appears the well-known oval cancellation of the Air Force/Headquarters of the same date, together with the postmark of Misrad 3 of the 14th (Fig. 60). This reminds me of similar letters handled in the same way, all of which sent by air from besieged Jerusalem (see Fig. 61 for a similar example).

However a further, unknown to me, circular cachet is to be found on the back of the first letter. This is in violet and has a diameter of 37mm. The Hebrew lettering is in three lines: the first has the large letters "Heth Aleph" (short for "Hail Avir" – Air Force). The second has "Mitzpim" – observations, in smaller lettering. The third, again in large letters, the clear letter "Mem" followed by two unclear ones – either "Pei" or "Beth". This may well be the Air Force Observations Command or something similar. On the top left hand corner appears the written word "Marom", which was the name of the temporary landing field in Rehavia, Jerusalem, at that time.

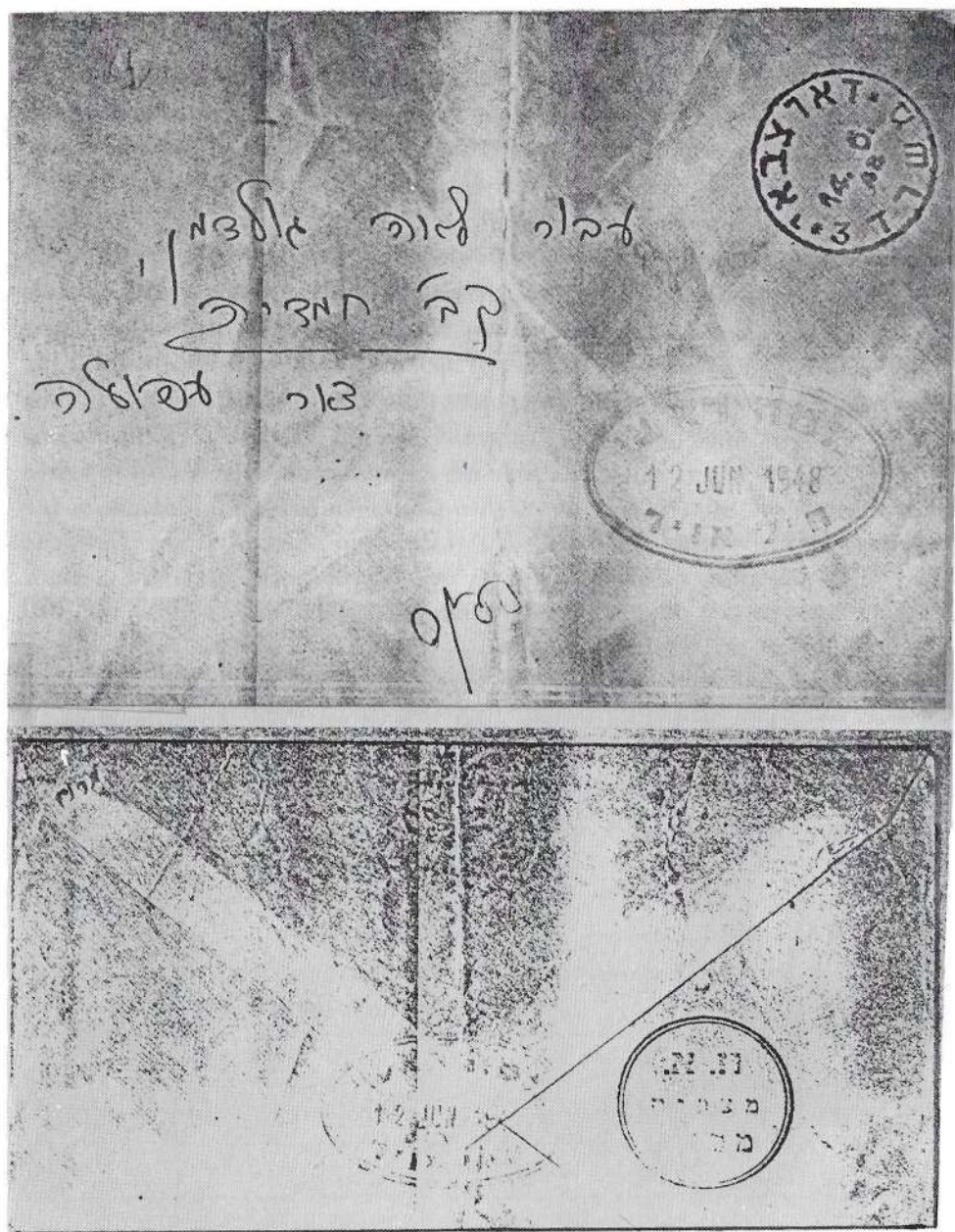


Figure 60

Following up the facts, I managed to trace Leah Goldman who had left the kibbutz many years ago and is now living near Tel Aviv. She identified the hand writing as that of a good friend Batya Levinson, who served during the 1948 war in the Air Force. Being in contact with her, she arranged a meeting where I showed the letter to Batya. She identified it immediately and clarified aspects which puzzled me.

Batya Levinson, as a member of the Hagana, volunteered to serve in the Air Force where she was trained as an aircraft spotter. Serving in various parts of the land she also served in Jerusalem twice during the siege, the first in May to train other spotters of "Marom" field, and the second on the opening of the Burma Road, when she again trained some spotters in Bait Vagan superb.

In this way she explained the meaning of the mark, which is first shown here, of an unrecorded violet cachet of the Air Force Anti-aircraft unit in Jerusalem. Since the unit was a very small one, it is not surprising that this is the only example known to date. The letter, hence, was flown from the emergency air strip "Marom" to the Air Force H.Q. in Tel Aviv, and from there it went on to Hamadia, probably by the Army Post.

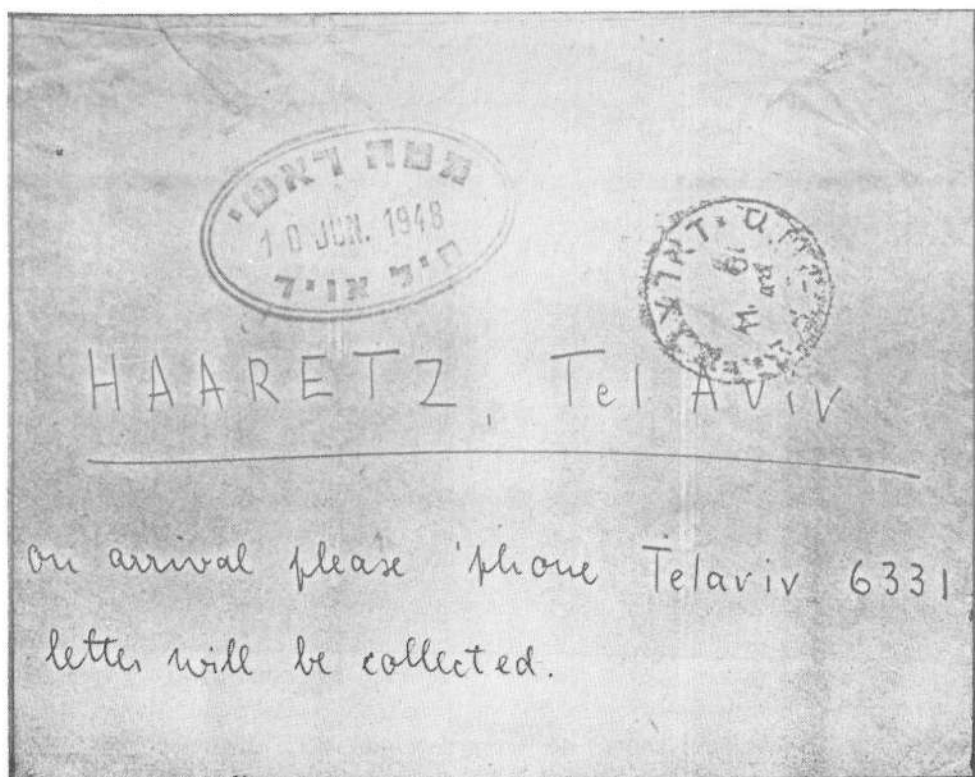


Figure 61

Responses Concerning the "Jul 1948" Errors in the Military Provisional Datestamp "Misrad 5" (B. Hurwich, Jerusalem)

A number of correspondents have communicated with me in response to my article "A long misunderstood conundrum solved: Errors in certain dates of the Jerusalem military provisional datestamp, 1948", HLP# 35 (Summer, 1988) pp 844-7.

All evidence submitted to me in writing and orally has been consistent with my thesis that the "15 JUL 1948" was in error, as were all provisional datestamps that contained the letters "JUL". There are examples of three successive days in which "JUL" appeared, in place of the correct "JUN": "13 JUL", "14 JUL" and the above-noted "15 JUL". In a cover sold at auction in Tel Aviv on 13.4.89 there appeared "15 JUN 1948". This cover suggests that the provisional datestamp was corrected to "JUN" from "JUL" on that date.

Of special interest is a cover (Fig. 62) in the collection of Siegfried Wuertz of Saarbruecken. In addition to the "13 JUL 1948" datestamp in a letter sent by a soldier from APO 211 (Jerusalem) to Haifa, there appear in the lower left-hand corner two handwritten lines: "angek - 18/6" and "beantr, 19/6", abbreviations for "received June 18 / answered June 19". I believe that Wuertz has supplied us with the conclusive evidence that the hypothesis stated in my article is correct.

In the same article I included a table with dates, of the Main Military Post Offices ("Basis Aleph" and "Basis Beth") and the print style used for the month of the datestamp. Below is a revised table to show the dates I reported, and earlier dates discovered. Two observations are worth making as a result: my use of the Misrad 5 serif "VI" to prove that the date of the cover I reported originally was correct; there may have been a second handstamp for "Basis B" (Haifa), in which a "1:7" (July) was used, rather than the sans-serif version, the earliest version of which is 4.VII. Alternatively, a single handstamp may have been converted back to arabic numerals from serif, and then to sans serif.

Main Military P.O. (Basis)	My originally reported earliest date	Revised earlier date	Month print style
A	28.5.48	—	Arabic
A	3.6	—	Serif
A	13.7	2.7	Sans-serif
B	4.6	—	Arabic
B	21.6	18.6	Serif
B	18.7	4.7	Sans-serif

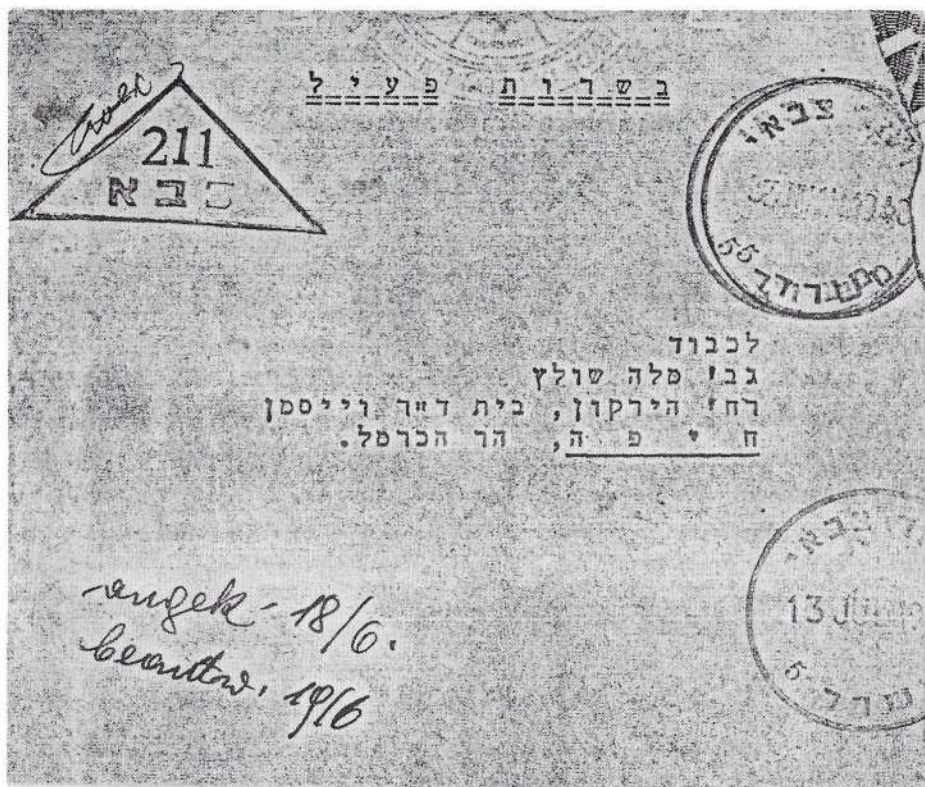


Fig. 62: Another date error of the provisional 'Misrad 5' handstamp: '13 Jul' instead of '13 Jun', 1948.

Acknowledgements: I wish to thank especially our members Seigfried Wuertz, Siegfried Adler and Zvi Alexander for copies of their covers and for their valuable advice.

The State of Israel

Late Use of a Palestine Form in Israel (A. M. Hochheiser)

In the bulletin HLP#19, released in the summer of 1984, I wrote an article entitled "Economy Use of Postal Materials". In the article I pointed out that new postal administrations often used material of the previous governing authority. Initially, this was on an 'Interim' basis before the new administration could have its own materials printed. However, in many cases the 'economy' basis prevailed and allowed for extended periods of use into the new administration. I pointed out that this was especially true of the new State of Israel, which used many Palestine Mandate forms. I also reported that the latest date that I could find was a postal form dated February 22, 1954.

Shown in the illustration is an envelope issued by the Palestine Mandate as P.T. 750A (windowed envelope), used in Israel with the name 'Palestine' inked out (Fig. 63). This envelope is cancelled **August 7, 1955**, using a slogan cancellation which reads "Present Your Declaration For Income Tax until August 31, 1955."

Since this was official mail, no postage was required. The boxed handstamp reads "Official Mail / The Post Office / Office of Philatelic Services".

Keep looking! There's always the chance of finding another philatelic gem not reported before.

Foreign Press Censorship, 1949 (Zvi Alexander, London)

I have recently purchased two similar covers with unusual markings, as shown in Figure 64.

The covers, addressed to a newspaper in Boston Mass., carry two different censorship cachets. The large one reading: "Military Censorship – Foreign Press – Approved", with the censor's signature, and the small one reading: "Censor of Foreign Press, 1.5.1949, No... Tel Aviv". The language of the despatch is specified in manuscript as 'English'. The reverse of the covers carry the same two cachets and in addition they carry a red wax seal embossed with the following: "Military censorship, Approved by the Censor" and the Hebrew letter Tav (Tel Aviv). The cachets and the wax seal are not listed by Gladstone. The letters left Tel Aviv on the 1st or the 2nd of May and carry a Bruxelles 'transit' postmark of May 3rd.

Several questions arise: Why such an elaborate censorship, both civilian and military, in May 1949, after the war was almost over and the Armistice agreements with Egypt and Jordan were already concluded in February and April, respectively! Why the despatch through Belgium and not directly from Israel? How did the letters reach Bruxelles and who applied the Belgian stamp? Any information or ideas would be welcome.

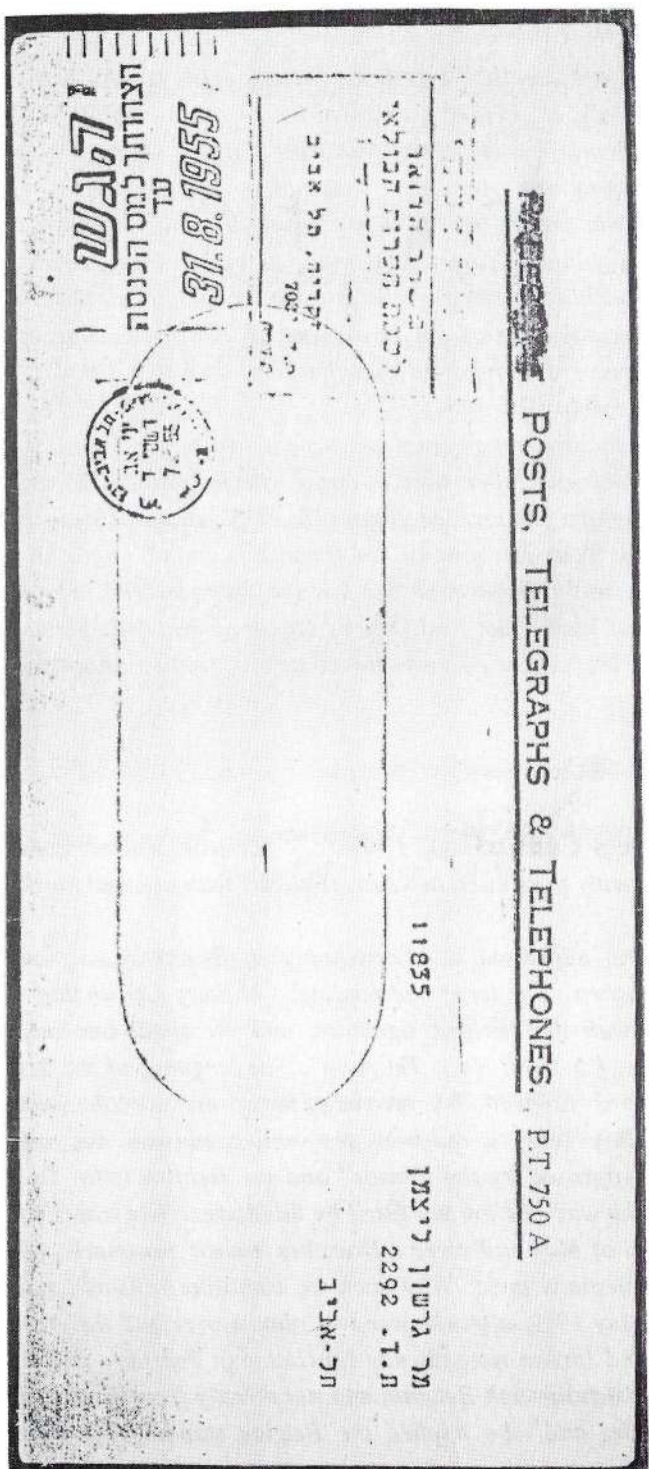


Fig. 63: Mandate postal form (envelope), P.T. 750A, used in Israel in August 1955!

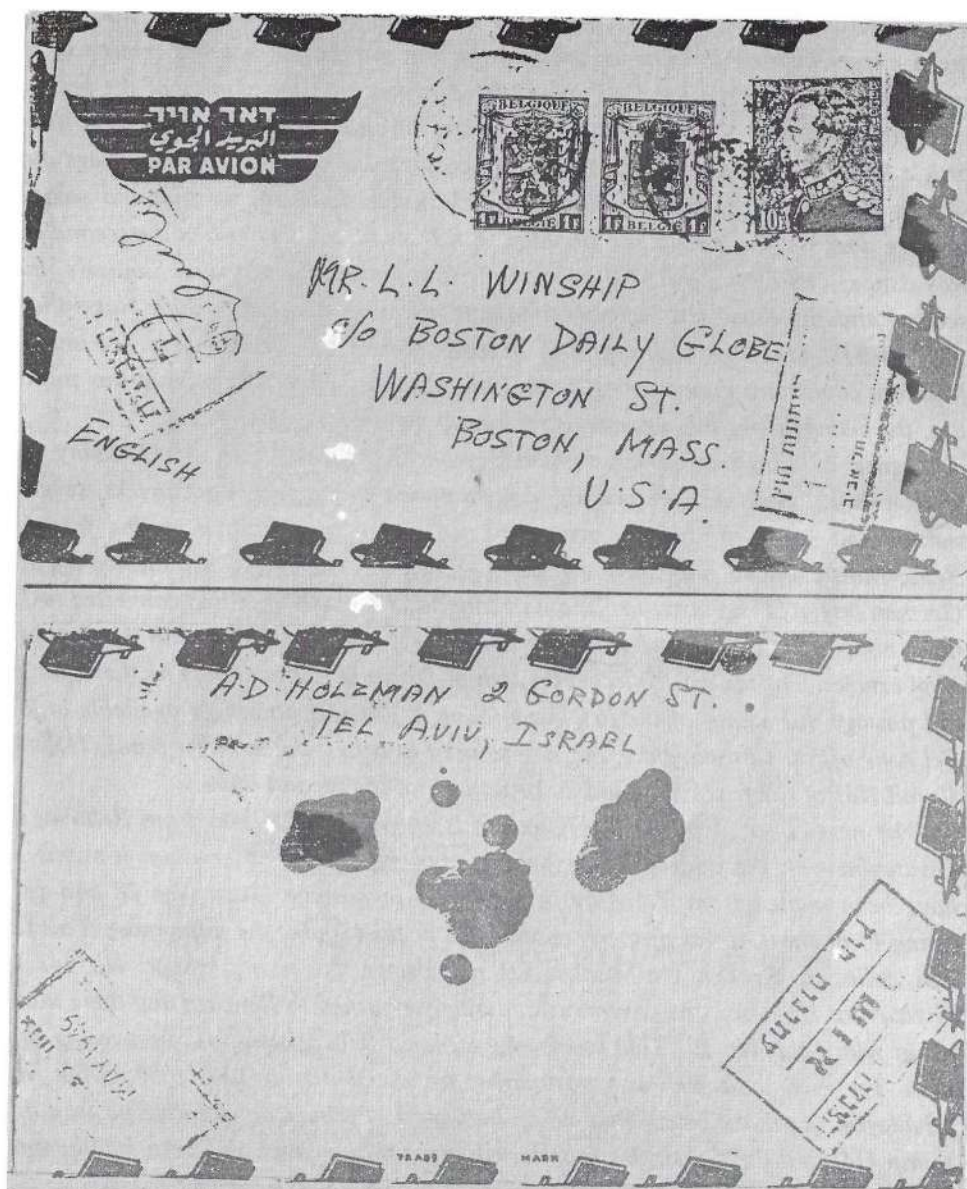


Fig. 64: Cover from Tel Aviv, censored by the Civillian and Military censor of the Foreign Press and mailed through Belgium to U.S.A.

Mixed Franking Postage Dues (Andy Katz, U.S.A.)

The October 1984 Issue of *The Israel Philatelist* contains an article illustrating taxed covers bearing the first Israeli postage due stamps (Sometimes referred to as provisional). In the August 1985 Issue, taxed covers with the stamps of the second issue are illustrated. Rather than continuing a chronological exposition, this short article illustrates a few rare mixed franking postage due covers, bearing postage due stamps from more than one issue. It is worth noting that both the first and second postage dues were in circulation between 18th December, 1949 (when the second set was issued) and 30th April, 1950 (when the first set was withdrawn). Similarly, the second and the third sets were in simultaneous circulation from 30th November, 1952 to 31st May, 1953. In spite of several months of overlap, very few mixed franking covers are known to exist, possibly because before a new issue was put in use, the stamps from the previous issue had to be used up.

Figure 65 illustrates a cover mailed from Landsberg-Lech in Germany on December 15, 1949. As can be easily determined from the partial postmarks, several stamps had fallen off before arriving at a German international sorting facility. Being short stamped, the cover was assessed at 26 2/3 centimes as indicated by the German boxed 'T' handstamp. Upon arriving in Israel, this sum was converted to 33 mils (notice the "LESHALEM" handstamp of type 6 – as illustrated in the October 1984 article). The tax was collected on 26th of December. Apparently by that time 20 mil postage due stamp of the first issue (Scott # J4) was no longer available at the Tel Aviv office. Consequently, the stamps used to collect the tax were 3 mil (J1) and 10 mil (J3) of the first issue, and 20 pruta (J9) of the second issue.

The next cover, depicted in Figure 66, is enigmatic. It is sent from Rehovot to Givatayim with the addressee crossed out. On superficial observation it seems to have been mailed from Tel Aviv bearing 10m in postage (Scott Nos 28 and 18). Being 10 pr short, it was properly assessed 20 pr tax (double the difference). This fee was collected through an obsolete 20 pr postage due stamp (Scott No J4) in Givatayim. However, the cover was apparently returned to Rehovot and there taxed again with Scott No J9. This interesting scenario falls apart upon discovering that both Tel Aviv and Rehovot postmarks are dated January 6, 1952, while the Givatayim postmark bears the date of January 1. Perhaps an obsolete postage due stamp (J4) and the Givatayim postmark tying it to the cover had been fraudulantly added to the cover at some later date.

The cover depicted in Figure 67 is of a clearly commercial nature. Mailed on 14 November, 1952 from Rueil-Malmaison to Asnieres (both in France) where it was received and backstamped on 16 November. There the address of Mr. D. Smith was thoroughly crossed out and a hand-written Haifa address was added. An additional backstamp of 28 December in Haifa testifies to the cover's arrival in Israel. Because it bore only French domestic postage, it was assessed 90 pr postage due. The fee was

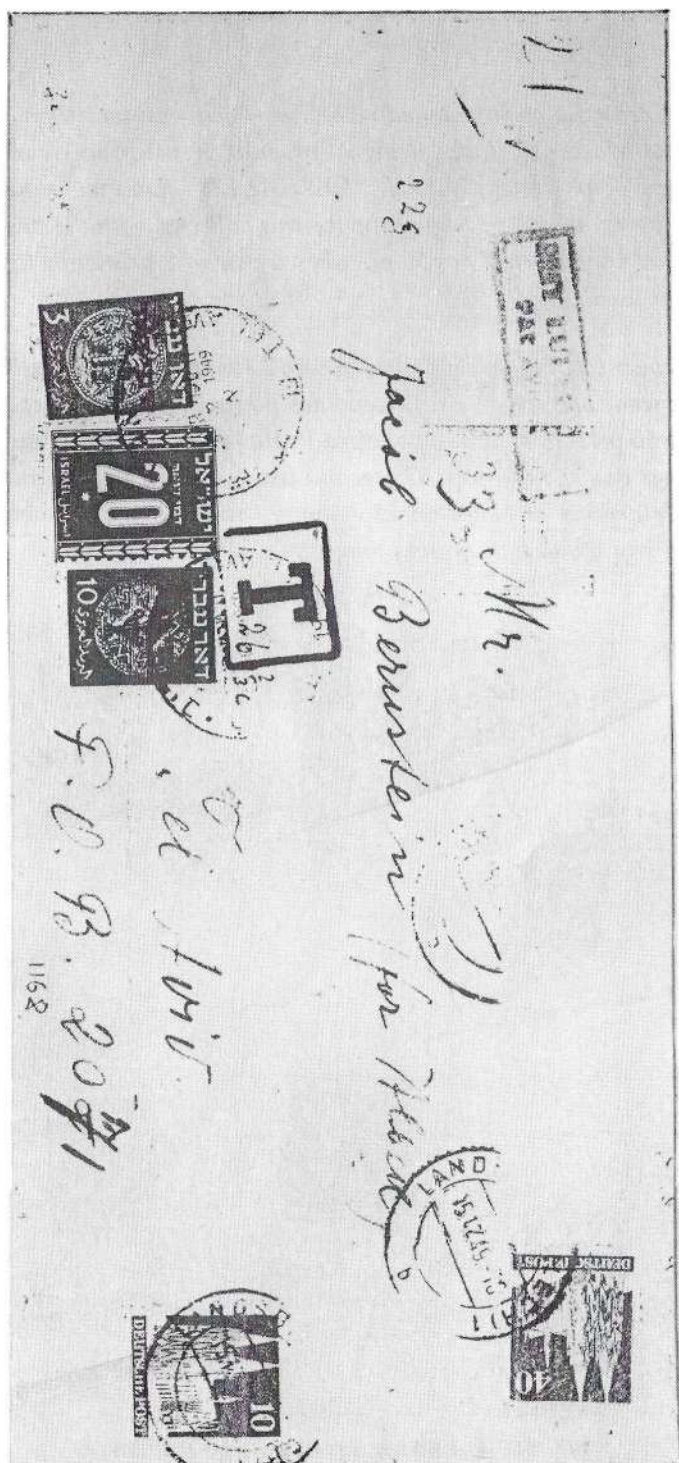


Fig. 65: Mixed postage due franking of the 1st and 2nd issues.

collected with a second issue 50 pr postage due stamp (J11) and a third issue 40 pr stamp (J16).

Figure 68 depicts a cover franked with 6 pr which was mailed on 30 November, 1952 to a local address in Haifa. Being 24 pr short, it was properly assessed double the difference – 48 pr postage due (cf. "LESHALEM" handstamp of type 8). As in the previous cover, the 40 pr part of the fee was collected with the third issue stamp J16. The actual tax collected was 50 pr, when a pair of 5 pr stamps from the second issue (J7) was used.

The last cover (cf. Fig. 69) was mailed on 12 January, 1953 from Paris to Haifa. It was fined what appears to be 17 centimes postage due upon departing France. Converted to 56 pr, 55 pr tax was collected in Haifa on 16 January through a mixed pair of postage due stamps: 5 pr J7 (second issue) and 50 pr J17 (third issue). The cover actually arrived in Haifa on 15 January, as witnessed by a backstamp (not shown here). Not a bad turn around time!

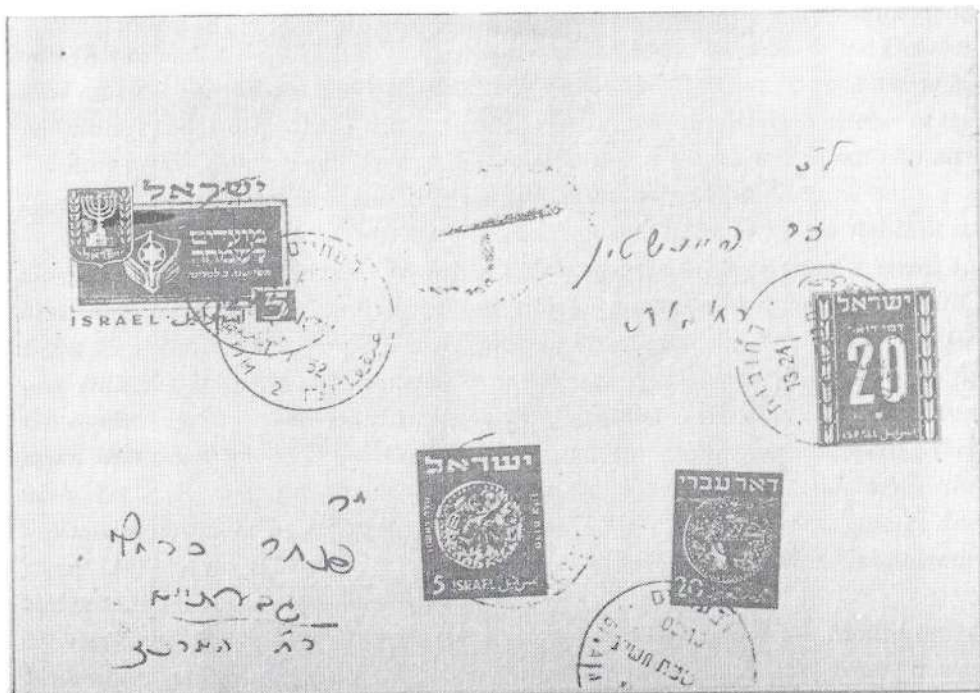


Fig. 66: A dubious mixed postage due cover.

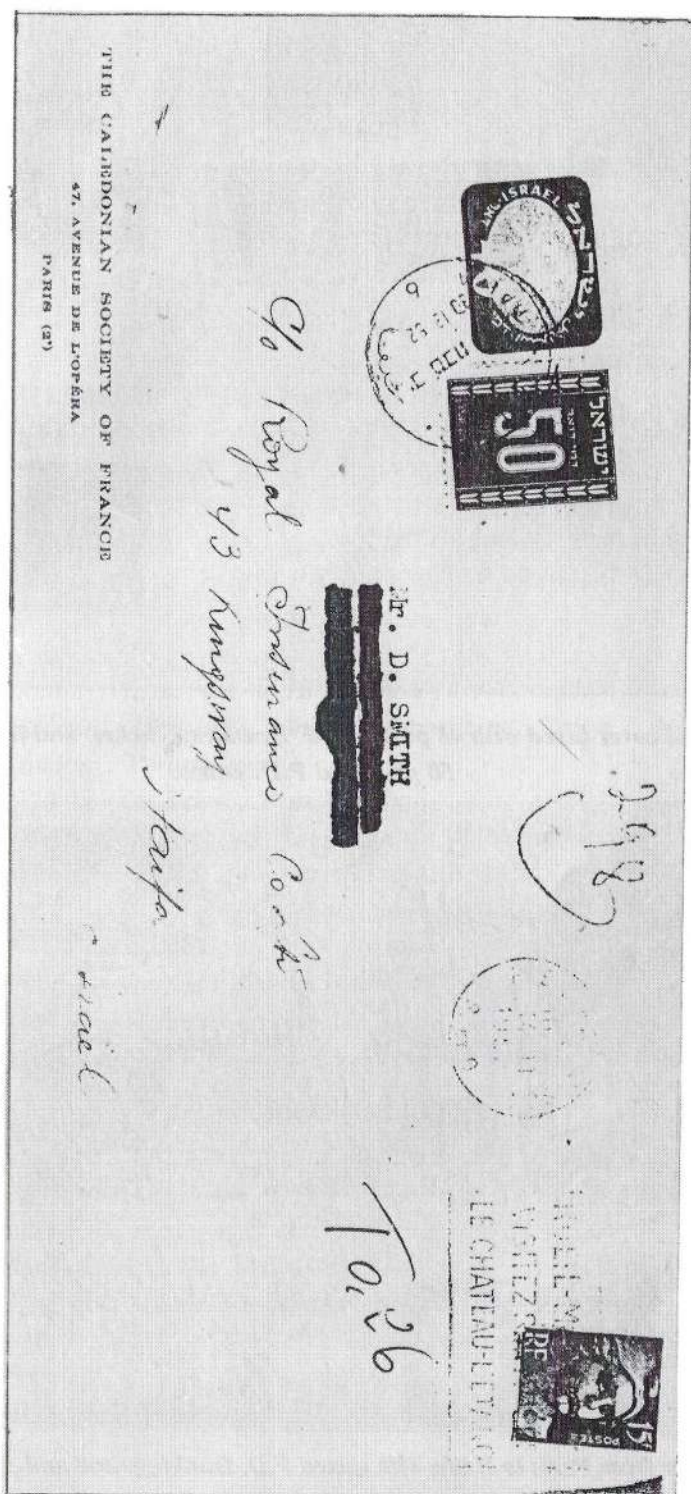


Fig. 67: Mixed postage due franking of the 2nd and 3rd issues.



Fig. 68: A local cover taxed with 48 pr (framed 'Leshalem' cachet) and franked with 50 pr mixed P.D. issues.

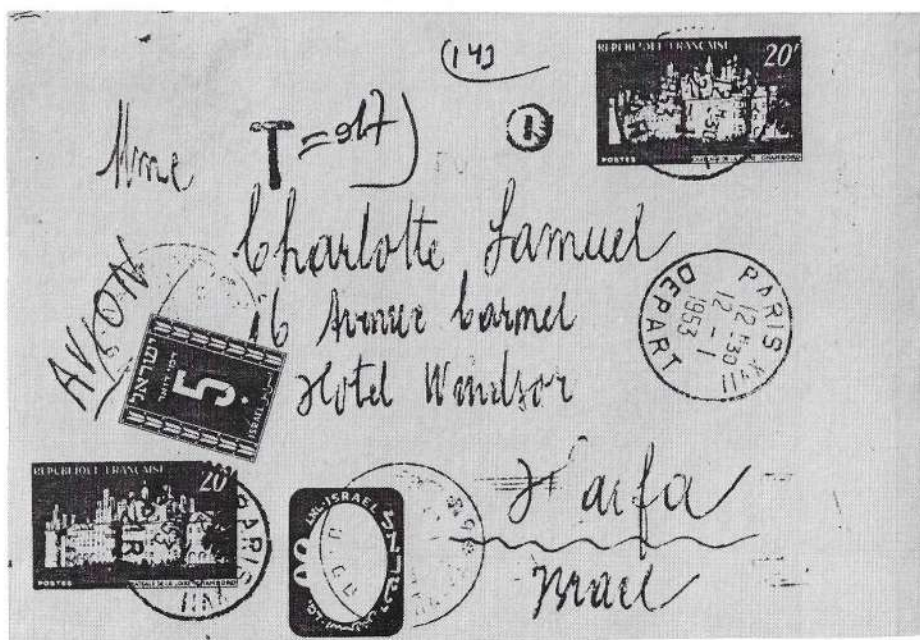


Fig. 69: A cover from Paris to Haifa with mixed P.D. franking (2nd and 3rd issues).

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

New Cancellations and Post Offices*(Compiled by B. Fixler & I. Nachtigal)****A. Special Cancellations*** (see also Fig. 70)

20.07.89: "1964-1989 25th anniversary of the National Water Carrier, 'Mekorot' Water Comp. Ltd", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

31.07.89: "40 Years in the Service of Israel", Ben-Gurion Airport.

27.08.89: "ICOGRADA, 13th Congress 27.8-31.8.1989", Tel Aviv-Yafo

01.09.89: "Israel Philatelists Greet BALPEX 89", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

03.09.89: "Centennial of the Hebrew Language Council", Yerushalayim.

03.09.89: "Festivals 5750", Yerushalayim*.

03.09.89: "Rabbi Yehuda Shlomo Hai Alkalai", Or Yehuda*.

04.09.89: "Kneset, 1889-1989, Inter-Parliamentary Union, 4-9 September, London". Yerushalayim.

12.09.89: "120 Nahalat Shiva", Yerushalayim.

13.09.89: "70th Anniversary of the Chamber of Commerce, Tel Aviv - Yafo 1919-1989", Tel Aviv - Yafo. Found also in violet ink.

24.09.89: "30th Anniversary of the Employment Service 1959-1989", Caesarea.

27.09.89: "60th Netanya Anniversary", Netanya.

03.10.89: "40th Anniversary Haifa Symphony Orchestra, Opening of the 40th Season", Haifa.

12.10.89: "National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately", Tel Aviv - Yafo*.

15.10.89: "Judaism in Action - Religious Services Week", Yerushalayim.

15.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Opening Day", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

16.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Technology and Computer Day", Tel Aviv-Yafo.

16.10.89: "The International Conference on Korczak's Heritage", Ramat Gan.

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

- 17.10.89: *FIP Philatelic Day, Journee De La Philatelie, Tag Der Philatelie, Dia De La Filatelia*", Yerushalayim*.
- 17.10.89: *A Pictorial Postmark with Archeologic Theme, Yerushalayim**.
- 17.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Philatelic Day" Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 18.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Hebrew Language Day", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 19.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Postal Authority Day", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 19.10.89: "The Carmel Rehabilitation Project", Haifa.
- 20.10.89: "Tevel 89, National stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Traffic and Road Safety Day", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 21.10.89: "Tevel 89, National Stamp Exhibition for Youth Philately, Shalom Ulehitraot", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
- 23.10.89: "ESHEL, the Association for the Planning & Development of Services for the Aged in Israel. ESHEL 20 Years, 1969-1989", Yerushalayim.
- 26.10.89 "75th JDC Anniversary, 1914-1989, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee", Yerushalayim.
- 17.11.89: "With Love, Good Luck, See You Again", Yerushalayim*.
- 17.11.89: "Ducks / World Stamp Expo 89", Yerushalayim*.

B. Definitive Cancellations

- 20.08.89: "Hod Ha-Sharon 523 ט" new meter machine in Magdiel BPO, Hod Ha-Sharon*.
- 04.09.89: "Nahariyya 620 ט". New meter machine in Nahariyya post office.
- 04.09.89: "Kefar Hasidim 621 ט". New meter machine in Kefar Hasidim post office.
- 04.09.89: "Akko 622 ט". New meter machine in Akko post office.
- 04.09.89: "Qatsrin 623 ט". New meter machine in Qatsrin post office.
- 04.09.89: "Karmiel 4". For the new postal agency in 6 Ha-Shoshanim Str. in Karmiel. The PMK was previously used at the Karmiel post office.
- 10.09.89: "Karmiel 7, Karmiel 8". Additional postmarks in Karmiel post office.
- 17.09.89: "Metar", for the postal agency, grade B, opened in Metar. Subscribers to the Philatelic Service received covers postmarked 18.9.89, without the Stag emblem.

* "Magdiel" BPO (today a superb of Hod Ha-Sharon), changed its name to "Hod Ha-Sharon" BPO on 9 March 1965. Nevertheless, on 25 May, 1989, a wrong meter cancellation, with the name "Magdiel" was put into use. This was corrected on 20 August, 1989.

- 02.10.89: "Haifa 25", for the new P.A. of grade A in 9 Raoul Wallenberg St., Haifa. On the First Day the Stag emblem was used inadvertently, as this PMK was a reserve one, already used before.
- 05.10.89: "Rishon Leziyyon 5", for the reopening of the postal agency grade A in 88 Herzel Str. The PMK was previously used at the Rishon Leziyyon Post Office. Found also in violet ink.
- 19.11.89: "Timrat", for the Postal Agency, grade B, opened in Timrat.
- 30.11.89: "Haifa 107", "Haifa 108", "Haifa 109", "Haifa 110", "Haifa 111", for the new Branch Post Office, opened in 9 Rav Aluf Mordechai Maklef St., Check Post.

Remarks and Corrections

- 22.07.88: "Yerushalayim 86", additional postmark in Hadasa Hospital B.P.O. (without the Stag emblem on the F.D.)

(Date Unknown):

"Beer Sheva 4 paye", new "paid" machine cancellation in Beer Sheva Post Office. This cancellation was not formally announced and we could not find its First Day. Our earliest example is from 15.3.89.

- 27.06.89: "Bat Yam 21", "Bat Yam 22", "Bat Yam 23", "Bat Yam 24". In HLPH No. 39, it was erroneously stated that these were introduced on 21.6.89.



Figure 70



Figure 70

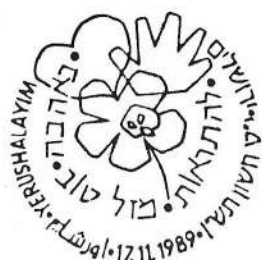


Figure 70

New Stamps and Postal Stationery

The following stamps were issued during the last period:

- 12.10.89: TEVEL National youth philatelic exhibition (50 Ag). This stamp was issued in Special Sheets, comprising 8 stamps with tabs and attached labels.
- 17.10.89: Philately Day (NIS 1.-); Archaeology in Jerusalem, part of the 7th definitive series (90 Ag).
- 17.11.89: Good wishes (Good Luck, See You Again, With Love), 3 non-denomination stamps for inland letters (50 Ag each, at the present); Ducks in the Holy Land, Souvenir Sheet comprising 4 stamps (4 × 80 Ag, Price NIS 5.-)



Maximum Cards: On the same date (17.11) 4 Maximum Cards were issued, each with one of the duck stamps from the sheet, sold for NIS 8.- (the four). Both sides of one of them are shown in Figure 71.

This is already the second set of Maximum Cards issued by the Post Office. The first set, of 3 cards, was issued on 5 July, 1988, with the "Nature Reserves in the Negev" set of stamps (which by themselves were issued earlier, on 27 June, 1988).



Figure 71

A New Phase of the Automatic Mail Sorting in Israel (Z. Shimony, Jerusalem)

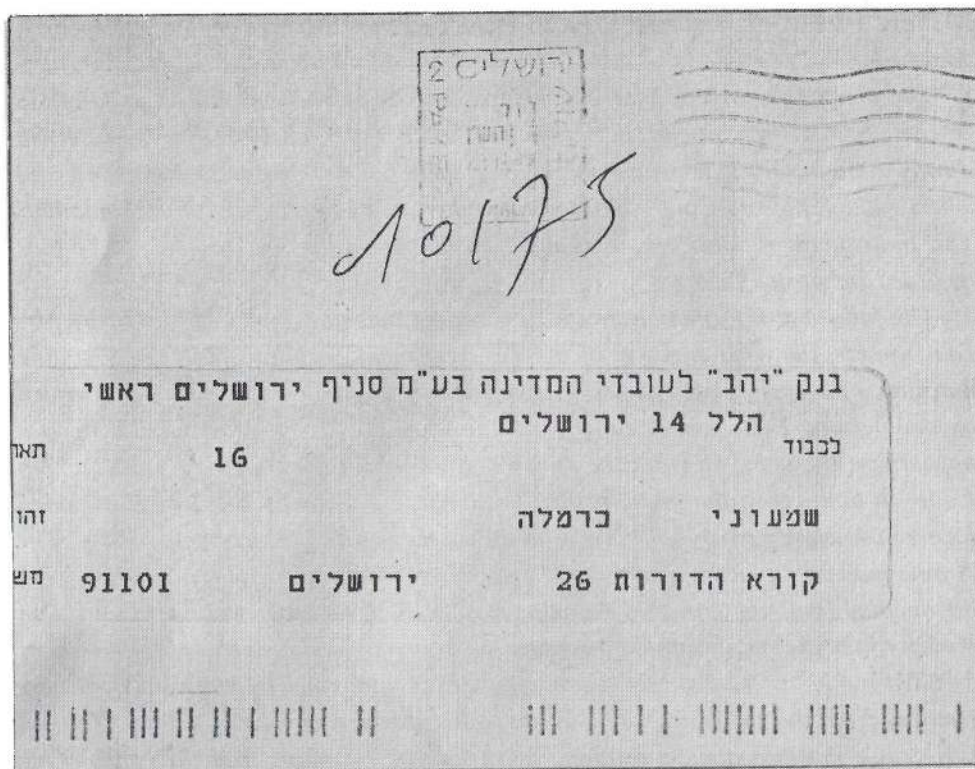
The modern automatic mail sorting by Zip Codes was introduced in Israel in November 1980 (see articles and notes in HLPH Nos 5,6,8,10). A new phase will shortly be introduced in which the coding stage will be computer controlled and letters without the Zip Code will also obtain the Code with the help of the computer. This innovation will also "show its sign" on the mail so processed and will be thus recorded for postal history.

The following information on the new coding machines was contributed by Mr. Dan Kantor, the chief engineer of the Tel Aviv main Sorting Center. Each coding machine, of French made Alcatel, is controlled by a small computer and is operated by one person. The operator either types the Zip Code of each processed item, if it appears on the item, or types the address, from which the computer finds the Zip Code. In both cases, the machine then prints the Zip Code on the item in its coded form of 24 colored phosphor bars, as in the present system of automatic sorting. The Arabic numeral, which appears in the present to the left of the bar-code, identifying the operator, will not appear in the new form. Instead, the new machine will print on the left of the present group of bars another group of 20 bars which are composed of 5 coded numerals (s. Fig. 72). Here again, each numeral is represented by 4 bars (starting from the right) according to the code explained in HLPH # 8 (p. 409). In this group the information recorded is as follows (starting from the right): One numeral gives the approximate hour of the day (in groups of 3 hours, starting from midnight), two numerals give the day in the year (modulus 100: i.e. counting 1-99 then 0 for 100, 1 for 101 etc. to 99 for 199, 0 for 200 and so on), and the last two numerals record the personal number of the operator for control.

At the present, 6 such Coders are installed in Jerusalem, 5 in Tel Aviv, 4 in Haifa and 1 in Beer Sheva. After typing the Zip Code each machine sorts the mail into (about) 6 bins, representing major postal zones in Israel and these batches of mail are then sent according to their destination.

Some of these machines have already been operated experimentally (and sporadically) since the end of October, but full formal operation will start only in January, 1990.

A further new phase of automatization is planned for April 1990, when optical Zip Code readers will be introduced, enabling **typed** Zip Codes to be read by the machine automatically!



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Book Reviews

Palestine Postal Forms, British Military Administration 1917-1920

by Dr. Arthur Hochheiser

(Published by the S.I.P. Educational Fund, 25113 Duffield Road, Beachwood, Ohio 44122. \$14 postpaid).

The collections of our Palestine Mandate Philatelists generally consist of either covers with important postmarks, or frankings, or of the stamps themselves. However, a few adventurous souls amongst us have directed their interests into fields heretofore uncatalogued and with a minimum of published references. Arthur Hochheiser has collected, taught, exhibited and written many articles to acquaint us with such fields and themes. His latest work provides our collectors and readers with their first glimpse into the actual operations of the post of the British Military Administration which governed the Holyland between the years 1917 to 1920. This period, which commenced with Allenby's conquest of the Turks, lasted until its replacement by a Civil Government on 1 July 1920.

Hochheiser has catalogued the Postal and Telegraph Forms, stamped markings, City and Army dated postmarks and the handstamps of this historical period. In doing so, he has published almost all of the book's contents for the first time. To make the work even more useful for the collector, he has evaluated these rare forms. Such additional information should always be included in any philatelic reference for it to be of maximum value and utility. To do so in such uncharted fields as the subjects included in this publication requires a certain amount of courage as the material is seldom encountered, unreferenced and there are no other authorities with whom to consult.

The layout of this 48 page work is excellent and all of the forms themselves are completely illustrated and described. Also, wherever appropriate, the author has included explanatory notes pointing out the salient features of many of the documents. Each form is clearly shown on a separate page resulting in a comfortable, pleasing and easy-to-use format. Paper, printing and production are all top quality, as are all SIP Educational Fund publications. In summary, this is a highly recommended work certain to be an authoritative source for many years to come.

(Marvin Siegel)

Regular Postmarks of Israeli Post, 1948-1990 – Part One

by I. Nachtigal and B. Fixler.

(Published by the Philatelic Service, 12 Shderot Yerushalayim, Tel Aviv-Yafo 61080, price NIS 25.- (20.- for P.S. subscribers), not including postage.)

An announcement of the imminent appearance of this book was made about two years ago in *Bulletin No. 31* (Summer 1987), P. 602. Problems, however, arose and it is only now (with the assistance of the Postal Authority) that this part, the first of two, has appeared. Part two will include the other postmarks – the slogans and special postmarks.

The field of the postmarks of Israel from 1948 is not one which has drawn as much interest as the two previous philatelic periods. This is a great pity, because not only is it still possible to collect these with some ease, even though there are some very scarce rarities, but also with a comparatively low cost.

Israel's postmarks are a fascinating subject. There were temporary usages, changes in the language make-up, changes in the postmarks themselves, sometimes for no discernible reason, and also changes deriving from the renewal of a particular instrument because of damage to the old one. The book covers all of the known regular postmarks from all of the cities, towns and settlements in a remarkably comprehensive manner, detailing these from 1948 until the very recent times. Other than the rather slow publication of some in the German publication "*Der Israel Philatelist*", no other similarly wide assembly of information has, before, been available. Only the postmarks of Jerusalem have been previously published in another book.

The two authors, the acknowledged experts in this field, are to be heartily congratulated on this very excellent reference book. It adds very considerably to the Postal History knowledge of this area and with part two, which hopefully will not take quite as long to appear, will cover completely the field of postmarks of Israel.

Two minor criticisms, which do not detract from the value of the book: It is a pity that the authors did not include a comparative valuation listing. This is a valuable guide to the relevant rarity of a particular postmark, and would have added very greatly to the usefulness of the book. It is my opinion that not all of the detectable variations in certain postmarks have been included here, which leaves room for some researcher to do further work in the field.

Every postal historian interested in the history of this area should add this book to his or her library. It is very sincerely to be hoped that by publishing these books the authors will generate the interest this period deserves and which is still unfulfilled. The Postal Authority, and particularly the Philatelic Service, should be congratulated for their help in publishing this important work.

(E. Glassman)

Poland (Occupied in World War II) and Holocaust 1939-1945

by Edward T. Superson.

(Orders from: Mr. E.T. Superson at Palm Villa, 1850 W. 24th Court, Panama City, Florida 32405. Cost is \$22.50 plus postage and handling of \$2.50 [in U.S.A.] or \$5.00 [other countries]).

This reviewer has read many philatelic works but none has made as strong an impression as has Superson's superb work. Now in its 6th Edition (after 12 printings), this award-winning philatelic handbook skilfully interweaves history and philately. All philatelic events and information as well as their historical backgrounds that occurred within the borders of 1939 Poland are comprehensively detailed. These include stamps, cancels, overprints, stationery, souvenirs, censorship, forgeries, errors, ghetto, camp, railroad, field and underground post, etc. All sections are well illustrated and indexed for easy reference.

In the forty seven years since the Wannsee Protocol decided upon and planned the "final solution of the Jewish question" various sources have dribbled out segments of Holocaust Philately, but Superson, for the first time, has presented a complete philatelic history, as well as a vivid documentation of those diabolical events.

This work consists of 489 pages and is profusely illustrated with over 1100 photographs. To anyone collecting Poland, Holocaust or World War II Postal History or Philately, this publication will certainly prove to be an invaluable sourcebook. If it has a fault, it is Superson's comments about the events themselves and the perfidy and barbarity of the Governments involved. However, when dealing with subject matters as horrible as those described, it is very difficult to write without emotion and the appropriate adjectives. Superson knows his subject well as he is an American Philatelist who found himself in Poland at the outbreak of World War II. Thus he was an eye-witness to the collusive German and Russian Occupation.

These days we are witnessing the sad spectacle of Poles and Jews in conflict over "rights" to commemorate their staggering losses at Auschwitz. Yet, if nothing else, this book should be read to remind us that the Poles and Jews suffered more than any others at the hands of the Nazi Government.

(Marvin Siegel)

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