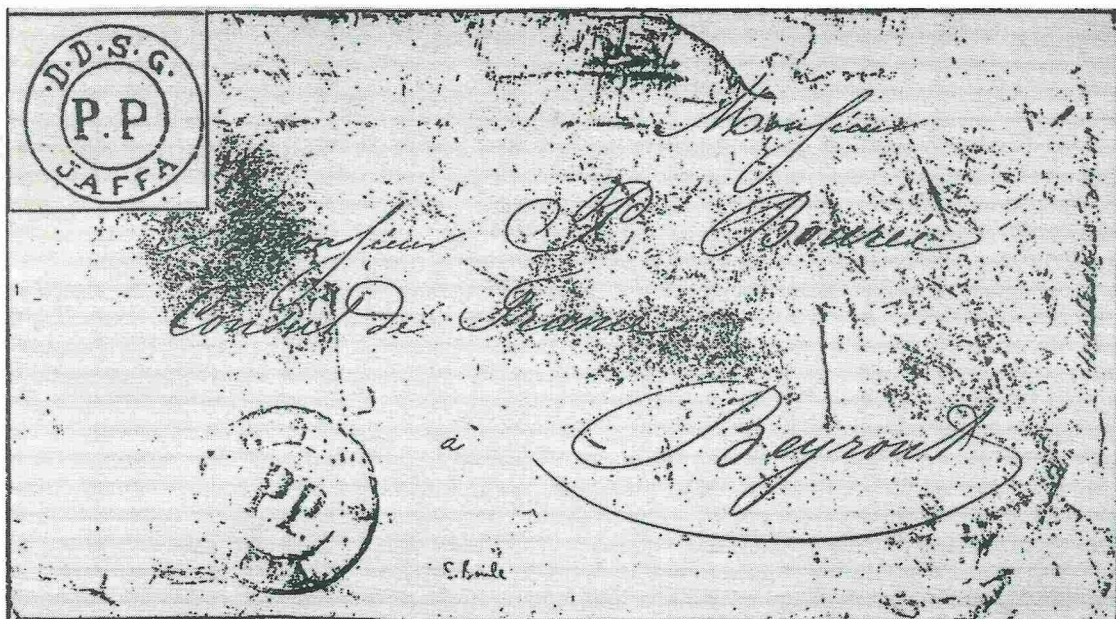


Holy Land Postal History

IV
69-72

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



מעטפה מ-1840 מהקונסוליה הצרפתית ביפו לזאת שבבירות, שעליה חותמת נדירה ביותר, לא-ידועה עד כה, של סוכנות "חברת דנובה לשיט קיטור" ביפו
1840 cover from the Jaffa French Consulate to that in Beyrouth, with the hitherto unrecorded extremely rare Danube Steam Navigation Company Jaffa Agency postmark ("D.D.S.G. / JAFFA"). Insert: Reconstruction of the postmark (s. article on p. 332)

WINTER / AUTUMN 1997

HOLY LAND POSTAL HISTORY

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of Eretz-Israel

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Israel 98 - World Stamp Exhibition

**An official event of Israel's 50th Anniversary celebrations
The Israel Trade Fairs and Convention Center
Tel-Aviv, May 13-21, 1998**

**Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel and its first
Postage Stamps - the Doar Ivri issue**

On the conclusion of the work of the Philatelic Committee, the ISRAEL 98 Exhibition has crossed an important threshold. The committee had a number of meetings to decide on the entries for the 2,500 frames which were allotted to the different classes in the competition, from applications for over 4,000 frames.

ISRAEL 98 is fortunate to be able to present high level exhibits in all classes. It is very important to point out the high percentage of first time exhibitors. The addition of these first time exhibitors stresses the importance of holding exhibitions at all levels, local, national and international, encouraging the promoters of philately in all its aspects, to keep enlarging the exhibitors' ranks.

From a statistical point of view we are happy to have exhibitors from 37 countries, with the United States standing out and Israel close behind. Other predominant countries are Great Britain, Germany, Switzerland, France and Sweden. The return of South Africa is noted and of course, that of our neighbour, Egypt.

All classes are represented in the Exhibition, with Traditional (760 frames) leading, followed by Postal History (685), Thematics (403), Youth (176), Airmail (150), Champions Class (128), Honour and Invited exhibits (103), Maximaphily (51), Mophila (27), Revenue (68) and Literature.

Those interested in receiving a copy of Bulletin #2 or any other information on the Exhibition should apply to: The Organizing Committee, ISRAEL 98, P.O. Box 4523, Tel Aviv 61045, Israel. (E-mail: www.israel98.org)

New Members in HLPHS Life Members "Fraternity"

The following members have joined our Life Members "Fraternity" during the last five years - we heartily congratulate them:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10. <i>Moshe Kob-Kalman, Israel</i> | 14. <i>Erwin Marton, Israel</i> |
| 11. <i>Dr. Jerome Byers, USA</i> | 15. <i>Dr. E. H. Kolodny, USA</i> |
| 12. <i>Howard S. Chapman, USA</i> | 16. <i>Jacques Kaufman, Holland</i> |
| 13. <i>Jonathan Becker, USA</i> | 17. <i>Dr. Avo Kaplanian.</i> |

Life Membership details are published on the inside Front Cover.

Postal Connections between Russia and Palestine during WWI

*(The late) Joseph Hoffman, Jerusalem**

The outbreak of World War I, with Russia fighting against Germany and Austria/Hungary and their ally Turkey, caused a disruption of postal communications between Russia and Palestine.

The headquarters of the World Zionist Organization were at that time located in Berlin, and in order to maintain contact with the branches in the rest of the world it was found necessary to establish an office in a neutral country. Copenhagen in Denmark was chosen for this purpose, and an office was established there in 1915 under the direction of Leo Motzkin.

While the primary purpose of this office was political activity and liaison with the Zionist organizations in other countries, a secondary purpose was to serve as a relay-point for communications and contacts between Jewish families, mainly between Russia and Palestine, but also between other countries where families were cut off from each other by the war.

For this purpose Dr. Simon Bernstein was sent to Copenhagen. Bernstein, a journalist and Hebrew scholar, was born in Latvia and after having served as secretary of the Zionist Organization in St. Petersburg, joined the staff of the Head Office in Berlin in 1912.

Bernstein placed an advertisement in the Russian-language journal "Yevreyskaya Zhizn" ("Jewish Life") as a consequence of which he received a flood of communications from Russia with requests for information about their relatives in Palestine and the forwarding of messages.

Illustrated herewith are such cards from Minsk, Yekaterinoslav and others, all from the years 1915 and 1916 (Figs. 1-4). This service was discontinued in 1918, and the Copenhagen office closed in 1920. Whilst I have numerous such cards from Russia to Copenhagen, I have not seen any corresponding communications between Copenhagen and Palestine, and would be pleased to hear from readers who have such correspondence.

While as mentioned the main part of the inquiries received by the Copenhagen office originated in Russia and referred to family news, Figure 5 illustrates a card from an Austro-Hungarian Jewish officer in a Russian prisoner-of-war camp requesting Zionist literature, and Figure 6 shows a card sent in 1917 by a Rumanian internee in a German prisoner camp with an urgent request for money to be sent to him by his family in Rumania through the Copenhagen Office.

* This article was submitted for publication by our veteran member Joseph Hoffman several months ago. Very sadly, Joseph suddenly passed away a few months later. We publish this interesting article as a memorial to his blessed memory. (See obituary in this Issue).

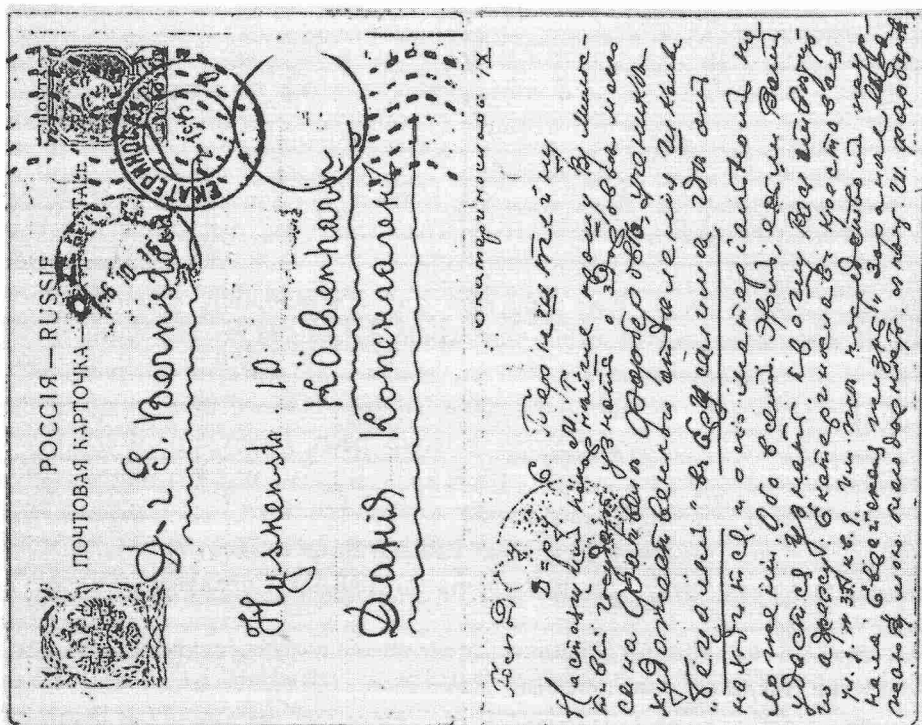


Figure 2

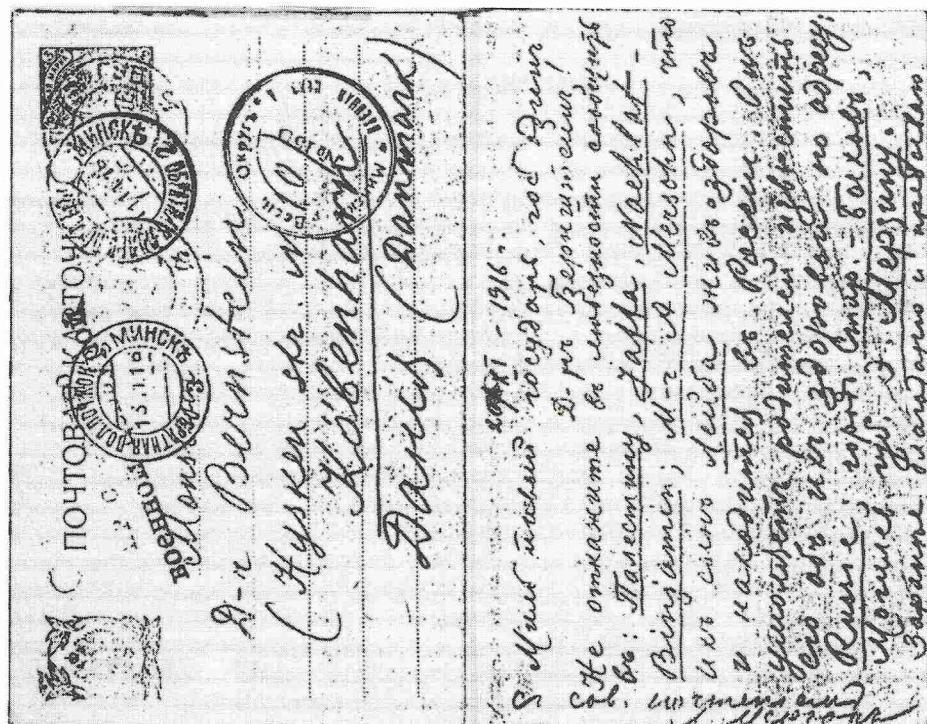


Figure 1

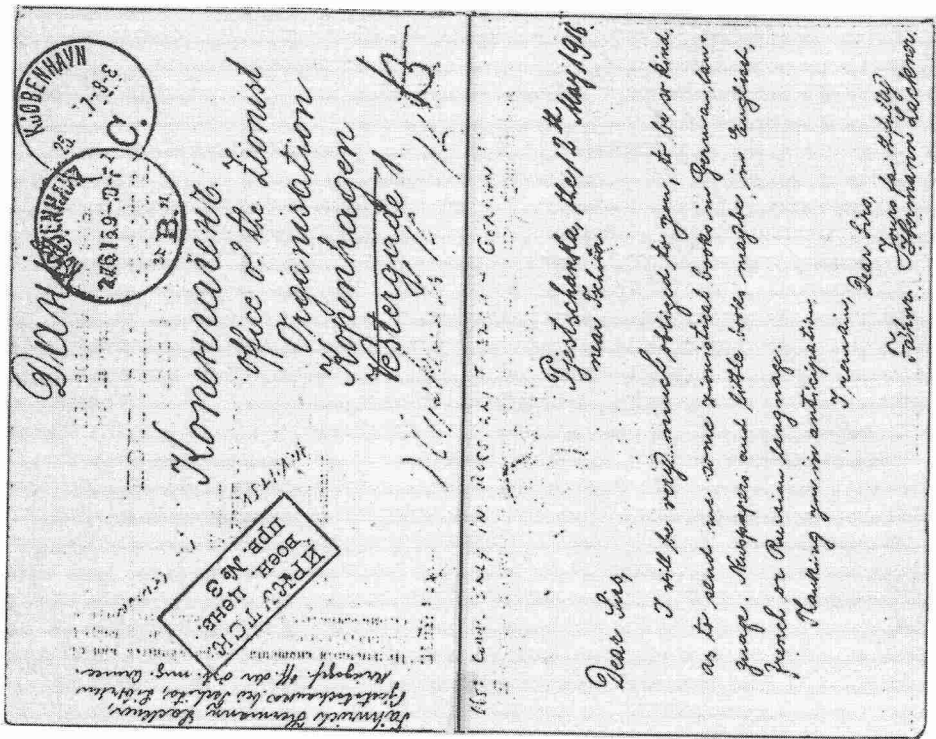


Figure 5

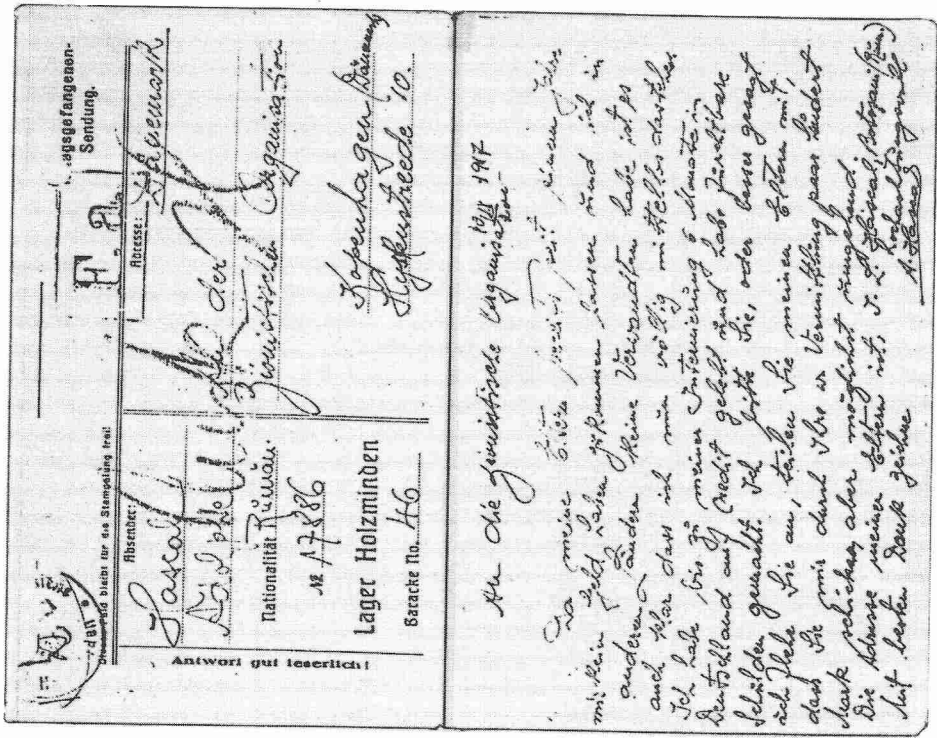


Figure 6

Phosphor Varieties of Israeli Stamps

Zohar Noy, Tel Aviv

Introduction

There are many varieties of Israeli Stamps, especially of definitive issues, which are reprinted several times. There exist variations of colour shades, paper and gum types, tab length and phosphor tags (ph. t.). This article reviews the phosphor varieties of Israeli definitive stamps in the last twenty four years, from the initiation of phosphor tagging as a means for automatic letter sorting. Some reference is also given to phosphor errors (to be distinguished from the intentional varieties) of the definitive issues and of several commemoratives, but this rather as examples and is a very partial list.

Certain definitive stamps of the Landscape and Town Emblems issues, were experimentally ph.t. about a year before the first regular ph. t. stamps were issued. Some sheets of these stamps were tagged with long thick layers and cancelled with the Philatelic Service postmark of "Jerusalem 79" dated 13.1.74. After separation of the stamps, they were affixed to various stationery (covers, aerogrammes, etc.) and passed through the Japanese Automatic Letter Facing (ALF) machine for a trial run. Later, the stamps were cut off and sold by the postal authorities mixed in with other "Massen-Ware" material. A few of these experimental stamps were discovered by philatelists and today they are known in single, mostly used condition on cutouts, or (rarely) as mint singles or small multiples^{1,2} (Fig. 7).



Figure 7

The first definitive phosphor tagged stamps for regular use, the I.L. 1 of the Town Emblem series and the I.L. 0.25 Landscape were printed on 19.12.74, and on 20.11.74 respectively and sold first on 30.1.75. The first commemorative ph.t. stamps, the 1975 Memorial Day (IsC 648) and "In Memory of Missing Fallen Soldiers" (IsC 649), were first used on 10.4.75.

The facing machine 'inspects' the letters passing on its conveyer, firstly sensing the phosphor 'signal' of the stamps to orient the letter face-up, then sorting the letters into different groups according to their destinations: local letters for 1 phosphor-band stamps, airmail letters to 'group A' countries (Europe etc.) for two short phosphor-band stamps and letters to 'group B' countries (U.S.A etc.) for two long phosphor-band stamps (this short-band/long-band differentiation is a relative recent development. Stamps with nominal value lower than the basic local rate are issued without any ph.t.. Long ph.t. which are sometimes found on earlier definitive stamps later than 1975, are printing errors rather than intentional varieties as is discussed later on.

The ALF phosphor sorting system is the principal reason for the issuance of

different phosphor varieties of certain definitive stamps whenever there is a charge of postal tariff. For instance one can see many cases in the Tables, where local rate 1-band stamps are reissued with no phosphor-band because the postal rate for a local letter was upgraded.

Long ph.t.'s appeared on stamps long before it was printed intentionally for sorting purpose as described above; in fact it was the usual form in the beginning and only later, (about March 1975), for economy reasons, it was changed to short ph.t.. Even then one could sometimes find long ph.t. stamps which should have had short tags – these are not constant varieties but rather printing errors caused by smearing of the phosphor “ink”: this happened more frequently at the beginning of the printing. Such errors, when detected by us, are noted by a remark under the relevant Table. There are all sorts of other accidental phosphor errors, such as shifted bands, narrow (cut) bands, smeared bands, triple bands or no bands at all (when there should have been) – these are generally not treated in this work.

In some cases, booklets of certain definitive stamps have been issued in which otherwise non-existent ph.t. combinations appear. These cases are not reported here – they will be included in a future review of Israeli booklets.

The last table in this work is of commemorative stamps. Such stamps generally have only one printing and therefore do not have intentional ph.t. varieties. They do have of course accidental phosphor errors, the same as the definitives, but they have also a special type of phosphor bands errors which may be called phosphor-plate constant errors – they are explained as follows and some are reported in the last Table.

The printing of the phosphor tags, of the numerator numbers and of the plate numbers is performed in a separate process by the Government Printing House. The phosphor tagging is equivalent to the printing of an additional colour on the already printed basic stamps sheets. The phosphor printing block is made by manually pasting bands on a transparent board, where the printing sheet is composed of (say) 5 post office sheets of 15 stamps each.

For economy reasons, when printing the phosphor bands of the post office sheets of a set of commemorative stamps, two values of the set are printed together by the large printing block: say, 3 post office sheets of stamp “A” and 2 of stamp “B”. It may erroneously happen that the phosphor plastic bands on the printing block were placed in a certain order that would not fit the arrangement necessary for one or the other of these values. As a result of such misarrangements several phosphor plate constant varieties may result, such as: No phosphor at all, wrong side of a single phosphor band, one band instead of two or vice-versa. This kind of variety is characterized by the appearance of the error on all of the stamps of the “bad” post office sheet.

Although the detection of such errors is easy, it is very difficult to estimate its frequency since the post office sheet of, say, stamp “A” may sometimes appear twice in the printing sheet and sometimes three times. Thus in one case this sheet

may have the ph.t. variety of stamp “A” and has none in the other case.

I have done my best to assure that this research be up to date, precise and as complete as possible. But it is of course impossible to be perfect, especially in this kind of research, and I would be grateful to anybody who can let me know of any mistakes or missing information in this article. Please write to the author, **P.O.B. 62029, Tel Aviv 61620 (Tel. 052-641769).**

Preface to the Tables

The first three columns of the table are reference numbers of the stamps: “**Zohar List**” are the numbers given in this list, **Mi** – the numbers in Michel Catalogue, and **IsC** – the numbers in the Israel Philatelic Services Catalogue.

The nominal values in the column “**Value**” are indicated without the contemporary currency name, for the sake of brevity. We believe that this should not cause any difficulty to the readers.

The First Date of Use of reprints of a definitive issue (unlike for the first printing) is difficult to know and is therefore frequently missing in the Tables. In many cases it indicates “**Earliest Date Known**” rather than “**First Date**”.

All, but the last, tables are of definitive issues.

The Tables

Town Emblem Definitive Stamps

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
445	463	T1a	0.25	Givatayim	none	09/07/69	4/5/69
		T1b			two long*	13/01/74	
338	353	T2a	1.00	Tel Aviv – Yaffo	none	15/12/65	19/12/74
		T2b			two long	30/1/75	
		T2c			two short		04/05/75

* Experimental Phosphor

Landscape Definitive Stamps

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
524	573	L1a	00.3	Judean Desert	none	07/11/72	14/7/72
		L1b			right long*	13/01/74	
525	574	L2a	00.5	Gan Ha–Shelosha	none	07/11/72	1/8/72
526	538	L3a	0.15	Negev	none	25/10/71	15/9/71
527	539	L4a	0.18	Kinneret	none	25/10/71	7/9/71
		L4b			two long*	13/01/74	
598	609	L5a	0.20	Tel Dan	none	23/10/73	27/8/73

(Cont.)

C a t a l o g u e		N o s .	Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)		
Mi	IsC	Zohar List							
528	540	L5b	0.22	Yafo	right long	17/3/75	02/02/75		
		L5c			right short		05/10/75		
		L6a			none	04/01/72	18/10/71		
623	634	L7a	0.25	Arava	none	05/11/74	25/7/74		
529	575	L7b	0.30	En Avedat	right long	30/1/75	20/11/74		
		L8a			none	07/11/72	30/7/72		
		L8b			right long*	13/01/74			
600	610	L8c	0.35	Brekhat Ram	right short		02/09/75		
		L9a			none	20/12/73	4/11/73		
		L9b			two long*	13/01/74			
530	576	L9c	0.45	Hermon	right short	27/4/75	17/03/75		
		L10a			none	16/01/73	7/11/72		
		L10b			right short	9/5/76	22/3/76		
531	541	L11a	0.50	Rosh Pinna	none	25/10/71	16/9/71		
		L11b			right short		21/3/76		
		L11c			two short	24/8/75	18/05/75		
532	542	L12a	0.55	Netanya	none	04/01/72	27/10/71		
599	611	L13a	0.65	Plain of Zebulun	none	23/10/73	14/9/73		
533	543	L13b	0.70	Ein Gedi	right short	1/8/77	04/08/77		
		L14a			none	04/01/72	20/10/71		
		L15a			0.80	Beach at Elat	none	05/11/74	21/7/74
624	635	L15b	0.80		right short	22/8/77	01/08/77		
		L15c			two short		08/11/77		
		L16a			0.88	Akko	none	25/10/71	8/9/71
535	577	L17a	0.95	Hamifratz	none	16/01/73	4/9/72		
601	612	L17a	0.95	Hane'elam					
		L18a			1.10	Aqueduct near Akko	none	20/12/73	20/11/73
		L18b					right short	25/4/78	02/04/78
625	636	L19a	1.30	Zefat	none	05/11/74	5/8/74		
		L19b			two short	16/3/76	14/11/75		
		L19c			right short		19/01/78		
646	657	L20a	1.70	Nazeret Illit	two short	17/06/75	24/4/75		
536	578	L21a	2.00	Coral Island	none	16/01/73	2/11/72		
		L21b			two long	24/4/75	20/02/75		
		L21c			two short		20/11/75		
537	579	L21d	3.00	Haifa	right short		02/10/79		
		L22a			none	07/11/72	25/7/72		
		L22b			two short		19/10/75		
676	693	L22c	10.00	Elat	right short		08/11/79		
		L23a			none	17/08/76	15/6/76		
		L23b			two short	29/1/78	15/01/78		
719	733	L24a	0.10	Caesarea	none	18/10/77	15/9/77		

(Cont.)

Catalogue Nos.		Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC					
720	734	L25a	Arava	two short	18/10/77	31/8/77
		L25b		right short	10/8/78	16/05/78
		L25c		none		02/12/79
765	766	L26a	Rosh Pinna	none	04/07/78	9/4/78
		L26b		two short	23/11/78	27/08/78
813	815	L27a	Avshalom Reserve	none	15/01/80	24/8/79

* Experimental Phosphor

Stand-by I.L. Stamps

Catalogue Nos.		Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC					
721	744	IL1a	Symbolic	one right	(01/12/77)	23/11/77
797	799	IL2a	"	one right	22/5/79	29/4/79
		IL2b		one left		09/08/79
659	670	IL3a	"	two	09/12/75	8/10/75
675	689	IL4a	"	two	22/06/76	11/4/76
812	814	IL5a	"	one left	25/12/79	9/12/79
		IL5b		one right		09/12/79
821	824	IL6a	"	one right	26/05/80	8/5/80
760	761	IL7a	"	two	23/05/78	2/5/78
798	800	IL8a	"	two	22/05/79	30/4/79

Stand-by Sheqel Stamps

Catalogue Nos.		Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC					
829	832	S1a	Uniform	none	16/12/80	12/8/80
830	833	S2a	"	none	16/12/80	8/8/80
831	834	S3a	"	none	16/12/80	6/8/80
832	835	S4a	"	none	16/12/80	10/8/80
833	836	S5a	"	none	16/12/80	15/10/80
834	837	S6a	"	one right	16/12/80	12/10/80
		S6b		none (error)	21/01/82	16/1/81*
856	859	S7a	"	one right	05/05/81	24/3/81
		S7b		none		
861	864	S8a	"	one right	25/08/81	3/5/81
		S8b		one left	01/10/81	6/9/81
		S8c		none (error)		12/11/81
835	838	S9a	"	two	16/12/80	20/10/80
		S9b		one right	21/01/82	
		S9c		none	25/04/82	

* On 10/1/82 normal no-phosphor sheets of this stamp were printed.

(Cont.)

Catalogue Nos.		Zohar List	Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC						
874	877	S10a	1.10	"	one right	11/12/82	15/11/82
		S10b			none (error)		15/11/82
879	883	S11a	1.20	"	one right	16/03/82	24/12/82
836	839	S12a	2.00	"	two	16/12/80	17/10/80
		S12b			one right	30/5/82	16/5/82
		S12c			none	1983	
837	840	S13a	2.80	"	two	16/12/80	5/11/80
862	865	S14a	3.00	"	two	25/08/81	27/4/81
		S14b			none		
838	841	S15a	3.20	"	two	16/12/80	23/10/80
863	866	S16a	4.00	"	two	25/08/81	4/5/81
		S16b			one right		
		S16c			none		
839	842	S17a	4.20	"	two	16/12/80	30/10/80
840	843	S18a	5.00	"	two	16/12/80	28/10/80
		S18b			none		
841	844	S19a	10.00	"	none	16/12/80	26/10/80
		S19b			two	21/1/82	23/12/81
		S19c			one right		

Stand-by Seven Species

Catalogue Nos.		Zohar List	Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC						
917	922	SS1a	0.40	Seven Species	none	11/01/83	
918	923	SS2a	0.80	"	none	11/01/83	
885	889	SS3a	1.40	"	one right	22/06/82	1/6/82
919	924	SS4a	6.00	"	two	11/01/83	
		SS4b			one right		
943	949	SS5a	7.00	"	two	11/10/83	
944	950	SS6a	8.00	"	two	11/10/83	
945	951	SS7a	9.00	"	two	11/10/83	
946	952	SS8a	15.00	"	two	11/10/83	
963	969	SS9a	30.00	"	two	26/04/84	
		SS9b			none		
964	970	SS10a	50.00	"	two	26/04/84	
		SS10b			one right		
		SS10c			none		
965	971	SS11a	100.00	"	none	26/04/84	
		SS11b			two		
		SS11c			one right		
981	987	SS12a	500.00	"	none	27/11/84	
		SS12b			two		

Non Denomination stamps

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					(Pl. Bl. Date)
893	897	ND1a	—	olive branch	one right	12/09/82	21/8/82
1085	1091	ND2a	—	sunflower	one right	09/03/88	25/1/88
1217	1223	ND3a	—	anemone	one left	18/02/92	22/12/91
		ND3b			one right		03/08/92
		ND3c			none*		09/04/95
							19/11/95

* Two printings were issued by mistake without any phosphor bars. Later printings (22/12/95 etc) had one right ph.t.. Shifted print resulted in the existence of odd stamps with different ph.t. positions (middle, etc...).

Stand-by Herzl (NIS)

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Colour	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					(Pl. Bl. Date)
1016	1022	H1a	0.01	blue	none	01/01/86	
1017	1023	H2a	0.02	blue	none	01/01/86	
1018	1024	H3a	0.03	blue	none	01/01/86	
1019	1025	H4a	0.05	blue	none	01/01/86	
		H4b		black	none		
1020	1026	H5a	0.10	blue	none	01/01/86	
		H5b		black	none		
1021	1027	H6a	0.20	blue	one right	01/01/86	5/11/85
		H6b		blue	none		13/7/87
		H6c		black	none		
1022	1028	H7a	0.30	blue	one right	01/01/86	7/11/85
		H7b		blue	two*		09/04/86
		H7c		blue	none		31/05/88
		H7d		black	none		31/05/92
1023	1029	H8a	0.50	blue	two	01/01/86	29/11/85
		H8b		blue	one right		15/9/89
		H8c		black	none		29/3/92

* H7b stamps with two long bars have been seen. These are errors of "smearing" (cf. the Introduction).

Archaeology in Jerusalem

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	Printing Date F.D. of Use	Printing Date
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					(Pl. Bl. Date)
1111	1117	AJ1a	0.40	Relief	one right	22/12/88	5/10/88
		AJ1b			none		31/07/92
1112	1118	AJ2a	0.60	Byzantine Capital	two	22/12/88	26/10/88
		AJ2b			one left		17/03/91
		AJ2c			none		
1127	1132	AJ3a	0.70	Islamic Relief	two	11/06/89	8/3/89

(Cont.)

C a t a l o g u e N o s .			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
1128	1133	AJ4a	0.80	Crusader Capital	two	11/06/89	8/3/89
1128	1148	AJ5a	0.90	Ottoman Relief	two	17/10/89	4/7/89
1024	1030	AJ6a	1.00	Capital	none	01/01/86	10/12/85
		AJ6b			two		05/05/89
		AJ6c			one right		17/04/94
1163	1169	AJ7a	2.00	Mamluk Relief	one	12/06/90	14/6/89
		AJ7b			two		12/10/94
1025	1031	AJ8a	3.00	Capital	none	01/01/86	4/12/85
1122	1130	AJ9a	10.00	Relief	none	30/04/89	20/1/89

Good Wishes

C a t a l o g u e N o s .			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
1147	1149	GW1a	Inland	good luck	one right	17/11/89	5/9/89
		GW1b			one left		22/01/90
1148	1150	GW2a	"	see you again	one right	17/11/89	24/9/89
		GW2b			one left		13/03/90
1149	1151	GW3a	"	with love	one right	17/11/89	24/9/89
		GW3b			one left		28/2/90
1184	1190	GW4a	"	greetings	one left	19/02/91	20/12/90
		GW4b			one right		28/10/92
1185	1191	GW5a	"	keep in touch	one left	19/02/91	25/12/90
		GW5b			one right*		26/04/92
		GW5c			none (error)		
1186	1192	GW6a	"	happy birthday	one left	19/02/91	16/12/90
		GW6b			one right*		12/04/92
1164	1170	GW7a	0.55	good luck	one left	12/06/90	1/5/90
		GW7b			one right		
1165	1171	GW8a	0.80	see you again	two	12/06/90	6/5/90
		GW8b			one right*		01/11/92
1166	1172	GW9a	1.00	with love	two	12/06/90	23/4/90
		GW9b			one right*		15/7/92

* These exist with one right long bar — a smearing error.

Architecture in Israel

C a t a l o g u e N o s .			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
1156	1160	AR1a	0.75	School in Kibbutz	two	17/04/90	16/1/90
		AR1b			one right		08/12/91
		AR1c			one left		30/04/92
		AR1d			none		
1174	1182	AR2a	1.10	Dining Hall	two	12/12/90	17/9/90

(Cont.)

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
		AR2b			one right		17/05/92
1175	1183	AR3a	1.20	Apartment House	two	12/12/90	9/9/90
1187	1194	AR4a	1.40	Weizmann House	two	09/04/91	26/2/91
		AR4b			one right		02/02/97
1218	1231	AR5a	1.60	National Institution Building	two	26/04/92	9/2/92

Song Birds

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
1248	1253	SB1a	0.10	Wallcreeper	none	08/12/92	20/10/92
1249	1254	SB2a	0.20	Tristram's Crackle	none	08/12/92	1/10/92
1250	1255	SB3a	0.30	White wagtail	none	08/12/92	18/9/92
1257		SB4a	0.50	Palestine sunbird	none	16/02/93	25/11/92
		SB5a	0.85	Sinai rosefinch	one right	08/02/94	26/12/93
1251	1256	SB6a	0.90	Swallow	one right	08/12/92	13/9/92
		SB7a	1.00	Trumpeter finch	one right	07/06/95	4/4/95
		SB7b			none		9/5/97
1280		SB8a	1.30	Graceful Warbler	two	09/12/93	1/9/93
		SB8b			one right	06/02/93	6/2/97
1258		SB9a	1.50	Black eared	two	16/02/93	28/12/92
1281		SB10a	1.70	Common bulbul	two	09/12/93	15/8/93
		SB10b			none (error)	09/12/93	

Sport – Definitive series

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
1362		SP1a	1.05	Cycling	one right	20/02/96	26/12/95
1414		SP2a	1.10	Horseback riding	one right	13/02/97	1/1/97
		SP2b			one left		03/06/97
1363		SP3a	1.90	Paragliding	two	20/02/96	21/1/96
1364		SP4a	2.00	Volleyball	two	20/02/96	31/12/95
		SP5a	3.00	Bat & ball game	none	23/09/97	
1415		SP6a	5.00	Archery	none	13/02/97	24/12/96
		SP7a	10.00	Abseling/rappelling	none	08/07/97	13/5/97

Commemoratives

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
647	658	C1a	IL0.35	Zalman Shazar	one right	05/08/75	
		C1b			none (1)	05/08/75	
679	692	C2a	IL1.90	Festivals 5737	two	17/08/76	
		C2b			none (error)	17/08/76	

(Cont.)

Catalogue Nos.			Value	Stamp Description	Phosphor Bands	F.D. of Use	Printing Date (Pl. Bl. Date)
Mi	IsC	Zohar List					
961	967	C3a	IS10.0	Memorial day	one right	26/04/84	
		C3b			one left (2)	26/04/84	
982	988	C4a	IS100.	Biblical Birds I	two	05/02/85	
		C4b			two, right wide (3)	05/02/85	
983	989	C5a	IS200.	Biblical Birds I	one left	05/02/85	
		C5b		[s. Fig. 8 (a)]	two, right wide (3)	05/02/85	
1167	1173	C6a	Nis 0.55	Festivals 5751	one left	04/09/90	
		C6b			one right (scarce)	04/09/90	
1247	1257	C7a	Nis 1.50	European Unification	two	08/12/92	
		C7b		[s. Fig.8 (b)]	one left, two right (4)	08/12/92	
		C8a	Nis 0.90	Transport	one right	27/11/93	
		C8b			none	27/11/93	
		C8c			two	27/11/93	
		C9a	Nis 0.85	Balloons	one right	21/06/94	
		C9b			none (error)	21/06/94	
		C10a	Nis 0.85	Balloons	one right	21/06/94	
		C10b			none (error)	21/06/94	
1394		C11a	Nis 1.05	Fruit	one left	25/06/96	
		C11b			one right (error)	25/06/96	
		C11c			none (5)	25/06/96	
1401		C12a	Nis 1.05	Festivals 5755	one right	03/09/96	
		C12b			one left (6)	03/09/96	
1419		C13a	Nis 2.0	Costume	two	13/02/97	
		C13b			two close (7)	13/02/97	
		C13c			none	13/02/97	
		C14a	Nis 1.1	Festivals 5758	one right short		
		C14b			one right long		
		C15a	Nis 1.7		two short		
		C15b			two long		
		C16a	Nis 2.0		two long		
		C16b			two short		

Notes: (1) C1b – Ph.t. is sometimes missing in the marginal stamps of the row, possibly only partly missing.

(2) C3b – Left ph.t. only in the PL. BL. stamps of the first 200 sheets.

(3) C4b – C5b – Exist in second stamps from the left, for some rows.

(4) C7b – Some tab-less sheets and some used singles are known with this error. I have not yet seen such tabbed stamps.

(5) C4c – Rare, only one sheet known.

(6) C12b – In the shipment to subscribers, the stamps on FDCs had a left phosphor band and mint stamps had a right phosphor band.

(7) C13b – The regular stamp has two phosphor bands. Stamps were found where the left phosphor band shifted 9 mm to the right and covered the stamp's "NIS 2" value.



Figure 8

References:

- (1) "Landscape 0.03 Phosphor Tagged stamp!", HLP# #1 (Summer 1979), p. 22 and "Further Finds of Experimental Phosphor Tag Stamps!"; HLP# #2 (Autumn 1979), p.38.
- (2) J. Wallach, "Israel Definitive Stamps Specialized Catalogue 1982". Rehovot, Israel.

House of Zion

Israel, Palestine
Judaica
Interim Period
Forerunners, Synagogue Postcards
Gaza & West Bank

Send for our next sale Catalogue

P.O.Box 5502, Redwood City,
CA 94063, USA

Printing the First Mandate Postal Forms

Arthur M. Hochheiser

A key to the time in which postal forms were printed in Palestine is the "Printer's Legend". This was a coded sequence which identified the date that printed forms were released* and the identity of the firm that printed the forms.

When the Civil Administration in Palestine took over from the Military Administration on June 1, 1920, perforce, a variety of forms were needed immediately. To this extent, some forms were used which were printed for use by the Military Administration as seen in Figure 9. Note that the code on this form reads O.E.T.P.A. No. 17. O.E.T.P.A. stands for Occupied Enemy Territory Postal Administration. However, so many forms were necessary that their printing may well have been started in anticipation of the Civil Administration taking over.

O.E.T.P.A. O.E.T.P.A. No. 17

ادارة البريد INLAND PARCELS POST.

في بلاد العدو المحتلة طرود بوسنة داخلية

הנהלת כתי הרואר משלוח חבילות בתוך הארץ

של שטח האויב הנכבש

Certificate of posting of an Inland Parcel.

شهادة ارسال طرد داخلي

העודה למכירת חבילה המיועדה להשלח לתוך הארץ

Postage } P.T. 16 Mills. 16

Paid } أجره البوسنة المدفوعة

דמי המשלוח למו נר"מ מילים

Address B. Foultham & Co. العنوان

Cinema Coliseum מ. ען

Accepting Officer's signature امضاء الضابط المستل

החמת הפקיד המקבל

5 mil. 20 mil. 20 mil. 20 mil. JERUSALEM

Figure 9

* Editor Note: The date in the "Printer's Legend" is surely the date of printing. There is also the printing job number and the quantity. The "Release" date was the prerogative of the postal administration, which distributed them. (E.G.)

Figure 10 is an illustration of an early form printed for general use by the Postmaster who had to respond to inquiries. Whilst this particular item was used in Nov. 1921, because of the necessity for the use of this form, copies may well have existed by the June 1920 take over by the Civil Administration. Note that while

P.T. 410.

In any further
communication
please quote
Ref. No.

POST OFFICE

Jaffa.
9. 11. 1921.

Sir

Removal of telephone

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your
letter No. *—* dated *9. 11. 21.* and to
inform you that the matter is receiving attention.

I am *Sir*

Your obedient Servant

C. H. R. Lester

Postmaster.

Lester

Figure 10

there is a form number P.T. 410, this form has no printed heading indicating its origin other than its use by the Post Office. It could be used by any Postmaster. Most significant here is the absence of any "Printer's Legend" which would have determined its date of issue.

Successive printings (Figures 11 and 12) now show a "Printer's Legend". Note that Figure 11 is a reissue of Figure 10, while Figure 12, with a different form number P.T. 401 instead of 410, was used by the General Post Office in Jerusalem. The uses of these forms were identical. The printings, as seen in the "Printer's Legend" in Figure 11 and 12, were released on the same date by two different printers. It is also interesting to note that this form in Figure 12 was altered by crossing out Jerusalem in order to permit usage at the Haifa Post Office. These introduce the earliest printing of forms for use in the Palestine Mandate period.

To repeat, many different forms were needed immediately. Figure 13, Form P.T. 301, shows a form for "The Application of an Inland Money Order". This copy was unused. Note that there is no "Printer's Legend" but this form has a heading "Palestine Posts & Telegraphs", the first heading used on Mandate forms. Of further interest is that the preprinted date is prefixed 192..., indicating very early Mandate introduction.

Figure 14, Form P.T. 303, was used for the "Requisition For a Foreign Money Order". This particular copy is unused and has a "Printer's Legend". During this period in the 1940's the heading for some Mandate Postal Department forms was "Department of Post & Telegraphs". Figure 15 is a copy of Form P.T. 304, the "Certificate Of Issue Of a Money Order", printed in 1937. The form heading is "Palestine Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones", the major form heading used during most of the 1920's, all of the 1930's and on many forms in the 1940's.

Now examine Figure 16. This illustration is unique in several respects. It is a copy of the earliest printing of Form P.T. 304, a later copy of which is shown in Figure 15. It makes clear that the need for forms to issue money orders existed prior to the takeover by the Civil Administration in June 1920. This early issue was obviously adapted from an Egyptian form. Note that the 'pounds' symbol reads "L.E.", the abbreviation for "Pounds Egyptian". On this form, the "E" is covered over in ink by the letter "P" for Palestine. Since this form is trilingually printed, as required by the League of Nations Mandate, there is no question that it was printed for use in Palestine after the takeover by the Civil Administration. Note that the "Printer's Legend" reads "2480 - 100 Books 29-2-21 G.C.P". This is the **earliest** "Printer's Legend" I have found among the thousand or more forms in my possession.

It is of further interest that this "Certificate of Issue of a Money Order" was used in Tel Aviv in Oct. 1940, some 20 years after issue. Since this is in essence a receipt for a foreign money order, it is obvious that not many foreign money orders were issued during the Mandate period. The presence of a 13 mil Revenue Stamp indicates this charge was for sending a Telegraph Money Order. This is

P.T. 401.

In any further
communication,

please quote

Ref. No.

P. H. 23/A/9072.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

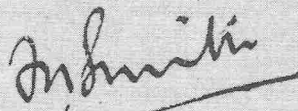
YERUSALEM HATFA.

1928 15th November 1928.
Gentlemen,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of
your letter No. - dated 14th inst. and to
inform you that the matter is receiving attention

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



Postmaster General

The Anglo-Palestine Company Ltd.

HATFA

529—3,000—24.6.22.

Ptd. at Azriel Press,

Figure 12

P.T. 307

PALESTINE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

הנהלת בתי הדואר של פלשתינה (א"י)

Application for an Inland Money Order.

חאפטה ارسال الحوالات الداخلية نوبها لمصلحة بفسم بفسم الدارين

(To be filled in by Sender.) (השלוח ימלא את הטופס הזה)

NOTE—The conditions under which Inland Money Orders are issued may be read at the Post Office from which this Form was obtained, and it must be distinctly understood that such Money Orders are issued only under those conditions.

(מלחוצה) جميع الشروط اختصه بارسال الحوالات الداخلية يمكن الاطلاع عليها في مكتب البوستة التي اخذ

منها هذه الحافظة. وان جميع الحوالات لا يقبل ارساها الا على هذه الشروط

הנהלת: לא תהיה תשלום לחקיקת כספים בפיס הארץ אלא לטובת כספים הדואר שסמנת השלוח תוספת הדואר אין לקבל תשלום כספים אלא על פי הדואר

If an Advice of Payment is required a Postage Stamp value P.T. 1 must be affixed here.

إذا اردت أن يرسل لك
الصفحة طابع
بوستة قرش واحد
واحد هنا
أو تضيفه
الطابعات
التي
تحتوي على
القيمة

Sender	Name and Surname	اسم و لقب
الراسل	Full Address	العنوان بالضبط
Payee (a)	Name and Surname	اسم و لقب
المرا إلى (أ)	Profession and full address	الجهة والعنوان بالضبط
الدش שהבקר נשלח לו		מקום התעסוק ומעלה יד
Amount	In words	כמות
القيمة	In figures	بالحروف
		رقما
To be paid at		بمكس
Date 192	Signature of Sender	المستلم المرسل إليه
سنة ١٩١	החתימה תאריך	הכסף ישלח ב
		אמצע المرسل منه
		החשבוני של יחידת הכסף

(a) Great care must be taken to furnish the full and correct address of the Payee, as unless this be done payment may be delayed, or even be impracticable. (1) Great care must be taken to furnish the full and correct address of the Payee, as unless this be done payment may be delayed, or even be impracticable.

(1) لتفصي اعطى البيانات الكافية باسم وعنوان المرسل إليه بالضبط حتى لا يتسبب تأخير أو إيقاف صرف الحوالة

For use in Post Office only.

بيانات تخلص بمعمود الادارة
للمكس بفسم الدارين

The Postmaster
לבי מנהל הדואר

Money Order No.
קודת כסף

for the above mentioned amount has been issued today.
לכסום הנקום לקול הדואר היום

Date Stamp of
Issuing Office.

Issuing Officer.
מנהל הדואר

Date

192

Figure 13

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS. מחלקת הדואר והטלגרף. REQUISITION FOR A FOREIGN MONEY ORDER. בקשה להטחאות כסף לחוץ לארץ.		P.T. 303.						
Stamp of issuing Office	(To be filled in by issuing Officer) Amount of the Order in words Palestine Pounds _____ mils _____ Initials of issuing Officer _____	No. of Order						
לשמוש הקהל FOR USE OF THE PUBLIC بيانات يجررها الجمهور								
Amount of Order required (in figures)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">L.P.</td> <td style="width: 33%;">ج.פ. (א"י)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">قيمة الحوالة بالارقام</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mils</td> <td>مل (م)</td> <td>סכום ההטחאה הנדרשת (בסמפרים)</td> </tr> </table>	L.P.	ج.פ. (א"י)	قيمة الحوالة بالارقام	Mils	مل (م)	סכום ההטחאה הנדרשת (בסמפרים)	
L.P.	ج.פ. (א"י)	قيمة الحوالة بالارقام						
Mils	مل (م)	סכום ההטחאה הנדרשת (בסמפרים)						
PAYABLE TO:- (Write clearly in block letters if possible)								
1. Personal name _____ Family name _____								
2. Full Address, including town and country of payment _____ _____								
3. Object of remittance _____								
4. Private message _____ (In case of Telegraph Money Orders only)								
1. اسم الشخص 2. العنوان الكامل والمكتب والقطر التي تصرف فيه الحوالة 3. سبب التحويل 4. رسالة شخصية (في حالة ارسال حوالة مالية برقية فقط)								
1. שם הפרטי 2. הכתובת הסגולה, עיר התשלום והארץ 3. מטרה משלוח הכסף 4. הודעה פרטית (במקרה של הטחאות כסף חלופיות רק)								
Payment of the Order will be subject to the regulations of the Country of Payment. השלום ההטחאה יעשה כהתאם לחקנות הארץ ששם תפרע ההטחאה.								
تصرف الحوالة بموجب قوانين البلاد المرسل اليها.								
32420—40000—13.8 41—G.C.P.								

Figure 14

P. T. 304

PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

دارة البريد والتلغراف والتلفون في فلسطين

מחלקת הדואר התלגראף והתלפון של פלשתינה (א"י).

CERTIFICATE OF ISSUE OF A MONEY ORDER.

شهادة اصدار حوالة مالية

תעודת הוצאה של המחאות כסף. № 9034

This form is of no pecuniary value. It should be retained by the remitter, and should accompany any enquiry respecting the Order to which it relates.

ليس لهذا النموذج قيمة مالية. انما يقتضي ابقاءه لدى المرسل ورافقه باي استعلام بشأن الحوالة التي يتعلق بها. لטופס זה אין כל ערך כספי. על השולח לשמרו ולצרפו לכל חקירה ודרישה בדבר ההכחאה שעליו הוא דן.

To be used for

1. Ordinary Money Orders payable abroad.

(1) -حوالات مالية اعتيادية تدفع في الخارج

המחאות כסף רגילות שתפרענה בחו"ל.

2. Telegraph Money Orders, Foreign.

(2) -حوالات مالية تلغرافية للخارج

המחאות כסף מברקיות לחו"ל.

מ.ת.פ. 304

Stamp of Issuing Office

Payable at

تدفع في
شعاره ب

	L. P. ج.ف. ل.أ.ي.	Mils مل مילים	قيمة الحوالة סכום ההכחאה
Amount of Order			העמלה
Commission			דמי עמילות
Telegraph Charge			אגרת התלגראף
Supplementary Fee			דמי מברק
Total			رسوم اضافي כס נוסף المجموع ס"ה

Postmaster

مدير البريد
סגן הדואר

Figure 15

verified as payable at Lowestoft, a city of Great Britain on its eastern North Sea Coast.

It is only a conjecture but the large stamped letters. "COD" probably stand for Certificate of Deposit for which the money may have been sent or Cash on Delivery to verify immediate payment.

There are also several handwritten characters across the center of the form. These read "ספר 70". The three Hebrew letters translate to "sefer", the Hebrew word for "book". This evidently is a file copy of the senders of the money order indicating where the duplicate of the original order could be found.

Verifying comments of any sort would be appreciated.



ד"ר ואלך מכירות פומביות

Dr. WALLACH PUBLIC AUCTIONS

**קניה, מכירה
והערכת בולים מקצועית
בולים, מעטפות, מטבעות, יודאיקה.
קהל קונים ומוכרים מחמש יבשות.**

קרדיט בינלאומי במכירה
אוספים מהנדירים בתחום.

צלצל ונגיע אליך!

דרך יבנה 17, רחובות ת.ד. 1414 רחובות
טל. 08-9467274, 08-9461010, פקס. 08-9464946

Multiplicity in Printing Palestine Postal Forms

Arthur M. Hochheiser

During the 28 years of the Mandate existence, some 650 different forms were printed for use by the Postal Administration in order to enable it to carry out its functions or to supply general information to the public. These forms were numbered from P.T. 1 to P.T. 1009, with gaps of one or as many as 40 consecutive numbers unused. The longer gaps were obviously intended for the introduction of new sets of forms when needed. Almost all forms were reissued at least once. Some were reissued many times.

Of the 650 issues, most were printed as single forms (Figure 17). These were usually trilingual and they were generally informational only. A number of these singly issued forms were printed in each of the three Mandate required languages (Figure 18). Other forms were printed singly with detachable counterfoils (Figure 19), making duplication unnecessary. Figure 20 similarly shows the back of a telegram envelope issued with a detachable part for use as a receipt by the sender of the telegram thus eliminating the necessity of a duplicate receipt form.

Some 30 forms were issued in duplicate (Figure 21). The top form, in white, was given to the individual posting the postal packet. The bottom form, in brown, was kept on file. Very few of the upper forms are to be found but the file copies are numerous. Figure 22 shows part of a file page. These were actually six copies long and in most later issues, the file copies were imperforate. Reissued copies of this form show different characteristics and this form was reissued more than 20 times. Some forms were issued in pairs even though the second sheet was not an exact duplicate of the top sheet (Figures 23, 24).

Five forms are known triplicated. There were two ways in which this was effected. Figure 25 shows Form P.T. 605 A printed in triplicate as exact copies on three differently colored papers; white, pink and green. These were intended for use in the following manner: one for the user of the service, one for the accounting office, and one for the file. An earlier issue, Form P.T. 56, was issued in triplicate in a different manner in an interesting fashion. The three forms (Figures 26, 27, 28) without a Postal Administration heading were titled A.B.C.. Their uses, all different, are indicated on the forms. The term "A.N." stands for "Account Number".

One form only was prepared in quadruplicate (Figure 29). This was Form P.T. 684. Note the text at the bottom of the form. This "Local Purchase Order" required four identical copies to be issued to the various agencies and offices involved in a "Local Purchase Order".

P. T. 294.

PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

NOTICE.

In case of non-delivery the return of a postal packet to the sender is facilitated if the sender's name and address appear on the outside of the packet. These particulars should be written (or printed) on the back of the envelope or wrapper.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
JERUSALEM

دائرة البريد والتلغراف في فلسطين

اعلان

لظراً لتسهيل اعادة التحويلات ورزم البريد الى مرسلها في حالة عدم تسليمها الى الرسالة اليهم يلفت نظر الجمهور الى ضرورة كتابة (او طبعم) اسم وعنوان المرسل على ظهر الغلاف او الغطاء.
مكتب البريد العام
القدس

מחלקת הדואר התלגרף והתלפון של פלשתינה (א"י).

מודעה.

במקרה של אי מסירה יוקל להחזיר צרור דואר אם רשומים עליו, מבחוק, שמו וכתיבתו של השולח. את הפרטים הללו צריך לכתוב (או להדפיס) על נבי המעטפה.
משרד הדואר הכללי
ירושלים.

33434—12000—29.4.46—G.C.F.

Figure 17

P.T. 82(b).

משרד הדואר הכללי
למפקדת הסלולרים הראשי
מספר (כס) 1947/10/16

עלי לאשר את עקלה מכתב-כס מיום 29
לחודש-כס שסמך-כס 1947/10/16
ברשימת מכשירי הסלולרים ב-1947/10/16

הודעת נוספת בצירוף שתי העתקות חוות מלפון וערשים
מלומם בנוגע להשלוחים השלוח ל-כס בשקופית העליונה וטוחה
אפשרית.

מסל הדואר הכללי
לכס

1947-1500-18.94-G.C.P.

P.T. 62.
POST OFFICE.

the following subscribers have settled their
accounts at this office on 20.7.49

3941 8700-12.247-6.C.P.

Subscriber	Amount	
	L.P.	Mils
ان البرقية	19	195
في مكتب البر		
تاريخ هذا الا		
الساعة		
التاريخ		

Postmaster

949

Figure 18

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF AN INLAND PARCEL

Date Stamp

Postage Paid

Mils

Parcel Number

Address of Parcel

Accepting Office

THIS COUNTERFOIL IS NOT FOR ISSUE IN THE CASE OF AN INSURED OR REGISTERED PARCEL. FORM P.T. 202 IS ISSUED INSTEAD.

29013 80 000-32/11/34-S.P.R.

PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES
INLAND PARCEL POST
Despatch Note

Date Stamp of Origin

Insured for

Pounds to be written in words

Gross weight in grammes (if insured)

Number to be affixed here

Postage Paid

Mils

Herewith parcel(s) bearing the address given below

Name in full

Address of addressee

Impression of seal used to close the parcel

(SEE OVER)

Figure 19

91683-500.000-24.3.41

D. Attal
Melbourne
Australia

RECEIPT FOR TELEGRAM No. *37*

קבלה בעד מברק

Received at *Melbourne*

Signature *D. Attal*

החתימה המקבל

Date Stamp.

2

Figure 20

P.T. 512.

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet. Regn. No.

Fee paid
 تذكرة تصدير طرد مسجل نمرة القيمة المدفوعة
 תעודת משלוח חבילת דאר באחריות מספר הבטחון
 הסכום שנשלם

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered & posted this day
 ان الرزمة المعنونة ادناه سجلت وارسلت في البريد اليوم
 חבילת דאר אחת הנשלחת ע"פי המען דלמטה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 814
 تاریخ 12/12/23
 תאריך
 ACCEPTING CLERK امضاء المستلم
 חתימת הפקיד המקבל

P.T. 512

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet. Regn. No. 301X

Fee paid 13 Mils.
 تذكرة تصدير رزمة مسجلة نمرة القيمة المدفوعة ملیم
 תעודת משלוח חבילת דאר רשומה, מספר הרשימה
 הסכום ששלם מילימים

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered & posted this day
 ان الرزمة المعنونة ادناه سجلت وارسلت في البريد اليوم
 חבילת דאר אחת הנשלחת ע"פי המען דלמטה נרשמה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 816
 تاریخ 12/12/23
 תאריך
 ACCEPTING CLERK امضاء المستلم
 חתימת הפקיד המקבל

Figure 21

P. T. 512

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet, Regn. No. 3017

Fee paid 13 Mils.

تذكرة تصدير رزمة مسجلة نمرة 3017 القيمة المدفوعة 13 مليم
 העודה משלוח של ציור דאר רשום מספר הרישום 3017 סכום הרישום 13 מיללים

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered & posted this day
 הזמה המעונה אדואה סמלת דארסלת פי البريد اليوم
 חבילה דאר אחת הנשלחת עפ"י הסמן דלמטה נרשמה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 1916 10 10 10

Accepting Clerk [Signature] מקור המקבל

P. T. 512

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet

تذكرة تصدير رزمة مسجلة העודה משלוח של ציור דאר רשום

Registration No. 1022 Registration fee paid 13 mils
 نمرة التسجيل 1022 قيمة التسجيل المدفوعة 13 مليم
 מספר הרישום 1022 סכום הרישום 13 מיללים

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered this day
 הזמה המעונה אדואה סמלת דארסלת פי البريد اليوم
 חבילה דאר אחת הנשלחת עפ"י הסמן דלמטה נרשמה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 1916 10 10 10

Accepting Clerk [Signature] מקור המקבל

P. T. 512

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet

تذكرة تصدير رزمة مسجلة העודה משלוח של ציור דאר רשום

Registration No. 1023 Registration fee paid 13 mils
 نمرة التسجيل 1023 قيمة التسجيل المدفوعة 13 مليم
 מספר הרישום 1023 סכום הרישום 13 מיללים

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered this day
 הזמה המעונה אדואה סמלת דארסלת פי البريد اليوم
 חבילה דאר אחת הנשלחת עפ"י הסמן דלמטה נרשמה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 1916 10 10 10

Accepting Clerk [Signature] מקור המקבל

P. T. 512

Certificate of Posting of a Registered Postal Packet

تذكرة تصدير رزمة مسجلة העודה משלוח של ציור דאר רשום

Registration No. 1024 Registration fee paid 13 mils
 نمرة التسجيل 1024 قيمة التسجيل المدفوعة 13 مليم
 מספר הרישום 1024 סכום הרישום 13 מיללים

A Postal Packet addressed as under has been registered this day
 הזמה המעונה אדואה סמלת דארסלת פי البريد اليوم
 חבילה דאר אחת הנשלחת עפ"י הסמן דלמטה נרשמה ונשלחה היום

Date Stamp 1916 10 10 10

Accepting Clerk [Signature] מקור המקבל

Figure 22

PT 102

No 195

1941-42 Fds. 20 12 46-1942 P

COMMISSION
المالية
رئيس المالية

Mills 040

JAFFA
28 AU
Stamp of Issuing Office

جيه فلسطينية
10
مills

PALESTINE MONEY ORDER

حوالة مالية فلسطينية دممهاذا كسكك شش فلسطينية (أ)

Pay the person named in my Letter of Advice the sum of

ادفوا الى الشخص الوارد اسم في الاشعار الترسيل لكم مبلغ

Payable in Pounds 12 1/2

Mills

(To be stated in words)

To the Post Office at Haifa

في مكتب البريد في
هيفا

Postmaster

Signature of payee

Received the above-mentioned sum

تسلمت المبلغ المذكور اعلاه

1. Not negotiable—The public are warned not to negotiate Money Orders for other persons.
الحوالة غير قابلة التحويل. يحظر الجمهور ان لا يحولوا الحوالات الى اشخاص آخرين.
2. For further information see back.
لرؤية نكسفات الحسا فمكر لرقم.

HAIFA
28 AU
47

Figure 23

P.T. 392

No. 195

COMMISSION

Mils 040

JAFFA

JAFFA

28 AU

47

SP. 10

Mils

ADVICE OF PALESTINE MONEY ORDER drawn by above Office.

for

Pounds TEN

Mils

Upon the Office at *Jerusalem*

M. J. J. Postmaster

THE PAYEE: Viz., the Person to whom the Order is payable.

CHRISTIAN OR PERSONAL NAME *M. J. J.* SURNAME OR FAMILY NAME *M. J. J.*

THE ISSUER: Viz., the Person who issues the Money.

CHRISTIAN OR PERSONAL NAME *M. J. J.* SURNAME OR FAMILY NAME *M. J. J.*

This Advice must be retained at the Paying Office until the corresponding Order has been paid or has become void.

Stamp of Paying Office

PALESTINE MONEY ORDER

28 AU

47

Figure 24

P.T. 605 A.		P.T. 605 A.		P.T. 605 A.	
DEPARTMENT OF POSTS & TELEGRAPHS.		APHS.		TELEGRAPHS.	
دائرة البريد والتلغراف מחלקת הדואר והטלגרף.					
Office	المكتب מסד	F N ^o 104749	104749		
Date	التاريخ תאריך			104749	
Received from	قد استلمت من נתקבלה מאת			قد استلمت من נתקבלה מאת	
the sum of	مبلغ وقدره הסכום			مبلغ وقدره הסכום	
on Account of services for	وذلك عن خدمة בעד שירות			وذلك عن خدمة בעד שירות	
Telephone No.	تلفون رقم הטלפון			تلفون رقم הטלפון	
Exchange	اكسچانج סוכן			اكسچانج סוכן	

For use of Accounts Branch office		
	L.P.	Misc
Installation		
Rental		
L. Calls		
T. Calls		
Sundries		
TOTAL		

P.T. 605 A.		P.T. 605 A.		P.T. 605 A.	
L.P.	ج.ف. פ.י.פ. (א.י.)			ج.ف. פ.י.פ. (א.י.)	
Mills	مل סיל			مل סיל	
Signature	الامضاء חתימה			الامضاء חתימה	

3300-1000-22.6.47-U.C.P.

Figure 25

P.T. 36

A.

Ref. No.

A.N. No 72126 D

Chief Accountant

Code

Please note completion of

Date 19

REMARKS

Exchange..... Number.....

ADVICE OF TELEPHONE CHARGES

Date							REMARKS
	L.P.	Mils	L.P.	Mils	L.P.	Mils	

Date

Chief Telephone Superintendent.

Posted in Telephone Accounts Branch by on

Checked by on

29762-1600 Bks.-30-6-36 St. P.

Figure 26

B.

Ref. No.

A.N. NO. **72112** D

Engineer Division

Code

Please arrange for

Date 19

REMARKS

Exchange Number

Chief Telephone Superintendent.

Chief Telephone Superintendent.

Apparatus particulars on Form P.T. 70

Completed Works Order No.

installed
 Date apparatus actually recovered 19
 removed

..... 19

Engineer Division

Chief Accountant advised 19

Noted for Directory Statistics

Posted to Card Index Checked by

Figure 27

C.

P.T. 56

Ref. No.

A.N. N^o 71258 D

Chief Accountant

Code

This A.N. has been issued for

Date19.....

Exchange Number

REMARKS

Chief Telephone Superintendent.

29762-1600 Bks.-20-6-36. St. P.

Figure 28

P. T. 684.

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

LOCAL PURCHASE ORDER. B N^o 2951

To _____

19 _____

Please supply the undermentioned articles.—

33438—750 Bks.—29.4.46—G.C.P.

Description	Quantity		Rate	Amount		Head and Sub-Head of Expenditure
	No.	Weight or Measurement		LP.	Mils	

Station _____

Signature _____

To be prepared in quadruplicate.

Designation _____

Figure 29

“To Consider the Future of Palestine...”

Jan Billion, Ratingen

1998 marks two important anniversaries in the Near East: 50 years of the State of Israel and 50 years of the first United Nations Peacekeeping Mission. The following story and the philatelic material is part of my thematic collection “The Near East”, which covers the conflict for about 100 years – from the first Jewish settlements in the 1880’s to the present.

On April 2nd, 1947 the United Nations was seized by one of the most contentious problems of our times. The Secretary-General received a letter from Great Britain’s representative Sir Alexander Cadogan: “His Majesty’s Government in the United Kingdom request the Secretary-General to place the question of Palestine on the Agenda of the General Assembly at its next regular session”. The letter also asked for a special session of the General Assembly “as soon as possible” to constitute and instruct a special committee.

On the morning of April 28th, 1947 the first special session in United Nations history began at Flushing Meadow, New York. Representatives of 55 Member States discussed the problem. After 12 plenary meetings the special session concluded its work on May 15th and appointed an 11-member Special Committee with instructions to report to the Assembly’s next regular session. The United Nations Special Committee On Palestine (UNSCOP) consisted of representatives of Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, India, Iran, Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Uruguay, and Yugoslavia,

UNSCOP set down to work on May 26th. In four meetings at the interim headquarters of the United Nations at Lake Success, a tentative plan of work was adopted. Upon its arrival in Palestine, the Committee should ask the Government of Palestine to furnish factual information on its constitution and functions together with other relevant data; second, request the Arab and Jewish Liaison Officers to present observations on this statement; third, make a brief survey of the country; and fourth, conduct hearings. UNSCOP arrived in Palestine in stages on June 14th and 15th and met for the first time in Jerusalem on June 16th at the YMCA Building.

There were no special postal services for the Committee. Around 15 covers, half of them with imprint and all posted in Jerusalem, are known to exist from the UNSCOP mission (s. Back Cover).

While the Arab Higher Committee decided to abstain from collaboration with UNSCOP, the representatives of the Jewish Agency of Palestine took their chance. Moshe Shertok (later Sharett) and David Horowitz were given an opportunity to present their views of the future of Palestine. Upon the suggestion of some members of the Committee that the opinions of the Arab States should be heard, the Committee resolved to invite the Arab States to express their views on the

question of Palestine. The 38th and 39th meetings were held in Beirut – the only UNSCOP meetings outside Palestine – and devoted to hearing the views of the Governments of Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Yemen. After completion of the work in Beirut eight UNSCOP members went to Amman for a brief visit on July 25th.

The factfinding in the Holy Land came to an end and UNSCOP left for the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva for the preparation of the final report. A period of hard work began because the Special Committee was really “special”. Josephine Stieren, member of the staff (Figure 30), wrote to a close friend from Geneva on July 29th:

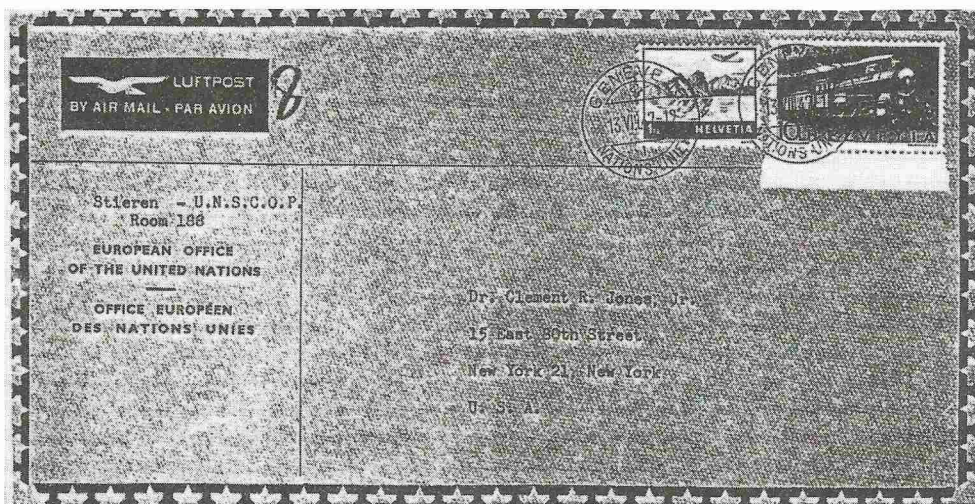


Fig. 30: UNSCOP covers from Geneva are only known from the correspondence of Josephine Stieren (approximately 5-6).

“Eleven men and eleven alternates and there isn’t a first-class brain in the collection. The chairman, Justice Sandstroem of Sweden, is a perfectly sweet little guy, sixty-odd, with beautiful manners but no knowledge of how to handle an unruly bunch like the one he has on his hands. In the meetings, there will be several proposals put forward and, instead of trying to formulate a compromise, the Chairman railroads through his own little ideas – which doesn’t make for harmony”.

However, the eleven UNSCOP members did a serious job. A Subcommittee visited displaced person’s camps in Germany and Austria. The representatives spoke about religious interests, the Holy Places and the status of Jerusalem. But UNSCOP didn’t come to a common solution. The majority favored partition of Palestine into an Arab State, a Jewish State, and the City of Jerusalem linked together by an economic union. Three members proposed an independent federal

state comprising an Arab State and a Jewish State with Jerusalem as the capital. Australia abstained from voting for either plan.

UNSCOP offered its majority recommendation and the minority view to the second regular session of the General Assembly which met on the morning of September 16th in Flushing Meadow. Great Britain announced that it intended to relinquish its Mandate at the earliest practicable date, and that it would not be able to implement any Assembly decision not acceptable to both the Jews and Arabs. The Arab Higher Committee and the Arab States, for their part, announced their implacable opposition to the plans recommended by UNSCOP. Two Subcommittees examined in detail the partition plan and the Arab proposals for an independent, unitary state.

On November 29th, 1947 the Assembly voted 33 to 13, with 10 abstentions, for the partition plan. The Arab representatives declared that the decision was illegal and contrary to the UN-Charter. The Delegates of Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Yemen rose and left the Assembly hall.



The people of Jerusalem rejoice after the UN November 29, 1947 resolution.

The General Assembly also set up a Palestine Commission to supervise steps towards carrying out the partition plan (Figure 31). This Commission was composed of Bolivia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Panama, and the Philippines. To

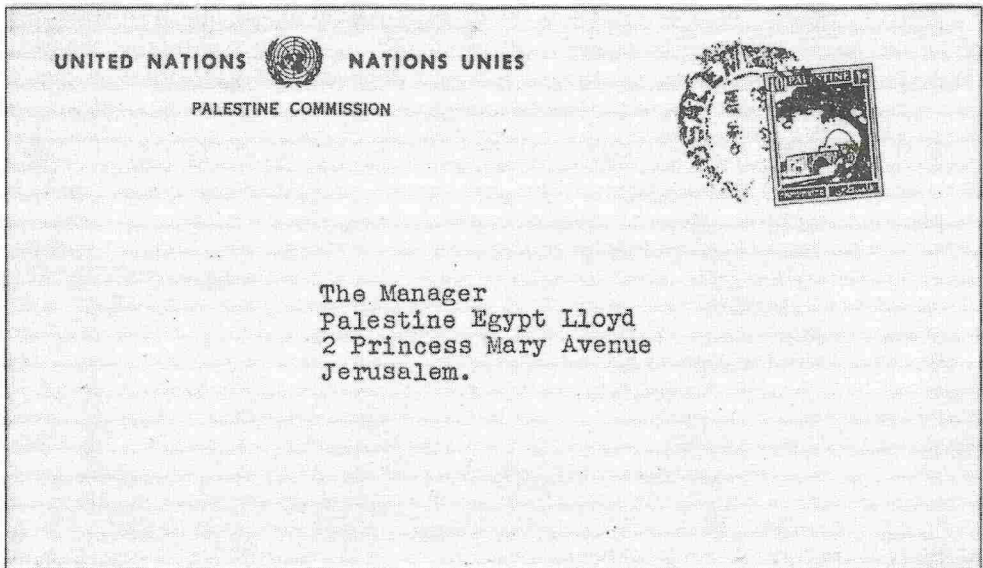


Fig. 31: Only this cover from the UN Palestine Commission acting in Palestine is known to the author. The Commission was never permitted by the British Government to enter Palestine.

the “five lonely pilgrims” fell the tasks of planning the transfer of administration responsibility from the mandatory regime to the provisional councils of Government, which they had to establish. They had to define frontiers between the Arab and the Jewish State and the City of Jerusalem and to control the creation of armed militia. The Mandatory Power told the Commission that Great Britain intended to lay down its Mandate by May 15th.

Sporadic fighting had been going on in Palestine during the months before the second regular session of the General Assembly. The UN partition plan occasioned further outbreaks of violence. When May 1948 and the end of the Mandate drew nearer, fighting and confusion in Palestine increased. The Palestine Commission stated in a special report to the Security Council that the conditions in Palestine made it impossible for it to supply adequate armed forces. On April 1st, 1948 the Security Council called the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee to arrange a truce between the Arab and Jewish communities of Palestine.

After another call for a truce between Arab and Jewish forces the Security Council created a Truce Commission composed of representatives of those

members of the Security Council, which had career Consular Officers in Jerusalem (Belgium, France, and the United States) (Fig. 32). The General Assembly took

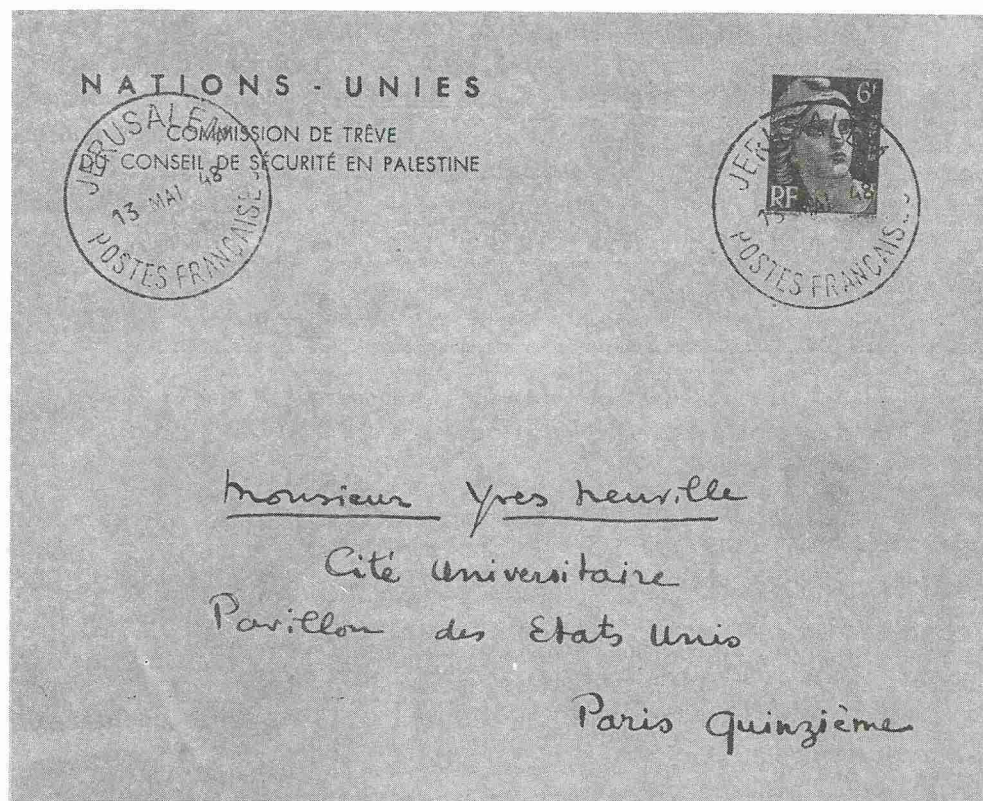


Fig. 32: Few covers survived from the United Nations Truce Commission. Four covers with the French Jerusalem consular postmark, dated between May 6th and 13th 1948, are known to the author.

parallel action, and appointed a Mediator in Palestine on May 14th to co-operate with the Truce Commission (Fig. 33). Count Folke Bernadotte from Sweden was chosen by a committee of the General Assembly. The Palestine Commission was replaced.

On May 15th the Mandate for Palestine came to an end; the State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14th within the boundaries recommended by the General Assembly partition plan. Armed forces of Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, Syria, and Lebanon crossed the frontier and attacked Israel. The Security Council again called for an immediate cease-fire and decided that Count Bernadotte, in concert with the Truce Commission, should supervise the truce and should be provided with a sufficient number of military observers for the purpose. The United Nations Truce

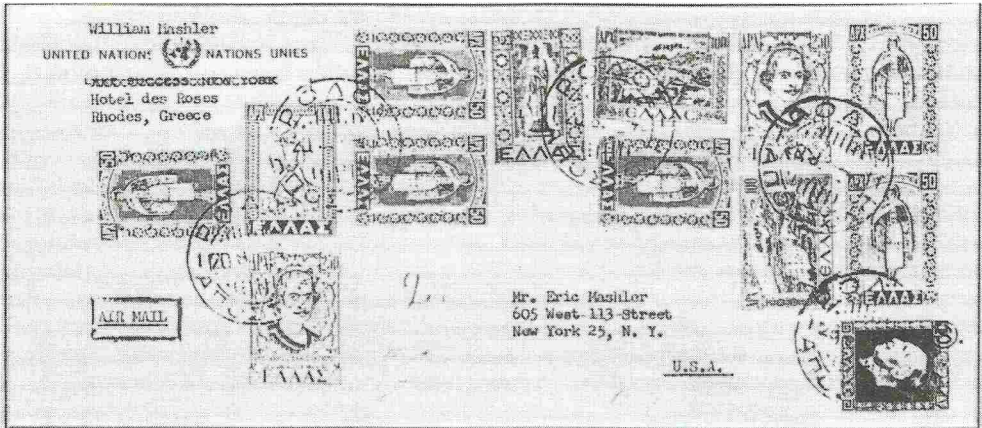


Fig. 33: UN cover sent from the Mediator's, headquarters in Rhodes, Greece. Covers from the Mediator mission are also recorded from Haifa and Beirut.

Supervision Organization on Palestine (UNTSOP, later UNTSO) was born (Fig. 34).

After the end of the first truce on July 9th, hostilities were resumed. The Security Council was once again called and ordered a cease-fire without a time limit which went into effect on July 18th. After the first truce agreement which was arranged by Count Bernadotte on June 11th, United Nations observers from Belgium,

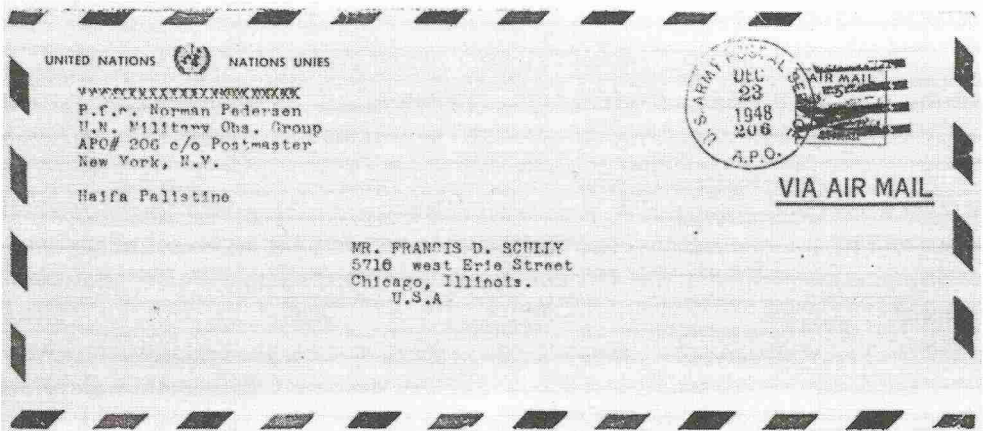


Fig. 34: Most of the seldom seen early UNTSO mail (1948-1954) is from US observers. They used Army Post Office (APO) 206 which was in 1948 on a US frigate at Haifa. Haifa was UNTSO headquarters until May 25th, 1949 when it was transferred to the Government House in Jerusalem.

France, Sweden and the United States supervised the truce. The first 63 observers arrived in Cairo between June 11th and 14th and were immediately despatched to Palestine. Armistice negotiations between Israel and its neighbours began at the Mediator's headquarters in Rhodes, Greece.

Count Folke Bernadotte was assassinated on September 17th. Dr. Ralph J. Bunche the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General with the Mediator, became UN Acting Mediator in Palestine. He spent more than half a year for negotiation talks between the provisional government of Israel and the governments of Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria. By the end of July 1949, all armistice agreements had been signed, and the Acting Mediator declared that his mission had now been completed. From this time UNTSO became an autonomous operation with changing functions (Fig. 35).



Fig. 35: A very rare cover from a Belgian observer with the official UNTSO address (P.O. Box 490, Jerusalem), dated .. 1950. There were no postal facilities for the soldiers from Belgium, France and Sweden.

* * * * *

*
*
* **SHORT NOTES AND DISCOVERIES** *
*
* * * * *

The Ottoman Period

A Danube Steam Navigation Company Postmark for Jaffa (1840)

(Norman J. Collins)

Recently my friend Joseph Wofchuck sent me a photocopy of an amazing cover of 1840 (s. Front Cover). This is from the French Consulate in Jaffa to the French Consulate in Beyrouth, with the letter inside dated 15th May, 1840 (Fig. 36). The postmark on the cover reads D.D.S.G. at top, JAFFA at the bottom and PP in the centre.

This is a major discovery. This shipping line had not been known previously to have had a mail office in Jaffa. The only other shipping company agencies recorded previously are those for Haifa and Jaffa of the Austrian Lloyd Line, the earliest year for these recorded in 1854. The D.D.S.G. had permission from the Ottoman Government to carry mail, but proof that they had a line that touched Jaffa was unknown until this cover surfaced.

According to Keith Tranmer¹, a line Constantinople – Beirut – Alexandria was decided on in 1838. He states that the operation of this line as a regular service remained questionable, though experimental trips may have been made. At the time of publication of his research, no material to prove that the line came into operation had been recorded.

So this cover is a most important discovery and one of the major rarities of the Holy Land.

Acknowledgement: My thanks to Joe Wofchuck for reporting this important item to me.

References: (1) K. Tranmer, "Austrian post offices abroad", part 8, p. 21.

(2) Norman J. Collins & Leopold Dickstein, "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine, 1840–1918", English Revised Edition, published by W.P.C. 1992.

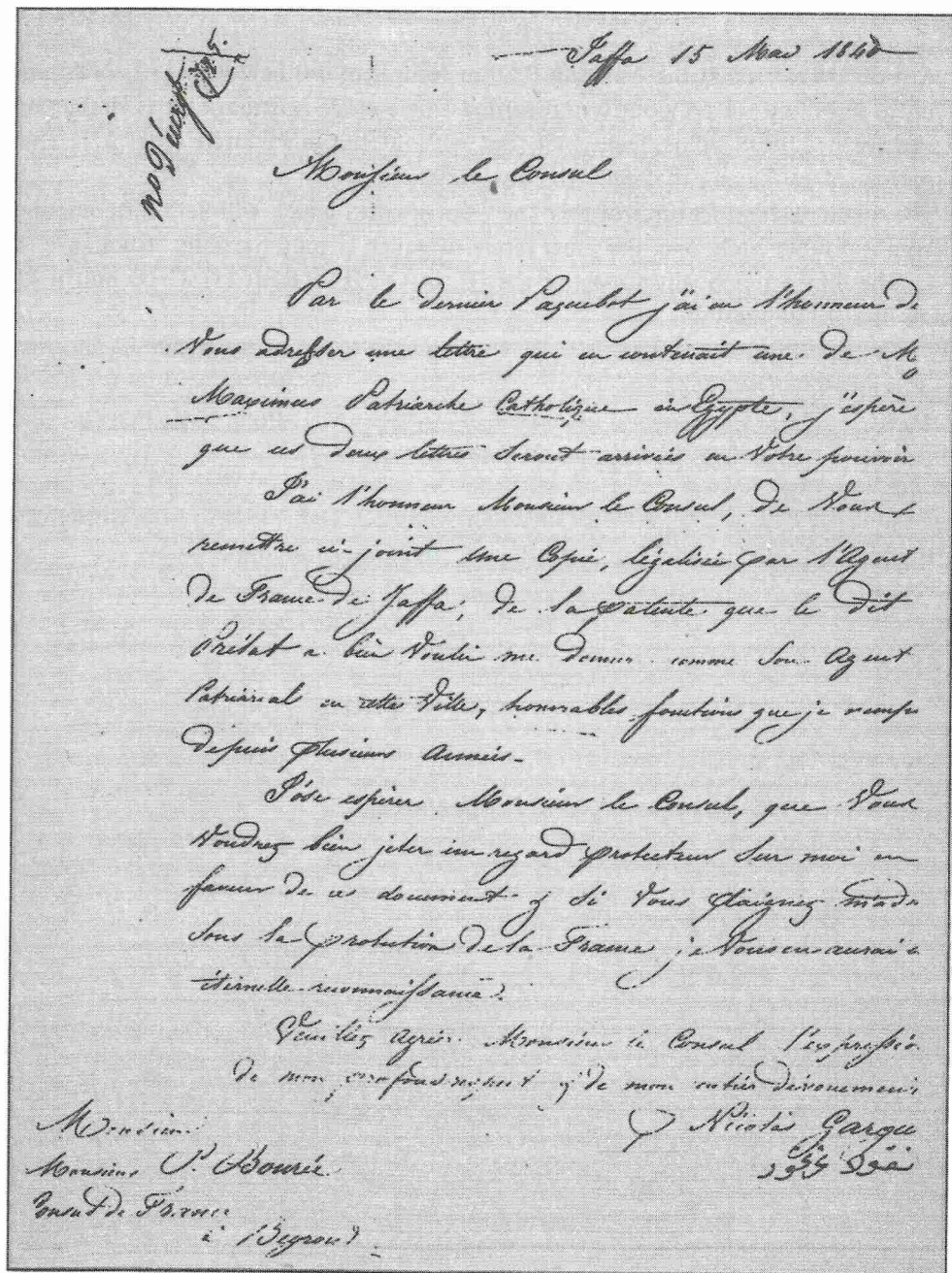


Fig. 36: The letter inside the folded cover from the French Consulate, Jaffa, to the Beyrouth Consulate, dated 15th May, 1840.

An Unrecorded Austrian Jerusalem Pmk (1898) *(N.J. Collins)*

A postcard posted at the Austrian P.O. in Jerusalem on the 28th April, 1898 has come to light, with a previously unrecorded single circle postmark. It is similar in design to Steichele/Collins Type 545¹, but without the inner circle (Fig. 37). The arrival mark of Vienna is dated 7th May, 1898.

The distinguishing features of this "new" postmark, which will help differentiate it from a double circle one, the inner circle of which is only partially struck, are: -

1) The 'O' is practically touching the 'E' in OESTERREICHISCHE and it is below the 'E' at the foot.

2) The first 'S' touches the 'T' at the top, and the space between the 'E' and the 'S' is wider than normal.

To fit in this new discovered postmark between the last single circle mark (Type 544) and the first double circle mark (545), I have given this new postmark the designation **Type 544A**.

Reference: (1) "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine, 1840-1918", Vol II, English Revised Edition by Norman J. Collins & Leopold Dickstein.



Fig. 37: A postcard from Jerusalem to Vienna, posted on 28th April 1898, with the newly discovered Jerusalem postmark Type 544A.

A Russian P.O. Mount Athos Rarity to Jerusalem

(Norman J. Collins)

Tchilinghirian & Stephen¹ recorded only one cover in the Snegireff collection, with the intaglio seal reading ROPIT/POCHTA/APHON, of the Mount Athos post office. A parcel card has recently been seen by me with two examples of this rare mark, and George Muentz has informed me that he knows of one other parcel card in a private collection, with this mark.

The card seen by me is illustrated below (Fig. 38). Not only does it have the rare

Приложение к циркуляру отъ 12-го м/я

Скупон -- Купонъ
 Peut être détaché par
 Можеть быть отпсанъ
 la destinataire
 адресатомъ

Timbre du bureau d'origine:
 Штампъ почтового
 учреждения подачи:

Р.О.П.И.Т.
 22
 1876
 С. ТАВОМОН

Nom et domicile de
 Наименование и мѣсто
 l'expéditeur:
 жительства отправителя:

с. Лавра
с. Лавра
Вили Луки

**RUSSIE
РОССІЯ.**

Bulletin d'expédition
 Сопроводительный актъ

С-joint 2 Nombre de déclarations et
 При семъ (число) таможенныхъ деклараций.

Valeur assurée
 Объявленная цѣна:

Montant du
 Сумма наложеннаго
 remboursement
 платежа:

А.
 (Наименование получателя).

Монаху Отцу Фотию
Монаху в. Лаврии Предмори
 (Lieu de destination)
 (Мѣсто назначенія):
 (rue et n°)
 (улица или №) *Trent Folie spreu*

Poids:
 Вѣсъ:
1150 gram.
2 9/16 247

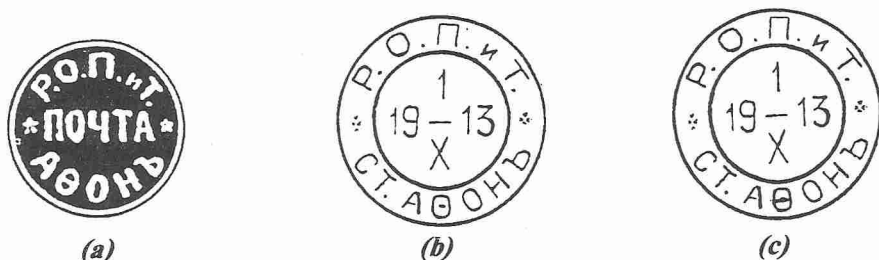
Acheminement:
 Путь:

Form 180 b.

Tys. Act. D-P. 0-22 Oct. 1876, 22 21.

Fig. 38: Obverse of the parcel card showing the two examples of the intaglio seal and the sub-type of the Mount Athos datestamp.

intaglio mark (Fig. 39 (a)), but also a sub-type of the Mount Athos c.d.s. of T & S Figure 184 (Fig. 39 (b) here). In the postmark on the parcel card the second cyrillic letter of APHON (Athos) has a line through the centre (Fig. 39 (c)), instead of a dot as shown by T & S.



**Fig. 39 : (a) Mount Athos intaglio seal, T & S Figure 180;
(b) Mount Athos datestamp as T & S Figure 184;
(c) Mount Athos datestamp showing second letter of Athos, with line through the centre.**

The card was posted in Mount Athos on 22nd June, 1908. It has the transit mark of Jaffa (Steichele/Collins² type 632A dated 1st July, 1908), and the arrival mark of Jerusalem (type 646) dated 4th July, 1908 (Fig. 40). To the above dates 13

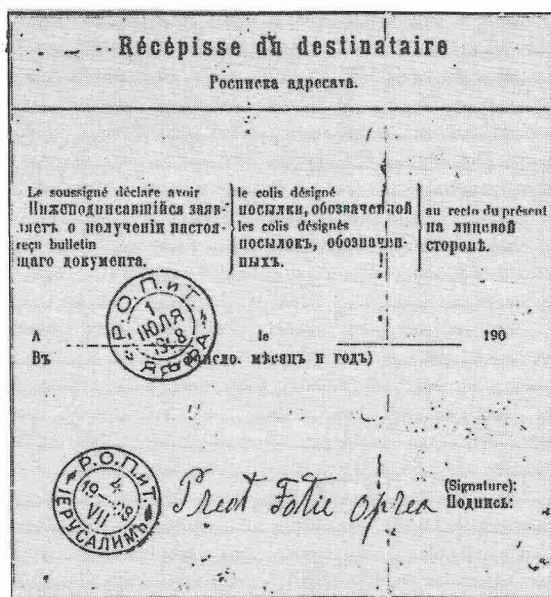


Fig. 40: The reverse of the parcel card, with a transit mark of Jaffa and arrival mark of Jerusalem.

days need to be added, to bring them in line with the Gregorian calendar.

This parcel card is one of the rarest pieces of inwards mail to the Holy Land.
References: (1) S.D. Tchilinghirian & W.S.E. Stephen, "Stamps of the Russian Empire Used Abroad", Part 2, Figure 180 (1958).

(2) "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840-1918", Vol. II, English Revised Edition by Norman J. Collins & Leopold Dickstein.

Taxed Mail of the Russian Post Office *(Marvin Siegel)*

Taxed mail of the Russian Post Offices in the Holyland are great rarities and seldom encountered. Readers are referred to pages 826/828, Issue #56 of this journal for Edi Leibu's fine summary on this subject. Two additional items of interest recently seen are discussed below, as this writer believes they could shed more light on this subject so badly in need of additional discoveries and research. Figure 41 is the back of a 1914 cover sent from Russia to Jerusalem. It has a 7 kopeck franking cancelled in Russia apparently at the time and place of dispatch. Also can be seen are two different Jerusalem postmarks. The first (Steichele #646) is apparently the arrival mark but it is the second (Steichele #647) that commands our attention as it was struck twice onto a strip of 3x10 para on 2 kopeck stamps certainly applied in Jerusalem. It should be noted that no postage due stamps as such were used in Czarist times. Most unfortunately, the item is only a cover back

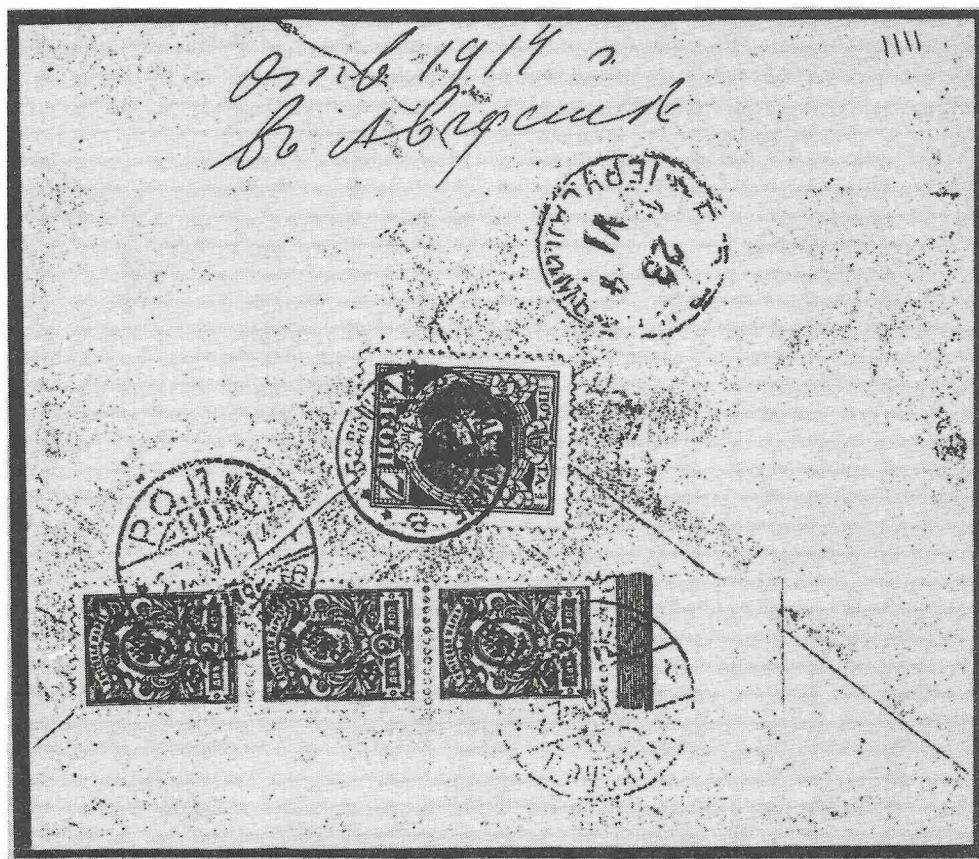


Figure 41

so we will never be able to fully ascertain the reason for this 30 para charge, and we are left to speculate whether in fact it was a tax or a fee for some additional postal service. If it is indeed the back of a taxed cover, it would be the only recorded example of an entire taxed with stamps at the Jerusalem Office of the Russian Post.

Figure 42 shows both sides of a beautiful 4 kopeck card sent from a Wilna Jewish merchant to the Jerusalem office of the Anglo-Palestine Co. in October, 1912. It was forwarded to Odessa as per the transit postmark on the upper left corner of the card's face, and then to Jerusalem where it arrived on 12 October, 1912 as per its Ropit Steichele #644 postmark. However, what is most interesting is the oval tax mark of 8 kopeck applied in Odessa.

Readers should refer to page 605, Issue #52 of this journal, where a similar oval tax handstamp was applied to the card illustrated in Figure 17.

In this case there is no 'T' mark of Postage Due franking. In checking the denomination of the stamp as well as the issue itself, it was determined that the card was indeed properly franked (4 kopeck rate abroad) in every visible aspect. Hence no reason for the oval tax handstamp could be ascertained! Perhaps some reader can solve the mystery here. Of course, the answer could be as simple and irrational as a clerk applying a handstamp erroneously.

Further comments are awaited from readers. This writer expresses his appreciation to Yaakov Tsachor for his research assistance.




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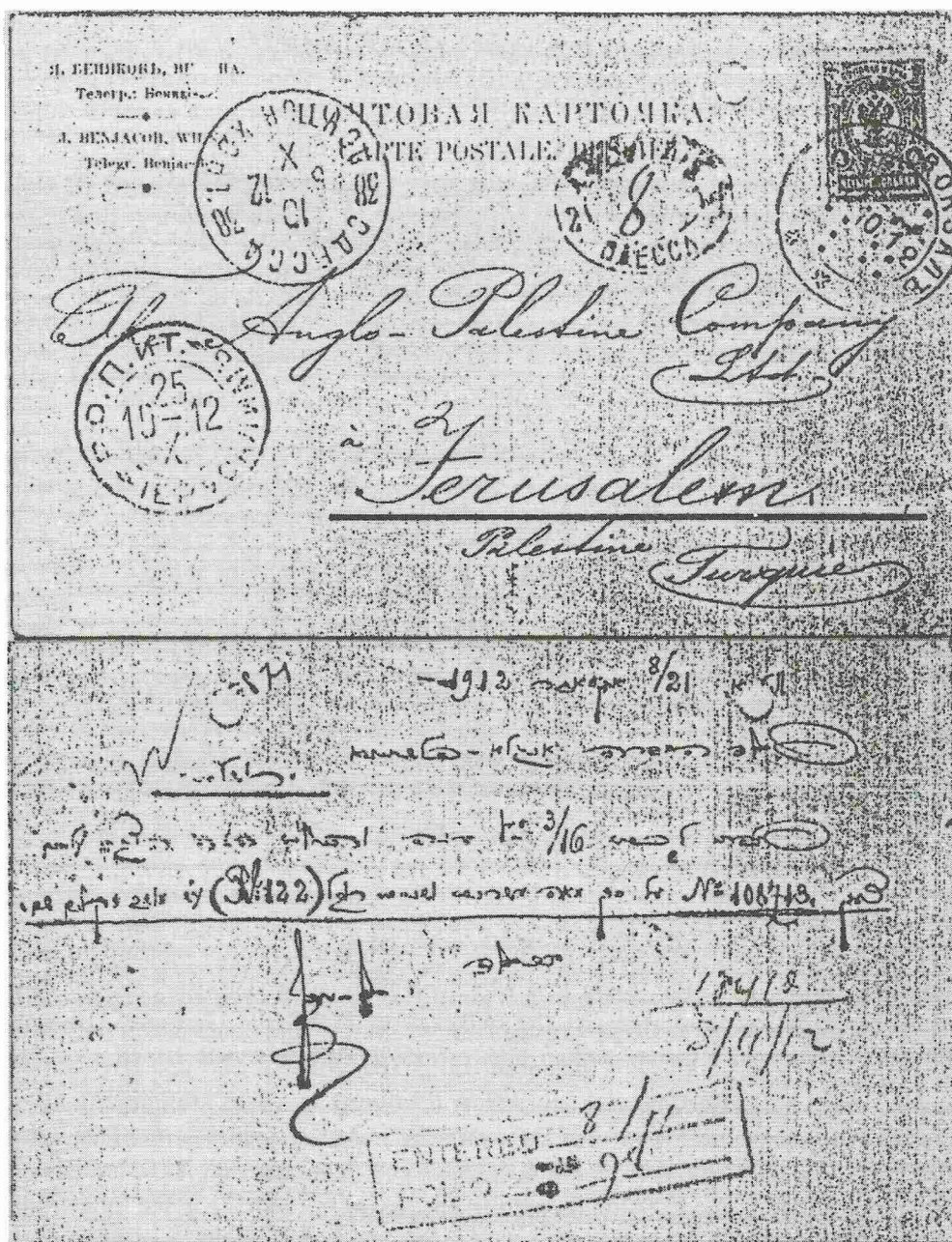



Figure 42

A Philatelic Impossibility *(Fred F. Blau)*

The World War I Military Mail cover shown in Figure 43 must be explained in order to understand its importance in philately.



Figure 43

The Austro-Hungarian army during WWI occupied a district of the Ottoman Empire, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and what was then called Turkish Palestine and small parts of Iraq and Iran. At the outbreak of WWI, the German, Austrian, French, Italian and Russian civilian post offices in Palestine were closed.

However, the Allied Powers consisting of the Germans, Ottomans and the Austro/Hungarians each had their own military postal system. The Germans had full sized offices in Jerusalem, Bir es Seba, Aleppo, Damascus and A.O.K. 4 (Army High Command). The A.O.K. 4 operated in Jerusalem and the First Expedition Corp. Much later, a postal station was established in Nazareth using a field postmark "663" and an additional one with three stars.

Members of all three nations could use any of these postal facilities. Letters and cards were postage free, and there was reduced postage for small packages, registered letters, money orders, etc.

The Ottomans combined their facilities with existing civilian post offices. The Austrians did not operate any post offices, only mail boxes which were emptied three times a week. The mail was then taken by diplomatic or military courier to Aleppo or Constantinople, where sub-postal stations were located. The Fieldpost mark 451 was used for Constantinople and 452 for Aleppo.

These two facilities had no public windows. They were used only for sorting out mail in transit, filling mail bags and forwarding them to their final destination. If an Austrian army official or soldier wanted to mail a registered letter, he had to go to a German Field Post Office.

Registered letters of this type are very scarce and only 14 have been recorded in the past 70 years. Recently three additional ones have been discovered and these will be described in future articles. All of these letters have been from the paymaster of various army units, either sending payroll sheets to the Ministry of War in Vienna requesting money to pay the troops, or to a civilian owned printing company. It was thought that a registered letter from a member of the Austrian armed forces did not exist.

The illustrated cover is the exception and may possibly be unique. The unit cachet and the date tell us that the letter originated in Palestine, on Mt Carmel in Haifa, where this unit was stationed for the defense of the coast. The letter was incorrectly deposited in a regular mail box despite the writing in the lower left corner "Registered/Official Mail". This piece of mail went the regular route along with many other pieces of mail.

It should be noted that the military personnel working in the two sub-postal stations of Constantinople and Aleppo were not experienced postal employees, but were usually men without schooling and unable to read and write properly. They looked at a piece of mail and when they saw an army cachet, it "told" them that the item should be forwarded. Many times, they did not even postmark the letters that went through their stations.

When this letter arrived in Vienna, an experienced postal clerk did notice the "Registered/Official Mail" and applied a registration mark, and used a cachet that was restricted to the military, "R No 98". Since mail was not delivered at that time, the postal clerk sent a form to the recipient advising that a registered letter had arrived and had to be picked up at the postal substation.

This is the first recorded copy of a registered letter from the Austro/Hungarian army in Turkish Palestine and possibly unique.

The moral of this story is that a collector must never take anything for granted and never accept "No" for an answer. Do your research and continue to read everything that you can find on the subject and you may find an item that you thought didn't exist.

The British Mandate Period

Inexplicable Rates on Early Mandate Covers

(M. Siegel, Ramat Gan)

In the course of viewing many thousands of Mandate Period covers, this writer has encountered a goodly number from the years 1918 to 1920 that generally were franked with amounts of postage that were inexplicable from the aspect of postal rates in effect at the time of their sending. Other features these covers have in common include the following: (a) The frankings generally consist of many stamps in many different denominations, (b) The covers themselves are imprinted in their lower left corners with the underlined words Post Office, (c) Most were sent registered from Jerusalem to various foreign destinations and (d) The covers are quite well preserved when compared to others originating during the same period. This certainly indicates loving care on the part of collectors as all were opened so very carefully. However, the question of the mysterious frankings can be explained when considering the following example.

An American collector named W.H. Bennette applied on 15 May, 1919, to the EEF Postal Services for EEF stamps. He obviously wanted them 'used' and he had paid in some manner 32 mills, which payment had been included with his application as well as a list of the denominations of the Typographed Issues he wanted (S.G. #5 to 15). The Postal Services obliged by enclosing a form reply within its cover. A check of the franking used reveals it to be exactly as per the list and consisting of one each of S.G. #8, 9, 10, two each of #6, 7 and three of #5. It is obvious that he was a collector and to avoid any doubt about the stamps being genuinely 'used', the Army Post used them all as franking on the cover sent to Mr. Bennette. This procedure of course made life a bit easier for the Postal Services as they did not have to worry about such mundane matters as packing the stamp shipment properly. It should be noted that in this case the 32 milliemes postage could be exactly 'explained' as 10 milliemes Registry plus three times weight of 10 milliemes plus two times six milliemes. However, it is unreasonable to assume that the envelope did contain more than 40 grams requiring the three times letter rate of 10 plus two times 6 milliemes, as to our knowledge it only had to contain the 18 July, 1919 reply from the Army Postal Services.

Jerusalem I Issue on Card *(Marvin Siegel)*

In sorting some early Mandate mail, the postcard shown in the accompanying illustration (Fig. 47) was chanced upon. This writer blinked and looked several times at the piece before he could believe what he saw for it was franked with 16 stamps of the Jerusalem series (S.G. #16/29). This was the greatest number seen to date.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS
P. M. S. T. I. R. E.
INSPECTOR-GENERAL
5-DEC-1941

Foreman Exchange

Chief Post Office R. 10/12.

Building into Office 11/12

Extract from P.O. Circular No 720.
dated 3. 12. 41

Use of Departmental Pencils.

- ① All members of the Staff should be reminded that departmental pencils are Government property and as such may not be used or disposed of except for official purposes.
- ② Pencil holder should invariably be used where possible.
- ③ Pencils should be sharpened by means of a sharpener and all pencils sharpened should be returned to Chief Post Office.
- (4). Officers requiring a new pencil must produce the stub of the old one to show that it has been used to the limit of its capacity; normally new pencils will not be issued unless the stub is produced.
5. Similarly officers are asked to cooperate by ensuring that the provisions of the instruction are strictly carried out.

Please bring this to the notice of
all Staff I return papers

[Signature]
Inspector-General.

5-12-41.

Figure 48

Extract from P.O. Circular No 720.
dated 3.12.41

Use of Departmental Pencils

- (1) All members of this Staff should be reminded that departmental pencils are government property and as such may not be used or disposed of **except for official purposes.**
- (2) Pencil holders should invariably be used where possible.
- (3) Pencils should in future be sharpened by means of a knife and all pencil sharpeners should be withdrawn and released to Chief Storekeeper.
- (4) Officers requiring a new pencil must produce the stub of the old one to show that it has been used to the limit of its capacity and normally new pencils will not be issued unless the stub is produced.
- (5) Generally officers are asked to cooperate by ensuring that the provisions of this instruction are strictly carried out.

Please bring this written notice of all staff and related papers.

J. Muckworth
Inspector Exchange

5.12.41

Postal Handstamps on Mandate Telegrams (*Marvin Siegel*)

On page 737, Issue #53/54 of this publication, this writer discussed charges that were levied against the receivers of certain telegrams during the years of the Palestine Mandate. Recently, three other telegrams were viewed which shed some additional light on the reasons for these charges. Their descriptions follow:

(a) Figure 49 - Jerusalem, 10 January, 1930. In the 'Charges to be Collected'

387		44	
PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES.			
Address in 26. <i>56</i>		TELEGRAM <i>تلغراف</i>	
This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram.		خدمات ادارية تعليمات Handled in at <i>Hamburg</i> Time <i>7 38</i> on <i>10</i> Received at <i>11 40 a</i>	
56 9 11		44 30	
TO <i>Leo Emanuel Friedman Jerusalem</i> <i>Verlangen Abzug 105 beschuldigend</i>			
FROM			

Figure 49

box is handwritten 'Address is evasion' and '26 mils'. The address itself is 'Leo Emanuel Friedman, Jerusalem' – apparently incomplete and thus requiring further checking and additional effort by the Post to locate the addressee.

(b) Figure 50 – Jerusalem, 8 September, 1931. In the 'Charges...' box is

PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES
تلغراف TELEGRAM 54

Service: *adana*
Instructions: *Beyoglu*
Handed in at: *13.00* on *28*
Time: *13.00* on *28*
Received at: *15.55*

To: *Schniel Zion Hotel Haifa*

Message: *english visa obtained will wire arrival*

FROM: *Tosia Schniel*

Figure 50

handwritten 'Mixed Languages' and '132 mils' (very high indeed!). The message itself is "What about it – Leshana Tova". While it is indeed in two languages, this is really a minor matter considering the availability of Hebrew fluent personnel while the charge levied is relatively so very high.

(c) Figure 51 – Haifa, 28 December, 1940. In the 'Charges...' box is handwritten '030 mil for one word'. The message itself is 'English Visa obtained – will wire arrival'. Apparently there was some form of surcharge for a message over five words long. Yet this writer has seen so many cables longer than 5 words without additional charges.

All of these do certainly seem a bit unreasonable but their existence cannot be denied.

PALESTINE POSTS, TELEGRAPHS & TELEPHONES
تلغراف TELEGRAM 55

Service: *Hachnay London*
Instructions: *adana*
Handed in at: *12.36* on *8*
Time: *12.36* on *8*
Received at: *333*

To: *Leo Marsel Jerusalem*

Message: *What about it Leshana Tova*

FROM: *Tosia Schniel*

Figure 51

The Interim Period

The Legend of Yavneel *(David Dubin, Teaneck, NJ)*

It is well known that after the expiration of the British Mandate in Palestine, the Minhelet Haam (People's Administration) was able to keep eighty post offices functioning and supplied them with newly made cancellation devices. Like several of the other devices of this 1948 Interim Period, the one that arrived at the Galilean village of Yavneel was misspelled. Instead of the proper spelling of *Yod-Bet-Nun-Alef-Lamed* as in Joshua 19:33, from which the village received its name, a second *Yod* was added after the *Nun* making the device read "Yavniel" as shown in Figure 52 (a). According to philatelic dogma and publications of the past forty years (see Fluri, p.65), the religious element in the settlement found the juxtaposition of the *Yod* and the *Alef-Lamed* objectionable on theological grounds, and the extra *Yod* had to be removed, leaving a space in the postmark where the superfluous *Yod* had been, as in Figure 52 (b). Unfortunately, the story cannot be true!

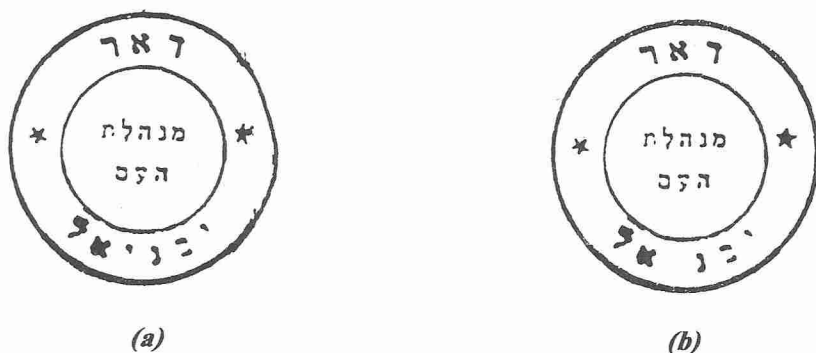


Figure 52

Representations of G-d's name are found in the majority of Jewish Biblical names. The presumed basis of the Yavneel Jewish community's objection was that these theophoric elements of *Yod* (from *Yod-Heh*) and *Alef-Lamed* present a problem when appearing consecutively. If this was true however, popular names like Daniel, spelled *Dalet-Nun-Yod-Alef-Lamed* (דניאל), and Elijah, spelled *Alef-Lamed-Yod-Heh-Vav* (אליהו), would be objectionable. They are not. In fact, Jews often insert such an extra *Yod* before *Alef-Lamed* when naming a boy Yerachmeel though the name appears in the Bible (*I Chronicles* 2:25 and elsewhere)

without the added letter, and no objections are raised. Rabbis consulted for this article also saw no problem and no published Rabbinic literature could be found prohibiting this practice.

In actuality, the removal of the *Yod* presents in itself a theological difficulty: The name G-d (*Alef-Lamed*) appears alone and not as part of another proper name. Such a divine name must not be erased or defaced in any way according to Jewish law. The appearance of this name on ordinary mail much of which would be expected to be discarded in trash, could not have been the intent of the religious community of Yavneel. The religious uproar resulting from the use of divine names on an Israeli synagogue stamp in 1970 (Scott #426) and a South African Bible Society stamp in 1987 (which would have been Scott #704) should serve to prove the dubiousness of the "legend of Yavneel".

The mundane reality must be that the extra letter was noted and removed, correcting the spelling, regardless of the religious ramifications.* The fact that no objection was raised to the "corrected" version implies that the religious element did not concern itself with this area of philately at that troublesome time.

It is doubtful that this myth will indeed be corrected, but it is worth a try. If Rabbinic literature can be found by any reader, he or she is encouraged to inform the editor.

* This was not done at other post offices supplied with misspelled cancellers simply because those at Kfar Ata (*Ayin-Tet-Heh* instead of *Alef-Tav-Alef*) and Metulla (with *Tav* rather than *Tet* as the second letter) could only be corrected by changing letters instead of simply removing a letter, procedures which would have necessitated entirely new devices.

GENERAL NEWS

New Cancellations and Post Offices

(Compiled by J. Nachtigal)

A. Special Cancellations (see also Fig. 53):

3.3.97: "60 Years of Electrooptics in Israel", Jerusalem.

11.3.97: "The 11th National Congress on Civil Engineering", Jerusalem.

15.3.97: "Commemorating Greek Jews who died in the Holocaust and the 1st Transport from Salonica to Auschwitz", Ben Gurion Airport.

19.3.97: "The International Professional Flower Expo of Israel, 97", Hadera.

23.3.97: "The 13th Congress of the International Federation of Municipal Engineers", Jerusalem.



Fig. 53: Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

31.3.97: "Tenth Anniversary of the Israel Postal Authority, 1987 - 1997", Jerusalem.

6.4.97: "75 Years of the 'Bnai Zion' Medical Centre", Haifa.

8.4.97: "Jerusalem 3000 Competition. Final", Kefar Sava.

20.4.97: "Ariel. 18 State Stamp Exhibition", Ariel.

21.4.97: "30 Years of Development and Production in MLM (an Israel Air Industry Plant)", Be'er Ya'akov.



Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

- 30.4.97: "Jewish Monuments in Prague", Jerusalem*.
 30.4.97: "The Vilna Gaon, Rabbi Elijah Ben Solomon Zalman", Jerusalem*.
 30.4.97: "Clandestine Immigration, 1934 - 1948", Haifa*.
 30.4.97: "Memorial Day", Lod*.
 30.4.97: "Sport - Snapling", Yam Hamelah (M.P.)**.



Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

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

** The use of this canceller was postponed to 8.7.97.

- 11.5.97: "Modi'in. Inhabitancy Ceremony of the Town", Modi'in.
 12.5.97: "Event to mark 10 Years of the Israel Postal Authority", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 15.5.97: "National Show Jumping Final", Evtah (M.P.).
 17.5.97: "Stamp Exhibition. Twin Towns", Nazerat Illit.
 22.5.97: "Association of Tel Aviv Journalists; 40 Years to Sokolov House", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 29.5.97: "100 Years since the Discovery of the Cairo Geniza; 50 Years since the Discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls", Jerusalem.



Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

- 29.5.97: "Pacific 97. Greetings from Israel's Philatelists", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 1.6.97: "The Inauguration of the new Wing and the D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education", Jerusalem.
 5.6.97: "Rotary International District 2490 - Israel. 37th Conference", Haifa.
 12.6.97-19.6.97: "The Hebrew Book Week", Jerusalem, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Haifa, Beer Sheva.
 12.6.97-22.6.97: "The Hebrew Book Week", Ramat Gan.
 15.6.97: "Israel Airports Authority", Ben-Gurion Airport.

רמת גן • גליל • גליל • RAMAT GAN

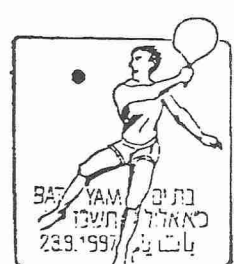


Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

- 22.6.97: "Talpiot 60th Anniversary". Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 8.7.97: "Road Safety", Netanya*.
 8.7.97: "Hello, First Grade", Bene Beraq*.
 8.7.97: "15th Maccabiah", Ramat Gan*.
 8.7.97: "Sport-Snapling", Yam Hamelah (M.P.)*.
 14.7.97: "Netanya hosts Maccabiah Athletes. 15th Maccabiah", Netanya.



Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

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

- 14.7.97: "15th Maccabiah", Ramat Gan.
 15.7.97: "20th Anniversary to Qazrin", Qazrin.
 18.7.97: "50 Years S.S. President Warfield, Exodus 1947", Haifa.
 1.9.97: "Migrating Birds know no Boundaries", Shimshon (M.P.).
 18.9.97: "Kefar Shemaryahu - 60 Years", Kefar Shemaryahu.
 23.9.97: "Music and Dance in Israel", Karmi'el*.



Fig. 53 (continued): Special Cancellations issued in the last period.

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

- 23.9.97: "UN Resolution on the Establishment of a Jewish State", Jerusalem*.
 23.9.97: "Festival Stamps 1997", Jerusalem*.
 23.9.97: "Bat and Ball Game", Bat Yam*.
 24.9.97: "Gush Etzion 30 Years", Cefon Yehuda (M.P. and Zahal).
 17.10.97: "Greetings from Israel's Philatelists" (to "MOCKBA 97" World Stamp Exhibition), Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 26.10.97: "Habima - 80 Years", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 7.11.97: "18 Years to Elon Moreh", Elon Moreh (Zahal).
 19.11.97: "Joint Issue Israel-Russia: Pushkin-Shlonsky", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 20.11.97: "20 Years of Bet El", Bet El (Zahal).
 3.12.97: "Chabad's Children of Chernobyl", Kefar Chabad.
 3.12.97: "Official Ceremony - the Bicentenary of the death of the Vilna Gaon", Jerusalem.
 15.12.97: "Indepex 97. Greeting from Israel's Philatelists", Tel Aviv-Yafo.
 23.12.97: "Israel 50 Jubilee, 1948-1998, Jerusalem*.
 23.12.97: "Machal, Gachal", Jerusalem*.
 23.12.97: "Philately Day: Fractal", Tel Aviv-Yafo*.
 23.12.97: "Chabad's Children of Chernobyl", Kefar Chabad*.
 23.12.97: "Hanukka", Modi'in*.
 24.12.97: "Christmas-Noel", Nazareth.

B. Definitive Cancellations:

- 17.4.97: On this date 130 new and 126 replaced handstamps were put into use in various Post Offices as follows: "ABU SINAN 1" (instead of ABU SINAN without No.), "OR 'AQIVA 1-3" (instead of OR AQIVA 1-3), "ALLONIM 1" (instead of ALLONIM without No.), "ELYAKHIN 1" (instead of ELYAKHIN without No.), "AFEK 1" (instead of AFEK without No.), "BAQA AL-GHARBIYA 1" (instead of BAQA AL-GHARBIYA 1), "BUEINE NAJIDAT 1" (instead of BUEINE NAJIDAT without No.), "BI'NE 1" (instead of BI'NE without No.), "BIR EL-MAKSUR 1" (instead of BIR EL-MAKSUR without No.), "BET GAN 1" (instead of BET GAN without No.), "BET SHE'AN 1-6" (instead of BET SHE'AN 1-6), "BENE YEHUDA 1" (instead of BENE YEHUDA without No.), "BINYAMINA 1-3" (instead of BINYAMINA 1-3), "GIVAT ADA 1, 2" (instead of GIVAT ADA 1, 2), "JUDEIDA MAKR 1, 2" (instead of JUDEIDA MAKR 1 and without No.), "JULIS 1" (instead of JULIS without No.), "GUSH HALAV 1" (instead of GUSH HALAV without No.), "JISR AZ-ZARQA 1" (instead of JISR AZ-ZARQA without No.), "JATT 1" (instead of JATT without No.), "DALIAT EL-KARMIL 1" (instead of DALIAT EL-KARMIL without

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

No.), "DABBURIYYA 1" (instead of DABBURIYA without No.), "ASHER-AT (M.P.) 1" (instead of ASHERAT (M.P.) without No.), "BIQ'AT BET KEREM (M.P.) 1" (instead of BIQ'AT BET KEREM (M.P.) without No.), "GILBOA' (M.P.) 1" (instead of GILBOA' (M.P.) without No.), "HAGALIL HAMA'ARAVI (M.P.) 1" (instead of HAGALIL HAMA'ARAVI (M.P.) without No.), "HAGALIL HATAHTON (M.P.) 1" (instead of HAGALIL HATAHTON (M.P.) without No.), "HEVEL MEGIDDO (M.P.) 1" (instead of HEVEL MEGIDDO (M.P.) without No.), "HOF CARMEL (M.P.) 1" (instead of HOF CARMEL (M.P.) without No.), "HEFER (M.P.) 1" (instead of HEFER (M.P.) without No.), "YIZRE'EL (M.P.) 1" (instead of YIZRE'EL (M.P.) without No.), "MENASHE (M.P.) 1" (instead of MENASHE (M.P.) without No.), "MISGAV (M.P.) 1" (instead of MISGAV (M.P.) without No.), "EMEQ BET SHE'AN (M.P.) 1" (instead of EMEQ BET SHE'AN (M.P.) without No.), "EMEQ HAYARDEN (M.P.) 1" (instead of EMEQ HAYARDEN (M.P.) without No.), "DEIR AL-ASAD 1" (instead of DEIR AL-ASAD without No.), "DEIR HANNA 1" (instead of DEIR HANNA without No.), "DALIYYA 1" (instead of DALIYYA without No.), "HAYOGEV 1" (instead of HAYOGEV without No.), "ZIKHRON YA'AKOV 1-3" (instead of ZIKHRON YA'AKOV 1-3), "ZALAFE 1" (instead of ZALAFE without No.), "ZEMER 1" (instead of ZEMER without No.), "HURFEISH 1" (instead of HURFEISH without No.), "HANITA 1" (instead of HANITA without No.), "HAZOR HAGELILIT 1-3" (instead of HAZOR HAGELILIT 1-3), "TUBA ZANGERIA 1" (instead of TUBA ZANGERIA without No.), "TUR'AN 1" (instead of TUR'AN without No.), "TIRAT KARMEL 1-3" (instead of TIRAT KARMEL 1-3), "TAMRA 1, 2" (instead of TAMRA 1, 2), "YANUH 1" (instead of Y'ANOAH without No.), "YAVNE'EL 1" (instead of YAVNE'EL without No.), "YAGUR 1" (instead of YAGUR without No.), "YESUD HAMA'ALA 1" (instead of YESUD HAMA'ALA without No.), "YOQNE'AM 1" (instead of YOQNE'AM without No.), "YIRKA 1", "KABUL 1" (instead of KABUL without No.), "KEFAR HAHORESH 1" (instead of KEFAR HAHORESH without No.), "KEFAR HAMAKABI 1" (instead of KEFAR HAMAKABI without No.), "KEFAR HARO'E 1" (instead of KEFAR HARO'E without No.), "KEFAR VERADIM 1" (instead of KEFAR VERADIM without No.), "KEFAR YEHEZQEL 1" (instead of KEFAR YEHEZQEL without No.), "KAFR KAMA 1" (instead of KAFR KAMA without No.), "KAFR KANNA 1" (instead of KAFR KANNA without No.), "KAFR MANDA 1" (instead of KAFR MANDA without No.), "KAFR QARI 1" (instead of KAFR QARI without No.), "KEFAR TAVOR 1" (instead of KEFAR TAVOR without No.), "KARMI'EL 1-8" (instead of KARMI'EL 1-5, 7, 8), "MAJD AL-KURUM 1" (instead of MAJD AL'KURUM without No.), "MIGDAL TEFEN 1" (instead of MIGDAL TEFEN without No.), "MAGHAR 1" (instead of MAGHAR without No.),

“MUSMUS 1” (instead of MUSMUS without No.), “METULLA 1” (instead of METULLA without No.), “MERON 1” (instead of MERON without No.), “MENAHEMYA 1” (instead of MENAHEMYA without No.), “MAS’ADE 1, 2” (instead of MAS’ADE 1, 2), “MI’LYA 1” (instead of MI’LYA without No.), “MA’ALOT TARSHIHA 1, 4” (instead of MA’ALOT TARSHIHA 1, 4), “MASH-HAD 1” (instead of MASH-HAD 1), “NAHALAL 1, 2” (instead of NAHALAL 1, 2), “NAHF 1” (instead of NAHF without No.), “SAKHNIN 1, 2” (instead of SAKHNIN 1 and without No.), “EILABUN 1” (instead of EILABUN without No.), “ILUT 1” (instead of ILUT without No.), “EN HAROD ME’UHAD 1” (instead of EN HAROD ME’UHAD without No.), “EN MAHIL 1” (instead of EN-MAHIL without No.), “ISFIYA 1” (instead of ISFIYA without No.), “AR’ARA 1, 2” (instead of AR’ARA 1 and without No.), “ATLIT 1-3” (instead of ATLIT 1-3), “FASSUTA 1” (instead of FASSUTA without No.), “PEQI’IN 1” (instead of PEQIIN 1), “PARDES HANNA-KARKUR 1-6” (instead of PARDES HANNA-KARKUR 1-6), “QESARYA 1” (instead of QESARYA 1).

30.4.97: On this date 72 new and 55 replaced handstamps were put into use in various Post Offices in the **Southern Region** as follows: “OR YEHUDA 1” (instead of OR YEHUDA without No.), “OFAQIM 1-6” (instead of OFAQIM 2,4,5,7), “BE’ER SHEVA 1-28, 51” (instead of BE’ER SHEVA 1,9,10,12,15,17-19, 23-25, 30,41,42, 45-50, 55, 56), “EVTAH” (M.P.) 1” (instead of EVTAH” (M.P.) without No.), “HOF ASHQELON (M.P) 1” (instead of HOF ASHQELON (M.P) without No.), “HOF AZZA (M.P.) 1” (instead of HOF AZZA (M.P.) without No.), “HALUZA (M.P.) 1” (instead of HALUZA (M.P.) without No.), “YAM HAMELAH (M.P.) 1” (instead of YAM HAMELAH (M.P.) without No.), “NAHAL LAKHISH DAROM (M.P.) 1” (instead of NAHAL LAKHISH DAROM (M.P.) without No.), “ARAVA (M.P.) 1” (instead of ARAVA (M.P.) without No.), “SEDE GAT (M.P.) 1” (instead of SEDE GAT (M.P.) without No.), “SHIMSHON (M.P.) 1” (instead of SHIMSHON (M.P.) without No.), “KEFAR HABAD 1” (instead of KEFAR HABAD without No.), “ARAD 1-6” (instead of ARAD 1-5, 8).

18.5.97: “ASHDOD 33”, for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in the Qanion. (This Postmark was used before in the Ashdod Main P.O.).

16.6.97: “TIRAT KARMEL 5” for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in the Commercial Center of Tirat Karmel.

1.7.97: “NES ZIYYONA 4”, for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in the Biology Institute. (This Postmark was used before in the Nes Ziyiyona Main P.O.).

17.7.97: “ARIEL 2” for the new Postal Agency, Grade B, in the Nahelat Yehuda Veshomeron, Ariel.

22.7.97: “TEL AVIV-YAFO 169, 171-175, 262”, for various Post Offices of Tel Aviv.

- 3.8.97: "ASHDOD 18" for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in "Kol Movil Limited" (This Postmark was used before in the Ashdod Main P.O.).
- 13.8.97: "JERUSALEM 5" for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in Ramot D. (This Postmark was used before in another Agency of Jerusalem).
- 16.11.97: "RISHON LEZION 15" for the new Postal Agency, Grade A, in the Neve Yam Quarter, Qanion Ahuzat Rishonim. (This Postmark was used before in the Rishon Lezion Main P.O.).

New Stamps and Postal Stationery *(Compiled by J. Noy)*

The following stamps have been issued during the last period.

- 30.4.97: Clandestine Immigration (1948-1934) (NIS 5.00); The "Vilna Gaon" - הגר"א (1720-1797) (NIS 2.00); Jewish Monuments in Prague (the Tombstone of Rabbi Judah Loew-MaHaRal of Prague and the Altneuschul Synagogue (NIS 1.70x2). Also issued as a miniature sheet incorporating blocks of four each of the stamps (without tabs). Stamps of similar design were issued jointly (in the minisheet format by the Czech Republic (Fig. 54); Memorial Day 1997 (The Memorial Monument to the Fallen of the Logistics Corps) (NIS 1.10).
- 29.5.97: Souvenir Sheet - 100 years since the discovery of the Cairo Geniza (NIS 2.00) and 50 years since the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls (NIS 3.00).
- 8.7.97: The 15th Maccabiah (NIS 5.00); Sport (definitive series) Abseiling-Rappel-ling (NIS 10.00); Road Safety, three stamps present the three most frequent causes of road accidents in Israel - not maintaining proper distance, not staying in one lane and driving under the influence of alcohol (NIS 1.10); "Hello, first grade!" (NIS 1.10).
- 23.9.97: Sport (definitive series) Bat & Ball game (NIS 3.00); Music and dance in Israel - The Zimriya (NIS 1.10), Karmiel Dance Festival (NIS 2.00), Zefat Klezemer Festival (NIS 3.00); UN Resolution on the Establishment of a Jewish State - 29.11.47 (NIS 5.00); Festival 1997 (5758) - the visiting patriarchs: Abraham (NIS 1.10), Isaac (NIS 1.70), Jacob (NIS 2.00).
- 19.11.97: Souvenir Sheet - Homage to A. Pushkin (author of "Eugene Onegin") and to A. Shlonsky (Israel Poet, translator of the Poem into Hebrew) (NIS 5.00) - a joint Israel-Russia issue (Fig. 55 shows both M.S.'s on an Israeli "Souvenir Leaf").
- 23.12.97: Gachal (גח"ל) - recruitment in the diaspora 1948 (NIS 1.80); Machal (מח"ל) - overseas volunteers 1948 (NIS 1.15); Chabad's children of Chernobyl (NIS 2.10); Philately Day - Fractals, the fractional dimension geometry (NIS 2.50); Hanukka series - 6th candle (NIS 1.80), 7th candle (NIS 2.10); Israel 50 Jubilee - "Srulik" (non denominational inland stamp sold at NIS 1.15).

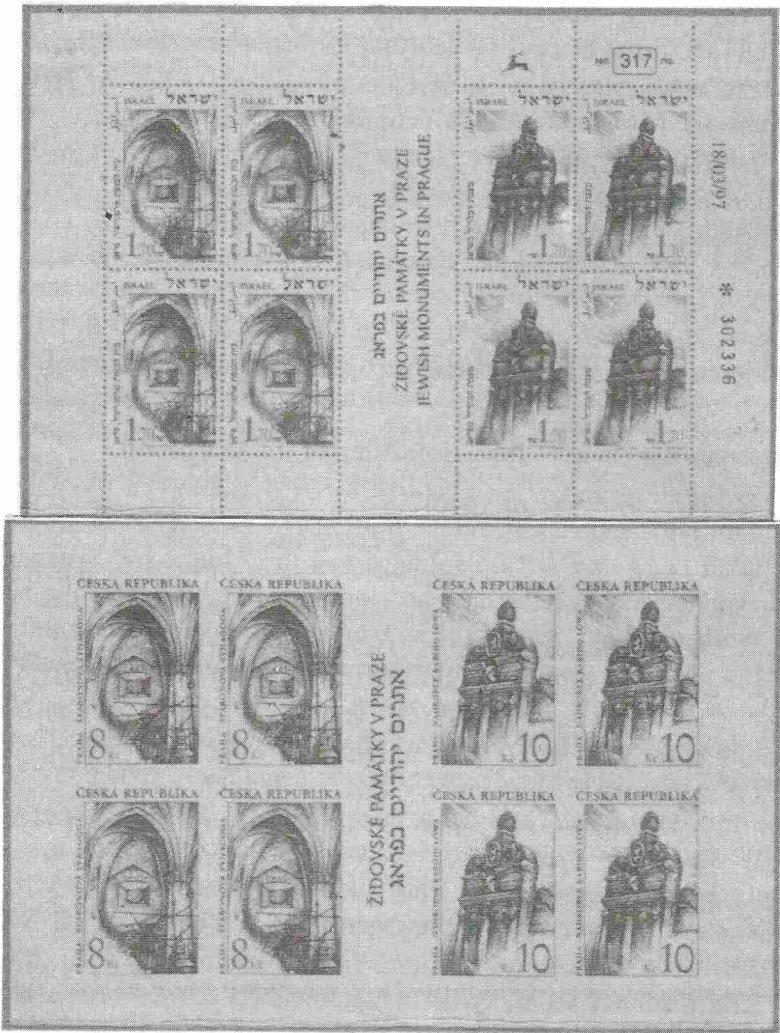


Figure 54



Figure 55

Klussendorf Postage Labels

- 19.11.97: Klussendorf postage label "Season's Greetings from the Holy Land", both without machine number (Philatelic Services) and with No. 023 (Fig. 56 (a)) from the Nazareth machine. The label shows the famous "arched lane" in Jerusalem "Old City".
- 23.12.97: Klussendorf postage label Be'er Sheva (Tourism Series), both without machine number (Philatelic Services) and with No. 019 (s. Fig. 56 (b)).
- 28.12.97: "The Keneset" (Israel Parliament) label, both without machine number (Ph. S.) and with No. 005 (Fig. 56 (c)), from the machine installed in the nearby Supreme Court Building).

Postal Stationery. An inland postcard imprinted with the "Srulik" non-denominated "stamp", a booklet and a tête-bêche sheet with the same stamp will be issued on February 17, 1998.



Figure 56

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Zvi,

15th September 1996

Regarding the article on mail connections with Jordan by Lawrence Fisher, in Bulletin 63/64, the cover (postcard?) shown in Fig. 12, sent from Amman to Israel, definitely went via England. There was no need to illustrate the 'proving cover' in Fig. 13.

The two indentations below the stamp (not under it) are the blue phosphor code marks applied at the London foreign section sorting office. Within Britain, the address would be coded into two horizontal rows of blue phosphor marks, just as in Israel fluorescent orange marks are applied along the lower edge of items. By UPU convention, to avoid interference with inland coding at the destination, mail abroad is not coded. The two right-hand dots in the upper row serve to segregate items addressed outside Britain.

The coding desk number, applied with black ribbon, is 1B in Fig. 12 and is visible at the left lower corner over the word CASTLE. It is indistinct below the L of ISRAEL in Fig. 13. Closer inspection will show us, that the right-hand mark is rectangular (the 'start' dot), and the next one is round. It would have been useful, incidentally, to ensure reproduction by inking in the blue marks.

I should add, that the British coding method has changed repeatedly since. The solid dots, imprinted by hot pins from phosphor tape, have been replaced with sprayed blue phosphor ink, forming less distinct dots, and later by vertical bars. Then these bars changed to mauve fluor ink. Then the spaces between bars were halved, and now their variable height is part of the code.

Yours sincerely,

Walter Loebel

Request for Research Information

Our Palestine Study Group has seen some unusual Palestine perfins. Some of us have purchased APC and KKL perfins in values not listed in the Bale catalogue, and also on a few **mint** stamps.

We became suspicious when we noticed some were on wove paper which wasn't issued until 1940, almost ten years after meters became available to the organizations using the perfins. The use of meters eliminated the need for perfins.

We see a few differences in the perfins on the wove paper and mint stamps that do not appear on the majority of used stamps that could be legitimate. The differences we see could possibly be explained if the die used to punch the perfins had two or more sets of pins to punch two or more adjacent stamps simultaneously. There could be differences between each set of pins. Does anyone know how many sets of initials were on the machine?

If you have any information on Palestine perfins and possible perfin forgeries we would be most interested. Any help you can give will be appreciated.

Please reply to: Mr. N. Zankel, POB 267, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, USA.

Obituary

Joseph Hoffman - The Last Post

The day before Rosh Hashana my phone surprisingly did not ring. Strange. For years I would have been able to know that it is the last day of the Hebrew calendar year by getting a ring from Joe, even if we spoke a week earlier. He never missed the opportunity to express his good wishes for the Jewish New Year.

I have lost many acquaintances, colleagues and friends, in war and peace, from enemy actions, accidents or illnesses. What triggered me now to write a eulogy for the first time? I believe it was the special blend of pleasantness and friendliness embodied in a person that we lost by the passing of Joseph Hoffman.

Joe assembled several distinguished collections: philatelic (forerunners and Judaica), semi-philatelic (J.N.F. and Jewish charity telegrams), and non-philatelic (Holy Land maps, Holy Land travel books and Jewish postcards). Not only did he enjoy collecting and exchanging as most collectors do, but he voluntarily and unselfishly helped his friends with advice, information, and yes, with precious items that improved their collections. He was a really Kind, Friendly, Knowledgeable and Fatherly behaving Gentleman.

Born in Vienna in 1919, he moved in 1923 to Frankfurt am Main where his father was appointed Chief Rabbi. He attended the Yeshivah there founded by his father, which was unique in that it combined secular and rabbinic studies.

Joe managed to leave Nazi Germany in 1937 for Italy and arrived in the U.S in 1938. He served in the U.S. Army for four years in North Africa and in Europe, participating in the liberation of Rome and Strassbourg, and was decorated with the bronze star medal. For 45 years he worked for a Firm dealing in raw hides and skins until 1951 in New York, and continuing in Stockholm, Sweden. With his retirement, initially he spent half a year in Sweden and half a year in Israel, and in 1992 he made full Aliyah and made his home in Jerusalem. During the last two decades he was an active member of the Holy Land Postal History Society, and of the Israeli philatelic scenery.

I will miss his pre-Rosh Hashana calls and his friendship.

Shaul Ladany

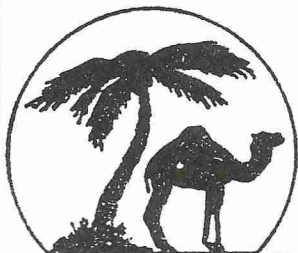
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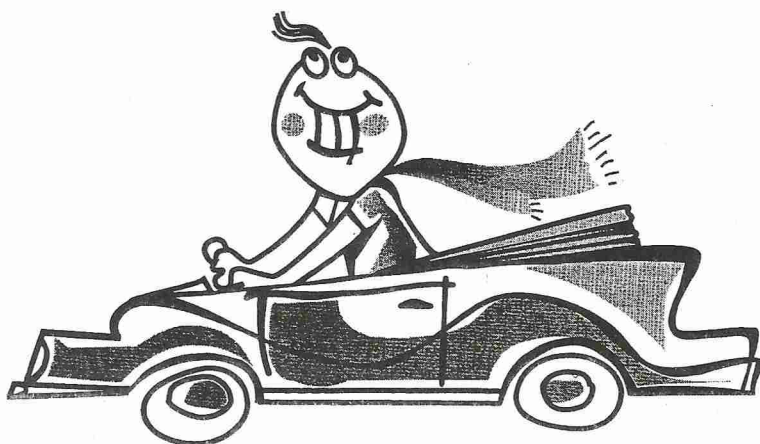
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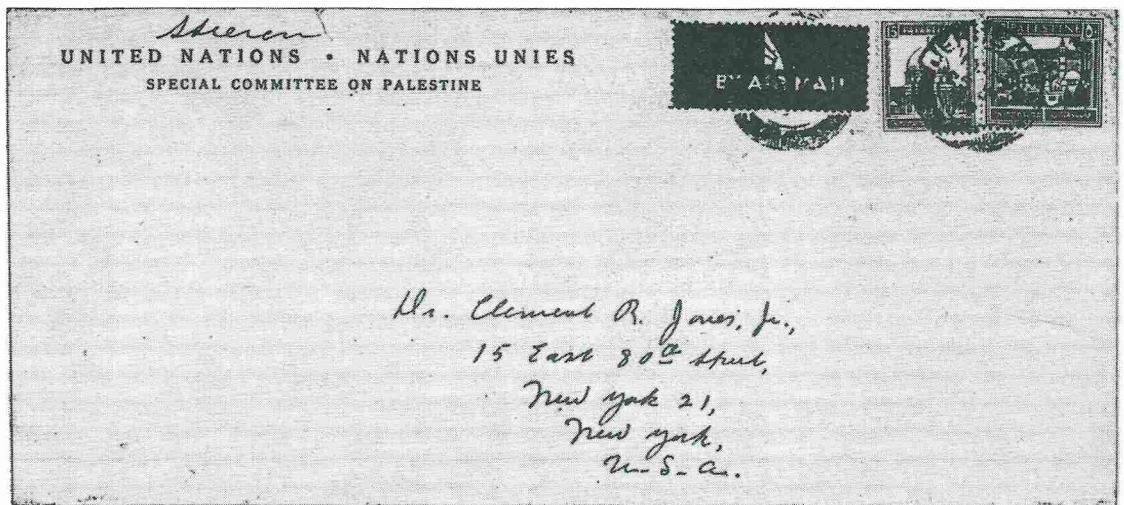


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מעטפה שנשלחה מירושלים לניו-יורק ביוני 1947 ע"י חבר "משלחת האו"ם המיוחדת לענין
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בנובמבר אותה שנה על הקמת מדינת ישראל

Cover sent from Jerusalem to New York by a member of UNSCOP (United Nations Special
Committee On Palestine). The recommendations of this Committee had an important roll in the
UN November resolution on the establishment of the State of Israel (s. article on p. 325)

חורף תשנ"ז / סתיו תשנ"ח