



CHAPTER #80

MEMBER

ISRATHEME

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P.O. Box 3542, HAIFA, ISRAEL. Editor: Nahum Shereshevsky
 Graphics: Eliezer Saraf. Linguistic adviser: Stuart Elgrod.
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From the Editor's Desk - Nahum Shereshevsky

At the annual Convention of Israeli Philatelists that was held in Tel Aviv recently, the participants (about 200) were invited to choose the best stamp of 1991. The winner was the Haifa '91 souvenir sheet, and indeed it seems that this is the only item that stands out from this year's album page.

What did we have in 1991? A variety of themes: sports, technology, stamp-on-stamp, music, women, journalism. But none of the 28 items issued, except for the Haifa '91 sheet, looks imaginative and attractive to the eye. My choice for second place is the Festival stamps, which are colourful and pretty.

The Mozart stamp is also interesting, and I liked the idea of "casting a big shadow" (see p.8). The booklet is nice too, but it's a good example of using a popular theme to produce an item with a high price and no practical use just to get money from collectors. (Check the postal rates table on p.19 - there is no NIS 2.00 rate).

The Postal Museum sheet is rather ugly, and I've heard that opinion from many fellow collectors. I think that a genuine philatelic item (but not Doar Ivri again!) would have been better than an impossible "symbolic" item.

And the rest? Just unimpressive and worth no further mention.

And what's in for next year? (See p. 19). More Rabbies, Sepharadi ones, as the influence of the Minister of Communications begins to be felt. Let's hope that the stamps will at least look nice!

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Usually when a new stamp is issued, various related technical details are given, describing the perforation, printing method, etc. Some postal administrations, including the Israeli Philatelic Service, also issue a leaflet that describes the subject of the stamp and provides background information on the personality, the site or idea that the stamp represents.

We wanted more than that. We wanted to follow the considerations of the stamp's designer, why did this inscription appear on the stamp and not another? Why was this particular drawing chosen? In short, what takes place "behind the scenes" of the stamp?

To find the answers for these questions we approached two people from the Philatelic Service, Mr. Yitzhak Granot - a designer who is in charge of planning and production of stamps, and Mr. Gershon Katz - a researcher. It should be said right away that we were surprised and impressed by the scope of the research and the great efforts that were put in to ensure that the stamp is not just pretty but also authentic and accurate from the factual and historical point.

Dona Gracia Nasi - the subject of the stamp - was born in 1510 in Portugal. Her family, the Nasi family, belonged to the Portuguese Marranos (Jewish people who were forced to practise Christianity), and therefore she was given a Christian name - Beatrice da Luna. When she was 18 she married Francisco Mendes, a rich international banker. In 1536, following the death of her husband and the increasing activity of the Inquisition in Portugal, Dona Gracia fled to her husband's brother, Diogo, in Antwerp. She was able to get her large property out of Portugal and from her new base she became active in trying to help the Marranos escape and to stop the activity of the Inquisition in Portugal. In 1542 Diogo died and, fearing that the authorities would confiscate her property, Dona Gracia was forced to flee again, this time to Venice.

In Venice Dona Gracia prospered and became a very rich merchant, but because of that the Venetian authorities arrested her and accused her of secretly keeping the laws of Judaism. It was only after three years and the intervention of the Turkish Sultan that Dona Gracia was released and moved (1550) to the Duchy of Ferrara in Italy. Under the protection of the Duke, Dona Gracia openly returned to Judaism and she was very active on behalf of the various Jewish communities in Europe, especially the Marranos in her native Portugal.

In 1553 Dona Gracia settled in Constantinople and from there she continued her activities for the Jews. Among other things, she tried to persuade the Turkish Sultan, who was also the ruler of Palestine, to allow her to establish a Jewish centre in Tiberias, on the Lake of Galilee. She even obtained leasehold rights for land in Tiberias and the nearby villages. Dona Gracia did not live to fulfill her dream of establishing the Jewish centre. She died in 1559.

The above is just a brief description of the fascinating and complex life of Dona Gracia, who was undoubtedly one of the prominent and famous women in Jewish history.

Since the Dona Gracia stamp is a part of a series, the designers wanted to adhere to a uniform design in all the stamps of the series. On the stamp appears the likeness of the woman to whom the stamp is dedicated, and on the tab appears a landscape picture that relates to her life and a quote that describes her or her activities.

The first problem emerged immediately: where to get a likeness of Dona Gracia, who lived over 400 years ago? The solution was found

with the active help of... Dona Gracia herself. In around 1551, while staying in Ferrara, Dona Gracia struck a medallion which carried her likeness and her name "Gracia Nasi" in Hebrew (see illustration). There are indeed scholars who, relying on the fact that the woman in the medallion is very young, claim that she is the niece of "our" Dona Gracia, who was also named Gracia. However, the people at the Philatelic Service, after consulting with Professor Simonson of the Tel Aviv University and with Dr. Gad Nasi, head of the Dona Gracia project and with others, decided to use the medallion.

We now come to the tab.

Dona Gracia did a lot for the town of Tiberias, and it was only natural to choose the landscape of that town to illustrate the tab. Pictures of modern Tiberias are plentiful, but where can one get a description of the Tiberias landscape in the 16th century?

Well, there is no 16th century drawing, but there is one from the 17th century! In 1681 a Dutch artist named Cornelis de Bruyn drew the Tiberias landscape (see illustration). A description of de Bruyn's work appears in the book "Jerusalem and Palestine in Old Engravings and Prints (1483-1800)" by Ely Schiller.

De Bruyn was the most important painter who visited Palestine until the 19th century, and the first to record in a systematic and relatively reliable way many of its landscapes and sites. De Bruyn visited Palestine in 1681 and his book, dedicated to describing his journey in Palestine and the neighbouring countries, "A Journey in the Levant", was published in 1698 in a luxury album.

His book contains many pictures which are valuable for the study of the country's landscapes and sites. Among them are some that have changed beyond recognition and de Bruyn's work serves as the sole source for the recreation of their original form. Among those that are specially noted are Tiberias, Haifa, the port of Jaffa...

Well, thanks to de Bruyn, we have a testimony from the 17th century, but does this testimony also reflect the situation a century earlier? Bothered by this question the Philatelic Service researchers turned to the collection of documents from the early Ottoman period published by Dr. Hedd. From these documents one can conclude that during the said period there were no significant changes in the landscape of Tiberias and its environs, and de Bruyn's picture can certainly be regarded as the landscape of Dona Gracia's time.

Now that we have pictures for both stamp and tab, all that is left is an appropriate inscription for the tab. From the many eulogies written about Dona Gracia after her death it was possible to select many phrases that describe this remarkable woman. Rabbi Yehushua Tsuntsin of Constantinople wrote: "... she held the hand of the poor and the needy to deliver them..." The poet Rabbi Seadia Lunago of Thessalonica lamented: "... from the doings of her hands and charities she planted the vineyard of God, and her reputation was that of the mighty and holy of the land...", and so on.

Eventually it was decided to choose a phrase from a text written about her, in her lifetime, by Samuel Usque. Usque was a writer who lived in Italy and was one of the Portuguese Marranos. He returned to Judaism and in 1553 he published in Ferrara his Portuguese book "A Comfort for the Troubles of Israel". The book was dedicated to Dona Gracia and in the prologue Oshaki wrote (addressing the Portuguese Marranos) "...you must not forget the assistance that you enjoyed in your time of trouble, on your way from Portugal and until you reached safety. Who but you have seen the divine mercy in human guise, which is seen to your eyes, for your rescue?... She is the woman who helps

your needy children at the beginning of their journey... She is the one who protects them during the severe Alps storm in Germany... *She is the woman who helped you with motherly care and secure hand in your hour of distress that was dangerous and urgent...* She's the one who supported the multitudes of the poor and needed...

In conclusion, we thank Mr. Yitzhak Granot and Mr. Gershon Katz for their assistance for this article. They both noted that although a lot of research went into producing this stamp, (and that only a small part of it has been mentioned here), this case was easy compared to other cases that have involved comprehensive research work. We, the thematic collectors, who are interested in every detail that can be found on the stamp, can appreciate and cherish the important work that was done to guarantee the authenticity and reliability of the story told by the stamp.



A medallion struck by
Dona Gracia in Ferrara,
around 1551.



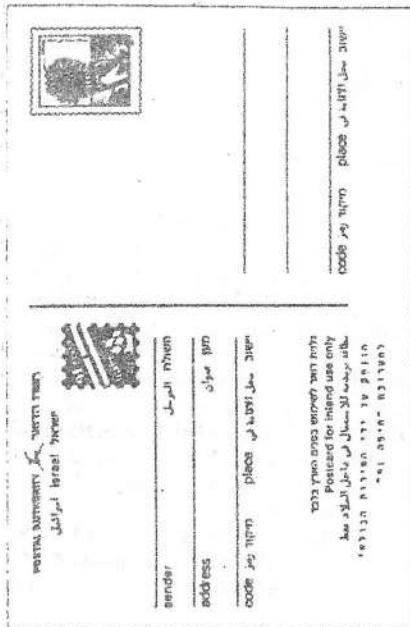
Tiberias in 1681 by Cornelis de Bruyn

NEW ISSUES OF ISRAEL

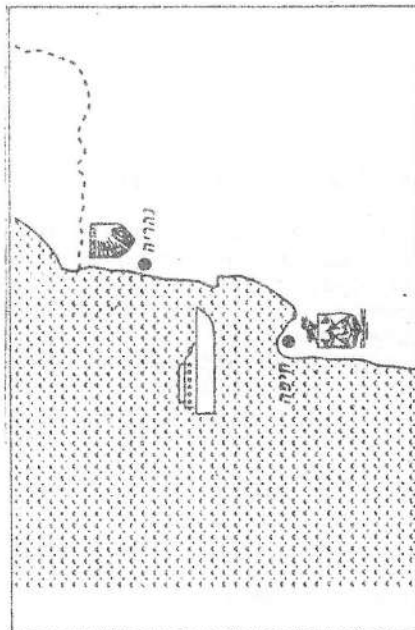
24.9.91

HAIFA - NAHARIYYA EMERGENCY MAIL RE-ENACTMENT POSTAL CARD NVI Inland

The town of Nahariyya lies some 30 km. north of Haifa along the coast. For a certain period during the 1948 War of Independence (March 22 to April 25) Nahariyya was cut off by Arab forces, and the only contact with the rest of the country was by boats to Haifa. The local council established an emergency mail service, issuing special stamps. As part of the HAIFA '91 Stamp Exhibition, on September 25 (the second day of the exhibition), a boat trip that carried mail between Haifa and Nahariyya and back took place, as a re-enactment of the 1948 emergency mail. On the first day of the exhibition the Post Office issued a special postal card, based on the regular inland "sunflower" no value indicated (NVI) card. On the front side of the card was added the HAIFA '91 logo on the upper-left part, and the inscription (in Hebrew) "Issued by the Philatelic Service for the "Haifa 91" exhibition" on the lower-upper part. On the back side is an outline of the northern Israel coast, indicating Haifa (bottom) and Nahariyya (top) by name in Hebrew and town emblem. On the left is the sea with a boat. The broken line in the upper part of the "map" delineates the Lebanese border. The card is printed in green, except for the stamp area which also has yellow in it.



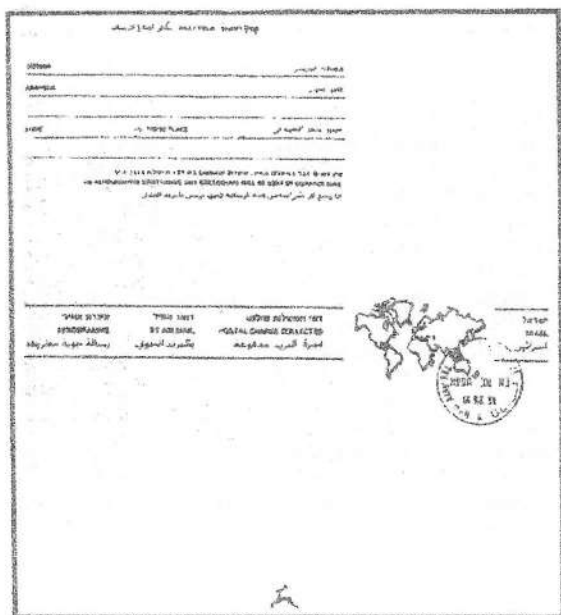
Front



Back

1.8.91 AEROGRAMME non-denominated ("Postal Charges Collected")

The "stamp area" shows a map of the world.



World Map Aerogramme



ETZEL



LEHI

2.12.91

ETZEL - THE IRGUN TZVAI LEUMI NIS 1.50

"ETZEL" are the Hebrew initials of "National Military Organization", which was one of the underground organizations that fought for Jewish independence during the British Mandate. The Etzel was set up by Hagana members who left that underground organization because of their disagreement with the defence strategy used by the Hagana during the 1929 Arab attacks on Jewish settlements. Later, during the Arab uprising of 1936-39, the Etzel adopted a policy of acts of reprisal and deterrence against Arab rioters - as opposed to the "official" policy of restraint that the Hagana followed. Basically, that was the difference between the Hagana, who was considered a part of the Jewish "establishment", and the Etzel and Lehi (see below) that were called "dissidents" and were more extreme.

In 1937 Ze'ev Jabotinsky, leader of Betar, became Etzel's Commander-in-Chief, though he was in exile. Jabotinsky appeared on several Israeli stamps, the last one issued in December 1990, see ISRATHEME #2.

During World War II the Etzel ceased its actions against the British and actively joined the struggle against the Nazis. In 1941

the commander of the Etzel, David Raziell, was killed in Iraq during a British military operation. David Raziell appears on a stamp from the 1978 Prominent Personalities I set, SG 701/Sc 690.

In 1943 Menahem Begin became commander of the Etzel. In 1944 the Etzel declared a rebellion against the British administration, and during this time (until the British left the country in 1948) the Etzel attacked British military targets. In all these actions, the Etzel refrained as far as possible from hurting people, sometimes at the price of endangering its own forces.

Following the establishment of the State of Israel the Etzel was disbanded and its members joined the newly created Israel Defence Forces.

The stamp, tab and FDI postmark show the Acre Fortress. Many underground members were imprisoned there, and in 1945 the Etzel broke into the fortress to release them.

A number of Etzel members were commemorated in the Martyrs souvenir sheet of 1982 (SG 872-91/Sc 831). The position in the sheet (row, column) is given in parenthesis.

Shlomo Ben Yosef (1,3); Eliahu Bet Tzuri (1,1); Eliahu Hakim (2,5); Mordechai Alkachi (2,4); Dov Gruner (2,3) (the memorial to Dov Gruner, in Ramat Gan, appeared on one of the 1984 Art of Sculpture set, SG 926/Sc 863); Yechiel Dresner (2,2); Eliezer Kashani (2,1); Meir Feinstein (3,4); Yaacov weiss (3,3); Avshalom Haviv (3,2); Meir Nakar (3,1);

LEHI - THE FIGHTERS FOR THE FREEDOM OF ISRAEL NIS 1.50

"LEHI" are the Hebrew initials of "Fighters for the Freedom of Israel", which was another underground organization during the British Mandate. Lehi was founded in 1940 when Etzel members, led by Abraham Stern (or "Yair", as was his *nom de guerre*), split off from the main body. (The British referred to Lehi as "The Stern Gang"). The reason for the split was their disagreement with Etzel's unilateral cease-fire in the struggle against the British due to the war against the Nazis. Lehi claimed that this cease-fire was not acceptable as long as the British banned the survivors of the Holocaust entering Palestine. Lehi strove to achieve Jewish sovereignty in the Land of Israel by armed revolt against the British. Lehi members performed daring military operations against the British. In that respect there was a similarity between Lehi and Etzel, though Lehi was more extreme.

In February 1942, British C.I.D. detectives located Stern's hideout in Tel Aviv and shot him dead while he was hiding in a closet. Abraham Stern appears on another stamp from the 1978 Prominent Personalities I set, SG 704/Sc 691). In February of that year, Yitzhak Shamir (Yezernitsky was his name then) escaped from detention and reconstituted the organization.

Lehi continued its operation against the British until they left the country, and with the establishment of the State of Israel and the I.D.F. its members too joined the State's new army.

On the stamp are the Hebrew words for Lehi with a torch of freedom. On the tab is a citation of Abraham Stern: "To be forever free". The FDI postmark shows the words LEHI in Hebrew and English and the signature of Abraham Stern.

On the 1982 Martyrs sheet mentioned earlier, a number of Lehi members were also commemorated:

Eliahu Bet Tzuri (1,1); Eliahu Hakim (2,5); Moshe Barazani (3,5);

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MOZART IN ISRAEL. NIS 2 , booklet of 4 stamps

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in 1756 and died in 1791. Mozart was one of the greatest composers of all times, and his history is famous enough so we won't repeat it here. The Israeli stamp was issued to complement the extensive and varied musical activities which have been taking place in Israel to commemorate, with the rest of the world, the International Year of Mozart. It's interesting to note that this is the first time that Israel has issued a stamp that depicts a person who is not Israeli, Jewish, or had any connections with Israel or the Jewish people.

The background of the stamp shows a passage from Mozart's manuscript score of Don Giovanni. Between foreground and background, the small portrait casts its silhouette as a giant shadow - a multiple metaphor of the man, his life and his work. On the tab is Mozart's autograph.

The booklet contains four stamps, in a special pane. On the upper and lower margins are a number of musical instruments - drum, clarinet, trombone, piano, harp, horn, oboe and violin on staves. On the left margin is Mozart's full signature. The pane consists of two identical parts of two stamps each, tete-beche, which makes the entire pane symmetrical. (It can be rotated by 180° and looks the same). Mozart's full signature appears also across the cover, written across staves. Inscriptions on the cover: "Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart 1756-1791", "International Year of Mozart in Israel", "Postal Authority/Philatelic Service" (with Stag logo), "Price NIS 8", all in both Hebrew and English. A larger part of "Don Giovanni" appears on the inner cover facing the stamps. On the other inner cover is the inscription in Hebrew "Naomi & Meir Eshel [the designers] 5752 1991". On the FDI postmark is a piano and notes from the concerto for piano number 466 on the Keschel list.

PHILATELY DAY 70 ag.

This year's Philately Day again commemorates the Doar Ivri set, the first stamps of Israel. "Doar Ivri" means "Hebrew Post", and that was the inscription on the stamps, in Hebrew and Arabic. The reason for that was simple: at the time of printing the stamps, it was not yet known what would be the name of the new state. All following stamps of Israel carry the inscription "ISRAEL" in Hebrew, Arabic and Latin letters.

This year's Doar Ivri stamp is the green 5 pruta (mil) value. It is shown on a piece of brown paper, indicating perhaps a business letter, as 5 pr. was the "printed matter" rate. The stamp is tied by a Tel Aviv 1 postmark of 15.5.48, the day of issue of the stamps and the first day of use of the tri-lingual (Hebrew - Arabic - Latin) Israeli postmarks. The 16th of May, 1948, which was a Sunday, was the first business day of the new State of Israel, as the Declaration of Independence took place on the 14th, a Friday, just before the Sabbath. The FDI postmark shows a magnifying glass over a symbolic stamp.

ISRAEL STAMP WEEK SOUVENIR LEAF

(Sold for NIS 4)

The souvenir leaf was issued for the Israel (Hebrew) Stamp Week, that has been taking place during the Hanukka week for several years. It shows a reproduction of the painting "Hanukka" by Moritz Daniel

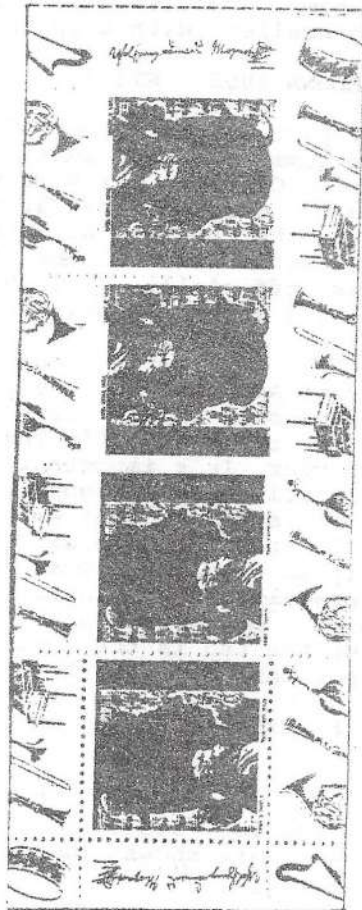
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MOZART IN ISRAEL items.



Sheet stamp with tab



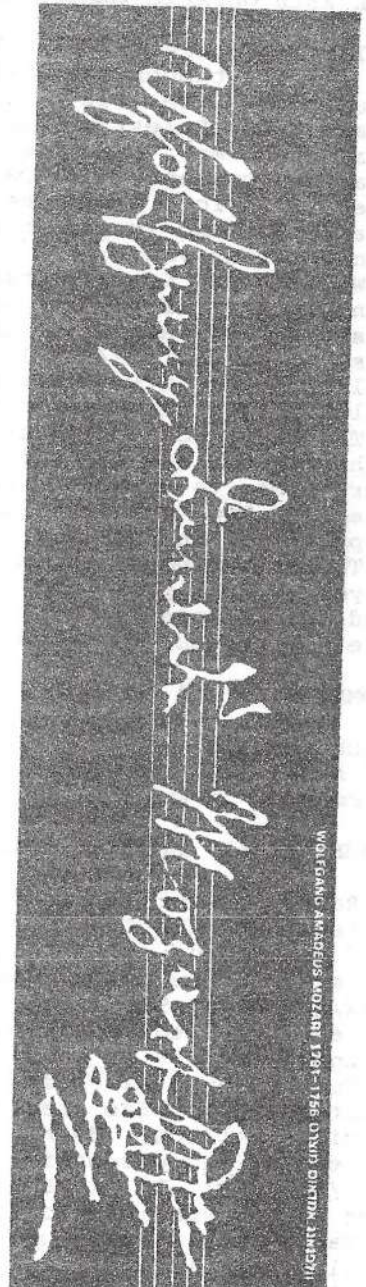
FDI postmark



Booklet pane



Inner left cover



Booklet outer cover

Oppenheim (1800-1882), as well as a reproduction of the 1975 stamp which depicts this painting. The original painting is in the art collection of the Israel Museum, Jerusalem. The leaf is franked with the Philately Day stamp and cancelled with a special postmark.

THE 25th OLYMPIC GAMES, BARCELONA 1992 NIS 1.10

Israeli athletes first took part in the Olympic Games in Helsinki, in 1952, though an Olympic Committee existed in this country since the 1930's. The 1936 Nazi Berlin Olympics was no place for a Jewish team from Palestine. In 1948, despite the War of Independence, a small team was assembled for the London Olympics. But technical reasons prevented its participation in the Games: the claim was that the Olympic Committee was officially that of Palestine, but "Palestine" no longer existed and so the Israeli athletes had to wait another four years...

While 1992 is important for the world because of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America, for the Jewish people it is also the anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain that also occurred in 1492. It is therefore symbolic that Israeli athletes will compete in Spain in that year. It's important to note that the relations between Spain and Israel today are good and strengthening.

The wave of immigration to Israel brought with it highly trained athletes and new hopes for a first Olympic medal. (In 1988 Israel was very close to getting a medal, in sailing, when the Israeli team reached the finals. Unfortunately, the finals were held on Yom Kippur, and the Israelis couldn't participate).

The stamp shows a runner, on the tab is the emblem of the Israeli Olympic Committee. The FDI postmark depicts the Barcelona Games logo and the Olympic Rings.

See also "FOCUS ON OLYMPICS STAMPS OF ISRAEL" on page 14.

WOMEN NIS 1, 1.10

Each stamp shows portraits of the lady concerned at different periods of her life. The special FDI postmark shows two flowers, each is formed by a woman's name in Hebrew.

RAHEL YANAIT BEN-ZVI (1886-1979) NIS 1

Rahel Yanait was born in 1886 in Malin, Ukraine. In 1905 she was a delegate to the Zionist Congress. She immigrated to Palestine in 1908 and became one of the founders of "Hashomer" ("The Guard") Movement. (A stamp honouring Hashomer's 60th anniversary was issued in 1970, SG 442/Sc 409). She also edited a worker's party publication and helped to establish the Hebrew Gymnasium high school in Jerusalem, where she taught.

During World War I she helped founding the Jewish Legion in the British Army. The Legion was made up of three regiments of Royal Fusiliers (38th, 39th, 40th), manned by Jewish volunteers from Palestine and elsewhere. The Legion was commemorated on a 1988 stamp, SG?/Sc 1001. In 1918 Rahel married Izhak Ben-Zvi, later (1952-1963) the second President of Israel. (SG 274/Sc 255, 1964).

Rahel Yanait continued her public activities to her last days, including: leader of the Histadrut Worker's Union, establishing a girls' agricultural highschool in Jerusalem, writing an autobiography and other books.



Israel Stamp Week souvenir leaf



Philately Day



Barcelona Olympics



Women FDI postmark



Rahel Yanait Ben-Zvi



Dona Gracia

The stamp's tab shows Jewish women agricultural workers, from a photograph from the beginning of the century. The inscription on it reads: "We should be occupied with... creating a positive program, irrespective of different sectors and social layers." Rahel Yanait Ben-Zvi spoke these words at a gathering of new immigrants from Russia in 1974.

Dona Gracia was a famous Jewish philanthropist. For a detailed account of her life and the creation of this stamp, see "Dona Gracia - The Story Behind the Stamp", on page 2.

THE POSTAL AND PHILATELIC MUSEUM imperf. souvenir sheet and folder

This is a special item, the first of its kind in Israel, issued to raise funds for Postal and Philatelic Museum that is being build in Tel Aviv. The Postal and Philatelic Museum Souvenir Sheet that was first issued in June (see ISRATHEME #3) was re-issued in a limited edition, imperforated (that is, the "envelope" which is the stamp area is not perforated) and numbered. The sheet has the same face value and nominal price as the original sheet, but it was only sold in a special folder for NIS 48 (about \$20).

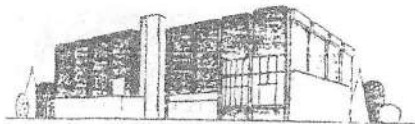
These kinds of item raise the question of their philatelic status. The Israeli Philatelic Federation stated its position as follows:

"1. The folder is in fact an attractive package for an imperforated and numbered souvenir sheet (otherwise identical to the one issued in June) housed in a mount.

2. The souvenir sheet itself is a philatelic item of a normal status, like any other sheet. It has a postal franking value of NIS 3.40 and should be given a separate catalogue number, also because of its different day of issue.

3. The IPF warmly suggests to its members to purchase at least one folder at the asked price of NIS 48 - not necessarily for the item's philatelic value but as a donation for the founding of the museum."

The imperforated Museum sheet issue was discussed in the ASCAT congress in Köln last October. ASCAT accepted the explanation given by Mr. Uri Shalit, Chairman of the Israeli Stamp Dealers' association, that it is a postal philatelic item and its sale is not limited, and therefore it has a place in every official catalogue or album.

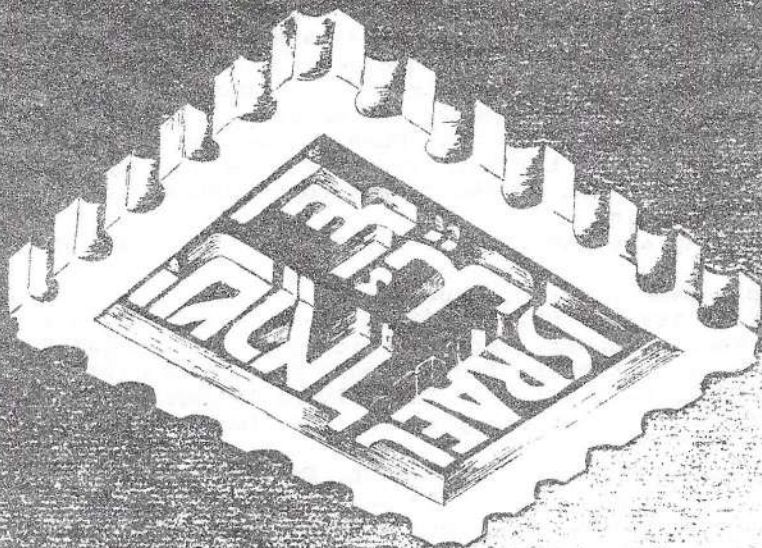


ועסקה מיוחדת
להנחת המסמך לתערוכת הדואר והפיליטליה
A SPECIAL ISSUE TO MARK THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE POSTAL AND PHILATELIC MUSEUM

שאנו בני העבר, פניה בזהו ובעת לשמו חתום
א. גייגר

DRAW FROM THE PAST, LIVE IN THE PRESENT
WORK FOR THE FUTURE!
A. GEIGER

Museum Folder (inside)



המוזיאון לתולדות הדואר והבולאות

הנפקתם של גלויות היכרן והקפיל המיוחד נועדה לסייע בהשגמת החקמה של המוזיאון, לתולדות הדואר והבולאות במסגרת מוזיאון ארץ-ישראל, תל-אביב. גלויות היכרן של המוזיאון לתולדות הדואר והבולאות מתפקדת כשהנורה מונבלתן ודיא ממוספרת ובלתי מנוקבת, ונתונה בקפיל מחדר. הגלויות, בעיצובו של האמן אליעזר ויסהוף, מסמלת את רעיון המוזיאון.

THE ISRAEL POSTAL AND PHILATELIC MUSEUM

This special commemorative folder has been issued, in a limited edition, to mark the establishment of the Israel Postal and Philatelic Museum at the Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv. Exquisitely designed by the artist, Eliezer Weishoff, this stylish folder holds a unique, imperforate, numbered souvenir sheet symbolizing the Museum's collection. All proceeds from the sale of the folder will be donated to the Museum.



מוזיאון ארץ-ישראל, תל-אביב
ERETZ ISRAEL MUSEUM, TEL AVIV

רשות הדואר
Israel Postal Authority
PHILATELIC SERVICE - מילוא

המחיר 48 ש"ח
PRICE NIS 48

Museum Folder (outside)

I. The Regular Olympics

Israel has participated in all the Olympics held since the 15th Olympic Games in Helsinki, Finland (1952), with the exception of the 22nd games in Moscow, 1980.

Israeli sport suffered a severe setback at the Munich Olympics in 1972, with the brutal massacre of 13 of its top sportsmen by the "Black September" Palestinian terrorist organization.

To date, no medal has been won by an Israeli athlete, but with the recent influx of Jews from Russia and the improvement in sports facilities throughout the country, hopes are high that Israel's first ever medal will be won at the 25th Olympic Games, to be held in 1992 in Barcelona, Spain.

The following are the Israeli issues for the Olympics:

17th Olympic Games, Tokyo, Japan, 1964.

A set of four stamps, SG 278-281/Sc 259-262, issued on 24.6.64

0.08 IL. Female runner. Tab: Olympic Rings and stopwatch.

0.12 IL. Discus thrower. Tab: Olympic Rings and discus.

0.30 IL. Basketball players. Tab: Olympic Rings and basketball.

0.50 IL. Football (soccer) players. Tab: Olympic Rings and football.

1968 Pre-Olympic Football Tournament, Tel Aviv, 1968.

One stamp, SG 387/Sc 361, issued on 11.3.68

0.80 IL. Football made of flags of participating nations.

Tab: Olympic Rings with a small football as sixth ring.

21st Olympic Games, Montreal, Canada, 1976.

Three stamps, SG 636-638/Sc 602-604, issued on 22.6.76.

1.60 IL. High jump.

2.40 IL. Swimming.

4.40 IL. Gymnastics.

The athletes on the stamps are shown as a series of strobe photographs. Tabs: the Olympic Rings.

23rd Olympic Games, Los Angeles, USA.

One stamp and one souvenir sheet, SG 931- MS932/Sc 883-884, issued on 3.7.84

80 IS (stamp) - Dove on winners' stand. Tab: Emblem of Israel Olympic Committee.

240 IS (souvenir sheet, price 350 IS). The sheet incorporates the stamp (with a 240 IS denomination and no tab), and below it is a partial image of the Olympic Rings, with the Israeli Olympic Committee emblem.

25th Olympic Games, Barcelona, Spain, 1992.

See "New Stamps of Israel", P. 10

NOTE: A number of Special Flight Covers exist and are recorded below:

16.11.1956	Lod Sede Te'ufa	16th Olympiad, Melbourne.
17.11.1956	"	"
25.8.1960	"	Lod - Rome, 17th Olympiad.
6.10.1964	Lod Nema! Teufa	Lod - Tokyo, 18th Olympiad.

12.3.1972 Lod Nema! Teufa

Lod - Rangoon, Israel Olympic
Football Team.

21.8.72 "

Lod - Munich, 20th Olympiad.

II. The Olympic Games for the Disabled.

The Olympic Games for the Disabled, for which Israel is known for outstanding achievements, are held every four years, usually shortly after the regular Olympics.

The International Games for the Paralysed, 1968.

One stamp, SG 404/Sc 377, issued on 6.11.68

0.40 IL Basketball players in wheelchairs.

Tab: Three Olympic Rings made of wheels with the motto "Friendship, Unity, Sportsmanship".

III. Olympic Philatelic Exhibitions.

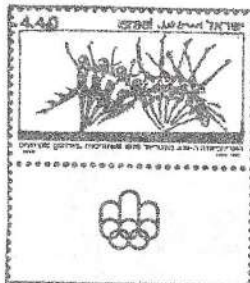
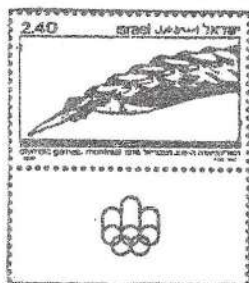
OLYMPHILEX '88, Seoul, Korea.

A postmark: "Israel's Philatelists Greet Olympilex '88",

Tel Aviv - Yafo 19.9.1988.



1964 Olympics, Tokyo



1976 Olympics, Montreal



1968 Pre-Olympic
Football tourn.



Disabled Olympics



1984 Olympics, Los Angeles



1972
Olympics
Flight
Cover
Lod -
Munich



Olympihlex '88

SPECIAL POSTMARKS September - November 1991

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

1. 16. 9.91 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): 50th Memorial Day of Babi Yar Martyrs [Slaughtering of Jews by the Nazis in Kiev, Ukraine].
2. 29. 9.91 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): 50th Anniversary - the Holocaust of Soviet Jewry.
3. 30. 9.91 ARIEL: "Bar Mitzva" Year of Ariel.
4. 24.9. - 1.10.91 HAIFA: HAIFA '91 Binational Stamp Exhibition
 - 4a. 24.9.91 Postal Authority Day.
 - 4b. 25.9.91 Maritime Day.
 - 4c. 26.9.91 Youth Day.
 - 4d. 27.9.91 Forest Day.
 - 4e. 28.9.91 Haifa Day.
 - 4f. 29.9.91 Transport & Road Safety Day.
 - 4g. 30.9.91 Israel - Polska Friendship Day.
 - 4h. 1.10.91 Aliya Day.
5. 25.9. 91 Reconstruction of Emergency Sea Mail 1948
 - 4a. HAIFA: Haifa - Nahariyya.
 - 4b. NAHARIYYA: Nahariyya - Haifa.
6. 29.10.91 PETAH TIQWA: Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies of Children's Hospital.
7. 30.10.91 YERUSHALAYIM (JERUSALEM): Direct Peace Negotiations between Israel and its Neighbours.
8. 25.11.91 TEL AVIV YAFO: Greetings for PHILA NIPPON '91 and FIP Congress.



1



2



3



4a



4b



4c



4d



4e



4f



4g



4h



5a



5b



6



7



8

TENTATIVE STAMPS PROGRAMME FOR 1992

As published by the Israeli Postal Service

February:

- * Women: Hanna Robina, Rivka Guber
- * The Palmah
- * Definitive non-denominated - anemone
- * The Sea of Galilee - Source of Water and life
- * The Samaritans

April:

- * Memorial Day - Frontier Guard
- * Rabbi Haim Yosef David Azulai (HYDA)
- * 500 years of Columbus' Journey
- * 500 years of the expulsion of Jews from Spain (souvenir sheet)

June:

- * Centenary of the inauguration of the Jaffa-Jerusalem Railway (stamps and s/s)
- * Rabbi Shalom Shara'abi
- * Rabbi Haim Ben Atar
- * Definitive stamp (authors)

September:

- * Festivals - Children's Drawings
- * Inauguration of the Supreme Court Building
- * Centenary of the National and University Library

December:

- * European Unity
- * Philately Day
- * 75 years of the Hebrew Film

NEW POSTAL RATES IN ISRAEL

As of November 25, 1991, in NIS

Inland letter/postcard: 0.75 Registration surcharge: 2.50
Airmail postcard and aerogramme worldwide: 0.85

In the table the numbers refer to letters/printed matter.
Zones: A-Europe; B-N.America, Africa, Asia; C-S.America, Pacific

	<u>to 20g.</u>	<u>50g.</u>	<u>100g.</u>	<u>250g.</u>	<u>500g.</u>
A	1.10/1.10	1.90/1.50	3.50/2.20	5.90/3.60	13.00/6.90
B	1.40/1.40	2.50/1.90	4.30/2.70	7.60/4.50	17.30/8.70
C	1.70/1.70	3.00/2.40	5.60/3.30	9.00/5.60	20.50/10.80

AYELET CHRISTMAS COVERS 1991

Each year the Israeli Post has special postmarks for Christmas on December 24 in Nazareth and Bethlehem. AYELET had produced a pair of special cacheted covers that would carry the 1991 Christmas postmarks.

Prices are per pair, including air-mail delivery:

US \$ 8.00 / £2.00 / A\$ 4.00 / DM 5.00 / 4 IRC's

Payment is by cash only, we cannot accept cheques or stamps!

Send your orders to: P.O. Box 3542, 31034 HAIFA, ISRAEL.

