הדפס נסיון של גלוית הדואר האיטלקי בירושלים (עם הדפס רכב "Gerusalemme
20 Para"). הדפס־הבול בתכן הוצאת 1901, בעוד שבגלויה שיצאה לאור היה
ה"בול" בתכן הוצאת 1906 (תכן Leoni)
An essay of a postcard with the 1901 imprinted stamp design of the
Italian Post in Jerusalem, with the overprint "Gerusalemme 20 Para".
The actually issued card was imprinted with the Leoni stamp design of 1906
(see article on p. 511)

HOLY LAND POSTAL HISTORY

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CONTENTS

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We are glad to publish the first list of Members who have joined our Life Members "Fraternity" and we heartily congratulate them.

1. *Mr. S. Sorani, Italy*
2. *Dr. Emil S. Dickstein, USA*
3. *Mr. Martin S. Davies, UK.*

Life Membership details were published in the previous Bulletin #49/50, p. 434.

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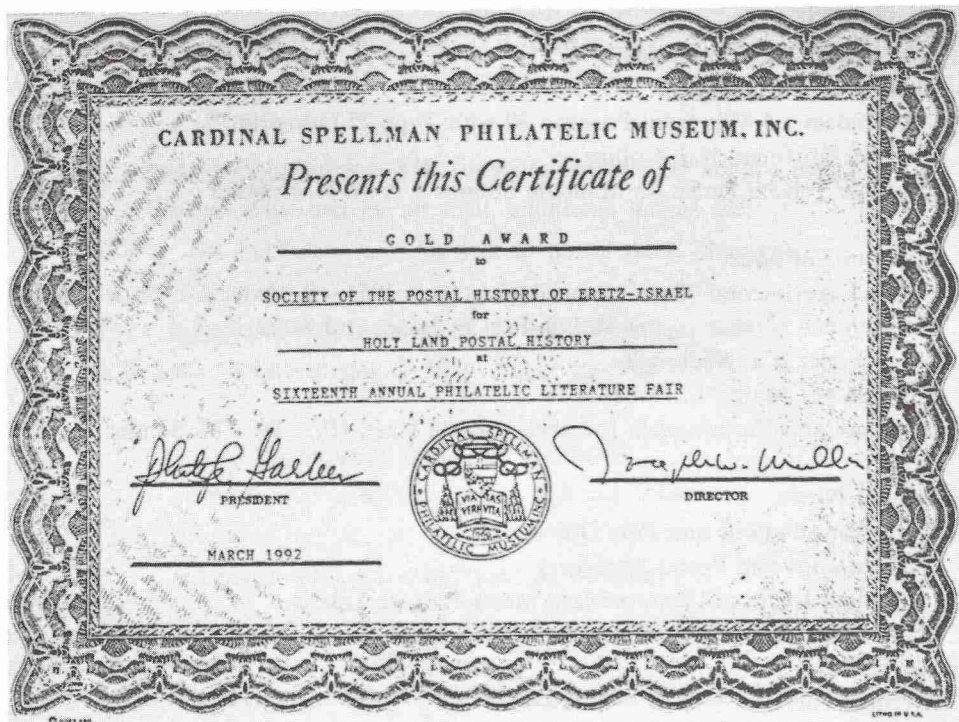
Some Rare Items of the Foreign Post Offices in Palestine

Norman J. Collins

Introduction

In this article I propose to illustrate some items which were discovered in 1991/1992, and items reported too late for inclusion in Volume 2 of "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840 – 1918"[1]. The postmarks on these items have been included in the tables, but it was not possible to illustrate the 'proving' covers as this would have meant the resetting of too much of the work. This article, therefore, is meant to remedy that fact. Also included is a rare Italian essay of a postcard, and an Italian cover with an Insured Mail label which only came to light after printing had begun.

References to Vol. 1 or Vol. 2 in this article refer to the above named reference work.
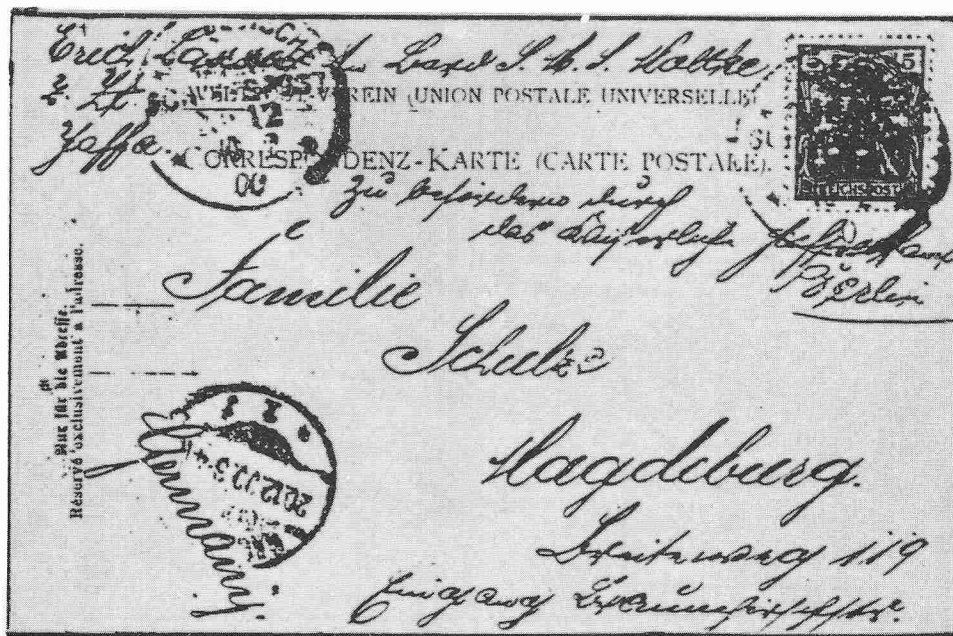
Fig. 1: Postcard from the SMS "Moltke" whilst in Jaffa harbour on the 10th December 1900. The card was cancelled by Naval postmark No. 12, dated the same day.

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1. German Naval Mail from the Holy Land

On page 24 of Vol. 1, Anton Steichele records the visit of SMS "Moltke" to Jaffa in December, 1900. The period of the visit was listed as between 2nd and 6th December. Recently I acquired Steichele's Naval mail items and discovered a card from the SMS "Moltke" written on the 10th, receiving the No. 12 Naval postmark of the same date (Fig. 1). From this it would seem the ship was in Jaffa again on that date. As this date was not recorded by Steichele, I can only assume that he acquired the item after he had completed his drafts. Readers should add 10th December 1900 to the dates the vessel was at anchor in Jaffa Harbour.

2. The Italian Post Office in Jerusalem

In Vol. 2, p. 207, I list a mute insurance label (no handstamped or printed name of the Jerusalem P.O.) and illustrate a cover (in Figure 205, p. 211) with this label, type PI, which was posted on the opening day of the P.O. – 1st June, 1908.

In mid-March, 1992, Colin Pilkington (the editor of Fil-Italia) sent me a proof of

Fig. 2: Insured letter to Venice, posted on 17th September 1908, franked by two 10 para/5c and one 40c and cancelled by type 401 postmark. The insurance label is the newly discovered type I – This is the only recorded example so far known.

the English version of an article entitled "The Italian Post Office in Jerusalem" by Mario Chesne Dauphine, which originally appeared in Italian in "Il Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storico Postale", No. 74. In this article an insured cover is shown, with the Jerusalem handstamp applied similar to Registration label type A. Also reported is the use of registration label similar to type A, but mute (no handstamp), but no confirming cover is shown. Here I show the rare insured cover with this new label (Fig. 2) which has been listed as Ins. Label I, the earlier label being listed as type PI (Provisional Insurance label).

In the book on the Foreign P.O.'s we did not list postal stationery, as it was beyond our scope. Figure 3 and the Front Cover illustration show a rare essay of the "Gerusalemme" overprint used on Italian issued postcards, but on a 10 cent card with the 1901-type head.

Figure 4 shows the issued type, with the 1906 "Leoni" head design.

Fig. 3: An essay of the 1910 imprinted stamp design postal card with "Gerusalemme" overprint and surcharge. Only the 1906 "Leoni" design card was issued in Jerusalem.

Fig. 4: The issued "Leoni" type postcard with the "Gerusalemme" overprint and surcharge. Only cards with this imprinted stamp were issued in Jerusalem.

3. Italian Forces in Palestine, World War I

In Vol. 2, pp. 230 to 235, the original research of Luciano Buzzetti is recorded on the subject[2], including the types of cachets used by the Italian Detachment in Palestine.

In February 1992, Buzzetti reported to Arie Ben David a new discovery. This discovery is a cover with a previously unrecorded cachet reading COMMANDO – BERSAGLIERI DEL DISTACCAMENTO... (ITALIANO DI PALESTINA?) (Fig. 5). The section in brackets is assumed to be what should follow, as this does not show. The centre has the coat-of-arms as in types A to M and Q to S.

The cover is cancelled by Indian F.P.O. No. 28 (over the Italian cachet), allocated to the Indian 20th Brigade, which was part of the composite force that took part in the third battle of Gaza on 27th October, 1917[3].
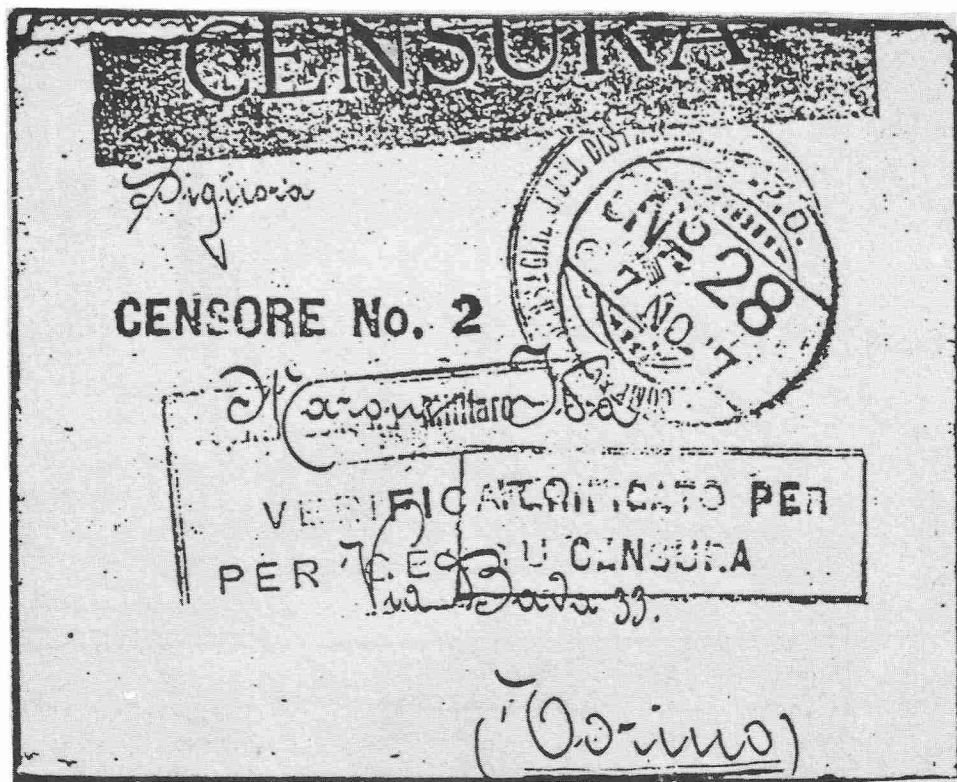
*Fig. 5: The newly discovered Italian detachment cachet, on a cover cancelled by
Indian F.P.O. No. 28 postmark dated 7th November, 1917.
(Courtesy L. Buzzetti).*

4. The Russian Post Office in Jaffa

Below are shown three items which could not be included in Vol. 2 , due
to their late discovery. These are the card and a cover with the only examples
known to me with postmark type 629A (Figs. 6, 7) and a registration receipt with
the unique type 633B postmark.

The postcard has the earliest recorded ROPiT double circle type postmark
as a receiver – 17 November, 1898. It was posted on 4th November, transit
Odessa 5th and Constantinople 8th November. The cover of Figure 7 has the
earliest recorded example as a dispatch mark. Only two examples of this postmark
have been recorded: this and the example in Figure 6.
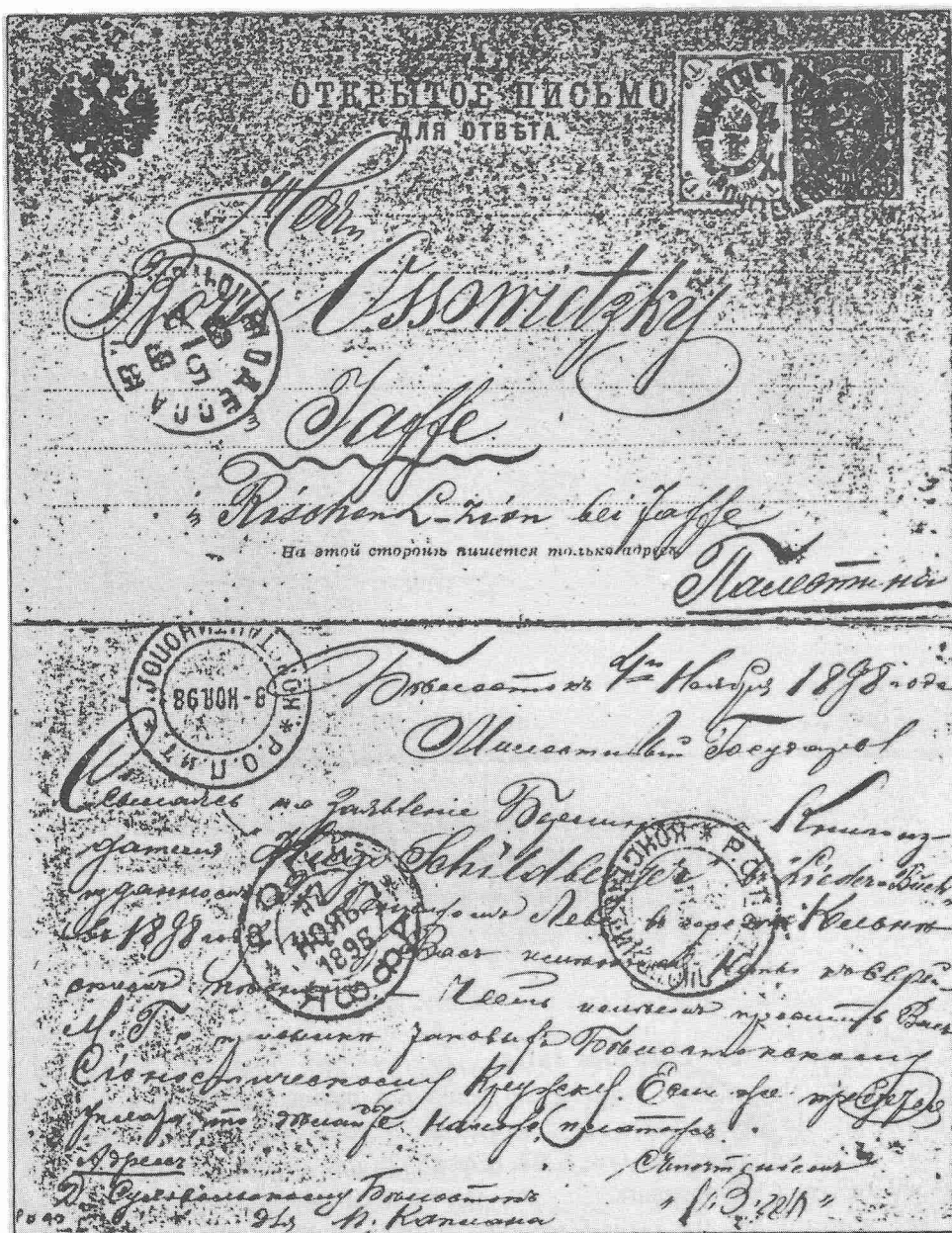
Fig. 6: The face and reverse of a postcard from Russia to Rishon Le Zion, with the
only known example of postmark type 629A as a receiving mark;
dated 17th November, 1898 (in blue).
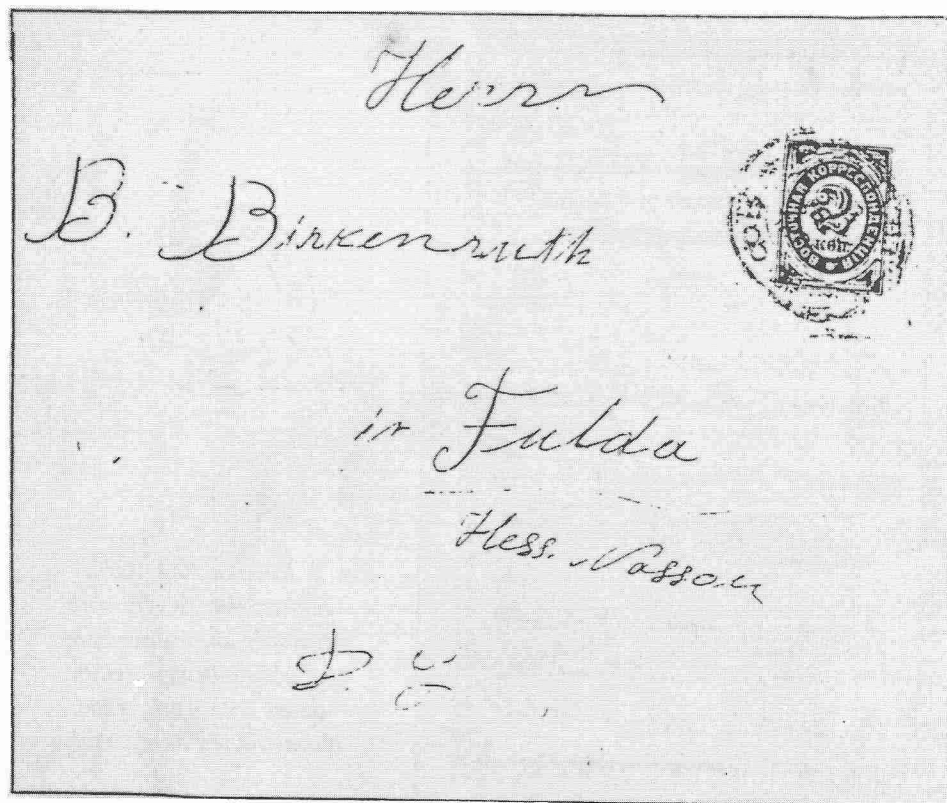
Fig. 7: Cover from Jaffa to Fulda in Prussia, with postmark type 629A dated 23rd December, 1898 (in blue), with transit marks for Constantinople 1st December, 1899 (error in month date), and Odessa of 7th January, 1899.

The registration receipt (Fig. 8) bears the unique type 633B postmark, which has Jaffa at the left and ROPiT at the right. As the violet postmark does not show well, a reconstruction is shown alongside (not actual size). The receipt also has a straight line JAFFA administration mark, which is the only example seen so far.

5. Jewish Colonies – Zichron Ya'acov

In his reference work on the Turkish Post Offices in Palestine, published by Arge Israel in 1980, the late Anton Steichele recorded no registered mail from Zamarin (=Zichron Ya'acov=Zicron Jacob). I was surprised to find, in a Lot purchased from Christie's – Robson Lowe Ltd., an all-Hebrew "registration receipt" cancelled by the Zamarin postmark, Steichele type 52/01, dated 8th September, 1913 (Fig. 9). This item therefore proves that registered mail should exist from Zichron Ya'acov. This is the first all-Hebrew "registration receipt" I have recorded. On p. 429/30 of

518

Fig. 8: Russian P.O. Jaffa
registration receipt with
the only known example
of postmark type 633B,
dated 26th April, 1906;
reconstructed on the right.

Vol. 2, we record three types of registration receipts printed in French/Hebrew for Rishon Le Zion; these are the only other types recorded so far.

The present registration receipt translates as follows:

"RECEIPT

Received from Mr. *A. Aronsohn* for despatch

Packet of printed matter recom. (=Registered – N.J.C)

To Mr. *Dr. S. Soskin*

In Town *Hamburg Germany*

And recorded on sheet *52* dated *8/9/1913*

Zichron Ya'akov, day *8* Month *September 1913* (actually Hebrew year date – N.J.C.)

Signed(?)"

Fig. 9: Receipt for a registered packet from Zichron Ya'acov to Hamburg, Germany, posted on 8th September, 1913 and postmarked "Zamarin (Caiffa)".

References

(1) A. Steichele, "The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840–1918". English Revised Edition by N. J. Collins & L. Dickstein; Vol. 1 published 1990, Vol. 2, 1992. Publisher: World Philatelic Congress of Israel, Holy Land and Judaica Societies.

(2) L. Buzzetti & S. Sorani, "Il Distaccamento Italiano di Palestina 1917–1921". Published by Silvano Sorani, 1976.

(3) J. Firebrace, "British Empire Campaigns and Occupations in the Near East, 1914–1924". Published by Christie's – Robson Lowe Ltd., 1991.

Onward Air Transmission Markings*
(Part I)

Murray Heifetz

Use of the Onward Air Transmission Markings

The use of OAT/AV2 markings derives from a procedure in the carriage of mail before World War II which allowed mail to be sent with a choice of multiple modes of transmission between countries. A UPU convention stipulated that standard forms be used by nations exchanging mail. One form, designated as A.V.2, listed the countries of onward destination, weight of each packet, number of articles, and any pertinent remarks. At each office of exchange, the mail bag to which this form was attached was opened, the mail sorted by forward destinations, and new forms made out. The purpose of the form was to identify revenue due from the issuing country to each postal administration for its share of the mail transmission.

If the bag had mail which was to be forwarded by air, the exchange office applied a marking, either to a facing slip attached to the bag, or to the top of a tied bundle of letters, or, in the cases of small units, to every letter in the unit. At London, the main exchange office in Britain, as well as in a few other places in the British Commonwealth, the marking applied was the letters O.A.T., indicating Onward Air Transmission (e.g. Fig. 10). In
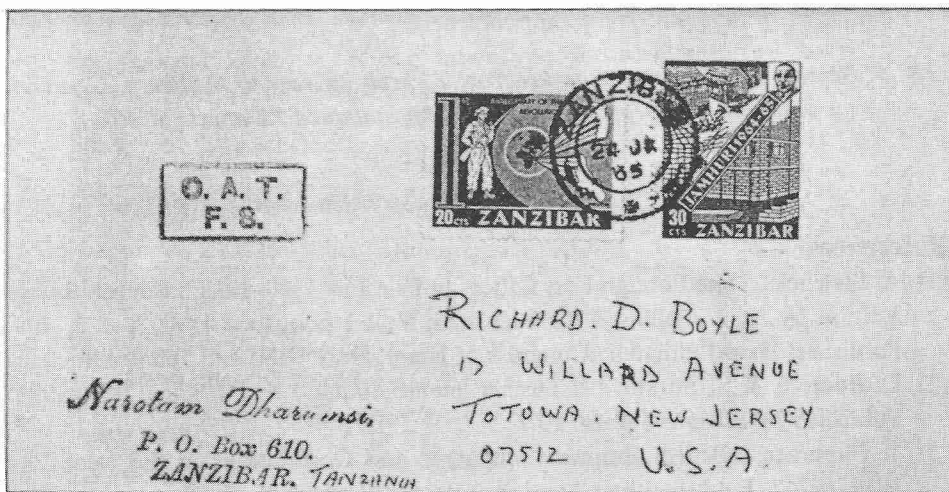

Figure 10

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* Reprinted from "The Airpost Journal" (Journal of the American Air Mail Society), December 1991.

other postal jurisdictions, the marking used was A.V.2, taken from the UPU form number.

Studies of the O.A.T. and A.V.2 Markings

The story of the A.V.2 form and the history and usage of the markings are quite detailed. The O.A.T. and A.V.2 markings on flown covers – used primarily during the years 1943–1946 – intrigued cover collectors. Several short articles appeared between 1948 and 1962 attempting to explain them, but the difficulty of obtaining information from postal administrations inhibited progress. The first major study and classification was made by Donald Smythe. It was published in the September 1962 issue of *The American Philatelist*. Since that time, while there has been increased interest, study and writing about the markings, there has not been a comprehensive update on their types and classifications.

The basis for this update is a survey of the current literature, auction catalogs, and the direct study of 350 plus O.A.T. covers and 150 plus A.V.2 covers. The total number of covers carrying one or the other of these markings is unknown. Smythe, in 1962, estimated 300 to 400. In 1979, Dickstein estimated 900. Several substantial collections are known, therefore I would estimate over 1,000 up to 1,500. This number makes it apparent that a study based on approximately 500 covers cannot be conclusive.

Two major collectors to whom reference should be made, and their contributions acknowiedged, are the late Dr. Leopold Dickstein and "Osprey". Dr. Dickstein published a series of articles in *The Israel Philatelist* in 1979 and 1980 with primary emphasis on markings to and from Palestine (e.g. Fig. 11), but with a

Figure 11

general introduction of newly reported early and late posting dates and new markings. "Osprey" was the pseudonym of a collector whose airmail holdings were auctioned by Phillips in 1983. There was a major group of OAT and A.V.2 covers, described as the largest known at the time. The section was introduced by a classification system, devised by "Osprey", which differed somewhat from Smythe. Many of the Smythe types were omitted, but a number of others, apparently unknown to Smythe, were introduced. Although conjecture on my part, I have reason to believe that "Osprey" was the noted British collector, A.C.W. Hunter.

I have adopted and modified the Smythe classifications, recognizing that it may not necessarily be the best or most logical possible. It is established and accepted and therefore best not reinvented.

The ultimate goal of this work is the development of a comprehensive monograph which might include early airmail direction markings, postal procedures, marking classification, countries of origin and destination, points of application, statistical information, and perhaps a method of valuation. Information in pursuit of this goal will be appreciated.

Marking Classification

Classification System: Smythe classification, modified.

Dimensions: The outside edges of the rubber stamp imprints, in millimeters. Dimensions will vary from those shown by up to two millimeters due to strength of impression and condition of rubber stamp.

Colors: Major colors are indicated. Colors may vary due to mixed inks of fading.

Onward Air Transmission
Forerunners of the O.A.T. Markings 1938–1941

A. Manuscript "OAT" notation.
B. Typewritten routing instructions by sender.
C. Rectangular framed instruction.
   Known to Australia and several other destinations.
D. Double circular "Air Transit" marking.
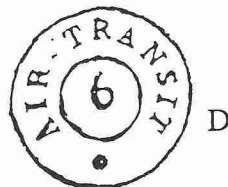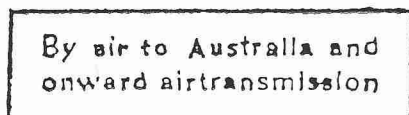   *Known from Hong Kong, October 1941.*
E. KNILM/Trans Tasman/PAA routing instructions.
   Various formats known, primarily originating from Netherlands Indies.
F. Printed flimsy attached to envelope.
   Known from Australia.

C
```
┌─────────────────────────────┐
│ By air to Australia and     │
│ onward airtransmission      │
└─────────────────────────────┘
```


D

O.A.T. Markings

Type I
Origin: London
Used: May 30, 1940–May 29, 1946
Design: Single line oval
          Square stops after letters (elongated after A)
Colors: Black, pale red, violet
Size: 50mm×32mm inclosing letters 42mm×11mm

Type II
Origin: London
Used: March 26, 1942–1945
Design: Single line oval
          Square stops after letters, increasing in size
          Vertical slash of right leg of A
Colors: Black, pale red, violet
Size: 52mm×33mm inclosing letters 41mm×11mm

I   II
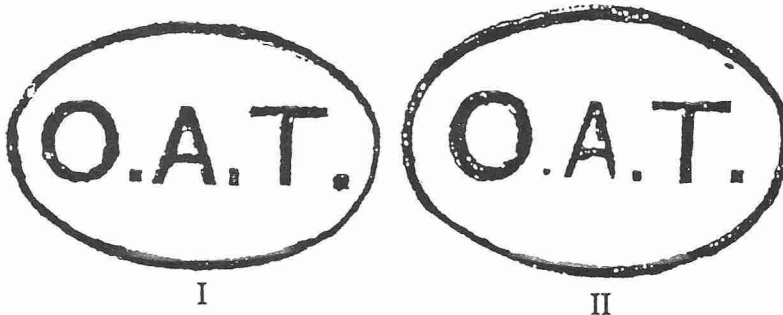
Tipe III
Origin: London
Used: September 27, 1944–January 5, 1945
Design: Single line oval
          Square stops after letters, increasing in size
          Vertical slash on right leg of A
          Crossbar of T thickens at right
Colors: Pale red, violet, black
Size: 55mm×35mm inclosing letters 43mm×12mm

Type IIIA
Origin: London
Used: March 7, 1944–June 1945
Design: Similar characteristics to Type III
Size: 62mm×40mm inclosing letters 49mm×14mm

524

III   IIIa
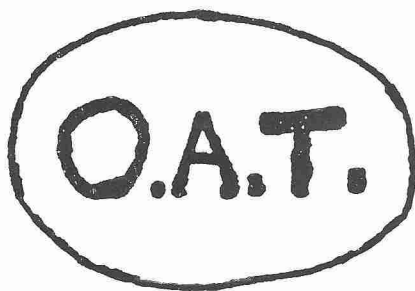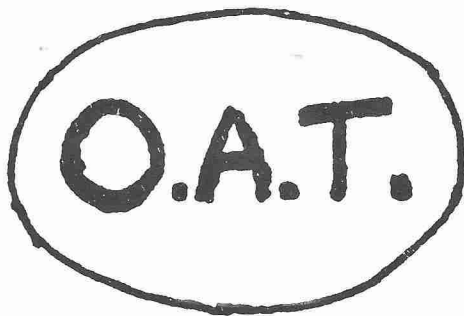
Type IV
Origin: London
Used: April 5, 1944–May 1946
Design: Single line oval
          Square stops after letters, increasing in size
          Small vertical slash on right leg of A
Colors: Red, violet, black
Size: 65mm×42mm inclosing letters 51mm×14mm
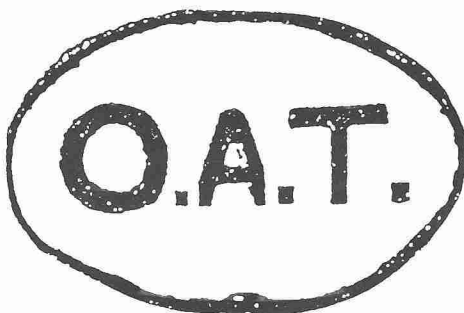
IV

Type V
Origin: London
Used: May 7, 1945–September 24, 1945
Design: Single line oval
           Square stops after letters
           Small vertical slash on right leg of A
           Smeared impressions of portions of base between letters and frame line
Colors: Light red
Size: 65mm×45mm inclosing letters 55mm×15mm
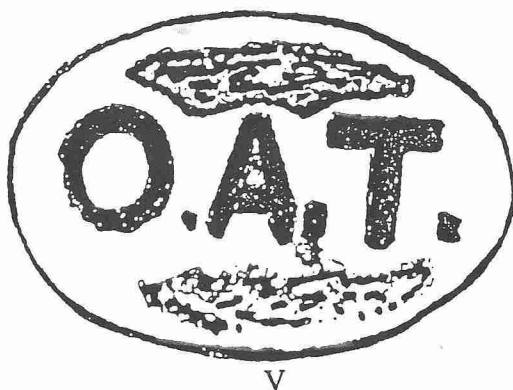
V

Type VI

Origin: London

Used: May 2, 1945–October 1945

Design: Broken rough (mutilated?) rectangular frame

Colors: Light red

Size: 56mm×36mm inclosing letters 50mm×16mm

VI

Type VII

Origin: London

Used: July 12, 1945–March 1946

Design: Rectangular frame (straight lines, wavy lines or lines with breaks)
Round stop after O
Square stops after A and T

Colors: Light red

Size: 32mm×17mm inclosing letters 27mm×7mm

Type VIII

Origin: London
Used: October 1945–January 1946
Design: Likely distortion of Type V
Vertical extension of square stop after T
Colors: Pale red
Size: 33mm×18mm inclosing letters 28mm×9mm

Type IX

Origin: London
Used: October 1945–November 22, 1946
Design: Rectangular frame
Round stop after O
Square stops after A and T
Colors: Pale red
Size: 37mm×20mm inclosing letters 31mm×8mm

Type X

Origin: London
Used: October 1945–1946
Design: Likely distortion of Type IX
Vertical extension of square stop after T
Usually a break in the top frame line
Colors: Pale red
Size: 36mm×21mm inclosing letters 31mm×9mm

Type XI

Origin: London
Used: March 1945–November 21, 1946
Design: Rectangular frame
Narrow rectangular stops after letters
Colors: Pale red, black
Size: 32mm×19mm inclosing letters 26mm×10mm

Type XII

Origin: London
Used: April 1946–May 1946
Design: Rectangular frame
Rectangular stops after letters
Colors: Pale red, black
Size: 38mm×22mm inclosing letters 31mm×12mm

VII   VIII   IX

X   XI   XII
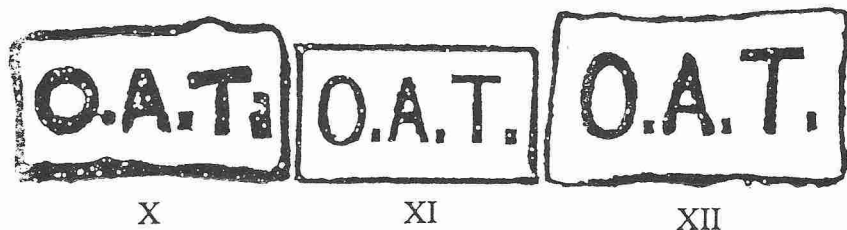
Type XIII

Origin: Prestwick
Used: November 10, 1941–February 26, 1946
Design: Unframed letters
     Diamond shaped stops after letters
Colors: Light violet, red
Size: 37mm×10mm

Type XIV

Origin: London
Used: August 1948–January 20, 1957
Design: Single line oval
     Two lines of letters: OAT and FS
     Small rectangular stops after letters
Colors: Violet
Size: 29mm×16mm inclosing letters 18mm×10mm

Type XV

Origin: Tangier
Used: August 1948–September 1946
Design: Unframed letters
     Square stops after O and A, no stop after T
Colors: Violet
Size: 37mm×9mm

O.A.T. — XIII

O.A.T. F.S. — XIV

O.A.T — XV

O.A.T. — XVI

OAT — XVII

O.A.T. F. S. — XVIII

O.A.T. FS — XIX
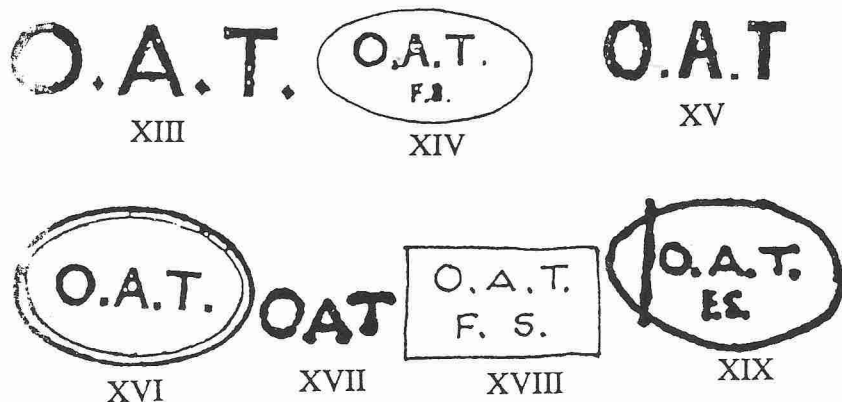
Type XVI

Origin: Tangier

Used: August 2, 1944–March 30, 1956

Design: Double line oval

Square stops after letters

Colors: Violet

Size: 32mm×20.5mm inclosing letters 21mm×5mm

Type XVII

Origin: Hong Kong

Used: September 29, 1941

Design: Unframed letters

No stops after letters

Colors: Unknown (Photocopy only seen)

Size: 18mm×7mm

Type XVIII

Origin: London

Used: September 14, 1951–December 13, 1965

Design: Rectangular frame

Two lines of letters: OAT and FS

Small rectangular stops after letters

Colors: Violet

Size: 26mm×14mm inclosing letters 18mm×10mm

Type XIX

Origin: Amman, Jordan

Used: January 2, 1962

Design: Single line oval
          Two lines of letters: OAT and FS
          Square stops after letters
          Vertical line intersecting left part of oval
Colors: Violet
Size: 32mm×20mm inclosing letters 20mm×11.5mm

(To be continued)

From China to Rehovot, 1940–1948

Ehud Jungwirth, Rehovot

Some time ago I obtained the correspondence between a resident of Rehovot and his family. The first had left Germany for Palestine in early 1939, while the rest of his family went to China, where his mother and various other relatives settled in the International Zone of Shanghai, and an uncle – a physician – and his wife made their way to Peking. Unfortunately, although there were lots of envelopes and postcards, all of the stamps and most of the postmarks had been removed many years ago. Nevertheless, the remaining parts of the envelopes are of great interest both philatelically, and from a human point of view. This article will deal only with the first aspect of this correspondence and show some items which arouse certain questions, and others which contribute to our understanding of the postal links to Israel during the turbulent times of May/June 1948.

a. The Period 1940–1942

Mail during this period was mainly sent by sea, a letter (plain or registered) taking about two months. Figure 12 shows the reverse side of a registered
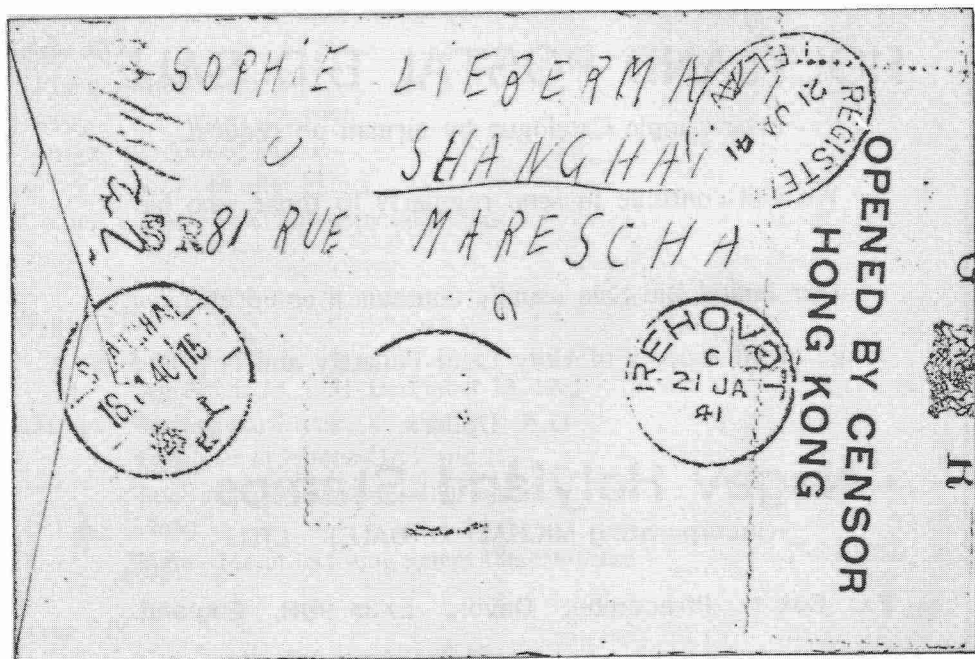

Figure 12

letter dated Shanghai 18.11.40 which arrived in Tel Aviv on 21.1.41 having been censored in Hongkong. Others were censored in Singapore. It would appear that mail-despatch during this period was erratic, as shown by remarks in letters, e.g. "today mail leaves for Palestine... the newspapers always announce this" or "today I read that mail to Palestine will leave again by ship via Colombo (then the capital of Ceylon, today known as Sri Lanka – E.J.) Australia, Africa and Egypt.

This period marks the entry of Italy into WW II (in September 1940). Figure 13 shows the reverse of a letter from Peking (the letter itself is dated
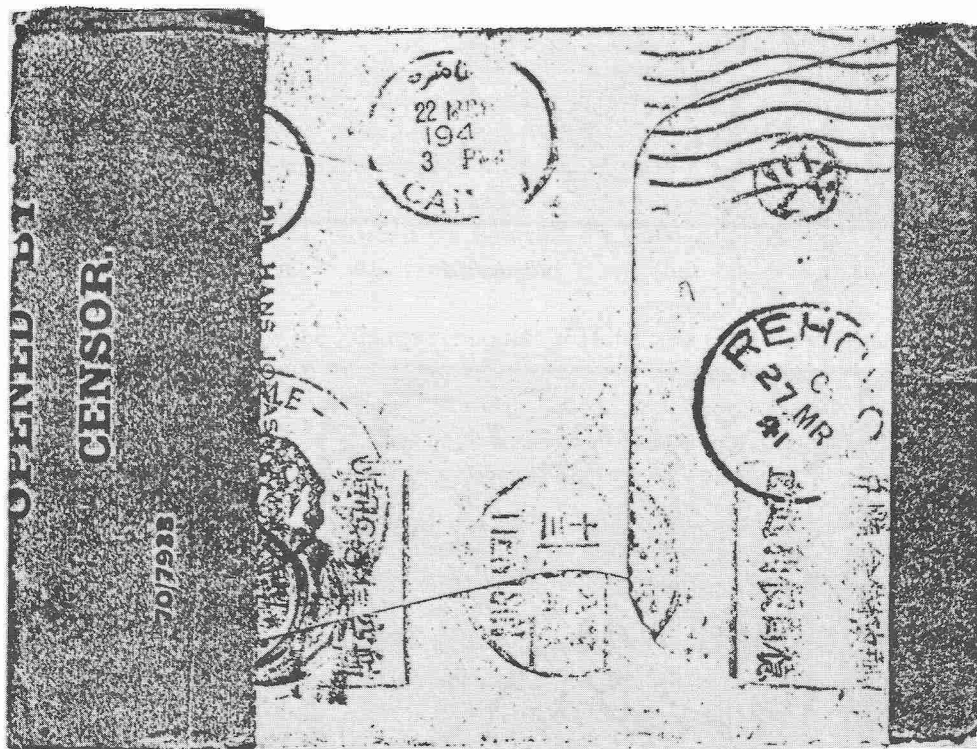
Figure 13

1.8.40, but the stamp and despatch postmark were removed). It was routed via Italy, arriving there after that country had joined Germany as the second Axis Power. It was censored there, marked (in French) "Service suspended / return to sender" and was returned to China (Tientsin postmark, dated in Chinese only). Then it was reposted via Egypt (Cairo postmark of 22.3.41 and censorship) and reached Rehovot on 27.3.41, after an eight months' journey! It also was censored in Palestine (label). Figure 14 shows the same cover with the actual letter, showing the date of writing and with the Palestine censorship label peeled back to expose the Italian censorship label stating "verificato per censura" and their cachet.

Figure 14

Figure 15

Figure 15 is the front of this cover showing the reposting date (in Chinese only) of Shanghai, the "return to sender" cachet in French and another cachet of the Egyptian censorship department. It also shows a rubber stamp in English (applied in Palestine?) requesting that the sender be asked to state the language in which the letter is written and his/her full address – all that in spite of the fact that the language (German) is clearly stated. All in all, a remarkable cover.

The next cover, shown in Figure 16 (back and front) is something of a mystery. This cover did not contain the actual letter, hence the despatch date cannot be ascertained, but since it arrived in Rehovot in January 1941 it must have been sent sometime in 1940. This letter was routed – one wonders why – via Germany, was opened and censored by the Oberkommando der Wehrmacht (both labels and (red) censorship cachets), and – why and how? – **forwarded to Palestine** where it was duly censored and delivered. A curious case of German correctness in times of war!

Only a very few letters during this period had been sent by airmail. One I could find was marked: K.L.M. Airmail via Batavia* – Lydda. Another was via K.L.M. from Singapore, where it was censored and taxed (but tax was not collected in Palestine).

This period also saw the Japanese conquest of Hongkong (25.12.1941) and then of Singapore (15.2.1942) so that it was no longer possible to write to Palestine via this route nor via the now occupied Dutch East Indies. Figure 17 shows the front of a postcard from Peking dated 7.11.1931 (sic) – the actual message is dated 6.11.1942 – clearly marked: Via Siberia–Turkey–Ankara.

b. The Period 1943–1948

During this period it appears that only Red Cross messages were passed to and from Shanghai, of which I found only one. This was a very drawn-out affair as can be seen from these dates: Despatch Rehovot, 3.7.1943; transit Geneve, 29.7.1943; no date of arrival in Shanghai (violet cachet of Red Cross, Shanghai, only); no date of redespatch; transit Geneve, 19.5.1944 and finally Jerusalem / Postage paid, 13.8.1944 – more than a whole year!

c. The Period after World War II

Regular airmail services were resumed after the end of the war. The latest of such covers in this correspondence to arrive in Palestine bears the Lydda Airport (registered) postmark of 9.4.1948 and that of Rehovot of 11.4.1948. Two weeks afterwards the British authorities and their counterparts abroad suspended all official postal services to Palestine. Very much has been written in this and other publications about the various unofficial postal services

----

* Then the capital of the Dutch East Indies – now Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia.

SOPHIE LIEBERMANN
513 BUBBLING WELL ROAD
SHANGHAI

KARL FLIESS
513 Bubbling Well Road,
SHANGHAI

70/8433

CENSOR.

...TTEN in GERMAN LANGUAGE

HERRN
HANS LIEBERMANN
REHOVOTH
POSTE RESTANTE
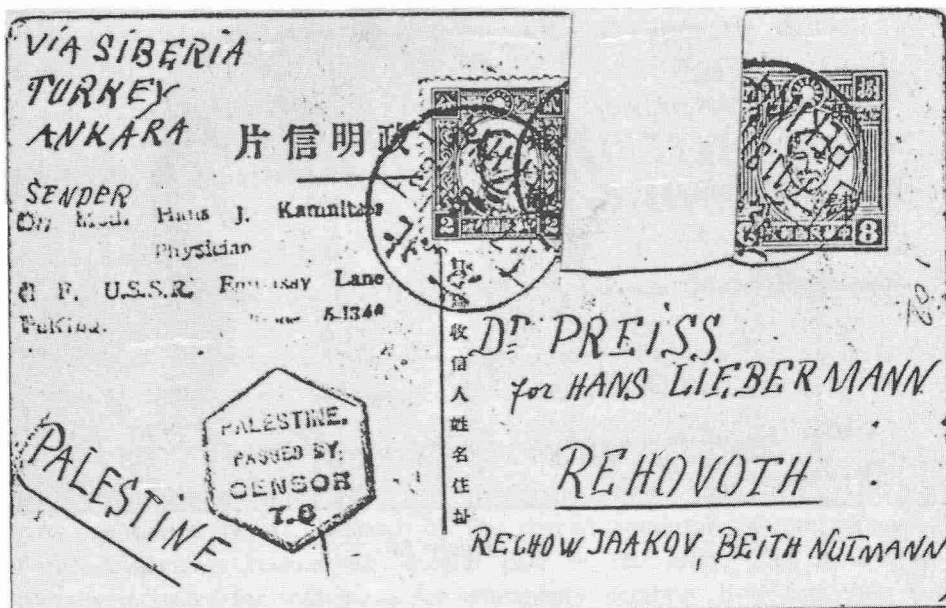
Ⓐ

OPENED BY

PC 22.

Figure 16

Figure 17

from and to Palestine and the U.S.A. and Europe. The correspondence under review here provides us with another such unofficial link.

Figure 18 shows the top of a letter dated 14.5.1948 sent to Rehovot **via the H.I.A.S.** (Hebrew Immigrants Aid Association, based in the U.S.A.), bearing the (undated) HIAS cachet: "Far Eastern Jewish Inform. Bureau "HIAS", P.O.Box 1425, Shanghai", and the arrival cachet (in Hebrew and English): "HIAS Eretz-Israel / HIAS – Palestine", dated 15.6.1948. It should be pointed out that such letters were apparently sent in bulk, i.e. without envelopes, as the typewritten "From/To" at the top and the applied cachets indicate. I presume that the accumulated letters were then sent by P.E.D.I., but there was nothing in this correspondence to prove this point. Readers are requested to supply additional data, if available.

The second HIAS letter in this correspondence (Fig. 19) is undated by the sender but bears the HIAS arrival cachet of 21.6.1948, so it should have been sent one week after the first, i.e. about 21.5. The first sentence of this letter reads: "Your little letter postmarked 1st May just arrived via Cyprus"!! Unfortunately, the correspondence under review does not contain material to Shanghai, to show the route of this letter.

Reading this correspondence, even sans stamps, has again shown to me just how much history, and not just postal history, can be learnt by a careful survey of such material, together with a little detective-work!
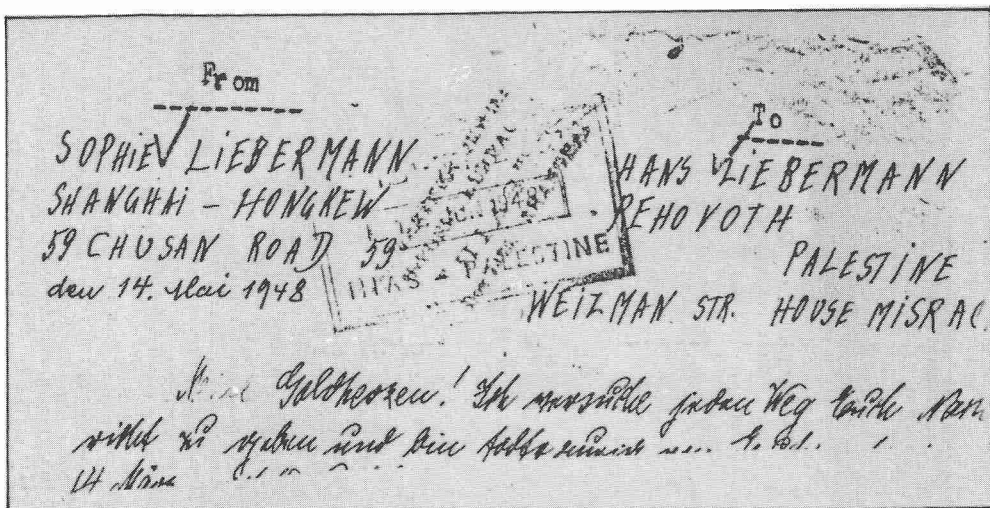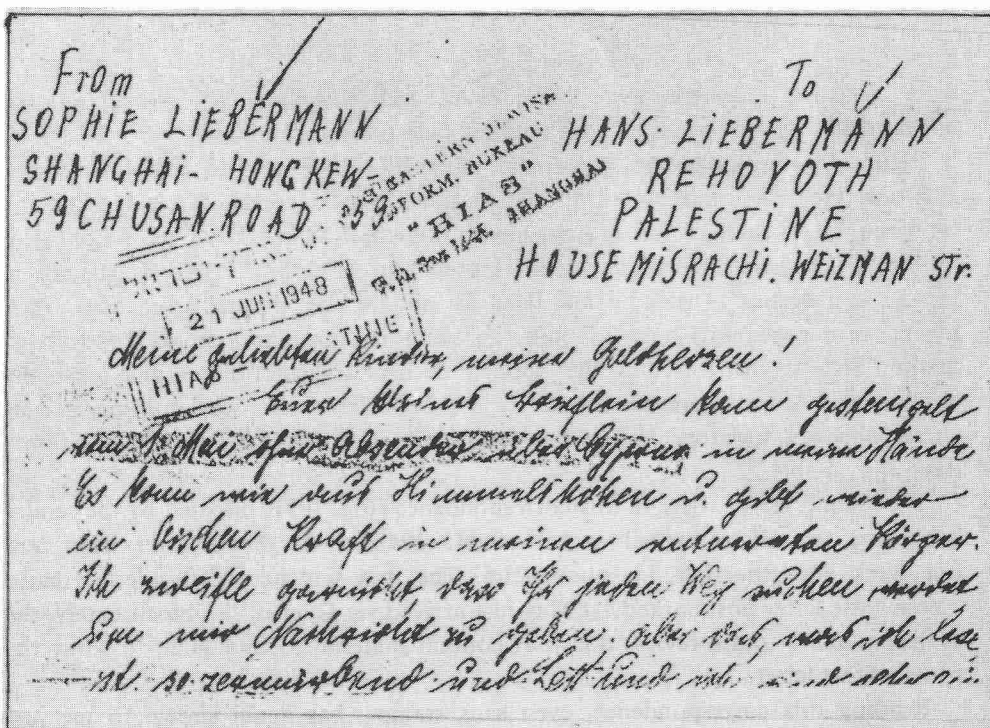
536

Figure 18

Figure 19

The Postal Services to the Negev Settlements during the Mandate Period and the Army Postal Services to the Negev during the War of Independence
(Part III)

A. Zakai, Beer Sheva

28 June – end of August 1948

On 28 June, 1948 Army Post Office (APO) No. 10 was opened at Ruhama, next to the Negev Brigade Headquarters.

The Negev, for the postal services, was now divided into two main areas, similar to the military zones (see Fig. 18 in Part II of this article*). The Northern area of the 2nd Battalion received KBA No. 219, and the Southern area, that of the 8th Battalion, got KBA 225. The Negev Brigade received KBA 279, the 7th Battalion, KBA 224 and the 9th Battalion, KBA 280.

As mentioned before, because of the special condition of the Negev, all of the settlements became an integral part of the army. The same postal orders were issued for soldiers as for settlements members. Both sent their mail free of charge through the army post office in Ruhama.

As the army units and the settlements were dispersed in a very big area, subnumbers were issued to them. In the 2nd Battalion's area the subnumbers were 219/1 to 219/27 and were given at random to army units and to settlements. These for the settlements were**:

219/7 Nir Am
219/10 Brur Chayil
219/11 Dorot
219/12 Saad
219/13 Beerot Yizhak
219/15 Kfar Darom
219/16 Gevim
219/17 Beeri
219/18 Tekuma
219/22 Gvar Am
219/23 Ruhama
219/24 Mishmar HaNegev
219/25 Shuval
219/26 Chatzerim

13 subnumbers were given to army units in this area; these will be detailed in Part IV of this article.

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*   Continued from HLPH #48, pp. 380–390.
**   See also Table 1, Column B, in the end of the article.

In the 8th Battalion area the subnumbers were 225/1 to 225/25, but here they were given in numerical order – the first 12, 225/1 – 225/12, to army units and the rest, 225/13 – 225/25, to the settlements**:

225/13 Beit Eshel
225/14 Nevatim
225/15 Nirim
225/16 Gvulot
225/17 Zeelim
225/18 Chalutza
225/19 Urim
225/20 Revivim
225/21 Mivtachim
225/22 Ramat HaNegev
225/23 Imara Police St.
225/24 Asluj Police St.
225/25 Asluj

In the original article on the army postal services by Kanner & Spiegel[1], a big mistake occured. The authors did not realise that part of the subnumbers were given to army units and they ascribed all of them to the settlements. This mistake probably arises from the fact that part of the army units were stationed near to the settlements; for instance, the 2nd Platoon of Company "A" of the 8th Battalion was called also "Gvulot Platoon", but it was allocated KBA No. 225/4, while the settlement Gvulot received No. 225/16.

The opening of the army post office in Ruhama helped organize the postal services inside the Negev, but did not help to bring more mail from the Israeli central region. Only mail brought by light airplanes which landed at the Dorot airfield could be handled.

Occasionally, convoys were organized to cross the Egyptian lines with the help of the U.N. units, but without success. Only on 31 July a large convoy crossed the lines. In this convoy many parcels were sent to soldiers and members of the settlements, which were despatched much earlier and we can find despatch dates even from April. Figure 20 shows a parcel card sent from Rishon LeZion (Mandate double circle postmark) on 30 June, with transit cancel of Tel Aviv, 5.7.48. It has an arrival postmark of APO 10 (Ruhama) of 1 August, and was delivered by a unit postal messenger on the next day. All of the parcel cards from this first consignment have arrival postmarks of 1 August and most of them were despatched from APO 10 to the units and settlements on the next day. For some reason the day slug "2" was not inserted in the circular datestamp, so that all these datestamps have handwritten dates.

** See also Table 1, Column B, in the end of the article.

Fig. 20: A parcel card from Rishon LeZion, 30.6.48, received in Ruhama APO 10 with the first convoy which reached the Negev. It has the arrival postmark of 1.8.48 and was delivered by a unit messenger on the 2nd. Note that the "2" in the second postmark is handwritten.

The letters written by settlements members were first delivered to one of the Battalion Post Offices (KBA 219, 225, 224 or 280), where they received the triangular KBA mark, then being transferred to APO 10 at Ruhama from which they were sent by airplanes to the north.

Figure 21 shows a letter sent by a member of Kvutzat Nir Am, as seen from the address 219/7, with postmark APO 10, dated 15.7.48, and triangular violet KBA 219 (HQ of the 2nd Battalion). On the left there is the Hebrew inscription "passed examination" (censored).

Figure 22 shows a letter sent by a member of kibbutz Dorot (KBA 219/11), sent through unit KBA 224 of the 7th Battalion, since this unit was stationed close to the settlement.

Figure 23 shows a unique letter, sent by a member of kibbutz Beerot Yizhak (KBA 219/13), through KBA 219 of the 2nd Battalion to P.O.B. 342, which was the post office box of Beerot Yizhak in Tel Aviv. This letter was sent by a member staying in his settlement in the Negev to his evacuated family living somewhere in central Israel (as mentioned before). Beerot Yizhak's families settled in the ex-German village Wilhelma as their new provisional home.

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Fig. 21: Letter sent by a member of kvutzat Nir Am (KBA 219/7) through the 2nd Battalion postal unit, (hence the triangular "KBA 219") and then via APO 10 at Ruhama to Tel Aviv.

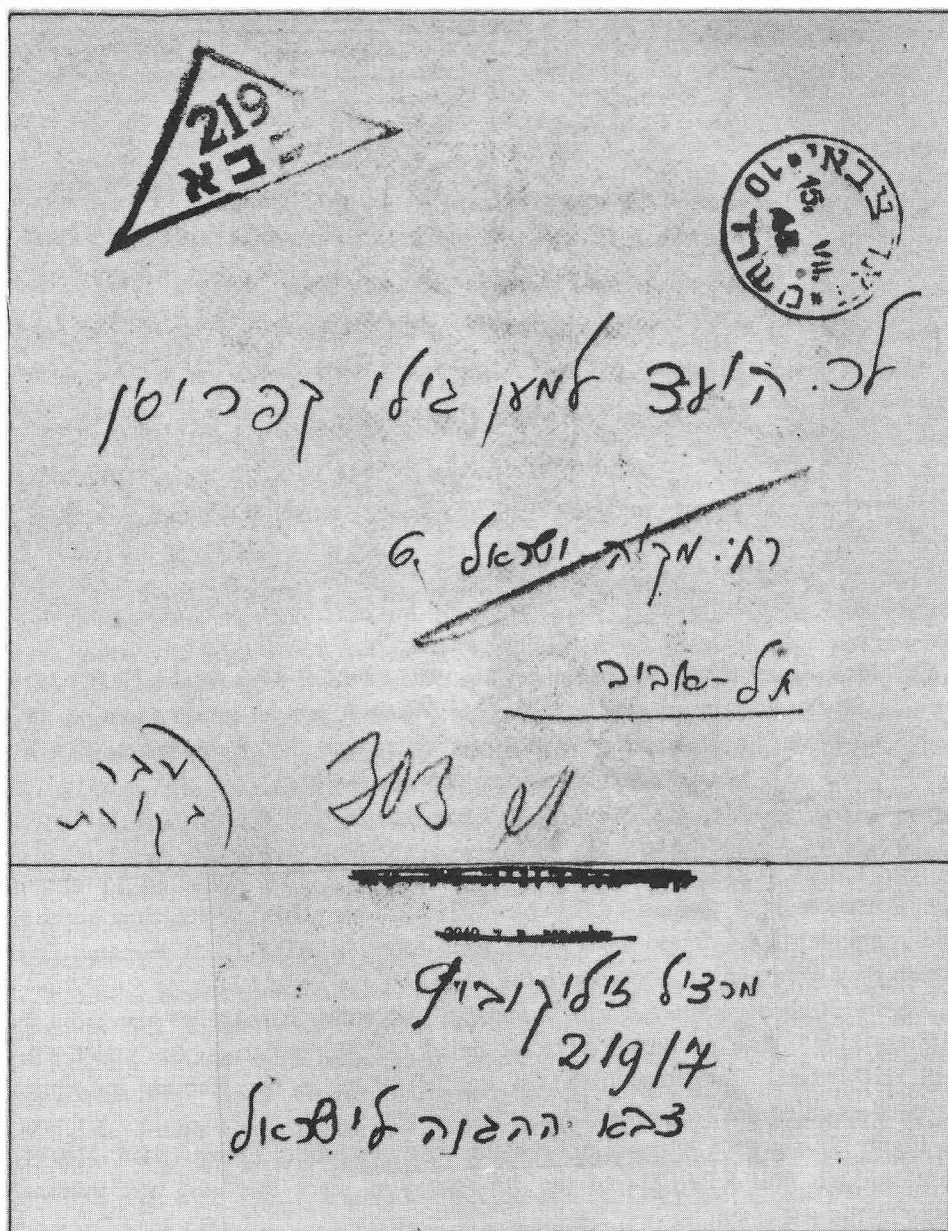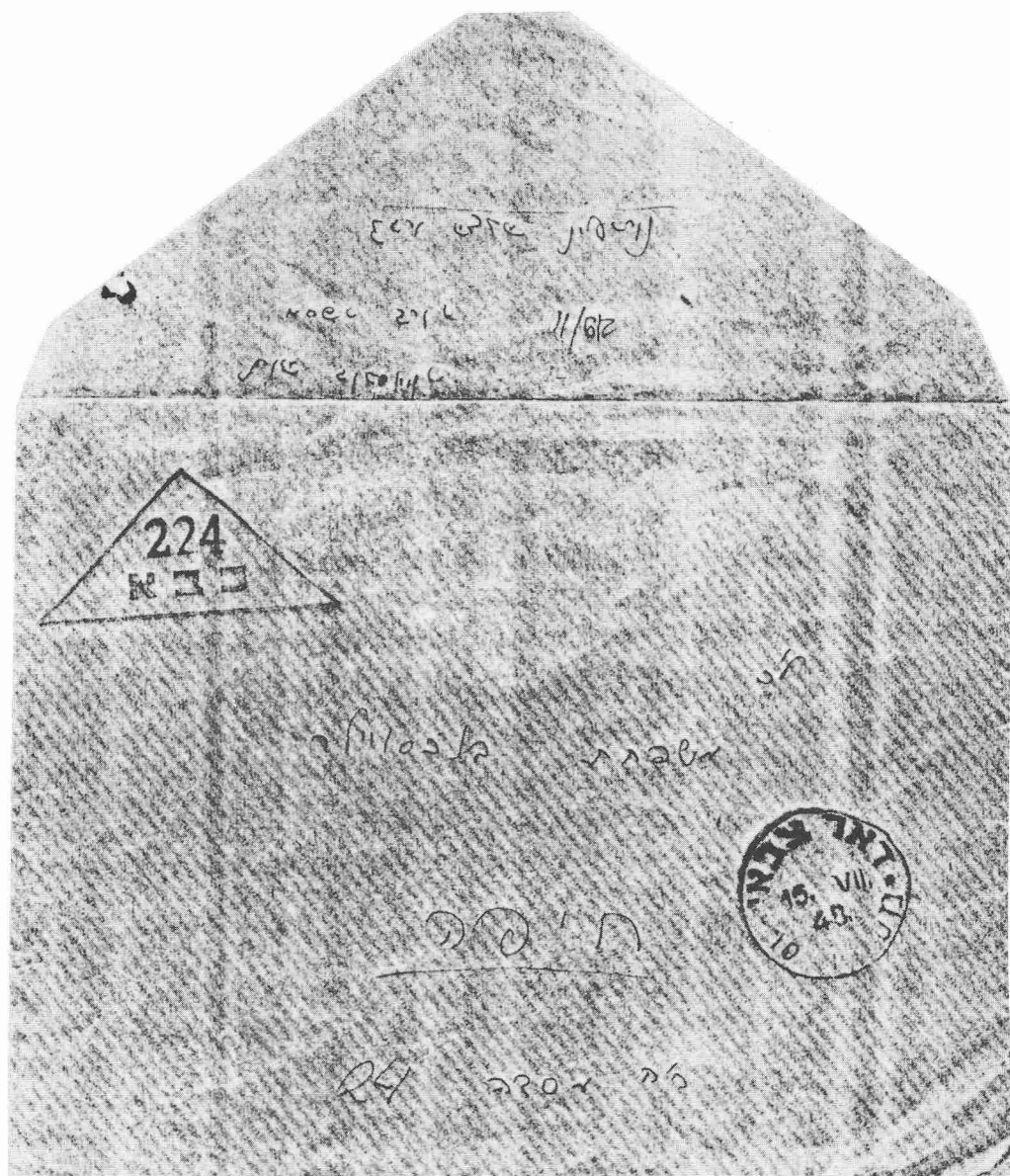*Fig. 22: Letter sent by a member of kibbutz Dorot (KBA 219/11) through the 7th Battalion postal unit (hence the triangular "KBA 224") and then through Ruhama APO 10 to Haifa.*

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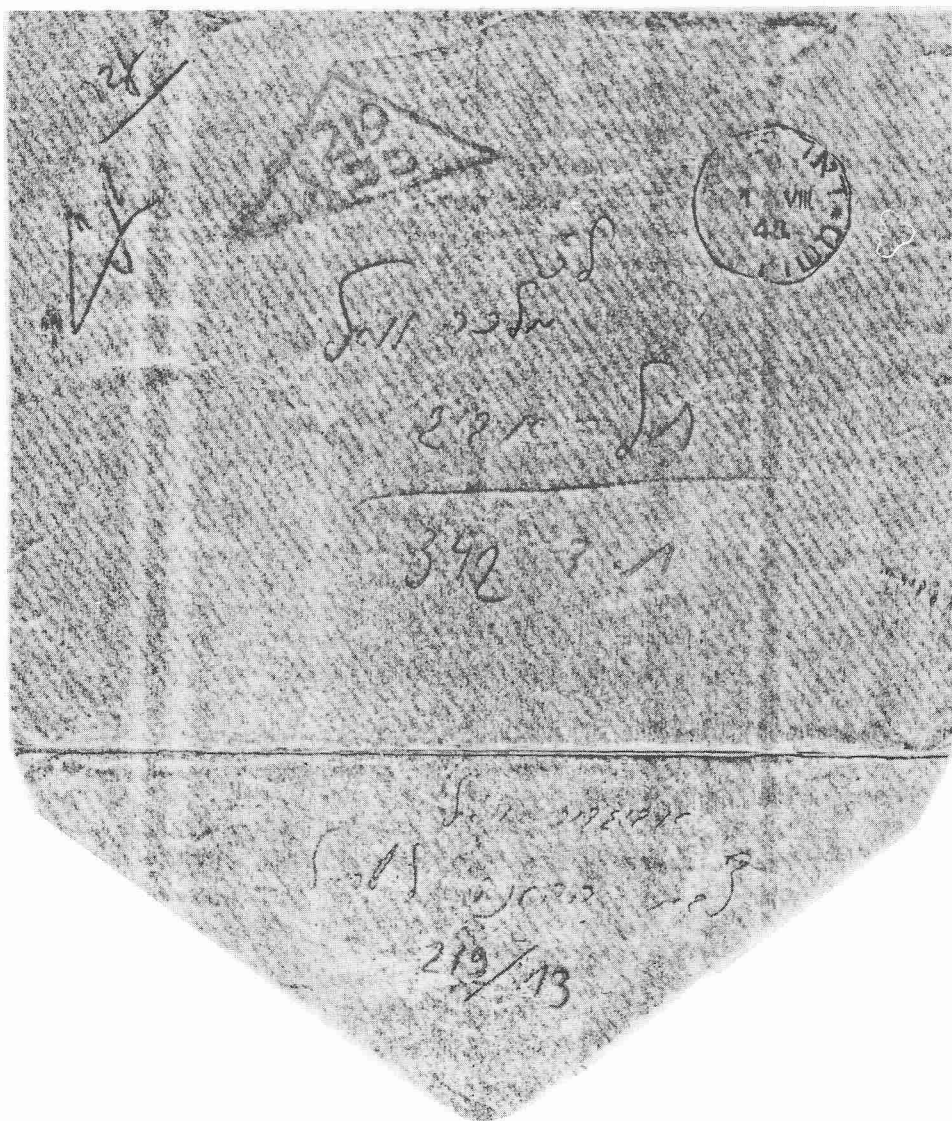
Fig. 23: A letter from Beerot Yizhak in the Negev (KBA 219/13) through the 2nd Battalion postal unit ("KBA 219") to Tel Aviv P.O.B. 342, the post office box of Beerot Yizhak there.

Figure 24 shows a letter sent by the committee of the group of the Negev settlements in Ruhama to the commander of the army post. The envelope was reused many times for economy reasons.

Figure 25 shows a letter sent from a settlement in the Negev to a member in kibbutz Mishmar HaNegev. It is franked by a 10 mil Doar Ivri stamp (rouletted), cancelled "APO 10, 13.08.48" and arrival postmark of 14.8.48. The sender obviously did not know that he could send letters without stamps.

Fig. 24: Letter sent by the committee of the Negev settlements to the manager of the army post. The envelope was later reused, according to the prevailing practice.

Fig 25: A letter with a stamp, sent locally inside the Negev. The sender probably did not know that settlement members in the Negev were exempt of postage.

As the situation in the Negev worsened, Ben Gurion gave orders to pay more attention to the situation there. As a result, airfields were built near Revivim, Urim and Nevatim. The supply of food and ammunition became easier soon afterwards.

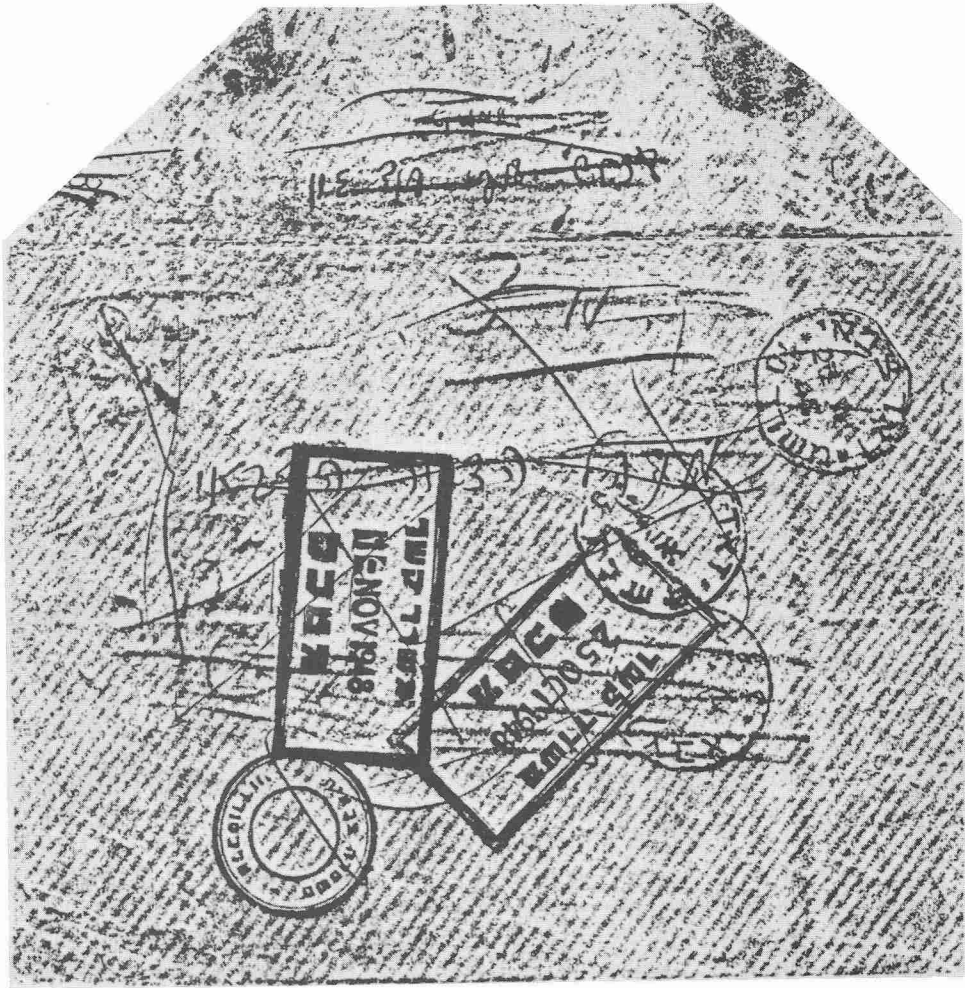But the major breakthrough was the opening of the large airfield next to Ruhama, when on the night between 22 and 23 August operation "AVAK" started. Thousands of tons of supplies were transported at night, flown over the Egyptian lines. It changed the whole situation.

At the same time, the Negev Palmach Brigade, which participated in all of the fighting in the Negev from the very beginning in December 1947, was sent to recover in the north and was replaced by the Yiftach Palmach Brigade. The change was carried out, as the soldiers of the Yiftach Brigade crossed the Egyptian lines at night from north to south and the Negev Brigade soldiers were sent northwards in the empty returning aircraft.

The opening of the Ruhama airfield caused the normalisation of the whole postal services in the Negev area.

Figure 26 is a "Road Certificate" which shows that a mail consignment was sent with "ATA" (Agaf Tovalah Avirit = Air Transport Division) from Ruhama (APO No. 10) to APO "Base A", Tel Aviv, through APO 9 – Eqron airport. The consignment was despatched at 20.00 and received in Eqron at 22.30.

The "APO 10" circular datestamp was damaged after a short time; it is known as Negev datestamp Type I. As stated by Kanner & Spiegel in their BAPIP articles, the new instrument (datestamp) was put into use between the dates 27th–30th August. Here we have evidence, that the new datestamp came into use

Fig. 26: Road Certificate, after the opening of the Ruhama airfield, which shows that a mail consignment was sent from Ruhama APO by "ATA" on 27.9.48, received at Eqron airfield (APO 9) and delivered to APO "Base A", Tel Aviv.

on 29 August. Figure 27 shows a telegram sent from Tel Aviv on 25.8.48, transferred to army post "Base A" (Tel Aviv) on 26.8.48, arrived at APO 10 on 28.8.48 and transferred to Mishmar HaNegev (KBA 219/24). This "APO 10" postmark is of Type I and it was the last day that this type was used, as we can see that Figure 28 already shows a registered letter from 29 August with the new Type II*.

End of August – 24 October 1948

As mentioned before, the Negev Palmach Brigade was replaced by the Yiftach Brigade. The commanders of the Negev Brigade Post Office took with them the triangular handstamps of all the units (KBA 219, 224, 225, 279, 280) and only on 10 September were new handstamps supplied.

Fig. 27: A telegram sent from Tel Aviv to Mishmar HaNegev (APO 219/24) on 25.8.48 via APO "Base A". It reached APO 10 on 28.8.48. This was the last day that the Negev circular datestamp (APO 10) Type I was used. (The dark insert on the bottom is a reproduction of the two postmarks from the envelope of the telegram).

....

*   The main differences between the two types are as follows: Type I – diameter 23mm, small "rosettes" at the sides and somewhat smaller letters; Type II – diameter 24.5mm, bigger "rosettes" and larger letters.
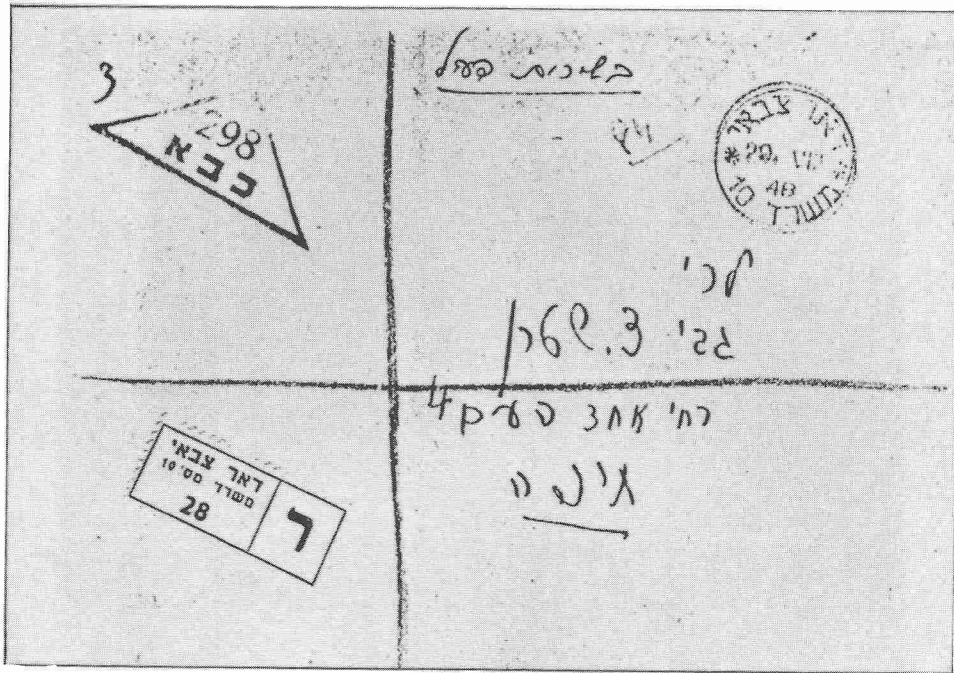
Fig. 28: A registered letter from APO 10 sent on 29.8.48, showing the first day of the Negev datestamp of Type II.

All the settlements received new KBA numbers (see Table 1, Column C): KBA 379/1 to 379/27 (nobody got /24 and /26), except for Beit Eshel which received KBA 377 (s. Fig. 29), and Nevatim which received KBA 378. Yiftach Brigade commanders did not mix settlements postal numbers with their unit numbers, as occured during the Negev Brigade command.

The Yiftach Brigade HQ used KBA 277, the First Battalion – KBA 218, and the Third Battalion – KBA 220. The Brigades HQ as well as the postal office stayed at Ruhama.

Figure 30 shows a postcard sent from Romania to a member in Beit Eshel in October, and the civilian postal authorities added in manuscript "Army Post 377, Israel Defence Force". Figure 31 shows an envelope with a greeting card, sent from kibbutz Beeri (KBA 379/12) through KBA 220 (in violet) – the post office of the 3rd Battalion – then through APO 10 to Haifa.

In operation "YOAV", 15–21.10.48, the Egyptian lines, which cut off the Negev for four and a half months, were broken and the road to the Negev reopened. On 21 October, Beer Sheva was conquerred. On 24 October the airforce supply line to Ruhama was suspended and the postal services were conducted by road transport.

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Fig. 29: A letter from Beit Eshel, bearing the very scarce triangular "KBA 377".

Fig. 30: A postcard from Romania to Beit Eshel, transferred to "Army Post 377",
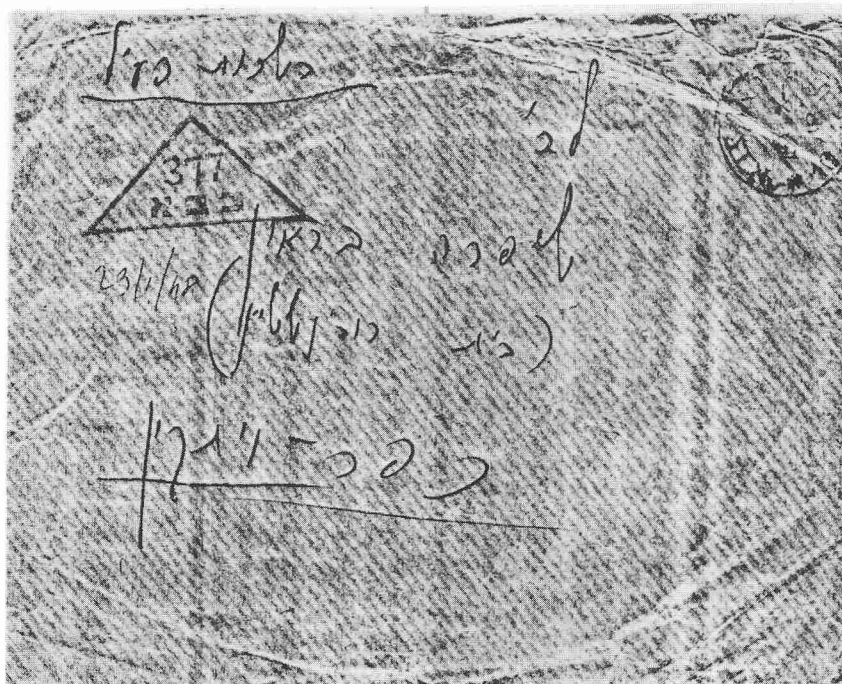*which was the KBA number of Beit Eshel in the Second Period.*
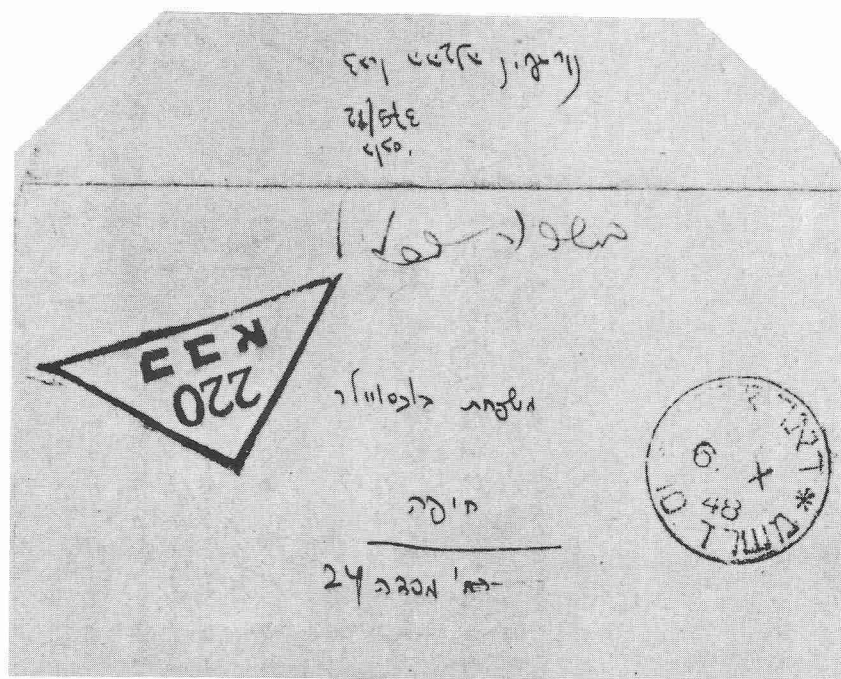
Fig. 31: An envelope of a greeting card from kibbutz Beeri (KBA 379/12) to Haifa, via the 3rd Battalion post office (KBA 220) and then APO 10.

24 October 1948 – 10 February 1949

On 7 November, Army Post Office (APO) No. 1 was opened at Beer Sheva. This office served, other than the army units in the area, all of the settlements south and east of Beer Sheva. APO 10 in Ruhama continued to serve the settlements and army units in the northern and western Negev. It was transferred from Ruhama to Julis on 26 December, 1948.

During this period, three military operations were launched: operation "Lot" – to reunite the south Dead Sea area and Sdom to the state; operation "Assaf", to push the Egyptian units out of the western Negev; and the largest operation "Chorev" – when the I.D.F. drove the whole Egyptian army out of Israeli land and penetrated for the first time into the Sinai peninsula.

Figure 32, where a soldier used an envelope of an Arabic Nationalistic Organization, found during the taking of Beer Sheva, has the postal address of kibbutz Shuval (KBA 379/7) as a return address. The letter was censored, as per the Hebrew handwritten note on the bottom right. Figure 33 shows a letter sent by a member of Mishmar HaNegev (KBA 379/8), sent through KBA 218 (1st Battalion) and then via APO 10 to Haifa.
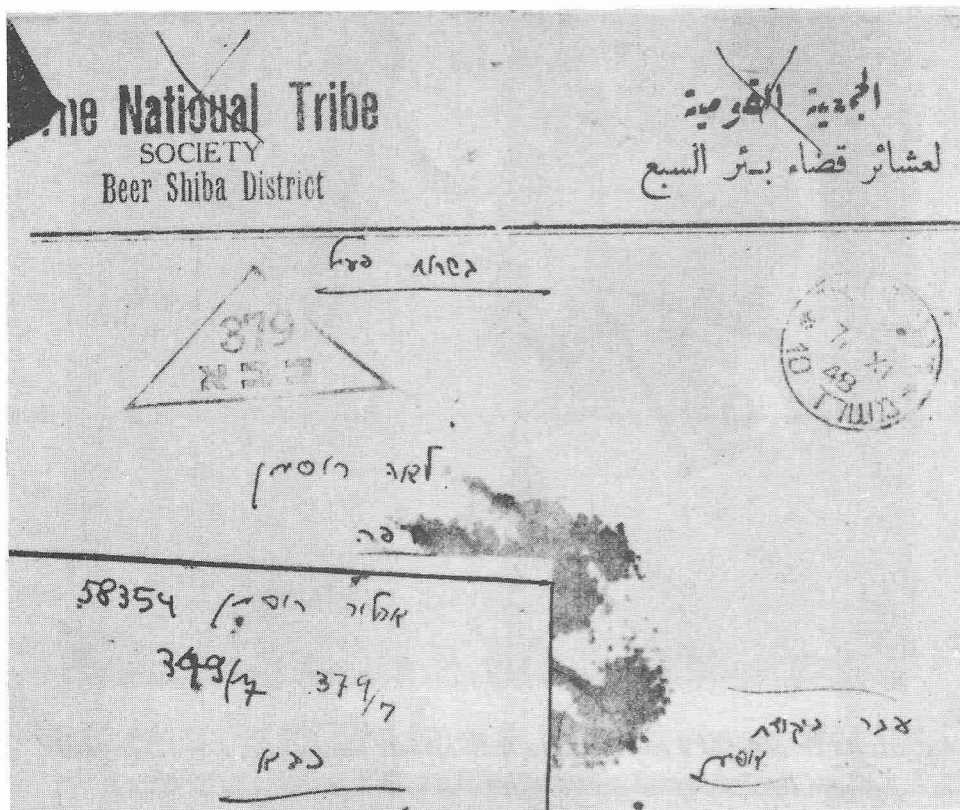
Fig. 32: A letter from kibbutz Shuval (KBA 379/7) via KBA 379 and APO 10. The writer used an envelope of an Arabic Nationalistic Youth Organization, which was found on taking Beer Sheva.

On 10 February 1949, use by civilian settlements of the army postal services was suspended.

After 10 February 1949

At the beginning of March 1949, operation "Uvda" took place and the whole Southern Negev area was liberated, up to the Gulf of Eilat.

With the suspension of the army postal services to the civilian settlements, and without governmental postal services in its place, the settlements had to renew the old system of using post office boxes in Tel Aviv, bringing their mail with the supply cars. The post office boxes were in use until the Negev Mobile Post was established. Figure 34 shows a postcard sent from Belgium on 27.7.49 to kibbutz Mishmar HaNegev, via P.O.B. 2643, Tel Aviv.
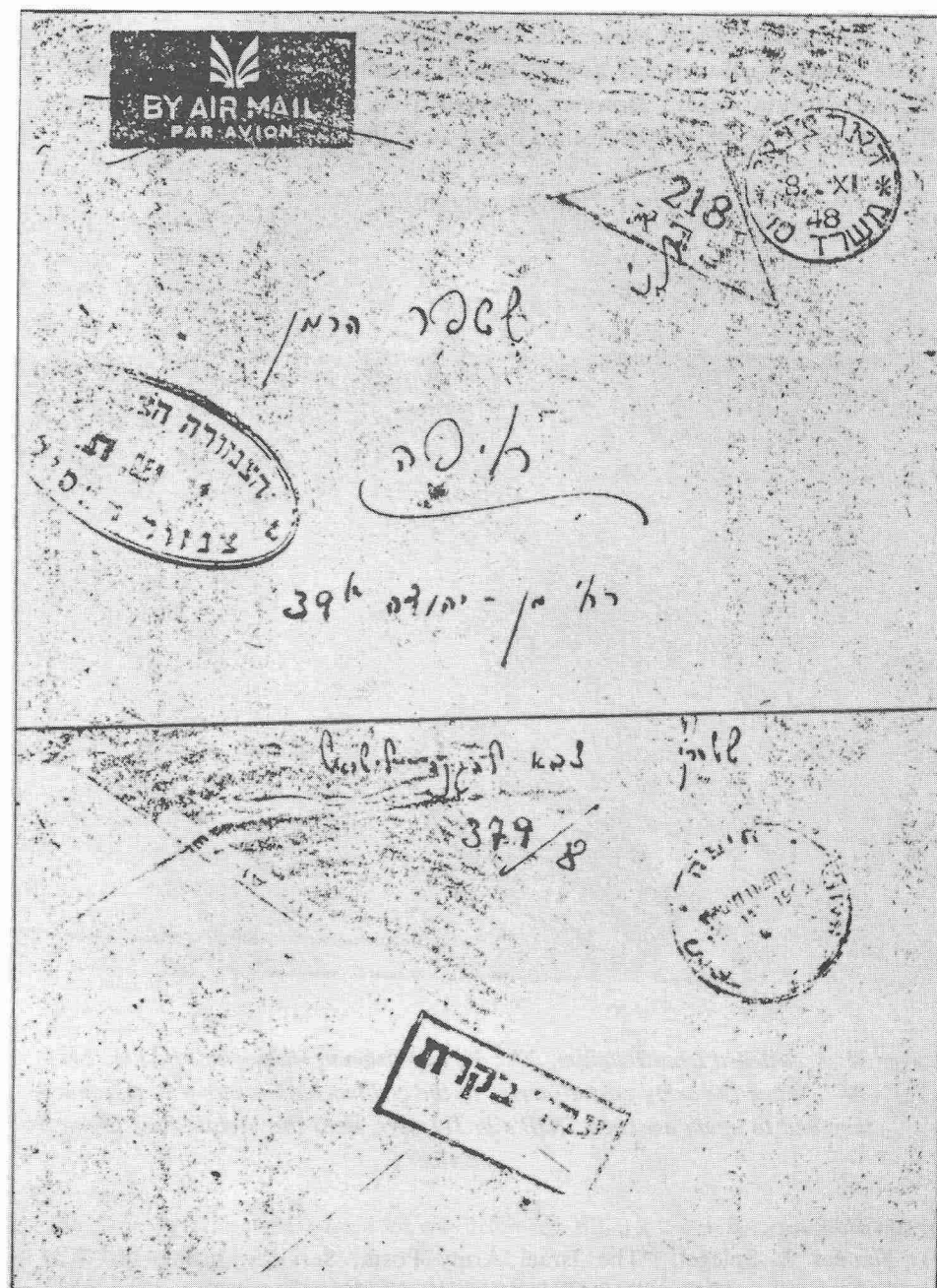
Fig. 33: A letter from Mishmar HaNegev (KBA 379/8) to Haifa, through the 1st Battalion post office (KBA 218) and then to APO 10.

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In Beer Sheva, one person, a Mr. Haviv Shieber, tried to organize a private post, which worked for a few days only, when he was stopped by officials as being illegal[2]. However, it speeded up the opening of a civilian post office in the town, which was opened on 14 June 1949.

(To be continued)
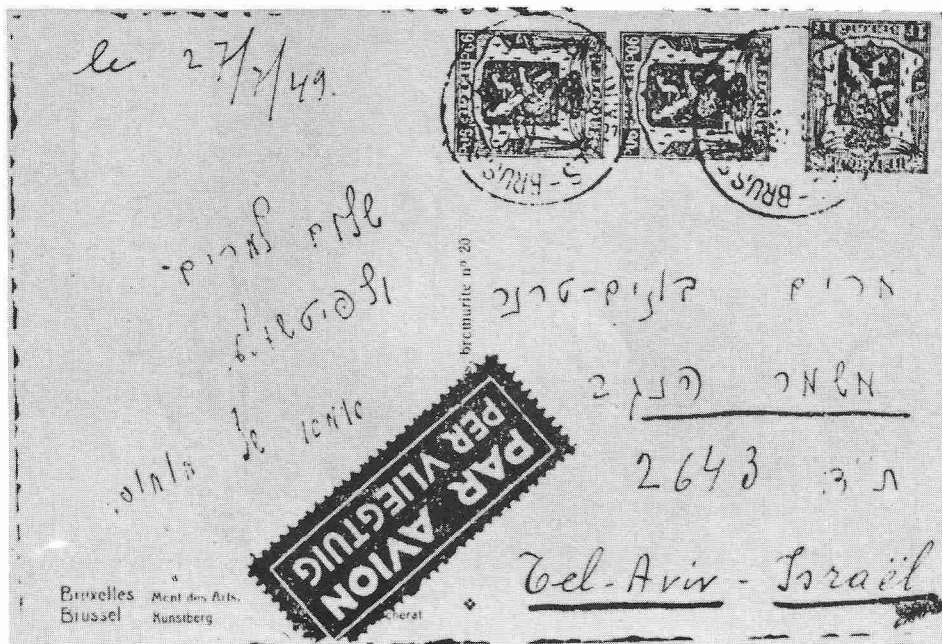
Fig. 34: A postcard from Belgium, 27.7.49, to Mishmar HaNegev, "P.O.B. 2643, Tel Aviv". When the army postal service to the civilian settlements was suspended, they had to again use their POB's in Tel Aviv, until the Mobile Post began its service.

References

(1) Kanner & Spiegel, "The Israel Army Postal Services during the War of Independence 1948–49", BAPIP ##35, 36, 37 (1961).
(2) This 'story' is recounted in full by J. Gerstenfeld ("The Man who Created a Private Post in Beer Sheva", THLP #37 (1957) p. 824) and by I. Karpovsky ("The Postal History of Beer Sheva Transition Period in 1948/9", HLPH #48 (1991) p. 374).

Table 1*:

Settlements in the Negev – P.O.B.'s and K.B.A.'s 1941–1950

	Name	Date of foundation	Sub Period	(A) 1941–1948 P.O.B.'s in towns		(B) Jun/Aug 48 K.B.A	(C) Aug 48–Feb 49 K.B.A	(D) 1949–1950 P.O.B.'s in towns	
1	Dorot	22.12.41		T.A.	454	219/11	379/5	T.A.	454
2	Gvar Am	28.08.42		T.A.	5093	219/22	379/1	T.A.	5093
3	Nir Am	21.01.43		T.A.	2040*	219/7	379/3	T.A.	2040
4	Beerot Yizhak	28.01.43	(1)	T.A.	342	219/13	379/11	---	
			(2)	Gaza	18				
5	Gvulot	12.05.43		T.A.	468*	225/16	379/20	T.A.	2664
6	Revivim	28.07.43	(1)	R.L.	25	225/20	379/19		
			(2)	T.A.	2312				
7	Beit Eshel	05.10.43	(1)	T.A.	560*	225/13	377	---	
			(2)	B.Sh	1				
8	Yad Mordechai	05.12.43		T.A.	1511	---	---	T.A.	1511
9	Ruhama	19.03.44		T.A.	972*	219/23	379/6	T.A.	972
10	Beeri	06.10.46		T.A.	323	219/17	379/12	T.A.	323
11	Chatzerim	06.10.46	(1)	T.A.	2743	219/26	379/9		
			(2)	B.Sh	10				
12	Kfar Darom	06.10.46		T.A.	5033	219/15	---	---	
13	Mishmar HaNegev	06.10.46	(1)	T.A.	(972)	219/24	379/8	T.A.	2643
			(2)	T.A.	2643				
14	Nevatim	06.10.46		T.A.	(560)	225/14	378		
15	Nirim	06.10.46	(1)	T.A.	(468)	225/15	379/22	T.A.	1314
			(2)	T.A.	1314				
16	Shuval	06.10.46		T.A.	(972)	219/25	379/7		
17	Tekuma	06.10.46				219/18	379/13		
18	Urim	06.10.46	(1)	Ra.	9	225/19	379/15	(1)Ra.	9
			(2)	T.A.	(468)			(2)T.A.	5027
19	Chazale (Alumim)	07.02.47					379/17		
20	Mivtachim	07.02.47				225/21	379/21		
21	Zeelim	07.02.47		T.A.	(2040)	225/17	379/14		
22	Saad	30.06.47				219/12	379/10	T.A.	2740
23	Gevim	28.08.47		T.A.	2596	219/16	379/4	T.A.	2596
24	Chalutza	19.11.47				225/18	379/18		
25	Ramat HaNegev	19.11.47		T.A.	(2040)	225/22	379/16		
26	Brur Chayil	18.04.48				219/10	379/2		
	Niram Mekorot					---	379/25		
	Imara Police St.					225/23	379/23		
	Asluj Police St.					225/24			
	Asluj					225/25	379/27		

★ Table 1 is reproduced here again for easy reference. It has a few minor changes compared to its first version.

* These P.O.B.'s (marked *) used also as "hosts" to other settlement's mail (whose P.O.B.s' numbers are bracketed).

Abbreviations: T.A. = Tel Aviv; R.L. = Rishon LeZion; B.Sh = Beer Sheva; Ra. = Raanana.

Klussendorf Vending Machine Postage Labels in Israel – an Update

N. Shereshevsky, Jerusalem

Introduction

The Klussendorf era in Israel started on 9.7.90, with 21 machines[1]. These machines have cliche numbers, unlike the Frama machines in this country. The combination of cliche number and paper type (as will be detailed later) is the essence of Klussendorf labels collecting.

The two-years experience gained with Klussendorf machines here shows that they tend to become inoperative much more than the Frama machines. However, the main reason for that might be us collectors – it seems that we use (or abuse?) these machines much more. than the general public. The number of commerical covers franked with Klussendorf labels that one encounters is relatively small. A Few examples are shown: Fig. 35 – current basic rate of 0.75
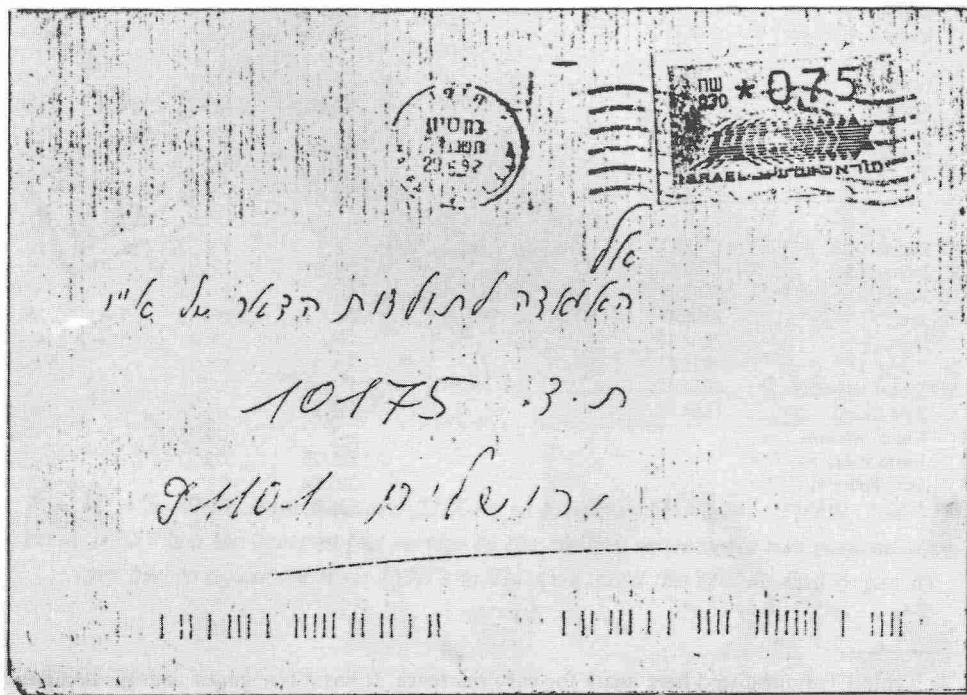
Fig. 35: Commercial use of ATM – local standard letter, 0.75.

from Haifa (030). Fig. 36 – a second step letter (up to 100 gr.) with "mixed franking" totalling 0.90, from Tel Aviv Sorting Centre (003)*. Fig. 37 – a registered letter, one label of 2.35, from Ashdod (021)*. It should be noted that this last cover is a business reply mail, which means that the sender should have paid only the registration extra (1.80).

Cliche Numbers

The printing mechanisms of the Klussendorf machines, which have the cliche number, are interchangeable. The Israel Postal Authority has 45 cliches, and all of them have already been in use. The machine which is located at the Philatelic Service in Jaffa has no cliche number, and is also different in other aspects. The rarest cliche number is 039, which was in use for only a few hours on 19.2.91 in Qiryat Ata. The following list details the history of cliche numbers.
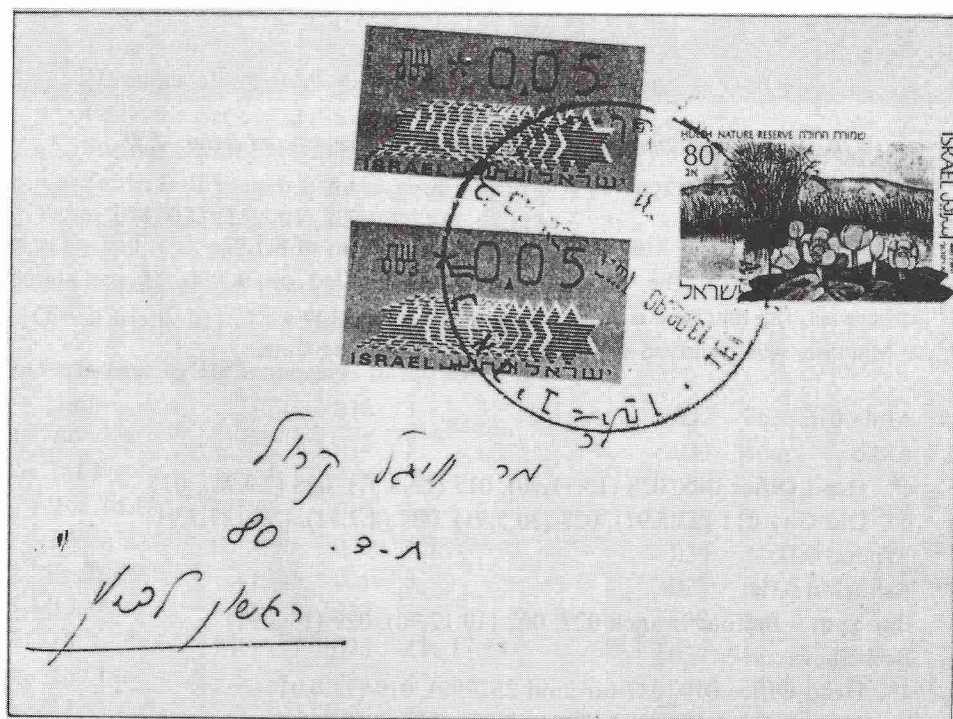
Fig. 36: Commercial use of ATM – "mixed franking" on an "up to 100 gr." letter, 2x0.05 + 80 Ag.

★ These were the proper rates in the period 1.5.90–1.12.90.
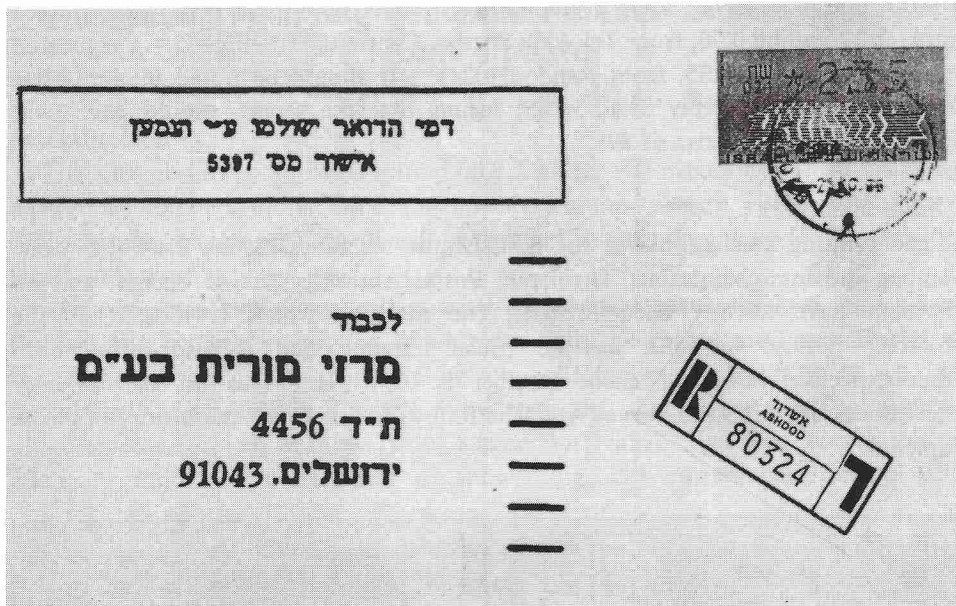
Fig. 37: Commercial use of ATM – an inland registered letter, 2.35.

List of Klussendorf ATM's in Israel as of 8.7.92

*   – indicates one of the original machines, installed on 9.7.90. If not stated otherwise, the machine is at the head office of the town.

$ – Machine was removed or non-operative for a long time.

1*. Afula 016
2. Akko
    a*. Head Office 015, 038 (15.11.90), 015 (25.3.91), 038 (?.9.91), 015
    b. Old City 011 (27.5.91), 028 (30.5.91), 005 (4.7.91), 028 (17.7.91)
3*. Ashdod 021
4*. Ashqelon 031
5*. Bat Yam – Balfour branch 027, 002 (10.12.90), 027 (15.3.91)
6. Beer Sheva
    a*. Head Office 019, 037 (around 25.7.90), 019 (21.4.91)
    b. Hadassa branch 001, 042 (11.12.90), 001 (21.4.91)
7. Haifa
    a*. Carmel branch 030
    b. Shiqmona (GPO) 029 (20.2.91), 003 (9.4.91), 011 (21.7.91), 029 (9/91).
    c. Ha-Chalutz branch 035 (24.3.91), 005 (10.5.91), 035 (6.91), 029 (6.9.91), 035 (13.9.91)
    d. Lev Ha-Mifratz Shopping Centre 018 (24.3.91)

8*. Herzliya 022

9. Hod HaSharon – Paz petrol station 017 (9.9.90), 006 (7.1.91), 017 (4.3.91), 024 (6.92), 017 (6.92)

10. Givatayim – Paz petrol station, Haaluf Sade 012 (5.11.90), 002 (15.4.91) 012 (10.7.91)

11. Jerusalem
    a*. Ramat Eshkol branch 013
    b*. Rehavia branch 020, 036 (19.11.90), 020 (13.3.91), 008 (8.7.92)
    c*. Beit HaKerem branch 023, 045 (11.7.90), $ (early 1991), 045 (8.6.92)
    d. Me'a Shearim branch 003 (24.3.92)

12*.Nahariya 009

13. Qiryat Atta 006 (9.9.90), 040 (19.11.90), 039 (19.2.91), 015 (19.2.91), 006 (24.3.91)

14* Ramat Ha-Sharon 010, 043 (16.9.90), 010 (4.2.91), 023 (10.91)

15*.Rishon Le-Zion 004

16. Tel Aviv
    a*. Yehuda Halevi branch 033, 008 (12.90), 033 (9.4.91)
    b*. Weizmann branch 034, 041 (7.1.91), 034 (9.4.91)
    c*. Dizengoff 286 branch 032, 044 (7.1.91), 032 (22.4.91)
    d*. Philatelic Service, Jaffa – no cliche number.
    e*. Sorting Centre, Hagana Rd. 014, 003 (around 11.7.90), 014 (4.91)
    f. Zamenhoff branch 026 (13.11.90), 025 (10.4.91), 026 (4.7.91), $ (3.92)

17*.Yavne 024, 023 (15.5.91), 024 (4.7.91), 020 (11.6.92)

18*.Zefat 007, $ (6.92)

19. Lod – Bank Leumi Computer Centre 005 (2.92)

20. Qiryat Bialik 011 (2.4.92)

Cross-reference by cliche numbers to list numbers

---	16d	016	1	032	16c
001	6b	017	9	033	16a
002	5,10	018	7d	034	16b
003	16e,7b,11d	019	6a	035	7c
004	15	020	11b,17	036	11b
005	7c,2b,19	021	3	037	6a
006	13, 9	022	8	038	2a
007	18	023	11c,17,14	039	13
008	16a,11b	024	17	040	13
009	12	025	16f	041	16b
010	14	026	16f	042	6b
011	2b,20	027	5	043	14
012	10	028	2b	044	16c
013	11a	029	7b,7c	045	11c
014	16e	030	7a		
015	2a,13	031	4		

Notes:

1. #16e was not listed in the original Post Office Public Notice.
2. #16d was used for the official FDC, and is used now by the Philatelic Service to fill orders.
3. Cliche 039 was in the Qiryat Atta machine on 18.2.91 but functioned less than a day and was replaced by 015 the following day.
4. Cliche 005 that was reported to be in 6b was in fact cliche 001.
5. #19 is not accessible to the public, only to employees.

Paper Classification

It is important to clarify the term "paper" which is popular amongst ATM collectors. The "stamp" is the part that is printed by the machine (value and cliche number), and "paper" is therefore the roll of paper that the machine prints on, **including the design** on it.

The classification of paper types is based on the shades of the background (grey), stag (red) and Magen-David (blue). Collectors here adopted a five-types system, as follows:

1 – very dark grey, dark blue. This is the paper that was first used.
2 – dark grey, dark blue. Also, the letters "שח" in the upper-left corner are 4mm from the left edge. The right line of the "shin" hits· the top edge of the left of the hole. In all the other papers, that line hits the hole in the middle (Fig. 37a).
3 – light grey, light blue.
4 – dark grey, dark blue, but "שח" is not shifted as in (2).
5 – This is the "Israeli" paper; light grey, light blue, with the phosphor bar left-justified. The paper is thicker and the gum is mat and it has no control number on the back.

It should be noted that Klaus Salten defined 10 types (excluding the Israeli paper), based on finer shades[2].

Only the combination of paper and cliche number determines the rarity of a label, because it may happen that a cliche that was used for a short time once is re-introduced, but this time on another paper; an example for that would

Fig. 37a: Type 2 paper ("שח" shifted to left) as compared to its position in other types (right).

be 023. On 9.7.90 it was in use in Beit HaKerem, Jerusalem, but was removed after only two days. Almost a year later it showed up again in Yavne. The 023 labels printed on paper 1 are rare, but on papers 4, 5 they are common. Presently the Israeli paper is used, but in some places there are still stocks of "older" papers.

The following table shows the existing combinations of paper-cliche number, as far as I know.

Table of Existing Paper-Cliche Combinations as of 8.7.92

	1	2	3	4	5
001	x		x	x	x
002		x	x		
003	x	x	x		x
004	x	x	x	x	x
005			x	x	x
006			x		x
007	x		x	x	x
008		x	x		x
009	x		x	x	x
010	x		x	x	
011			x	x	x
012			x	x	x
013	x	x	x		
014	x		x	x	x
015	x		x		x

	1	2	3	4	5
016	x	x	x		x
017			x	x	x
018			x	x	x
019	x		x	x	x
020	x	x	x	x	x
021	x	x	x	x	x
022	x	x	x	x	x
023	x		x	x	x
024	x	x	x	x	x
025			x	x	
026			x	x	
027	x	x	x	x	x
028			x	x	x
029		x	x	x	x
030	x	x	x	x	x

	1	2	3	4	5
031	x		x	x	x
032	x	x	x	x	x
033	x	x	x	x	x
034	x	x	x	x	x
035		x	x	x	x
036	x	x		x	
037	x	x			
038	x		x	x	
039			x		
040		x			
041		x	x	x	
042	x	x	x	x	
043		x			
044		x	x		
045	x	x	x	x	x
----		x	x	x	x

Variations and Errors

"Variations" are paper variations that are caused due to flaws in the plates during the design printing. These are constant flaws, similar to those familiar from stamps. They are usually not easily seen, and one has to be a specialist to collect them. Shown here (Fig. 38) is the "three dots" variety, that can be found on one sub-type of paper 3, on every 11th label. Near the lower-left corner there are three grey dots, in an arc. Other known varieties: the "blob in Magen-David" and "Ben-Hador" (the designer's name, along the left edge, missing part or the whole of his first name "דויד"), both appear on paper 5.

Fig. 38: "Paper" variety – arc-shaped dots on bottom left of label.

Errors, which are the most interesting things to find, are labels that are produced as a result of machine malfunction. They can be grouped in categories, according to "what went wrong". Some examples:

Multiple printing – When the label get stuck in the printing area and the printing head prints on it several times. Fig. 39 (left) shows a label with one normal strike and parts of three more.

Offset printing – There is a mirror image printing on the gum side of the label (Fig. 39, right). I could not reach definite conclusion as to how this happens. One suggestion is that a label remains at the printing area, and then a second label is printed on top of it. The new label is pressed against the wet ink of the first one, and its gum side receives a mirror image of the printing. This should be distinguished from cases where the paper is inserted with the gum side up, where the printing on the gum is a positive image. Another possible explanation – the paper coil does not supply a label under the printing head, and the cliche hits the printing bed. Then when the next label is being printed, its back side is pressed against that image and gets a mirror image. It has been reported that in some cases when a backprinted label occurred, the label before it had not come out. It is possible, of course, that both explanations are valid.
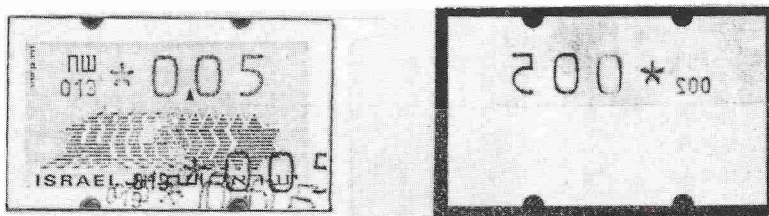

Fig. 39: Printing errors – multiple printing (left) and offset printing (right).

Unallowed values – The Klussendorf machine printing head comes from the manufacturer with four wheels, each having the 10 digits and the asterisk (*) cliches. Every postal administration programs the microcomputer to print values according to its own needs. In Israel the four digits are divided into two Sheqel positions and two Agorot positions, the decimal point (a triangle) being part of the paper. Since we do not use a single Agora anymore, the machines are programmed to issue labels in multiples of 5 Agorot, up to 15.00 Sheqels. Also, the leftmost digit (tens of Sheqels) can be only 1 (for 10.00 to 15.00), or * in 9.95 and under. The two middle positions use 0 when necessary. The rightmost position, as said, can be only 0 or 5. The exception is the Philatelic Service machine, which uses * instead of 0 for the three left positions, and which also allows for labels of higher value than 15.00.

But sometimes the wheels turn not as they are supposed to; Figure 40 (left) shows the process as it happens – we can see the lower part of the 0 and upper part of the 1. A few labels later the machine would have produced *1.05 instead of *0.05 (for the requested 5 Agorot!). The label of Figure 40 (centre) shows the "impossible" value of 1.16 – in this case all three wheels on the right turned one position ahead, starting from *0.05. On the label of Figure 40 (right), the leftmost wheel turned one position forward, from * to 0. The last two are from the same machine – the ultimate "impossible" would have been a combination of them, that is 01.16.

Fig. 40: "Unallowed" digits and values.

References

(1) "New Vending Machine Postage Labels", HLPH #43 (1990) p. 114.
(2) K. Salten, "ATM in Israel – Ein Update", Der Israel-Philatelist #115 (1991), p. 3391.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

* SHORT NOTES AND DISCOVERIES *

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

The Ottoman Period

Outstanding Levant Courier Cover from Safed via Beirut to Bucharest

(I. Karpovsky)

The inhabitants of Safed, a northern city in Israel (previously, Palestine) have on occasion taken advantage of their proximity to Beirut for postal services. The Turkish Levant postal service was unreliable, as compared to the Austrian. Couriers would deliver items to and from Beirut's Austrian office. Especially noted was the service provided in the 1880's by Moses Yedid Halevi, who on occasion marked by his private handstamps the items he carried[1,2].

Fig. 41: The reverse of a courier letter from Safed to Bucharest via Beirut, franked by stamps of the fantastic sum of 74¼ piastres (s. also the Back Cover illustration).

Shown on the Back Cover of the Bulletin is a cover sent in such a fashion at a later period (1906). It is unusual for its high franking rate. Its reverse, shown as Figure 41, carries most of the stamps. The letter was registered and sent by courier from Safed to "Beirouth" by Dawid Segall, addressed to "Banque Nationale de Roumanie a Bucareste (Roumanie)". It contained a large sum of money in notes according to the sum written on the cover ("11600 francs") and the franking covered both registration and insurance. This sum was the equivalent of U.S. $60,000.00 in 1992 currency. Seven stamps together reached the high value of 74¼ piastres, which may be the highest valued franking of any known Austrian Levant cover.

The stamps are affixed to both sides of the cover. There are seven Austrian cancellations dated "19.VI.06". On the reverse there are five red wax seals with the sender's name.

The letter passed through Constanta and carries a Bucharest arrival cancellation dated "4 JUL 906".

References: (1) A. Stempler, HLPH #3 (1980), p. 84.
(2) HLPH #19 (1984), p. 947.

Two Interesting Notices from the Ottoman Period

We show two interesting public notices, submitted by our member Joseph Hoffman. The first (Fig. 42), issued by the Turkish Post in May 1914, was probably the result of the fierce competition among the various post offices which operated then in Palestine. It translates*:

"In order to facilitate the development of commerce and business in the country, daily service has again been opened between Jaffa and the following:
Haifa, Zichron Yaacov, Acre, Safed, Tiberias, Nazareth, Damascus, Beirut, Aleppo, Smyrna and Constantinople.
The Management"

The second document (Fig. 43) is a sailing schedule from the Jaffa Russian Post Office for April & May, 1914. The schedule of 9 maritime routes lists date of arrival in Jaffa, ports of origin and destination, and the name and company of each ship.

Important for postal historians is the footnote of the announcement, which reads:
"1. Mail to the Syrian ports leaves on Sundays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. and on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11.30 a.m. 2. To Western Europe, Russia, North and South America, Constantinople, Africa, East and West Indies, Australia and Japan – on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4.30 p.m. 3. To Beirut and Constantinople – on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. 4. The mail to Jerusalem leaves every day at 4 p.m., and on Mondays and Thursdays also in the morning".

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* Inexplicably, there are several not trivial differences between the French and Hebrew texts; the above translation takes both into consideration.

«= من اداره البوسطة العثمانية يافا =»

نبشر الجمهور انه ابتدأ، من اليوم يصل البريد يومياً من حيفــا

صفد • طبريا • الناصره • دمشق • حلب • ازمير • الاستانة • في الصباح

ويرسل ايضاً في كل يوم الظهر تسهيلاً للمعاملات التجارية وطلباً في

ارضاء الجمهور وقد حرر هذا اعلاناً بذلك   الادارة

تحريراً في ١٩ نيسان سنة ٣٣٠

Au but de faciliterle commerce
et en activer les affaires un service
postal par terre Journalier vient
détre inauguré fonctionnant a prtir
d'àuJourd'hui pour et de localités
suivantes . Caiffa , Acre , Saffed ,
Tiberiade , Nazareth , Damas,
Beyth , Alep, Smyrne , et Consple

DIRECTION

בכדי להקל על התפתחות המסחר
והעסקים בארץ, נפתח שנית דואר
יומי אשר ילך מיפו אל המקומות
הבאים :
חיפה, זכרון-יעקב, עכו, צפת, טבריה,
נצרת, דמשק, בירות, חלב, סמירנה,
וקושטה.

Fig. 42: A notice to the public, issued by the Ottoman Post Office in 1914.

POSTE RUSSE.	РУССКАЯ ПОЧТА		הפוסטה הרוסית
JAFFA	Яффа.		יפו
Апрѣль 1914.			פ' אמור תרע"ד

День и число / יום וחשן / Jour et date	Приходъ изъ / הבא מחופי / Arrivée de	Названіе парохода / שם האניה / Nom du bateau	Пароходн. О-во / חברה / Compagnie	Отходъ въ / הסע לחופי / Depart pour
Воскресенье 20/IV יום ראשין ז' איר Dimanche 3/V	I. п.-Саида / פ. סעיד / P. Said II. Александріи, П. Саида / אלקסנדריה, פ. סעיד / Alexandrie P. Said	Оріана / אוריאנה / Oriana Королов и Ольга / המלכה אולגא / Reine Olga	Итальянское / אשלקית / Italiènne Р. О.П. и Т. / חברה רוסית / Cie Russe	Кайфу, Триполи, Бейрутъ / חיפה, טריפולי, ביירות / Caiffa, Tripoli, Beyrouth Кайфу, Бейрутъ, Смирну Кон-поль и Одессу / חיפה, ביירות, אזמיר, קישטא ואודיסה / Ciffa, Beyrouth, Smyrne, Con-ple et Odessa
Понедѣльникъ 21/IV יום שני ח' באיר Lundi 4/V	I. Александріи, П.-Саида / אלקסנדריה, פירט סעיד / Alexandrie, P. Saïd II. Мерсины, Ал-дретты, Бейрута, Кайфы / מרסינה, אלכסנדרטה, ביירות, חיפה / Mersine, Alexandrette, Beyrouth, Caiffa III. Мерсины, Бейрута, Кайфы / מרסינה, ביירות, חיפה / Mersine, Beyrouth, Caiffa IV. Бейрута / ביירות, / Beyrouth	Тевфикіе / טופיקיה / Tewfikieh Аббасіе / אבסיה / Abbassieh Леополисъ / לעיפוליס / Leopolis Вашингтонъ / ושינגטון / Vachington	Хедивье Ко. / חדיב / Khedivie Ko. ,, ,, Австр. Лл. / לליד האוסתרי / Lloyd Autr. Итальянское / אשלקית / Italiènne	Кайфу, Бейрутъ, Мерсину / חיפה, ביירות, מרסינה / Caiffa, Beyrouth, Mersine П.-Саидъ, Александрію / פ. סעיד, אלקסנדריה / P.-Saïd, Alexandrie П-Саидъ, Александрію, Тріестъ / פירט סעיד, אלקסנדריה, טריעסט / P. Said, Alexandrie, Trieste Триполи / טריפולי / Tripoli
Срѣда 23 IV יום רביעי י' באיר Mercredi 6/V	I. Бейрута / ביירות / Beyrouth II. Одессы, Конст-поля, Смирны, Бейрута, Кайфы / אודיסה, קישטא, אזמיר, ביירות, חיפה / O-less, Cons-ple, Smyrne, Beyrouth, Caiffa	Экваторъ / עקיטור / Equateur Іерусалимъ / ירושלים / Jérusalem	Месс. Марит. / משני מריט / Mess. M rit. Р. О.П. и Т. / חברה רוסית / Cie Russe	Бейрутъ, Конст поль / ביירות, קישטא / Beyrouth, Const-ple П Саидъ, Александрію / פ. סעיד, אלקסנדריה / P. Said, Alexandrie
Четвергъ 24/IV יום חמישי י"א באיר Jeudi 7/V	I. Александріи, П.-Саида / אלקסנדריה, פ. סעיד / Alexandrie, P. Saïd	Электра / עלקטרה / Flectra	Австр. Лл. / לליד האוסתרי / Lloyd Autr.	Кайфу, Бейрутъ, Мерсину / חיפה, ביירות, מרסינה / Caiffa, Beyrouth, Mersine

Fig. 43: Sailing schedule for April and May, 1914, of ships visiting Jaffa; published by the Russian Post in Jaffa.

The British Mandate Period

Answering a Question? *(Arthur M. Hochheiser)*

In the Winter/Spring 1992 Issue of our bulletin (HLPH #49/50 p. 481) there is a short article entitled "A difficult Hebrew Code" by Y. Levanon of Jerusalem. He pointed out peculiar spellings in the Hebrew text of the telegram form shown on page 482.

As a collector of this material, I am always pleased to see 'errors' pointed out in texts, especially in Hebrew since most Americans, like me, are not conversant with the Hebrew language. Mr. Levanon is to be commended.

The last line of his article reads: "Postal Form No. 6813 H & S was not properly proof read. Does any of our readers know the code to this form?"

There are very few philatelists who have collected Palestine Postal Forms. Included among these forms are the telegram forms since the telegraph system was under the direction of the Postal Administration. I can make several observations since I have studied this material for many years.

"6813 H & S" found at the bottom of the telegram form is not a form code and note that there is no 'No.' preceding it. While some telegram forms issued early in the Civil Administration in Palestine for special purposes contained coded P.T. numbers, most of the Postal Agency telegram forms for general use by the public did not. In all cases, these P.T. code numbers appeared at the top or in the middle of the form and not at the bottom. The "6813 H & S" found on this telegram form is a shortened use of a "Printer's Legend". Such legends are common on forms and postal stationery. A typical full printer's legend would read 893 13 1 25 10000 GP". This consists of four items; one or two of which may be missing as is found on the telegram form illustrated.

The four parts are (1) Company Work Order Number (2) Date of Issue (3) Quantity Printed (4) Printer's Name or Initials. Here the "6813" is the company's work order number and "H & S" are the company's initials. While I have an identical copy of this form, I have never found a different form of any type with this printer's legend. The date on this form indicates very early usage. It may well be that because of the errors in their text, this company was not used again by the Postal Administration for further printing of postal forms. It should be pointed out, in this respect, that almost all forms for the Palestine Administration were printed in Palestine.

"Jerusalem I 4 Mils from Position 20 with Type 22 Overprint"?

(Comment by *D. Dorfman* and Response by *N. Collins*)

A note by this title was published by Norman Collins in HLPH #47 (p. 330) and also in BAPIP and TIP journals. David Dorfman responded with a comment in BAPIP #131 (p. 20), reprinted hereafter, to which Collins responds in the following.

(a) Dorfman's Comment

The purpose of these few comments is to dispel any notion that Mr. Collins has discovered a new rarity.

In the course of my research into this issue of Palestine (as well as all others), I have positively concluded that no partial sheets were overprinted with the First Setting of the overprint. Whatever vertical or horizontal shifts exist, they never exceed a quarter of an inch in either direction.

Recently, I had to retrieve my sheet of the 4 milliemes from my bank, and during the course of checking other things, I decided to scan the 10th vertical column for a plate flaw similar to the one for position 20. Lo and behold, position 22 in my sheet has the same plate flaw! I decided to check other reference material to see if this flaw could be found in later issues, such as Second Setting, or Third Local overprint, but this flaw wasn't to be found there. Looking for differences only between positions 20 and 22, I noted that the right leg of the R in FOUR in the left panel of position 22 is truncated, whereas on position 20 it isn't.

Aware that Mr. Nathan Zankel had access to several sheets, I wrote him about my findings, and asked him to check his material also. In due time Mr. Zankel replied. He sent photocopies of two upper panes of this stamp, both showing the plate flaw on position 22 similar to position 20. Also, a photocopy of a large positional block which did not show this flaw in position 22.

What does all this prove? Merely that Mr. Collins found a used example of the 4 milliemes, First Setting, position 22, with a transient plate variety that has now been found in several sheets.

Incidentally, page 25 of my book mentions that the Cone variety (position 82) is not found on all sheets of the 4 milliemes. It so happens that only one of the panes that Mr. Zankel has shows this variety – the other does not.

(b) Collins' response

Having seen Dorfman's comments (BAPIP Bulletin #131, p. 20) regarding my report on the 4 mils variety, which was expertised in 1979 by the late Dr. H.H. Hirst, I can now agree that the stamp is in fact from position 22 and not position 20. This is following the stamp's examination by Nathan Zankel and the Mandate Study Circle of New Jersey, USA.

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It is obvious that in 1979, when this stamp was first examined, the transient mark on position 22 was not known to the late Dr. Hirst. Dorfman himself did not know of it at that time either, because after I reported it to him in December 1979, he confirmed by letter in January 1980 that it was the first example of a Jerusalem I First Setting stamp with a misplaced overprint. Previously he had only recorded misplaced overprints on Second Setting stamps.

Unfortunately, Dorfman's letter had slipped from my memory when preparing the article, more than ten years later. My fields of research are mainly on archives and postal history and I do not have specialised files on stamps oveprints and varieties. I only re-discovered Dorfman's letter after my article had been sent for publication.

Nathan Zankel wrote to me in November 1991 informing me of the transient mark on his blocks of 4 mils First Setting and supplied photocopies of these. I sent the item for further examination by Nathan and the SIP Mandate Study Group, who specialise in this issue. The study group examined my stamp and their material with a 10 X optical comparator, measuring the stamps from the bottom frame line, and found that the constant mark on position 20 is 9.3 mm from the frame line and the transient mark on position 22 is 9 mm from the frame line.

It is to the credit of Nathan Zankel that on discovering the transient mark on position 22, he contacted me, as the original writer, and did not himself rush into print. Fig. 44 shows a strip of the 4 mils First Setting of positions 20, 21 and 22. Note the mark in the right hand frame on position 20 and 22; it is constant on position 20 but transient on position 22.

Acknowledgements: My thanks to Nathan Zankel and the SIP Mandate Study Group of New Jersey, for their kind co-operation and courtesy.
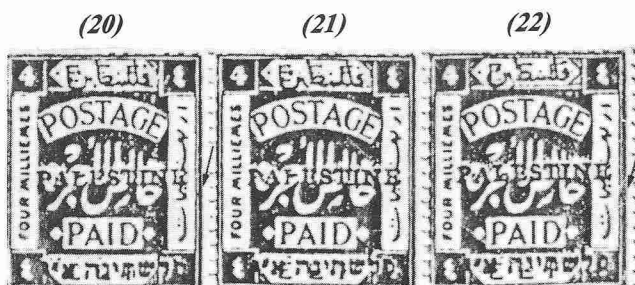

Fig. 44: 4 mils 1st Setting – position 20 (with the constant flaw), 21 (without the flaw) and 22 (with a transient flaw).

Another Private Perfin on Mandate Stamps

(A.M. Hochheiser)

The Winter/Spring issue of the Bulletin (HLPH #45/46, p. 211), included my article on "Palestine Perfins and Non-Perfins".

It has been brought to my attention by Walter Loebl, editor of the BAPIP Bulletin, that "A third private company perfin was reported by the late Mr. Norgate in BAPIP #114, p. 144. It shows "VO" over "Co" and was presumed to stand for "Vacuum Oil Company" (Fig. 45). One example each was seen on the London I 5 mil and 1 piastre stamps, both used. On the 5 mil stamp the date was 12 April, 1924 and possibly Haifa".

This should complete the record on perfins and I thank Dr. Loebl for his kind permission to illustrate the perfin.

Fig. 45: "VO/Co" (Vacuum Oil Company?) perfins on Mandate stamps.
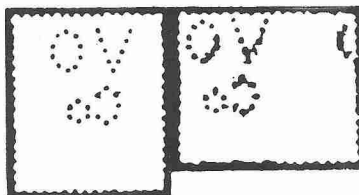
The State of Israel

Three Experimental "Paid" Cancellations from 1951

(B. Fixler & I. Nachtigal)

We have recently observed three unaddressed covers handstamped with a "Paid" cancellation, from the three major cities of Israel, Tel Aviv-Yafo, Jerusalem and Haifa. All are dated 15.4.51 (Fig. 46).

On April 23, 1951 new handstamps of Type C1 from these cities were first used, instead of the previous ones of Type A* (cf. Figure 47 for these Types but from

Fig. 46: Trial strikes of 3 "unissued" "Paid" handstamps.

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* Cf. "Regular Postmarks of Israeli Post 1948–1990, Part 1" by Nachtigal & Fixler, Tel Aviv (1990).

other places). The major difference between the C1 and A Types cancellations
are the positions of the Arabic and English names of the cities, their having
been switched between right and left, the Hebrew remaining on top.

A similar switch occurred in the "Paid" cancellations, labelled E1 and E2, as seen
in Figure 47, though the format was changed considerably, as well. E2 was first
used in August, 1951.

The April 15 "Paid" cancellations contain characteristics of each of the types C1
and E: they have the structure of C1 and the contents of the E types**. The date of
the three is eight days prior to the first use of C1. (The "Haifa 60" postmark
was first used on August 19, 1951). It therefore seems likely that the three "Paid"
cancellations were trials that were never used.

Fig. 47: Various types of "issued" handstamps.

Fig. 48: The 3 actually used handstamps similar, respectively,
to the 3 trial "Paid" cancellations.

** But in this case the French and Hebrew "Paid" are not a fixed part of the canceller
structure, but rather a changeable slug like the date pieces.

For comparison, three postally used cancellations from these cities and with the same indices, respectively are shown in Figure 48. The only difference between these and those of April 15 is the substitution of the Hebrew date in place of the "Paid" line (in French and in Hebrew: "PAYÉ שולם").

Forerunner Services to the Mobile Post in Judea and Samaria

(B. Fixler and I. Nachtigal)

Mobile Post services were first instituted in Judea and Samaria on July 14, 1970, using line number 37, called "Biqat Hayarden" (Jordan Valley) which served the Jewish settlements in that area*.

Post offices were established for the Arab population of the area within a month after the conclusion of the Six-Day War (June 5 to 10, 1967): 7 in July, 12 in August, and more thereafter.

Josef Wallach of Rehovot has supplied us with schedules of two Mobile-Post-like services for the Arab communities in the area, one in the south and one in the north, instituted in August, 1967, prior to the establishment of regular Mobile Post services. Arrival and departure times as well as distances in kilometers are noted for each route, as for regular Mobile Post schedules.

The earliest table (Fig. 49)** is from August 17, 1967, the "Southern" line serving 5 communities, two of which, Bet Gala and Bet Sahur, having a regular Post Office opened only on August 23. The "Northern" line served 9 communities, 4 of which were to have a Post Office later. They were Al Bira (on 27.8.67), Anavta and Deir el Gusun (on 29.8.67) and Silat ed-Dahr (on 31.8.67).

Schedule number 2, dated 1.9.70 (Figs. 50–51), includes three Jewish communities: Alon Shevut, which opened a postal agency on 14.7.73, while the two others (Rosh Zurim and Kefar Ezyon) are still served by the Mobile Post, line number 45, named "Zefon Yehuda". (Its previous name was "Hare Yerushalayim" and began service on 24.11.81, changing its name to that noted above on 23.12.86).

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* Its name was changed on September 12, 1976 to "Habiqah", and it was suspended altogether after March 31, 1992.

** The English translation in the Tables were added by the authors.

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לוח סבובי הדואר נספח פ: 3
APPENDIX 3

לוח זמנים מסלול "דרום"
TIME TABLE, ROAD "SOUTH"

במוקף ניתן 17.8.67
VALID 17.8.67

NOTES הערות	LEAVING עזב	ARRIVING הגיע	KM ק"מ	POST OFFICE בית הדואר
	08.30		0	JERUSALEM EAST ים - מזרח
DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL מוסר ומקבל דואר	09.00	08.40	3	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
DELIVERING MAIL מוסר דואר	09.25	09.20	9	BET SAHUR בית סחור
RECEIVING MAIL מוסר ומקבל דואר	09.40	09.35	3	BET LEHEM בית לחם
	09.55	09.50	2	BET GALA בית גאלא
מוסר ומקבל דואר DELIVERING MAIL	10.45	10.40	33	HEVRON חברון
קבל דואר RECEIVING MAIL	11.35	11.30	31	BET LEHEM בית לחם
מוסר ומקבל דואר	12.35	12.50	48	YERIHO יריחו
		13.20	35	JERUSALEM M ים - צ

KM TOTAL
ק"מ 164 סה"כ

לוח זמנים ומסלול "צפון"
TIME TABLE, ROAD "NORTH"

NOTES הערות	LEAVING עזב	ARRIVING הגיע	KM ק"מ	POST OFFICE בית הדואר
	08.30		0	JERUSALEM EAST ירושלים - מזרח
DELIVERING MAIL מוסר דואר	09.00	08.40	3	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
מוסר דואר	09.35	09.30	20	RAMALLA רמאללה
מוסר דואר	09.45	09.40	1	AL BIRA אל בירה
	10.50	10.45	51	NABLUS שכם
מוסר ומקבל דואר DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL	11.25	11.20	21	SILAT ED-DAHR סילת אל דאהר
מוסר ומקבל דואר LUNCH BREAK AND הפסקת הצהר	12.30	11.55	22	GENIN ג'נין
מוסר ומקבל דואר DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL	13.30	13.25	35	ATIL עתיל
מוסר ומקבל דואר	13.45	13.40	3	DEIR EL GUSUN דיר אל גוסון
מוסר ומקבל דואר	14.05	14.00	10	TUL KAREM טול כרם
מוסר ומקבל דואר RECEIVING MAIL	14.25	14.20	10	ANABTA ענבתא
מקבל דואר	14.50	14.45	16	NABLUS שכם
	15.55	15.50	50	AL BIRA אל בירה
מקבל דואר	16.05	16.00	1	RAMALLA רמאללה
DELIVERING MAIL מוסר דואר	16.45	16.35	20	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
		17.00	3	JERUSALEM E ים - מזרח

Figure 49

לוח זמנים מסלול דואר "דרום" בימים א' – ו'

(JUDEA AND SAMARIA - POST OFFICE)

TIME TABLE ROAD „SOUTH"

בתוקף מיום 1.9.70   VALID

NOTES הערות	LEAVING עוזב	ARRIVING מגיע	KM ק"מ	POST OFFICE בית הדואר
TO REPORT BEFORE LEAVING התייצבות	0810	0800	0	JERUSALEM EAST ירושלים מזרח
RECEIVING MAIL מקבל דואר	0850	0820	7	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
TO REPORT BEFORE LEAVING התייצבות לפני היציאה	0920	0900	7	ירושלים מזרח JERUSALEM EAST
DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL מוסר ונכקבל דואר	0945	0940	13	BET SAHURA בית סחורה
DELIVERING MAIL מוסר דואר	1005	0955	3	BET LEHEM בית לחם
מוסר דואר "	1015	1010	3	BET GALA בית ג'אלה
DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL מוסר ומקבל דואר	1045	1040	16	KEFAR EZION כפר עציון
" מוסר ומקבל דואר	1055	1050	2	ALON SHEVUT אלון סבות
" מוסר ומקבל דואר	1105	1100	1	ROSH ZURIM ראסי צורים
DELIVERING MAIL מוסר דואר	1128	1125	14	HALHUL חלחול
מוסר ומקבל דואר, ארוחת צהרים. AND LUNCH BREAK	1445	1135	6	HEVRON חברון
RECEIVING MAIL מקבל דואר	1454	1452	6	HALHUL חלחול
" מק:ל דואר	1540	1525	26	BET LEHEM בית לחם
" מקבל דואר	1547	1545	3	BET GALA בית ג'אלה
" מוסר דואר	1620	1620	16	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
		1640	7	ירושלים מזרח JERUSALEM EAST
			130	

ה ע ר ה –

העברת מסלוחי הדואר לבתי הדואר יטה ודורא תעשה באמצעות תחבורה ציבורית מדואר חברון.

העברת מסלוחי הדואר ליריחו ייעשו באמצעות דואר נע בקעת הירדן.

REMARK – THE FORWARDING OF MAIL TO POST OFFICES YATA AND DURA WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FROM THE POST OFFICE HEVRON.

THE FORWARDING OF MAIL TO YERIHO (JERICO) WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY MPO (MOBILE POST OFFICE) BIQAT HAYARDEN.

חליל טרזי
מ"מ ראש יחידה הקרה :יוח ובוגות

Figure 50

אזור יהודה והשומרון - דואר
JUDEA AND SAMARIA - POST OFFICE

לוח זמנים מסלול דואר "צפון" בימים ה' - ו'
TIME TABLE ROAD "NORTH"

בתוקף מיום 1.9.70 VALID

NOTES הערות	LEAVING עוזב	ARRIVING מגיע	KM ק"מ	POST OFFICE בית הדואר
התייצבות לפני היציאה — TO REPORT BEFORE LEAVING	0920	0900	0	JERUSALEM EAST ירושלים מזרח
מוסר דואר — DELIVERING MAIL	0945	0940	18	RAMALLA רמאללה
מוסר דואר "	0952	0950	2	AL-BIRA אל-בירה
מוסר דואר "	1035	1030	41	HAUARA חוארה
מוסר דואר "	1055	1047	11	NABLUS שכם
מוסר ומקבל דואר — DELIVERING AND RECEIVING MAIL	1120	1115	18	ANABTA ענבתא
מוסר ומקבל דואר	1140	1132	10	TUL KAREM טול כרם
מוסר ומקבל דואר "	1158	1135	10	DEIR EL GUSUN דיר אל ג'וזון
מוסר ומקבל דואר "	1210	1205	3	ATIL עתיל
מוסר ומקבל דואר "	1240	1235	21	YA'BAD יעבד
מוסר ומקבל דואר "	1300	1255	10	ARABA עראבה
מוסר ומקבל דואר, הפסקת צהרים — AND LUNCH BREAK	1350	1320	14	GENIN ג'נין
מוסר ומקבל דואר "	1425	1420	27	SILAT ED-DAHR סילת אד דאהר
מקבל דואר — RECEIVING MAIL	1450	1445	22	NABLUS שכם
מקבל דואר "	1502	1500	11	HAUARA חוארה
מקבל דואר "	1547	1545	41	AL-BIRA אל-בירה
מקבל דואר "	1555	1550	2	RAMALLA רמאללה
מוסר דואר "	1630	1625	22	SORTING OFFICE בית המיון
		1640	7	JERUSALEM EAST ירושלים מזרח
			290	

ה ע ר ה -

העברת משלוחי הדואר לבתי הדואר ביתוניה, ביר זית, אט-טייבה ודיר דבואן תעשה
באמצעות תחבורה ציבורית מדואר רמאללה.

העברת משלוחי הדואר לבתי הדואר קלקיליה, עזון, טובאס וסלפית תעשה באמצעות
תחבורה ציבורית מדואר שכם.

REMARK — THE FORWARDING OF MAIL TO THE POST OFFICES
BITUNYA, BIR ZET, AT TAYBE AND DEIR DIBWAN WILL
BE CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FROM THE
POST OFFICE RAMALLA.
THE FORWARDING OF MAIL TO THE POST OFFICES QALQILYA,
AZUN, TUBAS, AND SALFIT WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION FROM THE POST OFFICE NABLUS.

Figure 51

Undercover Mail   *(Lawrence Fisher, Raanana)*

When the Israel Defence Force recaptured the West Bank and Gaza in the Six Day War of 1967, the Arabs living in those areas suddenly found themselves cut off from their brethren in other Middle Eastern countries, non of whom had any communication or postal links with Israel.

The Palestinian Arabs had to find a way of sending mail from the administered territories in Israel to friends and relatives residing in other countries in the Middle East. As a result, they set up links through the Post Masters of various countries who had links with both Israel and Arab countries. Mail intended for an Arab country was addressed and placed inside another envelope which was addressed to the Post Master who would then forward the inner envelope to its intended destination. The same method of communication existed for contact with Israel. Payment to the Post Master for this service was by International Reply Coupon (IRC).

The most common undercover address was the Post Master of King Edward Street Post Office in London (Fig. 52). The most obvious example of the intention can be seen by the cover intended for "London, Cairo" (Fig. 53).

A scarcer transit address is the Post Master of Nicosia, Cyprus. Shown in Fig. 54 and Fig. 55 are covers to this Post Master from Israel and from the Post Master to Israel.
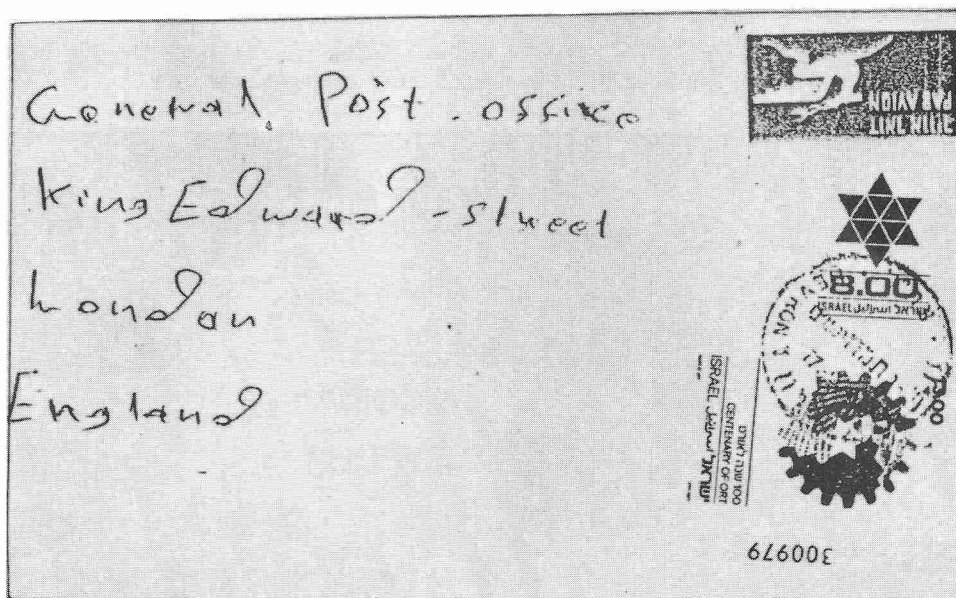
Fig. 52: Letter sent via King Edward Street Post Office in London, as an undercover.
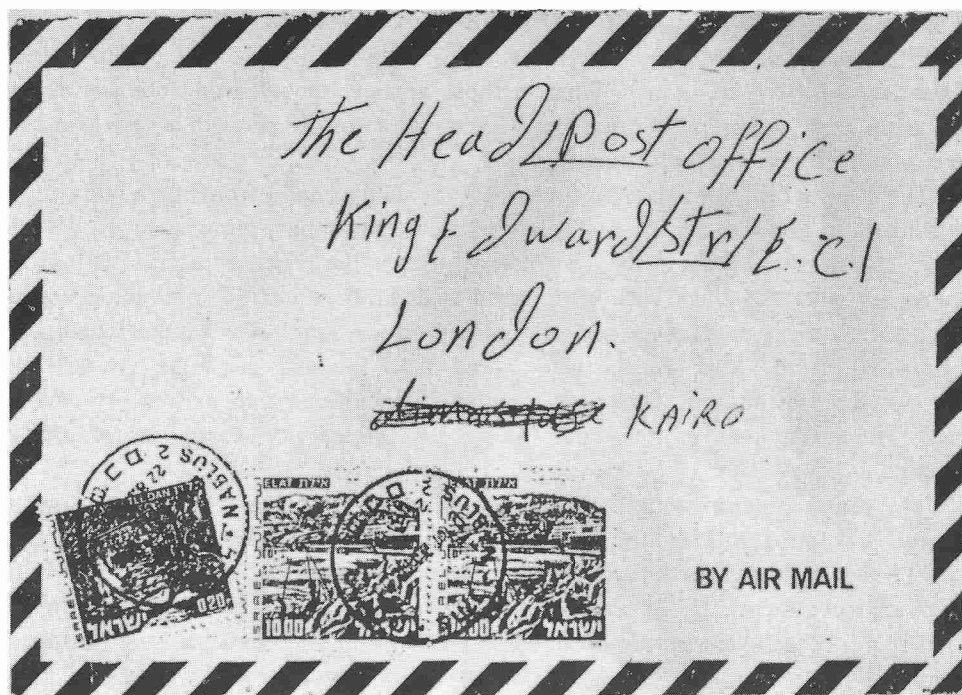
Fig. 53: Another letter sent to the King Edward Street Post Office in London.
Note the addition of "Kairo" to the address.
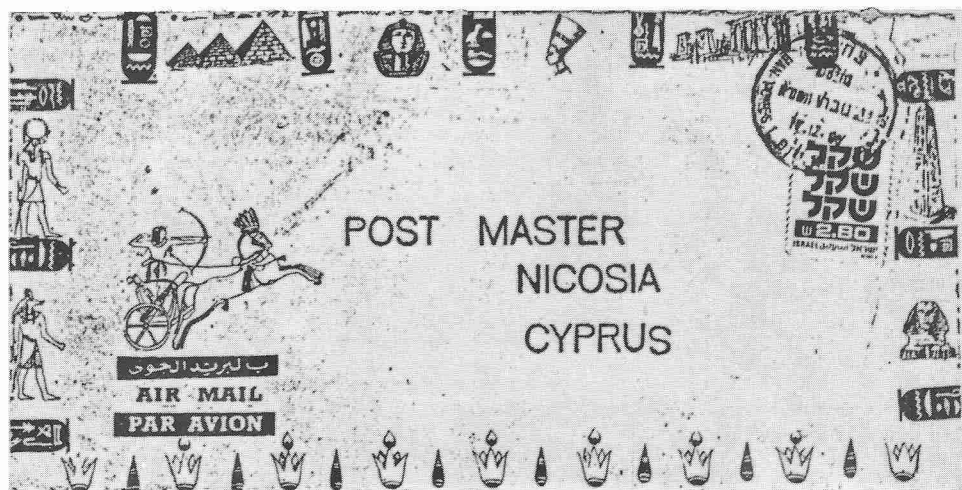
Fig. 54: Letter sent via the Post Master of Nicosia, Cyprus from Israel.
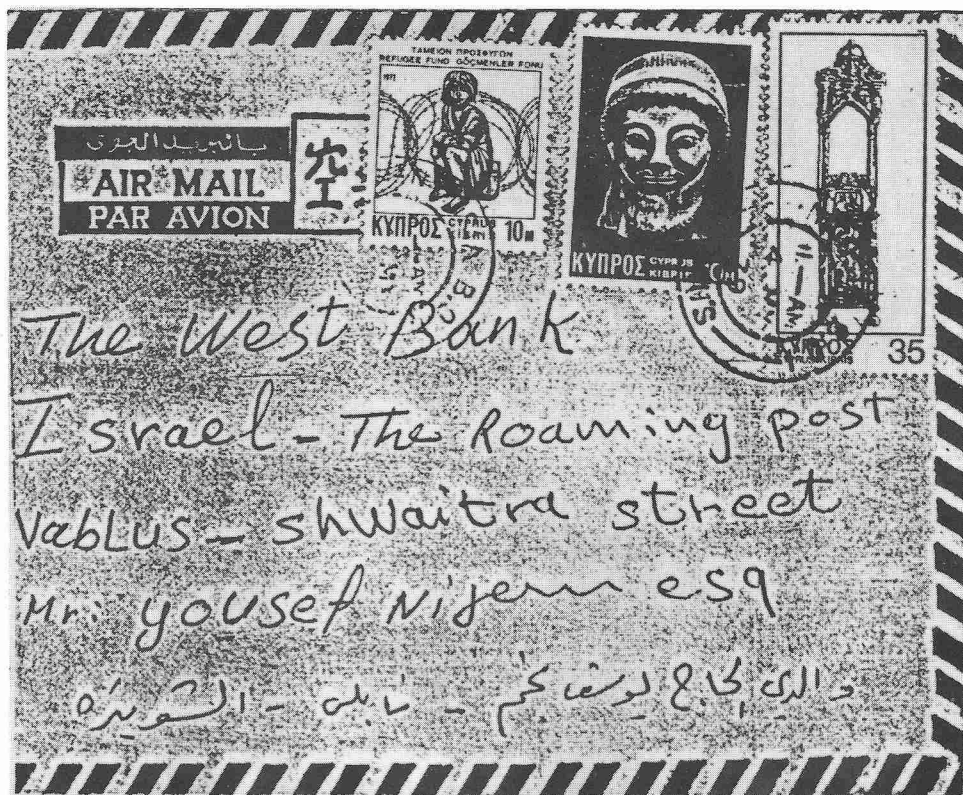
Fig. 55: Letter sent from Cyprus to the West Bank, Isreal.

This service existed with the approval, albeit reluctant, of the Israel Military Governor since some of the mail was censored and allowed to continue on its journey (Fig. 56).

This system of communication is very similar to that of the Thomas Cook address in Lisbon which existed during World War Two. Due to the existing political considerations all the sides deny the existence of this service, as they did for the Thomas Cook service.

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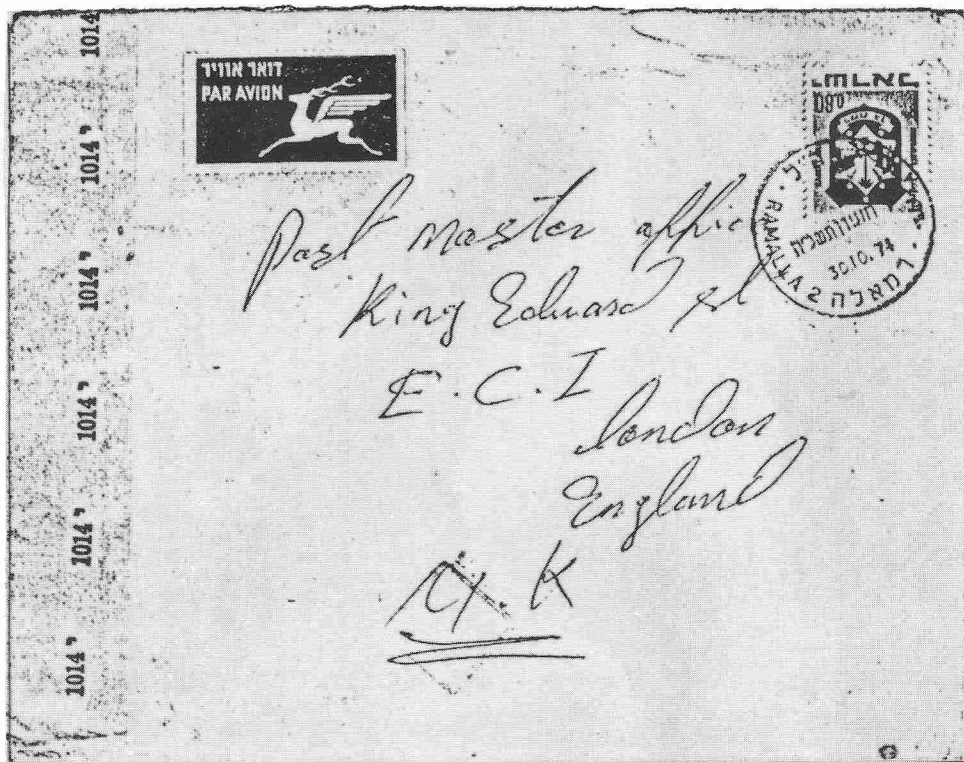
*Fig. 56: Letter sent to the King Edward Street Post Office in London,
which was censored by the Israeli Censor.*

Changes and Variations in R-Labels used in Israel (Part II)

(M. Sender, Herzliya)

Further to my first article published in HLPH No. 44, I would like to bring a second list of changes in new R-Labels issued lately in Israel. In this note I refer only to changes in the Latin spelling of place names.

The old labels are shown in column A; the new ones in B.

1. Tirat Karmel: "Ha" (the) was added between the two words of the name and the letter K was replaced by C.
2. Doar Na Yizreel: In the name Yizreel, the letter Y was deleted and one of the E's was replaced by A'.
3. Doar Na Hof'Azza: One of the letters 'Z' was removed.
4. Doar Na Hanegev: The words 'Doar Na' were deleted.
5. Doar Na Menashshe: One of the 'sh's was omitted.
6. Alfe Menashshe: As above. In addition, the letter 'I' was added to the word 'Alfe'.

7. Nahalat Yehuda: The letters 'a' and 'd' in Yehuda were switched (a printing error – ed.).
8. Bet El "A": The letter 'I' was added in the word Beit, and the index 'A' was removed.
9. Metar: The letter 'I' was added.
10. Merkaz Shappira: The letter 'K' was exchanged for 'C' in the word Merkaz. In the second word, one of the letters 'P' was deleted.
11. Qiryat Zanz: In the first word the letter 'Q' was exchanged for 'K', and in the second word the letter 'Z' was exchanged for 'S'.
12. Maale Efrayim: The letter 'Y' was deleted in Efrayim, and a hyphen added between the two 'A's of 'MAALE'.

	(A)	(B)		(A)	(B)
(1)	סירת כרמל 1 TIRAT KARMEL 2399	סירת הכרמל 1 TIRAT HA-CARMEL 07621	(7)	נחלת יהודה Nahalat Yehuda 2454	נחלת יהודה Nahalat-Yahued 10008
(2)	דואר נע יזרעאל Doar Na Yizreel 1319	ד.נ. יזרעאל Doar Na IZRA'EL 06002	(8)	בית אל א' BET EL "A" 0012	בית אל א' BEIT-EL 09523
(3)	דואר נע חוף עזה Doar Na Hof'Azza 0122	ד.נ. חוף עזה Doar Na HOF AZA 02577	(9)	מ.י.ת.ר METAR 00369	מיתר MEITAR 41309
(4)	דואר נע הנגב 4 Doar Na Ha-Negev 4105	הנגב 4 Ha NEGEV 01137	(10)	מרכז שפי'רא Merkaz Shappira 4638	מרכז שפירא Mercaz Shapira 04020
(5)	דואר נע מנשה Doar Na Menashshe 1288	דואר נע מנשה Doar Na Menashe 11141	(11)	קרית צאנז QIRYAT ZANZ 4399	קרית צאנז Kiryat Sanz 17527
(6)	אלפי מנשה Alfe Menashshe 2853	אלפי מנשה ALFEI MENASHE 28498	(12)	מעלה אפרים MAALE EFRAYIM 1222	מעלה אפרים MA'ALE EFRAIM 01980

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

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New Cancellations and Post Offices
(Compiled by B. Fixler & I. Nachtigal)

A. Special Cancellations (see also Fig. 57)

07.04.92: "Yerid HaMizrach – 60th anniversary, 7.4.32–7.4.92", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

19.04.92: "BULNOA Stamp Exhibition on the Cinema subject", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

26.04.92: "Architecture in Israel", Yerushalayim*.

26.04.92: "500 years since the expulsion of the Jews from Spain", Yerushalayim*.

26.04.92: "500th anniversary of Columbus' voyage", Haifa.

26.04.92: "Rabbi Joseph Hayyim Ben Elijah", Or Yehuda*.

26.04.92: "Rabbi Hayyim Joseph David Azulai", Bat Yam*.

26.04.92: "Memorial Day", Lod*.

29.04.92: "50 years since the captivity of the Yishuv Volunteers during World War II", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

30.04.92: "50 years since the Janusz Korczak murder / Heroes & Martyrs Day", Lohame HaGetaot.

03.05.92: "50th anniversary of the Association for the Welfare of Soldiers in Israel", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

03.05.92: "KKL/JNF 90th anniversary exhibition and Ashdod 35th anniversary", Ashdod.

04.05.92: "Greeting to GRANADA '92. 61st FIP Congress", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

05.05.92: "Israel Postal Authority – 5 years", Yerushalayim.

06.05.92: "With compliments from I.D.F. / I.D.F. Presentation from the Chief of Staff", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

07.05.92: "Israel Air Show", Ben Gurion airport.

10.05.92: "Pionki 50 years. Meeting of Pionki survivors". Tel Aviv–Yafo.

10.05.92: "Dedication of the CBI center for environmental studies / Yehoshua Gardens Tel Aviv", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

11.05.92: "EXPO 92 Sevilla Universal exhibition, Israel Day", Yerushalayim.

18.05.92: "KKL/JNF 90th anniversary World Gathering", Yerushalayim.

22.05.92: "Israel's philatelists greet World Columbian Stamp EXPO '92", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

28.05.92: "Rotary 32nd district conference. District 2490, Israel", Caesarea.

31.05.92: "25th anniversary of reunification of Jerusalem", Yerushalayim.

02.06.92: "Opening of the Feher Jewish Music Center", Tel Aviv–Yafo.

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

02.06.92: "Computerized post office", Bene Beraq.
16.06.92: "Rabbi Hayyim Benatar", Yerushalayim*.
16.06.92: "Rabbi Shalom Sharabi", Yerushalayim*.
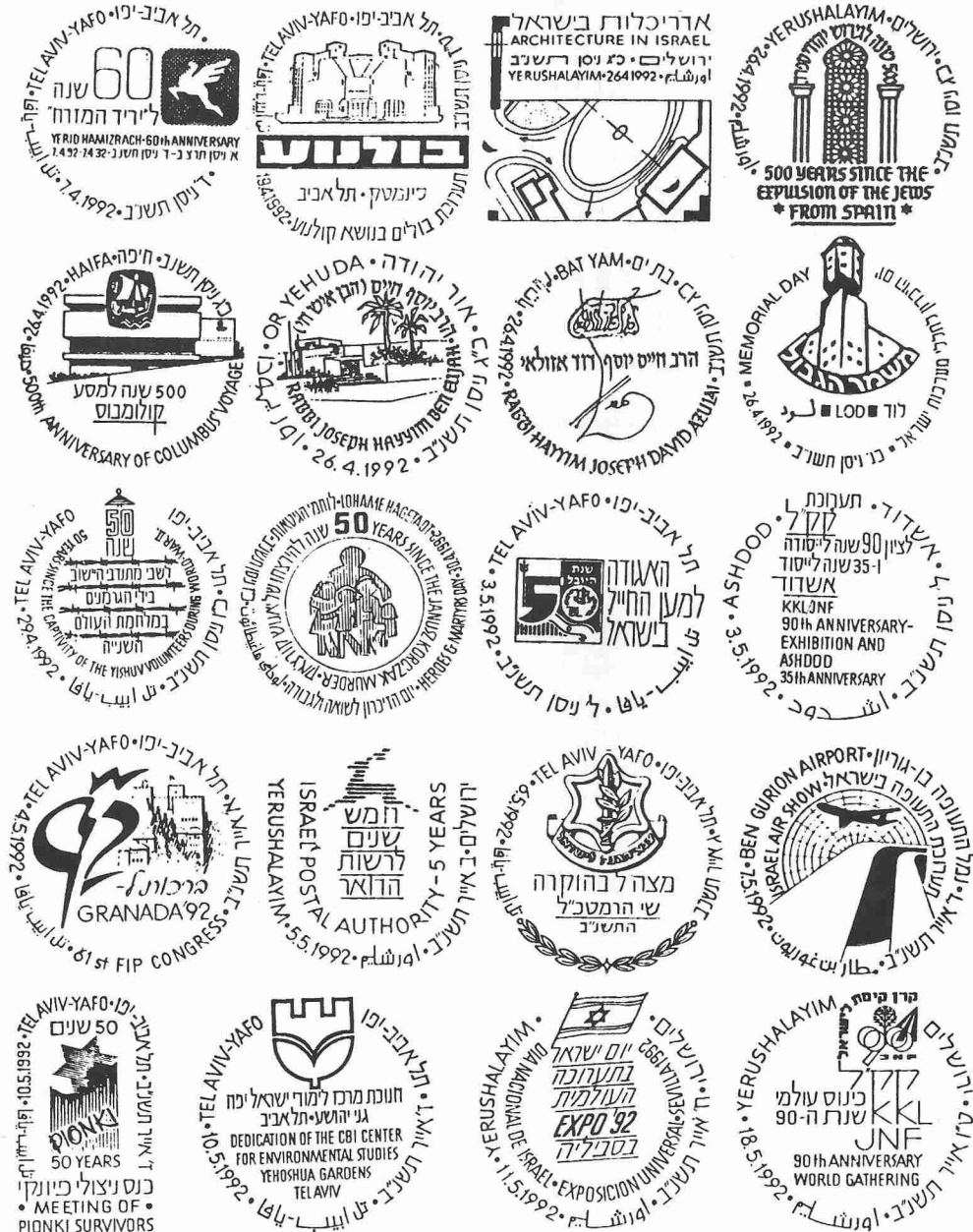16.06.92: "100 years Jaffa–Jerusalem railway line", Tel Aviv–Yafo*.

Fig. 57: Special cancellations used in Israel in the last period.

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Fig. 57 (continued): Special cancellations used in Israel in the last period.

B. Definitive Cancellations

12.04.92: "Bat-Yam 510 ד", New Francotype machine in the postal branch, 62 Balfour st., Bat Yam. This time the inscription "Israel Postal Authoritiy" was included in the cancellation.

16.04.92: "Beer Sheva 49", additional postmark in Beer Sheva post office.

16.04.92: "Ashdod 26", additional postmark in Ashdod post office.

20.04.92: "Betar Illit", Zahal, for the postal agency, Grade B, in Betar Illit.

29.04.92: "Arara 1", for the united Arab village Arara, formed of the former Arara and Ara (L.D. of 'ARA' postmark – 28.4.92).

03.05.92: "Haifa 117" "Haifa 118", additional postmarks in the BPO, 22A Hanevyim st., replacing "Haifa 40" and "Haifa 47" which were lost.

17.05.92: "Azza 8", replacing the previous postmark "Beit Hamemshal Gaza", which was last used on 15.5.

20.05.92: "Makkabbim – Reut", for the postal agency, Grade A, in Makkabbim–Reut.

31.05.92: Last day of Kefar Giladi postal agency. The kibbutz now gets postal services from "Hagalil Ha-Ellion 2" Mobile Post.

24.05.92: " Tel Aviv–Yafo 185", in Shechunat HaTiquwa (Tel Aviv) BPO, instead of a similar handstamp which was worn out.

02.06.92: "Holon 10", for the postal agency, Grade A, in 169 HaHistadrut st. (This postmark was used before in Holon main P.O.).

31.06.92: Last Day of "Nahariyya 619 ד" Francotype machine.

Correction: Last Day of "Nahal Lakhish-Zafon" Mobile Post was 10.01.92, and not 11.01 (as reported in HLPH #49/50).

New Stamps and Postal Stationery

(1) Stamps and Stamp Booklets. The following stamps were issued during the last period:

16.6.92: 100th Anniversary of the Jaffa–Jerusalem railway line (85 Ag, NIS 1, 1.30, 1.60); also booklet of one pane, composed of these four stamps without tabs (tete-beche se-tenant) – see Figure 58. Rabbi Hayyim Benatar, 1696–1743 (NIS 1.30); Rabbi Shalom Sharabi, 1720–1777 (NIS 3.–).

(2) Prestamped Envelope. On 2 June, 1992, a long forgotten postal item was issued by the Postal Authority – a prestamped envelope, imprinted with the non-denominated Anemone stamp in red and green for "standard local letter" (Fig. 59). The envelopes are sold in packs of 10 for NIS 8.50 (that is a premium of 10 Ag for each envelope) with an introductory leaflet (in blue) in every packet (s. Fig. 60) advocating the proper way of preparing a letter's envelope (postal code, place of stamp and address, etc.)

Only a few prestamped envelopes were issued in Israel, a long time ago: in September 1950 – the Independence Envelope (Flag 'stamp') and the Weizmann Envelope (Negev 'stamp'); in August 1965 – 4 illustrated airmail envelopes on the theme of land development.
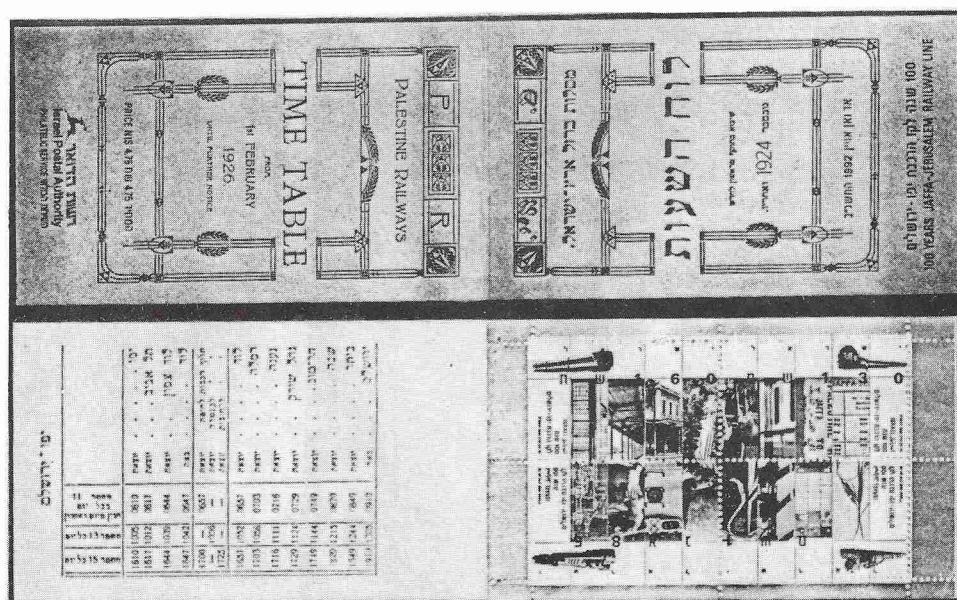
Fig. 58: The booklet commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Jaffa–Jerusalem railway: (top) the booklet cover; (bottom) the left inside cover and the pane of stamps.

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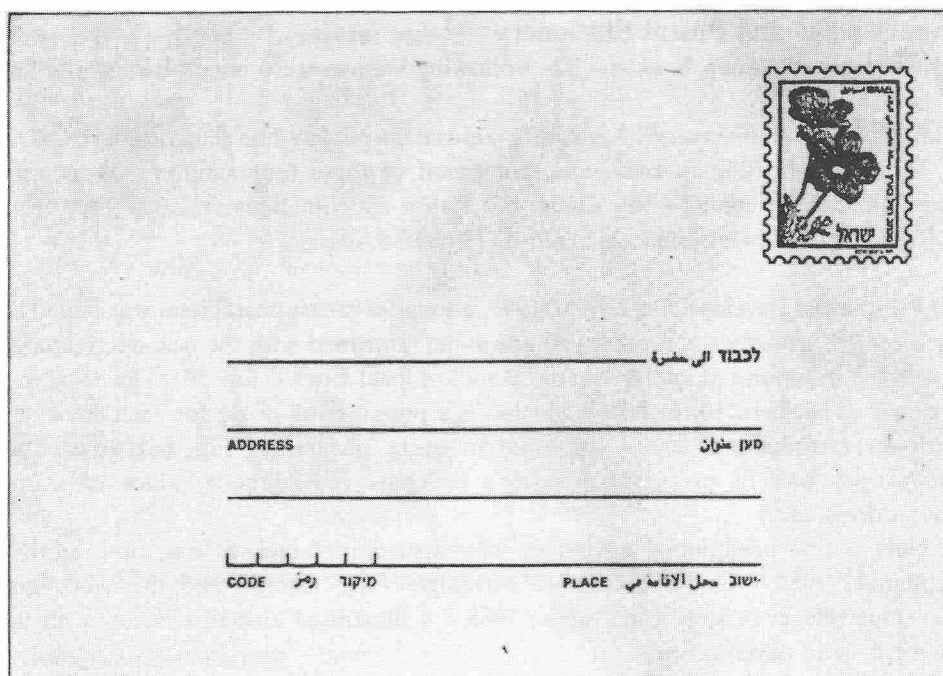
Fig. 59: The prestamped cover for inland use, issued on 2 June, 1992.
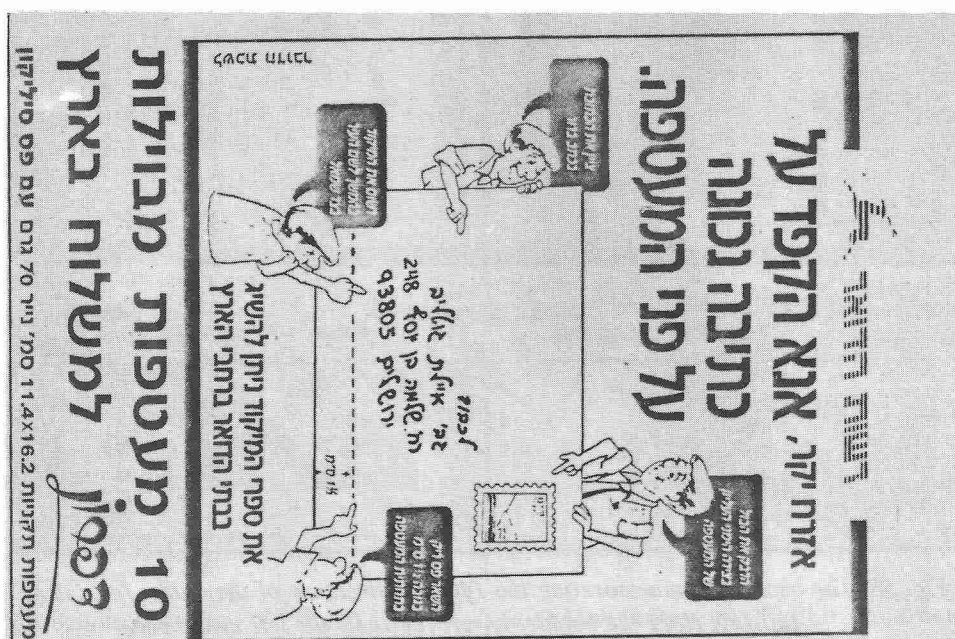
Fig. 60: The informative leaflet leading each packet of ten prestamped covers.

Additional Issues of Computerized Meter Postage Labels

The Postal Authority is widening the computerization of its post offices around the country, part of which program is the introduction of many more "computerized counters" which among other services produce Computerized Meter Postage Labels, first introduced experimentally on 17.6.91 in Beit Hakerem[1] (Jerusalem) and on 17.12.91 in the Soncino post office[2] (Tel Aviv).

At this stage 57 such counters are introduced in eight post offices in Tel Aviv and one in Benei Beraq according to the following list (in parentheses – the number of active counters in the P.O.):

Tel Aviv: 1. Yad Eliyahu, 23 La Guardia St. (4); 2. 67 HaUniversita St. (5); 3. North Telephone Exchange Building, 108 Even Gvirol St. (10); 4. The Central Sorting Office, 137 HaHagana Rd. (5); 5. 121 HaHashmonayim St. (10); 6. Hadar Dafna, 41 HaMelech Shaul St. (7); 7. the Industry Building, 29 HaMered St. (4); 8. 36 Geula St. (6).

Benei Beraq*: 75 Rabbi Akiva St. (6).

Each counter has its own identity number, which is printed on its labels. These counters are planned to be first operated (at least for the purpose of producing labels for the public) from 27 July, 1992** and during August, and possibly somewhat later.

References: (1) Z. Shimony, "Experimental Computer–Operated Meter Postage Machine", HLPH #47 (1991) p. 345.
(2) N. Shereshevsky, "New Computerized Meter Postage Labels", HLPH #49/50 (1992) p. 496.

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* It is reported by some philatelists that at least one computerized counter in Benei Beraq already operated on 2 June, on the occasion of the celebration of this event and the issue of a special cancellation to commemorate it.

** On this date the 7 counters at Hadar Dafna B.P.O. (No. 6 in the above list) were first operated.

Holy Land Awards in "Granada '92"

An unusual number of Holy Land exhibits were shown at "Granada '92", the only FIP World Stamp Exhibition this year, which took place in Granada, Spain, between 24.4–3.5.92. Their awards are listed herewith.

Large Gold

Z. Alexander – "Turkish Post in the Holy Land".

F.F. Blau – "The airmail history of the Holy Land" (FIP Champions Class).

Gold

Z. Galibov – "Palestine British Mandate".

I. Karpovsky – "Israel Transition Period: cities under emergency conditions".

Y. Shabtai – "Israel: the Doar Ivri issue".

Large Vermeil

Y. Rimon – "1948 local and provisional postal services".

Vermeil

K. Bar-Ilan – "The Doar Ivri issue".

F.F. Blau – "K.u.K. Austro-Hungarian fieldpost, WWI".

J. Slutzki – " Palestine rates and routes, 1927–1948".

Y. Tsachor – "Doar Ivri rates and routes".

C. Shiftan – "Correspondence and relations between Germany and the Holy Land".

Large Silver

A. Croten – "The internal-foreign surface rates of Palestine Mandate".

Silver Bronze

G. Moscati – "From the promised land to the State of Israel".

Bronze

S. Hassan Benasayag – "The Holy Land".

W. Lowenberg – "Israel".

Book Review

The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840–1918 (Volume II), by Anthon Steichele; English revised translation by N. Collins and L. Dickstein (price $50 + postage, SIP Educational Fund, 25113 Daffield Rd., Cleveland; OH 44122, USA).

This is the second of two volumes covering, in great detail, the Foreign Post Offices in Palestine during the Turkish occupancy. It complements the first volume and so includes, as one of the Appendices, a valuation guide for all of the many postmarks listed in the volume. This is of tremendous assistance to the philetlist and now gives, together with Vol. I, a comprehensive guide to all of the known postmarks of that period.

Volume II includes the Italian, Austrian and Russian Post Offices, and also those of the Jewish Colonies. Further material included covers the Italian and French Forces in Palestine during World War I, a brief cover of the ever more interesting Hotel Cachets, and corrections and additions to Volume I.

The coverage is immense. Not only are the various known postmarks listed, but also included is a history of the particular Post Office, the postal rates applicable, registered marks and labels, postage due, maritime markings where applicable, and a listing of the currently known forgeries.

As in Volume I there are a tremendous number of illustrations, many of which are unique. These cover almost all of the postmarks, and include all of the known rarities. One pity is that in many cases these are not as sharp as would be expected, but this is no doubt due to the many times the photocopies were recopied.

One mistake only is included. Steichele claimed that the Austrian Post Office finally moved into a building in Jaffa Street. This is surprising of him, since of all the Foreign Post Offices the Austrian was the only one to remain within the walls of the Old City in a building (since demolished) opposite the entrance to David's Citadel, until its closure in 1914.

The book, although rather expensive at $50 is of such value that no philatelist interested in the field of Postal History of Palestine can be without it in his reference library. It is doubtful if it will ever be replaced by another work, as this has replaced the pioneer work of Pollack.

The set is an example of a remarkable cooperation, based on the outstandingly important basic work of the late Anton Steichele in German, between its translator, the late Leonard (Paul) Dickstein and the overall editor and well known researcher, Norman Collins. They deserve our heartfelt thanks for having made this very important work available to the larger audience of English-speaking philatelists throughout the world. Also to be congratulated are the associate editors Jerome L. Byers and Emil S. Dickstein, the producer Fred F. Blau and last, but not least, Arie Ben David who baked up the whole project as the President of the W.P.C. who published the two volumes of this momentous work.

(E. Glassman)

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¼74 פיאסטר (רוב הבולים באחורי המעטפה)

A 1906 registered insured courier letter from Safed via Beirut to Bucharest.
The letter, which contained a large sum of money, was franked in Beirut
with Austrian Levant stamps of fantastic total value of 74¼ piastres,
most of the stamps being tied to the reverse (see note on p. 562)

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קיץ תשנ״ב