

EGYPTIAN

TOPICS

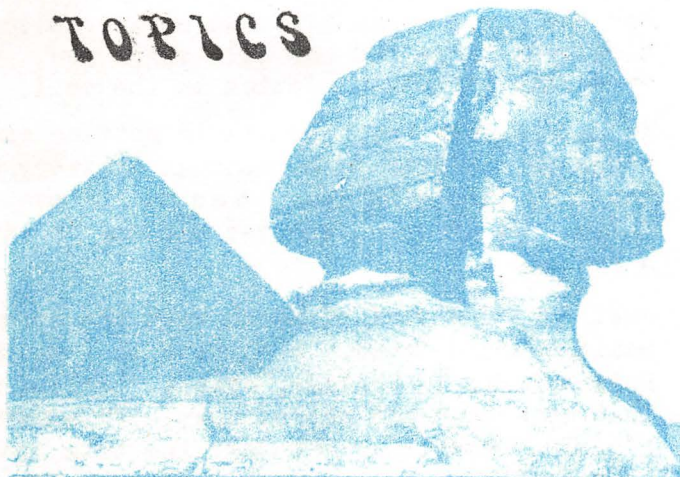


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EGYPTIAN TOPICS



EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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THE AMERICAN AGENT FOR THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF EGYPT

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taining to the Philatelic Society of Egypt,
should be sent to Dr. Smith in Michigan. . .

IN MEMORIAM

Frances E Garrett

1892 - 1972

Although not an Egyptian or Sudanese collector, her interest and support in my philatelic activities including Topics, remained constant. She stuffed and stamped many an envelope to help us mail on time, and this small tribute is but a tiny part of a deep feeling of loss.

Philately is a small facet in the gem of a long life time where one's mother is concerned, and I can think of no better "Good Bye" than to say "We loved her".

with the editor

We are very pleased and very proud to present to you, in this issue, an article by Mr. Ibrahim Chaftar, the eminent Egyptian philatelist, signer of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists; Chairman of the very successful International Philatelic Exhibition held in Cairo in 1948 and a contributor of, perhaps more of the postal history of his Country through his exhaustive research, personally and in Official Postal files, than any person living today.

While he has commented from time to time and we have had an enjoyable correspondence, this is the first comprehensive article by this knowledgeable man to be printed in Topics.

We are pleased too, to offer the first English translation, insofar as we know of the fine work by the late Gabriel Boulad on the Civilian Censor markings of Egypt during the Second World War. This article originally appeared in French in L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE.

Conspicuously absent in this issue is our usual article by Wm. Billens "Philatelic Fun and Profit". It is not as easy as one may imagine for nearly two years, to run a column on varieties alone. However, we are confident that more articles by this painstaking researcher will appear.

* * *

A souvenir sheet was issued by the Egyptian Postal Authority in connection with the release of the "King Tut" commemoratives. We did not receive the sheet from Cairo although we were advised it was enclosed. We will try to acquire a copy for illustration next issue along with the 30 mm. Aero-gram currently in use.

Incidentally, the 110 mms. se-tenant pair of this issue is listed by Cairo as being an emission of only 25,000. We don't know if they mean each stamp or each pair, however as each stamp 50,000 is a very small printing. Since the design is a painted plaque it will interest the Art Topicalists which could rapidly result in short supply. We suggest you make certain you obtain a copy now while it is available. A subscription to Topic's New Issue Service being handled by Tom Olson will new issues at a price no dealer can match. See page 79 for detail. Drive carefully, have a happy vacation and plan to exhibit during the 1972-73 Season.



bazaar

There is never a charge for WANTS or OFFERS listed for our readers in Egyptian Topics.

* * *

WANTED: R.A.F. LABELS issued for the air Meeting in 1934; Also a Graf Zeppelin Suez cancellation on card or cover. Need the EEF cancels - all three types too! If you can help write to Dr. A. WINTER, 45, Rue Carves 92 - Montrouge, France . . .

OFFER: NEW ISSUES OF A.R. EGYPT a "Topics" venture handled by our reader TOM OLSON of Berkeley Calif., 1115 Keith Ave., Zip 94708 New issues at a small % over face to cover costs only. For full information write now, or see details in Vol. 4, No., Nov/Dec. Is.

WANTED: First Flight Cover - 1931 Zeppelin, backstamped. Scott's C-3 and C-4. If you can help write to Weber Stearns. P. O. Box 112, Astor Station, Boston, Mass., 02123

WANTED: Clean unused Egyptian Postal Stationery. If you can help write to TOM HOMA and tell him what you have. 18050 Lake Shore Blvd., Apt. #304, Cleveland, OH. 44119

INFORMATION WANTED: A list of postal rates for the various denominations of the "Young Farouk" issue, 1937/1939 in Egypt. If you can help write to: K. C. BROWN, 4, Holmwood Grove, Mill Hill, London, NW7 3DT., ENGLAND

OFFER OR TRADE: Royal Imperf Airmails, Nos. 5 15 and 16. With "cancelled" on the reverse Make offer or trade for imperf nos. 6 and 7 Write Editor: P. O. Box # 36492, LA., Calif

Wanted: Specialist Material - the French offices in Egypt, on or off cover. What do you have? And, note the following . . .

OFFERS: "L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE, Nos. 101 to 117, complete run 1960 to 1967 seventeen issues in all. \$15.00 postpaid. Also BRITISH NUMERAL CANCELLATIONS of the EMPIRE by Heins, 2nd Edition, 1960, 64 pgs. postpaid KEN PIERCE, c/o City of Hope Medical Center 1500 E. Duarte Rd. Duarte, Calif., 91010

AN APOLOGY . . .

For the first time since we began publication over three and one half years ago, we were late in getting Topics in the mail.

We have always taken pride in getting each issue out on time even though delivery by the U.S. Turtle Delivery has caused many a delay. We offer no excuses but we do have a reason.

Just at the end of March when the normal mailing would occur, a phone call from the Police Dept. in Seattle, Wash., advised me that my mother had passed away. This meant dropping everything to make the trip north to make the necessary arrangements and to close the estate. During this period everything was held in abeyance. On returning to L.A. we immediately finished the last issue and mailed it. We apologize for the inconvenience we may have caused anyone.

NEW OVERSEAS AIR DELIVERY:

In the past, mail service overseas has been something less than even good. Apart from the four to six weeks it takes to even get to its destination by ship, it also arrived in some cases, as though it had been shipped on a coal barge.

To correct this our good friend in England, Mr. Ken Knight, has undertaken distribution in the United Kingdom. We now mail by air parcel post to Mr. Knight who in turn mails the addressed envelopes with British franking, assuring delivery in a matter of days instead of weeks.

Our first venture was successful however, it appears Customs was careless shipment as it came apart in the post. The GPO apparently mailed them without franking or postage due insofar as we are able to determine from reports from our readers. If, for any reason you did not receive your last issue - March/April, please advise and another copy will be sent.

Meanwhile we are digging out from under a mountain mail and hopefully, all will be in order in a short time. Thank your for bearing with me. Ed.

correction

Inadvertantly we listed Mr. Ken Knight, our new London Agent incorrectly in connection with the postal rates for 1937, and as the Hon. Sec'y of E.S.C. Should have been Mr. K Brown.

STAMP ACTIVITIES AT WALTER BJORK LOW EBB IN EGYPT New War C.C. V.P.

Our reader, Harold Leventhal, has written to say that he spent four days in Cairo in the month of March.

While there he met a prominent stamp dealer who indicated that there had been a decided lull in stamp activities in Egypt itself.

This has come about due to economic restrictions and the constant "threat" of the resumption of a war. It was this dealer's opinion that more activities in Egyptian stamps takes place in Great Britain and the United States than in Egypt. Truly sad.

Others among our readers have made the trip to Egypt this year. Hopefully, we will receive additional reports which we can pass on to you when they return.

Our reader WALTER BJORK of New York was recently appointed to the position of Vice President of the WAR COVER CLUB in place of the late Kevin Rogan, whose untimely death came just after he had been elected.

Walter has long maintained a keen interest in Egyptian philately, particularly covers and war related items.

Many of you will recall that he was instrumental in the distribution during the summer of 1970 of Mr. John E. O. Hobbs excellent book "BRITISH FORCES IN EGYPT - 1932/1940. A standard for students of this era.

Many WWC members are also faithful readers of Topics, with a keen interest in Middle Eastern War covers and related items.

* * * * *



Illustrated at the left is an interesting cover dated 2nd February, 1843 at Bombay, India.

Oval "INDIA" is in deep red.

C.d.s. London arrival marking is in pale brick red, as Q / 13 MR 13 / 1843

Instructions read via MARSEILLES and SUEZ.

Contents of the letter deal with insurance value of the cargo for 2,847.10 pounds on cotton & buffalo horns.

a similar letter in the Ed's coll. bears departure date of 19 July, 1845 same type cds London arrival but letters KE instead of "Q".

Second letter also via SUEZ and MARSEILLE.

* * *

Ibrahim Chaftar

RETOUCHES

and FLAWS

10 m/ms BLUE

10 m/ms CARMINE

See Illustration Front Cover

Zeheri Numbers 62 - 63

Stanley Gibbons Nos. 91 - 92

Scott Numbers 68 - 69

When I went through the article by Mr. G. T. Houston, F.R.P.S.L., which appeared in the January/April 1971 issue of "L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE", No. 124 regarding the varieties, unknown till then, of the 1 m/ms S.G. No. 85 - Zeh No. 56 and S.G. No. 86 - Zeh No. 57, I was deeply interested, and vexed at the same time for having ceded my collection of the issues of "De La Rue" 1879/1914, Harrison 1920/21; the overprinted crowns and Government Services.

I have seriously studied the overprints and, basing my judgments on the opinions of certain philatelists at the time - to my regret - I must honestly confess that I paid little attention to the background of the design. Frankly speaking, the executive work and the inks used by De La Rue and Harrison enjoyed a good reputation as to their perfection.

Our well-known old time philatelists, A. S. Mackenzie Low, Dr. William Byam and Douglas MacNeille, have extensively classified the

HARRISON'S

ISSUES

1920

1921

different crown and services overprints but it seems that they have not examined the background of the stamps either; in other words, the design. However, Mackenzie-Low has signaled the variety of 1 m/ms by the missing two dots, S.G. No. 84 - Zeh. 55a and a 10 P.T., S.G. No. 95, Zeh. No. 68, by a color dot under the frame of a unit of the first row.

After reflection and going through my collection of obliterations and blocks obliterated, I addressed myself to my Alexandria friends Mr. & Mrs. M. Nicolaizos, C.

Calapothaki, M. Tsamis, G. Bichara, H. Kastraveli, Abdel Hamid Loutfi and Saby and I examined the mint and used stamps in their collections. I was therefore able to recognize the varieties signaled by Houston and notified him accordingly. Naturally, I did not fail to underline the importance of his findings.

Then, I had the opportunity to go to Cairo where my friends in the Capitol, Mr. & Mrs. M. Hagopian, Mrs. Arthur Michel, Alfi Zaklama and Tarek Awff followed with delight, the example set by my Alexandria friends. To all of them I am most thankful.

I have successively gone through + or -, some 350 specimens of the 2 m/ms green S.G.

Continued on following page

No. 85; + or - some 700 specimens of the 2 m/ms vermilion S.G. No. 86; 1300, + or - specimens of the 2 m/ms vermilion overprinted crown, and 200 + or - copies of the vermilion 2 m/ms overprinted OHEMS and came to the conclusion that the 2 m/ms green S.G. 85 and the 2 m/ms vermilion S. G. 86 were printed by the same plate repaired and re-touched before the impression of the 2 m/ms green.

The results of my findings on the 2 m/ms Harrison green and vermilion shall be published in a future article. However, I must point out that, although in finding two specimens of the "Major Retouches", one mint and one used, S.G. No. 85 "Dropped Dots", I failed to find even one specimen of the 2 m/ms green, S. G. No. 85 of the "Major Retouches" with the word "Egypt" retouched. I shall carry on with my research work.

While running over my collection of used stamps, my attention was drawn to the variety which I gave No. 17. It is a carmine 10 m/ms, S.G. No. 92 - Zeh. 63. Seeking a second stamp, I have discovered with surprise a multitude of varieties, some being "Major Retouches", and have the same importance as the two varieties signaled by Houston. Consequently they deserve to be catalogued.

Before describing the principle ones I must give a concise idea - inspired by the work of Fred Melville's "POSTAGE STAMPS IN THE MAKING", about the typographical process used for the printing of Egyptian stamps during the period from 1879 to 1921 in order to clarify for the reader the comprehensive scope of the varieties I intend to present.

In the typographical process, the printing surface is higher than the surface which should not be imprinted. When this surface is inked by a roll, the ink is also laid down on all the parts in relief on the same level. The ink is not laid down on the surfaces lower than the imprinted level. A printing surface prepared for use by the said process is made up of (ups) and (downs) when seen in section. The ups must be of the same level while the level of the is of no importance provided they are sufficiently down in order not to be touched by the inked roll.

When the inked ups are applied, then pressed on a white sheet of paper, for example, the ink is absorbed by the paper which, once removed, shall show then the design of the ups. The downs shall be represented by the white paper on which the design was printed.

I had in my possession + or - 200 stamps of the 10 m/ms Harrison, partly blue and partly carmine. Out of their study, I arrived at the conclusion that a fruitful pursuit in varieties could be conducted. Addressing myself once again to my Alexandria friends I was able to scrutinize other copies of the 10 m/ms of the Harrison printings: 650 + or - blue, half of which proved to be 10 m/ms of De La Rue with the large crescent watermark: 350 + or - carmine between overprinted crown and non-overprinted, and 200 + or - carmine, overprinted OHEMS.

I describe hereunder the result, with illustrations, in support of the principle varieties, in order to encourage my colleagues to enrich their collections and be useful, therefore, to Egyptian philately.

All of these varieties are permanent and are, at least, double in my collection.

When one compares the controls A/ 20 of the 10 m/ms blue with the controls B/ 23 of the 10 m/ms carmine one notices that the impression plates are different, a matter which explains the reason why the same varieties are not found in both colors.

Probably, the reason for the new plate must be that of the carmine color.

MAJOR RETOUCH - NO. 1

The left side of the exterior frame is redesigned, not straight by tracing, and of unequal thickness.

The colored panel in which is engraved the value of the stamp in English TEN MILLIEMES is irregular as far as the letters "LIEMS" are concerned, a matter which gives the two spaces in white which frame it, a twisted effect and an unequal breadth as to their lengths.

The word "MILLIEMES" is redrawn skillfully enough by hand and has the characters thinner than normal, apart from:

Continued on the following page

- A) - The S of MILLIEMES, redesigned, has the edge of the front amputated by a vertical cutting.



- B) - The last E of MILLIEMES, redesigned, has three horizontal bars thinner and longer than normal.



- C) - The second M of MILLIEMES, completely redesigned - thinner - has the legs very much separated and is irregularly engraved.
- D) - The first E of MILLIEMES, remade, thinner and has the horizontal bar longer than normal.
- E) - The second I of MILLIEMES is shorter and thinner.
- F) - The two LL's in MILLIEMES are shorter and thinner. The second L is leaning to the right.

This "Major Retouch" is found in two states. In the first case, the letters E and M of MILLIEMES are shown separated. The edge of the inferior bar of the letter E is not straight, but rather leaning to the left. The first leg of M is vertically leaning to the left at its end and the sharp end framing the base of the letter is directed up.

The second case, the E & M of MILLIEMES are shown connected, i.e., the base of the bar of E is extended by a white string to connect to the base of the 1st leg of the M.

No. 2 -

The exterior frame is cut off to the left, up to the level of the letter S in MILLIEMES.

No. 3 - RETOUCH

The E of EGYPT has the horizontal bar in the middle badly retouched and surpasses - in length and thickness - the upper bar and the inferior bar. However, the end is cut off obliquely towards the right.



No. 4 -

A small white round spot is found on the inferior left corner of the central design.

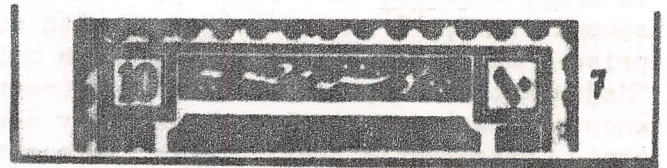
No. 5 -

The frame of the central design is cut off, from down, to the left, to the level of T in TEN.

No. 6 -

Three white spots under the right Arabic word طيمات, on the white line of the panel frame where the value عشرة طيمات is inserted.

No. 7 -

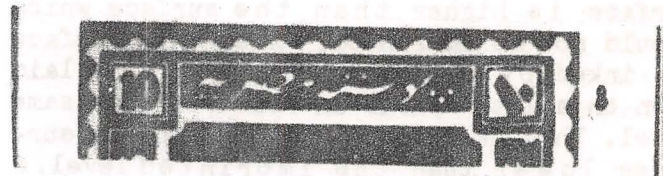


This stamp is a 10 m/ms blue "De La Rue" 1914, watermarked big crescent. Its variety is the edge of the Arabic letter ط in

طيمات, which surpasses and crosses the panel and the upper exterior frame.

This typical variety is very interesting but we only refer to it here in order not to be confused with the varieties of the Harrison issue.

No. 8 - MAJOR RETOUCH




The figure 10 in Arabic ط , in the upper right corner is entirely remade. It is redesigned, bigger and touches by its base the white square frame containing it. Entirely remade, the frame is irregular. A White notching is seen on the upper edge of the colored panel containing the characters showing the value of the stamp.

Continued on next page.

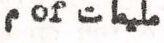
No. 9 -

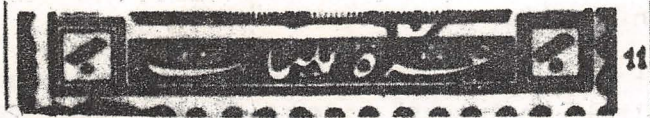
The lower corner - left - of the design is broken

No. 10 -

An additional dot between the 1st letter in Arabic and the second word  (From right to left) in the upper panel.

No. 11 -

A bad work under the  making a hernia.



No. 12 -

The framing of the lower left corner containing the figure 10 is cut off in its upper part.

No. 13 - The framing of the lower left corner containing the figure 10 is cut off in its upper part.

No. 14 -


White framing containing the figure 10 in the lower left corner is broken in its lower right part. This variety is nearly of the same kind as that discovered at that time by Mackenzie Low for the 1m/m S.G. 84.

This variety of the 10 m/ms carmine was noticed by W.F. Billens, page 34, No. 2, Vol. 3, of the excellent philatelic journal published by Mr. Gordon B. Garrett under the name of "Egyptian Topics" - Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

No. 15 -

An additional dot in color to the left of the 10 in the upper right panel. Sometimes this dot is noted by a group of small granulated dots, very neatly visible.



No. 16 -

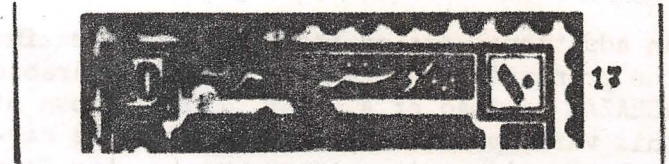
Excrescence in white under the last letter of the Arabic word  in the upper Arabic panel.

No. 17 - IMPORTANT ANOMALY

This stamp is an anomaly which is, perhaps, not permanent. It is the only specimen

which I found till now. However, it was during my research work in looking for a second specimen that I discovered all these retouches and mistakes on the 10 m/ms of 1920/1921, the principle ones of which are the subject of this article.


Under the  of the Arabic word  on the upper colored panel, two white dots should be found. In their place, is a quite big white spot forming an excrescent of the white ground concealing the central design and re-entering in the colored panel.



In the middle of the white spot there is a hole, not pierced, where one can clearly see the granulation of the paper pulp, a matter which indicates that the surface of the paper was scratched up.

On the back of the stamp, at the place corresponding to the hole, one can notice a round relief, quite clear, which resisted the washing and subsequent drying.

This hole was certainly produced by a strange body which settled between the printing surface and the paper. It must have been thick enough to jam in the hole, detached with the plate or remained on the paper and detached through washing.

This, however, does not explain the presence of the white spot under the  which is, either resulting from the deterioration of the metal or the interception of the ink by the seam of the strange body settled on the said space.

What was the fate of the damaged unit of the 10 m/ms? Was it retouched or replaced? Could the last alternative of the strange body which remained on the paper, and rendered the imprinting surface in a good condition for further working, a good explanation?

My research work continues and I beg my philatelist colleagues to let me know of their remarks and their findings.

---Ed's note: Any comments may be directed to the editor or directly to Mr. Chaftar, at 8 Street 47, Smouha, Alexandria, Egypt.

Continued

No. 18 - DEFECT OR RETOUCH ?

The G of EGYPT was accidental or a bad re-touch ? Whether the piece of metal which forms the center of the letter G was either torn out or removed, the fact remains that the G was in a deformed way.



No. 19 -

An additional dot on the ر in عشره making the pronunciation of the word in Arabic ACHAZAH instead of ACHARAH. I have known of this variety since 1942 on the 10 m/ms carmine, Harrison without overprint, the four types overprinted crown and the stamp overprinted OHEMS.

No. 20 -

This specimen is a 10 m/ms blue Harrison. This particular variety has a cutting on white line which frames the right panel where the value of the stamp is inserted in Arabic.

It is the only stamp of the 10 m/ms blue of Harrison on which I found a defect of such importance. Control A/20 for the upper pane of 100. The same control A/20 for the lower pane of 100.

My examination of 350 + or - specimens of the 10 m/ms blue shows their aspect normal and the confection of a second plate B/23 (pane of 100 for the top and pane of 100 for the bottom) is probably due to some printing difficulties regarding the carmine color.

There are at least another two dozen of the 10 m/ms carmine stamps with insignificant defects to which I did not refer here. They would have been of great importance had they been found on the 10 m/ms blue. However, this is not the case. Also, I did not find any 10 m/ms blue with the varieties of the 10 m/ms carmine.

I have one more word to add regarding this issue. The catalogues are not in agreement on the date of issue of the stamp. The

Egyptian National Catalogue, Zeheri puts it 1921/22; Stanley Gibbons 1921/22, Yvert & Tellier, whose principal agent in Egypt was our dear friend E. L. Angeloglou, puts it 1920/22. The controls of sheets extend from A/20 to A/21, A/22 and A/23, B/21, B/22 and B/23.

Yvert was immediately and regularly notified by Angeloglou on each new issue and, unless the contrary is proven, I am for the information of the Yvert House.

It might be opportune for the Egypt Study Circle to intrust to one of their members, the study in detail of this interesting set in order to fix the issue date of the different values and to explore the retouches and defects.

May I add in this connection that Stanley Gibbons stated that the 5 m/ms rose appeared in November 1921, and the 4 m/ms green, the 100 m/ms slate in 1922 and the 10 m/ms carmine in September 1922.

The information contained in the catalogue of Dr. W. Byam's collection sale of October 1961 reveal that Type I, overprinted crown appeared on 9/10 October 1922, Type II in December 1922, Type III in January, 1923 and Type IV, overprinted in London in July of 1923.

In conclusion, the 10 m/ms without overprint was put on sale by the Central Post only during September and beginning October 1922, and that all the stock of this stamp was sent by and of September / beginning October 1922 for the crown overprinting. The total of the 10 m/ms carmine in Egypt was around one million. Harrison of London issued overprinted another million thus making a total of 2,000,000 - Control B/23.

How many 10 m/ms carmine without overprint mint or used are still in existence today ? And of these, how many can be found retouched ? The field is open and I wish good luck to all.

* * *

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

DATE OF ISSUE: 21 March, 1972
 DENOMINATION: 20 Mills
 DESIGN: Mother bird with its little one on a tree
 DIMENSIONS: 40 x 40 mm.
 PERFORATION: 11 1/2
 SHEET: 35 stamps - 5 x 7
 COLORS: Yellow, green, rust brown beige, white and pale blue
 WATERMARK: Multiple Eagle
 PRINTING: Rotogravure - Postal Printing House in the Arab Republic of Egypt
 CONTROLS: Date of issue and the serial number
 QUANTITY: 1,000,000 stamps

MOTHERS' DAY

A salutation to every mother who devoted her life to regard her family.



A MEMORIAL TO BRIGADIER GENERAL ABDEL MONIEM RIAD - 1919 - 1969 - EGYPTIAN MARTYR

The official release gives the following on the Genral: Born 22 October, 1919 in Sibr-bay, Western Egypt; Graduated from the Army War College in February, 1938. Masters from the Staff Officers' College in 1944, honors each time; completed military courses, 1945 and 1946 in England, Completed an Academic

course in the U.S.S.R. in January, 1959. He graduated from Nasser's Military Academy at Cairo in April, 1966. During his career he held leading ranks in the military with a natural talent as a student and as a military officer. Appointed Chief of Staff, Armed Forces, 1967. Died March 9, 1969.

DATE OF ISSUE: 21 March, 1972
 DENOMINATION: 20 Mills
 DESIGN: Portrait of the General over a battlefield with a tank and soldiers.
 DIMENSIONS: 25 x 42 mm.
 PERFORATION: !! !?@
 SHEET: 50 stamps - 10 x 5
 COLORS: Pale blue, steel blue, beige and light brown.
 WATERMARK: Multiple Eagle
 PRINTING: ROTOGRAVURE - As above
 CONTROLS: As above
 QUANTITY ISSUED: 1,500,000 stamps



NEW HIGH VALUE DEFINITIVES:

DATE OF ISSUE: 4 April, 1972
 DENOMINATIONS: 500 Mills & LE1
 CHANGES: Identical to previous issue but name changed to A.R. EGYPT. (See Topics 7-8/70, p. 100).
 LE1 Identical to previous issue but name change, as above, and portrait from gray to purple-gray. (See Topics 3/4-71, p. 55).
 500 Mills



FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISCOVERY OF TUTANKHAMUN'S TOMB AT LUXOR



TUTANKHAMUN began his reign as the King of Egypt when he was nine in the year 1352 BC. He died at the age of eighteen in 1361 BC. He married the daughter of his predecessor, a princess named Ankhesenpaaten, the third daughter of Akhenaten and Nefertiti. He removed the Capitol of Egypt to Thebes in his fourth year of reign. He also restored the various National and local gods whose cults had been suppressed by Akhenaten. Religious social and economic problems inherited from his father-in-law were a bane of his advisors for the entire duration of his reign.

Every King of the 18th Dynasty was interred in the Valley of the Kings at Thebes. They had all been located, although looted of all their contents. Tut's alone remained when Howard Carter began his search in 1914. He did not make the discover, however, before seven years had passed, in November, 1922.

It took ten years for Carter's exploration team to consolidate, record and photograph all of the objects in the tomb.

These treasures are now in the custody of the Cairo Museum. Fifty items have been on loan to the British Museum, where they will remain from March through September, as an exhibition entitled "Treasures of Tutankhamun" to mark the 50th anniversary of the discovery.

Britain issued a special commemorative, for use in conjunction with a special postmark for use on a British Museum cover. A cover is illustrated on the following page.

DATE OF ISSUE: April, 1972

DENOMINATIONS: 20 & 55 Mills

Air Mail - 110 + 110 Mills se-tenant

DESIGNS: 20 m. A wooden dummy of the head, stuccoed and painted.

55 m. Back of chair decorated in gold with royal names.

110 m. Painted plaque from the lid of a coffin showing the king and his Queen in a garden.

DIMENSIONS: 20 & 55 m. - 40 x 40 mm.

110+110 m. 28 x 61 mm. each.

PERFORATION: 11 1/2

SHEETS: 20 & 55 M. 35 stamps 5 x 7 ea.

110+110 m. 50 " 5 x 10 ea.

COLORS: 20 m. Black white, beige, gold.

55 m. Purple, lavender and gold

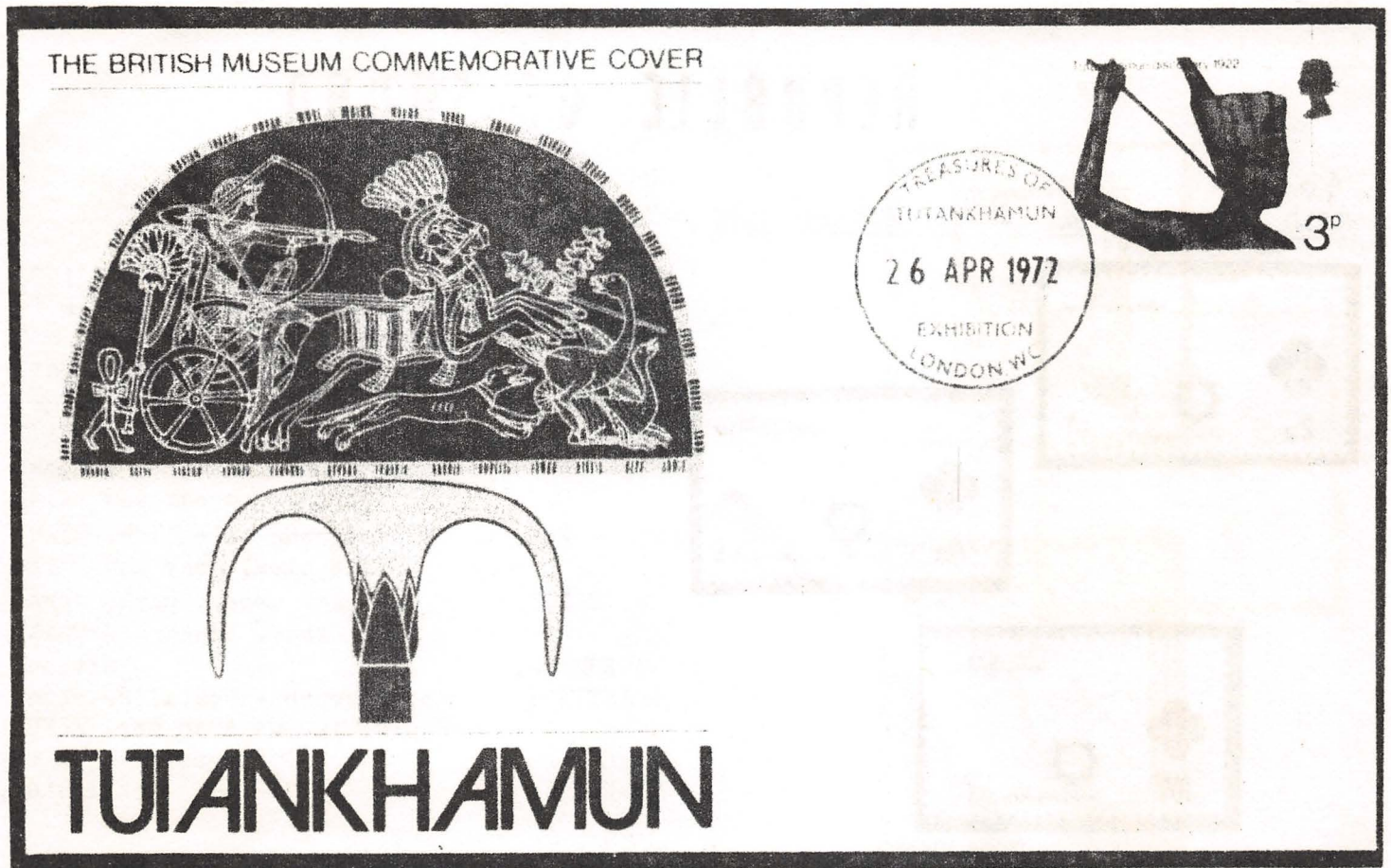
110 + 110 m. Orange, blue & pale green

WATERMARK: without

PRINTING: Rotogravure - Postal Printing House in the Arab Rep. Egypt.

QUANTITY: 20 & 55 m. 1,000,000 each

110 + 110 M. 25,000 each



The commemorative cover of the British Museum franked with 3 p. commemorative stamp issued on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Tomb of King Tutankhamun by Howard Carter on behalf of his patron, Lord Carnavon. Cover carries the special Exhibition postmark on the occasion of the showing of 50 of these treasures by the Museum.
 - Cover courtesy of KEN DAVIS of London

A. R. EGYPT - NEW EMISSIONS - Continued . . .

In addition to the set of Tutankhamun commemorative adhesives a Souvenir Sheet was issued.

Sheet not received from Cairo. We'll try to obtain copy and illustrate it in our next issue.

* * *

AT RIGHT:

The current denomination - 100 m/ms Aerogram in brown, on green figured paper.

A 30m/ms value is also currently in use. We will try to obtain a copy for next issue. . .



← To open cut here



AIR LETTER • AEROGramME



REPUBLIC OF SUDAN

WORLD STANDARDS DAY - 14 OCTOBER 1970 - COMMEMORATIVE SET



DATE OF ISSUE: 22 April, 1972
 DENOMINATIONS: 2 P.T., 4 P.T., 10 P.T.
 DESIGN: Cog and emblem of SSO
 Globe & ear of wheat.

DIMENSIONS: 40 x 30 mm.
 PERFORATION: 11 1/2
 COLORS: Yellow green, moss green, black
 2 P.T. yellow, gray, cream and white
 4 P.T. Yellow green pale blue, black
 pale blue, gray and white
 10 P.T. Yellow green, pink, coral
 gray, black and white

WATERMARK: Without
 PRINTING: Rotogravure - Postal Printing
 House, in the Arab Rep. EGYPT

SHEET: 50 stamps - 5 x 10
 QUANTITY: Not listed.

COMMEMORATING ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC - OCTOBER 1971



DATE OF ISSUE: 2 May, 1972
 DENOMINATIONS: 2 P.T., 4 P.T., 10 1/2 P.T.
 DESIGN: Photo of the President
 Emblem of the Republic

DIMENSIONS: 40 x 30 mm.
 PERFORATION: 11 1/2
 COLORS: 2 P.T. Violet, lavender
 Gold and Black
 4 P.T. Orange, pale orange,
 Gold and black
 10 1/2 P.T. Nile green, pale green
 Gold and black

SHEET: 50 stamps - 5 x 10
 WATERMARK: Without
 PRINTING: As above
 QUANTITY: Not listed

No commemorative cancellations are used in the Sudan and no FDC's serviced by the Government. On sale for six months at Khartoum by Dept. of Posts & Telegraphs.

Valid for postage until demonetized.

THE PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF EGYPT

"AN ANNOTATED RESEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY"

By GORDON B. GARRETT

With Valuable Assistance From CHARLES FOX

SECTION 8 OFFICIALS

L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE:

EGYPTIAN INTERPOSTALS or OFFICIAL LOCAL STAMPS - MAY, O., No. 21, July, 1934, pgs. 16/17
No. 22, October, 1934, pgs. 10/11; No. 23, January, 1935, pgs. 10/12, No. 24, April, 1935, pgs. 13/14, No. 25, July, 1935, pgs. 11/13, No. 26, October, 1935, pgs. 8/10
No. 27, January, 1936, pgs. 13/16, No. 28, April, 1936, pgs. 52/53, No. 29, July, 1936, pgs. 96/97, No. 30, October, 1936, pgs. 138/139, No. 31, January, 1937, pgs. 14/16. Serialized treatise on the Interpostal seals. Profusely illustrated with a wealth of detail and the early "standard". Many corrections have been made in later works.

THE OFFICIAL STAMPS OF EGYPT - McNEILLE, Douglas, No. 27, Jan., 1936, pgs. 19/20, No. 28, April, 1936, pgs. 55/59, No. 31, Jan., 1937, pgs. 21/23. Reprinted from the P.J.G.B., April, 1935. An excellent study in three parts, illustrated. Vol. 3 No. 32, pgs. 66/69, Vol. 3, No. 33, July, 1937, pgs. 109/114, Vol. 3, No. 34 - October, 1937, pgs. 159/162.

EGYPTIAN INTERPOSTALS - VANDERHOOF, E. R., No. 29, July, 1936, supplemental listing to O. May's article with interpostals not previously recorded. Not illustrated.

OCTOBER' 15, THE 5 MILLS. VALUE OF 1914 OVERPRINTED BY LITHOGRAPHY "O.H.H.S." & SG. 0.21
McNEILLE D., Vol. 3, No. 33, pg. 115. Description of an interesting variety.

TIMBRES de SERVICE - BOULAD, Gabriel, Vol. 3, No. 36, pgs. 261/2, April, 1938. French. An illustrated section of a larger article with information on the overprints.

THE HISTORY OF THE CARRIAGE OF EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL POSTAL MATTER AND THE USE OF INTERPOSTAL LABELS - McNEILLE, Douglas, Vol. 3, No. 41, May, 1939, pgs. 483/487, Vol. 3, No. 42 July, 1939, pgs. 515/522. Reprinted from the E.S.C. Quarterly circular; an interim report on Study V, intrusted to Mr. McNeille. An excellent work thorough in the usual manner of Mr. McN. Well illustrated.

THE INTERPOSTAL SEALS OF EGYPT - McNEILLE, D., Vol. 4, No. 45, Jan/March, 1940, pg. 34
Comments by McN. on Kerh's article beginning in the American Philatelist, 1939, and a caution not to take too seriously unsubstantiated claims previously made.

FORGED OR DOUBTFUL OVERPRINTS AND SURCHARGES ON THE STAMPS OF EGYPT - McNEILLE, D., - Vol. 4, No. 47, Jan., 1941, pgs. 86/88. An article dealing with several issues, of which the officials are a part. Not illustrated but good information.

THE INTERPOSTAL SEALS OF EGYPT - KEHR, Ernest A., Vol. 4, No. 47, Jan., 1941, pgs. 112 and 113. A letter to the Ed. of L'OP concerning remarks made by Mr. McNeille in Vol. 4, No. 45, listed above.

NOUVELLES VARIETIES DE LA TROISIEME EMISSION D'EGYPTE - 1872/1879 - CHAFTAR, Ibrahim - French text. Vol. 4, No. 48, October, 1944, pg. 139. Good illustrations with interesting notes on a number of official varieties and misplaced overprints.

To be continued - - -

Gabriel Boulad

POSTAL CENSORSHIP

in EGYPT

DURING

WORLD WAR II

1939 - 1945

This article, which appeared in French in L'ORIENT PHILATELIQUE, October, 1946 issue, and again in January-April, 1968, Nos. 56 and 119, appears in this issue, now in English with the kind permission of Editor M. Eid. The late Gabriel Boulad was recognized as an authority on Egyptian Philately & it is hoped that additional information may be added to his extensive study. Ed.

In beginning this study I place emphasis on the fact that it concerns only the civil Censorship while the military censorship, whether Egyptian or foreign in Egypt during the war, 1939 - 1945, requires a separate study.

When, in September, 1939 Germany began hostilities in Europe, finally spreading to the whole world, the political situation in Egypt was different than it was during the preceding war of 1914 - 1918. Egypt had become independent although still the ally of Great Britain. Consequently the Egyptian Government itself took the initiative in all of the measures required by the state of war. So it was that the Egyptian Government, who declared martial law and the Chief at that time, H. E. Aly Maher Pasha, President of the Council of Ministers who, by virtue of power vested in him as the Military Governor General, then decreed the establishment of censorship by proclamation No. 1, dated 4 September 1939.

This proclamation, published in an extraordinary number of the "JOURNAL OFFICIAL No. 92", reads as follows:

"In the interest of the security of the Kingdom, a general censorship is established and will continue so, until further notice, in all the territory and the territorial waters of Egypt. The censorship will be applied to all written and printed articles, photographs and packages entering

in or going out of Egypt, or circulating in the Country, etc.

So, according to the decree of 4 September, 1939 the censorship was immediately applied to all correspondence, including printed matter entering or going out of the Country. To my knowledge, the first censorship marking of the first type that I shall examine hereafter bears the date of 4 September, 1939 at noontime.

Though in principle the censorship was meant to be applied on all correspondence, even on those "circulating in the Country", according to the text of the Declaration, it was only applied in general with some exceptions; to correspondence coming from Abroad, or going out of the Country. I shall mention the exceptions to this rule at the end of this study.

Continued

The main office for the Egyptian Censorship is called in Arabic ادارة الرقابة and in English "Censorship Control Headquarters" or "Central Postal Censorship".

The letters that were opened by the Censorship Authority were sealed afterwards by a white strip. The first Type of strip, which did not last long, bore the following text:

ادارة الرقابة



Censorship Department

The second Type of strip which was utilized soon after and which remained in use until the end of the war, bears the following text in blue or ultramarine: Egyptian Censorship Opened by Censor. Fig. 2.

المرابطة المصرية الرقابة المصرية
EGYPTIAN CENSORSHIP
فتح بمترقة الرقيب
OPENED BY CENSOR
المرابطة المصرية الرقابة المصرية

2



3

Whether the letters were opened or not, in either case, a hand stamp was applied to the envelope. However, the printed matter, wrapped with a band on the envelope, have sometimes received another special censorship handstamp in three languages with the following text: Censare Xs Publicati (Publicity Censorship). Fig. 3.

The handstamps used in Egypt by this authority can be classified, first of all, in two large categories: "ORDINARY HANDSTAMPS" and the exceptional or EXTRA - ORDINARY HANDSTAMPS.

I ORDINARY HANDSTAMPS

These handstamps are of different types and different text. According to me, they can be classified into thirteen large types or groups.

TYPE I: Round handstamp, with double circle bearing the text: "Censorship Dept. ادارة الرقابة and has an internal number from 1 to 30. Figs. 4 & 5 below:



4



5

This handstamp was in use for 15 or 20 days only, the latest being until the end of September, 1939. As the handstamp seems to have been made of rubber, it rapidly became clogged and worn out so it was soon discontinued. However, before its removal it underwent a transformation: the internal number was removed so that during the last days of its use, this type is seen as illustrated in Fig. 6.



6

Needless to say that, because of its short usage, this type of handstamp is rare. The rarest numbers are the following: 2, 4, 6 to 8, 10, 13, 14, 17 and 19 through 25.

TYPE II: Round handstamp, also with a double circle, bearing the same text as the previous one, but of much smaller size and having internal numbers from 1 to 120. Note illustrations of the two extreme numbers below. Figs. 7 & 8.



7



8

The handstamps for this type of censor marking (and probably for all of the other types following), having been made of copper, have stood the wear and tear. This being the reason why this type, which was used just after the preceding type: more precisely on 15 September, 1939, has lasted to the end of the war.

Some of the numbers of this type are rare:

POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN EGYPT - Continued from preceding page . . .

these being Nos. 13, 15, 16, 92, 95, 103 and 104.

TYPE III: I classify under this type the different handstamps and they are quite numerous) which bear the letter "M", whatever their shape and various characteristics. ¹

A very common shape, in use from 20 September, 1939, consists of a round handstamp with double circle bearing the same text as the previous type, with the letter "M" inside. This handstamp seems to have been applied mechanically by a machine, adjusted so that each strike is 9 centimeters apart. See Fig. 9.



9



10



11

A second shape, slightly less common, consists of a double circle which is larger, bearing the same text but has a number (1 or 2) placed under the letter M. Figs. 10 and 11.

This shape appeared about 5 December 1939.

A third shape in this category appeared much later, unless I am mistaken, in March 1944. It consists of a double circle without any text except the letters "R" and "M" superimposed. Fig. 12.



12



13



14

A fourth shape also dependent on the letter "M", appeared on July 27, 1944; characterized by the numbers 3, 4, or 5 placed under the letter "M" also without any text. Figs. 13 and 14.

1) I have asked myself, "What was the meaning of this letter M? But it has remained a mystery to me. This shape seems to be used in conjunction with registered mail which explains the letter R. It is rare.

This shape is also quite rare, especially that with the numeral 3.

The two final shapes, also dependent on the letter "M", have appeared near the end of the war. The fifth shape has been seen on March 12, 1945. It seems to have replaced the first and second shapes of "M". Here also the letter "M" is accompanied by a number, but the number is quite large: 41, 52, 56, 63, 67, 74, 78, 85, 89 or 90. This shape is quite common. Figs. 15 & 16.



15



16

Finally the 6th and last shape of "M", much less common than the previous one, is similar to it. However, it has only one circle and the circle as well as the numerals, are larger and heavier. Figs. 17 & 18.



17



18

This last shape appeared on June 7, 1945; subsequent to the capitulation of Germany. Needless again to say, these last two shapes lasted until the end of the Egyptian Censorship.

This completes ten groups of Type III the letter "M") and we go now to Type IV, although we must occasionally retrace our steps for the dates.

TYPE IV: This type has in fact been in use since January 31, 1940. It contained a variety of geometric designs, but it is characterized by its numbering which extends from 1 to 100. Besides this type bears a unique (single) text which is Postal Censor رقابة البريد

This type of handstamp is divided into two halves. From Number 1 to 50. These are of medium size; from numbers 51 through 100, it is much larger in size. In addition, in between these extreme numbers, the shapes can be grouped in tens. So we find the circular shapes, from No. 1 to No. 10 with various internal shapes. Figs. 19, 20 and 21.

From Nos. 11 through 30, the exterior shape is square, Figs. 22, 23 and 24.

From Nos. 31 through 40, the exterior shape is hexagonal. Figs. 25 and 26.

And, finally from No. 41 through No. 50 the shape is octagonal. Figs. 27, 28 and 29.

As I mentioned previously, after No. 50 the shapes became larger in the same order by groups of ten; circle, square, hexagon and octagon. Note illustrations of one type of each of these four shapes. Figs. 30 - 33.



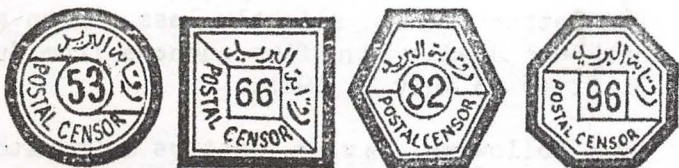
19 20 21 22



23 24 25 26



27 28 29



30 31 32 33

In the first few numbers of each set of ten of these handstamps, the interior shape is a circle from (1 to 3), then it becomes a square from 4 to 9), then in the last number of each set of ten, there is no interior shape; the number lies free between words of the text.

Concerning the rarity of these, the numbers in the seventies (71 to 80) are quite rare, and in general the rarest numbers are Nos. 2, 16, 68, 77 and 97.

TYPE V: This type appeared on May 10, 1940. It is characterized by the absence of any numbers although it has the same text as the previous one. On the other hand the shapes related to this type

are extremely varied so that it would be far too cumbersome to enumerate them here or to attempt illustration of them all.

I shall just group them by categories as follows, showing illustrations of some of the shapes in each category:



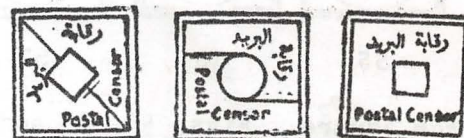
34 35 36

Small Circle, Figs. 34, 35 and 36



37 38 39

Square with thick lines. Figs. 37, 38, 39.



40 41 42

Square with double line. Figs. 40, 41, 42.



43 44 45

Hexagon with thick line. Figs. 43, 44, 45.

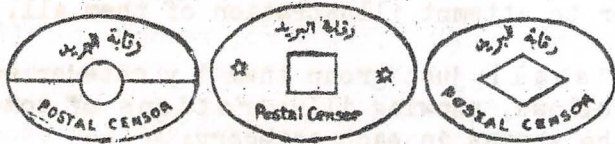


46 47 48

Hexagon with double line. Figs. 46, 47, 48.

Continued on following page -

POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN EGYPT - Continued



49

50

51

THE Oval Markings. Figs. 49, 50 and 51



52

53

54

Octagon: Figs. 52, 53 and 54.



55

56

57

Large Square. Figs. 55, 56 and 57



58

59

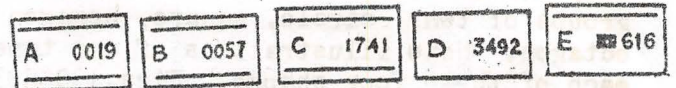
60

Large Circle. Figs. 58, 59 and 60.

Among all of these shapes, the four listed last are the least common, namely, from the oval down; but also among the first shapes some combinations of the interior design are quite rare.

TYPE VI: This type appeared on July 31, 1940. It consists of one of the following letters: A, B, C, D, E, H, M, N, S and T, followed by a progressive number, both of which are boxed in a rectangle.

See the illustrations of the different shapes of this type, according to the letters mentioned above. Figs. 61, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 70.



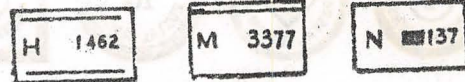
61

62

63

64

65



66

67

68



69

70

The letter "A" is very common and was used with six successive numbers, the first from July 31st to October, 1940; the second from that date to November 7, 1940, the third from November 7 to 28, 1940, the fourth from that date to January 1, 1941, the fifth from this last date to approximately the end of April, 1941. The sixth, and last was used from May 1, to 31, 1941.

The letter "B" is slightly less common and has been used with five numbers from July 31, 1940 to July 2, 1941.

The following seven letters are rather scarce, the most common among them being the letter "T", which was used with three numbers between August and November, 1940. The others were used with one number each. The letters "H" and "N" are very scarce. I have only two or three specimens of each.

As noted, this type was discontinued about July 2, 1941 so it was in use for approximately eleven months.

TYPE VII: This type resembles the previous one as it is constituted by a letter and a progressive number; but, these letters are not boxed. They lie free.

On the other hand, the shape of some of the letters and their combinations with the numbers are visible.

The letters which are found in this type

are E, H, P, S and T. Illustrations of this type are shown in Figs. 71 through 79.

E 432	E 934	h 3352	
71	72	73	
H1052	PN1115	p3379	P.321
74	75	76	77
	S 349	T.3411	
	78	79	

Though rarely, two letters might be used simultaneously or the numbers might alternate with the letters, these being less scarce. Figs. 80 through 83.

EA410	P643B	6H65	6H657
80	81	82	83

In general this type was first used on September 9, 1940; and, in general, discontinued in October, 1941. However, the last shapes of the letter H, mentioned above has been intermittently used until the end of October, 1942.

Only the letters H and S have been used in conjunction with numbers.

EXHIBITION NOTES...

We have received word that RALPH C. TIPPER and DR. D. C. JORDAN in a recent exhibition at Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Both are contributors to Topics and well known to our readers; Tipper for his articles on the N.A.A.F.I. Seals, and Jordan for his expert comment on unusual French postal obliterations and markings.

ERNIE KEHR exhibited, by invitation in the Second International Airmail Exhibition, LUPO 72 at Lucerne, Switzerland showing his magnificent Collection of Egyptian Airs.

* * *

OUR NEW ISSUE SERVICE

Our NEW ISSUE SERVICE for readers of TOPICS is well under way. A letter from TOM OLSON, who has undertaken this task so we can receive new issues from Cairo as they appear, at a reasonable cost advises that the original participants to the new plan have received their second shipment since we began in November.

HERE IS THE INTERESTING PART. A Collector desiring mint singles only will have gotten all issues for a total cost of \$1.54 for 19 stamps. Blocks of Four and First Day Covers are proportionate.

Over the last three years we have had numerous complaints about the high cost of new issues from the dealers - if the dealers even bothered to handle them. With Tom's system of multiple purchases in one order, the costs of mailing and registry are paid pro-rata, reducing it to a bare minimum.

For those interested who have not taken advantage of the offer, we will print the the ground rules again - as follows:

ADDRESS YOUR REQUEST TO:

TOM OLSON
1115 Keith Avenue
Berkeley, California, 94708, U.S.A.

Do not send your form or deposit to Topics. This will onlk delay your order.

TOM: Send me the following NEW ISSUES of Egypt, for which I enclose my deposit as follows to apply against my order.

- Single of each issue: Deposit \$ 2.50
- F.D.C. of each issue: Deposit 2.50
- Blk. of 4, each issue: Deposit 10.00
- Other: _____
Deposit to be arranged

MY NAME IS: _____
please print

MY ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____

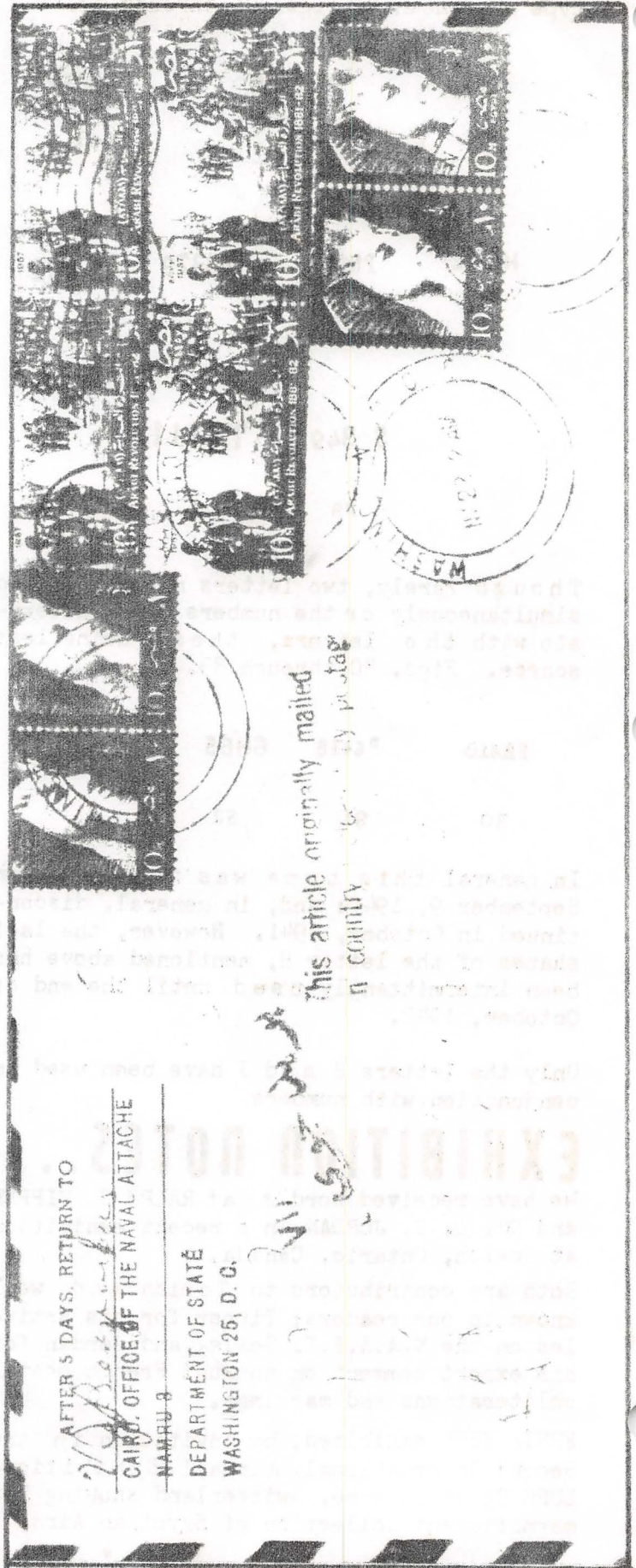
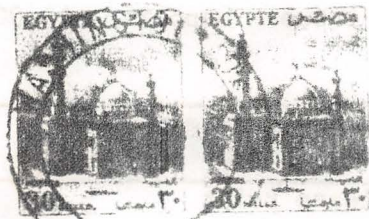
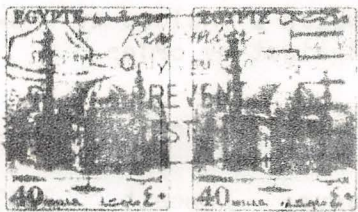
COUNTRY: _____ Zip _____
if other than U.S.

Personal Mail Via DIPLOMATIC POUCH

In the January/February, 1971 issue of Topics, Vol. 3, No. 2, we ran an interesting article by Al Moses on the dispatch of personal mail via Diplomatic pouch. We illustrated a cover with Egyptian franking, cancelled in Washington D.C., and another in our last issue. Both of these were posted by members of the Diplomatic Corps in Cairo. Our new reader, Vincent J. Berzinskas, has sent photos of the illustrations we present here along with some interesting new information on this subject.

He was not of the Diplomatic Corps, but rather, the U. S. Navy. Specifically, the Naval Medical Research Unit #3, stationed at Cairo from 1956 through late 1958. These stamps and covers show various U.S. cancels and slogans on Egyptian and UAR adhesives.

He goes on to say that U.S. postage is now available to Naval personnel through the Fleet Post Office, N.Y. zip code 09527. He says he has no idea how these covers get to Cairo. There is no indication on the covers relative to the location of this particular Zip Code. Perhaps some of our readers who are interested can fill us in.



Handwritten: This article originally mailed in country by postage

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

Handwritten: 2108
CAIRO, OFFICE OF THE NAVAL ATTACHE
NAMRU 3
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Large stamp: EXHIBITION