

" P O S T M E N " postmarks - J M Murphy (ESC 240)

In response to a request for information as to " POSTMEN " postmarks (by Mr E Hall, in QC 136, pp 157-160), Mr Murphy has provided copies of five covers with brief narrative, shown here and on the following pages. Mr Murphy's introductory comments are :-

All the letters are subject to some sort of special delivery, either Express, Registered or AR, and in each case " Postmen " mark is on reverse and not anywhere near to stamp. Four of the five covers are returns, but in all of these it seems that the Postmen mark has to do with the outward journey rather than the return. From the latter two, it seems that envelopes were taken to a suburban post office for transit mark, and then given Postmen mark, perhaps by actual deliverer: thus a Postmen h/s at each office ? Or one man (or a series) deputed to visit each suburban office each day to collect and deliver such "special" deliveries ? Latter sounds unlikely.

(A) Postmark type: U4 dateline: 11.JL.32.1.30P.

Express letter (franked 25 mills) DAMANHUR 11 JL 32 9-10A. to Cairo (addressed in Arabic in purple ink) with instruction "Express" and black rectangular EXPRESS bilingual cachet. Address clarified in English in black ink, and large red oval R (registered ?) cachet, also dated 11 JUL (presumably 32) added. Reverse carries 4.- in blue pencil, line of Arabic, signature and date (11.7) in pencil, and U4 datestamp as above.

(B) Postmark type: U8 dateline: -5.MR.37.6.-A.

Registered letter (marginal Cairo label, black on white, bilingual, franked 15 mills) CAIRO / R.D.G. -4.MR.37.8.-9.P. to Choubra, Arabic file number in indelible pencil. Reverse carries handwritten Refuse, signed by Afifi on 4/3/1937, U8 as above, and return address (lawyer). On front, in pencil, address is crossed out and Arabic signature and date of return, 5/3. Contents intact, still sealed.

(C) Postmark type: U9 dateline: 28.SE.52.7-8A

AR letter (AR rect. h/s in black, Reg. no. in purple pencil, franked 50 mills - all but 15 mills are KES overprints) addressed in Arabic to Cairo (Midan Daher) cds 2/CAIRO/R.D./ 27-9-52-7H. Reverse carried U9 as above. Front has remains of attachment of AR card, but no sign of envelope's being refused, though contents intact.

(D) Postmark type: U9 dateline: -3.JU.54.6-7A

Reg. letter (signs of traces of attachment of AR card, but no h/s, Reg. no. in pencil, franked 50 mills), DAHER -1.JU.54.8-A, addressed in Arabic. Front also has faint cds of R.D./ ???? of same date. Reverse carries U9 as above, R/CAIRE OUEST of 6.JU.54.7.00A, Arabic notification of attempts to deliver on 6 and 7 June, then returned to sender, and CAIRO/DELIVERY - -8JU546-7. Contacts intact, still sealed.

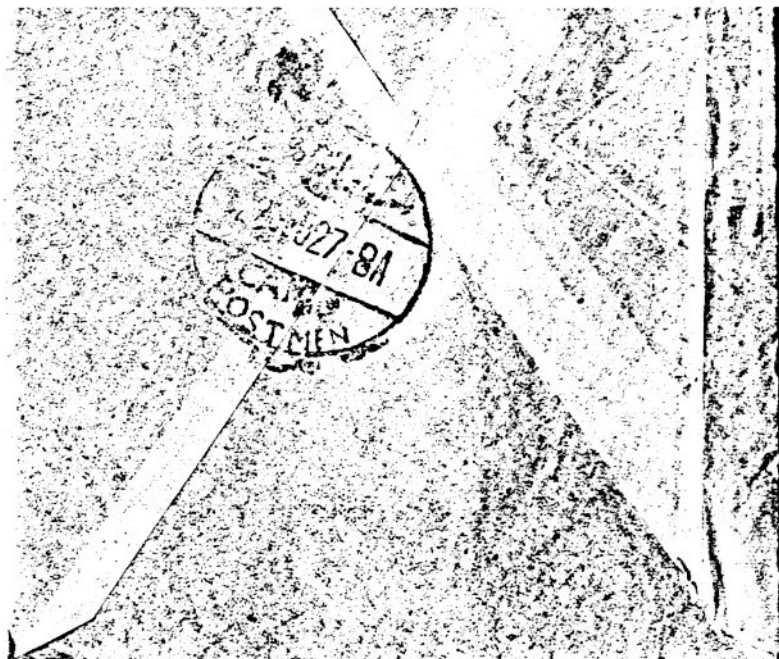
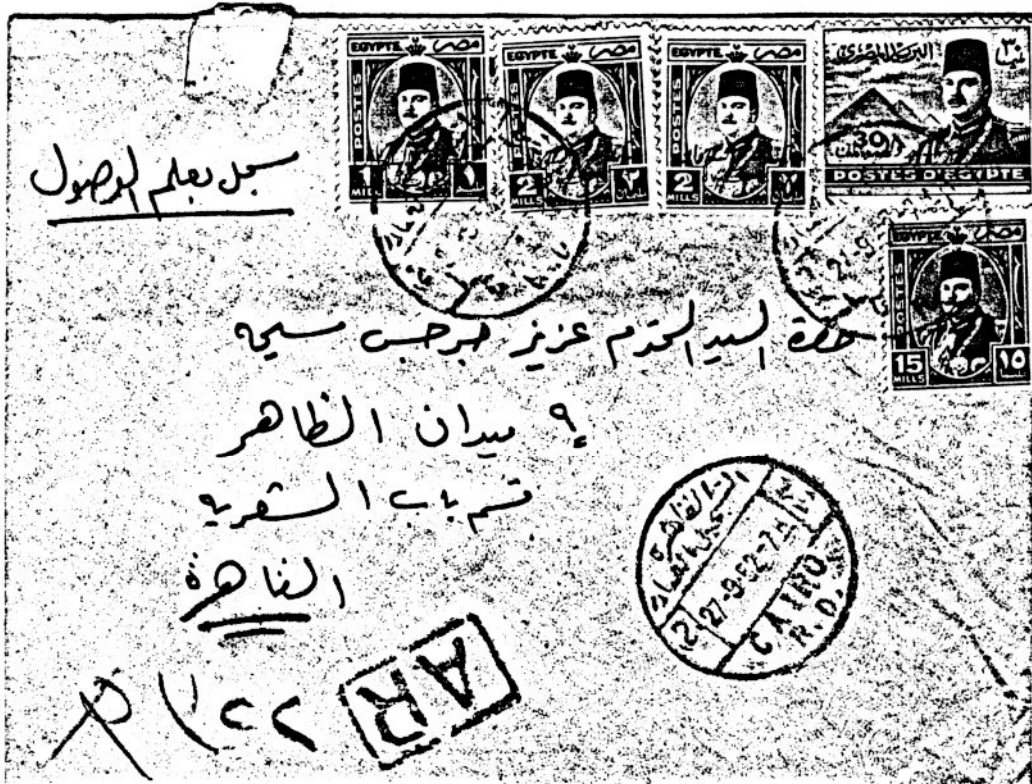
/ continued . . .

(E) Postmark type: U9 dateline: 12.SE.54.7-8A

AR letter (AR rect. h/s in black, Reg. no. in pencil, franked 50 mills), FAGGALA / CAIRO(R) 12.SE.54.8-9P> addressed in Arabic to Qubba Bridge. Reverse has CASH / QUBBA BRIDGE 12.SE.54.9-10A., CAIRO / DELIVERY 12SE547.8P, U9 as above, followed by Arabic notification of attempt to deliver on 14th, and return, then R.D./CAIRO of 18(?) .SE.54.9-10A. Traces of attachment of AR label, contents intact and still sealed: same correspondence as last.

(C) Postmark type: U9 dateline: 28.SE.52.7-8A

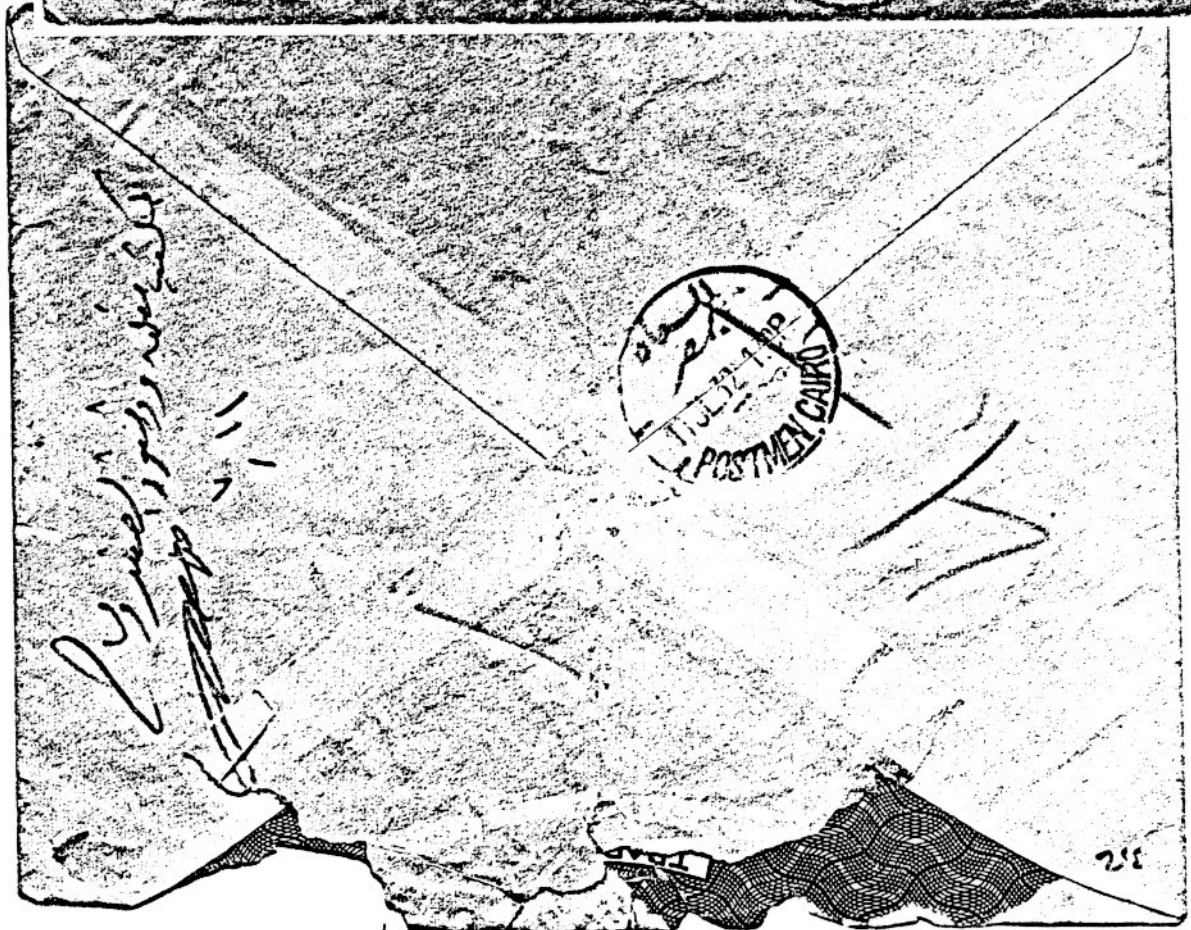
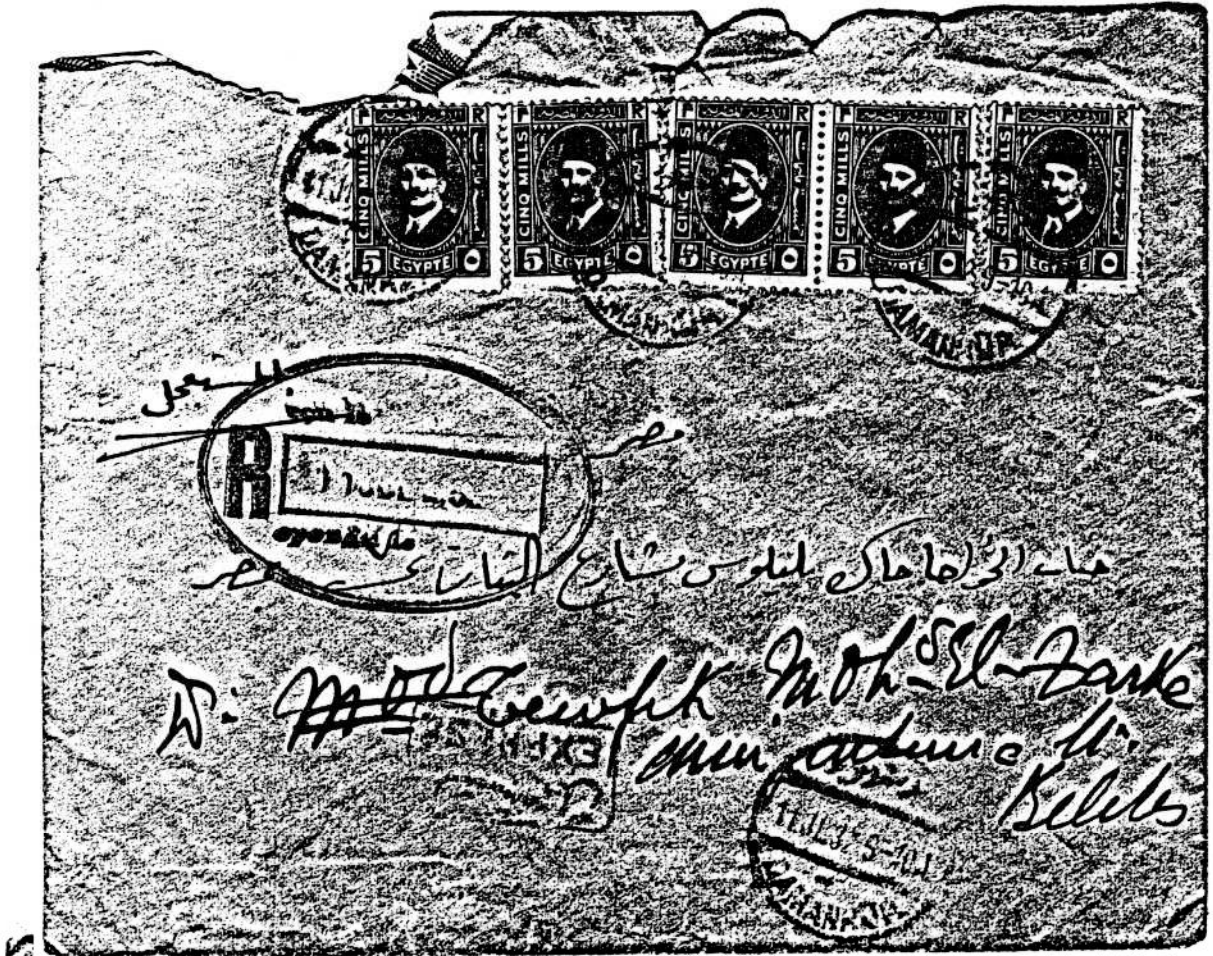
**C**



**C**

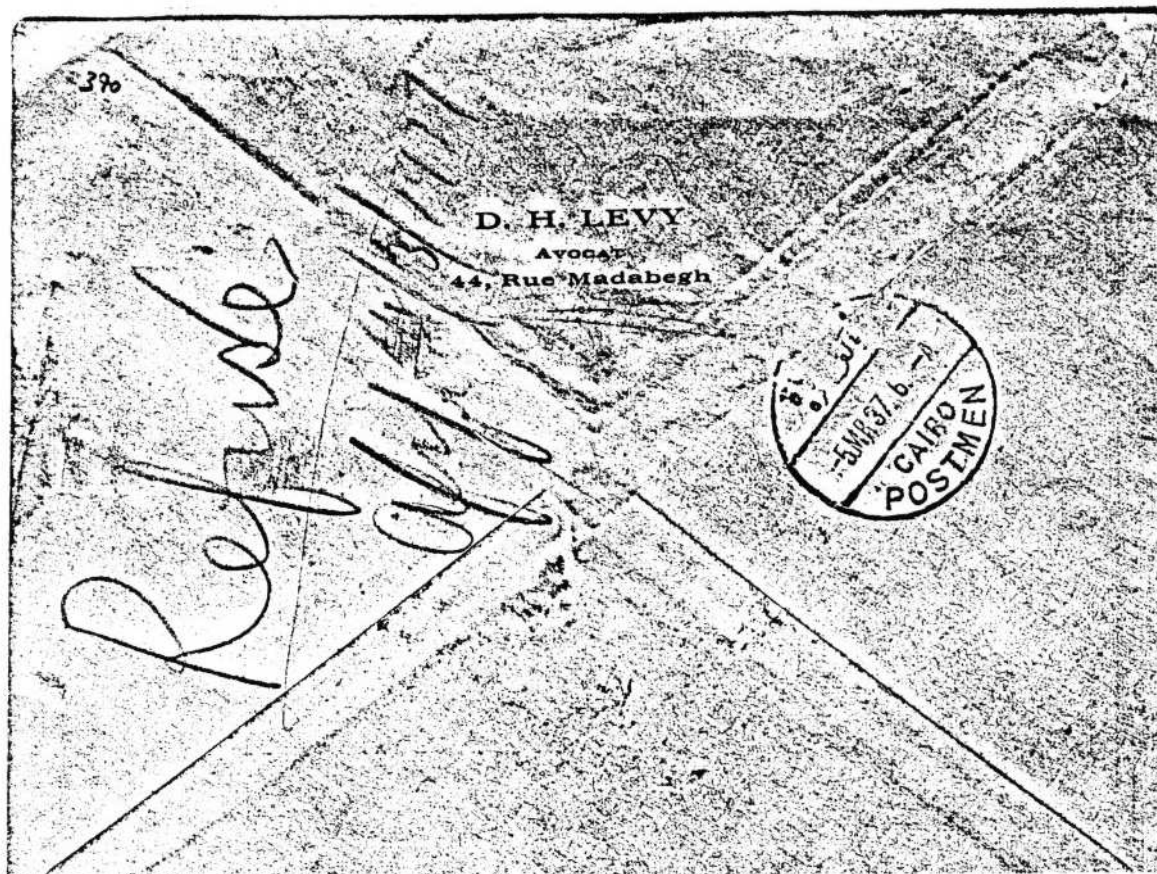
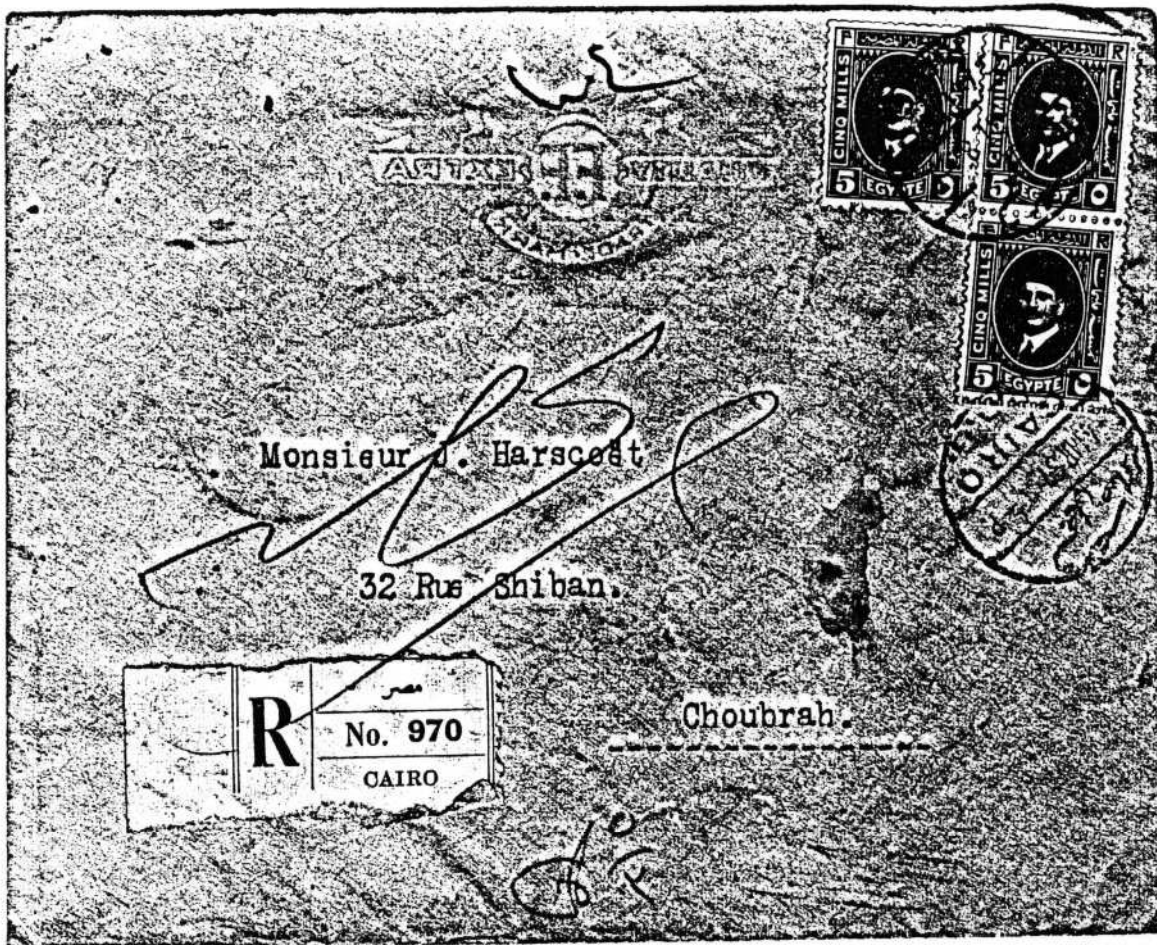
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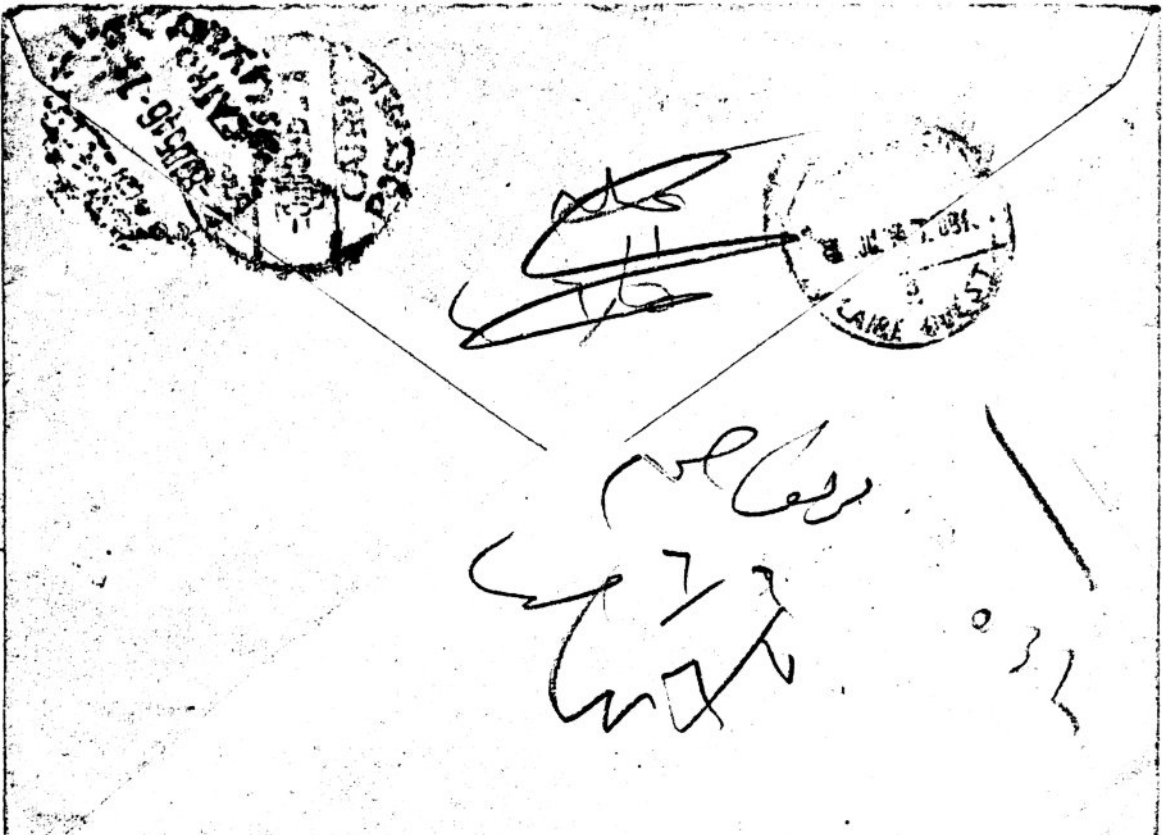
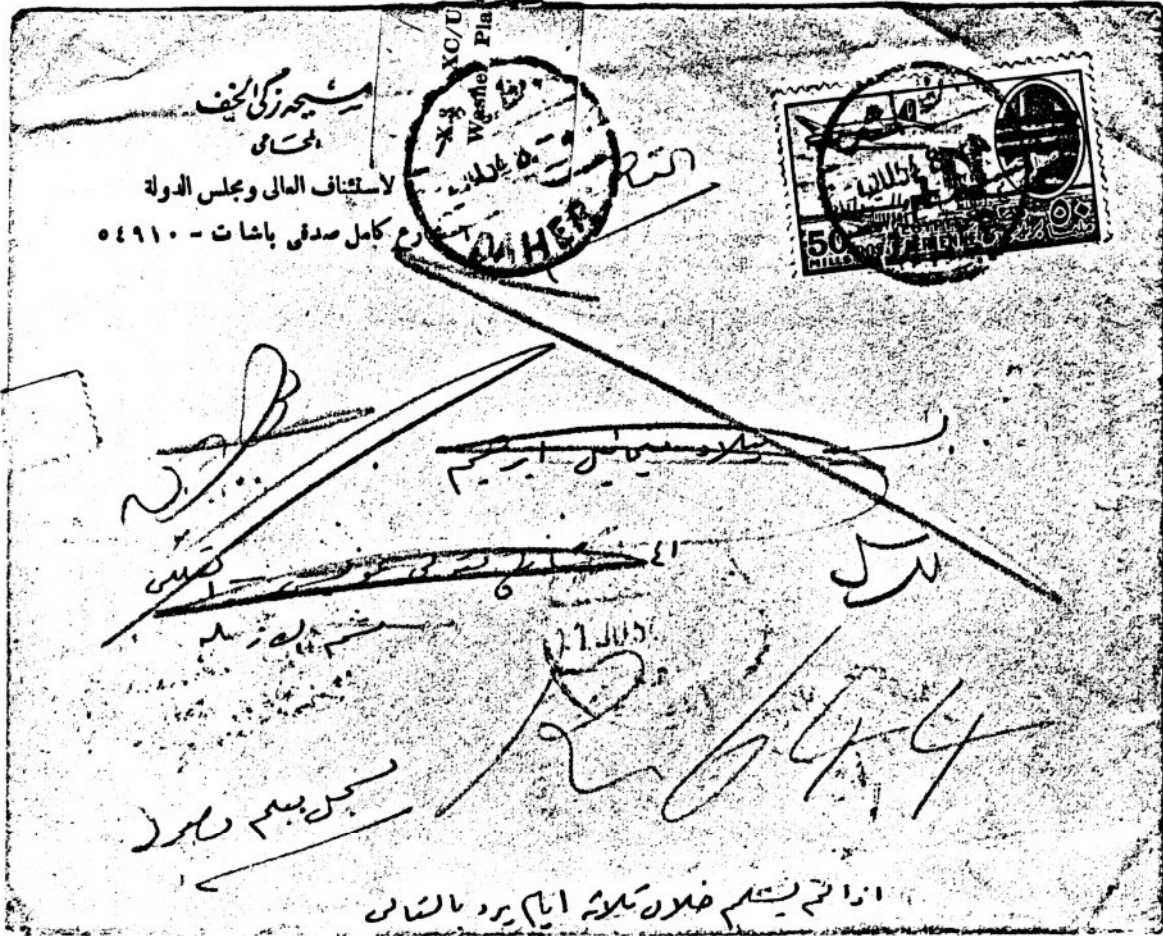


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(B) Postmark type: U8 dateline: -5.MR.37.6.-A.



(D) Postmark type: U9 dateline: -3.JU.54.6-7A



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(E) Postmark type: U9 dateline: 12.SE.54.7-8A

