

EGYPT STUDY CIRCLE - THE QUARTERLY CIRCULAR

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OFFICEF	RS of the	e EGYP'	Τ STUDY	CIRCLE	1981
President	Prof. P.A.S.Smi			stry, Universi Michigan 48109,	
Chairman	John Sears		ge Road, Hat iddlesex HA5		
Deputy Chairman	J. S. Horesh	55 Latymer	Court, Lond	.on W.6	
Secretary / Treasurer	Edmund Hall	6 Bedford .	Avenue, LITI	LE CHALFONT, B	ucks
Editor of the G Circular	Quarterly John A. Grimmer		ad, I, Herts EN	5 1LJ	
	e Expert Major E.L.G.Mac				
Librarian	F. W. Benians		ns, Tylers G MBE, Bucks		
Keeper of the F Record	Philatelic D. H. Clarke	49 Tregell	es Road, HOD	DESDON, Herts	

SUBSCRIPTION

The amount of the Subscription to the Egypt Study Circle is SIX POUNDS STERLING ($\pounds 6$), in respect of the calendar year 1981.

Overseas Members are asked kindly to arrange payment through a London Bank; alternatively to add £1 to the amount remitted - this being the normal cost to us of encashing cheques drawn on foreign banks.

The Due Date for payment is 1st January. Late payment causes unnecessary work and cost in issuing reminders. Please check your personal payments record now and remit if not paid up for 1981.

Copies of the Q.C. cannot be sent to Members whose subscription is in arrear by 3 months (6 months in the case of overseas Members).

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REPORT OF ESC MEETING

Meeting held on 13 December 1980 at "The Peacock", Maiden Lane, London, W.C.

The Chairman welcomed members and hoped that in view of the fact that a special Officers' Meeting had dealt recently with several administrative matters, there would be extra time for the displays. In the unfortunate absence through illness of the scheduled speaker, Mr R.C.Emery, the Chairman expressed the Circle's wishes for a speedy recovery and thanked those members who had brought along material to show at short notice. The Meeting hoped that Mr Emery might be able to show his research at a later meeting. The Chairman welcomed the return after illness of Mr R.A.G.Potter, who gave news of his recent visit to the Middle East and America: he had been very pleased indeed to meet in Alexandria Mr Ibrahim Chaftar and Mr Michel Nikolaizos, and in New York he had met Mr Ernest Kehr, who is writing a weekly press column, and had spoken by telephone to Dr Mishrik, who was considering a change in his collecting emphasis, toward postal stationery. Dr Mishrik, he said, would come to Britain in January.

Mr D.H.Clarke then showed a fascinating selection of some 30 sheets of Official Egyptian Government covers, complete with a series of both red and green official Registration Labels, and illustrating the use of Official and definitive issues. Many of the covers were addressed from the Survey Department at Orman, leading to the question of the geographical location of that district - certainly not far from Cairo, since mail was reaching Cairo $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours after despatch.

Mr P. Andrews showed an interesting and colourful series of Consular Office covers, mainly from Alexandria and including mail directed from the British, Greek, Austrian, Italian and French diplomatic services, together with examples of mixed use of Egyptian and Italian adhesives, and disinfection marks of Malta, Livorno and Marseilles. Of special interest were Registered covers and a number of inverted overprints on piece.

Mr P.E.Whetter displayed an unusual collection of Italian ship mail of the 1930's, all on piece and mainly of the Lloyd Triestino line, showing several changes of name of vessel, together with Paquebot and Naples Port Registration marks on the 1927 Fuad issue. Among recent acquisitions he showed Military covers, including a Soldiers Cafe Cairo Free and Military Recreation Free, both of 1916 and both in red rounded rectangles.

Mr F.W.Benians showed a large number of Second War covers, explaining the pattern of use of the Egypt Postage Prepaid handstamps among the various forces -British, Indian, South African, Australian and New Zealand - used from 1941 to as late as 1947. He showed examples of wear and tear on the GHQ machine canceller, as well as outrageously philatelic covers with combinations of all the various forces' adhesives. The display was completed by captured Italian postal stationery as used by the Allies.

J.M.Murphy (ESC 240)

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NOTICES

The ESC Expert Committee

We are glad to say that the Chairman of the Expert Committee, Major E.L.G. MacArthur, who has been having trouble with his eyesight for some months, has happily now recovered sufficiently to be able to invite further submissions for the Expert Committee.

The charge for a normal submission by a Member must now be $\pounds 2$. This is due to the steep increase in postal charges, and in cost of photography. However, comparison with charges made elsewhere reveal that the new ESC charge of $\pounds 2$ per item is the best bargain you are likely to get !

Membership Matter

Mr Charles F. Hass (ESC 181) has moved house. His new address is :-

P.O. Box 15776, Middle City Station, Phila., PA 19103, U.S.A. Telephone: (1-215) 387-5797

С	Ι	V	Ι	L		С	Ε	Ν	S	0	R	S	Η	Ι	Р)	I	Ν			Ε	G	Y	Ρ	Т	
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by F.W. Benians and J.A. Firebrace - Part 2

(Containing additional information and amendments to the authors' article published in the 'C.C.S.G. Bulletim', Vol. 7, Nos 2,3 & 4, Dec 1979/1980)

CONTENTS

Published in this issue of the Q.C. (Vol. XI, No. 1) :-

- 6. Censor Markings Port Said
- 7. 'Dumb' Markings
- 8. Acknowledgements

Published in the previous issue of the Q.C. (Vol. X, No. 12) :-

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Censorship
- 3. Re-sealing Labels
- 4. Censor Markings Alexandria
- 5. Cairo

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6. Censor Markings - Port Said

Type P1 Double circle PASSED BY CENSOR / PS, and was mainly used with the blue MARTIAL LAW / OPENED BY CENSOR label (Type RLii). The colour of the strikes varies in shades of violet, magenta, vermilion and finally in black.

Dimensions	28 mms	and	13 i	mms	

- E.R.D. 23 FE 15 L.R.D. 11 JU 15
- Type P2 A series of single and double ring 'PASSED BY CENSOR', number and bar in varying sizes as each handstamp appears to have been individually designed. This type was in use throughout the major part of the war, but as the EEF progressed in its campaign, the volume of mail of a civilian nature increased. In the original issue of this series the letters were seriffed, but these later appeared in a sans-serif form. Handstamp No. 5 has only been seen on correspondence for Suez. This number is being retained in the general listing, but with the possibility of its use at Suez. Handstamp No. 2 has been recorded with the spelling 'CENSUR'. Examination has shown this to be quite a different instrument with the overall diameter of the strike being 27 mms. The size of the one in earlier use with the spelling 'CENSOR' was larger with a diameter of 30 mms.

/ Continued . . .

Civil Censorship in Egypt, World War 1

(a) Letters with serifs

- Port Said Standard Type P2 (b) Sans-serif letters

		tters with s		LIS (b) Sans-Serii letters			
	Vio	let	Bla	ack	Remarks		
Number	E.R.D.	L.R.D.	E.R.D.	L.R.D.			
1a					No Record		
b							
2a	13 JL 15	23 JL 15	11 JU 15	17 JA 16	Spelling 'CENSOR'		
2a(i)			4 OC 18	30 SE 19	Spelling 'CENSUR'		
3a	2 MA 15	11 MA 15	30 MA 15	10 JU 16			
ъ			1 NO 15	17 SE 19			
4a			8 MR 15	23 AU 15			
Ъ			g.				
5a							
b			21 AU 17		Possibly 'SUEZ'		
6a							
b		÷					
7a							
b			18 SE 16	16 FE 19			
8a							
b			23 DE 15	15 SE 19			
9a							
b							
10a	12 AP 15	2 MA 15	10 MA 15				
b			14 SE 15	22 SE 16			
11a			10 OC 18	28 JA 19			
b							
12a							
b			4 AP 17	7 AP 19			
13a							
b			13 AU 17	3 JU 18			
14a							
Ъ			3 MR 18				

Type P3 Circular with five-pointed star in centre with wording 'OPENED BY CENSOR', and was applied to the back and the front, or front only tying the 'Opened by Censor' re-sealing label. It was rarely used on its own, but with Type P1 or a numeral of Type P2 which was struck clear on the front. Recorded in use throughout the whole period of censorship.

Diameter	28 mms	
Colour	Black, grey, grey-black	or greenish blue
E.R.D.	23 AU 15	L.R.D. 30 SE 19

4

PORT

SAID







Type P.1

Type P.3

Type P.3

Various Examples of Group P.2







CENSUR





5

Civil Censorship in Egypt, World War 1

7. Dumb Censor Markings

This is, we believe, the first occasion that an attempt has been made to list and to study these dumb markings in detail. It may well be later proven that some were postal markings, and others of a military character. At this stage it can be seen that they fall into two major groupings.

The first group relate to the period of the hostilities.

At the commencement of the war Alexandria was the home of the Head Post Office in the Egyptian Civil Postal Organisation. It was here too that the British Army Post Office was set up and the exchange of mail between the two Authorities took place. Dumb markings were brought into use to distinguish certain types of mail and were either symbols or simple designs. Those belonging to this earlier period are generally attributed to the office at Alexandria.

The second group are those associated with the civil disorders of early 1919, and the impact of the change in the role of the E.E.F. from that of a fighting force, to that of a Military Administration of the newly-occupied enemy territory.

The country being in a most unsettled state, the E.E.F. had to provide many services, the postal services for the civilian and commercial populations being one. The re-opened post offices were operated by the army and at first used the A.P.O. SZ datestamps. This mail was carried by the E.E.F. to the canal area, mostly passing through Port Said where it was handed over to the Egyptian Civil Postal Authorities, it then became civil mail. This mail could be censored several times, both in the country of origin, in Egypt, and at its destination. Some of the markings may be those of the Palestine Censorship and as such are outside the scope of this monograph. It is against this background that the mail of this period should be studied.

The system adopted for identification has been to add the letter 'D' (Dumb) to the capital letter of the censoring office.

ALEXANDRIA

172(-)

Type AD1. Four thin wavy lines struck in red. This appears on unopened foreign mails, both entering and leaving the country.

Dimensions 16.5 mms by 15 mms

10 mmg has 15 mmg

Type AD2. Four thick wavy lines, which was applied to all types of mail and was in use until July 1919 at least. Three subtypes of this mark have been noted.

hamanin Jinaa

ADZ(a)	17 mms	ру	15 mms	tapering lines
(b)	20 mms	by	18 mms	medium-thick lines
(c)	20 mms	by	18 mms	very thick lines

Type AD3. Double comma with full stops, struck in red, noted on mail from Italy.

Type AD4. Four wavy lines with two parallel cross lines applied in purple on local mail from Cairo. The re-sealing label was been tied with the normal Alexandria censor mark Type A2b.

Dimensions 17 mms by 18 mms

<u>Type AD5.</u> Five-pointed star struck in numerous shades of red, purple, violet, grey and black. Always seen on military mail carried at some stage of its journey by the local civil postal authority. The covers are not always addressed to Alexandria. Those of local origin usually bear strikes of the datestamps of the sub-offices and Districts of the Alexandria postal area.

/ Continued . . .

The 'DUMB' Markings

ALEXANDRIA









CAIRO





AD.3





AD.5



CD.1

PORT SAID



MC.1







PD.3b

Other Markings



MS.1







M.3

Civil Censorshi	p in	Egypt,	World	War	1
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Dumb Markings - Alexandria

Type No.	Colour	E.R.D.	L.R.D.	Remarks
AD1(a)	red	10 NO 14	8 MR 15	
AD2(a)	red	11 AP 15	10 SP 15	Period overlaps type (b)
(b)	red	27 AU 15	2 DE 15	
	black	1 AP 16	31 MA 17	
	greenish black	7 MA 17		P.O.W. Mail
(c)	black	23 AU 17	10 NO 19	
AD3	red	30 MR 15		
AD4	purple	8 au 16		Internal Mail
AD5	red	5 JU 16	6 OC 16	
	purple	10 NO 16	26 MR 18	
	black	19 MA 16	24 AP 17	
	grey	18 MR 17	4 DE 17	
		22 FE 19	9 SE 19	
	blue	10 JU 18	21 JU 19	

CAIRO

Type CD1. Square with double-lined St Andrews Cross struck in violet, blue and black, invariably on the postage stamp. Gabriel Boulad wrote: 'special to the Civil Censor at Cairo, notice published in postal bulletin 27 June 1919'.

Dimensions 25 mms square with diagonal lines spaced 2.5 mms

E.R.D. 6 JU 19 L.R.D. 2 0C 19

BAPIP/42 plate xd illustrates a smaller type 20 mms square, lines 2.5 mms apart, no date given.

The greater part of the mail recorded with this mark is from the O.E.T.A./EEF, addressed either to Cairo or to foreign countries.

PORT SAID

With the change of the role of the military forces from that of the 'Defence of the Canal' to the 'Offensive in Palestine', Port Said was to become the hub of the military operations in the field. Mail leaving the newly-occupied territory was carried by the Army on the coastal railway to Port Said where commercial and civilian mail was handed over to the Egyptian Postal Authorities for transit.

Much of this mail received the single ring cancellation of the Army Post Office SZ 22 (Port Said) and that of the Port Said civil post office as transit marks.

A number of Dumb Markings also appeared at this period denoting the nature and source of the mails handled. These form an interesting group to study, most being quite scarce.

Type PD1. Five parallel bars struck in violet blue or black. Dimensions 19 mms by 22 mms

Type PD2. Symbol in heavy circle struck in black. Dimension 17 mms diameter.

Civil Censorship in Egypt, World War 1 Dumb Censor Marks



Post Card (internal mail) addressed to Port Said with the 'Dumb' marking of four thick wavy lines (Type AD2c)



The purpose of this symbol is not yet known to us. It has been variously described as the Hebrew 'Tav', the Greek 'pi', an ornamental capital 'C' or 'U' inverted.

With the exception of one item so far recorded this mark was applied to commercial mail from all parts of the occupied territory bearing EEF postage stamps cancelled with the OETA/EEF datestamps. Much of this mail also bears the British APO SZ22 (Port Said) datestamp as a mark in transit.

The interesting item is an earlier use, some thirteen months or so before the period with which this mark is generally associated, being a registered letter addressed to British Guiana. Despatched from ZAGAZIG 8 FE 18, with backstamps of PORT SAID 8 FE 18 and LONDON Registered 28 FE 18 and GEORGETOWN 2 AP 18.

Type PD3. Large capital 'F' applied in black or blue. Two sizes are known.

> 9 mms by 16 mms (a) (b) 12 mms by 22 mms

These marks were applied to mail of French origin from all parts of the Mail from the French Forces also bears the Tresor et Postes O.E.T.A. Numbers 401, 601, 601a, 601b and 603.

Much of this correspondence has also the British Army Post Office SZ 22 or the British Base Army Post Office T (Port Said) indicating it had passed from the French to the British military postal administration in Port Said before being handed over to the civil authorities. Mail bearing civil addresses in Egypt was later opened and censored by the civil censorship at the office nearest the addressee.

Type No.	Colour	E.R.D.	L.R.D.	Remarks
PD1	purple	9 JA 18		
	black	30 AP 19		
	blue	1 JU 19		
PD2	black	15 JU 16	9 SE 19	
PD3(a)	black	29 JL 17	6 FE 18	Military Mail
	blue	16 JA 19		APO SZ
	blue	28 JU 19		Civilian Mail
PD3(b)	blue	29 MR 18	28 MR 19	Civilian Mail

OTHER MARKINGS

There are several markings which do not have any apparent connection with the civil authorities, but which appear on mail of a military nature and would normally have passed through the Army postal system. They are mentioned here in order to try and establish their exact function and status.

PORT SAID

Double circle with Greek (open) cross usually seen in green, but Type MS1. earlier strikes of magenta or red are known. It was applied on military mail in the vicinity of Port Said.

> Dimensions 22 mms diameter, lines of cross 2.5 mms apart.

KANTARA

Diamond (Rhombus) with and without central knot. Struck in green Type MK1. and violet and also known applied in manuscript.

> Dimensions 30 mms by 20 mms

Registered Letter addressed to U.K. from Cairo dated 10.XII.14 with double ring 'POSTAL CENSORSHIP / REGISTERED SECTION' mark, Type C.2

SELIM GHAKER BEY P. O. B. 999 CAIRO 10 LIGYPT POSTAGE 5 COTPT POS . H.E. Serbington Inith Tena CAIRE. ndos Nº 862

Registered Letter addressed to British Guiana from Zagazig dated 3.II.16 with the 'Dumb' Censor Mark, Type P.D. 2

Walter Luckham. 14 trobe Sheek 142 Bounda Georgeitern Dem.) CIZADAS (British Guiana) (Contenant Timber pour collection)

Civil Censorship in Egypt, World War 1

Other Markings

Type MK1 appears on mail which bears the British Army Post Office K cancellations, and thought to have been applied at the Army Base of Kantara. A late date bears the cancellation of the single ring APO SZ 44 (Jerusalem) with this mark struck in violet.

ADVANCED BASE

Type M3. Triple circle with two stars struck in green (emerald).

Dimensions 23, 33 and 35 mms diameter.

Appears on mail which bears the British Army Post Office SZ 9, an Advanced Base Post Office probably near Rafa.

CAIRO

Type MC1. Capital 'E' within circle struck in black.

Dimension 24 mms diameter.

Appears on mail with the single ring Field Post Office GM (General Headquarters, Cairo).

Туре No.	Colour	E.R.D.	L.R.D.	Remarks
MS1	magenta	6 NO 16		
	red	21 NO 16		
	emerald	17 FE 18	21 DE 18	
MK1	emerald	6 MA 18	24 JL 18	
	violet	27 SE 18		
M3	emerald	7 OC 17	24 DE 17	
MC1	black	1 JU 19	1 JU 19	F.P.O. GM
		8 MR 19		F.P.O. SZ 19

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Abbreviations

APO	Army Post Office
bs	back stamped
EEF	Egypt Expenditionary Force
ERD	Earliest Recorded Date
LRD	Latest Recorded Date
mms	millimetres
OETA	Occupied Enemy Territory Administration
POW	Prisoner of War
FPO	Field Post Office

Sources

L'Orient Philatelique.	Jan 1941. 'La Censure Postale en Egypte' by Gabriel Boulad.
C.C.S.G. Bulletin. Vol	1, No. 3, April 1974. 'World War One Censorship in Egypt' by A.R.Torrance.
C.C.S.G. Bulletin. Vol	7, Nos. 2, 3 & 4. 'Civil Censorship in Egypt, World War 1' by F.W.Benians and J.A.Firebrace.
B.A.P.I.P. Bulletin. N	o. 93, Spring 1979. 'First World War Censorship' by Dr H.H.Hirst.

Sources

The Quarterly Circular, Egypt Study Circle.

No.		3 August 5 August		No.		December 1971 September 1974	
B.A.P.I.F	P. Bul	letin.					
No.		July 1956 April 1957		No.	30 44	October 1959	
	23	December 19	957			March 1964	
		April 1959 July 1959			49 69	August 1971	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

R

Messrs P. Andrews, L. Bowyer, D. H. Clarke, K. Davis, P. R. Feltus, J. Gilbert, J.S. Horesh, D. Kirk, Maj. E. L. G. MacArthur, Messrs G. Migliavacca, C. W. Minett, R. Norgate, R. A. G. Potter, Major R. W. Pratt, A. J. Revell, R. Rubin, A. R. Stragier, I. Stuart, A. R. Torrance and Dr A. Winter.

We are particularly grateful to Mr M. Sacher and Dr H. H. Hirst for their continued interest and practical help and suggestions.

We are aware that there is more breadth and depth fo this study and we ask for additional information, amendments and corrections from all with knowledge and material.

Please write (if possible with photostats with covers) to :-

F. W. BENIANS, 27, The Lawns, Tylers Green, Penn, Buckinghamshire, England, HP10 8BH

> F. W. Benians (ESC 123) J. A. Firebrace (ESC 71)

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NOTES ON THE MARITIME CANCELLATIONS ON THE 1927 FUAD ISSUE

by P. E. Whetter (ESC 133)

Very little, if anything, seems to have been written about these cancellations in the L.O.P. or Q.C. which encourages me to make a start by recording those items in my own collection. I have included some notes on the history of the ships involved, gleaned from the Library of Lloyds Register of Shipping, which in some cases, notably the "GANGE", establish the maximum possible period of use of a particular postmark. I have also consulted the Guildhall Library to establish the routes followed by each ship and the ports of call. There are some gaps in the record but where available this information is also included.

AUSONIA PIROSCAFO POSTALE ITALIANO (fig. 1)

The Ausonia, 12,995 tors, was built in 1928 and owned originally by SOCIETA ITALIANA DI SERVIZI MARITTIMI. In 1932 it was transferred to the Lloyd Triestino Line and provided a service between Genoa and Alexandria, calling at Naples, Vienna, Trieste and Brindisi (there are references to the ship's arrival at Marseilles but I have not been able to confirm that this was a regular port of call). Unfortunately the Ausonia was damaged by fire and beached in October 1935.

Earliest date: 11 January 1932; Latest date: 20 October 1934

Maritime Cancellations on 1927 Fuad Issue - Continued

CITTA DI BARJ MOTONAVE (fig. 2)

This small vessel, 3,22C tons, built in 1927 was owned by SOCIETA ANONIMA DI NAVIGAZIONE "PUGLIA". Its first recorded sailing was to Alexandria, arriving 21 July 1928, thence to Piraeus, Trieste and Venice, arriving 30 July 1928. The records for later years are incomplete and I have been unable to determine a regular pattern of sailings. Three sister ships, the "EGEO", "EGITTO" and "RODI" were built at the same time and it would be interesting to know whether postmarks of these ships have been seen.

Earliest date: 2 June 1931 Latest date: 1 September 1931 ESPERIA PIROSCAFO ITALIANO (figs 3 & 4)

The Esperia, 11,405 tons, was built in 1918. In 1932 at the time of its transfer to Lloyd Triestino it was owned by SOC. ITALIANA DI SERVIZI MARITTIMI. It formed part of the Lloyd Triestino fleet until 1936 when it was sold to "ADRIATICA SOC. ANON. DI NAV." The vessel called regularly at Naples, Syracuse, Brindisi, Genoa and Alexandria. I have examples of two different postmarks, one 31 mm diameter and the other 28 mm, both of which appear to have been in use at the same time.

Large postmark: Earliest date: 10 September 1929; Latest date: 18 August 1934 Small postmark: " " 14 October 1933; " " 23 November 1933

PFO GANGE LLOYD TRIESTING (fig. 5)

The President Wilson, as it was called originally, was built in 1912; 12,272 tons. In 1929 it was transferred to Lloyd Triestino and the name changed to "Gange". Seven years later in 1936 the vessel was sold to "Adriatica Soc. Anon. di Nav." and the name changed once again, this time to "MARCO POLO". (I have a record of one cover postmarked "Lloyd Triestino PFO Marco Polo" dated 9th June 1936). The Gange sailed regularly between Venice and Bombay, calling at Naples, Trieste, Brindisi, ^Istanbul, Port Said and Aden.

Earliest date: 19 June 1933 Latest date: 10 March 1934

PFO HELOUAN LLOYD TRIESTINO (fig. 6)

The Helouan - 7,156 tons - was built in 1912 and sailed regularly between Venice and Alexandria, calling at Brindisi and Trieste (and possibly Naples). On the 12th August 1937 the Helouan caught fire in Naples harbour and was declared a total loss. I have a few examples of the 1923 Fuad issue cancelled with an oval rubber stamp (Fig. 15) in black but all are unfortunately undated.

Earliest date: 5 November 1927 Latest date: 8 August 1931

PFO PILSNA LLOYD TRIESTINO (fig. 7)

The Pilsna was built in 1918 - 8,040 tons - and sailed regularly between Venice and Bombay, following the same route as the Gange. I have only one example of this postmark, dated 23 February 1933. Postmarks of the ships on the Bombay route appear to be very much scarcer than those of the ships running backwards and forwards across the Mediterranean.

PFO TEVERE LLOYD TRIESTINO (fig. 8)

The Tevere, 8,448 tons, was built in 1912 and survived until 1941 when it was sunk by torpedo in the Mediterranean. The Tevere sailed between Venice and Bombay, calling at Naples, Genoa, Trieste and Constantinople. My only example of this postmark is dated 21st July 1928.

M/N VICTORIA LLOYD TRIESTINO (fig. 9)

The Victoria - 13,068 tons - was built in 1931 and suffered the same fate as the Tevere, being torpedoed in the Mediterranean in January 1942.

Earliest date: 2 August 1931 Latest date:

/ Continued . . .







Fig 2



Fig 1

157200



Fig 4

Fig 5











Fig 9

Fig 7





B

Fig 11

15

Maritime Cancellations on 1927 Fuad Issue - Continued

PFO VIENNA LLOYD TRIESTINO (fig. 11)

The Vienna - 7,156 tons - was built in 1911. Its name was changed in 1937 to "PO" but the vessel continued to be part of the Lloyd Triestino fleet. As with the Helouan I have a few 1923 Fuads cancelled by a rubber stamp in black (fig. 16) again undated. I have examples of the cancellation (fig. 11) struck in black and violet.

In black: Earliest date: 9 June 1928 Latest date: 18 April 1934 In violet: " " 10 September 1928 " " 23 May 1931

MARSEILLE GARE B'CHES DU RHONE PAQUEBCT

MARSEILLE ST CHARLES PAQUEBOT

NAPOLI PORTO (FACCOMANDA'TE)

I have included illustrations of these three cancellations (figs. 12, 13 and 14) only because they are to be found on the stamps of the 2nd Fuad issue.

AUTHOR'S NOTE

These notes, I am sure, are far from complete and I am hopeful that members will be able to fill in some of the many gaps. I should be most grateful for any further information.

P. E. Whetter (ESC 133)

QUESTION TIME NEW QUESTIONS

Q. Time 27 Subject: British Forces - Numeral Franks Put by R.Jeidel

In his study on the subject by Mr John E.O.Hobbs, reference is made on page 7 to the numeral franks and where they were used. About half of them were transferred 'later' to different places. My question is when were those franks transferred ? (Approximate dates will do).

I am prompted to ask because I have just acquired a letter with the numeral frank "19" postmarked: M.P.O. / 15 MR 36 9-10P / Cairo. The abovementioned listing states: 19 M.P.O. Cairo (later transferred to Moascar).

As this letter was posted towards the end of this period, the question arises whether frank "19" was either never transferred to Moascar, or retransferred to Cairo. I would be grateful if members check their relevant material and enlighten me.

Q. Time 28 Subject: British Forces - Numeral Franks Put by R. Jeidel

Apart from the admirable study by John Hobbs I am not aware of any article or reference on the subject of the Postal Service of the British Forces in Egypt.

A recent acquisition is a batch of 24 covers with numeral franks 1 to 25 (without No. 7) all addressed to Miss Mary Lloyd, The Buchan School, Castletown, Isle of Man. The numeral "9" frank is applied to a cover postmarked: M.P.O. / 15 MR 36 8.10.P / Port Said. I already have a cover to the same lady, also with the numeral frank "9" postmarked on the same day from Cairo: M.P.O. / 15 MR 36 9-10P / Cairo.

Both numeral franks are struck in mauve, the Port Said being very clear, the Cairo one rather weak.* While superficially both cachets look alike, closer examination shows slight differences in the shape of several letters. One must therefore assume that at least one number was used in two places at the same time - possibly others as well.

I wonder whether any member of the ESC would care to collate information on this subject ?

* Illustrated on following page.



Fig 12

Fig 13





Fig 14



Fig 15



Fig 16

BRITISH FORCES - NUMERAL FRANK USED IN 2 PLACES AT ONCE







Miss Mary Lloyd,

The Buchan School,

Ca stletown,

Isle of Lan.

n School,

9

(retouched for

printing)

letown,

le of Man.

<u>NEW ISSUES</u> by C.E.H. Defriez

18

(all stamps are printed by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, with watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

Commemorative Stamps	SG 1404	<u>SG 1405</u>
Occasion	Arab Po	ets
Date of issue	30th December 1	979 • • • •
Designer	Saber Saida	1
Design		Mahmoud Samy el-Baroudy (75th Death Anniversary)
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) se-te	enant
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	26 x 43 mm
Perforation	11 x $11\frac{1}{2}$	11 x 11 ¹ / ₂
Quantity printed	1,000,000	
Supplementary	Azhar University and became Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Arabic	El Baroudy was born in the Sudan, he attended the Military College in Cairo, served in the Army and later became Minister of Defence.
	<u>sg 1406</u> <u>sg 1407</u>	<u>sg 1408</u> <u>sg 1409</u>
Occasion	POST DAY (Pharaoni	c Capitals)
Date of issue	2nd January 198	30
Designer	· · · · I. el Tahtawi	
Design	Flower Head Capital Capital	Leaf Capital with Capital Cartouche
Denomination	20 mills ¹ +5 mills	70 mills 140 mills
Sheet	40 (10 x 4) se-te	enant
Stamp dimensions	• • • 30 x 50 mm each	1
Perforation	• • • • 11 •	
Quantity printed	500,000 sets	
Supplementary	Every year the Postal Organisa commemorate 'Post Day' on 2nd	
	<u>SG 1410</u>	<u>SG 1411</u>
Occasion		th Fine Arts Biennale, lexandria
Date of issue	4th February 1980 20	th February 1980
Designer	I. el Tahtawi Lo	otfy el Sawaf
Design	Goddess of Writing and Ex Fair Emblem	hibition Catalogue and Medal
Denomination	20 mills 20) mills
Sheet	50 (10 x 5) NO WATE	RMARK
Stamp dimensions	30 x 50 mm 30	x 50 mm
Perforation	11 11	
Quantity printed	1,000,000 1,	000,000
Supplementary	The Fair was open from 24th Jan to 4th Feb 1980	

NEW ISSUES by C.E.H. Defriez

(all stamps are printed by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, with watermark Multiple Eagle unless noted otherwise)

	Multiple Eagle unless note	d otherwise)
Commemorative Stamps	SG 1	412
Occasion	Cairo Internat	ional Fair
Date of issue	8th March	1980
Designer	Lotfy el S	awaf
Design	Fair Emb	lem
Denomination	20 mil	ls
Sheet	• • • • 50 (10 x	. 5)
Stamp dimensions	•••• 26 x 43	5 mm • • • • •
Perforation	•••••11 x 11	1
Quantity printed	1,000,000)
Supplementary	About 50 countries partici many companies.	pated, with exhibits from
	<u>SG 1413</u> <u>SG 1414</u>	<u>SG 1415</u> <u>SG 1416</u>
Occasion	20th Anniversary of Nubian	Monument Preservation Campaign
Date of issue	10th Marc	h 1980
Designer	• • • • M.N. el H	lendawi
Design	Trajan Quortasi Monument Monument	Kalabasha Philae Monument Temple
Denomination	70 mills 70 mills	70 mills 70 mills
Sheet	. 40 (4 x 10, plus labe	el, se-tenarit) NO WATERMARK .
Stamp dimensions	•••• 50 x 30 m	mmeach
Perforation	• • • • • 11	
Quantity printed	500,000	sets
Supplementary	The stamps depict four of by the UNESCO organisation various countries.	the monuments that were saved with the co-operation of
	SG 1417	<u>SG 1418</u>
Occasion	Doctors' Day	9th Anniversary of the Rectification Movement
Date of issue	18th March 1980	15th May 1980
Designer	Lotfy el Sawaf	Salah Abd el Kerim
Design	Medal and Symbol	President Sadat and representation of flag
Denomination	20 mills	20 mills
Sheet	50 (1C x 5)	25 (5 x 5)
Stamp dimensions	26 x 43 mm	43 x 51 mm
Perforation	11 x 11 ²	11 ¹ / ₂ x 11
Quantity printed	1,000,000	1,000,000
Supplementary	The medical profession in Egypt dates back to Pharaonic times	-

(Im-Hotep)



ISSUES AND THEIR SPECIAL CANCELS

20

WAGHORN & THE EGYPTIAN TRANSIT COMPANY

I was delighted to see at last a reply to one of my Waghorn articles. Mr R. Jeidel on page 344, of Vol. X, accepts, as I do (nearly) that the P. & O. Steamer 'Lotus' was the one Waghorn was expecting two years or so earlier, and that it was laid up awaiting a purchaser when Waghorn couldn't raise the cash.

There is another complication, however. Thanks to Mr Jeidel's comments I read Sidebottom's book more carefully and found a reference, previously missed because I was looking in the wrong place, to an article in the Illustrated London News about Waghorn's characteristic dash when he was pushing the Austrian route in 1845. This states that Waghorn collected an express packet from Bombay at Suez (via the P. & O. of course) and took it to Alexandria himself, on his OWN steamer, 'built for Waghorn by Ditchburn & Mare about 5 years ago'. And alas, the wretched boat is called the 'Little Nile'. I knew such a boat existed in 1842 but, since it was paired with 'Jack o' Lantern', I assumed it was really Hill's. (The literature tends to give all Hill's property to Waghorn, even before, let alone after, the partnership, or takeover).

If Waghorn really bought the 'Little Nile' from Ditchburn & Mare, (one of the letters published on page 285 of Vol. X was from them, though I hazarded Mason instead of Mare) then it ought to be the expected 'Lotus', as the date is around 1840. Also, it passes belief that Waghorn was considering TWO boats at a time when we all assume he hadn't the money for one. But why the change of name ? Sidebottom, page 160, says it belonged to the Egyptian Transit Company, as it probably did eventually, but a contemporary report could hardly get the ownership wrong . . . or could it ?

As to dates, the partnership with (or takeover by) HILL & RAVEN was in mid-1841, and Waghorn then returned to England and seems to have intended staying there and leaving Egypt to Hill & Raven. In 1842 he was busy pushing the Medal to Mehemet Ali, and in the midst of all this had to pay a visit to Egypt after Hill's death. The letter referring to this is dated 6 May. I don't know the date of presentation of the Medal, but in view of this it could hardly have been before June or July. Now Waghorn wrote the congratulatory blurb which went with the Medal, and had he smelt any rats about the Pasha ganging up with the P. & O. to form the Egyptian Transit Co. he would not have been bursting with enthusiasm for the Pasha. This must push the actual formation of the E.T.C. up to late 1842 at the earliest. Miss Sankey in her book, page 108, says:-

"The Egyptian Transit Company, with Mehemet Ali ostensibly at its head, came into being and, behind Waghorn's back, obtained the contract for mails going to India. An offer of a position on its staff was made to Waghorn, but it was such a subordinate one that he declined it. Bevan (an employee of Waghorn) said that he 'disposed of his six desert stations advantageously' to the new Company."

From what we know of Waghorn, any position short of Boss would have been unacceptable; one fancies that the E.T.C. heaved a sigh of relief when he turned them down. He still ran his Travel Agency and had a Hotel d'Orient in Cairo in 1844. Thackeray, who stayed there, calls it a new building. In 1840 his hotel was the Great Eastern and is described in the letter of 17 October as 'Princely'.

Sidebottom, page 80, says: "He negotiated an agreement with the E.T.C. to carry passengers and parcels by his agency through Hill & Co., and in 1844 he is found pointing out in his Guide that the P. & O. had at that time no control over the transit in Egypt."

This, of course, merely maintains the fiction that the E.T.C. was an independent company; the P. & O. clearly found it convenient to do this whenever it suited them. Sidebottom goes on to say that the Pasha put the transit under the government in 1846. But since the Pasha was the government and the Pasha was the E.T.C. (saving the interest of the P. & O.), it is doubtful whether this made much difference.

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/ Continued . . .

WAGHORN & THE EGYTPIAN TRANSIT COMPANY

continued

May I conclude this rather rambling article with a typical piece of Waghornry as reported by Miss Sankey.

There was in 1842 a famous Tournament staged at Eglintoun Castle. All the best and fairest of English Society went there, and it seems to have been a magnificent and chaotic failure, not helped by the English weather. When it was all over Waghorn, bless him, bought the tents and sent them out to Egypt to replace the highly primitive ones at the desert stations. Alas, and almost to be expected, nobody could find out how to put the wretched things up, and they were never used.

F. Rowland Hill (ESC 212)

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EGYPTIAN PAQUEBOT DATESTAMPS

by Kenneth D. Knight (ESC 150)

Author's Note

I have no doubts that the data contained in the Table is incomplete, but as nothing has appeared in the Q.C. during the last ten years I thought it opportune for the publication of my study report as it stands. My list incorporates a c.d.s. type not recorded in M. J. Boulad d'Humieres' previous work on this subject and also extends the known dates of use of 75% of the cancellations which he recorded.

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

"PAQUEBOT" is the term applied to mail posted on the high seas and delivered into the conventional national and international mail system at the first port of call. Such mail had its heyday in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when travel by ship was the norm, nevertheless the paquebot agreement is still extant today. Prior to the adoption of the description "Paquebot" by the U.P.U. at the Washington Postal Convention of 1897 the words "Pleine Mer" were used by the Egyptian Post Office to describe mail originating at sea.

Pleine Mer cachets may be found on items of mail handled by the Egyptian Postal System from 1892 until the end of 1900, and cachets reading Paquebot from November 1899 onwards. Both Pleine Mer and Paquebot cachets are known in several forms, boxed and unboxed. However in this short article I am concerned only with <u>circular datestamps incorporating the word 'Paquebot'</u> in their design.

Circular datestamps incorporating the word 'Paquebot' first appeared in Egypt during the 1920's. Because mail from the high seas can be posted on board ships of any nationality which is a signatory of the U.P.U., Egyptian paquebot cancellations are to be seen on the stamps of many nations.

Four Egyptian ports are known to have received paquebot mail: Alexandria, Port Said, Port Taufiq and Suez. Although the last of these, Suez, used Pleine Mer and Paquebot cachets, I have never seen a Suez paquebot c.d.s. and surmise the reason is that items formerly handled through the port have in more recent times been routed through Port Taufiq.

Similarly with Alexandria, a datestamp indicating receipt from ships is recorded but its use is unknown since the 1930's and one must therefore assume it is now obsolete.

Egyptian Paquebot Datestamps

Continued

Regarding the modern Port Tawfiq c.d.s. (P-T2 and P-T2a) I have seen this datestamp only with the date entirely in figures (P-T2) but it is possible that the datestamp exists with the month in letters as per the illustration designated P-T2a.

The Port Said datestamp reference P-S1a I have not seen myself and feel inclined to dismiss as a type P-S1 cancellation applied to an irregularlyshaped packet; however, the variety has been reported used in 1928 and 1962 by two well-respected philatelists, J. Boulad d'Humieres and Dr A. Winter, and I have therefore included it in my list.

Items in the list below with the initials 'KDK' attached are in my own collection. Other data has been culled from previous articles published on this subject and the source is indicated by a bracketed number which cross-references with the appended bibliography.

The Fort Tawfiq paquebot datestamp was used after the 1967 closing of the Suez Canal, on mail emanating from ships stranded in the Great Bitter Lakes. Many covers from the Great Bitter Lakes were manufactured for the philatelic trade. Some are entirely bogus. Their status may be determined by a forged handstamp of the Egyptian Postal Censor, however discussion of the censorship marks is cutside the scope of this article.

c.d.s.			
	Port of Use	Earliest Known Use	Latest Known Use
P-A1	Alexandrie	? ? 21 (1)	21 JA 36 (1) 6 MR 39
F-S1	Port Said	20 SE 22 (1)	7 AP 66 (KDK)
P-S1a	Port Said	11 MY 28 (1)	6 MR 62 (2)
P - T1	Port Taufiq	? FE 39 (1)	17 MR 56 (KDK) 6 My 64
P-T2	Port Tawfiq	19 1 58 Jun 25 10 60 (KDK)	2 7 68 (3)
P-T2a	Port Tawfiq		

Any further information relating to either additional paquebot c.d.s. or extending the periods of use for those already recorded would be much appreciated, particularly details relative to their use since the re-opening of the Suez Canal.

Bibliography

(1) Maritime Cancellations: Pleine Mer and Paquebot by J. Boulad
d'Humieres. Originally published in French by L'Orient Philatelique, No.
123. Later translated into English by V. Andonian and published in Egyptian
Topics (Vol. 3, No. 6, Sep/Oct 1971).

N.B. Illustrated in connection with this article when reproduced in 'Egyptian Topics' was a cover credited to the collection of the late Chas. Minett which showed an parlier date of use for c.d.s. Type P-31 than recorded by Mr d'Humieres in the text.

(2) A subsequent article to (1) which appeared in 'Egyptian Topics' (Vol. 4, No. 1, Nov/Dec 1971) by Dr A. Winter entitled: Additional Comment: Maritime Cancellations: Pleine Mer and Faquebot.

/ Continued . . .

Bibliography (continued)

(3) An article by John F. Cousins, again published in 'Egyptian Topics' relating the story of the Great Bitter Lake Locals has an illustration displaying the c.d.s. as included in the above list.





Type P-T1



P-T2a

E G Y P T 1953-54 - AFTER THE ABDICATION OF KING FAROUK DOUBLE 'BARS OBLITERATION' - GENUINE USE ON COVER



EGYPT 1	1953 - 19	154 -	AFTER	THE	ABDICATION	OF	KING	FAROUK	
---------	-----------	-------	-------	-----	------------	----	------	--------	--

by Jean Boulad d'Humieres, FRPS, L (ESC 16)

After the abdication of King Farouk, on 23rd July 1952, the suppression of his portrait on current postage stamps was decided upon at once. This practice was not new in philately, as numerous countries have adopted this in the past.

While awaiting the issue of new stamps, and to use up those in stock, they hastily proceeded to apply three thick horizontal bars in black across the portrait of the fallen monarch. This operation was carried out in Cairo by three government printers: the Survey Department (printers of Egyptian stamps since 1925), the National Printing Works at Boulac and the printing department of the State Railways.

This hurried operation gave rise to a number of 'errors of overprint', of which the most frequent were the non-obliteration completely of the royal portrait, the bars falling too high, or too low, or 'a cheval' across two stamps. To remedy the displacement of the overprint, the faulty sheets were passed through the obliterating bars a second time. Thus were produced the double overprints with 5 or 6 obliterating bars, these being the most common cases.

Thus far, there was nothing very extraordinary in the rectification. But speculation and the lure of easy gain rapidly took possession of error rectification to foster the manufacture of these double overprints with, it seems, the connivance of the staff in the printers having charge of the operation.

From this development, and it will be sufficient to consult the catalogues, come the whole of the existing values found with double overprint, even with triple overprint, as on the 6 mills of 1940, the 17 mills of 1944 and the \pounds E 1 of 1947. But not one - or very few - of these multiple overprints has been sent through the post: they had been withdrawn as a preliminary to being offered to philatelists avid with curiosity. Thus they are known only, as a general rule, in unused state.

I had drawn attention to this peculiarity as a specialist collector of French airmail. People asked me insistently, while I was still in Egypt, to send to them on registered airmail covers, the largest number possible of airmail stamps having double overprints. They wished to prove, with supporting documents, that the stamps had been validly used. In fact, the postal officials, not aware of these varieties, were unable to accept them. In reality, not one had been bought from a post office counter, but they had been bought (at a high price) from the dealers in Cairo. I remember that it needed two or three envelopes to contain all the 'rectified' stamps.

However, several sheets of double overprints had been delivered to various post offices and sold in the normal course to users. The registered envelope reproduced (see previous page) is an example.

It emanated from the post office at Tala (Nile delta, suburb of Tanta), and was sent on 8 February 1955, addressed to the Director-General of the Suez Canal Company at Ismailia, in Arabic. Very probably, it enclosed a receipt signed by a pensioner, in exchange for which his quarterly pension would be paid by postal money-order.

The franking of 35 milliemes is comprised of :-

(1) A 15-mills Farouk obliterated twice with 3 bars, forming 5 bars, issued on 23 April 1953.

(2) A 20-mills 'Defense' stamp of the new definitive series issued in Aug/Sept 1953.

It was quite by chance that this cover escaped 'bureaucratic' destruction: I put it on one side at the time, out of habit, not doubting that it could perhaps constitute a curiosity and could one day become the subject of this note. How many people are there who dream of saving similar covers ? Very few, regrettably, one would think.

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