

September Quarter 2004 Volume XVIII No. 11 Whole Series No. 210 Pages 245 – 268

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Cover of the Month: EGYPT. 1878 (March 23rd). Registered cover to a village near Posen (now Poznan, Poland, then in Prussia) bearing 1874-75 2 1/2pi. violet tied by scarce short-lived 'Postes Egyptiennes/ Helouan' datestamp (Feltus #VI-2n) with framed unrecorded usage of Helouan standard type 'Raccomandato' registered handstamp alongside. Reverse with Cairo cds and further transts of Brindisi (March 28th) and Bologna. German Travelling Post Office label ''Vom Ausland/uber/B-P 5 (Oderberg-Breslau)' with Jaotschin cds of receipt. Registration rate of 1 piastre + 1 1/2pi Postage-the last week of use of this rate prior to the overseas postage being reduced to 1pi. per 15 grams in April 1878.

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	Forthcoming Meetings.		
November 13 January 8 2005 February 24 February26 - at Stampex May 14 July 9 September 10 December 12	A Tour around Egypt in Postmarks 10 sheets per member ESC display at the Royal Phil. Soc. London 1866 (First Issue) AGM followed by 'Humorous Egyptian postcards Discussion: The future of the ESC; plus, time permitting Postage Dues (Part. 2) New Acquisitions & Queries 'Meridian postmarks' Zeppelins	Cyril Defriez All members K. Kelemenis M.Nofal All members P.R.Bertram All members D.Clarke J. Davis	

Meetings are normally held at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London. Members usually congregate in the ground floor bar from 1pm onwards and meetings commence at 2pm.

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Report of Meeting, July 10, 2004

Present: John Sears (President), Robin Bertram (Chairman), Peter Andrews, Mike Bramwell, Cyril Defriez, Mostafa El-Dars, Ted Fraser-Smith, Peter Grech, Edmund Hall, Stanley Horesh (Deputy Chairman), Wolfgang Köhler, Mike Murphy, Mohamed Nofal, Sami Sadek (Secretary), Lewis Said and Brian Sedgley (Treasurer).

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Chadwick, John Davis, Alan Jeyes and Richard Wheatley.

The chairman first welcomed our former overseas member Wolfgang Köhler (ESC 452), now settled in Surrey, then announced the imminent publication of the new part 19 of the *Specialised Stanley Gibbons* catalogue which includes the stamps of Egypt.

The Chairman was proud to announce that the Royal Philatelic Society had invited the Circle to provide a special display on February 24 next year to mark our 70th anniversary. This will be followed by a dinner in the Trafalgar Room at the Victory Services Club (7.30 for 8pm). The number of places is limited; please apply promptly to avoid disappointment.

John Sears was pleased to announce £550 profit from Auction 37; the closing date for bids for the current auction (No 38) is September 15; and that for receipt of vendors' lists for Auction 39 is February 15 2005. The Chairman thanked Peter Andrews, John Sears, Mike Murphy and Mike Bramwell for all their hard work in making the auction such a success.

Stanley Horesh regretted the cancellation of the lunch at his home, and announced a new date for it on November 7. Please contact him to confirm.

The Chairman was pleased to announce that our new Agent in Egypt will be Dr Ibrahim Shoukry (ESC 423), a long-standing and respected member of both the PSE and the Circle.

The Treasurer reported that there was still a delay in receipt of paid subscriptions from our North American agent.

The philatelic meeting followed with an unusual topic, namely Postcards.

Lewis Said (ESC 525) opened with a brief introduction of his hobby, which started by collecting postcards of his place of birth: Port Said. This readily grew into collecting all aspects of postcards pertaining to Egypt. He gave a detailed handout of his talk; a copy is available on request from the Secretary.

The main presentation was provided by Mohamed Nofal (ESC 489), who thanked the Circle for the chance to present this new subject. He started collecting in 1993, at first postcards of Alexandria. He now collects all Egyptian postcards and classifies them by their publishers. He has recorded more than 12,000 publishers, some of them providing up to 250 series. He also classifies cards by theme e.g., camels, cities etc, and hopes that these classifications will help collectors to communicate and compare collections.

He said he would be happy to help others to catalogue their postcards as he now has more than 100,000.

Mohamed proceeded to discuss well known publishers of postcards and present an impressive selection starting with the Cairo Postcard Trust, which published 346 series from 1893. He showed many examples with varieties in series and colours, and then proceeded to discuss, with brilliant examples, all publishers in chronological order. These included Landrock, which is still publishing to this day

He showed cards with themes such as Coptic Churches, humour in postcards, artistic painting, cities of Egypt at different historical periods. A fascinating group depicted various Egyptian professions, eg, cobblers, postmen and so on ... another group illustrated views from the Egyptian State Railways.

The Chairman thanked both presenters, who had opened our eyes to the vastness of the subject and invited them to display again in the future to continue the topic or indeed to supplement other presentations to provide a new dimension. Member showed their appreciation in the traditional manner.

Members' Awards in Recent Competitions

World Stamp Exhibition 2003	(May 22-30, V	alencia, Spain)
Samir Fikry (ESC 305)		Egypt, Grand Prix
Salon du Timbre (June 26-Jul	y 4 2004, Parc F	loral de Paris) (single frame)
Khetcho Hagopian (ESC 304)		Second Issue, 66 points
Sherif Hesny (ESC 550)		Egyptian Perfins, 62 points
Arto Kasperian (ESC 518)		Sudan Airmails, 68 points
Samir Nabih Attiah (ESC 505)		Posta Europea, 92 points (Gold Medal)
Ibrahim Shoukry (ESC 423)		Hotel Cancellations, 82 points
APS StampShow 2004 (Augus	st 12-15, Sacram	ento, California:
Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)		Egypt: Official Stamps and Mails, Vermeil
Singapore International Exhibit	oition (August 2	25-September 3)
Hisham Bassyouny (ESC 391)	5 frames	British Forces in Egypt, 80 points
Farid Mehiar (ESC 431)	8 frames	Egypt 1914-1922, 90 points (Gold Medal)
Samir Nabih Attiah (ESC 505)	8 frames	Egyptian Stationery, 82 points

Ibrahim Shoukry, Commissioner, reports (but not to the Editor!): The organisation was absolutely perfect. The Marina Mandarin hotel was great. The exhibition was in front of the hotel. I was accompanied by Samir Fikry as a juror.

Autumn Stampex 2004 (September 15-19, Islington, North London) John Davis (ESC 213) The Concession Period, Large Vermeil

ABPS Awards 2004

Robin Bertram (ESC 137) Culled from another magazine. For voluntary services to UK philately, Award of Merit.

Editorial

It seems that some of our members may be a little shy, in that none of the awards shown above has been reported to the Editor for inclusion in the QC. The have arrived via third parties or been culled from other magazines. So members, if you want to see your efforts in exhibitions recorded here in the QC then please report them to the Editor. For instance, I have only just found out about Samir Fikry's excellent Grand Prix in Spain of last year: I believe that this is his third Grand Prix, and this achievement is certainly one to be applauded, as I also believe that this remarkable feat has been achieved by only five or so philatelists before. We hope to see Samir at the Royal Philatelic Society display early next year as well as many more of our members, especially from overseas.

Yes, they are at it again: adverts have been appearing pointing out the wonderful investment value of stamps. Selected cases, normally based on expensive Victorian British stamps like the £5 orange, showing enticing increases in value over the last year or so. Against this increase are set equally selective comparisons with the trends in the stock market. Few of us need to be reminded of the ever-upward rise in the price of philatelic material, putting more and more of those desirable items beyond reach. Neither do we need to be reminded of the movements in our other investments. Have you checked your pension fund lately? Don't!

The real return on investment in philately is the enjoyment found in forming a collection and the related study and the friendships made. When your wife inadvertently gets hold of your credit card details, however, the term "investment" and those advertisements suddenly become welcome allies.

The 7th Biennial Meeting of The New Zealand Chapter of the Egypt Study Circle

Tony Chisholm ESC (288), Antipodean Agent

Held: February 2004 at Matarangi Beach, Coromandel Peninsula, North Island, New Zealand.

This was our largest gathering, with 14 philatelists as well as accompanying spouses, children and sisters-inlaw to make up numbers to 25, occupying four houses. Catering and accommodation were first class, and the week was enjoyed by all, whether "stamping" or sightseeing. Delegates were welcomed with souvenirs provided by Peter Goodwin: the programme, a tarboush, a first-day cover, pencil and diary inscribed with the conference's logo. The tarboush is now becoming a collectable item!

Topics and displays were presented by John Davis (ESC 213) on Postage Dues and Forces Postal Concession material; Robin Bertram (ESC 137) on Avis de Reception and on Egyptian PO Documents; Ted Fraser-Smith (ESC 238) gave three talks, on Agency Post Offices & the Rural Post Offices, Postal Coding as well as instruction on how to decipher basic Arabic characters; Peter Andrews (ESC 122) spoke on Egyptian booklet stamps; Sue McIntosh (ESC 356) displayed Egyptian Postage Prepaid and New Zealand Forces' material, supported by Herb Cowley (FPHS); Tony Cakebread (ESC 536) spoke on Egyptian Scenes on Raphael Tuck postcards; Peter Goodwin (ESC 297) offered material supporting that of other speakers; Tony Chisholm (ESC 288) gave an update on the study of Egyptian postcards from the classic period to the end of the Second World War.

It is not the intention of this report to describe in detail the above subjects as members were invited to write articles for future publication in the *QC*. Some interesting "cross-fertilisation" was provided by other invited philatelists: Richard Stock (SSG) on Egyptian adhesives used in the Sudan before 1897 as well as the first issue of the Sudan, which were overprints on Egyptian stamps; Jenny Banfield (FRPS) on Iraqi Airmail, some emanating from Egypt; and Robin Gwynn (FRPS) on Wreck Mail of Egyptian origin. A final session to critique the effectiveness of the conference resulted in the following points being noted: Diversity of material among local and overseas presenters. Flexible timetable allowed for a good balance between philately and socialising. Degree of specialisation added to the educational value of the event. Good opportunities for networking, updating of research, acquiring new material, bringing material for identification. The pleasure of combining overseas travel with a seaside holiday and philatelic interests. Members enjoyed seeing relevant material from members of other societies. The atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie was appreciated. There was leisure for further informal discussion on subjects presented. A library of members' books was of interest.

Other comments and suggestions referred to the fact that overseas members had to limit the amount of material they brought, the use of coloured photocopies saving space and weight and obviating Customs problems; how best to use our cluster of houses for partners to socialise during philatelic sessions; what would be a suitable maximum number for future conferences with the same venue and catering; whether members could be invited to provide a printed summary of their information; the need to provide stiffeners/ covers for sheets displayed on boards; the possibility of inviting dealers to offer any Egypt-related material at one venue in Auckland before or after the Matarangi conference. Planning for 2006 will include investigating new places of interest for outings, especially with people coming for a second or third conference in mind.

A donation was made after Conference to the Kauri 2000 Trust, which has so far planted 14,000 kauri trees to re-create the magnificent forests that once dominated the Coromandel Peninsula. In 2006 we could include a visit to our kauri seedlings. We also remind ESC members in Europe, Egypt, North America and Australia that we very much hope to see some of them at our next conference. Start planning now!

Postscript from the ESC Chairman: This was the second New Zealand chapter meeting I have attended and in many ways it surpassed my first visit two years ago. Tony and Jenny Chisholm, as hosts, certainly made us "Pommies" most welcome. They had put a lot of hard work into organising the meeting, the accommodation and the necessary victuals. The wine flowed, and the food prepared and cooked by Anita Cowley (ably assisted by member's wives and relations) was superb. Excursions for members and their



families were memorable. My thanks also go to Peter Goodwin (ESC 297) for the hospitality he showed in meeting overseas members at Auckland airport on their arrival; for the production of the programme, the transportation of some of the display boards and the manufacture of the famous tarboushes.

I wholeheartedly support the comments by Tony in his report above. A philatelic "break/stop-over" in NZ for any member (and his partner) taking a long holiday is a must and they would be welcomed with open arms by Tony and Jenny. Can I persuade any of our members living outside the UK (especially those living in Egypt) to attend the next meeting in 2006 - you have, as Tony says, the next two years to make any travel arrangements! **Robin Bertram (ESC 137)**

Back row: Robin Bertram, Peter Andrews, Ted Fraser-Smith, Peter Goodwin, Alan Berry 2nd row: Sue McIntosh, Tony Chisholm, Crouching: John Davis, Tony Cakebread

Obituary: J.A.Grimmer (ESC 164)

John Anthony Grimmer was born on 30th January 1925 at Filby in Norfolk. He had been suffering with Alzheimer's disease for approximately the last 11 years of his life. He died on 25th August this year. A cremation service was held for him on 2nd September.

I knew John for some 26 years prior to his death, and, as the result of the initial contact I built up a longstanding friendship with him. In fact it was because of this initial contact, when he came to give a display of Egypt to my then local philatelic society up in the wilds of Lincolnshire, and his persuasion at the time, that led me to travel down and regularly attend the ESC meetings in London.

John served in the Royal Air Force for a period in Egypt and Iraq. When he came out of the service he studied and became a chartered accountant, which occupation he continued until his retirement.

He became interested in Egyptian philately as a result of his RAF service in Egypt. He joined the ESC and during his membership went on to become the Editor of the *QC* in 1977. He carried out this duty for some 15 years up to 1992. John's *QC*s were meticulously produced. He was not only a member of various local philatelic societies but also the National Philatelic Society, serving as their Treasurer from 1971 to 1977. He went on to become the President of the NPS in 1978 and served in that capacity until 1983. John was heavily involved with the International Stamp Exhibition London 1980. His other philatelic areas of interest were early British stamps and postal history.

John will be remembered by many in the ESC who did not personally know him for his unravelling of the mysteries of the "3 milliemes on 2 piastre" overprinted 1898/1905 postage due stamps.

One of my fond memories of John is recalling the frequent visits with him and one or two other ESC members to the Hadley Hotel in Barnet, where, over a bar snack and a pint, we would have an informal ESC committee meeting and also deal with the production of the QC.

John is survived by his widow Rhoda, daughter Alison and sons Neil and Robin, to whom the Circle offers its deepest sympathy. Robin Bertram (ESC 137), Chairman

Second study of Parcel Cards for Foreign Countries (PACF) and Rates Used

Anatole Ott (ESC 261)

Since my first article on this subject (*QC* XVIII,10, June 2004, pages 228-243), I have had a wonderful response in the form of copies of new and so far unknown Parcel Cards. The most important contribution I received was a copy of extracts of the 1905 *Egypt Postal Guide* showing an extensive table with countries, postal routes and rates as well as maximum allowable parcel weights .

The first article showed a survey of known Parcel Cards and frankings used upon them. It was a statistical disposition as well as a sorting of the cards into different types. Through the 1905 *Postal Guide* we have for the first time the possibility of checking the franking on the cards, as to its sufficiency and even whether there were additional fiscal costs for either sender or receiver.

With the 1905 table of rates at hand, I have primarily chosen to include in my table (see next page) most of the countries around the Mediterranean as well as those for which we have evidence in the form of the despatch of actual parcel cards. This 1905 table is reckoned to be valid for about the period 1900-1913.

The cost of sending a parcel overseas depends mainly upon following three factors:

- -- Country of destination
- -- Route or means of conveyance
- -- Weight of parcel

The rate depends on into which weight stage the parcel falls. Weight stages could, for example, be: up to 1kg, 1-3kg, 3-5kg, and so on.

Only the Alexandria office was authorised to receive parcels larger than 60cm in any dimension, and then only if addressed to certain countries. They could contain umbrellas, sticks, maps, plans etc. and were allowed a maximum dimension of 1m. Such parcels were charged 50 per cent more than the rates for ordinary parcels, and they were despatched only via Trieste by Austrian steamer. The sender was required to complete a Customs declaration form (different number depending on country) that accompanied the parcel and therein to indicate the true value of the contents, in order to serve as a basis for any exportation charge to be levied in Egypt, and import duties raised by the country of destination. The Post Office collects the following charges for the Customs department:

- -- An export duty of 1 per cent on products of the country.
- A quay duty of 0.2 per cent when parcels are despatched via Alexandria. Parcels of value under £E1 are exempt from both the above charges £E1 are exempt from both the above charges.
- -- Parcels sent to places in the Turkish Empire do not pay export duty, only the 0.2 per cent quay duty

Other points of interest:

* Any parcel for Great Britain or in transit through GB exceeding a value of £50 sterling must be sent as an insured parcel.

* It is prohibited to export from Egypt antiquities or antiques pertaining to Arabic art without permission from the Museum authorities.

* Parcels sent by diplomatic agents, consuls, consuls-general, etc, are exempt from export duty, as are men of war in Egyptian waters.

* Every insured parcel requires a separate Parcel Card.

Insurance commission for every 300 francs or fraction thereof is generally 2 PT for the countries, except for Dutch East Indies (6 PT), India (4.5 PT), Sweden (3 PT) and USA (7.5 PT).

Destination	Route	Fee in P.T.	Max wt (kg)
Austria	Direct from Alexandria	6	5
	Via Italy	8	5
Belgium	Via Port Said to Germany	11	5
	Via France or Italy	11	5
Denmark (including Iceland, Faroes and Greenland)	Via Austria	11	5
	Via France	13	5
Dutch East Indies	Direct from Suez by Dutch steamer	16	5
France	Direct	9	5
Other Continent	Via Italy	9	5
Corsica	Via France or Italy	11	5
Germany	From Port Said (sea route)	9	5
	Via Austria	9	5
	Via France or Italy	11	5
GB and Ireland	Via France or Italy	15	5
	From Pt Said via Gibraltar by British steamer	(6	1)
		(9	3)
		(12	5)
Greece	Direct from Alexandria by Khedivial steamer	8	5
Holland	From Port Said to Germany	11	5
	Via Austria	11	5
	Via France	13	5
Hungary	Direct from Alexandria	6	8
	Via Italy	8	5
India	Direct from Port Said by British steamer	18	5
Italy (including San Marino)	Direct	7	5
*New Zealand	Via Port Said	(21.5	3)
		(31.5	5)
Romania	Via Austria	10	5
	Via Italy	12	5
*South Africa and Cape Colony	1. Via Port Said to London	(11	1)
		(20	2)
		(29	3)
		(38	4)
		(45.5	5)
	2. Via Italy or France and London	(17	1)
		(24	2)
		(33	3)
		(40	4)
<u> </u>		(48	5)
Sweden	Via Port Said to Germany	15	5
	Via Austria	15	5
<u> </u>	Via France	17	5
Switzerland	Via Austria or Italy	9	5
	Via France	11	5
Turkey	Via Alexandria-Constantinople	8	5
Other Turkish	T 7' A / '	8-10	5
*USA (Brooklyn, Jersey, New York)	Via Austria	(12	1)
		(14	3)
		(17	5)
Other USA (including Alaska)	Via Austria	(16	1)
		(23-27.5	3-5)

Rates of postage for sending a parcel overseas (extracted from 1905 Postal Guide)

*Note: Rates for GB, New Zealand, South Africa and USA show increases for higher weight steps.

The commission for the COD service is 8 milliemes for every 20 Fr or fraction thereof, valid for the majority of the countries above. Many more countries are included in the *Guide*, but I have chosen to include only those indicated and will add others when new parcel forms are detected.

At the Madrid UPU Congress of 1920 Express delivery of parcels was accepted on International Parcels at 2 PT per parcel. This regulation came into force on January 1, 1922.

As Express delivery of parcels previously carried a surcharge of three times the normal Parcel Post rate (intended for transportation by sea), and as air transportation was considered much faster, it was decided to reduce the sea rate to double the normal rate instead. This came into force, after the Cairo UPU Congress of 1934, from January 1, 1935.

The London Congress of 1929 decided that parcels sent by Air Mail should attract an additional surcharge of a maximum of 1 PT per 20g and per 1,000 km of air transport (in force from July 1,1930). This was amended from January 1, 1935, to 6 milliemes per 20g between European countries, regardless of distance.

Some further postal rates for parcels to Britain, according to information from *The Anglo-American Guide to Cairo 1935*, by Hugh H. Walker.

Route	Postal Rate PT	Max. Weight kg	
Via Port Said - Gibraltar	10	1	
	16	3	
	22	5	Three Customs Declaration
	35	10	forms to be completed
Via Port Said - Marseilles	19	1	
	30.5	3	
	36	5	
	65	10	

The following was valid for Ordinary Parcels by Air to GB, using Imperial Airways :

0			2
Alexandria - London	8.5	1	Plus the Air Transport
	13	3	fee of 20 PT for each
	17	5	500g or fraction
	24.5	10	thereof.

Working of the Parcel Card system.

It seems that the card system might have worked in the following way:

Sender presents his parcel at the Post Office counter together with a Parcel Card and the number of Custom Declaration Forms as stipulated in the valid table of rates. These Parcel Cards and Custom Declaration Forms are supplied to the sender at the Post Office free of charge.

They have to be filled in by the sender and completed by the Post Office official as to parcel weight, route of journey and whether or not it is to be insured or carry a COD charge, as well as any export duties or other charges.

The sender receives free of charge from Post Office personnel a receipt for the sending of the parcel and does not keep any part of the Parcel Card.

The sender of a parcel from Egypt may obtain an Advice of Reception (AR) on advance payment of the fee of 1 PT. This fee in stamps is to be affixed upon the Advice of Reception Form, which then follows the parcel abroad.

Parcels arriving in Egypt from abroad had first to pass the Customs Authorities for checking and calculation of any Customs charges and fees, before arriving at the Post Office, whereupon the Parcel Card was

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delivered to the addressee by the postman. The recipient then collected the parcel at the Post Office or its depot upon presentation of the Parcel Card and payment of any duties and charges, and finally signed the receipt on the Parcel Card and any possible accompanying Advice of Reception form.

An alternative method was for the addressee to pay the postman who delivered the Parcel Card a fee of 2 PT for sending a Special Messenger to bring the Parcel (according to the *Postal Guide*, 1908). This system was probably in force earlier and may be supposed to take into account only ordinary parcels without any COD, Customs duties or other charges to be paid.

It was permitted to use one Parcel Card for a maximum of three parcels despatched from a single sender and directed to a single addressee at one sole address. This regulation did not apply to insured parcels or those subject to COD charges: in these cases an individual Parcel Card was necessary for each parcel.

As well as the ordinary rate for sending the parcel the sender could pay a fee of 2PT for insurance for each Fr300 or fraction thereof, this fee in stamps to be affixed to the Parcel Card (valid from 1922).

For COD the sender was required to pay 8 milliemes for every Fr20 or fraction thereof, the fee in stamps again to be affixed to the Parcel Card (valid beginning of 1900).

Those Parcel Cards referring to insured or COD parcels had to carry in writing the amount in francs and centimes both in letters and in figures to indicate the amount of the COD and value insured in addition to having seals applied when closing the parcel. The maximum amount of COD and insurance per parcel is stipulated in the table of rates.

On presentation of the Parcel Card at the destination Post Office or its depot, the addressee was given the parcel after payment of any COD and/or Custom duties or other fees, and upon signature on the receipt and any accompanying Advice of Reception form. Most often the signature of the receipt section on the reverse of the Parcel Card is missing!

The parcel must be packed properly, with due consideration to weight of contents as well as to duration and length of journey to secure its safe arrival. The packing must also be of a nature that would make it obvious if it had been tampered with. Upon packing, the parcel must be sealed with special seals carrying the sender's name or other special marks of the sender.

Rules covering lost or damaged parcels are described in the *Guide*, together with arrangements for economic compensation from the Postal Authorities.

The detachable part on the left of the Parcel Card was often left uncut and not returned to the sender.

Parcel Cards must logically have been kept by the receiving Post Office for a certain regulated time, to allow for any complaints to be dealt with, and afterwards either destroyed or sold on the market.

On receipt of the parcel at its destination abroad, the amount of any COD charged, with deduction of any fees and charges, would be sent back to the sender in Egypt by way of an International Money Order, the amount of which had to be collected at the Post Office.

The *Postal Guide* of 1897 says that the public is forbidden to detach used stamps from the Parcel Card, which represents the price of the parcel's postage.

It is important for the future of our researches to get hold of or borrow additional *Postal Guides* containing rates for parcels to foreign countries. Most interesting are probably those years where rates, I guess, are changed on account of new weight stages (1881, 1886 & 1930), devaluation (1921), outbreak and end of war (1940, 1948 & 1953).

It will also be interesting to research the possible starting dates for all different additional charges, such as Customs charges (export duty, quay duty), as well as other relevant fees. We need to know also whether such charges were always paid in cash or by affixing the corresponding amount in stamps on the Parcel Card. These details are to a large extent unknown today.

I want to express my warm thanks to Richard Wheatley (ESC 168) for contributing most material to this second study, and hope to see more material from all other friends and collectors.

The latest noted Parcel Cards are the following

Destination country	Year	Number of cards	Type of card	Weight	Rate/Parcel
Italy	1921	1	7B.1 (possibly)	4.4 kg	15 PT
USA	1930	1	7B.4 (new) or 7C.2 (new) depending on invisible reverse	0.45 kg	11.5 PT
USA	1932	1	7B.1	1.2 kg	17 PT
G.B.	1947	1	10A.2 (new)	1.8 kg	11.5 PT

New type: PACF -- 7B.4 or 7C.2. Colour : ? Sizes and Document no. seem similar to 7B.1 Printer's name at upper left: Govt.Press 1386 - 1920 - 1,212,000 ex. Reverse side cannot be seen. Seen used 1930.

New type : PACF -- 10A.2

Colour: cream

All details as 10A.1 except:

Front: Double line frame size 147 x 115mm

Printer's name on reverse, upper left corner: Imp. Nationale 6868A, 1943 - 112.500 Reverse: Instructions to be given by Sender and receipt from Addressee ex. Year written : 194____ Seen used 1947.

	HOUSE DECLAR ARATION EN DOUANE PO 3-847 000 ex.	The Mark - the	States -	- Les and a state of the		
Date Star. p: TIMEDIATE.	Name of Add	ressee (M	ALFRED	LARS	EN Rad	
DOWAHE 2	Nom in Destinat	aire {	Amag	er Boulevn		
18 123 4	Destination			PENHA ENUARI		
Nor SE	Lieu de Destinati	on {			•	I A Hard
		Manufactured		- VA' EUR.	WEIGHTPOID	- Faceimile of the S
DESCRIPTION. ESPÈCE.	CONTENTS. DÉSIGNATION DU CONTENU.	in Egypt or Abroad.* MANUPACTURE	In Egyptian Currency. EN MONNAIE EOYPTIENSE.	In Currency of Country of Destin tion. EN MONNAIE DU TAYS DE DESTINATION.	Gross. Net.	todx in the case of Insured 2 Empreinte du cach a servi à cache les boltes avec vi
1	3	S STRANGERE.	p.n. x.		6 7	s
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No. Nº du colis Parael Bill						
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Custom House Declaration Form for Parcels, used 1923.

Service Des Rebuts

Richard Wheatley (ESC 168)

After this year's AGM on Saturday May 8, we were entertained to a display of Egyptian postage dues by our Chairman, Robin Bertram. Time curtailed the full display, but we saw much to admire.

Two particular items of his caught my eye, for I had a similar one (*Figure 1*). All three are manila envelopes, size 145 x 224mm, marked as Post Office item (No. 125 G), printed in Arabic and French as follows:

Original	Translation
Service Des Rebuts	Returned letter office (Dead letter office)
Imprimé	Printed matter
Insuffisamment Affranchi	Insufficiently paid
tombé en rebut	enclosed and returned
pour le motifs	for the reasons
indiqués au dos 1'addresse	given on the back of the address

The usage of these three Service Des Rebuts envelopes had uncanny similarities:

1. Each had a three-line boxed cachet in red "Bureau Des Rebuts, 25 II 92, Egypt", and all had the same date in this cachet.

2. They all had a vertical oval handstamp measuring 32x15mm, enclosing a capital E struck in blue. Robin Bertram says that this handstamp was manufactured by De La Rue.

3. All were addressed the same: V. Fiteni, c/o Thos. Cook & Son, Alexandria.

4. In the appropriate box each had a postage due stamp of the 1889 issue: 2 mills (RB), 1 piastre (RB) and 4 mills (RW).

5. All the postage due stamps were tied by the Alexandrie A cds, all with the same date 25 II 92.

Now there's a set of coincidences to task the mind of the keenest philatelist! In seeking more information about this service I immediately turned to the invaluable tome by Peter Smith¹. There, on page 758, we read:

Return Envelopes inscribed SERVICE DES REBUTS in which undeliverable letters were enclosed for return to the sender. They are made of buff paper of low quality. The earliest I have seen is dated 20 AO 81

He does illustrate one of these envelopes, which is marked as Post Office item (No. 125 B): it is used 28 JU 84 for an item returned to Cairo from Alexandria. The word Affranchie (franked, postage paid) is printed across the lower left corner (*Figure 2*). I then looked in the *Egypt Postal Guide* for 1906 and there I found the following instruction about underpaid items:

Will only be restored to the senders on payment of the charges made according to the inland or foreign service for unpaid or insufficiently paid correspondence.

By this time I was in need of some light relief, so I turned to the recently received QC 209 (June 2004) and there on the inside front cover is an advert from Greg Todd. Lo and behold, he is offering for sale a Returned Letter Envelope used in 1880! This one, with printed details in Italian and French, is marked as Post Office item (No. 125 A), so presumably this was the first one of its Type.



Fig. 2 Envelope Type 125 B, used 28 JU 84

From looking carefully at the wording on these three different Post Office envelopes, it would appear that their use was slightly different. They were all used at the Service Des Rebuts to return letters to their original senders. This is what they reveal:

- 125 A Used 1880 *Fig. 1 see inside cover QC* 209 Reason for return: Letter refused Charge: Yes, 2 piastres
- 125 B Used 1884 *Fig. 2* Reason for return: We don't know Charge: No, return postage paid
- 125 G Used 1892 *Fig. 3* Reason for return: Printed matter insufficiently paid Charge: Yes, various, raised by postage due stamps

Reference. 1 Peter A.S. Smith: Egypt: Stamps & Postal History (Limassol, 1999).

(N° 125 G) - (ż 17 G ż). POSTES ĖGYPTIENNES - DIRECTION GENERALE - 25 II 99 25 II 99 26 II						
IMPRIME INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCHT tontoe en redut potent indigués au dos de l'adresse. adressée	Le Le	still (Nº 125 G) — (さいに	·).	n	
IMPRIME INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCHT tontoe en redut potent indigués au dos de l'adresse. adressée	Aller A	POSTES ÉGY	PTIENNES —	بوســــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ		
IMPRIME INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCHT tontoe en redut potent indigués au dos de l'adresse. adressée	RAT	DIDEOTI	ON GÉNÉRALE	BUREAU DESREBUTS		e'
IMPRIME INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCH LOnde en redut poor indigués au dos de l'adresse. indigués au dos de l'adresse. Imp. Nal1413-17-1-1409 ex. Imp. Nal1413-17-1-1409 ex. Valeurs des chif fres taxes à M. Y. Jutann	14. War	DIRECTI		251199		200
IMPRIME INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCHT tontoe en redut potent indigués au dos de l'adresse. adressée	SUMP :	SERVICE DE	S REBUTS	ECYPTERSES	مراسية	· '%
مطبوع غیرمستوفی الرسم و رد ضمن المرا سلات المه مای السب المین علی ظهر معلقه. Imp. Nat 1413-12-3-1.000 ex. Valeurs des chilf fres taxes à M. Y. Jatan	S In	APRIMÉ INSUFFISAMMEN		é en rebut poo	c le motifs	
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Fig. 3 Envelope Type 125 G, used 25 II 92

CASSA Postmarks

Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

The 'keyhole' type of postmarks having "CASSA" in the bottom extension are known on the Second and Third Issues, but are rare on the Fourth Issue, and no example has ever been reported on the First Issue, to my knowledge. Their use was almost entirely confined to receipts, such as for money orders, for which the fee was 20 paras. Consequently, these postmarks are almost always seen as cancellations on 20-para values, or less commonly, on 5- and 10-para values used to make up the same rate.

It seems curious that such cancellations are never seen on stamps of the First Issue (I have had my eye out for examples for about 50 years). The earliest date is 1868, recorded in the postmark data sheets of Seymour Blomfield and Peter Feltus. It would be a logical assumption that the CASSA postmarks were not introduced until then. However, the discovery of an example on a receipt dated 1866 (*see illustration*) and not cancelling a stamp shows that such an assumption is incorrect. The only alternative explanation that I can conceive is that the regulations were changed, either in mid-1867 or in 1868. That is, either the 20-para fee was introduced at that time, or the fee was paid in cash before 1868 without the use of stamps. We will probably never know!



Peter Heim (ESC 384)

Office	Earliest	Latest	Туре
Abu Hummus		26 AO 03	6 5 bars
Abu Qurqas		04	2
Abu Tig		22 VII 05	2 correction to year
Alexandrie		VII 10	2
	IV 86		5
	APR 95		5 12 bars top
			11 bars bottom
Asirat			2 add type
Aswan	17 AO 93		7 7 bars correction to type
Asyut	6 MR 92		3 7 bars
el Azhar	4 IX 98	7 III 05	7.5
Balyana	JL 98		7.5
Banha		27 V 00	5
	9 VI 04	6 3 bars	
Bani Mazar		29 VIII 01	3.1
Bani Suef	5 VII 96	11 III 00	3.1 5 VII 96 correction
Batanun		8 II 04	5 10 bars top correction to type
			11 bars bottom
Biba		IX 02	2
	VI 93	5	
Bilqas		13 II 04	5
Birkit el Sab		III 00	3 7 bars
Bulaq	XII 93		2.1
Burg el Burullus		V 03	
Cario		V.II	1
Curro		3.XI.01	2
		25.X.98	5
Damanhur		7.I.00	1
		XI.87	3 7 bars
	31.OC.87	NO.87	6 10 bars new type
Darau			1
Dilingat	5 II 87	15 II 00	5 correction to month
Disunis	V 97	9 V 15	2
Dumiat	21 II 95	10 XI 09	1
	9 X 89	10 XI 09	1
	21 VI 86		5
	21 JL 95		5 12 bars
Ezbet Khurshid		30 XI 16	3 7 bars
Fayum		15 VII 03	2
		XII 95	5
Ghuria	4 XII 90	5 III 92	7 7 bars
Giza		27 I 01	1
Hamul	15 I 01	-	3 7 bars Hamoul?
Hawamdiya	5 IV 94		3.1
Hihya	IX 99		2
Ibrahimia	1	21 JL 95	3 7 bars
Idfu		6 XI 13	2
Idfu	4 V 94		2
	4 V 94 31 X 9.	6 XI 13 20 VI 00	
Idfu Ihnasya el Madina			1
Idfu Ihnasya el Madina Imbaba	31 X 9.	20 VI 00	1 2

	XII 05 (Fraser-Smith)	1	
8 AO 94			
	XI 05	1	
23 IX 85		5	
4 94		3 7 bars	Kafr el Zayat
			month in numerals
XII 07	08	2	
6 I 98		3 7 bars	
26 X 86		5	
	12 VI 05 (Fraser-Smith)	1	
20 XII 92		3 7 bars	
I 85			
	27 NO 87		
			correction to year
		1	
		1	
VII 93	08 (Fraser-Smith)	1 Mataria (C	
			Add new name
			Mazghouna
22 AV 0.			
	27 XI 02		
20 XII 92			
		5	
	(Fraser-Smith)		
	2 AV 91		
18 DE 92	27 JU 01	3.1 7 bars	
			Add Morabein
1 95			
0.6	6 SE 98		
96			
2.5.05	1V 02		
			new type in numerals
	20 DE 00		
	28 DE 90		
1/ V 97	27 H 00	-	
	27 JL 90		
4 MA 96	MD 00		
	13 A. 98		add turc
	20 IX 07		add type correction to month
			correction to month
		1	
V 02	II 02	1	
X 93	II 02 X 06	2.1	
X 93 IX 92	II 02 X 06 4 VI 00	2.1 3 7 bars	
	II 02 X 06 4 VI 00 20 MR 97	2.1 3 7 bars 3.1	
	II 02 X 06 4 VI 00	2.1 3 7 bars	
	4 94 XII 07 6 I 98 26 X 86 20 XII 92 I 85 24 XII 90 VII 99 6 XII 9.		$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

Sannuris		27 X 08	2
San Stefano	13 FE 93		7.5
Santa		30 X 03	6 5 bars
Shabrakhit		MR 07	1
Sheikh Fadl	21 OC 06	2 FE 08	1
Shibin el Qanatir	10 V 86	31 I 02	5 12 top
			11 bars bottom
			5 delete this type
Sidi Gaber	DE 99	27 XI 02	3.1
Sinbillawen	DE 99	27 XI 02	3.1
Siwa Wahat		14 I 13	1
Suez	IV 92	99	3 7 bars delete date V 09
Tahta	4 XI 93		
Tanta	4 XI 93		2 delete this line
Taufiqia		I 14	1
		7 XI 93	4 10 bars
Waqid	30 VII 05		3 7 bars
	(Fraser-Smith)		
Wardan		98	7
Wasta	2 I 92		3 7 bars
Zagaziq		6 X 06	2
		12 X 93	5
Zifta		30 V 06	3.05
	X 05	07 (Fraser-Smith)	3.1

CENSORSHIP OF CIVIL MAIL IN EGYPT, 1939 - 1945.

Book Review by John Sears (ESC 188)

Peter Andrews (ESC 122) has produced a very convenient guide to the Civil Censor marks of World War II. The arrangement is very logical, as is the numbering of the various handstamps.

What is more, dates of usage are given which will give members the opportunity of checking their own collections and enable them to report variations to the author, which he emphasises will be welcome. As available, the names of the individuals to whom the stamps were issued are also given.

All in all a very useful guide / check list. Peter expresses the hope that this work will provide a definitive listing of these marks, and one cannot but support him in this. There are 54 pages of A4, plus 28 pages of Appendices, the latter including re-prints of the articles by Gabriel Boulad (*L'OP* 1946) and Mike Murphy (*QC* 1988). Spiral ring binding (plastic) with card back & front.

Published by the author "for the use of, and private distribution to members of the Egypt Study Circle", and obtainable from :-

Peter Andrews 51 Elizabeth Road Moseley Birmingham B13 8QH

The cost is £8, plus postage of £2 to UK and Europe, and £3 elsewhere.

Express Mail

Peter A. S. Smith (ESC 74)

I have received a most helpful amplification of the material in my book, regarding Express Mail, from Mr Peter Morgen, of Schönefeld, Germany.

Special labels were introduced in Egypt in 1986, in the uniform design adopted by the UPU. They had an orange and blue logo of a stylised globe and dimensions of 170×65 mm., but no coloured border. In 1988 a revised form of the label was introduced (140 x 61mm), having a border of alternating blue and orange blocks, and a logo in blue reading EMS. In 1990, a slight revision was accompanied by an increase in size to 145 x 81mm. Later, the format was reduced considerably: two versions are known. One of them is 80 x 47mm, and the other 79 x 48mm. The blue and orange borders were abandoned for these smaller labels. The two differ mainly in the dimensions of the box for weight and charge.

The larger labels did not carry bar codes; these were applied in separate labels. The two small labels carried bar codes as an integral part.

The book *Barcodes in the Post Office - Express Mail* is available on CD at €89 plus €5 postage, or in hard copy with spring binding at €199 plus €15 postage (from the author, Dipl. Ing. Peter Morgen, Am Dorfanger 11, 12529 Schönefeld, Germany). The book is in both English and German, in adjacent columns, and is fully illustrated in colour. A sample page for Egypt can be seen at http://www.post-barcodes.com/ muster_pdf/ image/EG-E-EMS-002.jpg



The first EMS label of Egypt. It is in black or blue-black, except that the letter held by the white hand superimposed on the globe is in orange-red.

£El King Fuad Reproduction. Comments by Stanley Horesh (ESC 118)

Re Richard Wheatley's article on p.244 of QC 209. I have on a part parcel card a block of 10 of these stamps. These are the third and fourth rows of the sheet and the closed U is in position 17. The flaw he describes is on the last stamp in the third row, being position 15, and is a slightly lighter colour than the background. I also notice that the bottom leg of the 'E' in 'LIVRE' in position 18 has its seriffed right edge damaged.

Q210/1 1929 15 mils Registered Envelope - Survey Printing. Stanley Horesh (ESC 118)

Higgins and Gage (4b), Balin (6) and P.Smith (R6) list the width as 116 mm. My used copy measures 106 mm, and after correspondence with P.Smith he agrees that 116 mm is incorrect and that all the Fuad registration envelopes fall in the range of 106 -108 mm. Perhaps members would check their copies and report.

1952 Miniature Sheet with Predated Cancellation

Mostafa El-Dars (ESC 556)

On October 16, 1951, the Egyptian Government abrogated the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty of 1936. To mark this event the Egyptian Postal Authority issued a set of three stamps (10, 22 and 30 milliemes) and a miniature sheet February 11, 1952 (King Farouk's birthday). The illustrated miniature sheet was cancelled in Cairo on the first day of issue Philatelic Bureau CDS of Cairo 2 / 16 OC 51, that is, almost five months prior to the official date of issue. However, the date of cancellation is the same as that printed on the stamps and the date the Egyptian Government abrogated the Treaty. Is the discrepancy between the two dates the cause of the error in the cancellation date?



Q 210/2: Cassette Envelope. Peter Andrews (ESC 122)

I am a little confused - not for the first time, and no doubt not the last - but let me explain. It started when I saw for sale an unused copy of the £E1 cassette envelope listed as 1-5 (now catalogued as Nile Post SCE1d) and bought it to fill another space ... but now comes the confusion: the cassette on the envelope was green! Many will say "So what? It is listed as 'pale chartreuse', which is green." Well, it may come as a surprise to some, but the liqueur also comes in yellow (my favourite after-dinner liqueur) and this is the colour of my used copies (I have two), which of course I had accepted as "pale chartreuse".

Can someone please explain: was the envelope actually issued in the two colours (and does the generic term "pale chartreuse" cover both? or do I have two variants (they are definitely yellow), or is there some other explanation? I look forward to clarification. There is of course further confusion - am I now looking for a yellow cassette unused or a green one used - or both?

I hope one/some of our members can put an end to my misery!

New Issues

Cyril E.H. Defriez (ESC 172)

All stamps are printed in lithography by Postal Printing House, A.R.Egypt, without watermark and with glossy gum.

Commemorative Stamps					
Catalogue Nos.	SG 2250 Bal.1631	SG 2251 Bal.1632	SG 2252 Bal.1633		
Occasion	International Ozone Day	International Road Safety Conference	International Conference on Diseases of Mouth, Ear and Nose		
Date of Issue	16 th . Sept. 2002	22 nd . Sept 2002	28 th . Sept. 2002		
Designer	Said El Badrawi	Said El Badrawi	Said El Badrawi		
Design	Globe encircled by snake	Man with bandaged head and traffic lights	Cross section of head showing cavities		
Denomination	125 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres		
Dimensions	30x50mm	30x50mm	30x50mm		
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8		
Number Printed	100,000	100,000	150,000		
Supplementary					

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2253 Bal.1634	SG 2254-(MS)	2256 Bal.1635/1637	7	
Occasion	World Post Day	Inauguration o	Inauguration of Bibliotheca Alexandrina (library), Alexandria		
Date of Issue	9 th . Oct.2002	16 th . Oct.2002			
Designer	Said El Badrawi	Lydia Farid an	d S.A.el Aziz		
Design	U.P.U. emblem	Library building	Pillar, sun and sea with emblem	Interior of ancient Alexandria Library	
Denomination	125 Piastres	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	125 Piastres	
Dimensions	30x50mm	50x30mm	30x50mm	60x80mm	
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	12.8 x 13.25	13.25 x 12.8	Imperf. Min.Sheet	
Number Printed	100,000	200,000	100,000	40,000	
Supplementary					

Catalogue Nos.		SG 2257/2260	Bal.1638/1641			
Occasion		Arab Personalities (Actors)				
Date of Issue		23 rd . Nove	ember 2002			
Designer		Said El Badrawi, Amany, Rasha and Abdalla				
Design	Hassan Faek	Aziza Amir	Farid Shawki	Mary Mounib		
Denomination	30 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres		
Dimensions	30x50mm	30x50mm	30x50mm	30x50mm		
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8		
Number Printed	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000		
Supplementary	Issued in horizontal se-tenant strips of four within the sheet.					

Catalogua Nos		SG 2261/2264	Bal.1642/1645	
Catalogue Nos.		30 2201/2204	Bal. 1042/1043	
Occasion		Ramadan Fe	estivals (Birds)	
Date of Issue		3 rd . Dece	ember 2002	
Designer		Said E	l Badrawi	
Design	Four differently coloured birds			
Denomination	30 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres
Dimensions	30x25mm	30x25mm	30x25mm	30x25mm
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8
Number Printed	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Supplementary	Issued in se-tenant composite design	blocks of four stamps w	ithin the sheet, each bloc	k forming a

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2265 Bal.1646 SG	G(MS)2266 Bal.1647	SG 2267/2268 Bal.1648/1649	
Occasion	Centenary of Egyptian Museum, Cairo		Inauguration of Aswan Suspension Bridge	
Date of Issue	11 th . Decen	nber 2002	17 th . December 2002	
Designer	H.Shahat & H.Moneim	n Said El Badrawi	Said El Badrawi	
Design	Sculptured face	Museum building facade	Bridge span (le	eft) Bridge span(right)
Denomination	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	30 Piastres	30 Piastres
Dimensions	50x30mm	80x60mm	50x30mm	50x30mm
Perforation	12.8 x 13.25	Imperf.(Min.Sheet)	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25
Number Printed	250,000	40,000	50,000	50,000
Supplementary			Issued in se-ten forming a comp	aant pairs horizontally, posite design.

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2269 Bal.1650	SG 2270 Bal.1651
Occasion	25 th . Anniversary of Suez Canal University, Ismailia	Inauguration of Toshka Irrigation Project
Date of Issue	29 th . December 2002	31 st . December 2002
Designer	Said El Badrawi	Mahmoud Youssri
Design	University emblem	Pumping station
Denomination	30 Piastres	30 Piastres
Dimensions	30x50mm	50x30mm
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	12.8 x 13.25
Number Printed	250,000	100,000
Supplementary		

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2271/2	273 Bal.1	652/1654	SG 2274 Bal.1655
Occasion		Post Day		
Date of Issue		2 nd . January 2003		12 th . January 2003
Designer		Said El Badrawi		Said El Badrawi
Design	Pharaonic tomb Mural	Mural showing wings	Mural showing Pharaoh and Goddess	Fair emblem
Denomination	30 Piastres	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	30 Piastres
Dimensions	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm	30 x 50mm
Perforation	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25	13.25 x 12.8
Number Printed	100,000	100,000	100,000	150,000
Supplementary				

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2275 Bal. 1656	SG2276 Bal. 1657	SG 2277 Bal.1658	SG.2278 Bal.1659
Occasion	4 th . International Nile Children's Song Festival		International Open Table Tennis Championship, Cairo	
Date of Issue	28 th . Janu	ary 2003	3 rd . Febru	uary 2003
Designer	Said El	Badrawi	Said El	Badrawi
Design	Emblem over pharaonic wall relief		Emblem, bat and ball	
Denomination	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	30 Piastres	125 Piastres
Dimensions	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm
Perforation	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25
Number Printed	250,000	100,000	150,000	100,000
Supplementary				

Catalogue Nos.	SG 2279 Bal.1660	SG2280 Bal.1661	SG 2281 Bal.1662	SG 2282 Bal.1663
Occasion	Tenth International Building and Construction Conference		60 Th . Anniversary of Arab Lawyers Union	
Date of Issue	1 st . Ap	ril 2003	25 th .Aj	pril 2003
Designer	Said El Badrawi		Said El Badrawi	
Design	Logo over builders		Union emblem	
Denomination	30 Piastres	125 Piastres	30 Piastres	125 Piastres
Dimensions	30 x 50mm	30 x 50mm	50 x 30mm	50 x 30mm
Perforation	13.25 x 12.8	13.25 x 12.8	12.8 x 13.25	12.8 x 13.25
Number Printed	200,000	100,000	200,000	100,000
Supplementary				





Bal. 1638-1641





Bal. 1642-1645





CAIRO 17/12/2002 • 5 ··· 5/15/18



افتتاح كوبرى أسوان المعلق 30 ٢٠ ٢٠

١٤

125PT

Bal. 1648-1649

إفتتاح كوبرى أسوان المعلق PT



Bal. 1650



267



Bal. 1652-1654



















Bal. 1655



Bal.1656-1657

3-2-2003 • 5-----

Bal. 1658-1659

24

INTER BUILD

Bal. 1660-1661

CAIRO











الجوالغرو

Neuer Atlas zur Geschichte des alten Orients.

Most of our members will be aware of the *Philatelistischer Atlas des Osmanischen Reiches* by our member Andreas Birken (ESC 416), which shows the location post offices in the Ottoman Empire. Andreas has now produced on CD in pdf format maps and lists of the ancient kingdoms of the Middle East. It of course has no philatelic content but knowing that many of our members also have an interest in Ancient Egypt we think it worthwhile to draw members' attention to it. It contains many maps and lists, beautifully illustrated, and although the texts are all in German non-German speakers will have little difficulty understanding them. The CD is available from



Mantis Verlag Dr. Heribert Illig, Lenbachstr. 2 a, 82166 Gräfeling GERMANY. Price 20 Euro.



The Story Behind the Stamp: Balian 1486-7, 14 June, 1998,

Dr Ahmed Zewail



Two stamps were issued on June 14, 1998, to commemorate the Franklin Institute Award given to Dr Zewail for his contribution to the understanding of chemical processes through a branch of science known as femtochemistry. On December 10, 1999, a miniature sheet (Balian 1534), was also issued to commemorate Dr Zewail's Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1999) "for his studies of the transition states of chemical reactions using femtosecond spectroscopy".

Ahmed Zewail was born February 26, 1946, in Damanhur in the Nile Delta and grew up in the city of Disuq on the banks of the Rosetta branch of the Nile. As a boy he recalls that his inclinations were toward the physical sciences. Mathematics, mechanics, and chemistry were among the fields that gave him a special satisfaction. He futher admits that culturally his interests were focused on reading, music, some

sports and playing backgammon. The great singer Um Kulthum had a major influence on his appreciation of music and the family would listern on the first Thursday of each month to Um Kulthum's concert - "*Waslats*" (three songs) - for more than three hours.

He says his mind kept asking "how" and "why", a characteristic that has persisted from the beginning of his life. Even though chemistry required some memorisation, he was intrigued by the "mathematics of chemistry". As a boy, he wanted to reproduce and understand this and he recalls the time in his bedroom that he constructed a small apparatus, out of his mother's oil burner (for making Arabic coffee) and a few glass tubes, in order to see how wood is transformed into a burning gas and a liquid substance. He remembers this vividly, not only for the science, but also for the danger of burning down his parents' house!

He was admitted to the faculty of science at Alexandria University, where he took four courses, mathematics, physics, chemistry, and geology, obtaining either excellent or very good grades throughout. He graduated with the highest honors - "Distinction with First Class Honor" - with marks of above 90 per cent in all areas of chemistry. With these scores, he was awarded, as a student, a monthly stipend of approximately £13, which was close to that of a university graduate, who made £17 at the time!

After graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Science, he was appointed to a university position as a demonstrator ("*moeid*"), to carry on research toward a masters and then a PhD degree, and to teach undergraduates at the University of Alexandria. After his masters degree, his professors encouraged him to study for a doctorate overseas, and he was accepted by the University of Pennsylvania where he obtained his PhD in 1974.

Early in 1974 he went to the University of California, Berkeley, as an IBM research fellow. Dr Zewail was appointed to the faculty at Caltech in 1976. In two years he was tenured, in 1982 becoming full professor, and since 1990 he has been employed at Caltech, where he has the Linus Pauling Chair of Chemical Physics.

In a series of ground-breaking experiments in the 1980s, he developed what many have described as the world's fastest camera - a device that provides a laser flash measured in femtoseconds. This is a unit of measurement equal to 0.000000000000001 of a second, which is to a second what a second is to 32 million years. But this is the sort of speed required if chemists want to "freeze" the moment when atoms and molecules come together to form new compounds to find out how long it takes for bonds to break in molecules and for bonds to form.

