

THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. FALL 2014 DEVOTED TO THE PHILATELY OF THE HOLY LAND VOL LXV NO 3



Ottoman Clock Towers

by Yehuda Levanny 30

IN THIS ISSUE

Palestine Mandate Blues	12
Truck Fee Revenue Stamp Series	42
Taxi Hand Signs	54
French Post Office Gems	56



برج الساعة في القدس. باب يافا
The Jerusalem Clock Tower, Jaffa Gate
שער יפו, ירושלים



Society of Israel Philatelists



From Generation to Generation

Web Archive Library Fund

King David

SAM ADICOFF

KEN HORNER

ED KROFT

Queen Esther

PAUL AUFRICHTIG

GORDON CIZON

ANONYMOUS

Moses

LELAND ABBEY
BERKSHIRE HILLS CHAPTER
DORIS DREYFUSS
GENE EISEN
NOAH FINKEL
LAWRENCE GOLDMAN
STEVEN GRAHAM
WOLF ISING

BARRY KAIMAN
DAVID KAPLIN
BERNARD KATTLER
DR. EDWIN KOLODNY
AARON KOPLIN
IRWIN MATH
EDWARD MENDLOWITZ
DR. HENRY NOGID

DR. RABBI HAROLD
SALZMANN
DR. JESSE SPECTOR
BENJAMIN WALLACE
ARNOLD WASSERMAN
ANONYMOUS

Miriam

IN MEMORY OF

JAKE HENNEBERG & JACK HELLER
DR. ARNIE PADDOCK

BY DICK & BETTY BARSON, DAVID KAPLIN
BY GORDON CIZON

IN HONOR OF

DONALD CHAFETZ

BY GENE EISEN AND ANONYMOUS

DANIEL ASKIN
ROBERT BANDEL
JAMES BOUCK
DR. JULES CAHAN
HY COHEN
ELAINE FRANKOWSKI

DR. HARRY FRIEDMAN
EDWARD FRIEDMAN
DR. ERROL GENET
DR. SIM GESUNDHEIT
HARVEY GREENSTEIN
ARTHUR HARRIS

LAWRENCE KATZ
JOE KATZ
EDWARD LACHER
DAVID LUKOFF
SUSAN MARCH
LARRY NELSON

BARNARD POLANSKY
MARTIN RICHARDS
MAXIME ZALSTEIN
ANONYMOUS



in this issue

Society

- 2 Membership Application
- 2 SIP Leadership
- 3 Editor's Notes
- 3 **New SIP Chapter Forming**
- 4 Letters to the Editor
- 21 **SIP Web Sign-in Procedure**
- 22 French Show
- 23 New Publications
- 49 Correction
- 58 President's Column
- 59 Chapter News
- 59 Stamp Exhibits

Forerunner

- 56 French Post Office Gems
Syd Samuels

Mandate Period

- 12 Palestine Mandate Blues
Paulo R. Risi
- 26 When A Prisoner of War is Not
*Jesse I. Spector, M.D.,
Robert L. Markovits, Esq.*
- 44 WWII Airmail to Mauritius
Joseph Bock

Judaica

- 8 What's In a "Name"
Michael Kaltman
- 10 Russo-German Anti-Semitism in a 1907 Business Postcard
Robert Waldman
- 46 United Gallil Aid Society
*William Velvel Moskoff
Carol Gayle*
- 54 Taxi Hand Signs
Les Glassman

Israel

- 16 Israel Foreign Postal Rates - New Zealand - Part 7
Ed Kroft
- 18 Israel's Pre-UPU Mail
Richard S. Herman
- 24 Book Review: The Arab-Israel Conflict
Gene Fricks
- 30 Ottoman Clock Towers
Yehuda Levany
- 42 Truck Fee Revenue Stamp Series
Arthur Harris
- 50 Birds on Israeli Stamps - Part 1
Marty Zelenietz

Holocaust

- 36 China Holocaust Learning Adventure
Gregg Philipson
- 40 Letter from Palestine to New Brunswick
Robert A. Moss

Index of Advertisers

American Israel Numismatic	25
Briar Road Company	7
Classified ads	15
Doron Waide	39
Education Fund 2014	60
Inside Back Cover	
Back Cover	
Endowment Fund	45
Endowment Fund & Web Archive Library Fund	9
House of Zion	17
HYCO Enterprise	21
Ideal Stamp Co., Inc.	29
Israel Philatelic Agency of North America	15
Israel Philatelist	35
Mosden Trading Company	15
Negev Holyland Stamps	22
Regency Superior	39
Romano House of Stamps Ltd.	39
Tel Aviv Stamps	11
The Israel Philatelist	59
Web Archive Library Fund	
Inside Front Cover	
William M. Rosenblum Rare Coins	17

BE IN THE KNOW – receive the SIP monthly E-Newsletter and other important information distributions. To be included, send your e-mail address to: israelstamps@gmail.com today!

SIP Leadership

OFFICERS

President

Edwin G. Kroft
E-mail: ed.kroft@blakes.com

1st Vice President

Donald A. Chafetz
E-mail: SIPeditor@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Dr. Zachary Simmons
E-mail: zsimmons101@gmail.com

Editor

Donald A. Chafetz
E-mail: SIPeditor@gmail.com

Associate Editors

David Schonberg
Zach Simmons
Howard Wunderlich
Marty Zelenietz

Graphic Designer

Irv Osterer

Controller

Sam Adicoff
E-mail: sadicoff@gmail.com

Treasurer

2014
Stanley H. Raffel
E-mail: stanraff1927@cs.com

Assistant Treasurer

Executive Secretary
Howard S. Chapman
E-mail: stampareme@aol.com

Immediate Past President

Howard Rotterdam
E-mail: hrteach@icloud.com

International Liaison

Jean-Paul Danon
E-mail: jeanpaul.danon@free.fr

SIP COMMITTEES

Endowment Fund

Gregg Philipson
E-mail: gphilipson@austin.rr.com

Society Archivist

Dr. Todd Gladstone
E-mail: TMG45@aol.com

Membership

Ben Wallace
E-mail: herzl1948@hotmail.com

Research Committee

Edwin G. Kroft
E-mail: ed.kroft@blakes.com

Library

David M. Dubin, M.D.
E-mail: dubin5@aol.com

Slide Programs

Michael A. Bass
E-mail: mbass@hy-ko.com

Publicity Committee

Alan Doberman, Hank Stern
E-mail: adoberman@israelstamps.com

Grievance Committee

Paul Aufrichtig

Educational Fund

David Kaplin
E-mail: dKaplin@israelstamps.com

Executive Assistant

Vicki Galecki
E-mail: vgalecki@hy-ko.com

SIP Israel Representative

Sharon Romano
Romano House of Stamp Sales Ltd
250 Dizengoff Street
Tel Aviv, Israel
E-mail: romano@stampcircuit.com

The Israel Philatelist

A.P.S. Affiliate Unit No. 105
Charter Member W.P.C.
Indexed in the Index to Jewish Periodicals
ISSN 0161-0074
Published 4 times a year

Donald A. Chafetz Editor
Contributing Staff:
Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg
Moshe Kol-Kalman
Barry D. Hoffman

Display Advertising Rates and Information available from

Stuart Freiman
E-mail: s2man@aol.com

Member change of address information should be sent to:

Stanley H. Raffel,
E-mail: stanraff1927@cs.com
Price per copy \$4.95 from Stanley H. Raffel

The opinions of the authors expressed herein are not necessarily those of the society.

©2014 Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.
Reprinting by written permission only.

Entered as 3rd Class Matter
Sheridan Press, Hanover, PA
PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Membership Application

Name: (Print or type): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State/Province _____ Country: _____ ZIP/Post Code: _____

E-mail: _____

Reference: an A.P.S. Number or 2 Commercial References)

1. _____ 2. _____

Signature: _____ Recommended by S.I.P. No.: _____

Parent or Guarantors Signature _____

Applications submitted between January 1 and June 30 must be accompanied by a full year's dues. Those submitted between July 1 and December 31 must be accompanied by one and a half (1-1/2) year's dues.

	United States Adult	United States Life	Canada/Mexico	All Others
Dues	\$30.00	\$470.00	\$34.00	\$43.00
1-1½ Years Dues	\$45.00		\$51.00	\$64.50

Make all checks or money orders payable to "The Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc."

Mail to: Hy-Ko Products, Company, 60 Meadow Lane, Northfield, OH 44067-1415

This application is accepted subject to review and acceptance or rejection in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. "Notice of applications for membership is published in our magazine, **THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST**, and consideration of applications is made thirty days after publication of the names."

Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

The following letter was sent to the editor of the **American Philatelist**, journal of the American Philatelic Society. I thought the ideas expressed also apply to the SIP.

To the Editor

American Philatelist

The critical issue of chronically deteriorating membership numbers in the American Philatelic Society with the concomitant decline in readership of philatelic publications mirrors the situation in most other philatelic associations. The causes are relatively transparent: an aging population of philatelic enthusiasts who were nurtured during the apogee of stamp collecting in the United States; a cultural transition among young people that has eschewed the hobby despite admirable attempts at enticement by the philatelic community; a transition in stamp production from aesthetically appealing and technically inspired products to non-germane, overproduced, facile material lacking in artistry or historiography; and, these are but the most obvious issues.

Rather than wring our hands and hang crape on the hobby, vocation and profession we are so fond of, I would like to add something positive to the dialectic of what might be done to alter the course of events. I am of the opinion that while not wishing to give up on the attempts at nurturing our youth we might more realistically consider that the numbers are just not there for the changing. The world has indeed moved on to other endeavors for many of them. Rather, might we not tap into that ever growing population of pre-retirees or recent retirees who have the time, desire, education, sense of history, and insight to keep the mind active and challenged?

This is a segment of our population that is frequently being courted in newspapers such as *The New York Times*, magazines and the electronic media. These are motivated people who have paid their dues in the working world and are not about to become couch potatoes for the duration. They return to college as auditors, participate in lifelong learning institutes, take

cultural cruises and foreign tours under the aegis of scholarly guides- in short they strive at stretching the mind into new productive endeavors.

To cultivate this population does not require reinventing the wheel or finding a long buried rolodex file. They can be reached by advertising in AARP and retirement supplements that regularly appear in quality newspapers. Actually, it's not my intent to list the sources for attracting these newer philatelists for the APS since you folks have the skilled people to know better than me where to put the right advertisements. I am simply making the suggestion that that's where the population we wish to attract can be found.

Should you see value in my suggestion, I leave it to your expertise to determine how best to get them to the proper people to usher them into the hobby and mentor them. In any case I do sense the need for urgency, and recommend the effort be made before the number of clubs and associations has dwindled to the point where the resource infrastructure is no longer extant.

I conclude with one final thought. Were I to wish to get the attention of say, some readers scanning a retirement supplement or newsletter, I'd create an advertisement with a picture of Albert Einstein and his iconic quote: "The mind that opens to a new idea never returns to its original size." That's my thought; I'll leave the rest to you.

Jesse I. Spector MD ■

NEW SIP CHAPTER FORMING

We are forming a Brooklyn SIP Chapter

First meeting: September 7, 2014
Date: 1st Sunday every month
Time: 8:00-11:00 a.m.
Location: 435 Neptune Ave, Room 2b,
Brighton Beach area, Brooklyn
Contact: alexklyachko@hotmail.com

Letters to the Editor

Dear Don.

I wonder if any members or readers are able to help me find more information about postal services from POW Camps in Palestine during World War II.

I enclose illustrations of folded lettersheets distributed to prisoners to write to their families. To date I have only found 2 lettersheets. Both are letters written in Italian and addressed to cities in Italy. Figure 1 was mailed in 1944 and Figure 2 in 1946. There are noticeable differences in the shape of the tuck-in flaps and the absence of the colon after the words SENDER'S NAME on one of the forms. There is also a marked difference in the color shade of the paper between the two lettersheets. Both have the words POSTAGE FREE written in manuscript in English or Italian.

An intriguing mystery is the name of the sender of the 1944 letter. The name written on the back of the letter is L/ci Rosenfeld Raffale (very Jewish sounding!) yet the letter inside is signed with the name Leo! ! Any suggestions?

How many POW Camps were there in Palestine during the World War II and for how long after hostilities did they operate? Were there other types of lettersheets or postcards distributed the prisoners? Were there camps with German POWs?

I look forward receiving some information from readers. Best wishes,

Avraham Goldstone
Salford, England ■

Hello Don,

Last year while vacationing in Israel I purchased an old album of Israeli Flight Covers (my speciality) which I have been working on for many months sorting, researching and mounting. I was spending a rainy day here in Miami reading my Spring 2014 issue of **The Israel Philatelist** journal and, in particular, the extremely interesting article by Dr. Rothman when I was pleasantly surprised to see the story and the cover picture under the heading of "Interrupted mail" as one of the covers in my album came off the same

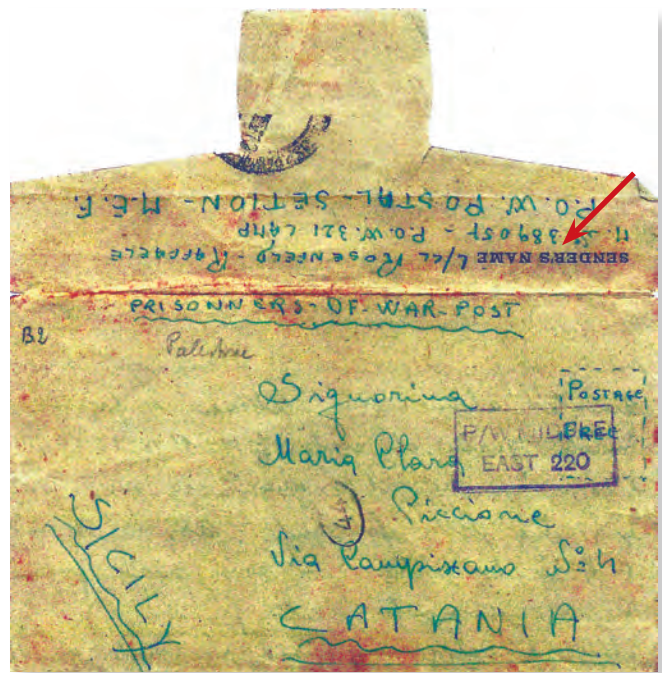


Figure 1
POW camp 521, Palestine
14 June 1944

Letter written in Italian; square straight end to tuck-in flap
No : (colon) after printed SENDER'S NAME on back flap.

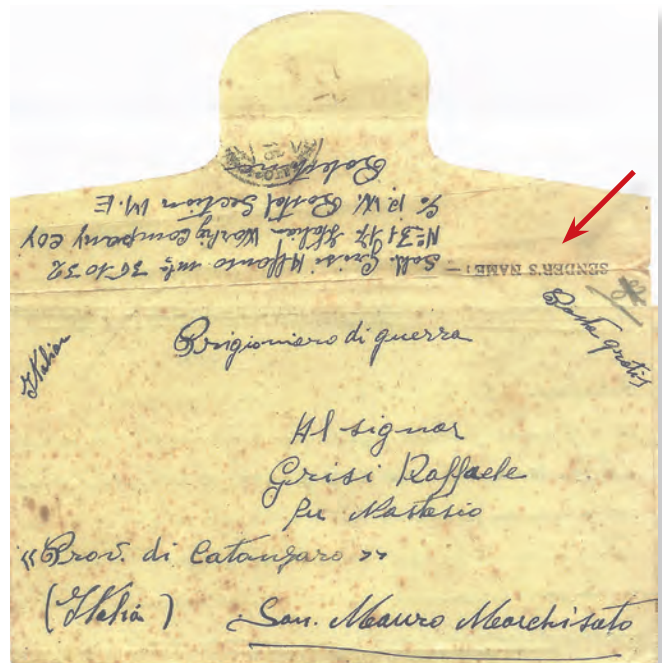


Figure 2
POW camp Palestine
1946

Letter written in Italian; rounded end to tuck-in flap
: (colon) after printed SENDER'S NAME on back flap.



Figure 3

Letter mailed September 16, 1950 from New York to Tel Aviv via TWA. The aircraft had to make an unscheduled landing at Cario airport due to engine trouble. Two mailbags destined for Israel were confiscated by the Egyptian Authorities. Six months later, after UPU intervention, the mail bags were returned to Israel. The cover bears a New York 25 centimeter cancellation (per 1/2 oz.) dated 2/3/51, an Egyptian censor strip, a circular Egyptian censor stamp and a Tel Aviv slogan cancellation, "Have you acquired a public loan bond?"

flight as the one in the article. I have spent months researching the background of this cover and was extremely please to see that Dr. Rothman's findings, with a few minor differences, tally with mine. Thank you Dr. Rothman for making my day.

I thoroughly enjoyed this issue of the SIP journal, even the picture of my wife and I attending the Sarasota show which I hope won't lead to too many membership cancellations! I am always interested in meeting others who share my interest in Israeli Flight/Aviation covers and I can be contacted at seapoint99@yahoo.com.

Respectfully Yours
Neil Greenberg
Miami, FL ■

Don

I was intrigued to see the front cover of the Spring **Israel Philatelist** showing "2 Gun Cohen". General Cohen was the uncle of a friend of mine in Bearding School (Carmel College) near Oxford in England. My friend, also called Morris Cohen, arranged for his uncle to visit the School and speak a little of his life experiences. The visit took place around 1953 and the inset picture on the cover and page 32 is how I recall him.

Best wishes
Avraham Goldstone ■

Hi Don,

In the Spring 2014 **Israel Philatelist** the authors of the article "A History of Jewish Banking" misused the word "shibboleth" to mean "saying," "adage," or "old saw". The actual meaning of shibboleth is a characteristic trait of speech. I write, not to correct them, but because of the interesting etymology of the word. "Shibboleth" is the Hebrew word for "stream". In Judges 12:4-6 we learn that the Gileadites used it as a password when they pursued the fleeing Ephramites. The Ephramites lacked the "sh" sound in their vocabulary and could not pronounce it. Those who could not countersign "shibboleth" and instead answered "sibboleth" were slain. The "Ch" sound in Hebrew and Yiddish is a present day shibboleth. We see "Chanukah" becoming "Hanukkah" to those who did not grow up with a background of Hebrew or Yiddish.

L. Robert Smith
North Providence, RI ■

Response:

We appreciate L. Robert Smith's astute explanation of the biblical origin of the word "shibboleth"; however, as with many words and phrases that enter common usage, the meaning of this word has expanded, and our use of the word is not a misuse. There are at least a half-dozen contemporaneous usages of "shibboleth."The

variations are interesting for lack of congruity to the original. "Shibboleth" can certainly be used to refer to a phrase held to be true by a party; a slogan; or, a catchword. **Webster** and **Oxford Dictionaries** expound on this with a number of caveats.

Jesse I. Spector, Edwin Helitzer
Berkshire Hills SIP ■

Don

The Paris national and international exhibitions closed last Sunday. Our magazine **Doar Ivri** was awarded 82 points and a vermeil medal.

We would like to express our gratitude to each and every one of you as your articles have enabled us to reach and maintain a high level of content.

Thank you
Jean Paul Danon, Paris, France
President
Cercle Français Philatélique d'Israël ■

Letter to the Editor

This is in regard to the letter published in **The Israel Philatelist** of August 2013, by Dr. Larry Sherman, of San Diego. My father-in-law, Rabbi Hershel Milner, was one of the fortunate ones to escape Nazi Europe via a Sugihara visa issued in 1940, when Chiune Sugihara served as vice consul of the Japanese Consulate in Kaunas, Lithuania. These documents enabled my father-in-law, and thousands of other recipients of the treasured visas, to travel across the Soviet Union to Vladivostok and then by boat to Kobe, Japan. These refugees were greeted and settled by the Russian Jewish community in Kobe.

However, by November 1941, the Japanese moved this group to Shanghai, which was then administered by Japan, in order to consolidate the Jews under their control. If your readers are interested in further information, they can contact me at: hscohen1@optonline.net. There is also an excellent description of this period in the volume by Hillel Levine, **In Search of Sugihara**, The Free Press, 1996.

Dr. Chaim Cohen,
Lawrence, NY ■

Good day Don,

The December 2013 issue of **The Israel Philatelist** just arrived. I immediately set aside time to read through the magazine, which is always a wonderful way to expand my knowledge of Israel Philately and things Jewish. There are a few items in the December issue which merit review.

First: The article "The Hebrew in Charity," (page 327, December 2013) brings attention to the changing use of language over time. In reading the article, it becomes clear that the word "Hebrew" is used with its meaning of until perhaps 75 years ago. At that time "Hebrew" or "Hebrews" referred to those following the "Hebraic faith" or "Hebrew Faith".

In contemporary English, "Hebrew" quite singularly refers to the Hebrew language ("Ivrit"). Perhaps, a less confusing title would have been: The JEWISH aspect of Charity.

The second issue is one of "proof-reading" for the article "Mystery Solved" (p. 243 December 2013). The second sentence of the second paragraph reads: "Israel commenced sending mail **to Israel** on 19 May 1948..." I presume this should read: "... sending mail **to the United States** on 19 May 1948..."

This article discusses why a letter from Japan, bearing a 10.2. 49 postmark, would be marked "Via New York". Checking the Scott Catalog, revealed that the vertical strip of three, 5-Yen miner stamps (Scott 427) was part of a 1948 stamp set. The 5-Yen "ice skater" (Scott 444) issued in March 1949, noted Japan's National Athletic skating meet in Suwa, Japan. The days of issue for the stamps used thus allow for a 1949 postmark. And the explanation offered, relating to dates for initial mail service between Israel and other countries is likely correct.

There is another aspect of philately that this cover also brings to the collector's attention. Japan's postal system does NOT provide postmark dates using the generally used "Gregorian calendar," secular year, but with the number of years that the "current" emperor has reigned. Linn's Stamp magazine had a nice article discussing postmark interpretation http://www.linns.com/howto/refresher/world_20040223/refreshercourse.aspx.

SHNORRER MAIL TABLE

In this article, author Rick Miller noted: "Japan adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1873, but it numbers the years based on the ascension of the emperor to the throne. Year 1 begins at the death of the old emperor and ends on Dec. 31. For example, Emperor Hirohito came to the throne on Dec. 25, 1926. On a Japanese postmark, normally given in year-month-day order that date would read "1 12 25." (The initial "1" is the year) Year 1 of Hirohito's reign was only seven days long.

Because other years in which an emperor died and a new emperor ascended to the throne (1868, 1912, 1926 and 1989) start over as year 1 after the ascension, you have to know when the stamp was in use to figure out the date.

Figure	German text return address	English translation
3	ISRAEL National-Küchepr Adr Oberrabb. Samuel Salantin Jerusalem, Palästina	Jewish National Soup Kitchen of Chief Rabbi Samuel Salant Jerusalem, Palestine
5	Talmud Torah & Jeschiwat Etz Haijm Bicur Holim Hospital, Jerusalem (Palestine)	Torah Study Academy Yeshiva "Tree of Life" and Bikkur Holim Hospital Jerusalem
7	Waisenhaus der Aschkenasim Gemein. Gegründet durch J. L. Diskin, Jerusalem	Orphanage of the German community Founded by (Rabbi) J. L. Diskin, Jerusalem
8	OST-UNGAR.-MÄHR.-BÖHM.- ISRAEL. GEMEINDE Jerusalem (Palästina)	Eastern-Hungarian-Moravian- Bohemian-Jewish Community Jerusalem (Palestine)

For example, the Japanese 10-yen Cherry Blossoms stamp shown sideways in Figure 10 was issued in 1961. Therefore, the "40. 11. 3" postmark (with the "40" being the Emperor's years of reign) has to date from the reign of the Emperor Hirohito (1926-89), making the date Nov. 3, 1965."

Yet, the postmark date of 10. 2. 49 – enlarged in the article's Figure 1 – is indeed most likely the western "1949", for Japan was under United States Military "occupying" force 1945 – 1952, which utilized the United States calendar system.

Lastly, the "Shnorrer Mail" (pages 244 – 247; Dec 2013) likely may bring a smile to the face of many readers of "a certain age" who still use the term "Schnorrer mail" to refer to any solicitation/donation-request mail. The return address of the covers shown in Figures 3, 5, 7 and 8 attest to the origin in the European, German-speaking world - of the many Jewish academies (Yeshivot) that had moved to Palestine/ Israel.

Yeshivot Etz Chaim, Bikkur Cholim Hospital and the Diskin Orphan home are organizations that are still functioning to this very day.

To continued learning and the assist which the IP provides in that effort!

Fred Korr
Oakland, CA ■

ISRAEL TABS, BLOCKS AND TOPICALS



Looking for something to do that is both interesting and challenging now that you have retired. When modern Israel was founded in 1948, many of us took ethnic pride in the democratic country where the citizens had the right to freedom and equality. We just had to have a connection with the dream! Every stamp collector had to start a collection of the stamps issued by Israel. As the collectors were side-tracked with the responsibilities of career and family our Israel stamp collections got put aside. Now it is time to fill in the spaces in your Israel collections that were left unfilled. How can you leave your grandchild a collection that is missing important pieces that help to tell the story of Israel? We would be happy to fill in some or all of these spaces for you.

BRIAR ROAD STAMP CO

P. O. Box 4565

Manchester, N.H. 03018 E-Mail: Brstamps@aol.com

What's In a "Name"

Michael Kaltman, North Potomac, MD

As a sometimes collector of mail widely characterized as "shnorrer mail," I was quite interested in Yechiel Leheavy's article in the December 2013 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**. I want to offer a few comments with respect to the article and to broader issues that apply to this type of mail.

SHNORRER OR HALUKKAH MAIL?

A shnorrer is a caricature figure in Jewish folklore and humor who is both verbally adept and certain of his entitlement to the support from others, after all he allows his "clients" to perform a mitzvah. Unfortunately, the word is used loosely by dealers as well as by collectors and may betray feelings of self-consciousness: how could the Jewish community contain such poor, dependent people? It should also be noted that no shnorrer ever lived a luxurious existence as a result of receiving funds from the diaspora; the proof of this is in the universally consistent descriptions by visitors to the Holy Land of the squalid conditions under which Jews lived during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Mr. Leheavy's article shows only examples of institutional requests for funds, not one request from an individual, even though the stream of mail also includes letters from individuals. The more precise term for the covers that the article presents is Halukkah mail. Halukkah is Hebrew for "distribution," to describe the method of collection and allocation of scarce monies.

REASON 1

But does it matter that we use the terms correctly? I think it does for three reasons. First, the conceptions of "charity" in the Christian world and the Jewish world are quite different. The word "charity" comes from the Latin Caritas, which is the greatest of Christian virtues and means "the friendship of man for God." Thus,

charity can be an act of kindness to the less fortunate – the Haves taking pity on the Have-nots.

The Jewish word for charity (as Leheavy wrote) is Tzedakah, an act of righteousness and justice that seeks to repair the world we live in. An important tenant of Tzedakah is that the recipient never be made to feel ashamed. In Second Temple days, every Jew was taxed a half shekel for the maintenance of the Temple. Why was the half-shekel amount chosen? Some say because the amount was small enough that even the poorest of the poor could contribute.

REASON 2

Second, the flow of mail to the diaspora is associated with a number of factors and developments that helped to change early 20th century Palestine. The funds sent to Palestine insured that a Jewish presence would remain in Jerusalem, Safed, Hebron, and Tiberias. When the health conditions in the Old City of Jerusalem reached dangerous levels, the diaspora funds were used to expand neighborhoods beyond the city walls.

Tzedakah mail increased markedly as a result of the Printed Matter rate and the process became more efficient and effective than sending meshullahim (emissaries) to Europe and North America. The amount of mail being sent to diaspora Jews so impressed the Austrian postal authorities they decided to locate a

Society of Israel Philatelists



From Generation to Generation

Endowment Fund & Web Archive Library Fund

Moses

HARRIET EPSTEIN
IRWIN MATH
STEPHEN OLSON

SAM & ANN ROSENZWEIG
FRED STRAUSS
ANONYMOUS

Miriam

DICK & BETTY BARSON
JAIME BENDICOFF
ROBERT COHEN
RAY GETSUG

RICHARD HUNT
WALTER LEVY
LILLIAN & ARTHUR LIBERMAN
SOL NOVICK

Total Contributions to Date

\$9627

Thank you for your generous support!

post office in the Jewish Quarter. Tzedakah mail very quickly became an important stream of mail for Austria.

Finally, the increase of funds coming into Palestine (in part, as a result of Tzedakah mail) enabled at least two Jewish families to evolve from money changers to bankers who developed corresponding relationships with European banking houses.

REASON 3

Third, I appreciate Mr. Lehavey shining a light on what I consider to be a misunderstood category of mail. However, I wonder if changing the designation of this mail to a less judgmental term might engender an increased interest among Holy Land collectors. ■

Russo-German Anti-Semitism in a 1907 Business Postcard

Robert Waldman, Staten Island, NY

My grandparents fled the Shtetles of the Russian Empire in 1905 and never ever wanted to return. According to YIVO, there were 57 pogroms that year. The Revolution of 1905 continued until 1907 and the Tsarist Government killed thousands of people. Of course, that government came down hardest on the Jews and anti-Semitism was fostered.

RUSSIAN POST CARD

In my collection, I have a postcard that gives us a unique picture of anti-Semitism in industry at the highest levels in the early years of the 20th Century in Russia and Germany. The 3 Kopeck red on yellowish buff postcard has an additional Russia 4 kop stamp tied by a Moscow postmark "16 19.07 V." There is an arrival postmark "LEIPZIG-PLAGWITZ 1 16 07 1-6 V."



Figure 1
Russian post card to Leipzig, Germany

The message is dated "28 Mai 1907" and is stamped with arrival information at the Company of the addressee "4414 Fini 5 JUN 1907 Referent" [personal assistant].

TWO CALENDARS

It may seem strange that the postcard was postmarked on May 19, 1907 but was written on May 28, 1907. Up until 1918, Russia still followed the Gregorian calendar, which differed as to the start of a new year. Germany and most of the rest of the world followed the Julian calendar that we are familiar with.

The card is from O. Scheikin whose firm was located at Petrovosko-Resoumavoskoie, probably the present day Petrovosko-Razumovskaya. It is addressed to G.H. at Deutschland Schumann Elektrizitätner Com. Ges. Leipzig-Plagwitz.

THE MESSAGE

The following is a translation of this message, in my limited German (Figure 2):

G.H. In Moscow is a firm "General Electric Company" (Loubianski Projesol Street) which in private we spoke of, is a division of the General Electric Corporation in Berlin, has many orders, especially in the provinces, and sometimes the work recommended by this German industry is bad.

The engineers of the firm are Russian Jews with a

German technical education and are already in Russia. Even in Jew loving circles, they are not thought of favorably. We must immediately inform the Russian public of this information in the big newspapers so that the firm General Electric Corporation shall not be tolerated. You may obtain confirmation of these (confidential) letters from the German representatives of the best German firms in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Most Respectfully,
O. Scheikin

ALLGEMEINE ELEKTRIZITÄTS GESELLSCHAFT

At this time, electrification of railroads and streets was in its infancy in Russia. Foreign companies, especially from Germany, carried out much of the work. Allgemeine Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft [AEG] that hired the despised Russian Jewish engineers was founded in 1887, mainly by Emil Rathenau, a wealthy Jewish businessman. He formed a group that in 1865 acquired the rights from Thomas Edison to manufacture products based on his patents. It became one of the most successful corporations in the world. Thus, Jews were involved in AEG from its inception until the Nazi era. ■

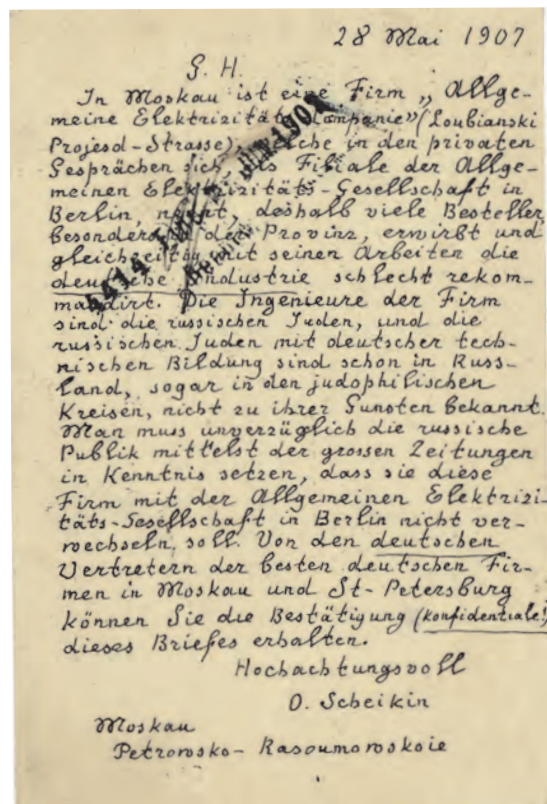


Figure 2
Message

MAIL AUCTION

HOLYLAND -

WORLD WIDE -

Turkish and the Foreign Post Offices, Palestine, 1948 Interim, Israel, Judaica, Holocaust, JNF and Postcards

Stamps and Postal History

We offer the following services:

AUCTIONS -

EXPERTIZING -

twice a year

Y. Tsachor: Member of Association Internationale des Experts Philatelique

APPRAISALS AND OUTRIGHT PURCHASES

For free illustrated catalogue contact:

TEL-AVIV STAMPS (Y. TSACHOR) LTD.

Postal Address: P.O.Box 16218, Tel-Aviv, Israel, Tel: +972-3-5226294. Fax: +972-3-5245088
Our website: www.TelAvivStamps.com E-mail tastps@gmail.com

PALESTINE MANDATE BLUES

Paulo R. Risi - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Special thanks are due to Mr. Z. Galibov, from London, for his input.

The article original appeared in the BAPIP Bulletin, Vol. XVIII, Number 168, November 2013, p. 210-212

Few official accounts and documents related to the production of the first Palestine Mandate stamps (printed in Egypt) can be found in the Holy Land philatelic literature. The study of stamps from every possible angle is of great interest to obtain a better understanding of the facts. For the specialists, even the smallest detail can help their studies. For the regular collectors, such details can actually change the value of an item.

TRANSFERS B AND G DOTTED LINES

An interesting occurrence of small dots can be detected along the 3rd row of stamps, on sheets printed from Transfers B and G (Figure 1). The dots appear in the same color as the stamps and although very easily seen on deep blue stamps (Blues#1), they are faint (but still detectable using magnification or lens) on the light blue color issues (Blues#2, #3 and #4).

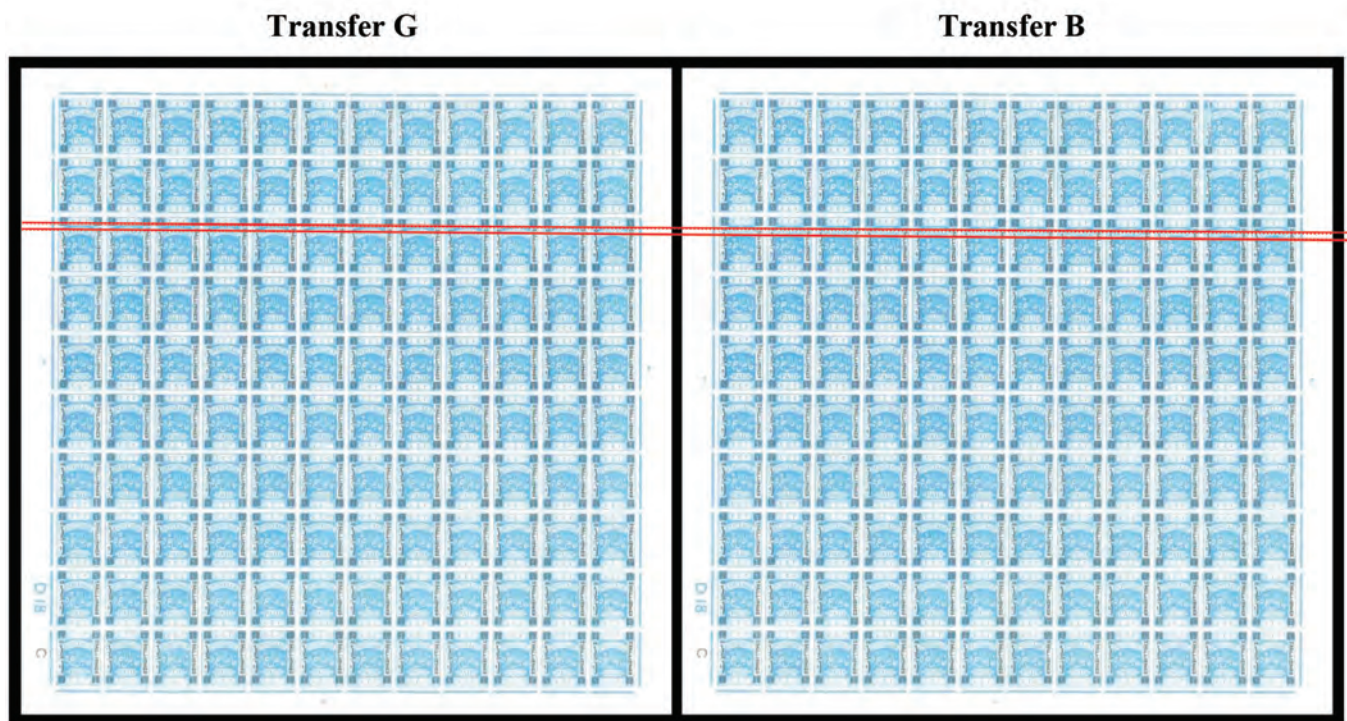


Figure 1

The dotted lines along the 3rd row framed by two red lines.

Two parallel lines can be formed by connecting these small dots. These parallel lines are slight inclined between the highest point located on the left margin of Transfer G sheets and the lowest point on the right margin of Transfer B sheets. They match in the middle by arranging both sheets side by side, and show the correct position of Transfers B and G on printing plate. (Figure 1)

In fact, these dots have been previously detected and illustrated in specialized catalogues as constant varieties (Figures 2 and 3) but no special comments and connections are mentioned for such flaws.



Figure 2
Dr. Hoexter Catalog - Transfer B - 3rd row.
Shows numerous errors and "dots."

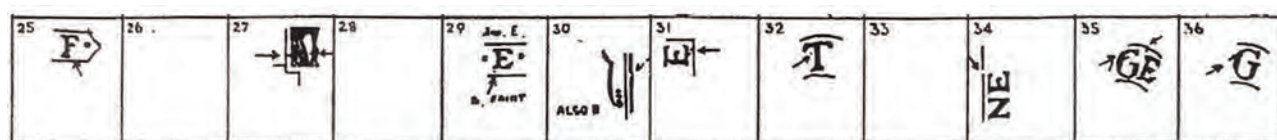


Figure 3
D. Dorfman Catalog - Transfer G - 3rd row.
Shows numerous errors and "dots."



Figure 4
Transfer G - Blues #2 (Specimen) - plate position 25 (left marginal)



Figure 5
Transfer G - Blues #3 - plate position 36 (right marginal)



Figure 6
Transfer B - Blues #1 - plate position 25 (left marginal)



Figure 7
Transfer B - Blues #1 - plate position 36 (right marginal)

DOTTED LINES CONCLUSIONS

In lithography, generally speaking, constant flaws occur every time a transfer is made and then such flaws become part of the design on the printing plate. It is also well known that the Blues Transfers B and G (also Transfers D and F), present many common flaws caused by the transferring process. However, because of the inclination of the dotted parallel lines, I can conclude that in this case such flaws were caused by some remaining impurity or irregularity crossing the entire lithographed printing surface. The evidence presented in this study confirms that Transfers B and G were positioned side by side on the printing plate and support the conclusions drawn in my previous articles (BAPIP Bulletin Vol. XVIII – N° 166, 2012).¹

NUMBER OF STAMPS PRINTED

The study of the printing process is of great importance for a better understanding of the Blues issues. The available research sources report different amounts of stamps printed in Egypt.^{2,3} Considering that the 4 Transfers (B, D, F and G) were printed simultaneously in sheets of 480 stamps before being cut into post offices sheets of 120 stamps, one can then quantify in theory the number of sheets printed from each Transfer (wastage of spoiled stamps may have changed these numbers).

Issue	Total amount of stamps printed ²	Number of sheets	Number of sheets printed for each Transfer				Additional Sheets
			B	D	G	F	
A18	209,760	1,748	437	437	437	437	0
B18A	50,280	419	104	104	104	104	3
C18	338,880	2,824	706	706	706	706	0
C18B	55,560	463	115	115	115	115	3
D18C	54,120	451	112	112	112	112	3

Figure 8

Total number of stamps printed according to specialized catalogs and number of printed sheets for each transfer considering the simultaneous printing of the 4 transfers.

Issue	Total amount of stamps printed ³	Number of sheets	Number of sheets printed for each Transfer				Additional Sheets
			B	D	G	F	
A18	21,000	172	43	43	43	43	3
B18A	6,000	50	12	12	12	12	2
C18	338,880	2,824	706	706	706	706	0
C18B	55,560	463	115	115	115	115	3
D18C	54,120	451	112	112	112	112	3

Figure 9

Total number of stamps printed according to Official Sources and number of printed sheets for each transfer considering the simultaneous printing of the 4 transfers.

In the need for more information regarding the actual number of stamps printed for A18 and B18A issues, I would welcome correspondence from readers and collectors reporting their control blocks of B18A. This would be of great help. My e-mail is: paulorenatorisi@hotmail.com.

References:

1. Risi, Paulo R. and Aladin Adwan, "Studies on Palestine Blues: Study 1 – The Printing Process – New Findings," **BAPIP Bulletin**, Volume XVIII, Nr. 166, p.150-159.
2. Risi, Paulo R., "Study 2 – The Unrecorded B18A – Transfer B," **BAPIP Bulletin**, Volume XVIII, Nr. 166, p.160-161.
3. **Bale Palestine – Specialized Catalogue of Stamps of Palestine Mandate**, 10th Edition, 2010, p.29.

4. Hoexter, Dr. Werner, **Handbook of Holy Land Philately**, Haifa 1969, p.7.
5. Dorfman, David, **The Stamps & Postal Stationary of Palestine Mandate 1918-1948**, 1st Edition, 2001, p.5.
6. **A Brief Record of the Advance of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force under the Command of General Sir Edmund Allenby, July 1917 to October 1918**, publisher The Palestine News, producer Government Press and Survey of Egypt, 1919 – Compiled from Official Sources, London, His Majesty Stationary Office, 1919), p.93.
7. **The Palestine News**, Thursday 1st August 1918 (Weekly Newspaper of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force of the British Army in Occupied Enemy Territory). ■

BE IN THE KNOW

Receive the SIP monthly E-Newsletter and other important information distributions.

To be included, send your e-mail address to: israelstamps@gmail.com today!

Mosden Trading Corp.

P.O. Box 369

Williston Park

New York 11596

Phone (516) 741-0993

Send SASE for FREE specialized Catalog of our Bi-monthly Auction

You will find a lot of bargains



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Members and Non-Members. Advertising rates are 20¢ per word and the minimum cost is \$4.00 per ad. You must send payment with the ad. Each paid up member is entitled to one free 15 word ad each year. If you want your free ad to appear more than one time, ask for the rates. Send all ads and payments to Classified Ad Editor: Barry D. Hoffman, 291 Spurwink Ave., Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107. Include a SASE if you expect correspondence. Typed ad appreciated. Members can fax free ads to (617) 266-6666, or e-mail: pakistan@tiac.net. ■

■ **WANTED:** Aerogrammes (including Forces) from British Palestine, Jordan and Israel 1941 - to date. A. Goldstone, 166 Bury Old Road, Manchester M7 4QY, England. ■

■ **MAIMONIDES** 850th Anniversary collection MNH stamps from Israel, Spain, Grenada, Lesotho, Dominica, Bolivia, Gambia and others. Over 40 items nicely mounted and identified by Scott numbers. Asking \$200 or best offer. Yechiel M. Lehav, (609) 822-5022, e-mail: lehavyy@yahoo.com. ■

■ **FOR SALE:** Judaica mint stamps and covers, from large collection. Please state judaica interests. Gary Goodman, 26 Dunbabin Road, Liverpool, L15 6XN, England U.K., e-mail: garygoodman@talktalk.net. ■

■ **FOR SELL:** I have a collection of all the issues of The Israel Philatelist and a bound set of indexes. I would entertain all offers for the set of journals and indexes. Arthur Stein (413) 442-6447, e-mail: owholmesa@nycap.rr.com. ■

■ **WANTED:** 1948/49 P.O.W. mail from the War of Independence in Israel. Both Jewish or Arab mail are of interest. Please send scans and prices to, e-mail: obalmussar@yahoo.com or Baruch Weiner, 15 Chafetz Chaim Kiryat Sefer Modin Illite, 71919, Israel. ■

New Issues from the

ISRAEL PHILATELIC AGENCY



To purchase these items contact a local dealer or write to:

**Israel Philatelic Agency
of North America, Dept. 1P-11**

161 Helen Street South Plainfield,

New Jersey 07080

Ph: 908-548-8088 E-mail: ipana@igpc.net
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Israel Foreign Postal Rates

MAY 16, 1948 TO DECEMBER 31, 1954

Ed Kroft Vancouver Canada

Editor's note

This article is part 2 of a series on postal rate to New Zealand 1948-1954. Overall, it is the seventh in the series where each article outlines the foreign surface and air postal rates from Israel to a particular country from May 16, 1948 until December 31, 1954. Part 1 was in the Spring 2014 issue, pages 34-37,

1952 MAIL

AIR MAIL LETTER RATE -
SINGLE WEIGHT 400 P



Postmarked Haifa, May 7, 1952. Addressed to Auckland. Israeli censorship marking on back flap.

1953 MAIL

AIR MAIL LETTER RATE - SINGLE WEIGHT 300 P.
OVERFRANKED 25 P



Postmarked Holon, November 5, 1953 with only 70 p which would not even pay surface rate. Hebrew manuscript at top indicates that 255p was missing. This appears to have been added and postmarked in Tel Aviv the same day. Arrival Grey Lynn (Auckland) November 17, 1953.

SURFACE PRINTED MATTER RATE -
SINGLE WEIGHT 40 P. OVERFRANKED 15 P



Intended to be sent by airmail; lines made through airmail etiquette. Postmarked Tel Aviv, January 16, 1953. Israeli censorship markings on back. Addressed to Taihape (North Island).

1954 MAIL

AIR MAIL LETTER RATE -
SINGLE WEIGHT 300 P, REGISTERED 80 P



Postmarked and registered at Lod Sde Tufa (airfield), January 3, 1954. The cover bears the postal rates for the period prior to July 1, 1953. It is overfranked by 80 p.

SURFACE LETTER RATE - SINGLE
WEIGHT 120 P, REGISTERED 100 P



Postmarked and registered Tel Aviv-Yafo, March 3, 1954. Addressed to Auckland and marked on back with Israeli censorship lettering.

AIRMAIL LETTER RATE - SINGLE WEIGHT 500 P



Postmarked Jerusalem, October 1954. Addressed to Wellington and marked on back with Israeli censorship lettering.

AIRMAIL LETTER RATE - SINGLE WEIGHT 500 P,
EXPRESS 200 P



Postmarked at Kfar Saba, February 28, 1954 though the sender lived in Nathanya. Addressed to Wellington and marked on back with Israeli censorship lettering.

AIRMAIL LETTER RATE - SINGLE WEIGHT 500 P,
REGISTERED 100 P



Postmarked and registered Tel Aviv-Yafo, October 10, 1954. Addressed to Auckland and marked on back with Israeli censorship lettering. ■

William M. Rosenblum LLC

*World's Leading Dealer in all aspects of
Jewish Related Coins, Medals, Tokens*

and Paper Money

Celebrating our 43rd year in Business

* Price Lists * Mail Bids * Shows *

* Museum Consultations *

* Appraisals *

*Instructor: Numismatics of the Holy Land

Specialists in the Numismatics of the
Jewish People and the Holy Land from

Ancient to Modern Times



Box 785, Littleton, CO 80160-0785

Phone 720-981-0785 Cell 303-910-8245 Fax 720-981-5345

E-mail: Bill@Rosenblumcoins.com
Website: WorldWar.rosenblumcoins.com

HOUSE OF ZION

Your **COMPLETE**
Philatelic Resource



For Israel, Holy
Land and Judaica



House of Zion

PO Box 5502, Redwood City, CA 94063

1-650-366-7589 1-801-340-2236 (fax)

**e-mail: hsofzion@aol.com
www.houseofzion.com**

BE IN THE KNOW

Receive the SIP monthly E-Newsletter and other
important information distributions.

To be included, send your e-mail address
to: israelstamps@gmail.com today!

Israel's Pre-UPU Mail

Richard S. Herman, Delray Beach, FL

One of the functions of a new country is to provide facilities for basic communications. When the State of Israel was created in May of 1948, one of these areas was in complete disarray, i.e. the postal system. During the Mandate period, the postal system was operated by the British under the auspices of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) treaty with the “United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.” As a new independent country, Israel now had to join the UPU in its own right. Until that occurred, the only way to move the mail internationally was by treaty with each postal authority involved.

POSTAL TREATIES

Thus, while waiting for acceptance into the UPU, the Israel postal authorities had to negotiate individual treaties with all the countries already in the UPU. The first two treaties negotiated were with the United States for surface mail and Czechoslovakia for air mail, and were signed on May 19, 1948. The agreement for air mail service with the United States was not signed until May 23, 1948. In these treaties, there were still some key restrictions, i.e. mail from Israel to a specific country could only be carried as mail on an Israeli flagged carrier or a carrier under the flag of the destination country. Otherwise, the mail went as freight on a third party carrier.

For example, air mail to Great Britain had to be carried either by El Al or BOAC. If it went on Air France, it had to be shipped as freight, forwarded to the proper post office where it then entered the British mail stream. However, many “third party” airlines probably handled Israel mail as mail and not freight as a courtesy.

COLLECTING INTERESTS

My collecting interest in a general collection has waned and about eight years ago I shifted focus to more

limited areas. I now focus on covers to and from Israel that entered the international mail stream during that period of time before Israel was accepted into the UPU.

This period is from May 16, 1948 through December 24, 1949, i.e. a total of nineteen months. There were a total of one hundred three (103) signed treaties between Israel and other countries by the time Israel was finally accepted into the UPU. Mail that was posted to destinations for which there were no treaties in effect, were “returned to sender” if the postal authorities were in a “good mood.” Areas such as New Caledonia, which was a French Trust, and Hong Kong, which was a British Crown Colony, did not operate with separate treaties, but came under the auspices of the French or British treaties. Other countries, such as Eritrea, although a United Nations Trust under British administration, did sign an independent treaty.

Finding material that meets my collection criteria requires the cover to have been mailed to its destination during the treaty period. For El Salvador (a treaty was signed on March 27, 1949) there is a valid period of only nine months. The last treaty signed was with Paraguay on December 21, 1949 – three days before Israel was

accepted into the UPU. Obviously, a cover to or from Paraguay would be an extremely rare and a real treat to any collector, especially if he could find and afford to buy such a cover. See Figures 1-8 for examples.



Figure 1

Registered letter (blue lines across the envelope), postmarked Praha (sic), Czechoslovakia November 12, 1948, backstamped Tel Aviv Palestine (Israel) November 15, 1948, postage 15 koruna, 50 haleru (i.e. about 31 cents U.S.), registration fee 6 koruna.

Handled under May 19, 1948 Israel/Czechoslovakia treaty for air mail only and most likely went on either El Al or Czechoslovakia Airlines (which flew between Prague and Haifa). It could have also gone as freight on a third party flight, but not likely. Any Czech air mail cover posted between May 19, 1948 - December 24, 1949, meets my criteria. Ebay, Delcampe and auction house searches indicate these covers are fairly common, making it easier to verify the postal rates even without a rate chart.



Figure 3

Surface mail to Hadera, Israel from Amanzimtoti, South Africa, postmarked December 2, 1949. Franked 11 pence and marked "Day of Issue," but Scotts catalog indicates the first day of issue was December 1 not the 2nd. There is an additional 1 pence stamp on the back that was cancelled on December 3, 1949. Although sent as surface mail, it was received and back stamped in Hadera on December 9, 1949 (six days after posting). I have only seen one other cover from South Africa to Israel in this time period, but it added no new information.



Figure 2

Air mail letter sent from Brussels, Belgium to Ramat Gan, Israel, franked 31 franks. Because inflation was causing major problems with the Belgian monetary system, it is difficult to determine the equivalent United States value (one chart shows this to be nearly \$6.00).

Written ink date 3-4-49 but postmarked April 4, 1949, one day later. Belgium did not have an airline that flew to Israel and, El Al did not fly to Brussels. This letter should have gone as freight. Probably went through Paris on Air France or KLM through Amsterdam or El Al from one of those cities. Very little mail was actually handled as freight. The Israel/Belgium agreement of June 27, 1948 covered both air and surface mail. A check of auction sites indicates, that covers to/from Belgium are available at moderate prices.



Figure 4

Letter from the Ministry of Transportation to Transvaal, South Africa, registered at the government and Tel Aviv post office 20. Postage: 45 mils for a double weight surface letter, 25 mil registration fee. Postmarked on September 5, 1949,

Treaty of September, 19 1948 for surface mail to/from Israel/South Africa applied. This is the only surface mail cover from this time period that I have seen, I have relied on rate charts of the period to ascertain the rates.



Figure 5

Air mail letter from Haifa to Mexico - D.F. dated May 26, 1949 (hebrew calendar Iyar 27, 5709). franked 90 mils. Postal rate to South America 100 p, rate to United States 70 mils (1 p = 1 mil); rates to Central America or Mexico 90 mils. No postage due markings to indicate under franking. In all the years of looking, this is the only example I have seen to Mexico.



Figure 6

Air mail letter from Mexico D.F. to the military Doar Zvai office, Kochot Habitachon (security personnel). Postmarked November 18, 1949, received November 20, 1949, franked with 70 centavos (about 19 cents U.S.). There is a 1 centavos that did not get cancelled. The Israel/Mexico agreement was signed July 9, 1948 for both air and surface mail. These are the only examples of Mexican – Israel mail I have seen.



Figure 7

The interagency postal agreement between Fiji and Israel for both air and surface mail was signed on August 9, 1948. This registered cover was posted in Nadroga, Fiji on October 10, 1949. Franked with 7 pence, it went as surface mail through Sidney Australia on October 16 and was received in Bat Yam, Israel on October 24, 1949. The routing and the intermediate dates are all documented by back stamps. I have not seen other Fiji covers so unable to validate that the franking is correct.

RESEARCH CONTINUES

As can be seen, documenting all the information for a specific cover can be a daunting task. The easiest method to validate the correct amount of franking (postage) is to find good postal rate charts and reference material with the rates for 1948 and 1949. A secondary method is to compare the rates on multiple covers from the same time period, however, because of the rampant inflation in many countries in the years following World War II, determining the value of franking in equivalent United States currency requires a monthly exchange rate conversion chart



Figure 8

The only cover I have seen either to or from Turkey. The postal agreement between Israel and Turkey was signed June 27, 1948. The agreement covered both surface mail and air mail. Postmarked March 31, 1949 at Beyoglu, an Istanbul suburban post office, received in Haifa on April 6, 1949 – back stamped in Haifa. The Hebrew date in the back stamp is Nisan 7, 5709. The franking is 35 kurus(h). I have been unable to find a credible rate chart for exchange rates for this period, but the Turkish government had a habit of setting arbitrary exchange rates.

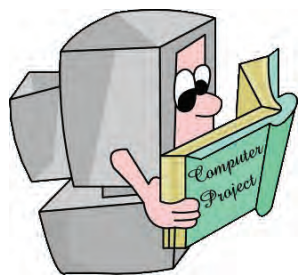
for the period. Thus far, the best tracking available are the annual charts published in the month of October on a limited number of currencies. With these charts, monthly fluctuations are not captured.

Determining the route is another area of research. In 1948 and 1949, the major airport for Israel was Haifa. Czechoslovakian Airlines (CSA) flew regularly to Prague, oftentimes with a stop in Nicosia, Cyprus. Air France flew regularly to Paris. KLM (Dutch Airlines) flew to Amsterdam with a stop in Athens, Greece. Other

airlines such as Lufthansa flew to Germany from Tel Aviv with stops in other countries such as Hungary. Air Canada, BOAC (British Airlines), TWA (Trans World Airlines), LOT (Polish Airlines) and Pan AM (Pan American Airlines) flew regular routes to Israel. Even MISR Airline (Egyptian) had a route to Haifa. As indicated, there are missing (to me) pieces of information, so anyone who wishes to add to my knowledge and enhance future articles, please e-mail me at dickh8644@comcast.net.

References:

1. "Renewal of Postal Services of the State of Israel with Other Countries in 1948," **Holy Land Postal History**, No.3, Winter 1980, pgs 87-89.
2. "Table of the Opening of Postal Services Between Israel and Other Countries, 1948-1950," **Holy Land Postal History**, No. 8, pgs. 560- 562.
3. "Air Mail Service," **The Israel -Palestine Philatelist**, Vol. 3, No 2, pg. 20.



SIP WEB SIGN-IN PROCEDURE

Please note: **accessing The Israel Philatelist** on-line is different from the member only login to the SIP website: www.israelstamps.com. When clicking on the fluttering page icon for **The Israel Philatelist** on the home page, please use your e-mail address to login to **The Israel Philatelist** on-line. Only SIP members who submit e-mail addresses to israelstamps@gmail.com have access to **The Israel Philatelist** journal on-line. If you are receiving the monthly E-newsletter, your e-mail address is already in the contact list.

To **access the member only sections** of the web site, an actual registration process is required. If you are a member of the SIP and have not yet registered for the web site login (again different from **The Israel Philatelist** journal access), please send a request for the link and passcode to Israelstamps@gmail.com. ■

4. "Postal Tariffs," **Holy Land Postal History**, No. 8, pgs. 555- 556.
5. "Foreign Letter Rates," **The Israel Philatelist**, Vol. XXX, No. 1-2, Feb. 1979, Table 6.2, pg. 1835.
6. "Foreign Mail Rates," **The Israel Philatelist**, Vol. XXX, No. 1-2, Feb. 1979, Table 6.3, pg. 1836.
7. **Scott 2008 Standard Postage Stamp Catalog**.
8. **Israel Postal History, Bale 2010 Catalog**.
9. See Ed Kroft's series of articles on "Israel Postal Rates," **The Israel Philatelist**, Vol. LXIII no. 5, 2012 - Vol. 65, Spring 2014. ■

ISRAEL					ISRAEL				
YEAR	MINT	TAB	USED	FDC	YEAR	MINT	TAB	USED	FDC
1948.....	370.00	—	149.95	—	1981.....	10.95	12.95	8.95	19.95
1949.....	62.50	—	8.95	—	1982.....	15.80	21.50	11.50	17.85
1950.....	15.95	—	14.95	—	1983.....	16.95	19.95	11.50	16.75
1951.....	2.75	129.95	.80	—	1984.....	12.50*	19.85	8.55	13.95
1952.....	13.95	245.00	7.10	16.95	1985.....	21.50*	27.95*	15.75*	12.95
1953.....	3.95	82.50	.80	2.75	1986.....	20.95*	28.95*	17.95*	24.85
1954.....	1.95	13.95	.85	2.95	1987.....	33.95*	40.75*	18.65*	33.25
1955.....	1.50	4.95	.80	4.85	1988.....	17.75*	24.95*	14.95*	24.95
1956.....	1.10	2.50	.75	1.80	1989.....	39.50*	46.50*	22.50*	53.50
1957.....	1.95	29.95	1.30	—	1990.....	26.95*	31.95*	19.95*	34.95
1958.....	1.10	1.95	.60	1.95	1991.....	29.95*	35.75*	19.95*	34.95
1959.....	1.25	2.95	.75	2.90	1992.....	36.75*	52.95*	29.95*	41.50
1960.....	10.50	22.75	6.75	3.95	1993.....	20.75*	24.95*	21.95*	34.95
1961.....	5.95	10.95	1.50	5.90	1994.....	27.50*	34.95*	23.95*	49.95
1962.....	7.95	16.95	1.75	6.95	1995.....	34.95*	41.25*	24.95*	33.50
1963.....	4.75	18.85	1.95	8.95	1996.....	31.50*	34.95*	24.50*	30.50
1964.....	4.50	13.95	2.95	8.95	1997.....	33.95*	37.95*	29.50*	41.50
1965.....	4.75	11.50	2.75	9.75	1998.....	51.95*	57.95*	29.95*	39.95
1966.....	2.95	6.95	2.50	12.95	1999.....	34.95*	36.95*	27.95*	36.95
1967.....	1.95	3.95	1.85	5.75	2000.....	32.50*	36.95*	29.95*	42.50
1968.....	2.25	3.95	1.75	8.25	2001.....	49.95*	54.95*	29.95*	54.95
1969.....	2.95	8.95	2.45	10.50	2002.....	41.95*	48.95*	27.95*	39.95
1970.....	7.75	9.95	3.75	10.45	2003.....	46.95*	51.75*	29.50*	49.95
1971.....	7.75	15.50	3.75	14.50	2004.....	29.75*	37.25*	29.95*	42.95
1972.....	9.95	11.95	3.75	14.85	2005.....	38.95*	39.50*	31.95*	43.95
1973.....	7.95	9.95	7.75	16.95	2006.....	41.50*	41.95*	39.95*	52.95
1974.....	1.60	1.85	1.50	4.25	2007.....	51.50*	51.95*	42.50*	61.75
1975.....	3.75	4.90	3.45	16.50	2008.....	63.95*	64.95*	44.95*	59.95
1976.....	3.40	4.95	3.25	8.85	2009.....	53.95*	54.50*	49.50*	74.50
1977.....	5.95	6.95	5.25	15.50	2010.....	63.95*	64.95*	59.90*	78.50
1978.....	5.95	6.95	4.95	13.75	2011.....	64.60*	64.95*	59.95*	79.95
1979.....	4.50	4.95	4.25	9.95	2012.....	64.60*	69.95*	59.95*	79.95
1980.....	7.95	9.95	11.50	16.95					

*Available in Official Israel Album \$7.95 additional.

TERMS: cash or check with order. Mint & Tabs are NH, VF. Price includes airmails & regular souvenir sheets (except used & FDC's). Orders add \$3.95 for P & H. Also available: sheets, sheets, sheets, postal stationery, intern'l reply coupons & specialty items. Insurance or Registration extra. Also available: U.S., U.N., Trust Territories and Ghana Lists. Prices subject to change without notice.

Visit our website for worldwide stamps:

www.israelstamps.net

HYCO ENTERPRISE



P.O. Box 6701-R, Delray Beach, FL 33482
Phone/Fax (561) 347-0613 • e-mail: hyco44@bellsouth.net

BE IN THE KNOW

Receive the SIP monthly E-Newsletter and other important information distributions. To be included, send your e-mail address to: israelstamps@gmail.com today!

French Stamp Show

Doar Ivri, the journal of CFPI was awarded 82 points and a vermeil medal in the literature class of the French National Exhibition at Vincennes in June. The editorial team would like to thank all who have contributed articles or letters to the editor and thus ensured the quality of its content that earned this recognition by the French philatelic community.



Left to right: Boris Fride, Alain Jourdan, Jacques Rémond, Bernard Boccara, Patrick Steuer, JP Danon and Daniel Weisberg at the Red Cross stand where our publication, bookmarks and visiting cards, attracted visitors' attention.



NEGEV HOLYLAND STAMPS

Holy Land Postal Bid Sales
Are Held Twice A Year

Profusely illustrated catalogue sent free on request to serious collectors

Forerunners, British Mandate, Interim, Israel, Judaica

Material is always accepted for auction. Please write providing full details

Ask about special low commission rates

NEGEV HOLYLAND STAMPS AUCTIONS

presented by BUTTON STAMP COMPANY

Michael Bale, Philatelic Advisor

Sid Morginstin
P.O. Box 8101
TRENTON, NJ 08650, USA

Telephone 609-298-2891
e-mail: LEADSTAMP@VERIZON.NET
FAX 609-291-8438
Cell Phone 609-456-9508

Please visit us on our WEB site: <http://negev.stampcircuit.com/> this is part of <http://www.stampcircuit.com/>

New Publications!

David Kaplin, SIP Education Fund Director

Big 5

The Ed Fund is pleased to announce five new publications: the republication of Harold U. Ribalow's book **The History of Israel's Postage Stamps (Stamps from 1948 to 1956)**, which was originally titled **The History of Israel's Postage Stamps**; Abraham Blum's **Places and Post Offices with Biblical Names; Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at Sarasota 2014**; and three bi-yearly volumes of **The Israel Philatelist** reprints (2007-2008, 2009-2010 and 2011-2012).

Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at Sarasota 2014, which will hopefully be the first of many, documents the Israel/Holy Land/Palestine/Judaic philatelic exhibits at this year's SIP National Convention. I would personally like to thank all of the exhibitors, Michael Bass, Howard Chapman, Jean Paul Danon, Richard Herman, Bob Pildes, Howard Rotterdam, and Nate Zankel, for allowing the Ed Fund to publish their exhibits.

Upcoming publications include Ron Feiner's manuscript on Bitter Sea mail and Donald Chafetz's monograph on B'nai B'irth YO Cachet First Day Covers that were designed by Dr. David Firestone (see Winter 2014 **Israel Philatelist**).

PUBLICATION COSTS

The Ed Fund has over the years maintained unrealistically low publication costs because it has relied on Mike Bass's company, Hy-Ko Products, to print the majority of the books. This publishing method is untenable from the long term perspective. For this reason, the Ed Fund is transitioning to a Print on Demand printer for all future printing projects starting with the new publications described above. This will result in a price increase as each book is transitioned from Hy-Ko Product to a Print on Demand printer starting with the announced new publications.

SAFAD

The monograph, **Safad** by A. Ben David, will no longer be sold by the Ed Fund. This decision was driven by several factors: (1) the Ed Fund recently sold the last print copy of the monograph that it had in its inventory, (2) the illustrations in the digitalized version of monograph, which could be used to reprint the book, that the Ed Fund has on file are in some cases unreadable, and (3) there are legal ramifications related to reprinting a non-SIP publication. During the next few months, I hope to resolve the thorny legal issues related to reprinting **Safad** and to try to find a copy of the monograph with better illustrations. The poor illustration quality may be inherent to the method selected to originally print the monograph; in which case, republishing **Safad** will be solely dependent on resolving the legal question.

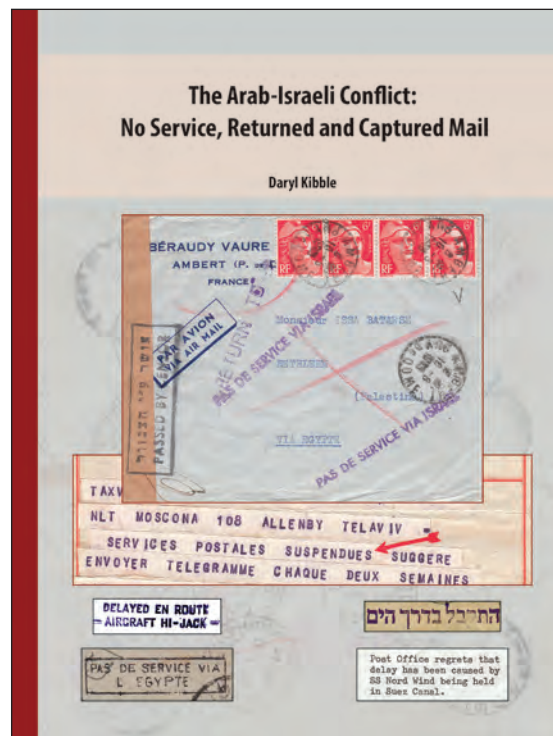
DESCENT INTO THE ABYSS: THE SHOAH

The Ed Fund publication **Descent into the Abyss: The Shoah** by Bruce Chadderton has been a phenomenal success. (A review of the book was published in the Winter 2014 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**) Sales of the book have been limited to SIP Ed Fund channels which means international readers have had to pay shipping charges that exceed the books selling price.

Thanks to Brian Gruz, who took the initiative, the book is now available in both print and digital (CD) format in South Africa through the South African SIP Chapter. Les Glassman is currently working on a similar arrangement with the book being published in Israel and sold locally. In both cases, individuals purchasing books in these countries save the excessive international shipping charges, which can nearly double the price.

I personally would like to extend my thanks to Brian and Les for their time and initiative.

continued on page 25



Daryl Kibble has written a fascinating account to sort out a very chaotic and confused era. When Great Britain terminated its mandate over Palestine, they took with them many of the government services including the posts. With the termination came the declaration of the State of Israel, military attacks from surrounding Arab states, and embargoes on the transfer of mail to Israel.

The author organized his presentation of this early time period based upon the postal markings of the sending countries. This framework accounts for both the large volume mailers such as the United States and Great Britain as well as the one-of-a-kind such as Malaya. Egypt became the holding point for much of the mail during the embargo and Syria continued to process the mail, sending on to Jordan to figure out how to deliver it. The first chapter contains a very useful table listing dates of suspension and resumption of services from about every member of the UPU as well as images of primary sources retrieved from postal archives around the world.

The second chapter renders the story of the embargo from the perspective of the Arab states, a boycott that lasted from 1948 until the 1980s (or to the present for a few such as Lebanon) with varying levels of commitment. At least for the early years the embargo saw extensive use of censorship; the various tapes and markings used in Egypt form a subtheme of their own in the book as well as being the first time publication of such tapes and markings in the philatelic literature.

A boycott usually engenders a response and Israel was no exception in this regard. The author documents 34 types of postal markings used by the Israeli

administration to return undeliverable mail to senders (only five had been identified in previous research). These instruction markings are found as rubber handstamps as well as mimeographed labels.

The “captured mail” aspect of the title refers to events related to the 1956 Suez action, with Israeli, British and French forces engaged to reopen the canal after Egyptian nationalization. This affected particularly hard the postal activities in the Gaza strip. More mail became “captured” during the Six-Day war in 1967 and produced an extensive postal history that Kibble explores in some depth, again for the first time in the philatelic literature in this detail.

Mail recovered from crashes has its own interest level. When associated with any of the acts of terrorism of the last half-century, the artifacts become poignant examples. By their nature, most of these examples are not common.

The author concludes with surveys of postal operations and source materials for the Palestinian Authority and HAMAS, as well as what he calls “Other Conflicts & Incidents,” such as the Yom Kippur war and the 1991 Gulf War. Kibble maintains the high standard of scholarship.

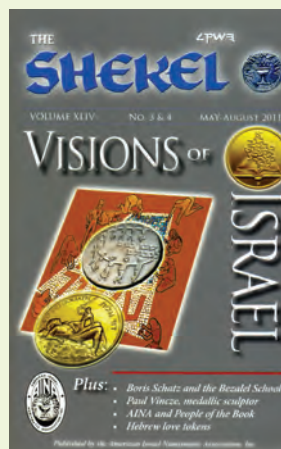
The book does not include an index in the traditional sense. This is because finding the relevant areas of interest in the publication are easily achieved through a comprehensive Table of Contents. The author also gives us an extensive bibliography. The presentation of the material in part resembles that of a postal history exhibit. Finding one’s way about the subject will take a bit of experience for the non-postal history reader, but the learning curve is not steep. The publication is of course targeted to the philatelic postal history community.

Production qualities for the book are outstanding. Quality high-density paper shows off the huge number of illustrations to great advantage and the binding will last for many years of use. The work is produced by a “print on demand” system.

Recommended.

Kibble, Daryl. **The Arab-Israeli Conflict: No Service, Returned and Captured Mail.** Available from publisher: www.vividpublishing.com.au/darylkibble/, 384pp, hardbound, AUD \$112. + postage. 2014. ISBN 9781925086584.

■



The **American Israel Numismatic Association** is a non-sectarian cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of Israel’s coinage, past and present, and all aspects of Judaic numismatics. AINA publishes The Shekel six times a year.

American Israel Numismatic Association (A.I.N.A.)
P.O. Box 20255
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
<http://WorldWarw.theshekel.org/>

Dues	USA/Mexico/Canada	Overseas	Junior (USA) 10 – 19
1 year	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$10.00
2 years	\$48.00	\$67.00	\$18.00

O - O - O - O

continued from page 23

CONCLUSION

The SIP Education Fund is always looking for new publications. Many of you have wonderful Israel/Holyland/Judaic collections. In some cases, you have written article(s) about it and/or exhibited it in juried stamp show. Some of you are interested in seldom

reported topics. Please consider documenting these items in a manuscript that can be published by the Ed Fund before the knowledge is lost. The topic of the publication is up to you the Israel/Holyland/Judaic philatelic collector. ■

When A Prisoner of War is Not

Jesse I. Spector M.D. and Robert L. Markovits Esq, Berkshire Hills Club

A prisoner of war letter from Canada to the United States in October 1941 (Figure 1) would clearly be of interest to a philatelic “war mail” collector would it not? Well, on the surface our cover struck us that way. On examining the obverse, however, we were immediately struck by the fact that the sender was a Rudolph P. Cohen, and the receiver, an Albert Bender. These were not particularly German names, that much were certain; and, they far more suggested Jewish extraction. Indeed, we did not fail to see the irony of a Rudolph Cohen being a Wehrmacht POW.

IMPENDING RELEASE

The answer would be forthcoming with further examination of the sender information (Figure 2). Rudolph, you see, has as part of his address information, the notation “Internment Operations” in “Camp B.” And, the letter content (Figure 3), written in excellent English, would indicate that Rudolph was communicating with his uncle in San Francisco, thanking him for money sent that would be helpful in view of his impending release. He goes on to inform that his parents are planning to immigrate to the United States shortly, and that they will be petitioning for Rudolph to join them through a quota permit upon their arrival in the United States. Are you more than a bit confused by the seeming contrary messages being given off by the above information? Well then, fear not, for we will very quickly unravel the apparent incongruities to your satisfaction.

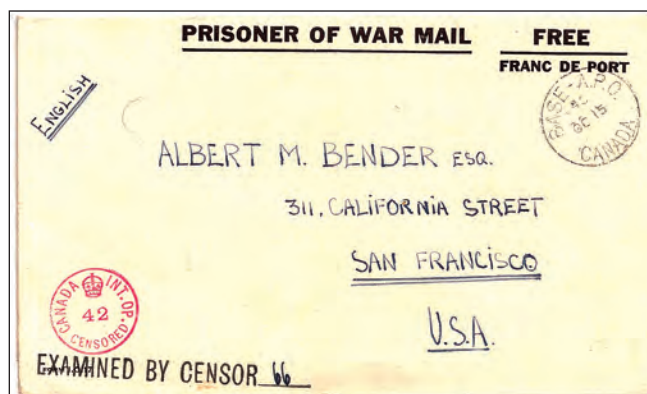
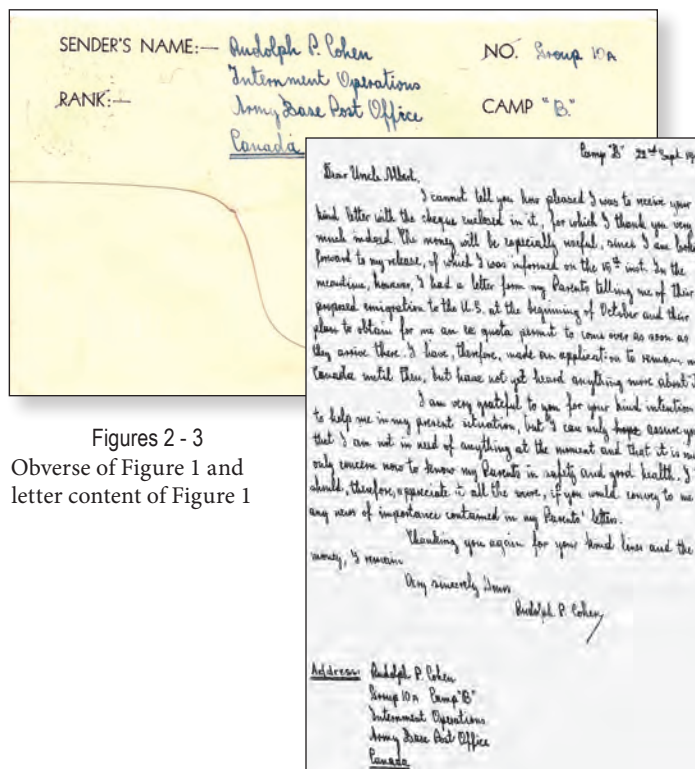


Figure 1
POW cover from Canada to the United States.



Figures 2 - 3
Obverse of Figure 1 and
letter content of Figure 1

INTERNMENT CAMPS

Canada declared war on Germany on September 3, 1939, and immediately proceeded to set up Internment camps to house POW's, merchant seaman of belligerent nations, refugees and civilian detainees. The immediate adoption of government regulations would be authorized through the Regulations for the Defense of Canada and reintroduction of the 1914 War Measures Act. The latter allowed authorities to govern by decree and banned Communist, Nazi, and Fascist organizations.

The Canadian government would establish over two dozen camps during the war, holding over 35,000 military POW's and civilians. German POW's began arriving shortly after the onset of hostilities. Figure 4 is a photograph of the Lemon Creek Internment Camp in British Columbia, and is quite representative of the physical appearance of most of the camps throughout Canada.

Over the course of the war military POW's would be almost exclusively German. Jewish refugees who were non-residents or were citizens from belligerent countries were



Figure 4

regarded as enemy aliens and interned on arrival in Canada. German and Japanese civilians would make up the majority of prisoners interned during the war. Mailings, with minor variations from that of Rudolph Cohen, would reflect the varied types of internees and POW's housed in these camps. Figures 5 - 6 in particular are of note in that they too relate to Camp B, one being received at Camp B, the other sent from the



Figure 5 - 6
Camp B Jewish internee's mail

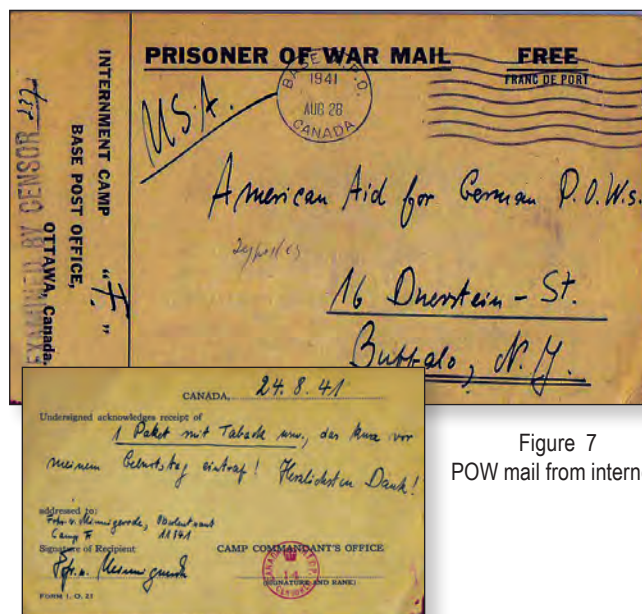


Figure 7
POW mail from internee

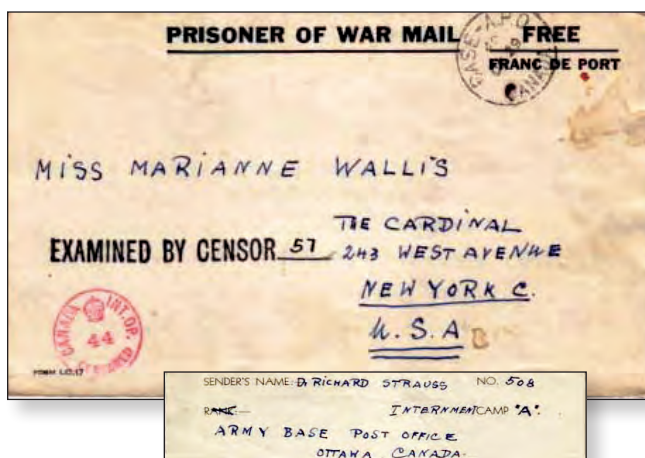


Figure 8
POW mail from internee

camp. The names of these two internees are consistent with a Jewish origin. Figures 7 - 8 are covers from other internees.

Letters of the alphabet would originally designate the camps. In October 1941, letters would give way to numbers, corresponding to military district numbering. The camps were configured so as to house only one type of prisoner- either military or civilian.

TRANSPORTING INTERNEES

Many Jews fleeing persecution and violence of war sought refuge in Canada. Some were residents or citizens of enemy countries, and, therefore, were regarded as enemy aliens and interned in camps upon arrival in Canada. Records indicate that four ships were used to transport internees from England to Canada.



Figure 9
S.S. Arandora Star post card

One of the four ships, Arandora Star (Figure 9) sailed from Liverpool with almost 1700 passengers including 1200 internees on July 1, 1940. A German U boat sank the ship one day out of port with the loss of life of 730 internees and 75 crew members. The U boat that sank the Arandora Star had previously sunk the British battleship Royal Oak in Scapa Flow. The postal history story of one of the survivors of the Arandora's sinking was a subject in an article in **The Israel Philatelist** in 1987¹.

CAMP B

Camp B would later be numbered as Camp No. 70, and was located in Fredericton, New Brunswick. The camp would be in operation from July 1940 through October 1945. The type of detainees for this location would be

listed as "various internees."

Only one camp would be listed as exclusively housing Jewish refugees, that being Camp L, in Cove Fields, Quebec. This camp did not receive a numbers designation since it was only in existence from July to October 1940. The first detainees in Camp B were over 700 Jewish men and boys. After a year, many of these internees were given the chance to return to England to participate in the war effort. Most, however, either stayed in Canada or immigrated to the United States. During the last four years of the war the camp would house primarily German and Italian POWs. Camp B was demolished after the war.

RUDOLPH P. COHEN

With that as background, let us introduce you to a young man who clearly had a frightening time of it, yet with an outcome that will prove satisfying, we believe. Records from the Library and Archives of Canada on the **Interned Refugees (Friendly Aliens) Report, 1946**² show that Rudolph P. Cohen was indeed released from internment on October 11, 1941. We then make a marvelous discovery five years later. A New York Passenger list from Trans-Canada Air Lines includes a hand-written form indicating that Rudolph P. Cohen, now a 23-year old, single, naturalized citizen of Canada who was born in Berlin, Germany, and is an accountant, was coming for a 10 day visit to New York City to see his parents, who reside on west 99th Street. The signature of Rudolph P. Cohen is identical to that on the letter addressed to his uncle in San Francisco sent from the internment camp in 1941!

And just hold on dear reader, since it gets even better. It turns out that his Uncle Albert is Albert (Micky) Bender (Figure 10), a leading patron of the arts in San Francisco who played a key role in the early career of Ansel Adams and Diego Rivera.



Figure 10
Albert (Micky) Bender

Albert Bender had been born in Dublin, Ireland, in 1866, the son of Rabbi Philip Bender and Augusta Bender, both of whom were German. Albert immigrated to the United States in 1881 and joined family in the insurance business, where he became quite successful. He never lost his Irish brogue and was proud of his heritage. He was a lifelong bachelor who cherished

his younger first cousin, Anne Bremer, who maintained an apartment in the same building as Albert. Also unmarried, the precise nature of their relationship is unknown, but after Anne's death in 1923 at age fifty-one, Albert maintained her apartment as a shrine.

Albert devoted himself to helping aspiring artists and would become close friends with Ansel Adams, as well as helping to obtain a visa for the flamboyant Communist painter, Diego Rivera to come to San Francisco to create a major work. Rivera's notoriety resulted in Albert having the commissioned work, **Allegory of California**, hung privately rather than as a public treasure. Albert became a prolific donor to the arts, donating large quantities of art and rare books to museums and universities in the United States and Ireland. He was additionally described as "the best known Jew in San Francisco," and was a founding board member of the Federation of Jewish Charities. He was a long-time congregant of Emanu-El synagogue, whose huge sanctuary reportedly could not hold all who came to his funeral in 1941, when he died at the age of 75.

We last hear of Rudolph in 1957 when a passenger list has him flying back from Kingston, Jamaica, arriving at Idlewild Airport in New York City on Pan American Airlines- wonderful names from the past, indeed. We suspect he was stopping by to visit his parents on the way back to Canada, but that is only our speculation.

We lose track of Rudolph at that point, but, we do so with a sense of relief and indeed pleasure. For you see, the 18-year old boy, interned in Canada after escaping the Nazi terror, is- safe. Yes safe, as were his parents. It's ever so hard, not to feel, well, emotional, as one pieces together this entire story, is it not? Tonight we will sleep well, and with a smile on our lips as we relive his adventure.

Bibliography:

1. Kaplan, Earl. "British Internment Camps in World War II". *The Israel Philatelist*:38, Aug. 1987 pp. 5208-5210.
2. Library and Archives of Canada on the Interned Refugees (Friendly Aliens) Report, 1946, <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/the-public/005-1142.27-e.html>.
3. WW II Internment Camps in Canada, <http://postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com/2012/07/wwii-internment-camps-in-canada-post.ht>.
4. Canada. Internment Camps, http://www.edwardvictor.com/Holocaust/2005_main.htm.
5. Second World War, <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/le-public/005-1142.27-e.html>.
6. Albert M. Bender Papers, <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:13030/tf8x0nb3jw/admin>.
7. Rosenbaum, Fred, *Cosmopolitans, A Social History of the Jews of the San Francisco Bay Area*. University of California Press. Berkeley, 2009. ■

BUYING AND SELLING

ISRAEL, US, BRITISH COMMONWEALTH

WE BUY IT ALL!

We are the leading buyers of U.S. better grade material and quantity items, British Commonwealth, Israel, Russia, Vatican and other Foreign material - Please offer.

**COLLECTIONS, ACCUMULATIONS,
DEALER'S STOCK, SINGLE ITEMS IN
LARGE QUANTITIES, ETC.**



IDEAL STAMP CO., INC. (Sam Malamud)

161 Helen Street South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080



Member over 40 years

Ph: 908-548-8088 FAX: 908-822-7379

E-mail: support@ideallny.com

Member over 40 years

Ottoman Clock Towers

“For Whom The Clock Tolls?”

THE CLOCK TOWERS THAT WERE BUILT AT
THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY IN
THE LAND OF ISRAEL IN HONOR OF
SULTAN ABDUL HAMID II



Sultan Abdul Hamid II
1876-1909

This article deals with a specific historical period in which a series of important changes, largely caused by global events, took place in the Land of Israel, at the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century. In this period were built a series of Ottoman Clock towers: in Jaffa's central square; in Acre's Khan el-Umdan; in Jerusalem at the Jaffa gate; in Safed on the Saraya; in Nablus in the “casba”; and in downtown Haifa at El-Jarina Mosque, near the Zim building and the new Government Buildings Center.

The Land of Israel was then a neglected and undeveloped part of the Ottoman Empire. In the days of Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the Zionist Movement was just established and immigrating Jews had begun purchasing land and property in the country. It is in those days that the conflict between Jews and Arabs began. The European Powers began showing an increasing interest in the Holy Land and Ottoman rulers realizing this also started paying more attention to the area. Jaffa, the main entry port to Palestine and the first place the pilgrims saw on their way to Jerusalem, was described then as a dirty and unsafe place.

JAFFA CLOCK TOWER

In 1816 the governor of Jaffa, Muhammad Abu,

repaired the ruined city walls. It is thought that the destruction was caused following the conquest of the city by Napoleon (1799) and by the wars that erupted after his withdrawal. Jaffa had developed and expanded and in the 1870's the walls were dismantled in order to allow for the expansion of the city. In the 1880's, the “Kishle” (prison) was transferred from the old Ottoman Government Building (Saraya el-Athika) to the northeastern corner of the previous wall. At about the same time the Market had developed and the site was called the Market Square.

In 1897, a new magnificent Saraya, the Ottoman rulers' palace (Saraya el-Gadida), was built. The Saraya building was badly destroyed during the 1948 war, but its remains can still be seen today. Reconstruction has

been carried out in recent years. The square in front of it was named "Sacnat el-Dawla" (State Square). The Clock Tower - probably the most famous symbol of Jaffa - was erected at the center of the square. Today it is commonly known as "Clock Square," although its official name is "Jewish Agency Square," a name hardly remembered.

CONSTRUCTION DATE

The clock tower was built in honor of Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the Ottoman ruler (1876-1909.) Although the tower is mentioned in all the history books and reports about Jaffa, there was disagreement as to the exact date of its erection. In some publications the year 1901 is regarded as the date the tower was built, whereas in others the year 1906 is quoted, and some authors even refer to both dates.

The exact date at which the tower was built is a rather complicated issue. I tried to solve it by using several approaches - including investigating historical photographs and postcards; checking the postmarks on postcards dated from the beginning of the 20th century; examining books and magazines of the period; and trying to translate the inscriptions engraved on the towers themselves. I also tried to verify the dates on which the many clock towers were erected in honor of the Sultan Abdul Hamid II throughout the Ottoman Empire, assuming that they were all built in the same year.

The Jaffa archive, where some answers could have been found, had disappeared - probably burnt during the 1948 war. In the Tel Aviv archive only the plans for the reconstruction that took place in 1980 could be found. The answer may be found in the archives of photographs that were owned by Sultan Abdul Hamid himself. This valuable source of information, located in Istanbul, contains all the photographs sent to the Sultan routinely by his agents from all over the Ottoman Empire.

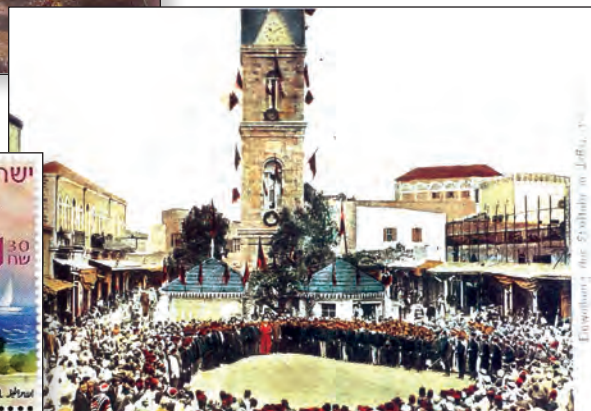
SECRET OF THE CLOCK TOWER

Odd as it may appear, the two dates -1901 or 1906- do not necessarily contradict each other. While observing carefully the Jaffa clock tower, I noticed a slight difference in the architecture of the two lower floors relative to the third one. It could be argued that there were two phases of building - beginning in 1901 and completion in 1906. In the book **Yafo - Tides of Times** (Editor R. Zeevi), two relevant photographs were published.



The Jaffa Market Square before the clock tower was built.

In the first, the clock tower had only two floors, as the third one and the top were not yet built. D. L. Elmendorf, published a photograph in 1912, originally in the book **A Camera Crusade Through the Holy Land**. It clearly



The inauguration ceremony of the Jaffa clock tower - 1903/1904.



Jaffa clock tower stamp

states that the author photographed it in the year 1901. This proves that in 1901 the two floors of the tower had already been built!

In a second photograph, a military parade is seen in front of the clock tower. The clock has Arabic numbers. The photograph's caption reads: "The ceremony of inauguration of the clock tower on the occasion of the celebration for the 25th anniversary to the ruling of Sultan Abdul Hamid II." This could prove that the tower was built in 1901, but the year is not given. I found that this photograph had been originally printed as a postcard and was sent via the Austrian Post Office from Jaffa to Jerusalem. According to the postmark, it was sent on March 1906, indicating that on that date (and probably earlier) the tower was fully completed.

In **The Encyclopedia of Personalities** by Tidhar, it is told that watchmaker, Morris Sheinberg had suggested building a clock tower in Jaffa, near the Saraya. Since he was in charge of the construction of towers, in Jaffa and in Nablus, this may indicate a possible link between the building dates of these two towers. The watchmaker, Zerach Alter Moshli, is also mentioned in connection with the Jaffa clocks. The most convincing proof for the exact building date of the clock towers was found in periodicals dating from the beginning of the 20th century. In the Journal **Ha'Yehudi** (October 4, 1900, London), it was announced that on the 25th anniversary of Sultan Abdul Hamid II's reign (September 1, 1900) the cornerstone of the Jaffa clock tower was laid. The completed Jaffa Clock Tower was first mentioned in the **Bedeker Guide Book** in 1904, implying that the building was completed in 1903/4.

In the year 2001 reconstruction of the Clock Tower took place, new illumination was installed, the copper goblet was refurbished, both clocks were replaced by new ones and the original bell has been ringing again.

NABLUS CLOCK TOWER

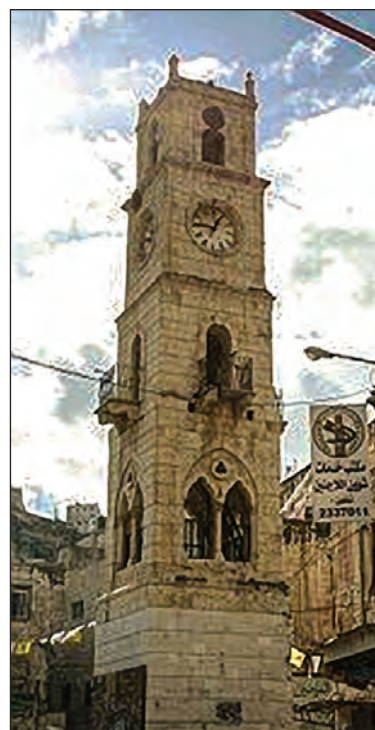
In the **Journal of the British Palestine Exploration Fund** (P.E.F.) of January 1, 1901, K. Shik wrote that on September 1, 1900, the 25th year of the reign of Sultan Abdul Hamid, a clock tower was built in Nablus.

On this clock tower is found the following lyrical lines (in Arabic) engraved as an inscription:

*The celebration of the crown, it is splendor
Even the sun in the sky will obey,
The tower was erected with a lot of happiness and
glory,
The clock appears like a maiden in her wedding.
Long live the Sultan- the great king
Abed el-Hamid donated this great honor
This ceremony is held for the silver jubilee of the
Sultan
In his honor the tower was built from bottom to top
The great ceremony of the crown jubilee*

1318 Hijra; 1316 Rumi
(The year 1900 - Y.L.)

The Rumi calendar, similar to the Mali calendar, was used for tax collecting purposes, thus linking the Hijra and the Gregorian calendars. We can conclude that the clock tower in Nablus was erected in 1900 (i.e., September 1, 1900).



Nablus clock tower

HAIFA CLOCK TOWER



Haifa clock tower - 1906



Haifa clock tower stamp

The Haifa Clock Tower has 6 floors and a dome on the top. I translated the Arabic inscription engraved on the clock tower:

Celebration on the occasion of passing five years and twenty years, the happy year had begun, Long Live the Sultan Abdul-Hamid.

The year engraved here is 1316 (probably to Hijra). If this is the case, it means the tower in Haifa was built in 1898/9, a short time before the celebrations, and was in fact the first tower built in the Land of Israel in honor of the Sultan. But the year 1316 is according to the Rumi/Mali calendars, similar to the year 1900.

Between the years 2001 and 2013 reconstructions took place but no clocks have been installed.

SAFED CLOCK TOWER

The Safed Clock Tower was built above the Ottoman "Saraya" Palace. Its first floor is round and there are four more square floors. The square pyramid that was built on the top does not exist today.

Two weeks after the **Ha'Yehudi** magazine announced the laying of the cornerstone for the Jaffa clock tower, the journal published that on the 25th anniversary of the Sultan's reugb, September 1, 1900, the clock tower of Safed was inaugurated.

The tower was built on the northwestern corner of the Saraya palace, on a round base. It was made of limestone, had five floors but hardly any decoration. There were four clocks, one on each side: on the front western side the clock was bigger than the others. On October 15, 2002, the clocks were replaced with new ones. The original bell at the top of the tower now rings again.



Safed clock tower



Safed clock tower stamp

ACRE CLOCK TOWER

This is one of the most decorated and impressive clock towers. It was built on the ancient beautiful Khan el-Umdan.



Acre clock tower above the ancient Khan el-Umdan - 1912



Acre clock tower stamp

According to all the publications, the Acre clock tower was built in 1906. On the tower there are three limestone plates with inscriptions: On the first, an emblem of the Ottoman Empire is engraved. On the second, there is an inscription written in the Ottoman language and calligraphic letters reading as follows:

His Majesty the Sultan, el-Gazi Abed el-Hamid Chan, the Sultan of the Sultans of the era and the best of our nation. The building of the praised clock tower was completed on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of our Sultan as a Caliph, glory and honor to him. 1318

(According to the Hijra counting this is the year 1900; Y.L.)

On the upper plate is written, in Arabic: "Five and twenty years of happiness since the beginning of the Calipha Abed el-Hamid 1318."

Thus, the Acre clock tower was erected in the year 1900 on the Sultan's 25th jubilee.

In a special ceremony, in 2001, four new clocks were installed: one with Hebrew letters, the second with Arabic digits, the third with Latin digits and the fourth-regular digits.

JERUSALEM CLOCK TOWER



The Jerusalem clock tower was built above the Jaffa Gate of the Old City, in 1907. It was demolished, by the British in 1922.

The tower in Jerusalem is unique since the Governor Ali Acram-Bey built it above the Jaffa Gate of the Old City wall in 1907 - later than all the other towers. It was ready for the celebrations of the 31st (actually 32nd; Y.L.) anniversary of the Sultan's reign, and unlike the other towers it was later dismantled.

In the Magazine **Hashkafa**, published in Jerusalem by Eliezer Ben-Yehuda (September 1907), it was announced:

"...On the celebration of the crowning day of our Master and King, His Majesty the honorable Sultan, (22 Elul-September 1, 1907; Y.L.), the happy day of 31 years of ruling of the distinguished and very honorable king, the Sultan son of Sultan el-Gazi Abed el-Hamid..."



Jerusalem clock stamp

To celebrate the occasion, many magnificent parties were held, and "...all the Ottoman government officials and army officers, the 'Ishmaelians' and the Jews had participated, and many of them came to the clock tower - on the city wall and inaugurated it."

The Clock Tower was built of limestone in modern-arabic style. Its height was about 14 meters in addition to the Jaffa Gate building. Ronald Stors, the British military governor during the Mandate, demolished the tower in 1922.

NAZARETH TOWER

Another small and elegant tower that resembles those of Acre and Haifa was discovered. This tower was built on the monumental Saraya of Nazareth, and has four circular openings that could have been used for clocks. The neighboring community, from the Dahar el-Omar dynasty (the ruler of Galilee in the 18th century), referred to it as "the clock tower." Yet there is not enough proof for that. Presently, it is not conclusive whether this is the 7th Ottoman clock tower in the Land of Israel.

CELEBRATION DATE?

There is a debate regarding the exact date of the 25th Jubilee of the Sultan. Since the Sultan began governing on September 1, 1876 and in 1901 he had already been ruling for 25 years. The question is therefore raised: why, according to the magazines and the inscriptions on the clock towers, did the celebrations take place on September 1, 1900? Where is the "lost" year? The answer is very simple. The Sultan was crowned on September 1, 1876. On the very same day he was in his first year of office. So on September 1, 1900, after 24 years plus one day, he had begun the 25th year of his reign. For that reason, there were celebrations throughout the Empire. Strangely, in history, in contrast to mathematics, $24=25$!

SUMMARY

To conclude, we know that the clock towers in the Israel were planned to be built for the celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the Sultan's reign, in the year 1900.

1. Haifa clock tower - 1898/9 - a little earlier, or - 1900.
2. Jaffa clock tower- the cornerstone: on September 1, 1900.

Lower two floors - in 1901.

Completion of the building in - 1903/4.

3. Safed clock tower - on September 1, 1900.
4. Nablus clock tower - on September 1, 1900.
5. Acre clock tower - in 1900.
6. Jerusalem clock tower - in 1907: dismantled in 1922.
7. Nazareth tower - the information is not complete yet.

- Additional information can be found in the book **For Whom the Clock Tolls?** by Yehuda Levanony.
- On April 2004, the Israel Postal Authority issued stamps featuring the Ottoman Clock Towers. ■

The Israel Philatelist

1



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS WITH DON CHAFETZ AT THE HELM OF THE IP JOURNAL

- ❖ 2003 Black and White “Paste Up” Journal
- ❖ 2004 Computer Generated Journal
- ❖ 2005 Full Color Journal
- ❖ 2011 Professional Designed Covers
- ❖ 2012 Internet Based Journal
- ❖ 2013 Creation of Journal Internet Searchable Database

“ ***PLEASE HONOR DON WITH YOUR GENEROUS GIFT
TO THE IP DIGITAL ARCHIVE LIBRARY FUND.*** ”

SEND DONATIONS TO:

THE SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS
P.O. BOX 507
NORTHFIELD, OH 44067

OR BY PAYPAL VIA OUR WEBSITE —

www.israelstamps.com/subcat-digital_ip.php

Thank you Don , for making *The Israel Philatelist* a world-class publication.

THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

China

Holocaust Learning Adventure

Gregg Philipson, Austin, TX

My wife, Michelle, and I returned in October of 2013 from “The World Jewish Studies and Holocaust Conference” in Harbin China (Figure 1). The Association of Holocaust Organizations (AHO) developed the conference with the Chinese government, Harbin Moderne University and others. I am a member of the AHO as both a Commissioner for the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission and as an advisory board member of the Holocaust Museum Houston. These two organizations are AHO members.



Figure 1
Conference and reception sites.

WHY CHINA?

The purpose of the conference was to pioneer China Jewish Holocaust Studies with the intent to educate as many lives across the different cultures about the tragic effect that hate can have on the world and to carry that message to impact future generations with the knowledge and tools to become educators themselves. The group consisted of scholars, educators and other experts on the Holocaust. There were representatives from major universities, the United Nations, Holocaust Commissions and Holocaust museums, etc (Figure 2).

People ask, “Why China?” The answer can be found in two areas. The first is that during the Holocaust era the Japanese reeked havoc on the Chinese civilian population (as they did with many other Asian peoples) during the 1930’s and 1940’s (Figure 7). The people suffered and died in vast numbers. I gave a lecture at the “Unit 731” Museum in Harbin China.

This is a government owned museum that was built on the site where the Japanese army’s “Unit 731” conducted their chemical and biological warfare



Figure 2
Michelle Philipson front row, blue sweater

experiments on Chinese civilians. The Japanese were years ahead of the Nazis in their methodical destruction of ethnic groups. I suspect that the Germans learned much from the Japanese during the 1930's. As a sign of goodwill and friendship Michelle and I gifted a US Army Air Corp silk map of Harbin from World War II to the "731" museum(The Museum of War Crime Evidence by Japanese Army Unit 731). The map was very much appreciated.

Additionally, I was part of a Holocaust panel discussion/lecture at Harbin Moderne University where over 250 students attended. Harbin is a city of 10 million people.



Figure 3
Stereoview of people boarding the train for China including several Jewish people



Figure 4
Back of 1917 postcard sent to Harbin.

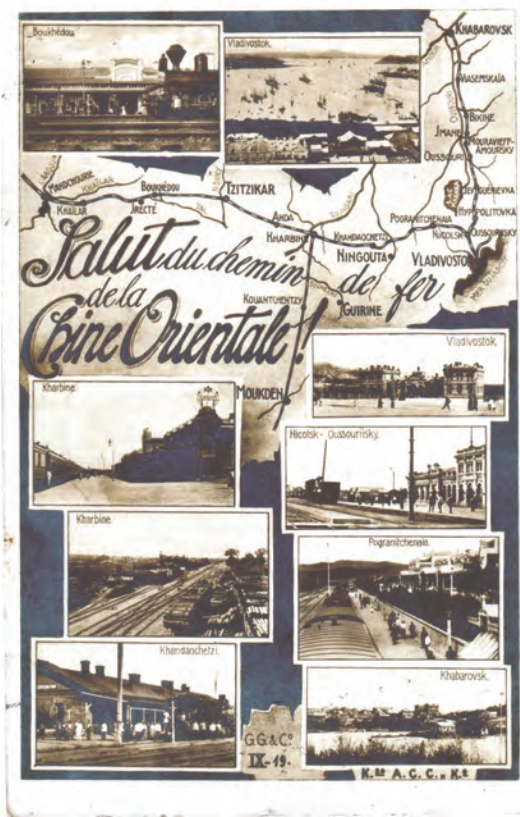


Figure 5
Front of 1917 postcard showing Chinese Eastern Railway railroad route from Russia to China.

These are the future educators and leaders of the Chinese people. It was exciting that so many college students were in attendance and that a large number actually attended the general conference sessions as well.

The second reason as to "Why China?" was the vast Russian Jewish influence on commerce and education during the late 1800's into the early 20th century in northeast China. Many Jews settled in the city of Harbin and other areas to escape the pogroms of Russia during this period. Jewish history in China was a positive experience for both Jews and their Chinese neighbors for decades. Once established, "The Chinese Eastern Railway" (CER) provided transportation from Siberia to "Manchuria" for many Jews (Figures 3-5). The local Chinese communities warmly welcomed them.

HARBIN MODERN HOTEL

We stayed at the "Harbin Modern Hotel" (Figure 6). A Russian Jew named Josef Kaspe founded this hotel and we were invited to a private ceremony for the unveiling of his statue to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the hotel. Many other markers can be seen around the city that indicated where former Jewish establishments and religious institutions were located throughout the city.

SHANGHAI VISIT

We then traveled to Shanghai from Harbin to meet members of the Shanghai Jewish Ghetto Museum (Figure 1). Prior to this meeting (in July of 2013) I lectured to a group of Holocaust scholars in my hometown of Austin, Texas. Among those in attendance was the Shanghai District Governor who has the Jewish Ghetto Museum under his jurisdiction. During the Austin meetings Michelle and I gifted material from our Shanghai Ghetto collection to the Chinese delegation for them to take back to the museum. Upon our arrival in Shanghai, the Shanghai



Figure 6
China Post cover with Harbin Moderne Hotel cachet cancelled the Shang You station, Harbin.

District Governor and the museum curator treated us like royalty. Each hosted a beautiful meal for our group. We received a private tour of the museum and Michelle and I made a presentation and again gifted some unique items from our collection to the people of China (Figure 8).

The Shanghai story has been told many times so we will not focus on that here but it is important to note that the Chinese people were bonded in friendship with the Jews of Shanghai during the most difficult of conditions during the reign of terror by the Japanese.

A couple of "not so well known" Jewish men that played interesting and important roles in Chinese history are Morris "Two-Gun" Cohen, a British national who became a general in the Chinese Army; a body guard to the revolutionary leader Dr. Sun Yat-sen; and Jacob Rosenfeld an Austrian doctor who held a high position in the Chinese government. He was also a field doctor for the Chinese Communist New Fourth Army.

The famous Harbin Beer brewery was founded by several men and two of them were Russian Jews. As a side note, the beer is very good.

One of the many beautiful parts of this trip was the warm and genuine reception we received both as Americans and as Jews by all the Chinese people we



Figure 7
Chinese Holocaust Era Relief labels. During WWII many Jewish organizations issued charity labels (many designed by Arthur Szyk) to raise money and awareness for the plight of European Jewry.

Like their Jewish counterparts, numerous other organizations were issuing labels to raise money and awareness for the plight of Chinese civilians during the 1930's and 1940's...



Figure 8
Newspaper article
Shanghai reception with Gregg (left front with guide).

met from Beijing to Harbin and onto Shanghai. It was a marvelous feeling to be so welcomed and accepted. This was indeed a monumental change from our previous travels to eastern and western Europe. ■

Doron Waide

PO Box 789 Hamlin PA 18427 USA
Tel. 570 487 1742 Fax. 570 487 1746
E-mail address: doronwaide@aol.com

Internet and mail bid auctions

Web Site: www.doronwaide.com

Ebay seller ID: doronwaide

Delcampe seller ID: Heybesee

Palestine Forerunners, Palestine Mandate
Israel 1948 Interim, Doar Ivri and Postage Dues
Israel regular issues, Judaica and JNF
Stamps, covers, Documents and related items

Material accepted for future Auction Sales

Please Write or Phone for details

MEMBER: A.P.S S.I.P



Romano House of
Stamp Sales Ltd.

Stamps
Covers
Military mail
Autographs
War memorabilia
Medals
Banknotes
Coins
Accessories

Are you seeking
to develop your
collection?

Are you on a quest
for gem stamps?
for unique covers?

Here you will
find it all!

Romano House of Stamp
Sales Ltd
250 Dizengoff St.
Dizengoff Center Mall,
Gate 4, 2nd floor, store
No. B245

P.O. Box 23274 Tel Aviv
61231, Israel
(972) 3-5250119

Romano House of Stamp Sales
YOUR PLACE IN THE HOLY LAND



Contact Information
World Warw.RomanoAuctions.
com

Israel's Office
972-3-5250119
support@romanauctions.com

United States Representative
George Bailey
651-338-9622
gbailey15@gmail.com

Ask for a Romano Auction Catalog, and visit our web site at:
World Warw.RomanoAuctions.com

E-Mail : support@romanauctions.com

LINDNER



1600-1200 BC
Terra Cotta
Dipper Juglet
SOLD \$595



1870s-90s Russian Silver Vodka
Cups with Jewish Musicians
SOLD \$1,428



Ottoman 1901 Registered Cover
with scarce Jewish Quarter Cancels
SOLD \$387

**your source for
buying & selling
Judaica & Holyland**

stamps & covers

commemorative coins

sterling silver artifacts

Holocaust related material

concentration camp papers,
documents & personal items



complimentary auction catalog
for active bidders

800.782.0066
RegencySuperior.com

STAMPS • COINS • SPACE • AUTOGRAPHS

REGENCY SUPERIOR

Experienced Auctioneers Since 1929

229 N. Euclid Avenue • Saint Louis, MO 63108 USA



Letter from Palestine to New Brunswick

Robert A. Moss, Metuchen, NJ

For many years, Professor Allen B. Robbins was Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ. He sold his stamp collection to his successor, my colleague Professor Paul Leath, who gave me the cover shown in Figure 1. Although, the letter it once contained is long gone, informed speculation might yield some clue to its origin and contents.

PALESTINE COVER

The cover is franked with an unexceptional 1927 3 mils Palestine definitive depicting Rachel's tomb. Although both the name of the sender and a return address are missing, the cancel indicates that the letter was posted in Rehovot on or shortly before December 11, 1938. The addressee is Dr. W(illiam) R. Robbins the father of Allen Robbins. Obviously, the cover found its way into Allen's collection via his father. William Robbins held a Ph. Doctorate in Horticulture and was an expert in hydroponics, the nurturing of plants in solutions of nutrient chemicals. He was a faculty member at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station of Rutgers University.

The Station, founded to provide education in agricultural science, was established with funds obtained by Rutgers College soon after its 1864 designation as the land grant college of New Jersey. Over succeeding years, as Rutgers evolved, the Agricultural Experiment Station was successively associated with the College of Agriculture, Cook College, and the Rutgers School of Environmental and Biological Sciences.

DANIEL SIEFF RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Rehovot, where the cover originated in 1938, was the location of the Daniel Sieff Research Institute, founded

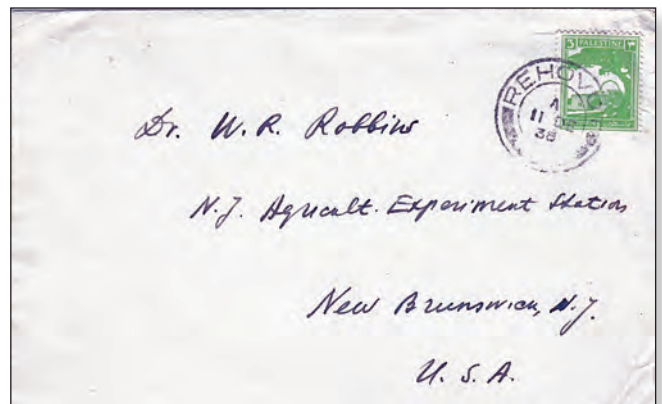


Figure 1

A cover addressed from Rehovot in Palestine to Dr. W. R. Robbins of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station in New Brunswick, NJ.



Figure 2
Dr. Chaim Weizmann

in 1934 at the suggestion of Chaim Weizmann (Figure 2), and funded by Israel and Rebecca Sieff in memory of their son, Daniel. In keeping with the scientific

interests of Dr. Weizmann, the Sieff Institute began with departments of biochemistry and organic chemistry, and focused on the chemistry of citrus fruit, dairy products, silk, tobacco, and medicinals. In 1944, in honor of Weizmann's 70th birthday, the Sieff Institute became the Weizmann Institute. After Israel's birth in 1948, the Weizmann experienced major expansion and growth, becoming a world class scientific institution (Figure 3).

Dr. William Robbins published extensively in the scientific literature. He belonged to the American Society of Plant Physiologists, and served as chairman of its program committee for the society's fifteenth annual meeting, held in Richmond, VA, December 28-30, 1938.

LETTER SPECULATION

Now, we enter the realm of speculation. One possibility is that the sender of the letter was a researcher at the Sieff Institute, who was interested in the program (or even a participant in the program) organized by Robbins for the plant physiology meeting. Less specifically, of course, the sender might have simply been an acquaintance or scientific interlocutor.

Dr. Hans Fisher, Professor Emeritus of Nutritional Sciences at Rutgers, recalls that in the 1930's and 1940's there were two training centers in New Jersey preparing young Jews for agricultural work in Palestine. These students enrolled in courses at the Rutgers College of Agriculture, with many subsequently making Aliyah. It is possible that Dr. Robbins's correspondent was a graduate of the training programs who had met or studied with him at Rutgers.



Figure 4

Postcard from Dr. Jacob Lipman to Dr. William Robbins. The face of the card is a photograph of St. Stephen's Gate in the Old City wall of Jerusalem.



Figure 3

969 Israel stamp and first day cover honoring the 25th anniversary of the Weizmann Institute.

Of peripheral interest is a post card (printed in Cairo) addressed to Dr. W. R. Robbins, at the Agricultural Experiment Station, dated Jerusalem, September 8, 1927; Figure 4. The card is franked with a 7 mils 1927 Citadel/Tower of David Palestine definitive, and was sent as a greeting by Professor Jacob Lipman, an older colleague of William Robbins at Rutgers

NOBEL LAUREATE

Dr. Lipman was also a mentor of Selman Waksman at the Agricultural Experiment Station. Waksman, who later became a professor of biochemistry and microbiology at Rutgers, together with his student Albert Schatz, isolated streptomycin from *Streptomyces griseus*, a soil bacterium. Waksman was awarded the 1952 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of streptomycin, the first antibiotic effective against tuberculosis.



Figure 5
Dr. Selman Waksman,

Selman Waksman was born on July 22, 1888 to Jewish parents in the Russian Empire. He received his basic education in Russia and immigrated to the United States in 1910. Six years later he became a naturalized American citizen (Figure 5).

Of Lipman, who was Dean of the College of Agriculture, and Director of the Experiment Station from 1911 until his death in 1939, Waksman said: "Within a quarter of a century, Lipman raised the status of the experiment station from one of secondary significance in the field

continued on page 43

Truck Fee Revenue Stamp Series

Arthur Harris, Boca Raton, FL

This series of revenue stamps for use in the West Bank area was issued for collecting fees for trucks carrying goods to neighboring Arab countries via the Allenby and Adam bridges. The tax is variable based upon the value of the goods being transported and the stamps were only sold on the bridges.



Figure 1

The original series consists of six values – 1, 2, 5, 10, 50 and 100 NIS. The 2 NIS is bright blue, the 5 NIS is mauve, the 10 NIS is cerise, the 50 NIS is bright green and the 100 NIS is bright red. I believe that this series is from 1986-87 but this is unconfirmed.

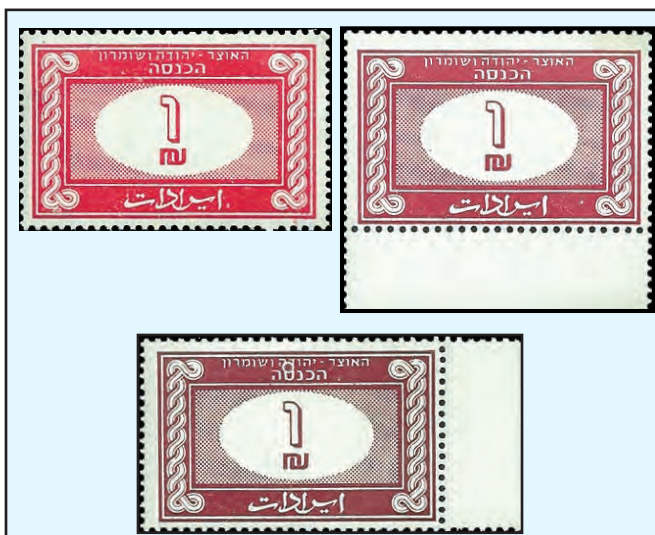
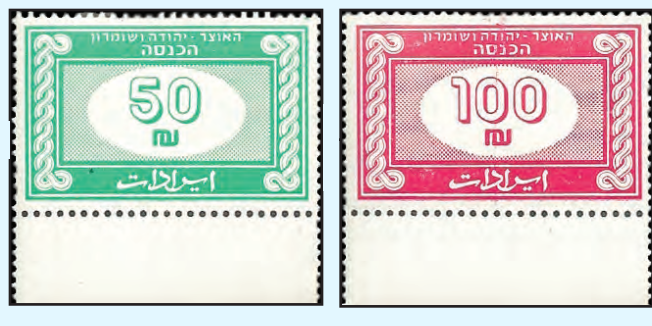


Figure 2

The 1 NIS has 3 different colors: rose red, brown red and deep brown according to the Bale catalog.



Figure 3
Offsets on the 1 NIS.

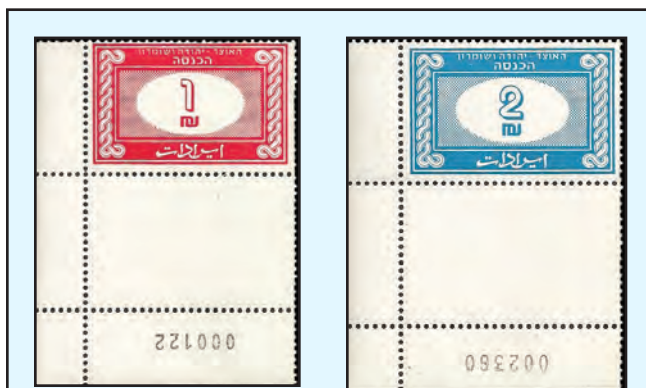


Figure 4

There are two interesting varieties in the 1 and 2 NIS stamps that shows an inverted serial number and an extra blank area, where perhaps another row of stamps should have been printed. I do not know if the other values have this same variety.



Figure 5

I have recently acquired what appear to be new reprints that have not been previously recorded or reported. The 1 NIS is red, the 2 NIS is light green and the 10 NIS is orange

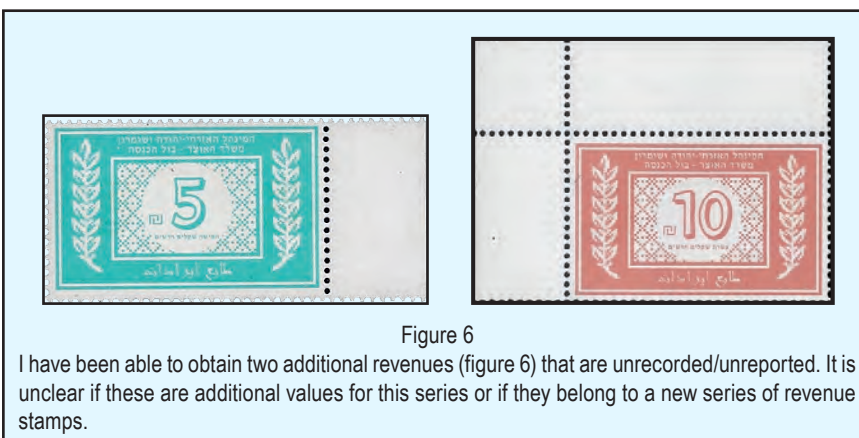


Figure 6

I have been able to obtain two additional revenues (figure 6) that are unrecorded/unreported. It is unclear if these are additional values for this series or if they belong to a new series of revenue stamps.

Documents showing the usage of these stamps are exceedingly difficult to obtain and I have only been able to get several cutouts with hand cancellations. If anyone has additional information, I would love to hear from you. My email address is arthurhythec@gmail.com. I can also be reached through the South Florida SIP chapter. ■

O - O - O - O

continued from page 41

of agriculture to one of the leading scientific and agricultural institutions in the world." On Waksman's tombstone in Woods Hole, Massachusetts is an epitaph in Hebrew and English, adapted from Isaiah

48:8, that could be applied to the research of Drs. Robbins, Lipman, and Waksman, as well as the mission of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station: "The earth will open and bring forth salvation." ■

WWII Airmail to Mauritius

Joseph Bock, Sedona, AZ

Reprinted from **The Prexie Era Newsletter** (No. 65 Spring 2014)



March 1944 usage of the 30-cent Transport stamp to Mauritius. The airmail rate was 60¢ per ½ oz but there was no service to Mauritius until after World War II.

The cover shown is a March 1944 usage of the 30-cent Transport stamp to Mauritius, an island located in the North Indian Ocean east of Madagascar. Mauritius was a British Crown Colony since the early 1800s.

JEWISH REFUGEES

Of special interest here is P.O. Box 1000, an undercover address for a Jewish internment camp. This address was established to receive all camp mail and provided a return address for outgoing mail.

The camp was set up by British authorities for would-be illegal immigrants to Palestine. In September 1940 a contingent of approximately 3,500 Jewish emigrants from Poland, Danzig, and Austria sailed in several ships bound for Haifa, Palestine from Europe, via Crete and Cyprus. Due to crowded refugee camps in Palestine, most were not permitted to disembark.

In December 1940 about 1,500 were sent to Port Louis, Mauritius via the Suez Canal and Red Sea. These disparate refugees were initially confined under harsh

conditions. Eventually, camp conditions improved. The inmates built synagogues and made improvements to housing. Most remained in the camp until late 1945 when they were finally permitted to leave for Palestine.

Of the 1,580 interned Jews on the Mauritius island, 128 Jews died during their internment, 212 joined Allied fighting units and 60 children were born. 1,320 Mauritius refugees arrived in Haifa on August 26, 1945 after the ban on their return to Palestine was rescinded.

COVER'S TRAVELS

The 60-cent airmail rate to Mauritius, established on 1 July 1939 for trans-Atlantic dispatch to Marseille and onward from France to Madagascar, ended with the fall of France in June 1940. From 2 December 1941 the 60-cent rate paid for trans-Atlantic service to Leopoldville and onward by air to South Africa. From there the letter likely reached Mauritius by ship. Unfortunately, there is no backstamp to confirm this.

continued on page 45

Society of Israel Philatelists



From Generation to Generation

Endowment Fund

King David Level

MICHAEL AND FAYE BASS

ED KROFT

Queen Esther

DAVID MATLOW

Moses

DR. URIEL FEDERBUSH
DR. SAMUEL & MARLENE HALPERIN
STAN RAFFEL

DR. ZACHARY SIMMONS
ANONYMOUS

Miriam

RACHEL BRAUN
SAUL FROMMER
GREENWALD - HAUPT
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
TODD HELLER

NINA IZSAK
SHELDON KATZ
SAMUEL KESSLER
DAVID KRESHEK
YECHIEL LEHAVY

FUAD MOSDEN
DORON WAIDE
ANONYMOUS –
IN HONOR OF DON CHAFETZ

continued on page 44

This cover bears evidence of having been censored three times. It was first examined at New York (S411), then by British censors at Mauritius (EEIS). Finally, the letter was passed by one of four censors at the

Mauritius camp (B 4), as evidenced by the distinctive triangle censor marking.

Incoming mail from the U.S. to the Mauritius internment camp is relatively scarce compared to outgoing mail. ■

United Gallil Aid Society

William Velvel Moskoff and Carol Gayle, Lake Forest College, IL

The United Gallil Aid Society¹ was a small American Jewish charity founded in New York City early in the 20th century. American Jews, many of them with ties to Palestine, created an organization that raised money to fund institutions to care for orphans and the needy in Safed and nearby areas in the Galilee region of northern Palestine. The Gallil Aid Society actively raised money in America in the name of its Palestinian enterprises through the 1930s and we found traces of the organization on printed calendars through the 1950s and as late as 1961.

The Society began as a very personal response to suffering in Palestine during World War I. It was created by emigrants from the Galilee region of Palestine, specifically Safed, who by 1914 had become part of the Yiddish-speaking Jewish community of New York City. These same individuals remained at the core of this small charity through the 1920s and 1930s. We were interested in this charity because we wanted to see the implications of a United States-based funding organization having to deal with a charity located thousands of miles away, clearly out of its immediate control.

URI FELSHIN

FOUNDING OF THE GALLIL AID SOCIETY

The moving spirit in the Gallil Aid Society was Rabbi Uri Felshin (1874-1947),² who became the first president of the organization and remained in that post for two decades, leading the organization from its unsteady first years through its development in the 1920s and

into the mid-1930s. Felshin, an active mohel in New York, was involved in Lubavitch organizations and served as the treasurer of Kolel Chabad in New York.³ A generous man who had engaged in charitable works while still in Palestine, Felshin said in his memoirs that

when he arrived in New York he promised himself that once he was able to provide adequately for his family he would devote himself to helping the community.⁴

In his memoirs Felshin describes how he and several other emigrants from Safed first got the idea of creating a charitable society to aid the poor of Galilee. According to him, the idea started to take shape in 1914 in response to a plea for help from a Safed rabbi and other community leaders. The New York group called their new organization the Gallil Aid Society.

During the next several years they drew up a constitution, which was published in Yiddish in 1916. Apparently the organization's birth was not completely accomplished until late 1917.⁶ Felshin's memoirs report that some of the organization's associates in Safed used funds sent by the Gallil Aid Society to found an orphanage while others started a soup kitchen. A decision was made to merge the two institutions sometime in 1919 or 1920, creating the General Orphan Asylum and Public Kitchen of Galilee. The work of the Gallil Aid Society was soon expanded to include support for an immigrant sheltering home in Haifa and later a school in Safed to train boys for farming, although the school soon faded away.⁷

In addition, in 1919, a sister organization, the Federated Sons of Gallilea Palestine in America was incorporated in New York State, with Felshin as president. It had its headquarters in his Harlem liquor store and was likely a fund raising instrument.⁸

1920s EXPANSION

During the 1920s and 1930s the organization, now regularly referred to as the United Gallil Aid Society (UGAS), grew and become a more established institution in New York City. At a general meeting in November 1926, UGAS launched a campaign to raise \$300,000 to support its institutions in Palestine. The ambitious fund raising goal that UGAS set and the membership of the Building Fund Committee suggest the organization was well connected in New York political, labor, and banking circles. The Building Fund Committee was chaired by Congressman Sol Bloom of Manhattan, while Joseph Barondress, head of the cloak makers' union, and Max Rosenblatt, a real estate mogul, served as Vice-Chairmen.⁹

By 1929 UGAS was headquartered at 202 East Broadway

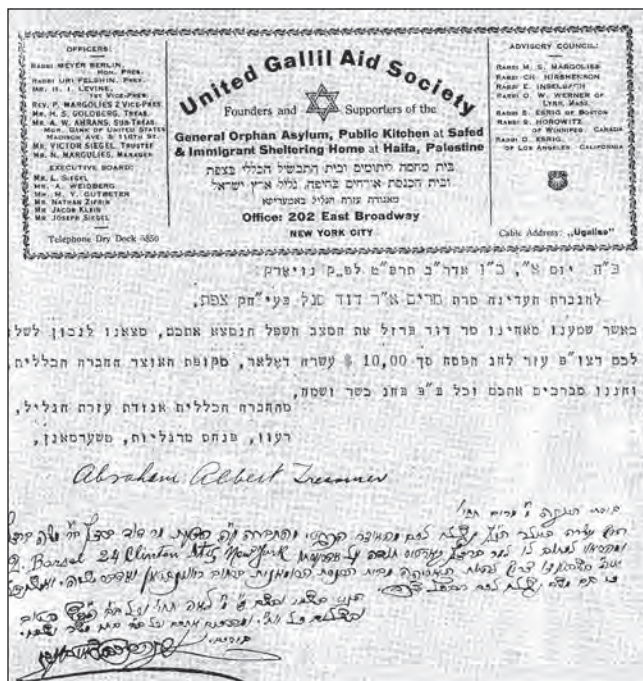


Figure 1

and its letterhead called itself the "United Gallil Aid Society, Founders and Supporters of the General Orphan Asylum, Public Kitchen at Safed & Immigrant Sheltering Home at Haifa, Palestine." Felshin was listed as president, aided by half a dozen officers and a six-man "Executive Board." Although UGAS was clearly centered in New York, the letterhead showed an Advisory Council including rabbis from Boston and Lynn, Massachusetts, Los Angeles, and even Winnipeg, Canada. In addition to supporting its charitable institutions in Palestine, UGAS seems to have provided individual charitable grants. For example, in April 1929 it sent a woman in Safed \$10 for food for Passover, a relatively generous sum at the time. (Figure 1)

PALESTINE 1929 RIOTS NEW FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

In late summer of 1929 Palestine was wracked by riots between Arabs and Jews, centering on access to Jerusalem's Western Wall, sacred to both communities. The greatest loss of life was in Hebron, but Safed also saw explosive violence.

The UGAS orphanage was destroyed during the violence in Safed and the needs of the orphanage and later the soup kitchen were highlighted in the American organization's efforts to raise funds. After the Palestine

violence ended, UGAS launched a new campaign to raise money to strengthen its mission in Palestine and reached out to American Jews beyond New York City. At the center of the new UGAS fund-raising campaign was Dr. Charles Bloom, a rabbi from Boston who was designated the representative of UGAS and, starting in 1930, seems to have gone on an annual lecture tour. For the next six or seven years he spoke in Pittsburgh and other Pennsylvania cities every winter, normally in December or January; his upcoming speeches were announced in the English-language Jewish Criterion of Pittsburgh, which stressed his connection to UGAS.

In addition to the annual lecture tours of Rabbi Bloom, UGAS tried a variety of other methods to raise funds to support its work in Palestine. In the 1930s UGAS representatives made door-to-door solicitations of funds in the Pittsburgh area.

In an effort to raise public awareness, it issued a cinderella stamp in 1933 (Figure 2). The appeal on the UGAS cinderella stamp, conveyed through a picture and an English language text, was designed to evoke a sympathetic response.



Figure 2

In the center of the stamp are two figures, an impoverished woman and a girl, both shoeless and wearing tattered dresses but, even so, modestly dressed as is indicated by the fact that both wear head scarves. The words that surround them are high-minded: "Philanthropy is the Golden Road to Life, Honor and Riches 1933-1934." At the bottom of the stamp is the text: "Founders and Supporters of the General Orphan Asylum, Public Kitchen & Immigrant Sheltering Home PALESTINE." We do not know how the stamp was sold, for how much, or whether it was effective in raising funds, although the fact that the stamp's message was in English rather than Yiddish suggests an effort to reach a wide audience or that its audience was no longer speaking Yiddish.

We know that UGAS continued to raise funds in the



Figure3

later 1930s because there is a receipt in the Yeshiva University archives (Figure 3) recording a donation of \$50, given on May 19, 1938 to the New York Committee of UGAS by Rabbi A. R. Shaney, of 40 West 21st Street in New York City. Perhaps the rabbi was acting for his congregation, for a \$50 contribution in 1938 was generous, the equivalent of an \$800 contribution in 2013 dollars. The printed receipt indicates that UGAS served "...poor widows, orphans, helpless aged, and destitute" in the city of Safed.

WANING OF UGAS

But after World War II, UGAS was in decline. The orphanage in Safed was phased out and the charity focused on its soup kitchen, which was a small operation. According to an American survey of traditional charitable institutions in Palestine, in 1943 the Soup Kitchen of the United Gallil Aid Society in Safed assisted 450 persons with meals and spent \$8,936, including its capital investments.¹⁰

An organization that in 1926 had displayed ambitions to raise more than a quarter of a million dollars by 1943 was spending only a relative pittance on its operations and it seems clear UGAS was once again what it had been in 1917: a small American charity supporting a small institution in Palestine. UGAS's activity waned even further with the end of the war and the establishment of the state of Israel. But, remarkably, it continued to have a shadow existence until 1961.

In 1944 its name was imprinted on some copies of a Haggadah, which bore the note "with compliments of the United Galil Aid Society."¹¹ Thereafter, the only evidence that UGAS existed can be found in a series of calendars designed for an American audience,

printed in the 1950s and as late as 1961. The calendars explained all the Jewish holidays in English and carried appeals for monetary contributions in both English and Yiddish. The back cover of the calendar read: "A happy new year from the United Gallil Aid Society, founders and sole supporters of the General Free Public Kitchen, Safed, Gallil, Israel."¹²

Thus, in the postwar years the UGAS organization continued to exist and seems to have occasionally tried to raise a little money. But this seems like a pretty negligible existence. It is quite possible that the inability to oversee its programs was the cause for the apparent marginal impact that UGAS had in Palestine.

References:

1. There are several variants of the name of the organization. After starting out as the Gallil Aid Society, by the mid-1920s it called itself the United Gallil Aid Society. The word "Gallil" is sometimes written "Galil," probably as a result of variable transliteration.
2. His memoirs were published in Israel almost thirty years after his death. Felshin's public life was intimately tied to his work for the Society and his tombstone pointedly says that he was "President of the Gallil Aid Society." Felshin, Uri, **Sefer Zikarov le-rav Uri Felshin**, Rehovot: Science City Publishers, 1974.
3. Kevarim of Tzadikim in North America, Kervarim.com/rabbi-uri-felshin.

4. Felshin, p. 59.
5. Gallil Aid Society, **Constitutshon der agudas ezres ha-Galil me-E.Y.**, [New York], n.p., 1916.
6. Felshin, p. 250, and **Souvenir Journal, Twentieth Anniversary Banquet of the United Gallil Aid Society, Inc., 1917-1937**, (NY, 1937).
7. Felshin, p. 60.
8. YIVO Archives, RG 710; <http://www.jgsnydb.org/landsmanshaft/ajhs.htm>.
9. November 24, 1926, **JTA Jewish News Archive**, <http://archive.jta.org/article/1926/11/24/2764176/Louis-strauss-noted-belgian-statesman-dies>.
10. Mark Wischnitzer, **Traditional Institutions in Palestine: A Special Study of 121 Educational and Welfare Institutions**, New York, Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, April 1946, pp. 55-56.
11. Regelson, Abraham and Siegfried Forst, **Haggadah shel Pesah (The Haggadah of Passover)**, New York, Shulsinger Bros., 1944.
12. **United Gallil Aid Society, Hebrew Calendar for the year 1961-5722-1962**, New York, Ziegelheim, 32 pp.

Acknowledgments – We would like to thank Cantor Michael Davis for translation assistance, Gunnar Berg of the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research and the Yeshiva University library for providing critical documents.

We also thank the librarians of Lake Forest College and the Spertus Institute for their help. Laurel Hensing, Uri Felshin's granddaughter kindly provided a copy of his memoirs. ■

0 - 0 - 0 - 0

Correction

In the Spring 2014 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**, the article entitled *Lovell Friedman* (page 52) had an error. The first paragraph of another article had mistakenly been insert into the article's opening paragraph. The correct first paragraph should have read as follows:

The unspeakable crime of rape has been epidemic in South Africa for many years, and no woman has been exempt from being a potential target. The crime crosses class, race, and gender, and the attacks take place in schools, homes, and streets. In reaction, "India Baird, a lawyer based in Cape Town who focuses on social justice issues," devised a campaign some years ago aimed at creating environments where "South African girls and women can feel safe." Her campaign was entitled "Rock Girl" and was expressed in effort "to plant benches in Cape Town that offer real and symbolic respite from anxiety." The campaign's name was inspired by an African National Congress Women's League slogan from the apartheid years, "If you strike a woman, you strike a rock." (See www.rockgirlsa.org).

Birds on Israeli Stamps

Marty Zelenietz, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia



Israel issued a prestige stamp booklet in 2012 to promote the upcoming multinational stamp exhibition “Tel Aviv 2013.” The booklet (Figure 1) featured birds of Israel and contained reprints of two earlier issues: the 2002 set of three “Birds of the Jordan Valley,” and the 2010 set of three “Birds of Israel.”



Figure 1
2012 Birds of Israel Prestige Booklet

These reprints can be distinguished from the originals by their perforations (the 2002 originals are perforated 14.5 x 14, the reprints 14.2 x 13.5; the 2010 originals measure 13.75 x 14, while their 2012 counterparts are 13.4 x 14), and by the fact that both original sets were printed se-tenant: only with the reprints can you have a side-by-side pair of the same stamp. The booklet sold for NIS 49.

SCOPE OF SERIES

The booklet made me wonder: what was the extent of Israeli bird stamp issues? Israel is on the major north-south migration route for birds between Africa and Eurasia, thus hundreds of different species pass through or breed in the country. “Birds on Stamps” is reputedly the most popular topical or thematic pursuit (I myself collect stamps of birds that I’ve seen in the wild). Combine these two factors, and one would expect to find a wide variety of Israeli bird stamp issues.

In the following issues, I present an overview of Israel’s bird stamps. I considered using a “species” approach to

review the stamps, but settled for the more traditional chronological framework utilized by collectors. What to include or exclude as a “bird stamp” was more problematic: different collectors apply different parameters to the topic. This article reflects my personal preferences. I include all stamps where

- birds are the major subject of the issue
- birds are an element of the design where another subject is the focus
- birds are shown on tabs or selvage, but not the stamp itself
- birds are (potentially) identifiable

I exclude stylized birds (such as Scott #52 and 553), domesticated fowl (e.g., Scott # C41), and the ubiquitous white dove, or dove of peace (Scott #68, 883, etc.). Others may prefer to include such issues: I don’t. I identify each bird with the Linnaean binomial genus/species name in use today. This may differ from the name given on the stamp itself, as taxonomy is an ever-changing field. I do not note where I have “updated” taxonomy, but I do point out where birds were totally misidentified on stamps.

FIRST BIRD ISSUE

Given their association with flight, birds are often a fixture of airmail stamps around the world. Israel’s first bird stamp issue was the first airmail set (Scott # C1-C6) of 1950. The set’s theme is birds and archaeology: the monochrome stamps show birds used as decorations in ancient architecture.

Of the six values (5 p, 30 p, 40 p, 50 p, 100 p, 250 p), only one is readily identifiable in terms of species shown: an Ostrich (*Struthio camelus*) from the Bet Alpha synagogue mosaic floor is the subject of the 40 prutah stamp (Figure 2). Three stamps (5 p, 50 p, 250 p) show “doves” (an ambiguous term that can refer to a number of distinct species), and two (30 p, 100 p) show “eagles.”

The Hebrew word “nesher” is used on the 30 p and 100 p tabs to identify the birds. In colloquial Hebrew, “nesher” is indeed eagle (or perhaps any large raptor). In Biblical Hebrew, “nesher” refers to “vulture.” In contemporary Hebrew ornithology, “nesher” has a specific meaning: the vulture known as the Eurasian Griffon, *Gyps fulvus*. The birds of prey shown on the 30 p and 100 p stamps are not vultures: what they are remains to be determined, if that is possible.



Figure 2
Ostrich

1963 AIRMAILS

Thirteen years would pass before the next Israel bird stamps appeared. 1963 saw the release of 10 multi-colored airmail stamps (Scott # C28-C37). The birds are presented in a somewhat stylized manner, but all are readily identifiable (Figure 3). The set consists of

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • 5 p Sinai (or Pale) Rosefinch | <i>Carpodacus synoicus</i> |
| • 20 p White-throated Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i> |
| • 28 p Mourning Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe lugens</i> |
| • 30 p European Bee-eater | <i>Merops apiaster</i> |
| • 40 p Graceful Prinia | <i>Prinia gracilis</i> |
| • 45 p Palestine Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris osea</i> |
| • 55 p Macqueen’s Bustard | <i>Chlamydotis macqueenii</i> |
| • 70 p European Scops Owl | <i>Otus scops</i> |
| • IL 1 Purple Heron | <i>Ardea Purpurea</i> |
| • IL 3 White-tailed Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i> |



Figure 3
Sinai Rosefinch

- The 30 p stamp is misidentified as a Blue-cheeked Bee-eater (*Merops superciliosus* [now *M. persicus*]). Mislabelling of birds depicted on stamps is a common pitfall that claims many a stamp designer. Providing birds with alternative names is also a political issue. For many years, Israelis referred to *Cinnyris osea* as the Orange-tufted, rather than Palestine, Sunbird. The Palestinian Authority now calls the bird *Palestinian* Sunbird on its stamps. Subtle, but meaningful, differences.

1975 COMMEMORATIVES

Another dozen years passed before the next Israeli bird stamps appeared. A set of three “Protected Wild Birds” stamps (Scott # 377-379, Figure 4) was released on 14 October 1975. The stamps, depicting birds in flight, are Israel’s first “commemorative” bird issue: previous issues had been airmail definitives.

- IL 1.10 Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*
- IL 1.70 Spur-winged Plover *Vanellus spinosus*
- IL 2 Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Figure 4
Black-winged Stilt



1985 COMMEMORATIVES

Yet another long hiatus, this time a decade, awaited devotees of Israel bird stamps. 1985 brought the release of a four stamp set, “Biblical Birds: Eagles and Vultures.” The stamps came in two formats: regular sheet stamps (Scott # 896-9) measuring 51 mm x 34 mm (Figure 5), and smaller stamps (40 mm x 25.5 mm) in a se-tenant block of four souvenir sheet (Scott 899A). The souvenir sheet was issued in conjunction with **Israphil 85**, and sold for a 50% premium above the face value of the stamps.

- IS 100 Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus*
- IS 200 Bonelli’s Eagle *Aquila fasciata*
- IS 300 Sooty Falcon *Falco concolor*
- IS 500 Eurasian Griffon *Gyps Fulvus*



Figure 5
Bonelli's Eagle

1987 COMMEMORATIVES

The first Biblical Birds set opened the floodgates for Israeli bird stamps: issues for this popular topic would now come with much greater frequency. A second “Biblical Birds” set appeared in 1987, this time featuring owls (Figure 6). As with the Eagles and Vultures set, the Owls consisted of four sheet stamps (Scott # 956-9) and a smaller se-tenant block of four in a souvenir sheet (Scott # 960). The souvenir sheet (issued for **Haifa 87**) sold for NIS 3, a 50% premium above the stamps face value.

- NIS .30 Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo*
- NIS .40 Pallid Scops-Owl *Otus brucei*
- NIS .50 Barn Owl *Tyto alba*
- NIS .80 Hume's Owl *Strix butleri*



Figure 6
Eagle Owl

1989 COMMEMORATIVES

The next commemorative bird issue was the 1989 “Ducks in the Holyland” set (Figure 7). Four 80 agorot sheet stamps were issued in a se-tenant strip (Scott # 1025), and smaller versions appeared in an offset block of four in a NIS 5 souvenir sheet (Scott # 1025E) issued for **World Stamp Expo 89**. I also have the set used on very attractive maximum cards.

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------------------------|
| • NIS .80 | Garganey | <i>Anas querquedula</i> |
| • NIS .80 | Mallard | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> |
| • NIS .80 | Shelduck | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> |
| • NIS .80 | Eurasian Teal | <i>Anas crecca</i> |



Figure 7
Eurasian Teal

1990 COMMEMORATIVES

The 1990 “Nature Reserves” (Scott # 1052-54) issue featured birds on the tabs (Figure 8) of all three stamps, so I include them in my collection and list. Tabbed singles overprinted “SPECIMEN” in red are available, as are maximum cards with the stamps partially overprinted.

- | | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • NIS .60 | Gamla- Eurasian Griffon | <i>Gyps fulvus</i> |
| • NIS .80 | Huleh- Great White Pelican | <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> |
| • NIS .90 | Mt. Meron- Winter Wren | <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> |



Figure 8
Huleh-Great White Pelican

1992 DEFINITIVES

The Songbirds definitive series (Figure 9) debuted in 1992. The ten small format stamps (Scott # 1133-5, 1137, 1141-4, 1146) were released in five groups between 1992 and 1995. Tagging variations abound on the different printings.

- | | | |
|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • NIS .10 | Wallcreeper | <i>Tichodroma muraria</i> |
| • NIS .20 | Tristram's Starling | <i>Onycognathus tristramii</i> |
| • NIS .30 | White Wagtail | <i>Motacilla alba</i> |
| • NIS .50 | Palestine Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris osea</i> |
| • NIS .85 | Sinai Rosefinch | <i>Carpodacus synoicus</i> |
| • NIS .90 | Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> |
| • NIS 1 | Trumpeter Finch | <i>Bucanetes githagineus</i> |
| • NIS 1.30 | Graceful Prinia | <i>Prinia gracilis</i> |
| • NIS 1.50 | Black-eared Wheatear | <i>Oenanthe hispanica</i> |
| • NIS 1.70 | White-spectacled Bulbul | <i>Pycnonotus xanthopygos</i> |
- The Bulbul shown on the high value stamp of the set, NIS 1.70, is totally misidentified. The Common Bulbul, *Pycnonotus barbatus*, is not found in Israel. The stamp depicts a White-spectacled, or Yellow-vented, Bulbul, *P. xanthopygos*. ■



Figure 9
White-spectacled Bulbul

to be continued

Taxi Hand Signs

Les Glassman, Bayit Vegan, Israel



Figure 1
Taxi hand signs signed by the artist, dated 29. 01. 2010.

The design of Taxi Hand Signs for sighted and blind people on the South African Commemorative Stamp were selected by StampNews.Com as the 5th most important issue for 2010. According to Thea Clemons, graphic designer for the South African Post Office's Philatelic Services "these stamps were chosen because the hand signs are so unique to South Africa."

I attended the **Joburg 2010 International Stamp Exhibition** as the Israeli Commissioner, where I first noticed the set of 10 'Taxi Hand Signs' stamps designed by Susan Woolf, which were issued on January 29, 2010.

CURIOSITY LEADS TO STAMPS

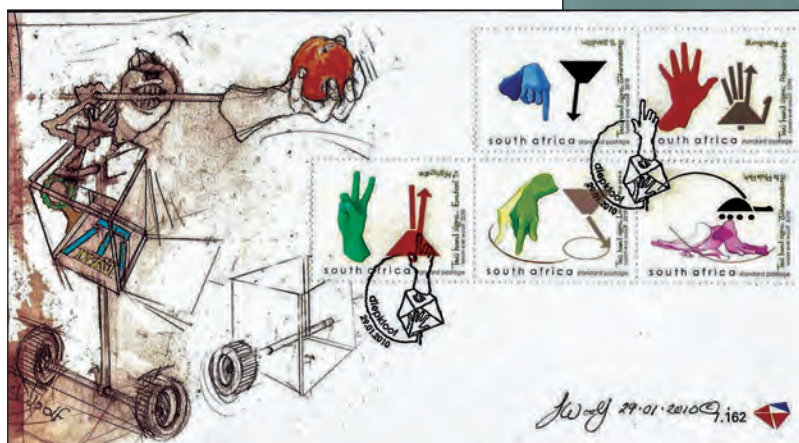
This year I had the privilege of meeting Susan Woolf at her art studio. She explained that when she used to drive around Johannesburg, she was intrigued and fascinated to see people using a variety of hand signals to hail taxis. She wondered where this unusual sign language originated from and how commuters and taxi drivers communicated their destinations. When she started her research she found that not everyone knew the range of hand signals that were necessary to get around the city. One often had to ask a fellow commuter which signs to use.

The South African private taxi industry, an informal transport system, provides over 65 per cent of the population with transport on a daily basis. As there are no signed taxi stops on the roads, millions of commuters use silent taxi specific gestural language to hail a minibux taxi. The use of the hand signs has been duped South Africa's 12th 'official language.' It is estimated that eleven million people use these signs daily. This topic up until now has remained undocumented.

DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Susan has completed a doctoral research Doctor of Philosophy titled **South African Taxi Hand Signs** at the University of The Witwatersrand, that is cross disciplinary in art and anthropology. In 2009 Woolf published a book that shows her design of 14 tactile shapes that combine to form a shape language on taxi hand signs for blind people. The South African postal services in the **Setempe Stamp News** journal Vol. 15 no 1 explains the ten brightly colored stamps that depict a set of ten symbols developed for blind and partially sighted people.

The stamps are also educational – anyone looking at a particular stamp can learn the signal and its corresponding route. In this way they are particularly



Figures 2 - 3
First day covers signed by the artist.

useful for locals who are unfamiliar with the System, as well as for non – locals. For the taxi commuting public, Woolf has already 50 unique paintings of the signs which are also documented in dictionary form. The signs also have narratives and events associated with them and are interesting because they reflect the emergence of the minibus taxis in history as well as being site specific.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to the Internationally renowned Art Curator Natalie Knight for introducing me to Susan Woolf.



Susan Woolf

MEET THE DESIGNER

My two sisters and I were born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa. My husband Ronald Woolf and I have three children and three grandchildren. My father Hans Heinz Lesser came to South Africa from Berlin in 1933 at the age of thirteen and married Lily Rabie in Cape Town in 1944.

My father's family brought with them a comprehensive collection of documents, collectables and literature, concerning our ancestors, which date back to 1764. His father and uncle were manufacturers of ladies' clothing in Berlin. Our great grandfather Herrmann Eisner's contribution to the gramophone record industry in Germany in the early 20th century is well

documented. He was the founder of the Homophone Record Company in 1904. Whilst the 78-speed record had been invented in America, Eisner at the same time invented his own formula for the manufacture of the 78-speed record in Germany. We have in our possession several records with messages by family members recorded on them, dating back to 1911, including my father's Bar Mitzvah speech in 1932, just before the family immigrated to South Africa. During the First World War Herrmann Eisner invented a voice box for soldiers who had been injured in the throat.

My mother Lily's parents, Max and Margaret, (nee Hotz) Rabie came from Lithuania as youngsters to escape the pogroms. Max arrived in South Africa with his father from Birzy, a small town near Ponevez. He met and married my grandmother in 1903 in Paarl, later leaving to live in Namaqualand and later moving to Cape Town. In 1918, Max bought a church for £400 which was converted into a synagogue and communal center. He was one of the founders of the Garden Shul built subsequently in Cape Town. As a member of the Cape Town Hebrew Congregation, he served as President there and at the Chabad Synagogue (Chadisha Hamedrash) in Sea Point. He was one of the founders of Herzlia School. Together with his sons, the business of M. Rabie & Sons, which manufactured ladies' outerwear, was established in 1930. Later called Fair Weather it was well known throughout South Africa. The gates of the Garden Shul were dedicated to him and can still be seen today. Alongside the Shul stands the 1999 Cape Town Holocaust Center. ■

French Post Office Gems

Syd Samuels, Monroe Township, NJ

Editor's note: The following text and philatelic data is found in the Handbook of Holy Land Philately Volume 1, by Anton Steichele and revised by Norman J. Collins and Leopold Dickstein, M.D., p. 133, 1990.

French postal services were chiefly utilized for correspondence to western countries such as Malta, France, the Italian west coast, the Netherlands, England, and South Africa. Forwarding agents in Palestine worked closely in cooperation with the French post in Alexandria, Beirut, and Marseilles

JAFFA

After the establishment of a regular French shipping line between the Mediterranean ports of Marseilles and Alexandria, J. Philibert, a merchant and agent of the French vice-consulate in Jaffa, arranged for foreign correspondence to be conveyed from Beirut to Alexandria, Egypt. A fee of 1 decime was charged for this service of conveyance



Figure 1



Figure 2

In 1845, a French post office was also opened in Beirut. This port city became part of the shipping line "Compagnie des Messageries Imperiales," and later "Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes." Finally, in the summer of 1852, a French post office was established in Jaffa. The city became a regular port of call for the ships, which commuted between Marseilles and the Near East. The manager of this postal agency was at first J. Philibert, and the post office was located in the north of the quayside.



Figure 3

JERUSALEM

Even before the opening of a French postal service in Jaffa in 1852, mailings from Jerusalem are known, which, at first, were handled by forwarding agents, later through intermediary consular clerks, and conveyed via Jaffa either to Alexandria or to Beirut for onward transmission. From 1858, the postal manager in Jaffa, David Damiani, and later his successor Martin Damiani, organized a weekly postal link between Jerusalem and Jaffa. Under the administration of the Damiani family, receiving agents were operating the postal agency in Jerusalem until 1879



Figure 4



Figure 5

They collected the postage fees and an extra charge of 1 Piastre, later 1/2 Piastre, to cover transportation expenses to Jaffa and to pay the cost of personnel. Such mailings were usually marked with the so-called Jerusalem Cross cachet. The emblem goes back to the Christian Kingdom, 1099 to 1187, founded by the crusaders in Palestine. Additionally, in the left upper corner of mail, the amount of collected postage fee was noted in ink, and in Jaffa the corresponding postage stamps were affixed. The cancellation of the stamps was always done in Jaffa. Occasionally, the Jerusalem Cross cachet was also applied on the back of mail arriving in Jerusalem. Damiani's postal receiving agency was closed in the summer of 1880, probably because of the strong competition from the Austrian post office which ran a comprehensive service. ■



Figure 6

JAFFA PEARL RING CANCELLATION



Figure 7

1864 Interpostal cover
Jaffa to Beirut

Postal rate 50 centimes for 7½ grams

Postal Markings

Jaffa Syrie pearl cancellation

Figure 2

Dot rhomboid cancellation 5089

Figure 3

P.P. (Paid to Destination)

Figure 5

FRANCE VIA EGYPT



Figure 8

1867
Jerusalem-Jaffa-Alexandria-Lyon

Postal rate 50 centimes for 7½grams

Postal Markings

very faint Jerusalem Cross

Figure 1

Dot rhomboid cancellation 5089

Figure 3

PD (Paid to Destination)

Figure 4

FRANCE VIA EGYPT

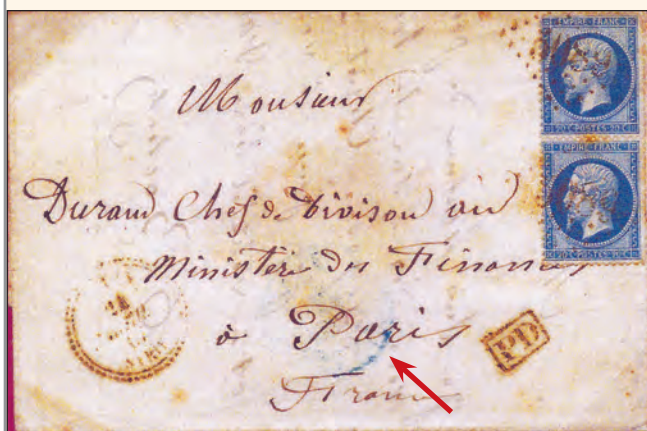


Figure 9

1867
Jerusalem-Jaffa-Alexandria-Paris

Postal rate 40 centimes for 10 grams

Postal Markings

very faint Jerusalem Cross (red arrow)

Figure 1

Dot rhomboid cancellation 5089

Figure 3

PD (Paid to Destination)

Figure 4

STAMPLESS COVER



Figure 10

May 29, 1874
Jerusalem - Jaffa - Cannes, France
Redirected to Paris.

Postage rate 20 centimes
Conveyance service 1 decime

Postal Markings

Jerusalem Cross

Figure 1

Jaffa Syrie pearl cancellation

Figure 2

Paqueboat cachet (red arrow)

Figure 6



Hi everyone. I am writing this column to you in late July and hope all of you have been enjoying a good summer .

EXHIBITING AND NOJEX

Perhaps some of you have found some time to enjoy your philatelic pursuits. Some people I have spoken to have been working on various exhibits. Our former President, Bob Pildes, is showing 2 of his collections, Doar Ivri and 1948 PEDI Emergency Covers in Hartford at the APS Show in late August. Mike Bass was working on his exhibit to show in Korea in August. Please keep me posted on what you are doing to showcase the hobby and your interests in Holy Land Philately. Do not forget that NOJEX will be the show in New Jersey in May 2015 where we hope to see as many Holy Land exhibits as possible on display. Lots of time still to prepare!

SIP EXECUTIVE MEETING

As for the SIP, there are a number of initiatives ongoing during the summer. The SIP Executive convened by conference call for a 2 hour meeting in late June. We discussed various topics including planning initiatives for the future. These discussions revolved around future changes to **The Israel Philatelist (IP)**, completion of the IP digitization project, the publication of new books by the Educational Fund and upcoming changes to the administration of the Society.

VICKI GALECKI

SIP ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

For many years, Vicki Galecki has served as the administrative "life-force" of the Society. We are all so lucky to have you on our team! Vicki answers your emails, takes your calls, ships you books, encourages your projects and does everything and more for our Society. Vicki even has a very demanding day job working for Mike Bass, our former President. Vicki loves dealing with all members and their issues.

However, Vicki does not have the time to do it all and the Society does not pay her to do her work for the Society. She cannot keep up doing everything.

Therefore, the Society Executive has approached the American Philatelic Society to gauge interest in moving our headquarters to its facilities and in hiring some at the APS to do many of the administrative tasks which Vicki now does. Discussions are ongoing and we will see where they lead. In the meantime, please appreciate what Vicki does so well for us and please understand that she does her best to respond to your queries. If she does not respond immediately please understand and thank her for all she does.

DON CHAFETZ

CONGRATULATIONS!

We celebrate Don's 10th anniversary as editor of **The Israel Philatelist**. What a fantastic achievement! What a job he has done! Look at the enhanced quality of the IP and the content! This award winning publication needs your articles and your support in many ways. Contact Don for more info as to how you can help. There is also a fund raising initiative described within the IP to commemorate Don's 10th year of volunteer service as the Editor.

SOCIAL MEDIA, INTERNET, WEBMASTER VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

From time to time, some of you write to me complaining about the absence of slide shows, on line meetings, webinars and other 21st century innovations. WE NEED MORE OF YOU TO HELP US or to find us that help. We are not the APS but we would like to do more for our members. So please volunteer!! A number of us in the Society have demanding day jobs and try our best to work for the Society. Some of you may be retired and may be able to spare us some of your time to make the Society stronger ! I hope to hear from some of you.

I wish all of you a Healthy and Happy New Year and an easy fast!

Best Regards
Ed Kroft ■

STAMP EXHIBITS

Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PSNE)

April 4 - 6, 2014

Dr. Robert Pildes **Gold**

Artists's Drawings, Essays and Proofs of the 1948
Doar Ivri issues (10 frames)

Dr. Robert Pildes **Vermeil**

Special Award Auxilliary Markings Club
Palestine Emergency Deliveries (1 frame)

BERKSHIRE HILLS

Rabbi Harold I. Salzmann

Program: Interim Period
(Minhelet Ha'am) - Part II

Presented by Salzmamm-Helitzer
production

Chapter meets the 2nd Sunday
of the month at Markovits
Stamp House 1 Shamrock St.,
Stockbridge, MA, at 10:30 am. ■

CENTRAL, NJ

Gary Theodore

Program: The Festival Stamps
of 1948:

Chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday of
each month (except July and August)
at 8 p.m. at the Congregation B'nai
Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane,

North Brunswick, NJ. ■

CHICAGOLAND IPPSA

Program: Forerunner Foreign
Destinations

Presented by Bob Pildes

Chapter meets the 4th Thursday
of the month (except November
to March) at Lincolnwood Public
Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave.,
Lincolnwood, IL at 7:15 p.m.
For more information write Sam
Fireman, 7250 N. Western Ave. Apt
#297, Chicago, IL 60645-1843. ■

CLEVELAND

Ben Wallace

The chapter meets the first
Wednesday evening of each month
(except July and August) at Temple

Tifereth Israel, Beachwood Branch
at 7:30 p.m. ■

MARVIN SIEGEL CHAPTER

Alan Doberman

Meets alternatively at the Young
Israel Ohav Zedek Synagogue, 6015
Riverdale Ave, Bronx, NY and
The New City Jewish Center, Old
School House Road, New City, NY.
Discussions, philatelic program each
month. Everyone welcome. ■

SAN FRANCISCO

BAY AREA

Ed Rosen

SOUTH FLORIDA

Howard Rotterdam

Program: Bring a recent acquisition
Chapter meets the second Monday
of each month at 1 p.m. at Temple
Sinai, 2475 West Atlantic Avenue,
Delray Beach, Florida 33445. ■

TORONTO/CAFIP

Sheldon Sonenberg

VANCOUVER, BC CANADA

Ed Kroft

Exciting collecting for collectors
of Israel, Holy Land, Judaica from
beginners to advanced. ■

AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

CAPETOWN

A. Katzev

JOHANNESBURG

Brian Gruz

Programs:

Dec 1 - Latkes and Schnapps

Chapter meets 1st Monday of every
month in the Board Room of the
Waverly Synagogue at 7:30 p.m.

ST. LOUIS

Alan Barasch

CHERRY HILL

Ronald Zukin

AFFILIATED STUDY GROUP

J.N.F. STUDY CIRCLE

Howard S. Chapman

PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

Irwin Math

HOLOCAUST GROUP

Dr. Justin R. Gordon

JUSTYOD@aol.com

C.A.S.P.I.P. STUDY CIRCLE

A. Katz

THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST
JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. WINTER 2014 DEVOTED TO THE PHILATELY OF THE HOLY LAND VOL LXV NO 1



SUBSCRIBE TODAY...

THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

- COVERS ALL AREAS OF THE HOLY LAND
- JUDAICA COLLECTING
- DIGITAL JOURNAL ONLY

One Year
240 pages
4 issues

\$30⁰⁰

www.israelstamps.com

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.
Publication Listing May 2014



Name
Address
City, St.
Zip, Country
Email

Contact: David Kaplin **Email:** SIPEdFund@gmail.com
1 Strawberry Hill Ave., 11D, Stamford, CT 06902
216 406-5522

Make checks payable to SIP Educational Fund

* Life Member Discount only applied to price				S & H		TOTAL
ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	PRICE*	US	INTNL.	w S&H	
400	BOOKS					\$
421	Post-War Censorship - Gladstone	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$19.50		
422	Judaica in Philately - Borodinsky	\$22.00	\$3.50	\$28.00		
423	The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine, Vol. II - Steichele	\$25.00	\$3.50	\$28.00		
424	Minhelet Ha'am - Fluri	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$28.00		
425	The Stamps of Palestine - Hoexter	\$8.00	\$3.50	\$23.50		
427	Palestine Postal Forms Civilian Administration 1921-1948 - Groten	\$17.00	\$3.50	\$14.50		
428	Taxi Mail of the Holy Land c. 1930-1975 - Groten	\$26.00	\$3.50	\$14.50		
430	The Flying Camel: Levant Fairs of Mandate Palestine - Groten - Full Color	\$47.00	\$3.50	\$17.00		
431	Official Postcards and Special Cancellations of the Zionist Congresses - Riemer	\$13.00	\$3.50	\$11.00		
432	Postcards from the Holy Land - A Pictorial History of the Ottoman Era 1880-1918 - Salo Aizenberg - Full Color NO DISCOUNTS	\$29 US \$50 Can/Mex \$60 Intl				
433	Hebrew Letter Censor Marks - Simmons & Pearl	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$14.50		
434	Interim Period Postage Stamps of Israel: March-July 1948 - Forsher	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$21.50		
435	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol II - Part 1 - Shimony, Rimon, Karpovsky NO DISCOUNTS	\$55.00				
436	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol II - Part 2 - Shimon, Rimon, Karpovsky NO DISCOUNTS	\$50.00				
437	Israel Definitive Stamps-Specialized Catalogue, 1982 & 1983 - Wallach NO DISCOUNTS	\$10.00	\$3.50	\$19.50		
438	Postal History of the West Bank of Jordan 1948-1967 Volume I - Wallach NO DISCOUNTS	\$10.00	\$3.50	\$17.00		
439	Haifa and Jaffa Postmarks of the Palestine Mandate - Goldstein & Dickstein	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$17.00		
440	The Doar Ivri Issue -Printings & Settings Handbook - Shabtai NO DISCOUNTS	\$150.00				
441	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol III: Israel Foreign Postal Links - Shamir & Siegel NO DISCOUNTS	\$22.00				
442	The Philatelic Pesach Hagada in Hebrew - Rimer Published by Israel Philatelic Federation NO DISCOUNTS	\$11.00				
443	Return to the Land - the Challenge of Rebuilding Israel - Exploring History through Stamps - Marty Zelenietz - single copy prices - special qty prices available. NO DISCOUNTS	\$9.50 US \$11 Can/Mex \$16 Intl				
444	Harris' Catalogue of Israel's Triangular Military Handstamps	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$14.50		
445	Descent into the Abyss - The Shoah by Bruce Chadderton	\$25.00	\$3.50	\$21.50		
446	2011 Israel Philatelic Catalogue of Maximum Cards, Postal Openings, Information Folders, Bulletins, Etc. - Morginstin & Perrin	\$25.00	\$3.50	\$23.50		
447	Hatemail - Aizenberg NEW NO DISCOUNTS	\$31.95	\$3.50	\$32.00		
448	The History of Israel's Postage Stamps (Stamps from 1948 to 1956) - Ribalow NEW	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$14.50		
500	BOOKS ON CD					\$
530	The Flying Camel - Levant Fairs of Mandate Palestine - Groten	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$6.50		
543	Return to the Land - the Challenge of Rebuilding Israel -Marty Zelenietz NO DISCOUNTS	\$5.00	\$3.50	\$6.50		
544	Harris' Catalogue of Israel's Triangular Military Handstamps	\$12.50	\$3.50	\$6.50		
545	Descent into the Abyss - The Shoah by Bruce Chadderton	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$6.50		
546	2011 Israel Philatelic Catalogue of Maximum Cards, Postal Openings, Information Folders, Bulletins, Etc. - Morginstin & Perrin	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$6.50		
Total Amount Due including Shipping & Handling (S&H)						

Rev10.1.13



Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at Sarasota 2014

The book documents seven SIP members' Israel/Holy Land/Palestine/Judaic philatelic exhibits at the 2014 SIP National Convention. The exhibits are: French and Austrian Postal Operations in the Holy Land - 1852-1914,

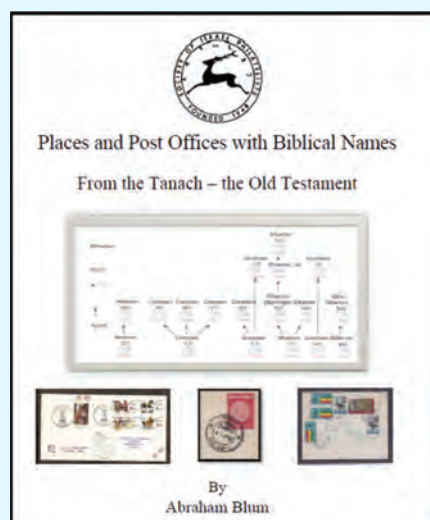
- **Palestine's 1918 Interim Period,**
- **JNF Fund Raising Cinderellas,**
- **1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel,**
- **1948 New Year – Rates & Uses through Two Postal Periods,**
- **World Recognition of the State of Israel**
- **Postage Due System of Israel 1948 – 1959**

Prices to be determined.

The History of Israel's Postage Stamps (Stamps from 1948 to 1956)

Harold Ribolow

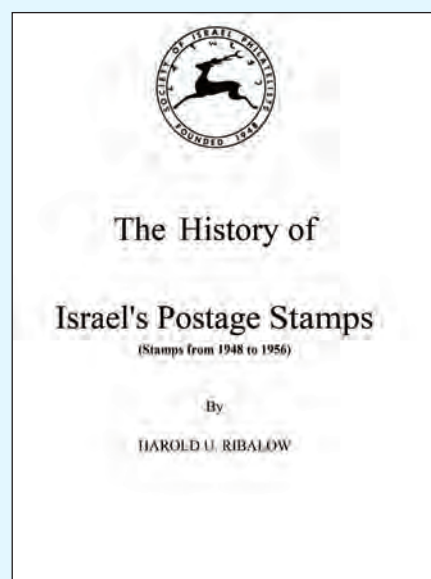
The book gives a historical background on the motif or individuals depicted on Israel's postage stamps between 1948 and 1956. The short but highly readable book is must have for anyone interested in Israel, Holy Land and Judaic philately. Price: \$20.00 plus shipping and handling.



Places and Post Offices with Biblical Names

Abraham Blum

The author explains how non-Biblical places and post offices got their Biblical names. This interesting book, which is an expansion on the many articles published by the author, traces the movement of people through the town and post office names. Even though the book covers the movement of Biblical names to communities around the world, the focus is on the United States because the United States has more communities with Biblical names and post offices than the rest of the world. Price to be determined.



SOCIETY OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC.,

Stanley Raffel
3408 Ripple Road
Baltimore, MD 21244-3603 USA

Address Service Requested
Forwarding and Return Postage Guaranteed

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 4
Hanover, PA

HARRIS

A Catalogue of
Israel's
Triangular Military Unit
Handstamps



By

S Harris Rosenberg and Harris Wolman



Published by Education Fund, Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., 2012

Now Available from the SIP!

A Catalogue of Israel's Triangular Military Unit Handstamps outlines the history of this particular type of postmark used by Israel's armed forces. Consolidating previous works on KBA (Land Security Forces) postmarks, this publication then portrays the evolution of the triangular handstamp to recent times. Includes color illustrations of the types of cover used as well as a list of military unit numbers, verified by the authors.

Using philatelic material as illustrations, *Descent Into The Abyss – the Shoah* chronicles the erosion of Jewish civil rights under Nazi rule in Europe. It traces the fate of European Jews between 1933-1945 when the governance of the short-lived Third Reich put in place political, and eventually logistical, apparatus to execute what has become known as the Holocaust.

DESCENT INTO THE ABYSS:

The Shoah

- a philatelic retelling -



by Bruce Chadderton

Published by Education Fund, Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc., 2012



CONTACT

Society of Israel Philatelists
PO Box 507
Northfield, OH 44067

www.israelstamps.com