

# THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. FEBRUARY 2012

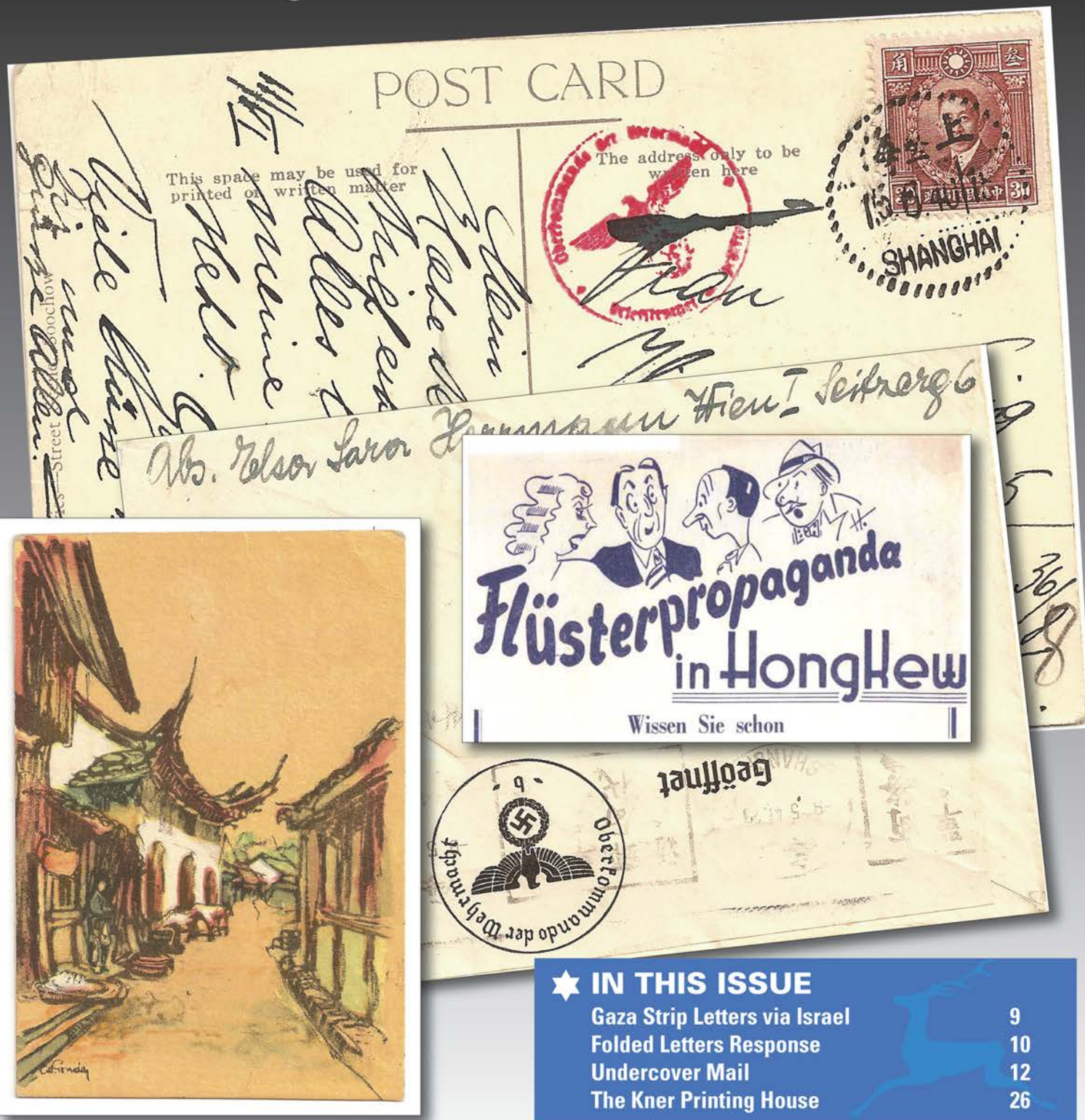
DEVOTED TO THE PHILATELY OF THE HOLY LAND

VOL LXIII NO 1

## The Shanghai Ghetto

EDWIN HEITNER D.M.D.  
PAGE 20

JESSE I. SPECTOR M.D.



### ★ IN THIS ISSUE

Gaza Strip Letters via Israel  
Folded Letters Response  
Undercover Mail  
The Kner Printing House

9  
10  
12  
26



Stamps and Postal History of :

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# in this issue

## SOCIETY

- 2 Membership Application
- 2 SIP Leadership
- 3 Editor's Notes
- 4 Letters to the Editor
- 5 Snow Birds
- 29 Book: **Return to the Land**
- 38 **New Members**
- 39 Chapter News
- 39 Dr. Arnold Paddock z"l



34

## Forerunner

- 10 Folded Letters Response  
*Joseph Geraci*
- 24 The Black Death, Cholera and the Stigma of Religion  
*Joseph Geraci*
- 25 Author's Response  
*Jesse I. Spector, M.D., Robert L. Markovits, Esq.*
- 34 Forerunner Gem



37

## JNF

- 37 Yeshurun Synagogue Jerusalem  
*Moshe Kol Kalman*



8

## Holocaust

- 8 Philatelic Contemporary Witnesses of Jewish History  
*Dr. Hans Michael Riemer*
- 20 The Shanghai Ghetto and the Siberian Connection  
*Jesse I. Spector M.D., Edwin Heitzer, D.M.D.*



26

## Judaica

- 13 Cinderella Usage  
*Joe Weintraub*
- 25 Biblical Named Post Office  
*Harry Greenwald*
- 26 The Kner Printing House  
*Gene Eisen*
- 27 Judaica Items  
*Robert L. Markovits*
- 28 The Jewish Gauchos  
*Saul Bonovich*
- 30 German Welfare Stamp  
*Moshe Kol Kalman*
- 40 Archie Comics The Jewish Connection  
*Gene Eisen*



12

## Mandate

- 12 World War II Thos. Cook & Son Under Cover Mail  
*Barach Weiner*
- 16 September 1939 - December 1940 Military Perspectives  
*Burton S. Adlerbaum*



31

## Israel

- 6 A Major Plate-Block Discovery  
*The Israel Plate Block Journal*
- 9 Gaza Strip Letters via Israel  
*Josef Wallach*
- 11 Note From Linn's Stamp News  
*David Simmons z"l*
- 30 TIPH Forces in Hebron  
*David Simmons z"l*
- 33 Central Sorting Building, Tel Aviv
- 36 Revised SIP Catalogue of Israel Philatelic Items  
*Sid Morginstin, Bernard Perrin*
- 38 "Forerunners" and Experimental Issues  
*Evyatar (Tari) Chelouche*

## INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

A. Karamitos Auctions	Inside Front Cover	Endowment Campaign 2012	19	Negev Holyland Stamps	23
American Israel Numismatic Assoc.	29	House of Zion	28	Romano House of Stamps Ltd.	14
Art Groten	29	Ideal Stamp Co., Inc.	13	SIP Educational Fund	Inside Back Cover
Briar Road Company	29	Israel Philatelic Agency	15		Back Cover
Classified ads	23, 34	of North America		Tel Aviv Stamps	22
Doron Waide	37	Kelleher Auctions	35	William M. Rosenblum/Rare Coins	5
Doyle New York	31	Mosden Trading Company	29		

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## The Israel Philatelist

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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 bimonthly magazine, **THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST**, and consideration of applications is made thirty days after publication of the names."

# Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

Beginning last January I enrolled in an 11 month full-time computer training program at the San Diego Community College Continuing Education Center. I am taking two classes: Inactive Media Certificate Program and Web Design– with Emphasis on Mobile Applications. The classes require 30 hours of in class training and another 15-20 hours of study and outside project work (i.e. homework). Yes, I am a computer geek, but love every moment of the classes.

So what does all this training have to do with philately? The most obvious relationship is that the programs help me prepare **The Israel Philatelist** for publication. I have learned how to improve my Photoshop skills which are used to enhance the journals illustrations. Soon we will be learning a program called Illustrator used to create illustrations, logos, stationary, and artwork. I have no illusions about my illustration ability since I draw a straight line using a ruler after checking it twice.

What is going to be interesting in the Illustrator program part of the course will be the need to design a set of four stamps as one of our projects. I find this project obviously very interesting and have began to think about my topic. My first thought turned to the many Holy Land stamps that I have seen through the years and have wondered at the evolution of the designs from the different time periods and administrations.

For instances, if you look at the Forerunner period, I find the issues uninspiring and rather dull. But then I look at the issues from the British Mandate period and realize how boring and monotonous a series of stamps can really be. Unbelievable that four basic designs were used for over 20 years.

The early issues of Israel were functional, but when compared to today's issues, in my opinion not very inspiring. I find many of Israel's current issues very attractive and inspiring.

As I plan my upcoming project, I am taking a closer look at not only Israel's newer issues for inspiration, but also newer Jewish National Fund labels and even United States issues. While I have no illusions about becoming the next great stamp designer, I am developing a greater appreciation for the many artistic stamp designs the world of philately has created. It is like having my own National Art Gallery or Louvre right in my stamp room.

o - o - o - o

For this issue, I am using a new printer, Sheridan Press. While I am very happy with our current printer, they do not offer internet service which I feel is needed if the Society is to grow and continue to be a force on the philatelic scene. We need **The Israel Philatelist** on the internet so we can reach a worldwide audience!

The Sheridan Press of Hanover, Pennsylvania has five facilities in the north east that print journals, magazines, books, and

catalogs. Their only philatelic publication is the **Ice cap News** of the American Society of Polar Philatelists. I have talked to their editor and he is very happy with Sheridan Press.

As I indicted, the main reason for the change is the fact that Sheridan has the facilities to make our journal accessible on the internet through the society's web site. In other words, in the future members will be able to receive a printed journal and/or read the journal on the internet. Of course they will be able to download a copy if they want a hardcopy.

This is a test run, but if it proves successful and we make the switch then we will plan to upload back issues of the journal. A few back issues will be made available for non-members to read and hopefully become interested in joining the society.

For North American members, you should be receiving this issue in a plastic wrapper with a facing card. While I have not heard of any members receiving damaged copies, this little added protection should help ensure no damaged issues are received.

o - o - o - o

A small update on the project to computerize and make available a search index of the journal on the internet. I have discussed the technical aspects of converting the journal articles into searchable articles and hope to begin work in a couple of weeks. My goal is to have at least a half dozen journals fully indexed and ready to demonstrate at our convention next August in Sacramento, California. The complete 65 years worth of journals will take a little longer to index, but it is coming.

o - o - o - o

Now I must issue the standard editor's plea, beg or issue a panic call for articles. Trying to present articles on all aspects of Holy Land philately represents a challenge. While many collectors enjoy writing on Judaica and JNF topics, I find that many other areas are hard to enlist articles from. I know there are great collections out there with many interesting items since being a judge I have viewed and critiqued them. Also when I examine the many excellent auction catalogs our dealers prepare, I again note fantastic items.

So my question is: Why do collectors choose to bury their gems in albums rather than sharing them with fellow collectors?

If there is one incentive I can offer a collector to write an article, it is that by writing about your "gems" you learn more about the item and better appreciate what you have. Just ask anyone who has submitted an article.

Remember, I can only print what articles I receive. I have no time to do research and prepare articles myself. This is the member's journal. I am only the person presenting what you have written and submitted. This is your journal and to keep it going, the society and I need your support.

o - o - o - o

I would like to thank Irv Osterer for his redesign of the back cover and the design of the front cover . ■



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Family and Friends,

I am sharing this wonderful news with you all. This is a milestone achievement for me. The best birthday present I could have received.

My name can be found in the left margin of the letter/stationary attached.

Best wishes to all,

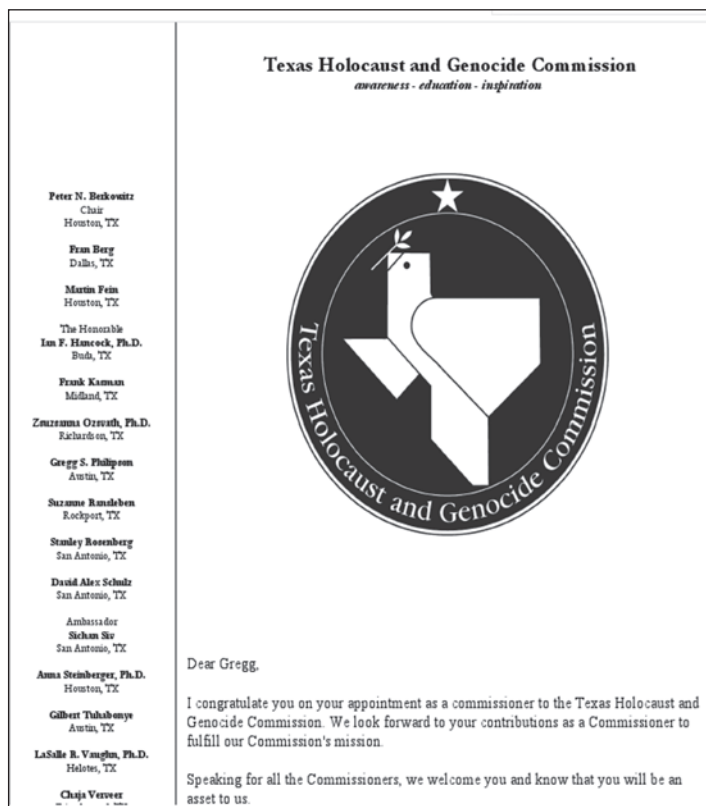
Gregg Philipson

"Dear Commissioners,

Governor Perry's office informed us today that a new commissioner has been appointed to the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission. Please join me in welcoming Gregg S. Philipson of Austin to the THGC. Commissioner Philipson is Vice President of Softex Incorporated and has been highly recommended by, among others, THC Deputy Director Terry Colley.

I'm sure we'll all look forward to meeting and working with Commissioner Philipson at the April quarterly meeting in Houston!

Sincerely,  
Charles ■



Dear Editor:

Following up on the letter from Sonny Kosky regarding the current state of the Bale Stamp Catalogue (see Dec. 2011, p. 204).

I am in 110% full agreement with his observations. I have been collecting Israel Stamps since 1973. The original version of the **Bale Catalogue** was viewed as the definitive guide for both collectors and dealers. It was prepared professionally and with detail to its contents from stamps, definitives, plate blocks, etc.

The current and most recent editions of the Bale mishmash is, as they say "chalushes." It is barely more than "drek".

- Errors upon errors upon errors.
- Pricing is nothing more than a joke or an attempt by a few dealers to rip off collectors.
- Plate Block listings are incomplete or inaccurate.
- Numbering System is nothing short of a disaster.

It is a sad state in the field of Israel collecting that we are left with no definitive source for our collecting interests. How do we continue to know of Plate Block varieties? reprints? fair pricing? Even worse, there is a splintering taking place as publishers such as Carmel and Moriah try to fill the void for an Israel stamp catalogue.

The generally accepted major countries of the world, all have a catalogue recognized for its dedication to completeness and accuracy. As examples:

- Canada - Unitrade
- United States - Scott
- Germany - Michel

As in life, we only know what we have after we lose it. Who would have thought that in 2012 with all the advances in technology, Israel beginner, intermediate, and advance philatelic collectors are left with no reliable accurate source for their collecting enthusiasm.

I too find myself constantly referring to the last edition (1998) prepared by Michael Bale as my most reliable and effective source. One may suggest that a publisher of a stamp catalogue ought to have a duty of care to protect the integrity of the hobby. Chariot Global Publishing fails miserably and may be a contributing source to the decline of the hobby and alienation of current collectors.

Max Feierstein  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada ■

Dear Editor

In reference to Sonny A Kosky's comments concerning the quality of the Chariot publications, I too used to get the Bale catalogs whenever a new one was published. When I received my 2000 version, the first published by Chariot, I couldn't get past the first few pages because of the numerous errors. I documented the errors on the first 50 or so pages and sent them to the publisher, Mr. Stier, as an e-mail with an offer to edit the edition in preparation for a reissue. I offered to do this for a free copy of the revision.

Mr. Stier wasn't interested. Most of the catalogs that have been published by Chariot since the time that I have reviewed them have also had many errors. The primary salvation for the Israel related catalogs published by Chariot is that it has a treasure of knowledge not published (as far as I am aware) anywhere else. The problem, however, remains in that, because of the history of bad editing, without additional references to crosscheck the information that Mr. Stier presents, one is hard pressed to give too much credence in the information. Bottom line: although I agree with Mr. Kosky's evaluation of the Chariot catalogs, the Israel related ones are still the only game in town.

Richard Herman  
Delray Beach, FL ▪

Don,

The Israel - Germany joint stamp-issue: "40 years of diplomatic relations" (1965 - 2005) was issued on November 3, 2005. I know you include images of Israel's new issues in **The Israel Philatelist** might be fun to include images of the stamps from BOTH nations.

The motif used on both stamps of a broken concentration camp barbed wire is powerful!



Israel stamp



German stamp

Fred Korr  
Oakland, CA

*Editor's note: any volunteers to provide the information? ▪*

## Snow Birds

Address changes must be sent to the treasurer at least 2 weeks prior to the issue month for **The Israel Philatelist**. The journal will not be resent or replaced if the treasurer did not receive notification of the change in advance of the effective issue. The member will be responsible for the payment of the USPS return fee, USPS postage due fee for their new address notification and the costs for resending **The Israel Philatelist**.

Dear Editor,

Non-Magen David stamps show up a various times and places on the philatelic map. Most have no Jewish connection, such as this stamp from Morocco (Figure 1).

An unintended exception was the 1933 "Peace Stamp" issued by The Netherlands in honor of the League of Nations (Figure 2). The new Nazi regime in Germany saw a Star of David and urgently protested the issuance of the stamp. The Dutch denied that the design included a Jewish symbol. For Jews in Germany who received mail from Holland with this stamp, it was reportedly a source of comfort during difficult times.

Rabbi Samuel Fishman  
Bethesda, Maryland ▪



Figure 1



Figure 2

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# THE ISRAEL PLATE BLOCK JOURNAL

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Winter 1981

## A Major Plate-Block Discovery

*Editor's note: After publishing Volume 28, No. 3 in July 2006, the The Israel Plate Block Journal ceased publication. The main reason was a lack of articles.*

*In 2009, the The Israel Plate Block Society decided to donate its substantial treasury to the Society of Israel Philatelists Endowment Fund. One of the conditions of the contribution was that articles on plate block collecting appear at least once a year preferably in the December issue of The Israel Philatelist. Per the agreement, the article A Major Plate-Block Discovery by Dr. Arthur Kahn is taken from the Winter 1981 issue, Volume 3, No 1.*

*If any member has a plate block article they would like published, please let the editor know.*

The definitive issues still provide ample room for further research, and students of these issues may be lucky enough to make some new discoveries. This note records a recent find in the 10 pr. green stamp of the Third Coinage Series, 1950 - 1952 (Bale No. 43).

### SE-TENANT ARRANGEMENT

These stamps were printed in sheets of 400, divided into 4 panes of 100 stamps each. There is evidence to demonstrate that the panes were arranged in a se-tenant position, that is to say, with the bottom two panes upside-down in relation to the top two. This arrangement is illustrated in Figure 1.

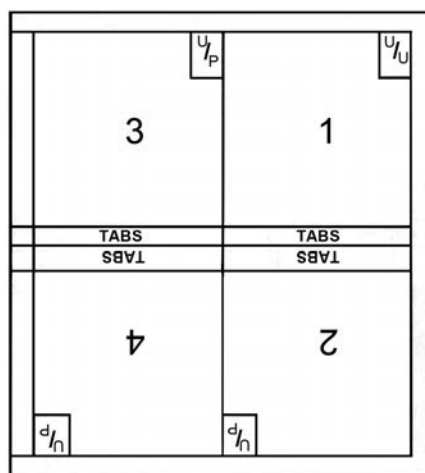
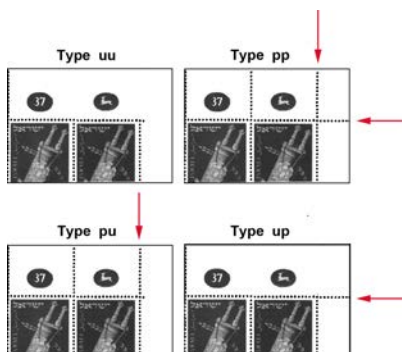


Figure 1 The se-tenant arrangement which produces plate blocks for sheet 3 as u/p and sheet 1 u/u.



*Editor's note: Examples of four margin types. The letters p and u refer to the margin perforations around the plate block, not the sheet.*

p - perforated margin  
u - unperforated margin

Direction in which the perforating head moves.



Figure 2 Traces of the bottom line of an inverted tab inscription prove that the pane arrangement was se-tenant.

The clearest evidence of such an arrangement is provided by tab stamps which have been miscut and show the bottom of the tab from the adjacent sheet: it can be seen that the other tab portion is upside down in relation to the main tab (see Figure 2). Many examples of these miscut tabs exist.

Further evidence is provided by the fact that collectors will be hard pressed to find any plate blocks of this issue with perforations other than u/u and u/p and these are the only two perforation types produced by a se-tenant arrangement. If the panes had been arranged in a normal position, then there would have been all four marginal perforation types: u/u, u/p, p/p and p/u and they would moreover have been produced in equal quantities so that no one type would be more rare than the others. (see Figure 3).

### 10 PR. STAMP

According to Mosden Israel Catalog Volume 1 (p. 102) many printings were made, the first printing "on medium white paper with dull gum, the last on thin paper with brilliant gum." In relation to the 10 pr. stamp, I determined by the numbers system, the shape of the cyclometer counters and the gum types, that



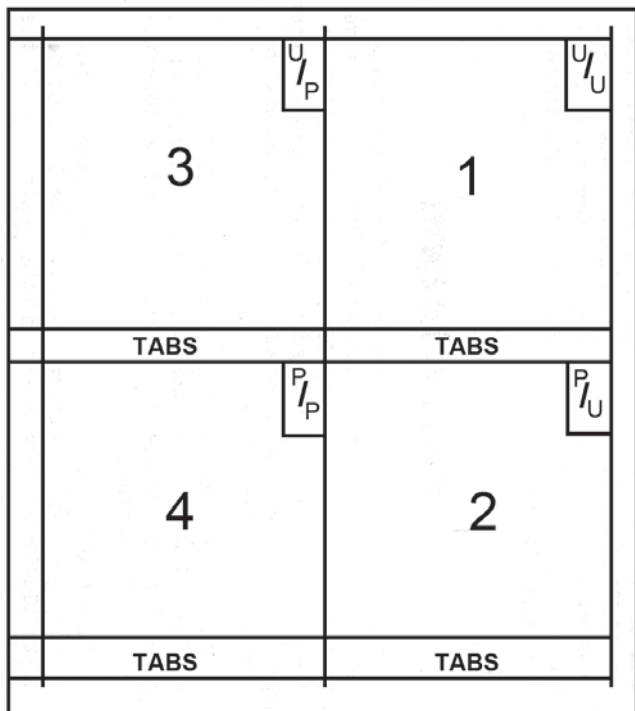


Figure 3 The normal arrangement which produces 1 each of the u/u, p/u, u/p, and p/p plate blocks.

there were at least 4 issues of this stamp. Here is my listing:

Issue	Digits in Plate No.	Gum Type	Approx. No. of panes
A	5	Matte	14,000
B	6	Matte	300,000
C	6	Shiny	480,000
D	6	Shiny	380,000

Note:

1. The various issues are designated as A, B, C and D because it is not yet possible to say with certainty which was the earliest in point of time.
2. The quantities printed are approximate only, and are expressed in terms of panes. Thus issue A had approximately 14,000 panes, or 3,500 sheets.
3. Issues C and D were distinguished by the shape of the cyclometer counters.

The Mosden Catalog which I consulted also states that the margin perforations of this issue were Mosden Types A, B and C (that is, u/u, p/p and u/p). This information seemed to be incorrect: it would have been possible to arrange the four panes on the sheet so as to produce this combination of marginal perforation types, (see Figure 4), but it seemed a very unlikely manner in which to arrange the panes—with only one of the lower panes se-tenant.

In any event, there did not appear to be any blocks around which had been perforated p/p. I therefore considered this listing of plate-block types to be incorrect.

## DISCOVERY

It was then that I discovered a bombshell! I found not only a p/p plate block, but also a p/u plate block of the 10 pr. stamp (see Figure 5).

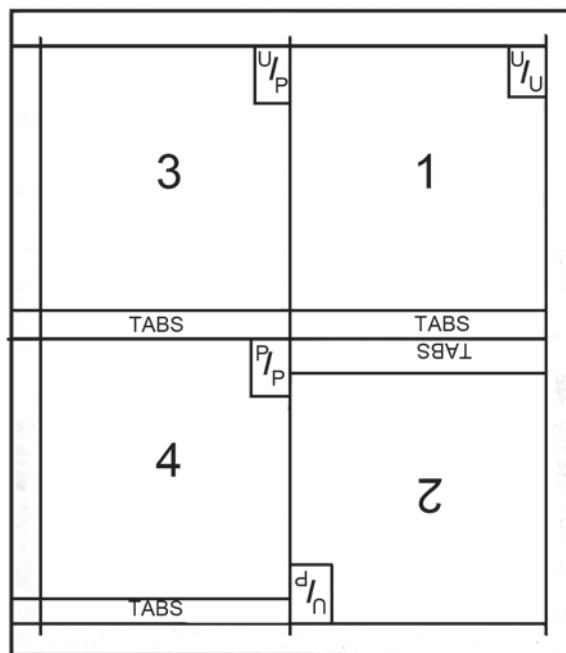


Figure 4 A possible, but completely unlikely pane arrangement that will produce 1 u/u, 2 u/p and 1 p/p plate blocks.

Both of these blocks have matte gum. The p/p block has a 5-digit cyclometer number 91157, but the p/u block has a 6-digit number 239212. Because it has matte gum, one might be tempted to allocate it to Issue B, but it does not fall into the plan of this issue; blocks 176580 and 241907, which I have in my possession, are both perforated u/p, and this block would fall between these two numbers.



Figure 5 The 2 plate blocks found by Dr. Kahn. The left block is perforated p/u and the right block is p/p.

My tentative conclusion is that there was another issue of the 10 pr. stamp in which the panes were arranged normally so as to produce the 4 perforation types u/p, u/u, p/p and p/u. This could explain the Mosden listing if there was a normal pane arrangement, if the compilers of that catalog recorded only what they had seen, and if they had not seen any of the p/u blocks.

Reference:

Mosden Israel Catalogue, Volume I 1969, E. Mosden, N.Y. •

# Philatelic Contemporary Witnesses of Jewish History Zionism – Holocaust – Judaica Varia



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# Palestine Authority

## Gaza Strip Letters via Israel

### INTRODUCTION

Since the termination in 1994 of Israel's postal system in the Gaza strip and the establishment of the new Palestine Authority post (January 1, 1995), local postal customers have encountered major difficulties in posting their letters to overseas addresses. The outgoing mail may travel for weeks or even for a few months until it is finally delivered.

To circumvent the sluggish postal service, local customers, at least some of them, turned to posting their mail via Israel's postal service. In 1994, Israel opened a special new post office at the Gaza Strip's north crossing point and named it "Mevo Azza" (i.e. Gaza entrance - Figure 1).

The reason for opening this post office is illustrated by the following three covers, posted at different time periods.

### 1994 TRANSITION PERIOD

According to the Oslo Agreements, Israeli, Zahal (i.e. IDF) postal units in the Gaza strip were closed in May 1994. The Palestine Authority post offices were not opened until seven months later on January 1, 1995. To avoid a postal vacuum in the 2nd half of 1994, the Israeli "Mevo Azza" post office was opened. In this 7 month transition period, letters from the Gaza strip were forwarded to the North Gaza crossing point and then transferred to the Mevo Azza post office.

The Figure 2 cover illustrates this procedure. A Gaza citizen (address on reverse) posted his letter to Finland on November 9th, 1994, which is during the time gap between the Israeli and Palestine Authority post offices. The cover is a true "Transition Period" item.

### 1997 PERIOD

Although Palestine Authority post offices were operating all over the Gaza Strip, a local customer preferred posting his letter to Finland via the Israel "Mevo Azza" post on 10 March 1997 (Figure 3). Thus he sped up the delivery period substantially.

### 2003 PERIOD

The procedure presented above was still working in 2003. The "Beit Lahia" village, Gaza Strip, has its own postal facility. A postal patron posted a registered letter on 16 July 2003 to Belgium via the "Mevo Azza" Israel office! This time, the postmark is oval shape which is the same as those used in all the

Figure 1  
Map of Gaza and Mevo Azza  
Post Office



Figure 2  
November 9, 1994 from  
Gaza to Finland

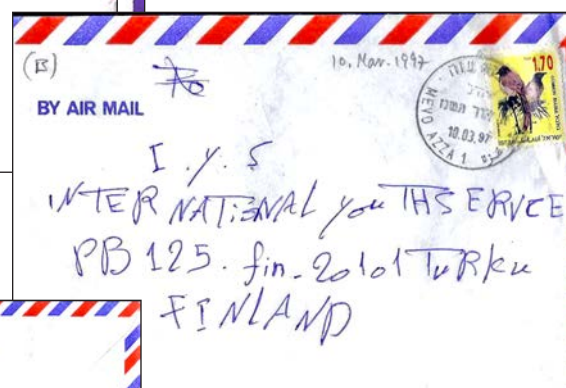


Figure 3  
March 10, 1997 from Gaza to Finland

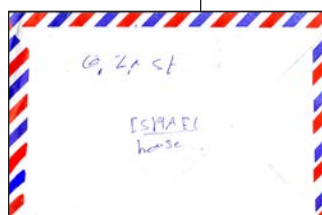


Figure 4  
July 16, 2003 - sent to Belgium

Israel post offices. As the addressee was not found, the letter was returned to the sender (Figure 4).

### SUMMARY

The three commercial covers posted above give an excellent overview of the political conflict and the impact on civilians. The three posted covers illustrate how mail from one political entity (Palestine Authority) was sent via a neighboring state (Israel) although the Palestine Authority had a postal system of its own. This just proves that people prefer the best, fastest service even if done via Israel. ■

# Folded Letters Response

I have some additions/corrections to Michael Bass' article "Folded Letters from the Holy Land 1350-1852," published in the December 2011 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**.

## CONTRACT MAIL - PRIVATE PACKET SERVICE 1821

The 1821 letter from Jerusalem to Banff, Scotland, bears several markings which should be explained, and do add to the interest in this cover, Figure 3.

The first thing to determine is where it entered the mails (Figure 1). Written at Jerusalem and carried privately to Smyrna (Izmir), it was again placed in a traveler's hands to be carried, perhaps by sea up the Adriatic to Venice. From Venice, there were good roads to Milano. While unable to find any reference to this marking specifically, I suspect that the straight line "TUR." was applied at Milano (Austrian Lombardy), to indicate the letter originated in Turkey. Paolo Vollmeier<sup>1</sup> illustrates several different similarly abbreviated origin markings in his book e.g. "SAR." (Sardinia); "TOS." (Tuscany) and "MOD." (Modena), beginning in 1819, Figure 2.

Unfortunately, if the letter did enter the mails at Milano, there is no "Milano" town marking on the cover. From Milano, the letter would have traveled northward through Switzerland to Basel, in a sealed mailbag, crossing the border into France at nearby Hunigue. There, the French exchange clerk would have opened the mailbag and applied his boxed exchange marking. He then placed the letter in another sealed bag with other letters addressed to Britain. The letter would have crossed France by post-coach, probably to Calais, and from there crossed the English Channel to Dover and on to London.



Figure 1<sup>9</sup>

At London, the sealed bag was again opened for processing. There, the dotted circle, "F.P.O., JU-12 1821" was applied. "F.P.O." stands for "Foreign Post Office" and was applied to incoming mail from foreign shores. The second "JU/ 12/ 1821," in triple circle, was also applied at the General Post Office in London, in the "Evening Duty" office.<sup>2</sup> The British exchange clerk also rated the cover at 5s. 8d. postage due, before sending it on to Edinburgh. At Edinburgh, the red octagonal date stamp, "JUN/ W 15 M/ 1821" was applied<sup>2</sup>, as well as the boxed "1/2". This represents a charge of halfpenny additional fee to indemnify the Scottish post office department for tolls on vehicles having more than two wheels, such as a post-coach, per a law passed by the Scottish Parliament in 1813.<sup>3</sup> The total postage was paid by the recipient in Banff.

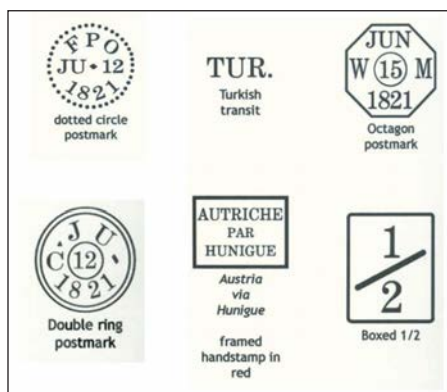


Figure 2

## DIPLOMATIC SERVICE LETTER 1930

The November 1830 letter addressed to Saluces bears a boxed, rectangular handstamp on the reverse reading: "Lazzeretto San! Rocco di Livorno,"<sup>4</sup> where this letter was processed.



Figure 3



## PRIVATE PACKET SERVICE AND POSTAL SERVICE

I do not believe the January 1845(?) cover addressed to Byberry Township, Pennsylvania, was posted in Dublin, Ireland (Figure 4). The red, double line tombstone "D/Paid / 7 JA 71 1845(?)," appears to be a London inland office marking (Figure 5). Indeed, it makes sense because this letter entered the mails at "Holborn E.O.,"<sup>6</sup> a London District Office, where it was postmarked and prepaid 1 shilling, the British transatlantic rate for a single weight letter. (Figure 6). The straight line Holborn was not applied upon receipt in Pennsylvania.

From London, the letter was passed on to Liverpool to be placed aboard the next vessel crossing to America. The letter is clearly marked at upper left, "By the Boston Steamer," and this appears to be in the same handwriting as the address. Below this notation, there is another notation which has been crossed out. If routed by a forwarding agent, he wrote this before dropping the letter into the Holborn District Office, although I suspect both notations were written by the letter's sender.

However, here is where we run into a problem. There was only one sailing of a steamer from Liverpool in January 1845. That was the Cunard steamer *Cambria*, which sailed on January 4<sup>7</sup>. So, the question becomes, what is the actual year date in the London tombstone postmark? The illustration is unclear. The only year when a steam vessel sailed on January 8 was in 1853. The other alternative is that it was not placed aboard a steamer at all in spite of the routing, but on a sailing vessel leaving Liverpool on January 8, 1845. (Is there an arrival date stamp or any arrival docketing on the reverse?)

Assuming the letter was delivered into Boston harbor, the Boston post office rated the letter "7" cents due in manuscript, 2¢ for the ship letter fee plus 5¢ postage from Boston to Philadelphia, which is about 300 miles distant. (If handled at the New York post office instead of Boston, the rating would have been the same).

Then, normal procedure would have been to place the letter into a letter bag which was then sealed and given to an agent who would accompany it on board a steamboat or train heading south from Boston to New York and then on to Philadelphia<sup>8</sup>. The letter was not "transported by private carrier (i.e. outside the mails) to Philadelphia, where it was placed in the United States mail and forwarded to Holborn, P A.". Assuming it originated at Jerusalem, the letter had been carried privately all the way to London. Then the traveler deposited the letter into the British mails at the London suburb Holborn post office. From there, it was transported to Boston and onward to Philadelphia, totally within the British and United States mail systems.

I hope this provides some clarification to the stories behind these covers.

### References:

1. **Catalogo dei Bolli Postali del Territorio Lombardo- Veneto dalle**



Figure 4



Figure 5

Holborn E.O.

Figure 6

**Origini all'Introduzione del Francobollo**, Paolo Vollmeier, Milano, 1979, p. 216-217.

2. **The Encyclopedia of British Empire Postage Stamps: Vol. 1, Great Britain and the Empire in Europe**, publisher Robson Lowe, London, 1952, p. 17, 80.
3. **Three Centuries of Scottish Posts**, A.R.B. Haldane, Edinburgh, 1971, p. 89-90.
4. **Disinfected Mail**, Karl F. Meyer, M.D., Holton, Kansas, 1962, p. 189.
5. Robson Lowe, Op. Cit., p. 20, and Edward Proud, Op. Cit., p. 57.
6. **Postmarks of the Date Impression Books, Post Office Records, Section 3, Volumes 5 & 6**, editor Edward B. Proud, London, [1984], p. 139.
7. **North Atlantic Mail Sailings, 1840-1875**, Walter Hubbard and Richard F. Winter, Canton, Ohio, 1988, p. 20 and 31.
8. **The Chronicle of the US. Classic Postal Issues**, No. 68, November 1970, p. 160-161, *The New York-Boston Route*.
9. <http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=ll&authuser=0> <http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=ll&authuser=0>.

O - O - O - O

David Simmons, z"l

Note from **Linn's Stamp News**, January 4, 2010, page 20.

Despite the (apparent) failure of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations leading to an independent Palestinian statehood, one of the hallmarks of statehood is having a Universal Postal Union mail processing code. The current UPU listing reads as follows:

- IMPC Code--> PSRMHA
- IMPC Name--> Ramallah
- IMPC OP Name--> Pal Post, Ramallah International Mail Center, Palestinian Post.

This is significant for collectors of West Bank postal history.

## World War II THOS. COOK & SON Under Cover Mail

During World War II there were many countries at war and there was no official mail service between the belligerents. I found a short explanation how unofficially mail was sent at the following site - <http://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/articals/Oct2002/Oct2002.html>.

- The relevant part of the article for our purposes is

...in World War I, Thomas Cook were asked by the Government to act as intermediaries in the mailing of private letters to people in enemy territory. This service began in

trivial, but the fate of some of the recipients can be guessed at by letters returned unopened to P.O. Box 506, as in the case of a German, who the sender from Britain discovered later had been sent to Auschwitz.

The service provided by P.O. Box 506 continued for a while after the war, providing during the period of rebuilding of public services, the same means of contact and the messages of hope that it had kept going through the darker days of the war."

Recently I acquired a similar cover the details of which are the discussion of this article. Upon studying this envelope we can find a number of important elements which are specific to this service and period.



1) This cover was sent from Belgium and since it was occupied by Germany at that time it has a German stamp canceled on Nov. 23 1940. It was sent to P.O. Box 506 in Lisbon Portugal. This can be seen under the yellow label by holding the envelope up against a light.

1917 and people wishing to correspond with people behind enemy lines were asked to send their letters to Thomas Cook, who sent them to Thomas Cook office in Geneva which then sent them on into enemy territory.

A similar, but unofficial arrangement, also seems to have operated during the Spanish Civil War, when letters from the opposing Republican and Nationalist sides were sent to Gibraltar which then posted them on to the addressee.

In 1939, Thomas Cook were once again asked to take on the mail behind enemy lines service; this time they did so through a post box, first in Amsterdam then in Lisbon. P.O. Box 506 thus became the loophole through which people on both sides of enemy lines could communicate with each other.

Between 1940-1945, there were 21 European countries in German hands that could be communicated with by means of the Thomas Cook P.O. Box. The letters were, of course, censored and the information contained was necessarily

2) The German censors opened and checked the letter therefore it is resealed with German Censor tape. At a latter point of its journey, the British authorities also opened and checked the letter. Therefore it is also sealed with a British censor tape.

3) In Lisbon it was received by Thos. Cook & Son LTM. This was on March 7 1941. That means it took about 3 and a half months to reach its first destination. They date stamped their cachet on the label (see Item 4 below).

4) They placed a label over the address to Lisbon and readdressed it to its final destination. It is not clear to us why there is another address that has been erased and a new one written. We theorize that it may be that because of the war the receiver of the letter changed locations and the letter was forwarded to his present address.

5) Thos. Cook & Son then put an English stamp with the correct franking on the cover. The stamp has a TC/S perfin which stands for Thomas Cook & Son. The cover was canceled on March 8 1941 mailed and The letter was likewise censored by the English.



6) We also find on the cover a diamond shaped cachet. We have seen similar cachets on undercover mail after the Israel and Arab 1967 war that was routed through London. We found the covers specifically dated in the month of October. We are still not sure of the reason for the October dating.

In Summary there are a couple of factors which make this a historical document:

- A) Belgian and British stamps genuinely used together.
- B) Cooperation of three different postal authorities: Belgium, Portugal and the United Kingdom and in the background Germany. ■

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Joe Weintrob, Norfolk, VA

## Cinderella Usage

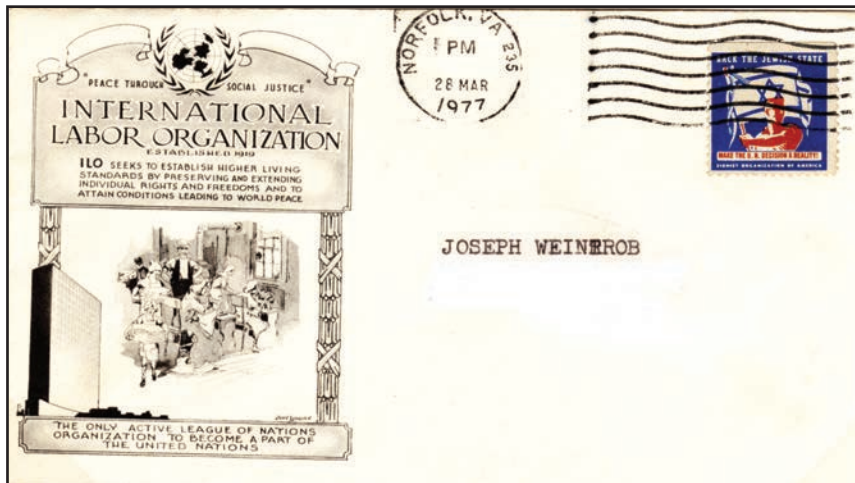


Zionist Organization of America label issued in February 1948.

Depicts a young man carrying the flag of the new State of Israel.

Inscribed on the top of the label  
"Back the Jewish State"

and along the bottom  
"Make the U.N. Decision a Reality."



Two cover were created and both passed through the United States Postal Service with the label ■.

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# September 1939 - December 1940

## Military Perspectives

*Editor's note: For parts 1-3 see: The Israel Philatelists, Oct. 2004, p. 184, Dec. 2004, p. 220 and Aug. 2005, p. 134. Below is the introduction to the series followed by tables showing the military and postal units involved.*

In Palestine from September 3, 1939 to June 9, 1940, British and Imperial armed forces maintained civil order, guarded the coast and borders, prevented Arab-Jewish outbreaks, defended the Suez Canal, and safeguarded naval bases at Port Said, Alexandria and Haifa. Performing as police, British troops in Palestine, controlled illegal immigration, ostensibly worked to

prevent Arab attacks against Jews, patrolled ports and petroleum facilities. The British 1st Cavalry Division and two brigades of the 6th Australian Division joined with elements of the British 8th Infantry Division to accomplish the above objectives. Palestinian territory provided encampments for military training, R&R, hospitals and bivouacs for reinforcements bound for combat in other areas.

Throughout the remainder of 1940 British and Australian troops continued with their previous missions and pursued the Italian menace.

### TIMELINE

**1939 1940**

**1941**

Sep Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan

#### EVENTS:

Britain  
declares  
war on  
Germany

Fall of Italy  
France war  
declares on  
Britain

invades  
Egypt

Italy

invade  
Libya

blocks  
Mediterranean

Direct Sea, Land, And Air Routes  
To And From Europe Accessible

Direct Mediterranean Routes  
To And From Europe Severed

#### TROOP MOVEMENTS:

British  
8<sup>th</sup> Inf Div  
maintains  
civil order

British  
1<sup>st</sup> Cav Div  
arrives

Australian  
6<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div  
arrives

Australian  
6<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div  
to Egypt

Australian  
7<sup>th</sup> Inf. Div  
arrives

#### FPO OPENINGS: (according to Gould and Proud (1982))

AIF BAPO 1  
AIF FPO 1  
AIF FPO 6

Br FPO 120  
Br FPO 121  
Br FPO 122  
Br FPO 123  
Br FPO 124  
AIF TPO

AIF FPO 5

Br FPO 164

AIF FPO 4  
AIF FPO 11

AIF FPO 9

Br FPO 69  
Br FPO 167

AIF FPO 2  
AIF FPO 6  
AIF FPO 7

AIF FPO 44



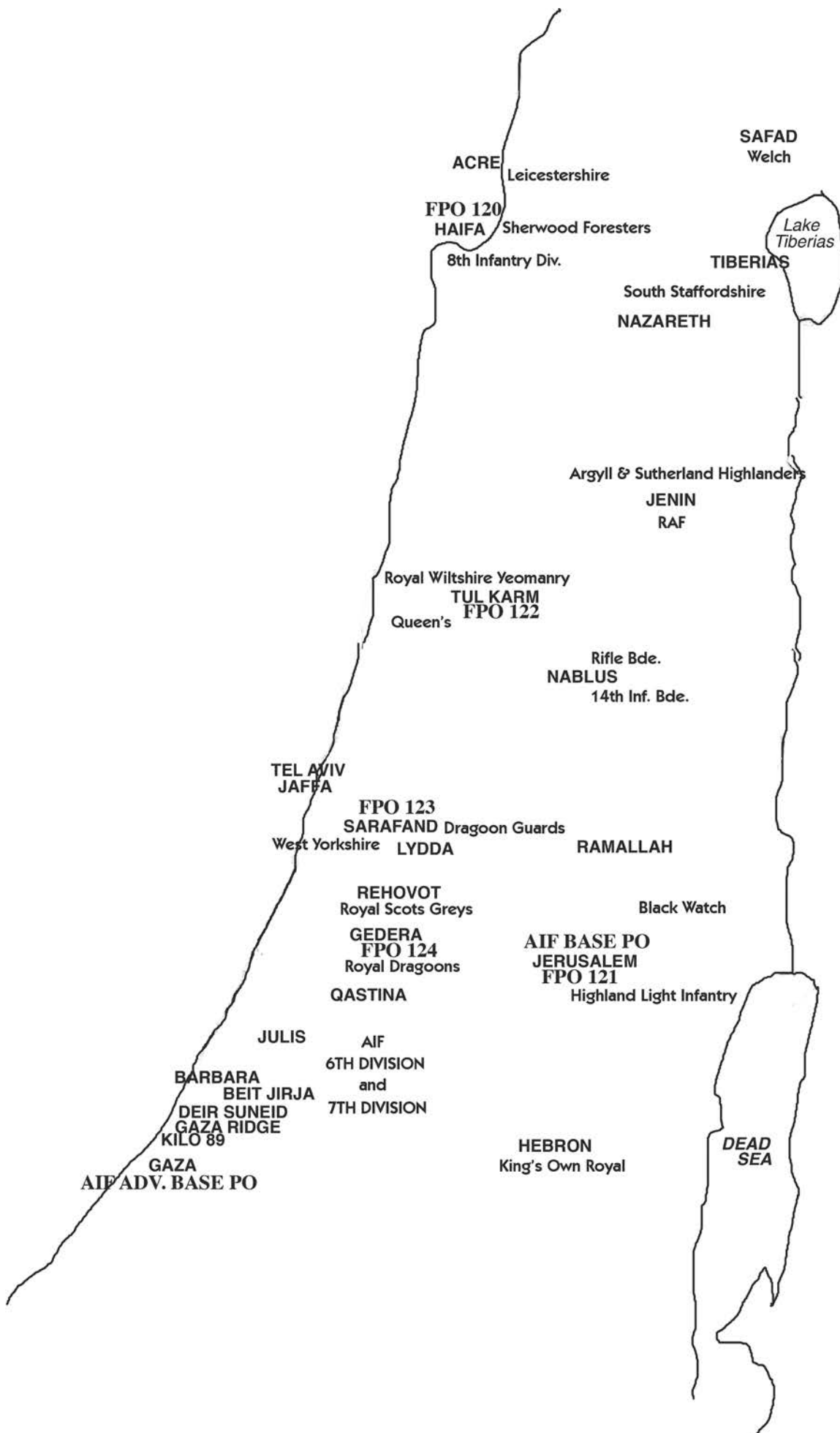
**TABLE I**

## THE MILITARY POSTAL NETWORK IN PALESTINE DURING 1940

FPO NUMBER	POSTAL UNIT	DATESTAMP	LOCATION	OPEN
A.I.F. F.P.O. 1	6 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div Base HQ.	1 <sup>st</sup> Bde H.Q.P.O. M.1	Qastina	Feb. 13
No 1 (A.I.F.) BPO 1	Base Post Office HQ	BASE POST OFFICE B.W.I.	Jerusalem	Feb. 15
A.I.F. F.P.O. 6	6 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div. 16 <sup>th</sup> Bde	DIV. SUPPLY H.Q.P.O. S. M. 1	Julis	Feb..18
British FPO 123	1 <sup>st</sup> Cav Div P U	FIELD POST OFFICE 123	Sarafand	Apr. 4
British FPO 120	1 <sup>st</sup> Cav Div P U	FIELD POST OFFICE 120	Haifa	Apr. 4
British FPO 121	1 <sup>st</sup> Cav Div P U	FIELD POST OFFICE 121	Jerusalem	Apr. 5
British FPO 122	1 <sup>st</sup> Cav Div P U	FIELD POST OFFICE 122	Tul Karm	Apr. 5
British FPO 124	1 <sup>st</sup> Cav Div P U	FIELD POST OFFICE 124	Gedera	Apr. 5
A.I.F. Travelling. P. O.	6 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div.	RAILHEAD P. O. R. M. 1	Gaza Ridge (?)	Apr. 22
A.I.F. F.P.O. 5	1 L of C	DIV. SUPPLY H.Q.P.O. S. P. 1	Barbara	Apr. 30
No 1 (A.I.F.) BPO 1 Advance Base	Base Post Office HQ	BASE POST OFFICE B. W.I.	Gaza	Aug 6
A.I.F. F.P.O. 1	2/1 L OF C	1 <sup>st</sup> BDE H.Q.P.O. P. 3.	Kilo 89	Sep. 6
A.I.F. F.P.O. 4	2/1 L OF C ?	ARMY P. O. A. W. 1.	Beit Jirja	Oct, 22
A.I.F. F.P.O. 11	2 L of C	ARMY P. O. A. P. 1.	Jerusalem	Oct. 24
A.I.F. F.P.O. 44	7 <sup>th</sup> Aust Div ?	?	Gaza Ridge	Nov.
A.I.F. F.P.O. 2	7 <sup>th</sup> Div H. Q.	RAILHEAD P. O. R. W. 1.	Deir Suneid	Nov. 28
A.I.F. F.P.O. 7	1 L of C 7 <sup>th</sup> Div.	1 <sup>st</sup> BDE H..Q..P.O. W.1	Qastina	Nov. 28
A.I.F. F.P.O. 9	2/1 L OF C	2 <sup>nd</sup> BDE H. Q. P. O. W. 2.	Khassa	Dec. 2
A.I.F. F.P.O. 1	2/1 L OF C 9 <sup>th</sup> Aust. Div ?	1 <sup>st</sup> BDE. H. Q. P. O. P.1.	Kilo 89	Dec. 23

**POSTAL UNITS**

Unit	Open	FPOs	Datestamps
AIF Base	Feb	1 BPO	B. W. 1; M 1;
6 <sup>th</sup> Div	Feb	1, 6, TPO	P. 1; P. 3; R. M. 1; S. M. 1
1 LofC	Apr	5, 7	S. P. 1; W. 1
British	Apr	120, 121, 122, 123, 124	120, 121, 122, 123, 124
I Corps	Oct	4, 11	A. M. 1., A.. P.1. A. W. 1.
2/1 LofC	Oct	1, 4, 9;	A. W. 1; P. 1; P. 3; W. 2
7 <sup>th</sup> Div	Nov	1, 2, 7, 44?,	R. W. 1
9 <sup>th</sup> Div	Dec	1	





# Society of Israel Philatelists

## Endowment Fund 2012 News

Listed below are Hall of Famers for 2012. As no official Endowment Campaign was launched in 2012, these folks are especially dear to us and appreciated by us for their unsolicited contributions to the Endowment Fund. Their commitment to supporting the SIP and investing in the future of Holy Land philately is admirable and praiseworthy.

### KING DAVID level

#### MIRIAM Level

Dr. Stanley Brown

Donald Chafetz

Dallas Chapter of the SIP

Dr. Marshall Train

Michael & Faye Bass

#### MOSES Level

Leland Abbey

Sydney Bash

Gregg & Michelle Philipson

We would again like to acknowledge the following chapters and societies who invested in the SIP during 2011:

As they closed their chapters, these groups honored us with Special Society Gifts:

### Israel Plate Block Society

### Baltimore SIP Chapter

### Philadelphia SIP Chapter

### Berkshire Hills Chapter

As they celebrated the  
Chapter's 50th Anniversary

with original members

Rabbi Harold Salzman

George Frankel

### Gifts in 2011

From Gregg & Michelle Philipson in memory of  
Mr. Jack Schwartz

Dallas Chapter in memory of Manny Marx

Dick and Betty Barson in memory of Sam Jaffe

In Memoriam Gifts to the Web Archive Fund:

Dick and Betty Barson in memory of Dr. Arnie  
Paddock, late Dallas Chapter President

# The Shanghai Ghetto and the Siberian Connection

## INTRODUCTION

Untold tens of thousands of scholarly works, as well as humble memoirs, have attempted to cobble the cataclysmic epoch of the Second World War into a meaningful whole. Whether as a sweeping historical narrative, or the furtive reminiscence of a single trembling octogenarian, the stories rivet our attention despite the endless retelling. Three-quarters of a century have passed since the kindling of flames which consumed the lives of sixty million people, mentally and physically maimed multiple times that number, and denigrated any illusion of civilized behavior; yet, the stories maintain a punishing intensity because they play on foibles that have similarly tormented individuals and societies for centuries. Times and costumes change: the irrationality, however, is timeless. We now relive through a philatelic window one of the microcosms of that upheaval, one which proved more life-sparing than life-consuming. Join us as we re-tell the story of a short-lasting migration that saved the lives of more Jews than would occur through the immigration allowances of all the Allied nations combined. This is the story of China and the Shanghai ghetto.

## THE STORY'S BEGINNING



Figures 1a and 1b

mailed from Vienna on April 15, 1941 to a Heinrich Herman in Shanghai.

The cover is posted with 25 pfennig view of the Leipzig Fair stamp (Scott 497), issued March 3, 1940, with a circular date cancel

(CDC) from Wien, Austria (Vienna). Vienna at that time was no longer part of a sovereign Austria; rather, since the Anschluss in 1938, it was considered part of greater Germany. The obverse reveals a German censor mark with an imprint indicating the letter had been opened.



Figure 2a and 2b

The sender is either the wife or an immediate relative of the receiver, and the required use of “Sara” as the middle name, under Nazi anti-Jewish Law #174 restricting Jewish civil rights (promulgated in 1938), indicates a female of Jewish descent requiring this name under penalty of the law. The letter was transmitted to China via Siberia, and was posted two months prior to the German invasion of Russia in Operation Barbarossa on June 22, 1941, which severed this postal route between the newly developed belligerents.

Figures 2a and 2b are a post card sent from Shanghai to a woman in Vienna (again note “Germany” in the address) with passage via Siberia. The card is of a street scene in Goochow, China and postage was paid with a 30 cent (100 cents=1 Yuan) brown-violet Liao Chung-kai issue of 1930 (Scott 321), postmarked with a CDC from Shanghai on June 11, 1940. A German censor’s



stamp is imprinted to the left of the postmark. The card indicates that a letter has been received and the receiver will carry out what was requested to the best their strength will permit. Greetings and kisses are offered to family members.

## WAR SITUATION

With these two pieces of mail we have now experienced a round trip between China and annexed Austria via Siberia following the outbreak of World War II on September 1, 1939. This was before the United States entry into the conflict and prior to the eventual German shredding of the German-Russian non-aggression pact of August, 1939.

On the other side of the ledger, however, Japan had already overrun Shanghai in its ongoing conflict with the Republic of China. The pot was boiling but had not yet run over. For those familiar with the events of this era, all of the above facts are self explanatory. This setting raises the curtain on the remarkable story of the approximately twenty thousand Jews who were to escape from the maws of the Holocaust into the sanctuary that Shanghai would offer, once all other avenues of escape from Nazi occupied Europe had been ostensibly closed by universally imposed, restrictive immigration laws.

## JEWISH PRESENCE IN CHINA

A Jewish presence in China dates back to at least the eighth century when traders from the western part of Asia plied the Silk Road and an eastern China settlement of Jews was established in Henan province in the city of Kaifeng. Thousands of Jews worshipped in a synagogue that was built in 1163 CE, although the Jewish community would subsequently move



Figure 3 Ohel Rachel Synagogue to other eastern Chinese cities including Harbin and Tianjin.

In the century leading up to World War II three distinct periods of immigration occurred resulting in Shanghai becoming the center of a distinctly European Jewish culture. The initial wave of immigration was voluntary and commercial in nature, the latter two resulted from religious persecution.

The initial surge occurred in the 1840's, bringing Jewish merchants

and businessmen from western Asia, mainly from Bagdad, with the establishment of a Jewish community in Shanghai. Families that became incredibly wealthy and influential included the Sassoons and Kadoories, with extensive business activities in finance and real estate. In the twentieth century the Sassoons were responsible for building the magnificent Ohel Rachel synagogue (Figure 3) and founding the Cathay Hotel (Figure 4), now called the Peace Hotel.

## RUSSIAN JEWS

A second surge of immigrants arrived as refugees from Russian persecution of Jews in the early twentieth century, escaping pogroms and later the Russian Revolution. Many of these Jews settled in northeastern China, but with the Japanese invasion of Manchuria in the early 1930's, the Jewish population uprooted and moved south to Shanghai. Russian Jews did not integrate with the older established Shanghai Jewish elite; rather they established their own enclave of homes and shops.



Figure 5 Ohel Moish Synagogue

The city boasted seven synagogues, one being Ohel Moishe (Figure 5), a Jewish school, sports teams, Boy Scout troop and numerous cultural venues. The early 1930's saw European émigrés turn enclaves of Shanghai into a cultural milieu earning the name "Little Vienna."

## JEWS FROM WAR TORN EUROPE

The third and most ominous mass migration of Jews to China, specifically to Shanghai, was a reaction to state-controlled anti-Semitism of the Nazi era. In the 1937-1939 time period, immigration options from Nazi-dominated Europe went from limited to non-existent with the exception of an isolated light at the end of the tunnel in China. The Japanese, having overrun Shanghai in 1937, allowed the port city to grant entry without immigration quotas or requirements for visas, passports, health certificates or evidence of financial independence. Shanghai existed as a free transit port allowing some twenty thousand Jews to escape the eventual Holocaust, with ninety percent of them remaining in Shanghai for the duration of the war, the remainder finding a way on to the United States, Palestine or Australia.

Japanese restrictions were placed on immigration to Shanghai in 1939, but this did not prevent additional Jewish escapees from Europe reaching the city, impoverished but alive. Particularly telling was the escape of Polish and Lithuanian Jews in 1940 and 1941 through the humanitarian efforts of Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese Consul in Lithuania, and the escape of large numbers of Austrian Jews through the efforts of the Chinese consul-general in Vienna, Ho Feng Shan, against the contrary orders of his superiors. Many of these Jews fled over vast stretches of Russia through Siberia by train to Vladivostok, then by boat to Kobe, Japan and then on to Shanghai. Others were to escape from Genoa, Italy by boat. Despite Shanghai's incredibly crowded living conditions and limited food supplies, the roughly twenty thousand refugees were indeed able to survive.



Figure 4 Cathay Hotel

The entrance of Japan into the world conflict following the Pearl Harbor attack resulted in Jews in Shanghai being classified as “stateless” people, similar to many other nationalities trapped by the war. The Nazis pressured their Japanese allies to give up their Shanghai Jews, but despite the Axis alliance, the Japanese refused to accede to the demand. It appears that, despite their military alliance, Japan was not unperceptive of Nazi bigotry as reflected in racial intolerance to people of color.



By late 1942, however, the Japanese decided to relocate all stateless refugees who had arrived after 1937 into the crowded and poor one-square-mile Hongkou section of Shanghai, creating a ghetto (Figure 6). The official name given to the area



Crowding was unimaginable, with as many as thirty people somehow crowding into a single room for living space. Five to six families might share one room. Food was scarce, starvation and disease were a constant threat and food was rationed; yet, in the absence of genocidal behavior by the Japanese, the vast majority of the ghetto population did survive the war. Indeed, the greatest loss of life in the ghetto resulted from Allied air raids of Shanghai in 1944 and 1945.

24



## END OF THE GHETTO

The Shanghai ghetto was liberated on September 3, 1945. With the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, and the defeat of the Republic of China by the communists in 1949, the Jewish ghetto for practical purposes ceased to exist.

By 1957 only about one hundred Jews remained, of whom most are now deceased. What little remains of the Jewish presence of the bygone era are plaques commemorating their prior presence (Figure 7) and a sparse Jewish museum at the site of a previous synagogue. Time and destiny have transposed Shanghai into a city of towering skyscrapers, with many of the ghetto buildings that had at one time housed the homes and shops of refugees in "Little Vienna" now existing only in the memory of a few survivors.

## CONCLUSION OF THE STORY

We, in the comfort of our homes, contemplating with relish tonight's dinner, are unlikely to truly comprehend the physical and mental anguish experienced by these thousands. And yet, just think, they were the lucky ones! They were the survivors- the twenty thousand who would otherwise most assuredly have been added to the toll of The Six Million.

And if the claustrophobia of the ghetto existence is not enough, take the time to do just one more thing relevant to our story.

From your bookshelf take down a world map or open a world atlas. Stretch it out on the table and check out the route of our two philatelic missives, and the route of the human beings that traversed from the relatively small geographic spectrum we know

as eastern Europe across the overwhelmingly vaster stretches of Russia, particularly Siberia, then make a right turn and head south to Vladivostok and cross the Sea of Japan, and make one more right hand turn across the South China Sea to the port of Shanghai. Try the same thing also from Genoa, Italy by sea to Shanghai. You will, we believe, have created an indelible vignette into the world of our forefathers three quarters of a century ago.

A post card sending love and kisses to family, a letter addressed from an enforced "Sara" to a dear one: poignant, silent remembrances, are they not?

### References:

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2. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai\\_Ghetto](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai_Ghetto)
3. <http://www.theholocaustexplained.org/ks3/responses-1933-1945/what-did-individuals-do/shanghai/> ▪

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# Comments on The Black Death, Cholera and the Stigma of Religion

I have a few comments on the Spector, Markovits article entitled. *The Black Death, Cholera and the Stigma of Religion* published in the October 2011 issue of *The Israel Philatelist*.

## BACKGROUND

It is doubtful that the entry point into Italy for the Baltimore - Messina cover was at Brindisi (Figure 1). If it had arrived by ship, traveling through the Mediterranean from Gibraltar eastward, the vessel should have called at Messina and unloaded its mail for Italy first, before proceeding to Brindisi.

However, the partially illegible postmark on the back tells us the true story. It is the postmark of the railroad post office, "Modane - Torino Uf: Amb.", (possibly dated "7 Sept. 85"). This is translated as "Modane-Torino Ambulant Office." The arrival postmark of Messina, is dated "10 (Sept.), 6 S" (or 6 p.m. in the evening). See Figure 2.

## COVER ROUTING

The letter in Figure 1 was posted in Baltimore on August 28, 1885. It probably traveled to New York, where it was placed in a sealed bag addressed to Italy and was placed aboard a transatlantic steamer. When the steamer docked in Liverpool, the card was carried across England by rail to Dover and then on to Calais. In France, it traveled by rail to Paris and through France to Modane which was on the French side of the Franco-Italian frontier. At the Italian exchange office in Modane, the sealed bag was opened, the mail was taken out, backstamped and the letter routed south via the Modane-Torino railway. It should have traveled by rail down the western coast of Italy, arriving at the Lazzaretto station on the island of Nisida, just west of Naples, where it may have been detained for fumigated. However, other than the single vertical slit on the back, the cover shows no sign of being fumigated.

## WAS THE COVER FUMIGATED

The envelope does not appear to be discolored, as would be the case if it had been exposed to sulphur or other fumes. The discoloration I do see appears to be from aging, not from fumes. And, I am not sure I can see a corresponding slit on the face of the envelope, where the knife passed all the way through. That needs to be investigated. Also, there is no indication on the envelope that the sealed mail bag was opened at Nisida, but sometimes Nisida did not apply their cachet to mail.

Assuming it did pass through Nisida, it could have either been



Figure 1



Figure 2

A photocopy showing a complete postmark.

carried by rail to Villa San Giovanni, near Reggio di Calabria, and ferried across the straits to Messina, or been carried by steamer from Naples to Messina, in either case arriving on the 10th of September.

I hope the above provides some clarification. ■



## Author's Response

The authors thank the respondent for a marvelous exposition regarding the likely routing of our letter that clarifies the transit quite nicely.

We were troubled as to the actual routing but were unable to decipher the back stamping with the astuteness that was done, and this again supports the axiom that two heads – or in this case – three heads are better than one.

We also wish to address the issue raised as to the type of fumigation applied to the cover. Liquids, heat and chemical fumes were utilized for fumigation purpose. Techniques included gas treatment, soaking or splashing

with chlorine, scorching, and spraying. Sulfuric acid gas treatment could leave it's trademark on the cover, however nascent oxygen was another approach, produced from formaldehyde addition to potassium permanganate. The type of procedure utilized, the skill of the worker performing the procedure, and the vigor, or lack thereof applied to the application, would all influence whether or not a residual footprint could be detected on the envelope.

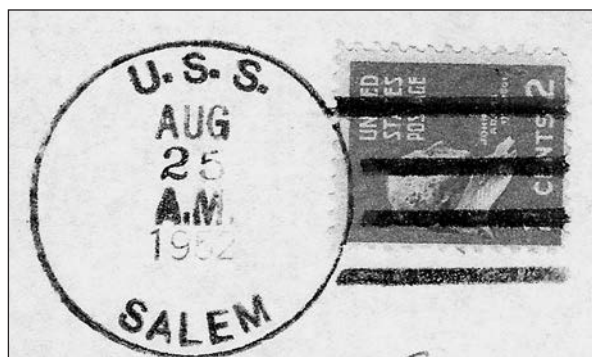
We can conclude that the slit was indicative of manipulation of the cover for purposes of fumigation, but by what method we remain uncertain. ■

o - o - o - o

Harry Greenwald, Chicago, IL

A Different Type of

## Biblical Named Post Office



Ship cancellation, August 25, 1952



USS Salem (CA 139)

Ordered by the US Navy on 14 June, 1943, USS Salem (CA 139) was laid down on 4 July, 1945 at the Bethlehem Steel Company's Quincy Yard in Quincy, MA and launched on 25 March, 1947. She was commissioned at the Boston Navy Yard on 14 May, 1949.

USS Salem served a distinguished 10 year career as flagship of the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and the Second Fleet in the Atlantic. During her career she served as host to such notables as the US Ambassador to Spain, John D. Lodge; the Honorable Thomas S. Gates, Undersecretary of the Navy; Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; the Shah of Iran; the President of Lebanon and the King and Queen of Greece.

Although Salem never fired her mighty guns in anger, her very presence served as a stimulus for peace during those troubled times that came to be called the Cold War. She served as a Lady of Diplomacy, rather than as a means of exerting brute force.

When USS Salem was decommissioned on 30 January, 1959 and joined the Atlantic Reserve Fleet at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, Dwight D. Eisenhower was president of the United States and everyone was watching I Love Lucy on their new television.

In October of 1994, Salem once again made her way north to her birthplace in Quincy, where she is now the centerpiece of the United States Naval and Shipbuilding Museum. Now "crewed" by a staff of museum professionals and enthusiastic volunteers, she is being restored to her full glory.

### References:

1. See **The Israel Philatelist**, December 2011, p. 214 for a discussion of other Salem post offices.
2. <http://www.uss-salem.org/museum/history/history.htm> ■

# The Kner Printing House

Izidor Kner was born on Feb. 5, 1860 into a Jewish itinerant bookbinder family in Gyoma, Hungary. Through hard work and self-education, he rose to become an outstanding individual in the fields of typography, bookbinding and book publishing in Hungary. The Hungarian Post celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Izidor Kner's birth by issuing a special stamp (Scott 4147) with his portrait on February 4, 2010 (Figure 1). The stamp also shows a fragment of Kner's contemporary writing paper and a drawing made on the basis of an etching showing the contemporary interior of the printing house.



Figure 1 Hungarian stamp issued on Jan. 26, 2010 for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Izidor Kner's birth.

Kner opened his one-man printing house in June 1882 in Gyoma. Hungary issued a stamp on Sept. 23, 1982 (Scott 2756) in recognition of the centenary of the founding of the Kner Printing House (Figure 2). The design of the stamp is based on a woodcut (1920) by the Hungarian architect, furniture designer and graphic artist Lajos Kozma, a colleague and close friend of the Kner family. The woodcut depicts one of Kner's early printer's devices (Haiman, 1991).



Figure 2. Hungarian stamp issued on Sept. 23, 1982 (Scott 2756) for the centenary of the Kner Printing House.

## GROWTH OF THE PRINTING HOUSE

By 1888, Kner's Printing House was already mentioned in the Almanac of Hungarian printers. Kner married Kornelia Netter in 1889. He used the money he received from the dowry to increase his printing business. In 1890 he purchased his first high-performance printing machine. Soon afterward, a period of uninterrupted development started, and by the beginning of the 1900's, nearly half of the settlements in contemporary Hungary were the clients of Kner's business. The little workshop had grown into a modern medium-sized provincial plant with 90-100 employees. In 1914, at an exhibition in Leipzig, Kner was awarded a gold medal for his activities.



Figure 3. Artistic invitation card by Kner Printing House.

Unfortunately, after the First World War, Romanian occupiers stole two-thirds of the printing equipment, and many clients were lost because of changes in the Hungarian-Romanian border. However, the Kner firm overcame these difficulties to again find financial success primarily because of its outstanding printing work and Kner's financial acumen. Izidor Kner created the economic basis for other interesting activities such as editing books and producing artistic invitation cards (Figure 3).



Figure 4. Photo of Imre Kner (l.) and his father Izidor Kner (r.), circa 1930.

## IMRE KNER AND HIS SIBLINGS

Izidor and Kornelia had six children: Louis who died at an early age; Imre, Endre, Albert, Erzsebet and Helena. Erzsebet specialized in fine-craft bookbinding and Albert worked as a publicity designer. But it was Imre (Figure 4) who had a great talent for design. In 1904 at the age of 14, Imre was sent to study at the Julius Maser Technikum für Buchdrucker in Leipzig where he excelled in all aspects of typographical design. On his return home, he became the artistic and technical director of the Kner Printing House at age 17.

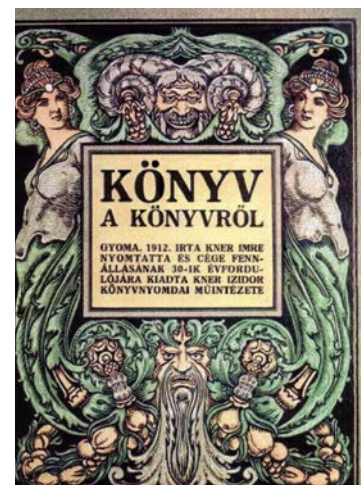


Figure 5. Baroque book cover designed by Imre Kner.

Imre Kner teamed with Lajos Kozma in 1918 to develop stylish baroque covers (Figure 5) and ornaments for book borders (Figure 6) the company printed (Haiman, 1991). These books made the Kner Printing House famous in Hungary and abroad. In the 1930's, Imre Kner changed the printing style to the then popular Bordonni typeface, and most books were subsequently printed in the neoclassical style (Figure 7). A detailed description of Imre Kner's design and literary contributions can be found in a monogram by his cousin, György Haiman (1991).



Figure 6. A selection of border ornaments used for book covers designed by Lajos Kozma.



## ACTIVITIES OF IZIDOR KNER

Izidor Kner also made great achievements in the social aspects of his life. Being a highly respected citizen of Gyoma, he was also an active member in his professional field. Besides his essays dealing with typography, he often published social action articles in which he encouraged the development of professional education, ending the exploitation of apprentices, and protesting unfair competition in industry. In 1932, on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the printing house, his home district elected him a life member of the municipal committee. In the same year he was awarded the title of guild master. After his death in 1935, Imre and Endre became owners of the Kner Printing House.

## THE DEMISE OF THE KNER PRINTING HOUSE

During World War II, the Nazi-controlled Hungarian government seized control of the Kner Printing House in 1944. Imre and Endre were arrested by the Gestapo and sent to a concentration camp where they died in 1945. Fortunately, Erzsebet and Albert survived the holocaust and emigrated to the United States.

Under the communist-controlled Hungarian government the printing house was nationalized in 1949. In 1963, the Kner Printing House was merged with the Tevan Printing House of Bekescsaba. The name Kner was retained, but the central office was located in Bekescsaba. After the communist regime was ousted from power, the printing house became a private company in 1991 with the Lang Publishing and Holding Co., Ltd. becoming the majority owner. In 1999, the State Printing House, PLC acquired majority ownership of the former Kner Printing House.

## THE KNER MUSEUM

The Kner Museum of the Printing Industry in Gyoma, Hungary's only printing museum, was established in 1970 in the former home of Imre Kner. The house was designed by Lajos Kozma

and built in the baroque style popular in the 1920's (Figure 8).

The exhibits include one of Kner's printing presses (Figure 9) and many books, invitation cards and other items printed by the Kner Printing House over the years. Touring the museum allows the visitor to reconstruct an important part of Hungarian culture viewed through the history of printing and design.

Izidor Kner built a successful printing business beginning in 1882 based on honesty, excellent business skills and superb artistic designs. After Kner's death in 1935, the Kner Printing House continued to thrive under his capable sons. Sadly, the lives of many family members were lost in the holocaust and the Kner Printing House was lost to the family forever.



Figure 8. Home of the Kner Museum of the Printing Industry in Gyoma, Hungary.



Figure 9. A printing press used by the Kner Printing House now on display in the Kner Museum.

## References

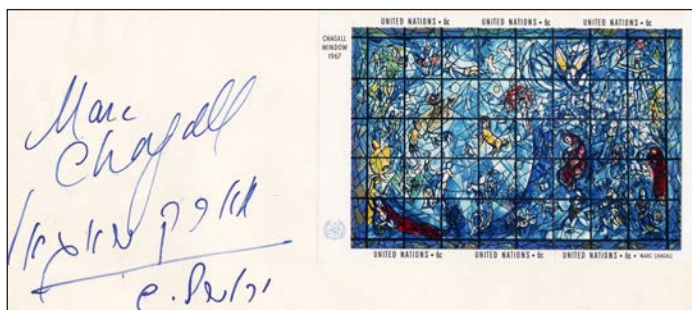
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2. *Hungarian Post Bulletin*, 2010. Stamp issued on Feb. 4, 2010 for the prominent Hungarian Izidor Kner, born 150 years ago.
3. Kner, Izidor, 2010. *Wikipedia*, the free encyclopedia. [http://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kner\\_Izidor](http://hu.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kner_Izidor).
4. The Kner Museum of the Printing Industry, 2010. <http://www.gyomaikner.hu/eng/muzeum.html>.

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Robert L Markovits

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# Judaica Items



Marc Chagall signature in Hebrew with  
United Nations souvenir sheet.



New York World's Fair 1939  
The Jewish Palestine Building

# The Jewish Gauchos



Cover prepared by CEFAL with special commemorative postmark of the Argentine Post.

## ALBERTO GERCHUNOFF

"We moved to Entre Ríos and settled in the Rajil colony, where we became farmers in the fullest sense. I spent several years there, tilling the land with my brother, guiding the harvester, and caring for the stock. The ox driver, a former soldier with General [Justo José] Urquiza [a caudillo who became the largest and wealthiest landowner in Entre Ríos], helped me perfect the art of horse-riding. He also initiated me in the use of the bola/ Like all Jewish boys in the colony, I looked like a gaucho. I wore widely cut trousers, a large homburg, and boots with ringing spurs; from the horn of the saddle hung a lasso of shining iron rings; and tied to my belt, next to my knife, were bolas for hunting.

No Jew of my age would claim to bring a wild yearling down with a jolt better than I. Nor could anyone else stop an unbroken colt in full flight dead in its tracks with a lasso....

In Rajil my youthful spirit was filled with mythical tales of Indians from nearby regions. Through picturesque, rustic gaucho tales, through simple rhapsodies to Argentina's past, I assimilated the traditions of the place, its collective memories, the imaginary adventures of local warriors. For the first time my heart opened up to the poetry of the countryside, making me aware of the native beauty of Entre Rios and igniting in me a steady pride in library and a love of criollo manners. The vast calmness of Entre Rios, bounded by rivers under a matchless sky, so excited me as to erase my origins and make me an Argentina."

## Reference

Stavans, Ilan Ed., **The Scroll and the Cross: 1000 Years of Jewish-Hispanic Literature**. New York: Routledge, 2003, p. 144-145, ISBN 2-415-92930-X. ■

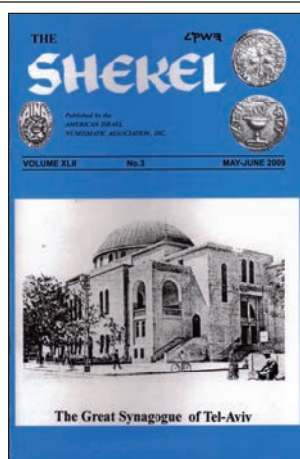
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# TIPH Forces in Hebron



Owing to its short lifespan, mail from TIPH-I is very scarce. Shown is a registered cover from TIPH-II posted in Hebron on 16 March 1998 bearing the cachet of the Italian commander, Elio Tagliaferri, on the front and back. The reverse side bears the receiving cancel (28 March 1998) in Ancore, Italy.



Shown above are two covers posted from Hebron by members of the Danish (19.3.1998), and Switzerland (16.7.1997) contingencies.

Following Goldstein's massacre at the Cave of Machpela in 1994, the United Nations, by Resolution #904, condemned the act and called for a temporary international presence in Hebron (TIPH). With the threat of the PLO's withdrawal from participation in peace negotiations unless this arrangement was carried out, Israel agreed to the TIPH forces.

## TIPH-I

The TIPH accord signed on 31 March 1994 requested Italy, Denmark and Norway to provide support staff and observers. The TIPH-I Mission, operative beginning 8 May 1994, had as its aim the "promoting of stability and a normal life in Hebron." While the agreement only lasted 3 months, it made it possible for the international community to demand within the context of the Oslo Accords (Oslo II and Taba) the Mission's revitalization. It was inaugurated on 30 Jan 1997 when Norway, Italy, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey signed a memorandum of agreement in Oslo.

## TIPH-II

Norway, through its embassy in Tel Aviv, currently coordinates the activities of the TIPH-II. This agreement is now in its 15th year. Israeli acquiescence in this matter marks the only time when an international observer team has been operative within its borders.

## INCIDENTS

On 26 March 2002 two TIPH observers, Catherine Berruex (Switzerland) and Turgut Cengiz Toytunç (Turkey) were killed by Palestinian gunmen. One of the gunmen was found & convicted by an Israeli military court, in September 2003. On 8 February 2006 following an attack on their headquarters by rioting Palestinians, all TIPH observers were temporarily withdrawn from Hebron & resumed their duties in April 2006. ■

O - O - O - O

Moshe Kol Kalman, Kibbutz Lahav, Israel

# German Welfare Stamp

In 1980 the Federal Republic of Germany issued a 60 pfennig stamp to honor the 100th anniversary of the German Association for Public and Private Welfare. A century ago the founders of the Association included representatives from towns, cities, charitable institutions, universities and businesses organized to cope with the problems of poverty. The stamp bears the name of the Association and emblems of the leading member groups.

Note the use of the menorah. Can anyone provide the name of the organization represented by the menorah? Please let the editor know. ■





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From Top Left:

Israel, 1948, First Coin Issue Cover, Registered cover from Jerusalem to U.S.A. F. Estimate: \$750-1,000.

Israel, Jerusalem Local 25 mills on cover, Bale 106, VF. Estimate: \$500-750.

Israel 1978 Camp David Summit, 79.5 grams 22 kt. gold, in olive wood box, BU. Estimate: \$2,500-3,000.

Israel, 1948 20 m First Coin, Imperforate Horizontally, Scott 5 variety, VF. Estimate: \$1,500-2,000.

Israel, 1948 Postage Dues, Tab Blocks of Four, Scott J1-5, F/VF. Estimate: \$750-1,000.

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# Twice Interned

## The Story of Max K. Harwitz

### INTRODUCTION

Many German Jewish refugees were interred by the British during World War II, especially after the May-June 1940 period when it appeared that Germany would invade Britain. However, after several years, most of the internees had been released. This was true for Max Harwitz; however, he has the “distinction” of being interned a second time which is quite unusual. This is his story.

### ENGLAND

Max worked in his father's successful tanning business which employed several hundred people. When the Nazis came to power, they eventually took over all German Jewish business, including Max's father's tanning business. Max's parents went to Shanghai, China and Max went to Britain. Figure 1 is a censored cover dated 23 June 1940 sent to him at the central camp, Douglas, IOM (Isle of Man). This camp was opened in late May to early June, 1940 and housed about 2000 men in 37 houses and 32 shops behind the Central Promenade. It was closed 10 months later.



Figure 1

### CANADA

By September 20, 1940, Max had been shipped to Canada and was interned at Camp “L” which was located at Cove Field, Quebec. Figure 2 shows a cover sent to him at Camp L, dated 20 September 1940 and censored by the Canadians. This camp only operated from July to October, 1940 and held Jewish refugees. The “Int. OP.” abbreviation stands for “Internment Operations” in the red censored handstamp.

The Figure 3 cover is dated September 22, 1941 and was sent to Max at “Refugee Camp N.” It was censored in England by Examiner 4261 and by the Internment Operations in Canada. It was properly franked (at 1sh. 3d.) for airmail to Canada and arrived on October 26, 1941. Camp “N” was located in Sherbrooke, Quebec and operated from October 1940 to July 1946.

### RETURN TO ENGLAND

Canadian Government records indicate that Max was “returned to England” in November 22, 1943. Figure 4 shows a Canadian Field Post Office cover dated January 24, 1944 which was sent to Max at “P Camp, Isle of Man % Chief of Postal Censor, Liverpool.” It was censored by the British (Examiner 7155). The oval purple handstamp reads “Headquarters, Post Office/28Jan1944/Intern. Camps Douglas I.O.M.” Camp P was also known as



Figure 2





Figure 3

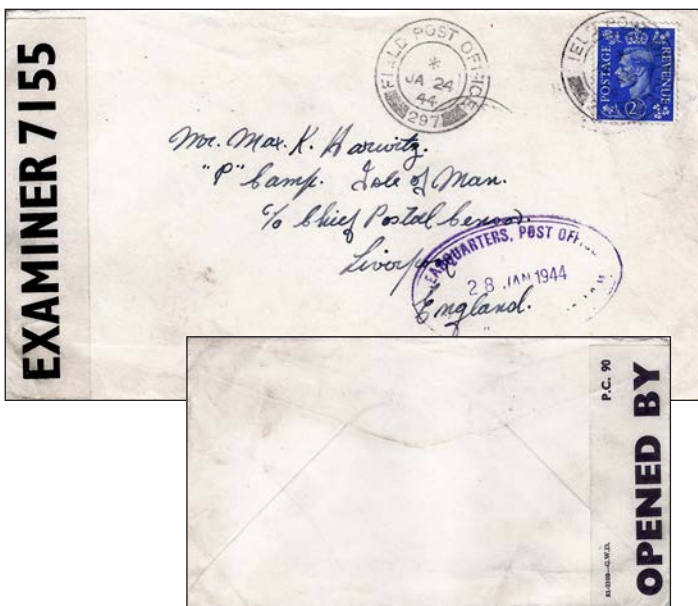


Figure 4

Hutchinson Camp and consisted of 33 houses which formed Hutchinson Square. The camp was closed during March 1944 to prepare it for German POWs.

So how did Max get back into an internment camp? According to Marvin Siegel z"l, when Max returned to England, he was employed by a tanning company. When he refused to disclose trade secrets which he had learned at his father's tanning company, the owner had him sent back to the internment camp on the Isle of Man. However, by October 20, 1944 he had been released.

The October 24, 1944 Aufbau reported that his father, Willy



Figure 5

Harwitz, had died in Shanghai on February 7, 1944. The same announcement listed Max as living at 35 Broud Oak Road, Worsley, Lanes, England. An internet search indicates that Max came to the United States in 1946 and on December 25, 1946 he married his girlfriend, Regine, who had come to the United States, prior to the war. In the process of becoming a naturalized citizen, Max changed his name to Harwick. They eventually moved to Butler, Missouri (Figure 5). An internet search indicates that he died in 2002 in Boca Raton, Florida at age 98.

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O - O - O - O

## CENTRAL SORTING BUILDING, TEL AVIV



The Central Sorting House, Tel Aviv, was inaugurated in 1980 and symbolized the modern era of the Israel Postal Services: sorting according to zip code, facing, cancellation and computerised control.

# Forerunner Gem



## THE ONLY RECORDED BALLON MONTE LETTER TO THE HOLY LAND

Formule imprimée properly franked 40c rate., 2x20c Ceres 1870 "Siege printing" (Yvertet & Teillier no. 37) cancelled PARIS 20 OCT 1870 (1) sent to Jerusalem/Syrie, boxed PD (2) on face. On back MARSEILLE 2 NOV 70 (3), ALEXANDRIE 12 NOV 7 (4) and arrival mark JAFFA/SYRIE 15 NOV 70 (5).

Letter left Paris with the "Garibaldi" balloon. The message in French from Albert Cohen, trustee of Rothschild family's charitable trusts, to the Director of the Rothschild Hospital, Jerusalem telling him about the Paris Siege, Balloon Post, etc.

The right 20c stamp fell off and was replace. Certificate from P. Behr "...Unique Balloon mail sent to the Holyland...the 2nd 20c on the right side does not belong..." otherwise vf. ■

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■ **WANTED:** First New Year tabbed

commercial covers, rates, origins, destinations. Please send scans, prices to email: [jeanpaul.danon@free.fr](mailto:jeanpaul.danon@free.fr) or Jean-Paul Danon, 157 Avenue de Malakoff, 75116, Paris, France. ■

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1927, Civil Administration, the Pictorials, 2 mil horizontally ribbed paper, SG 90 (Sc. 63), a very rare stamp in a margin block of 10 (5x2) (Bale 90a \$6000), NH, Extremely Fine

E 1929 Palestine 13 mil pre-printed registered entire Essay, essay for H. 2-6, artist's mock-up composed of 3 blue-prints: 1) sky blue background; 2) milky blue central design and 3) dark blue frame, filing holes not affecting, unique, Muentz cert., Very Fine.



(Above & at right) The First Interim Period: Pre-paid civilian mail sent through military post offices when stamps were unavailable, November 1, 1918 registered cover posted a Beirut civilian post office, passed to FPO 62 at Damascus, sent on to BAPO T (Port Said) where the mixed franking of 1 pi ul-tramarine (Sc. 2) and a pair of 4 m. Typos (Sc. 7) were applied before sending it on to Alexandria. Registered prepaid covers are very rare and this is the only one recorded from SZ 8, censored, Very Fine

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**Tristan da Cunha:**  
Shackleton-Rowett Expedition of Gough Island. Routed thru St. Helena.



**Tristan da Cunha:** From the Peter Green correspondence—believed to be the earliest cover (front) originating from an island—Feb 1892.



P 1927, Civil Administration, the Pictorials, 5 mil Harrison color trial, a pair of the 5 m in ochre overprinted with two-line "Harrison's/Specimen" (Bale \$3000), rare, Extremely Fine.



1923 Palestine 1st P. Dues, 8 mil imperforate between pair, SG D4b (Sc. J4a), used pair with 5/2724 Jerusalem cancel, one of 4 known used pairs (no mint ar known) (SG £2250), rare, Very Fine.



Palestine acceptance on 4th South American Graf Zeppelin Flight, July 28, 1933, 2-13 m Pictorials paying registered rate to GB where a pair pof 5d. KGV stamps were applied for the Zeppelin service to Brazil (April 3), with all the appropriate hand stamps and labels, 10 covers known from Palestine, a great rarity (Si. 223, £2400), Very Fine



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# Revised SIP Catalogue of Israel Philatelic Items



Figure 1  
Maximum Card



Figure 2  
Vending Machine Maximum Card



Figure 3  
Stamp Information Folder

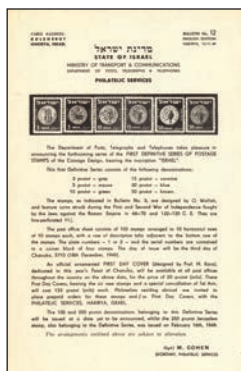


Figure 4  
Stamp Information Bulletin



Figure 5  
PO Openings



Figure 6  
Poster

The updated catalogue list various collateral philatelic items produced by the State of Israel postal administration and privately by dealers. As of 2011, the catalogue listings include:

- Maximum Cards (Figures 1-2)
- Stamp Information Folders (Figure 3)
- Stamp Information Bulletins (Figure 4)
- Post Office Openings (Figure 5)
- Posters (Figure 6)

The various listings in each category are provided as a series of Microsoft Excel spreadsheets with some additional spreadsheets located on multiple tabs. The files were saved in “compatibility mode” so there should be no problems viewing the spreadsheets even if you do not own a copy of the program, Microsoft Office 2010.

In the prior version of the catalogue, we did not list any values for the items. Bernard Perrin and I had a lengthy discussion on this topic and we feel that the quantities available for sale as individual items are not sufficient enough for us to determine individual values. Generally, the material is sold as a collection, but some valuing guidelines are provided.

The listings are current thru 2009 or 2010 and are based upon the

collections of the authors with no claim as to completeness being made. No doubt there are many items that are not listed. If you should find some items, please send detailed information to **The Israel Philatelist** editor: e-mail [sipeditor@gmail.com](mailto:sipeditor@gmail.com) or to: Sid Morginstin PO Box 8101 Trenton NJ 08650; e-mail: [Leadstamp@Verizon.Net](mailto:Leadstamp@Verizon.Net) with a subject line: Israel Philatelic Items.

To produce the catalogue required a large amount of data entry. No doubt, there are typographical errors which should be reported to the authors.

As noted in the copyright: this is an open source catalogue. Any collector may add a new listing. Submissions should be in Microsoft Excel format and the text in Microsoft Word format and sent to the editor of **The Israel Philatelist**. It will be reviewed by the authors for inclusion in the next version.

Some suggestions for future listings are: first flights, presentation cards and philatelic show items.

Finally, with the catalogue being an open source catalogue, it is the hope of the authors that new listings will be added so the catalogue so it is always up to date. The catalogue may be ordered from the SIP Educational Fund. See the inside back cover ■



# Yeshurun Synagogue Jerusalem



The Yeshurun Central Synagogue in Jerusalem was founded in 1923. Services were held in temporary premises until the cornerstone of the distinctive building on King George Street was laid in 1934 and completed in 1936. The Yeshurun Central Synagogue received the blessing and active support of the Chief Rabbi of Israel Rav Avraham Hacohen Kook who presented the synagogue with its first Sefer Torah.

shiurim (lessons) are of a high standard. The Library one of the most important of its kind in Jerusalem is open to the public for research and as a lending library. The Charity Fund of the Yeshurun Organization carries out distributions to Jerusalem's poor on Pesach and Rosh Hashana. The Yeshurun Synagogue has been serving the Jewish community in Jerusalem for over 85 years. Web address: <http://yeshurun-jerusalem.org/> ■



Rochlin Catalog

One stamp in a series of 6 stamps in the 1937 Historic Sites and Public Institutions Series. Each stamp in the series was issued in five different colors. The Yeshurun Synagogue issue's Rochlin numbers and colors are: 416 (green), 422 (black), 428 (brown), 434 (blue) and 440 (green/black).

The synagogue's name "Yeshurun" is taken from the Bible (Deuteronomy 33, 5) which refers to the Kingship of Hashem when the people are gathered in unity. The Yeshurun Central Synagogue became the synagogue attended by Chief Rabbis, Presidents, Prime Ministers and the leaders of Israeli society. The synagogue's world renowned cantor, Chazan Asher Hainowitz leads the services on Shabbat (Saturdays) and Chagim (holidays).

The Beit Medrash is attended daily by over 90 retirees. The

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## Massad Labels Addendum

# “Forerunners” And Experimental Issues

### THE MYSTERY

In **The Israel Philatelist** December 2011 issue was an article titled : Part 1 “Forerunners” and Experimental Issues, Massad Labels - A Summary. There I presented the interesting phenomenon regarding the printing of the “Beit-Hakerem” labels which I named “Late Night.” This phenomenon was based on three observations:

1. The fact that there were labels where the imprinted time of production was very late on the night of June 17th, well beyond normal working hours of postal clerks.
2. That the serial number of the imprinted stamp didn't correlate with the chronological order of the printing,
3. Labels from the 102048 machine were found that had an imprinted date of 18 Jun 91, i.e. the second day of service, with a time imprint from the afternoon hours (see details in the original article, especially Figures 6-8). I also presented a theory trying to explain this phenomenon.



Comparison of two different printings of “Terminal ID 102030,.

Top label: Type A - Mem-Sofit is narrow, zero is wide

Bottom label: Type B - Mem-Sofit is wide, zero is narrow

In the summer of 2003, I had an unexpected opportunity to meet members of the staff of the Massad Team, who were present during the first day ceremony for the “Beit Hakerem” trial service. During an interview with them, I found that my theory was wrong, and they provided me with first hand facts what had occurred. The following paragraphs present the solution to the “Late-Night” mystery and reveals a yet unnoticed variety of the “Beit-Hakerem” labels.

### MYSTERY SOLVED AND A NEW DISCOVERY

According to the members of the Massad Team that were present at the “Beit-Hakerem” branch on the first day of the trial service on June 17th, 1991, the large volume of orders and the fact that there were less printers than Massad Terminals was the reason for which the printing of the labels continued until the very late hours of night. The setting of a terminal ID was flexible, hence it was possible to enter the numbers 102030, 102048 and 102056 at each of the terminals and direct its printing to either of the printers that were available. Hence at a certain point in time it was possible to print from two terminals labels carrying the same terminal ID 102030 - on two different printers! A closer look at two of the figures presented in the previous article (Figures 6 and 7) shows that the printing of these two labels, both carrying terminal ID 10230, is slightly different. Placing one on top of the other, we can observe setting-width varieties of various characters. For example, the “Mem-Sofit” character (last letter in “Yerushalayim” - top-right corner) and the zeros in the terminal ID number. ■

## New Members

Members are requested to inform the Grievance Committee within 30 days if they know of any reason why the following applicant should not be admitted to membership as provided by the Society By-Laws.

10570	David Kreshek, M.D.	Limestone, TN
10571	Dr. Robert Abrahams	Monroe, NJ
10572	Morris Futrell	Louisville, KY
10573	Mark Aaron, D.M.D.	Great Barrington, MA
10574	Larry Goldberg	Buffalo Grove, IL
10575	William Billingsley	Hoover, AL
10576	Beverly K. Lenny	Las Vegas, NV
LM735	Robert K. Lesser	Weston, CT
LM736	Prof. Arnold Krammer	College Station, TX



## Dr. Arnold Paddock z"l

The Dallas SIP Chapter mourns the sudden and unexpected passing of its longtime president, Dr. Arnold Paddock on February 3, 2012. Born in Boston and a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Arnie held a Ph.D. in metallurgy from the University of Denver. He was a master teacher of physics at Richland College and of children at Temple Shalom Sunday School. Arnie was a volunteer streetcar conductor, entertaining tourists from all over the world with funny stories of Dallas history. His popular public lectures on wide ranging topics were filled with remarkable knowledge and delightful humor. Arnie's philatelic interests centered on Judaica, containers and transportation. Our chapter has suffered an irreparable loss.

Walter J. Levy  
Past President, Dallas Chapter

**BERKSHIRE HILLS**

Rabbi Harold I. Salzmann  
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Program: 1945 The Holy Land's First International Philatelic Exposition

Chapter meets the last Sunday of the month at Markovits Stamp House 3 Shamrock St., Stockbridge, MA, at 10:30 am. ■

**CENTRAL, NJ**

Gary Theodore  
PO Box 9

West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Program: The Stamps and Postal History of Judea and Samaria (West Bank)

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**

Robert B. Pildes, M.D.  
1319 Ridge Ave.  
Evanston, IL 60201-4131

Program: Forerunner Foreign Destinations

presented by Bob Pildes

Chapter meets the 4th Thursday of the month (except August and December)

**AFFILIATED  
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**CLEVELAND**

Howard S. Chapman  
25250 Rockside Road  
Bedford Heights, OH 44146

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. ■

**DALLAS**

Dr. Arnold Paddock  
3952 Candlenut  
Dallas, TX 75244

Program: Perry Denton  
Stamps at the Back of the Book  
Chapter meets 3rd Monday, 7:00 pm at the Conference Room, Jewish Community Center, 7900 Northaven Road, Dallas. TX ■

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

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**CHERRY HILL**

Ronald Zukin  
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Margate, NJ 08402-2612 ■

**DENVER**

Mark Vanier  
44 S. Adams  
Denver, CO 80209

Chapter meets 4th Wednesday at Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, 2038 South Pontiac Way, Denver at 7:30 pm. ■

**DETROIT-OAK PARK**

Ken Torby  
27655 Lasher Rd., #112  
Southfield, MI 48034

Program:

- Holocaust Part 2

Chapter meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Oak Park Community Center, 13600 Oak Park Blvd, Oak Park at 7:30 p.m. Philatelic bourse, trading, new issues, interesting program. Everyone welcome. Contact Nathan Peiss, 24610 Seneca, Oak Park, MI 48237 (248) 548-1888 for information. ■

**GREATER HARTFORD**

Jeffrey Rudolph  
124 Fuller Drive  
West Hartford, CT 06117 ■

**MARVIN SIEGEL CHAPTER**

Alan Doberman  
PO Box 239  
Pomona, NY 10970

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. ■

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Program: Ship's Mail  
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# Archie Comics

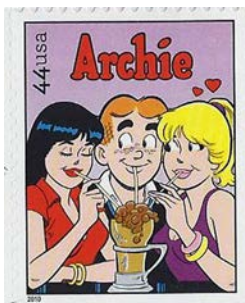
## The Jewish Connection

### INTRODUCTION

One of my enjoyable activities as a youth growing up in the Bronx, New York was collecting and trading comic books; one of my favorites was **Archie Comics**. I also avidly collected United States stamps. Considering the staid nature of United States commemorative stamps of the late 1940s, the idea of comic book characters appearing on those stamps was inconceivable. However, in recent years the United States Postal Service has featured comic books, many of which were dreamed up and often drawn by Jewish artists.<sup>1</sup>

### THE ARCHIE SUNDAY FUNNIES STAMP

On July 16, 2010, the United States Postal Service issued a set of five commemorative stamps recognizing the “Sunday Funnies”: *Beatle Bailey*, *Calvin and Hobbes*, *Archie*, *Garfield* and *Dennis the Menace*. The stamp with the Jewish connection is the *Archie Sunday Funnies* stamp (Scott 4469) which shows Archie sharing an ice cream soda with his two romantic interests, Veronica Lodge (left) and Betty Cooper (right).

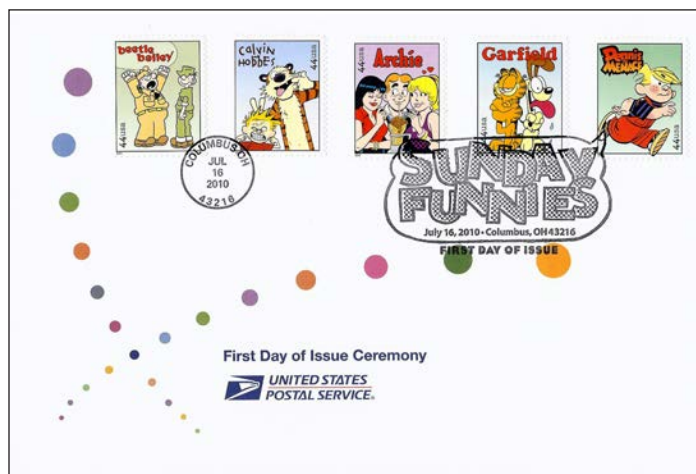


Left to right: Veronica Lodge, Archie Andrews, Betty Cooper

### THE BIRTH OF ARCHIE

The seed for the Archie character developed in John L. Goldwater's mind.<sup>2,3</sup> His inspiration was the Andy Hardy movie character played by Mickey Rooney. Goldwater thought that a “normal” high school kid who was always getting into typical teenage situations would appeal to comic book readers of the 1940s. Goldwater had formed a partnership with two other Jewish businessmen, Louis Silberkeit and Maurice Coyne, to form MLJ Comics (their first name initials).<sup>3</sup> Silberkeit focused on the business and financial end, Coyne served as MLJ's bookkeeper and chief financial officer and Goldwater became editor-in-chief and publisher of the enterprise. He hired writer Vic Bloom and artist Bob Montana (a non-Jew) to develop *Archie Comics*, which made its debut in December 1941 as a four-page insert in an issue of *Pep Comics*.<sup>2,3,4,5</sup>

Girl friend Betty and best friend Jughead Jones were the only supporting cast for Archie Andrews. Montana gradually introduced other main characters like second romantic interest Veronica; fellow students Reggie Mantle and Moose Mason; teacher Miss Grundy; school principal Waldo Weatherbee and many other minor characters.<sup>6</sup> The first stand-alone issue of *Archie Comics* has a cover date of Winter 1942; later the title was shortened just to *Archie*. The Archie comic books were so successful that the firm changed its name to Archie Comics in 1945. In 1947 Bob Montana began drawing and writing *Archie*



“Sunday Funnies”:

*Beatle Bailey, Calvin and Hobbes, Archie, Garfield and Dennis the Menace.*

as a newspaper comic strip, affectionately known as the “funnies,” in the United States. He continued drawing *Archie* until his death in 1975.<sup>7</sup>

### ARCHIE'S BUSINESS SUCCESS

The comic strip once ran in 750 newspapers. Comic book sales peaked at 50 million per year, but have leveled off to 15 million annually.<sup>2</sup> Many of the characters in *Archie* became stars in their own comic books. Although Archie and his friends remained 17 or so, the story lines followed societal trends of the day, contributing to its popularity.<sup>8</sup>

*Archie* has been portrayed on radio, television and in the movies. *Archie Andrews* was on radio from 1943 until 1944, and from 1945 until 1953.<sup>4</sup> On May 6, 1990, NBC telecast *Archie: To Riverdale and Back Again*, a TV movie that takes place 15 years after Archie's high school graduation.<sup>4</sup>

The dream of John Goldwater to create a typical teenager from an idyllic town in a comic book setting became one of the great success stories of the comic book industry.

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