

# THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. AUGUST 2012

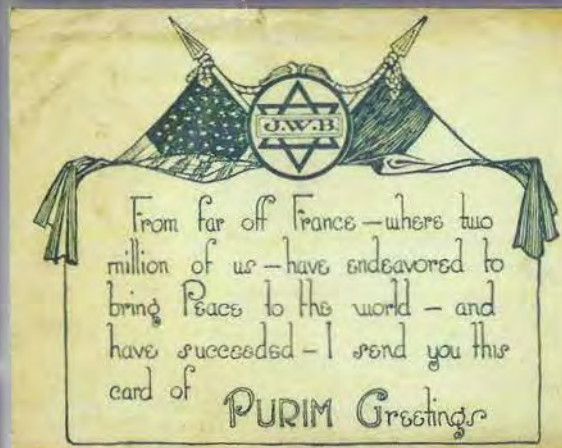
DEVOTED TO THE PHILATELY OF THE HOLY LAND

VOL LXIII NO 4



## Jewish Welfare Board Cards

BY DR. CARY FINDER PAGES 140-41



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לשנה טובה  
inscribed in  
Life for a  
New Year



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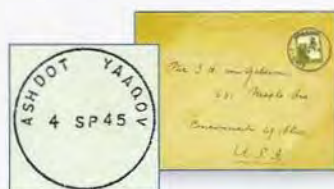
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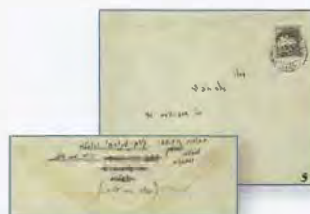
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2012

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# Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

*Guest editorial by Jesse I. Spector, Berkshire Hills S.I.P.*

## NON-PHILATELIC, PHILATELIC ARTICLE

As I read the most recent of a seemingly endless stream of doomsday letters about the impending demise of our hobby, the thought crossed my mind—you know, maybe they are right. Well now, that kind of thinking can be a real downer, but what to do if it's true? I mean most of us have our heads buried in the sand, and it's unrealistic coming up with ideas that don't fit with reality. I realize that another letter to the editor can be like using a teabag over for the fourth time—it really loses something in the taste; so I'd better have something to say—maybe not the answer, but something meaningful to impart.

## BACKGROUND

I have the typical credentials of a lot of stamp enthusiasts. I collected United States commemoratives and first day covers as a kid, and then as I got involved with high school, college work and cars, I put my stamps aside and went on to these other critical endeavors, convinced that someday my collection would bring me a fortune.

Then, also, there are those of you who never took a hiatus from your collecting spirit—maybe cars and school weren't your thing, or, maybe you found time for all of the above; but, whatever, you kept on collecting. Some of you really got our envy up when we read about you in Linns Stamp News having sold your fifth or eighth complete collection for three million dollars at Christies, London. Yes, somehow seeing your smiling face holding a billboard-sized facsimile of the real check didn't quite warm our hearts as much as that of your trust-fund advisor.

Anyway, regardless of which mold you fit—the fair weather collector who took up the hobby once again decades later or if you never gave up the hobby, there does come a moment of introspection when you think of things like: (a) what will it be like when I'm no longer here; or (b) what will happen to my collection if there are no more collectors?

Yes, these are the dilemmas we face if our hobby goes belly up. And make no bones about it, that eventuality may come to fruition. You see, bad things are possible.

## CURRENT SITUATION

So now to my main point: the postal service has decided to go modern, that is, for as long as it hangs on as a viable entity. The material it offers, while voluminous in quantity, is mostly without saving grace. Since the producer of our life blood has given in to artistic nihilism we are stuck with the preceding nineteenth and half of the twentieth century product—material that has all the attraction for our younger generation as last year's I-phone model.

Force-feeding a new generation will not be the answer. Yes, there will always be younger folks who will derive the same pleasure we do and are stewarded into the hobby through individuals, clubs and really good programs catering to them at stamp shows. My idea is a bit different though. It's a reflection of our Berkshire SIP chapter activities that seems to work.

## BERKSHIRE MEETINGS

We meet once a month on Sunday morning. We don't meet in a Temple basement room rather, we are fortunate to have the use of the hall of renowned philatelist Bob Markovits's house. We schmooze over bagels and coffee. We start at 10:30 am and quit at noon. Our schedule allows us to not schlep home from an evening meeting.

We have several members who have lovingly collected extensive philatelic material and ephemera related to the Levant, including all aspects of Forerunner, Palestine and Israel collecting, yielding endless, pleasurable programs. European and United States philately are also discussed, distinct yet invigorating. We have members who do not collect in these areas but collect other areas of philately, or are not collectors at all. They love to participate, learn and enjoy the philately, art and history. One does not have to sign a pledge to "collect the right thing."

A topic is chosen for each meeting allowing folks to go through their material. We also utilize the excellent, free SIP down-loadable slide presentations with accompanying crib-sheets. No professorship required to do a great presentation.

Finally, you might have guessed that some of us like to write. I do postal history writing and am an Associate Editor for *La Posta* (American postal history journal). Fellow club members generously make available

*continued on page 125*



# Letters to the Editor

Hello Don

I had read your interesting magazine, but I have two remarks.

Not only did Mr. Les Glassman win in Indonesia, but our CEFAI magazine won a Silver medal in Literature. It was the only Judaica magazine.

On page 84, Lisbon is the capital of Portugal, not Spain. In Lisbon the American Joint Distribution Committee had this postal address.

And last, but not least, you indicated you need articles. I have sent you two articles and I'm writing some for our next issue of CEFAI that will appear in October–November and you can select either of them. If you need any translated into English, please write me.

Chatima Tova leKulchem.  
Shana Tova umetuka  
Roberto Brzostowski, Argentina ■

Dear Don:

Recently the Palestine Study Group discussed your editorial in the February 2012 issue of "The Israel Philatelist." While we respect your personal opinions of the Palestine periods as being "uninspiring and dull" and "boring and monotonous," we do not find it as such. We actually think the reverse.

We look at each stamp as an item to be examined and studied. We appreciate the efforts of individuals and groups that have researched these stamps and have produced a multitude of articles and books. Apparently they did not find their work uninspiring, dull, boring or monotonous.

Stamp collectors may choose to want the latest next stamp issue and find satisfaction with filling in a space or find enjoyment of looking at a collection of many stamps that have color or variety. A philatelist, we believe, looks at stamps differently. While you may delight in looking at all those artistic stamp designs, we delight in more than just looking. The story of each

stamp, the knowledge of why stamps that appear to be similar but are different delights us.

We believe exhibitors feel as we do. Otherwise, all they would have to exhibit are pages of "artistic" stamps. Would "The Israel Philatelist" be more enjoyable if each issue had only "attractive stamps" shown?

We greatly appreciate your work on **The Israel Philatelist** and look forward to each information filled issue. Reviewing your commentary that discusses your increasing knowledge of illustrating, perhaps you should consider providing some designs that could have been, but remembering that the days past are not the days of today. Now there are computers; then there were none. Automobiles, airplanes, buildings then were different. They are not as artistic as today's stamps, but they are revered by many.

Irwin Math  
New Jersey  
For the Palestine Study Group ■

Dear Don

I truly enjoyed Mr. Leheavy's article concerning International Mail to Palestine/Israel and look forward to more of his research. I found it very informative, but must question two areas.

In the section on Normal Mail Routes, he indicates that one of the "latest postal administrations that resumed mail services to Israel was Singapore", using the date of 14 September, 1948. According to the magazine **Holy Land Postal History**, (HLPH) Vol. 8, pages 353 through 362, many countries signed postal agreements well into 1949, one of the last being Morocco on the 27th of March, 1949. I also find it odd nor do I understand the need for the agreement to name individual places inside the country in that, once the mail reached Haifa, it would have entered the Israeli mail stream. From the HLPH reference, there appears to have been 122 agreements that covered 108 distinct jurisdictions (in some cases such as the United States there were two agreements, one for surface mail and one for air mail). The second, I believe is a typo in that all my sources indicate that Israel was accepted into the U.P.U. on the 24th of December, 1949, not 1948.

Dick Herman  
South Florida Chapter of the S.I.P.  
Delray Beach, FL ■

Dear Don

Thanks for your note regarding my article in the June 2012 issue, p. 114. I would like to respond to Mr. Heman's comments.

1. Yes, Israel was admitted to the U.P.U. on December 24, 1949 and not 1948. My typo, I am sorry. I should have checked my article before submitting.
2. Of course Singapore was not the only postal authority that resumed mail to Israel, The point apparently was not emphasized enough;

First, the resumption was to Palestine. It should have been Israel.

Second, the selection was only 15 post offices and among them Kefar Vitkin a small agricultural village with a population of only 1,000 while larger towns and villages were not selected. I was wondering what was the criteria for the selection.

Third, the intent of the article was not to document resumption of mail but rather the resumption of mail to "Palestine."

I am glad that members are reading the articles. As a writer I like feedback. I am in the process of writing another article. It takes a lot of thought. I hope it will be done within three weeks.

Happy New Year.  
Yechiel Leavy  
Margate City, NJ ■

Dear Don,  
Another beautiful issue of **The Israel Philatelist**!  
On page 103 a good article about the Ukrainian nationalist Simon Petlyura. It should have included a stamp issued by the newly independent Ukraine on 5/21/2004 commemorating the death of this rabid anti-Semite! The stamp is catalogued in Scott No. 547.

You may make this addition in the next issue !

Best wishes for the Holidays,  
Silviu Landman  
Fort Lee, NJ ■

*Editor's note: Mr. Harris is referring to his article on page 126. He received an advance copy to proof read. ■*

Hi Don,

I was so impressed with how you made my article look. My layout skills and scanning limitations are apparent. Anyway you motivated me to submit another revenue article on the service fee revenue series, the agrah sherutim. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please feel free to let me know.

I would love to do additional articles on driving lesson revenue stamps, attorney/lawyer revenue stamps or perhaps an update on the border crossing/bridge stamps for the West Bank and Gaza/Sinai territories. The latter does not have much information available - only what is listed in Wallerstein 1987 and that is incomplete. (As you can probably tell, I specialize in Israel revenues).

Thanks again for all your help and I look forward to hearing from you.

Arthur Harris  
Valley Stream, NY ■

Don, we have been considering your recent ideas for swapping ads and articles. The Israel Philatelist tends to be more focused than The Levant, so, as we have done twice over the past years, we're more likely to reprint one of your articles than the other way around. However, I will (attempt to) send you a list of our articles about a month before I publish each season, and if any of them interest you, I can send you a copy. As for swap ads, this is obviously a good notion. I have prepared a quarter-page advert for ONEPS (see p. 134) and I look forward to receiving your ad.

Cheers, Richard Rose ■

continued from page 123

excellent material that would otherwise not be available to me, leading to the writing of articles reviewed at our meetings and published. As they say at the Academy Awards: "without them I would not be standing here today."

And every so often a friend joins us on a Sunday morning, has a great time and becomes another one of the group. **Low key, good food and lots of kibitzing.** Having both grey heads and younger folks gives us staying power—another means for sustaining our beloved hobby.



## Revenue Stamps

# Judea and Samaria Health Service

Arthur Harris, Valley Stream, NY

Toward the latter part of April 1973, the military government for Judea and Samaria issued a health stamp with the denomination of 6 IL. The stamps were printed on unwatermarked paper and were perforated 14 x 14. The Hebrew at the top of the stamp reads "Health Service" and at the bottom "Judea and Samaria Region;" and are repeated in Arabic on the right and left sides. The Zahal emblem appears in the upper left of the inner frame. The 6 IL fee (Figure 1) was charged for medical services, which was similar to joining a health plan.

In July or August of 1976, the health service rate was changed to 15 IL and the 6 IL was overprinted to reflect this change (Figure 2).

## OVERPRINT VARIETIES

Over the years, numerous denomination overprints appeared on the 6 IL., including: 80 ag/6 IL (Figure 3); 5 sh/6 IL (Figure 4); 5 shekel in Hebrew/6 IL (Figure 5); 11 sh/6 IL (Figure 6); 50 sh/6 IL (Figure 7); 100 sh in Hebrew/6 IL (Figure 8). These exist with inverted overprints, partial and/or missing overprints and there may be additional values that are unrecorded such as the 80 ag/6 IL.



Figure 1  
6 IL (lirot)



Figure 2  
15 IL / 6 (lirot)



Figure 3  
80 agorot / 6 IL



Figure 4  
5 Sh [shekel] English / 6 IL



Figure 5  
5 shekel Hebrew / 6 IL



Figure 6  
11 Sh [shekel] English / 6 IL



Figure 7  
50 Sh [shekel] English / 6 IL.



Figure 8  
100 s [shekel] Hebrew / 6 IL.  
[unlike the other overprint the word shekel is not written in full but merely the "s"]

## NEW SERIES

At either the end of 1985 or the beginning of 1986, a new series of Health Service stamps were introduced. Their values are in the New Shekel format. They were printed in sheets of 40—eight horizontal rows by five vertical columns. This series replaced the previous two and was also printed on unwatermarked paper and perforated 14 x 14. According to Wallerstein's 1987 **Specialized Catalogue of Palestine and Israel Revenues**, "they were issued in very small villages where there was no electricity available and where cash receipt machines were not available."





Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11



Figure 12

The inscriptions on this new series and the Zahal insignia are identical to the previous two series. The background color and the inscription colors are the same. There are discrepancies in the Wallerstein listings. To date, four values have been identified: the 0.50 in blue; the 0.80 in orange; the 1 NIS in red; and the 2 NIS in blue (the same as the 0.50).

## INFORMATION REQUEST

If there are any additional overprints on the first two series or any additional values on the third series, scans would be appreciated as I am attempting to update the Health Service series in addition to other revenue issues. If any SIP members have additional information, please contact me through the South Florida SIP chapter or by e-mail to [arthurhythec@gmail.com](mailto:arthurhythec@gmail.com). ■

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# Earliest Menorah Club Cover

Robert B Pildes M.D., Evanston, IL

The cover (Figures 1 and 2) was sent by one of the drivers, a soldier, who arrived in Jerusalem on the last convoy on the 19th of April, 1948. The siege of Jerusalem started on April 20, 1948. The cover is addressed to his girl friend in Tel Aviv whom he subsequently married. The cover is franked with a 10 mils Palestine Mandate stamp (Bale catalog #97, Scott catalog # 73) tied to the cover by a Mandate Tel Aviv double circle cancellation dated 27 AP 48 (Figure 3). This is the earliest recorded mail from the besieged city of Jerusalem to arrive in Tel Aviv. It is not known if it was flown out of Jerusalem on a HAGANA plane or carried by courier, or who franked and posted the cover. Franking was absolutely necessary as the British Mandate Post was still operating.

## LETTER CONTENTS

The cover contained a 2 page handwritten letter which was translated for me through the courtesy of Yacov Tsachor. Part of it states the following: "We idle away all day long, and there is nothing to do in the evening so we go to sleep... We don't have a penny ... today we got entry permits to the Menorah Club... an entertainment club for soldiers. There's a radio, a gramophone, magazines, comic books, newspapers, and library... a bar with soda drinks, but we can't buy anything for financial reasons.... They have a special desk for writings letters, and they send the letters the following day, either by convoy or by airplane, which lands not too far from here... just heard that a convoy is due to leave tomorrow and this letter will arrive with that convoy."

## THE FLAP

The flap on the reverse (Figure 2) states: "New address for letters and parcels: Menorah Club, Jerusalem, for Haim Talit." It is of interest that Tsachor personally interviewed the writer of this letter and has written a certificate of authenticity for it.

## COVER HISTORY

How this letter came to be an important part of



Figures 1 and 2



Figure 3

the philatelic history of the transition period is also interesting. Marvin Siegel (z"l), a well known Bronx New York dealer in Israel philately who had written many authoritative articles on Palestinian and Israeli postal history brought this cover to me. He would go to Israel regularly every year as he had a residence there. Somehow, he did not tell me how he learned the name of the Israeli truck driver and where he lived. He went



there to discuss more of the events of that time with him. While they were talking, the former soldier's wife brought out this cover with this letter to show Marvin. He was astonished and told her he wanted to buy the letter and explained to her its historical significance. She was adamant not to give it up because of sentimental reasons. Note that this is occurring in 1993 and she had saved it all these years. He cajoled her for several hours before she was willing to part with it.

When Marvin sold it to me, he made me promise not to tell anyone that I had obtained the cover from him because he had relations with many Israeli collectors of the 1948 Transition Period material. I believe he offered it to me because he was interested in helping me develop another significant collection as many Israeli collectors already had important Transition Period collections. Over the years he did help me. Since Marvin is now deceased, I feel that I am now able to tell the history of this philatelic important cover in the story of the siege of Jerusalem.

## BOOK REFERENCE

An additional aspect of the importance and scarcity of this cover is found in the definitive work **The Postal History Of The Transition Period Of 1948** published by the Society of the Postal History of Eretz Israel. The book has an illustration of a Menorah Club Cover sent to Kibbutz Ganigar. They comment that the cover is the "Earliest known and the only one reported with a Mandate stamp and postmark." It has a Mandate Tel Aviv double circle cancellation dated 5 May 1948 and a 10 mils Mandate stamp. The reporting mistake about the earliest dated cover may represent my supposition above about not mentioning the cover since Marvin Siegel had a business relationship with all three authors.

### Reference:

1. Shimony, Zvi, Yeremiyah Rimon and Itamar Karpovsky, Vol II. **The Emergency, Local and Private Postal Services. Part 1. Jerusalem and Safad Postal Services in the Transition Period,** Jerusalem 2004, p. 140-1. \*



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## Part 3

# Taxed Mail of the Ottoman Period

**E. Leib, Haifa, Israel**

*Editor's note: The article originally appeared as a 5 part series in the Holy Land Postal History journal, vols. 53-59, 1993-1994. The illustrations are copies of copies and are not very sharp or clear.*

## The Austrian Post Office

The Austrian Post carried a large part of the mail from and to the Holy Land.

This was due to several reasons:

1. An efficient, punctual and reliable service.
2. A wide-spread network of post offices through the Levant.
3. At the period, Austro-Hungary covered a large part of central Europe.
4. Good co-operation with other post offices, and as a result the handling of a large volume of inbound mail.
5. Special arrangements with the Jewish community, e.g. agents in the colonies, free mail privilege, etc.

Consequently, we can find today more items taxed by the Austrian Post than by any other service. It seems that the employees worked "by the book" and each item that had to be taxed was properly treated. This does not mean that taxed mail of the Austrian P.O. is common—it is not. I find Norman Collins' statement<sup>1</sup>, ... *every sale with Holy Land seems to have one or more covers or cards with Postage Dues included...*, to be somewhat misleading. From my experience of searching and collecting this material for many years I can say that unless an important collection is broken up, taxed items of this office are far from being easy to acquire. On the other hand, enough material exists to enable us

to develop the subject, and to elaborate on its various aspects. Such aspects are the postage due stamps (the two issues and the different printings), taxation at the three offices (Jaffa, Jerusalem and Haifa), rates and the reasons for taxation.

## THE POSTAGE DUE STAMPS THE 1902 ISSUE

The postage due stamps for the Austrian Levant were issued on January 1, 1902—several years later than for Austria. Until that date dues on taxed mail were collected in cash.

The first issue was printed from the same plates as those used for the domestic postage due stamps. The color was, however, changed from brown to green with the denomination in Ottoman currency overprinted in black. Five values were issued: 10 paras, 20 paras, 1, 2 and 5 piasters. This issue remained valid to the end of 1908.

## THE 1908/10 ISSUE

In mid 1908, with the issue of a further postage due set in Austria, a new set was also issued for the Levant. The Levant issue differs from that of Austria again by the color, which is green instead of carmine of the domestic issue, and by the values which are in piasters. The issue consists of nine denominations: ¼, ½, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 30 piasters. The low values of 10 and 20 paras were inscribed ¼ and ½ piaster (1 piaster = 40 para) to avoid confusion and mistakes.

Several printings were made. The two printings of 1908 are on chalky paper, the first in deep green, the second in light green. Two more printings were made in deep green—in 1909 on thin ordinary paper and in 1910 on



thick ordinary paper. This Issue was used until the end of the operation of the Austrian Post Office in the Levant.

It is possible to form a collection containing the four printings, used on covers, of the more common values  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1 and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  piasters; but even this is extremely difficult.

The high values of both issues were mainly used for accountancy purposes on internal postal documents. The usage of these high values—5 piasters and up—to collect postage dues was extremely rare and is found almost only on parcel cards.

As mentioned, the 1902 Issue was valid to the end of 1908—about six months later than the issue date of the 1908 set. Very few mixed frankings of both issues are known in the Levant, but none at all in the Holy Land.

## SELECTED TAXED ITEMS

The taxed mail will be presented according to the reasons of taxation. The Austrian Post Office is the only office of the forerunner period with enough taxed mail to allow this kind of presentation.

### INLAND RATE FRANKING ON MAIL TO FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

The cover shown in Figure 1 was mailed from London to Jaffa on September 29, 1906 franked 1d (inland rate) instead of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d (rate to other countries). In London it was charged by a British type hexagonal “T” handstamp. In Jaffa the tax was computed as follows:  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 3d = 30$  centimes = 60 para =  $1\frac{1}{2}$  piasters. This last figure was marked in blue and postage due stamps of 1 piaster and 20 para (of the 1902 Issue) were applied and cancelled on October 11, 1906.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Letter card mailed from Austrian Silesia to Jerusalem, taxed  $1\frac{1}{2}$  piastre in Jerusalem on May 11, 1909

Another example bearing the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  piaster postage due stamp of the 2nd Issue is shown in Figure 2. It is an inland Austrian 10 heller lettercard.

## The Italian Post Office

The Italian Post Office in Jerusalem operated for a relative short period. It was opened—for political rather than commercial reasons—on June 1, 1908, then closed for the Italian-Turkish war on October 1, 1911. It reopened on December 1, 1912 and closed finally along with all foreign post offices on September 30, 1914. During its operation this office handled mainly mail with Italian interest and did not gain much popularity. The volume of mail carried was therefore small compared to the other post offices.

Taxed mail by this office is extremely rare and very few items are known<sup>2</sup>; they are presented here. The postage due stamps used by the Italian Office in Jerusalem were the contemporary postage due stamps of Italy—no postage due stamps were overprinted for use in the Levant.

The only recorded item taxed during the first period of





Figure 3  
Cutout of a cover from Venice, Italy, charged 20c upon arrival in Jerusalem, February 1909.

operation of the Office (1908-1911) is shown in Figure 3. Unfortunately it is only a large cutout and not a complete cover. As such, it has limited value for the study of postal history and it is shown here only because of the rarity of relevant material. Mailed from Venice to Jerusalem, it bears two Italian 15c stamps cancelled on departure and a large "T" mark applied by hand. Two 10c postage due stamps were affixed



Figure 4

and cancelled on arrival in Jerusalem on February 10, 1909, to indicate the postage due.

The figure 4 illustration shows a 1913 cover mailed on January 31 from Milan to Jerusalem franked 15c. The figure "20" was marked in manuscript on the left side of the cover and a 20c postage due stamp was applied and cancelled in Jerusalem on February 14. This cover was included in the "Manuella" Grand Prix exhibit, and if my memory does not fail me, a second

taxed cover, of similar postal characteristics, was also presented there.

At that time the rate for letters addressed from one Italian office to another was 15 centesimi for each 15 gr, therefore the letter appears to be properly franked. Overweight would have attracted a charge of at least 30c and not 20c, thus the reason for taxation is not clear.

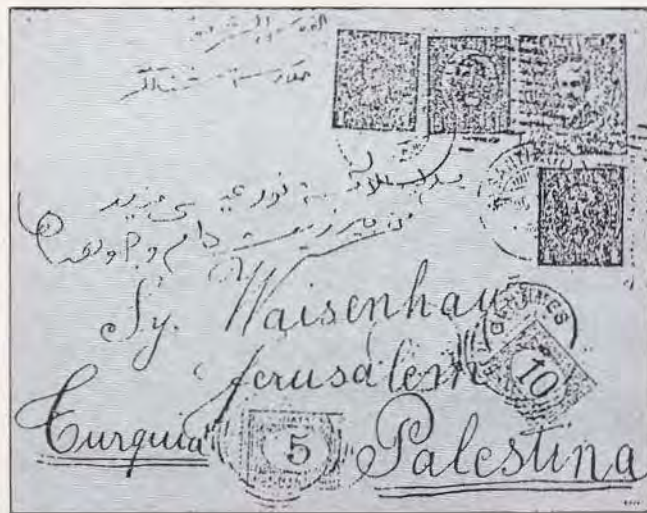


Figure 5

Norman J. Collins comments that postage due stamps were also used to collect a poste-restante charge of 20c per item. This may be a valid explanation for the charges on both items illustrated.

The last cover (Figure 5) was mailed from Chile to Jerusalem, where it arrived in January 1914. It bears a handstamp reading "T 12c". In Jerusalem a 5c and

## ADDENDUM THE FRENCH POST OFFICE

10c postage due stamps were applied on January 10 to collect the charge. This resulted in an over payment of 3 centesimi (at that time the centime and centesimi were of equal value), probably due to shortage in postage due stamps of 1 and 2 centesimi value.

The postcard in Figure 6 was recently offered in a Tel Aviv auction. Mailed from Laval, France to Jerusalem on June 7, 1906, it bears a 5c stamp. The sender crossed out the "Carte Postale" heading and wrote "Imprime" (printed matter) to make clear his intention to use the



The postcard rate at the time was 10c. Had this postcard been mailed unfranked it would have had to be charged 20c only! If it had not been accepted as "printed matter", the charge of double the rate difference would have been 10c and not 30c. Hence the tax of 30c remains unexplained.



Figure 6  
Postcard from France to  
Jerusalem taxed upon  
arrival 30c on June 20,  
1906.

1. N.J. Collins, Norman J. "Palestine P.D. Stamps on Cover during the Ottoman Period", **Holy Land Postal History** #52 (1992) p. 602.
2. Steichele, Anton (English rev. Edition by N.J. Collins & L. Dickstein), **The Foreign Post Offices in Palestine 1840-1918 Vol. II**, p. 218 (1991). ■

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# DEMI DOAR POSTAGE DUES

## TAXED INCOMING AIR MAIL FROM ENGLAND



Cover sent on 23 May 1949 by air mail from England to Haifa. Franked by 6d King George VI stamps, hexagonal tax marking, "T168", applied in London. The fee was collected upon arrival in Haifa on 29 May 1949 and paid by four different 1st postage dues stamps.



Cover sent on 1 Feb 1949 by air mail from London to Tel Aviv, franked 6d with King George VI stamp and postage due marked in Great Britain by "T84" boxed "TO PAY 84 mil". This is altered to 85 mils as 84 mils postage due combination not available.

Taxed in Tel Aviv on 11 February 1949 by the four different 1st postage due stamps. ■

# The “Magic” of the Holocaust

Gregg Philipson, Austin, TX

## Abracadabra!

It is interesting to note that the phrase Abracadabra derives its meaning from the Aramaic/Hebrew phrase “Avra Kehdabra” meaning “I will create as I speak”!

## Alois Kassner

Illusionist and Magician “Zaubermeister” Alois Kassner (1887 – 1970) (Figure 1) was born near Breslau Germany in a town that is now Galow Poland. In 1907 Kassner was an assistant to the then famous magician Edward Jänicken in Hamburg Germany. There he learned his first illusions and developed his act further through his own brilliant inventions. From 1911 on he worked independently and developed his own illusions show. After the First World War he teamed up with four assistants to create a powerful and very successful magic show. The highlight of the performance at that time was the disappearance of twelve people from the stage.

Following a suggestion of famous ringmaster Sarasani in 1930, he created and performed an act that made his elephant Toto disappear from the stage (Figures 2, 7). During World War II Toto died and by some accounts it was a result of an Allied bombing raid.

Kassner escaped Nazi Germany, returning after the war and continuing his show in a much reduced form.

In 1954 he performed in the Berlin Friedrichstadtpalast for his farewell performance. Kassner was a member of both the International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Magic Circle.

## Nazi Magician

A German-born Nazi magician named Helmut Schreiber (1903 – 1963) aka Kalanag, seemed to suddenly come on the scene after World War II with an impressive and elaborate illusion show. Prior to the war, he had connections high in the Nazi regime and used political pressure to steal the illusion show from Kassner.

After the war, his reputation was destroyed within the



Figure 1 Alois Kassner  
1887 - 1970

magic community due to the confirmation late in his career of his sympathetic interaction with high-ranking members of the Nazi party, performing before Hermann Göring, Martin Bormann, and Adolf Hitler himself.

## Posters

Kassner's act was also known for the beautiful advertising posters created by the famed printer of lithographs from Hamburg and fellow Jew, Adolph Friedländer.

There are known to be more than 40 Kassner advertising posters in existence. Just prior to World War II, one of the most famous posters was of Kassner and Toto, the disappearing elephant.

Here is an example from my collection of a very RARE, attractive and historic illustrated advertising cover picturing Kassner (Figure 6). It was sent locally in Germany with Scott #399 single usage tied by slogan duplex cancel that translated to “Fight Against Hunger and Cold”.

Printed on the reverse is the sensational poster art advertising “Kassner der Zauberer” (partly under back-flap and measuring approximately 4.5” x 6.5”) (Figure





Figure 2  
Souvenir coin  
Seldom seen



Figure 3  
Poster



Figure 4  
Kassner label  
Few known

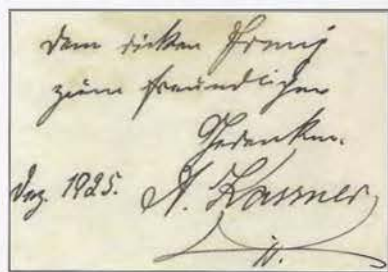


Figure 5  
Kassner signature on reverse  
side of Figure 1



Figure 7



Figure 6  
Cachet envelope  
with printed poster  
on the reverse side





6). The magic poster art on this cover was printed and designed by Jewish poster printer Adolph Friedländer (1851 – 1904) of Hamburg Germany.

## Friedländer

Friedländer was a famed lithographer and publisher of posters. His print shop produced over 9,000 posters between 1872 and 1935, predominantly for artists, magicians, circus and vaudeville performers.

He first learned lithography at his father's shop in Hamburg. He received his formal training in Berlin and returned to Hamburg to operate independently in 1872. First concentrating on labels for businesses, he turned to poster printing to cater to the many artists and performers who operated near his business.

## The Friedländer printing firm

The firm operated from 1872 to 1935, specifically focusing on the manufacture of circus and magic posters. Founder Adolph Friedländer produced the highest quality color lithographs of his day. After his death the business was taken over by his sons Max, Otto, and Ludwig Friedländer. Due to the First World War and the following Depression, production was reduced from 400 to 100 posters per year.

As the Friedländer printing house was a German-Jewish owned and operated firm it was forced to close its doors in 1935 as a result of the anti-Semitic Nuremberg laws instituted by the Nazis beginning in 1933.

## Other Magicians

Another Jewish Magician Herbert Levin (1906 – 1977) aka "Nivelli, Magician of the Holocaust" survived Auschwitz and other concentration camps by being recognized as a famous Magician by Nazi SS Guards (Figure 8). He was commanded to perform his magic for the Nazis while he was a prisoner at various camps during the Holocaust. He said that "Magic saved my life" after he was liberated from a camp near Berlin in 1945. He came to the United States in 1947.

More information can be found in an extremely rare booklet called **Nivelli, Magician of the Holocaust** by William V. Rauscher, a copy of which is in my Jewish Magician collection (Figure 8).

Of course, the most widely known Jewish Magician is Erich Weiss (1874 - 1926) aka Harry Houdini (Figure 9). The United States Postal Service honored Houdini with



Figure 8  
Herbert Levin



Figure 9  
Harry Houdini

a 2002 commemorative stamp, Scott 3651, issued in New York City, NY. What makes this stamp really different is that it actually does a trick! Some say that the stamp is designed to reveal a hidden image when seen through a special UV viewer. In normal light, the stamp shows the colorful image of a youthful Houdini. Under the viewer, Houdini's image is shackled in chains. Viewed in normal light again, the chains vanish! This is possibly a magical myth.

AbraCadabra, it is truly divine magic that we have survived and flourished amidst the black magic that always lurks in the darkness of evil minds...■



# NEWS FROM THE ISRAEL PHILATELIC AGENCY



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# Jewish Welfare Board Cards

Dr. Cary Finder, cfinder@capaccess.org

## WORLD WAR I



Figure 2 Hanukkah



Figure 3 Passover



Figure 1 Jewish Welfare Board logo



Figure 4 Purim

**AT THE START OF WWI** the United States Government asked several organizations (mostly, but not entirely, religiously oriented) to help with the morale of the troops overseas and those at home. The Jewish Welfare Board (JWB) (Figure 1) was organized and joined that effort.

Since this was the first war the United States had been in with large numbers of soldiers overseas, one of the concerns was communication between the soldiers in Europe and the folks at home. Writing material was thought to be difficult to obtain in France so several of the organizations began printing and distributing cards to the soldiers. The YMCA and Knights of Columbus issued Christmas cards in 1918 (after the war had ended, but with over a million men still in Europe). The JWB issued cards for Hanukkah which started at the end of November 1918.

During 1918 and 1919, the JWB issued and distributed Hanukkah (Figure 2), Passover (Figure 3) and Purim (Figure 4) cards with many being kept as souvenirs. Examples of all of the cards sent from Europe still exist and most would have been free franked. All the cards bear a variation of the JWB logo.

## WORLD WAR II AND LATER

Several of the WWI organizations, including the JWB, mobilized to provide the same support as in WWI. President Roosevelt caused the United Service Organization (USO) to be formed to provide synergy between those organizations. The JWB again issued holiday cards for the major Jewish holidays: Passover (Figures 5 - 8), Purim (Figures 9 - 10) Hanukkah (Figures 11-13) and the New Year (Figures 14 - 15). All of the holiday cards exist in multiple formats. These are known used from 1943 to as late as the 1960's. Some were mailed from a war zone; some from within the United States; sometimes free franked and sometimes with stamps. The annotation of "Stamp Box" means that the card had a box in the upper right corner of the back for a postage stamp rather than a free frank. Free franking was authorized to soldiers during WWII and the Korean War. Those cards with a stamp box were probably available between WWII and the Korean War and after the Korean War.

Some of these cards have the artist's name, Sol Nedał, printed on the back of the cards. Most cards have some form



## PASSOVER



Figure 5



Figure 6 With stamp box



Figure 7 With stamp box



Figure 8 With stamp box but no USO logo

There were four differently formatted Passover cards.

## HANUKAH



Figure 11



Figure 13 With stamp box



Figure 12 With stamp box

There were three differently formatted Hanukkah cards

## PURIM



Figure 9



Figure 10 With stamp box

There were only two differently formatted Purim cards: There is a copy of Purim in Figure 10 with a hand written inscription stating that: We got this from the Jewish Chapel at the Air Force Academy on April 3, 1969.

## NEW YEARS



Figure 14



Figure 15 With stamp box

There were two differently formatted New Year's cards. All cards were issued to and used by Jewish (and, perhaps, some non-Jewish) soldiers all over the world. While most would have been from USO clubs in the United States, some with more exotic mailing locations can be found. ■

# Modern Israel Philately

Adam Caplan, Cameron Park, CA

**D**OES ISRAEL PHILATELY STOP BEING INTERESTING AFTER THE 1950's? That seems to be the perception but I am convinced otherwise. Collecting modern Israel philatelic material is still interesting and challenging, while not damaging to your budget.

Extending beyond basic stamps is relatively inexpensive, challenging, and provides a way to extend the life of your collection without having to expand beyond the borders of Israel. Some items to consider are modern perforation varieties (partial perforations and imperforate), overprints, self adhesive stamps, vending machine stamps, prestige booklets, uncut press sheets, and generic sheets.

## ARDON WINDOWS

To start with, let's look at the stamps that were released in multiple perforation configurations. The first such example from the modern era that I am aware of is the **Ardon Windows** souvenir sheet from 1990. The normal sheet was issued with the 2 stamps perforated (Figure 1), but the philatelic service sent an imperforate version to all subscribers as a special gift (Figure 2). The imperforate version can be found regularly on eBay.

Figure 1



Figure 2





## PHILATELIC MUSEUM IN TEL AVIV

The following year, the Israel Philatelic Service began raising funds for the **Philatelic Museum in Tel Aviv**. (Figure 3). As part of the fundraising efforts, they offered an imperforate version of the souvenir sheet to subscribers. In contrast to the earlier issue, this one is overprinted with a serial number.



Figure 3

## VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BRITISH ARMY IN WWII

The next interesting perforation variety occurred in 1995. In contrast to the previous issues, this one was not a philatelically contrived issue. The **Volunteers for the British Army in WWII** souvenir sheet can be found in two different perforation varieties.

Figure 4 illustrates the variety with an imperforate bottom portion, whereas the variety in Figure 5 is perforated right to the bottom edge. Both varieties are readily available on eBay and in dealer stock, but most people (including dealers) aren't aware that two varieties exist. FDC's can also be found with both varieties.



Figure 4



Figure 5

For the **World Stamp Exhibition-Israel 1998**, the Philatelic Service started a new trend of including imperforate versions of the show souvenir sheets as part of the show catalog (Figure 6). This was repeated in 2008 with the Jerusalem of Gold souvenir sheet (Figure 7).

## WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION-ISRAEL 98



Figure 6

## TELABUL 2004 STAMP SHOW

Special mention needs to be made of the **Telabul 2004 Stamp Show**. Rather than a special version of a stamp being included in the show program, visitors to the show were able to design a stamp and purchase 2 sheets of stamps with their design.

Show organizers then chose one person's design to issue as a normal stamp. These personalized stamps are easily differentiated from the officially issued stamp in that they lack phosphor coating. And in contrast to the generic sheets of stamps, the personalized portion of the stamp is on the part that is actually valid for postage, rather than just on the label (Figure 8).



Figure 8

Figure 9

## JERUSALEM OF GOLD



Figure 7

## ISRAEL POST CORPORATION

In 2006, **Israel Post Corporation** was formed. As an introduction, they once again gave subscribers a free gift. However, since the normal version of the souvenir sheet was already imperforate, the special gift was just overprinted with a serial number and embossed with the logo above the stamp (figure 10).



Figure 10

Sheets of these stamps are extremely rare, and single stamps and tabs are also scarce. The sheets of stamps also include 1 label with printing information (Figure 9). ▪





# 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.

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### MIRIAM Level

Key Bank

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Donald A. Chafetz

Dallas Chapter of the SIP

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Dr. Marshall Train

### MOSES Level

Leland Abbey

Sydney Bash

Dallas Chapter

Brian Gruz

Gregg & Michelle Philipson

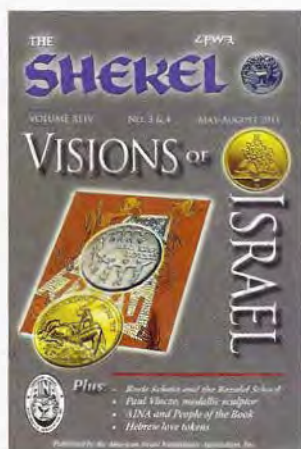
Howard Rotterdam

### Berkshire Hills Chapter

As they celebrated the  
Chapter's 50th Anniversary  
with original members  
Rabbi Harold Salzman  
George Frankel

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



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

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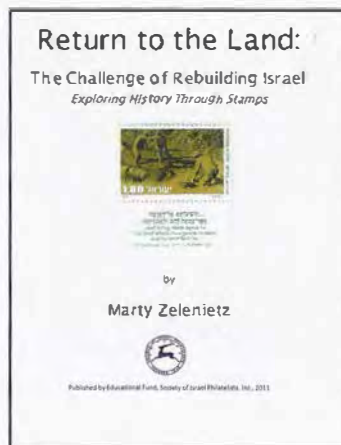
## TRADITION

If not for our traditions, what are we? In May of 1948 The Modern State of Israel was established. Every Fall the Israeli Postal Service has issued a stamp or set of stamps to recognize the Jewish New Year. The design of the New Year's stamp has included long time religious symbols and century old artifacts as well as portraits of historical teachers and martyrs. A topical collection of the 65 different issues of New Year/Holiday stamps will give an introduction to Jewish history. Mounting these Holiday stamps in pages that you design can give a colorful history as well as a lifetime of knowledge.

A list of stamps issued for the Jewish Holidays is available from Briar Road Company, P.O. Box 4565 Manchester, NH 03108. All stamps are available mint or used, in blocks or strips as well as on First Day of Issue covers.

Lists of stamps in each topic are available from BRIAR ROAD COMPANY P.O. Box 4565 Manchester, NH 03108. The stamps are available mint or used, in blocks or strips, or on First Day of Issue covers. E-mail: [Brstamps@aol.com](mailto:Brstamps@aol.com).

## New Ed Fund Publication



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Full color images of Israeli stamps illustrate the last 130 years of Jews rebuilding an independent state in Eretz Yisrael. This affordable text is written to connect the Grade 6 and 7 afternoon/Sunday Hebrew School/Talmud Torah crowd with the Jewish state. It will also be of interest to day school students, and appeal to the general reader.

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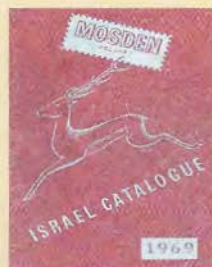
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**LINDNER**

## PART 1

# Palestine Small Town Postmarks

Dr. Mel Richmond, z"l

*Editor's note: Dr. Mel Richmond passed away about 3 years ago. He was an optometrist from Newton, Mass. Dr. Richmond was an avid collector of Palestine stamps and covers and a long time member of the SIP. He did valuable research on the 1948 Interim Period Jerusalem issues and created the chart illustrating how to identify the Jerusalem varieties. The chart was a feature in the **Bale Palestine Catalog** for many years.*

*He also collected Palestine small town cancellations and corresponded with David Dorfman z"l, author of the definitive 1985 catalog **Palestine Mandate Postmarks**. The covers shown are from Dr. Richmond's collection. Information on the scarcity rating is based on Dorfman's catalog with "A" being common, "I" being rare and "V.R." being very rare. All the post offices had a number of different cancellations over the years. The number before the scarcity letter rating indicates the specific cancellation illustrated. Over a number of future issues, we will highlight examples from Dr. Richmond's extensive collection. The examples on CD were made available to me by Barry Hoffman.*

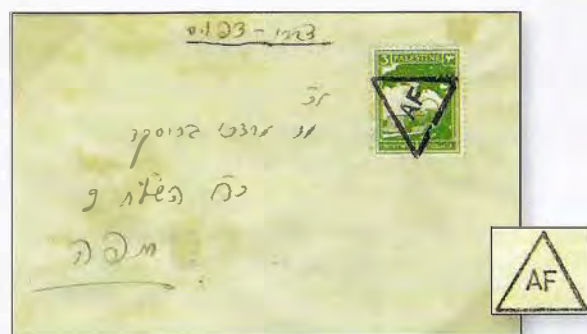
Acre 2F – opened during the British Military administration and remained open till the end of the Mandate.



Afula (Affula) 1E – Dorfman listing example, opening date unknown.



Afula 8E – opening date unknown.



Afula 9D – opening date unknown. Arrival cancellation on reverse dated Mount Carmel 5 FE 46.





Afikim 2E – Dorfman listing example; a Class C postal agency opened on March 1, 1945. Arrival cancellation on reverse dated 25 Dec 46.



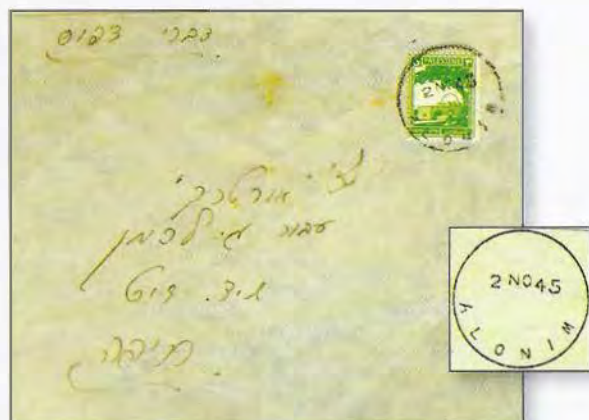
Afikim 3D – Dorfman listing example, opened on March 1, 1945. Arrival cancellation on the reverse dated Haifa MY 47.



Ain Harod 1G – postal agency opened on August 3, 1925. Letter card with arrival cancellation on reverse dated 4 Jun 28.



Alonim 1F – Dorfman listing example. A class C postal agency opened October 25, 1945.



Ashdot Ya'aqov 1G – Dorfman listing example. A Class C agency opened on March 1, 1945.



Athlith 1G – A class B postal agency opened on August 1, 1923.



to be continued



# The Synagogue of Pecs, Hungary

Gene Eissen, Raleigh, NC



Hungary issued a sheet of 25 stamps with scenes and buildings from Pecs, Hungary to celebrate the city being chosen as a European "Capital of Culture." One of the stamps depicts the Pecs Synagogue.

The cachet on the cover shows a view of the synagogue taken from a pre-World War II postcard. The clock with the Hebrew words, "...it shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples..." Isaiah 56: 7, above it is at the top front of the synagogue.

Pecs is the fifth largest city in Hungary. The Pecs Synagogue was built in 1865 and consecrated in 1869. It was the third synagogue built in the city, and the only one to survive World War II. Prior to the war the synagogue had more than 4,000 members, but only about 450 survived the Holocaust.

The small Jewish community commemorates the 1944 deportation of the Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz on the first Sunday after July fourth.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pecs>



# YITZHAK RABIN (Rubitzov)

Moshe Kallmann, Kibbutz Lahav, Israel

## EARLY YEARS

Rabin was born in Jerusalem on March 1, 1922 during the British Mandate period to Nehemia and Rosa, immigrants of the Third Aliyah, the third wave of Jewish immigration to Israel from Europe.. At the age of one, his family moved to Tel Aviv where he grew up. In 1940 he graduated with distinction from the Kadoori Agricultural High School and hoped to work as an irrigation engineer. Though he never pursued a degree he attended several courses in military strategy in the United Kingdom.

## BEGINNING OF MILITARY CAREER

In 1941, during his practical training at kibbutz Ramat Yohanan and under the influence of Yigal Allon, Rabin joined the Palmach section of the Haganah. The first operation he participated in was assisting the allied invasion of Lebanon, then held by Vichy French forces.

After the end of the World War II, the relationship between the Palmach and the British authorities became strained, especially with respect to the treatment of Jewish immigrants. In October 1945 Rabin was in charge of planning and later executing an operation for the liberation of interned immigrants from the Atlit detainee camp for Jewish illegal immigrants.

On Black Shabbat' Rabin was arrested and detained for 5 months. After his release he became the commander of the second Palmach battalion and in October 1947 he was promoted to the position of Chief Operations Officer of the Palmach.

## 1948 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR

During the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, Rabin directed Israeli operations in Jerusalem and fought the Egyptian army



1996 JNF Tribute  
Rabin and the "Burma" road to Jerusalem

in the Negev. At the beginning of the war he was the commander of the Harel Brigade which fought along the Jerusalem to the coastal plain road, as well as around/along the "Burma Road". He secured the southern side of Jerusalem by recapturing kibbutz Ramat Rachel. During the First truce (June 11 – July 8, 1948) he participated in the altercation between the IDF and Irgun on the beach of Tel Aviv as part of the Altalena Affair<sup>2</sup>.

Rabin was the deputy commander of Operation Danny when the cities of Ramle and Lydda (Lod) were captured as well as the major airport in Lydda (Ben Gurion airport). Following the capture of the two towns, there was an exodus of the Arab population from Ramle. The population of Lod did not leave willingly. There was no way of avoiding the use of force and warning shots were fired in order to encourage the inhabitants to march the 10 to 15 miles to the point where they met up with the Jordanian Legion.

In 1949 he was a member of the Israeli delegation to



the armistice talks with Egypt that were held on the island of Rhodes. The result of the negotiations was the 1949 Armistice Agreements which ended the official hostilities of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War. He was the most senior (former) member of the Palmach that remained in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

## SIX DAY WAR

In 1964 he was appointed Chief of Staff of the IDF by Levi Eshkol. Since Eshkol did not have a lot of military experience, Rabin had a relatively free hand. Under his command the IDF achieved victory in the Six Day War in 1967. After the Old City of Jerusalem was captured by the IDF, Rabin was among the first to visit the Old City.

Following his retirement from the IDF, he became ambassador to the United States beginning in 1968 and remained for five years. During this period the United States became the major weapon supplier of Israel. Rabin in particular managed to get the embargo on the F-4 Phantom fighter jet lifted.

## PRIME MINISTER PERIOD

Following Golda Meir's resignation in April 1974, Rabin was elected party leader after defeating Shimon Peres. He was elected prime minister on 3 June 1974 and formed a coalition government. This government with a bare parliamentary majority held for a few months and was one of the few periods in Israel's history where the religious parties were not part of the coalition.

In foreign policy the major development at the beginning of Rabin's term was the Sinai Interim Agreement between Israel and Egypt signed on 1 September 1975. Both countries declared that the conflict between them shall not be resolved by military force but by peaceful means. Operation Entebbe was perhaps the most dramatic event during Rabin's first term in office.

On his order the IDP performed a long range undercover raid to rescue passengers of an airliner hijacked by terrorists and taken to Idi Amin's Uganda. When Rabin took office, Israeli troops were still deep in Lebanon. Rabin ordered their withdrawal to a "Security Zone" on the Lebanese side of the border.

In 1992 Rabin was elected chairman of the Labor Party. In the elections that year, his party, strongly focussed on the popularity of its leader, managed to win a clear victory

over the Likud party. Rabin formed the first Labor led government in fifteen years supported by a coalition with Meretz, a left wing party and Shas a Mizrahi ultra-orthodox religious party.

## OSLO ACCORDS

Rabin played a leading role in the signing of the Oslo Accords which created the Palestinian National Authority and granted it partial control over parts of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Prior to the signing of the accords, Rabin received a letter from the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat renouncing violence and officially recognizing Israel. On the same day, September 9, 1993, Rabin sent Arafat a letter officially recognizing the PLO. After the historical handshake with Yasser Arafat, Rabin said on behalf of the Israel: "We have fought against you, the Palestinians, we say to you today in a loud and a clear voice, enough of blood and tears ... enough."

During his term in office, Rabin also oversaw the signing of the Israel-Jordan peace treaty in 1994. For his role in the creation of the Oslo Accords, Rabin was awarded the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize along with Yasser Arafat and Shimon Peres.

## ASSASSINATION

On the evening of 4 November 1995 Rabin was assassinated by a young radical right-wing Jew who opposed the signing of the Oslo Accords; Rabin had been attending a mass rally at the Malchei Yisrael Square (now Rabin Square) in Tel Aviv.

The Yitzhak Rabin Center was founded in 1997 by an act of the Knesset to create "a Memorial Center for Perpetuating the Memory of Yitzhak Rabin. Many cities and towns in Israel have named streets, neighborhoods, schools, bridges and parks after Rabin.

### End Notes

1. Operation Agatha (Saturday, June 29, 1946) sometimes called Black Shabbat or Black Saturday because it began on the Jewish sabbath, was a police and military operation conducted by the British authorities in the British Mandate of Palestine. Soldiers and police searched for arms and made arrests in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv, and Haifa, and in several dozen settlements; the semi-official Jewish Agency was raided. About 2,700 individuals were arrested. The British objectives included dissuading the Haganah and the Palmach, Lehi (Stern Gang), and the Irgun Tzvai Leumi, from undertaking further attacks against British troops and officials, as well as possibly dissuading



a unilateral proclamation of a Jewish state, and bolstering morale.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_Agatha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Agatha).

2. The Altalena Affair was a violent confrontation that took place in June 1948 between the newly formed Israel Defense Forces and the Irgun, a Jewish paramilitary group. The confrontation involved a cargo ship, Altalena, captained by Monroe Fein and led by senior IZL commander Eliyahu Lankin, which carried weapons and fighters for the Irgun. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Altalena\\_Affair](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Altalena_Affair). ■

■ **JEWISH MUSEUM:** The Jewish Museum in Portland, Maine is starting a Judaica library with emphasis on the Holocaust and invites book and memorabilia donations on all subjects of Jewish interest. Donations are a 501(c)3 organization so you can get a tax deduction. Contact Barry D. Hoffman, 291 Spurwink Ave., Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107, (617) 584-5555 or email: [pakistan@tiac.net](mailto:pakistan@tiac.net), Contact Barry before shipping.■



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■ **BUY/TRADE:** Mint, non-hinged and in good condition definitive plate blocks. Send for a list of wants/trades to email: [minissen@bigpond.net.au](mailto:minissen@bigpond.net.au), post: Dr. Nissen, Unit 201/461 St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, VIC 3004, Australia.■

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# *Peace Prize Winners*

*Silviu Landman, Fort Lee, NJ*

**B**etween 1901 and 2011 the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded 92 times to 124 laureates. The awards went to 99 individuals and 23 organizations. The winners are selected by a committee of five people chosen by the Norwegian Parliament in Oslo. Out of the 99 individual prizes, nine were awarded to individuals of Jewish extraction. Twenty-three organizations received the award of which five were founded or co-founded by Jewish persons.

## INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

**1911**



Figure 1 Netherlands  
Tobias Asser  
1838- 1913

Tobias Asser was a Dutch lawyer and legal scholar, who was honored for his role in establishing the **Permanent Court of Arbitration** at the first Hague peace conference (1899). A research institute in the field of International and European Law is located in the Dutch Capital and is named after him.

Asser stamps: Scott catalogue Netherlands 800,  
Sierra Leone 1845a, Grenada-Grenadines 1773b.

Alfred Fried was an Austrian journalist and pacifist, co-founder of the German peace movement. He was one of the first to advocate for a world organization to assure world peace, an idea fulfilled by the **League of Nations** and later by the **United Nations**.



Figure 2 Austria  
Alfred Fried  
1864- 1921

Fried stamps: Scott catalogue  
Austria 1484, Togo 1658b,  
St. Vincent 2220c.

**1968**

French jurist, law professor and judge, Rene Cassin received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1968 for his work in drafting the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948.

He was a member and president of the European Court of Human Rights. He also headed the "Alliance Israelite" in France fighting for civil rights for Jews and was an active Zionist.

Cassin stamps: Scott catalogue France B554, 2688-9, Argentina 679



Figure 3 France  
Rene Cassin  
1887 - 1976



## 1973

German-born American political scientist, diplomat and businessman, Henry Kissinger received the Peace Prize in 1973 for his efforts in **Terminating The Conflict In Vietnam**.

Kissinger had a dominant role in American foreign policy during the Presidencies of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. His major achievement is considered the opening of diplomatic relations with China.

Kissinger stamps: Scott catalogue  
Guyana souvenir sheet, Congo 1142,  
St. Vincent 2219f



Figure 4 Guyana  
Henry Kissinger  
1923 -

## 1978



Figure 5 Israel  
Menachem Begin  
1913 - 1992

Israeli politician, Menachem Begin was born in Poland, leader of the militant group "Irgun," founder of the Likud party, member of parliament and prime minister (1977-1983). Begin shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Anwar Sadat for his **Peace Treaty with Egypt** which is still in force today.

Begin stamps: Scott catalogue Israel 1153, 1551,  
Dominica 1207d.

## 1986



Figure 6 Antigua & Barbuda  
Elie Wiesel  
1928 -

American writer, political activist, Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in the **Cause Of Peace**, having sent a powerful message to humanity, according to the Norwegian Nobel Committee.

Wiesel stamp: Scott catalogue Antigua 1947,  
Canada 2271, Gabon 803h.

1994



Figure 7  
San Tome Principe souvenir sheet  
Shimon Perez  
1923 -

Shimon Perez has occupied numerous positions in all Israeli governments since 1948, and was elected President in 2007, the first time a previous prime minister became president.



Figure 8 Palestine Souvenir sheet B1  
Yitzhak Rabin , President Clinton, Yasser Arafat

Shimon Perez (born in Poland) and Yitzhak Rabin shared the Nobel Peace Prize with Yasser Arafat for peace talks with the Palestinians producing the Oslo Accords.



Figure 9 Israel  
Yitzhak Rabin  
1922 -1995

Yitzhak Rabin was born in Jerusalem and had a successful military and political career until he was assassinated by a Jewish extremist unhappy with the Oslo Accords.

Rabin stamps: Scott catalogue Israel 1249, Israel 1608, Palestine souvenir sheet B1.

1995



Figure 10  
British First Day Cover signed by Rotblat  
Joseph Rotblat  
1908 - 2005

Polish-born British physicist and political activist, Joseph Rotblat studied in Paris, France and Liverpool, England and joined prominent scientists in the Manhattan project.

He developed reservations about the uses of nuclear energy and organized the Pugwash Conferences aiming at limiting the growth of nuclear weapons. He received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts towards nuclear disarmament.

## ORGANIZATIONAL WINNERS

1965

Figure 11  
United Nations  
UNICEF  
Ludwik Rajchman  
1881 - 1965



Ludwik Rajchman was a Polish physician who became the Head of the League of Nations Health Organization. After World War II he promoted the formation of a special organization concerned with the needs of children, which came to be called UNICEF with Rajchman as its first chairman.

Rotblat stamp: Scott catalogue Cuba 1668.



1977

Peter Benenson was a British lawyer of Russian Jewish extraction who founded the organization **Amnesty International** in 1961. For its work defending human rights around the world, the organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Stamp: Scott catalogue Belgium 1416.



Figure 12 Belgium  
Amnesty International  
Peter Benenson  
1921 - 2005

1985



Bernard Lown is an American cardiologist physician who together with a Russian physician, Evgheni Chazov organized the **International Physicians For The Prevention Of Nuclear War**, an organization which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Figure 13 Scott catalogue Hungary 2937  
International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War  
Bernard Lown  
1921 -

1995



Figure 14 Belgium Scott catalogue 1416  
Doctors Without Borders  
Bernard Kouchner  
1939 -

Bernard Kouchner, a French physician with a Jewish father and a Catholic mother, founded the organization **Doctors Without Borders**. The organization provides medical assistance in war-torn regions and fights endemic diseases in developing countries. •

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## President's Column



Hello, my name is Howard Rotterdam and I have the honor to have been selected as your new president. I would like to introduce myself to you and tell you a bit about my hopes for the Society for the forthcoming term. Before I do that I wish to thank several individuals. First, I want to thank my wife, Ellen, who has put up with my mishvagas, over the past 20 years. Anything that I have accomplished, both professional and philatelic, would have been impossible without her love, encouragement, and support. I want to thank our past president, Michael Bass, who has devoted so many hours to our Society and hobby and whose talent and vision have brought us into the 21st century. I am pleased that Michael has agreed to continue to work on our Internet project until it is completed and ready to roll out. Thanks must also go to Vicki Galecki help with the day-to-day operation of the Society has been indispensable over the past few years. Thank you to our editor, Don Chafetz, Don has done amazing work in redesigning the IP and in encouraging many, including myself, to contribute articles. I also wish to thank the following members for encouraging me to assume this leadership role and for assisting me in my philatelic goals: Howard Chapman, Ed Kroft, Stan Rafael, Morris Rosen, Bob Pildes, Nate Zankel, Ed Rosen, Richard Herman, Marty Cohen, Yacov Tschor. A special thanks goes to Hank Stern for being my friend and mentor.

I like many of you started collecting stamps as a child. I was encouraged to do this by my father, who surprisingly was not a collector himself. I eagerly awaited each Saturday when we would go to a job printer on New Lots Avenue in Brooklyn who had a side business as a stamp dealer. I would spend my allowance, birthday gifts, Chanukah gelt, etc. on those little red or purple pieces of gummed paper and slowly fill my Scott's minuteman album wither. I also accumulated assorted first day covers and an occasional plate block. Every once in a while, dad would take me into Manhattan to attend a show at the Amory or to go to the philatelic window at the main post office on 33rd street. I have a vague memory of FIPEX.

As I grew older, attended Stuyvesant high school, Queens College, started my career as a special education teacher; I let my interest in stamps wane. In the mid seventies, sparked by my membership in a very Zionist temple, I started a collection of Israeli stamps and joined the sip. I collected new issues and first day covers and over the years kept the collection current and slowly developed an interest in Palestine, interim, forerunners. As I approached retirement, my interests grew deeper into postal history and the collection of covers. My interest now centers on postage due. I also have developed an interest in joint issues and some topical collecting on various Judaic themes.

I have a small collection of early issue Netherlands postcards and collect Rotterdam cancellations. I joined the south Florida chapter of the society when I retired to Florida in 2003 and now function as its president. I look forward to our monthly meetings and am saddened to see so many of our chapters fold.

On a personal and level, Ellen and I have between us five children and most importantly six grandchildren, Evan, Rebecca, Meira, Samantha, Coby, and Ariella. Happily one or two of them show some interest in collecting. Sadly they all live in New York. We live in the emerald hills section of Hollywood, Florida. Professionally, I serve as the chair of the education department of Touro College South in Miami Beach.

While in future columns I will discuss in greater detail my hopes and plans for the society they are centered on these areas: maintaining and expanding our membership, looking at ways to intensify and enhance our online presence, supporting our current chapters, and perhaps revitalizing some defunct ones, keeping us in good financial shape, revising our constitution to reflect the current realities of a 21st century organization, and continuing and expanding our cooperation with other societies.

As I write this on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, I wish all of our members a happy and sweet new year. L'shona Tova. ■





Michael Paddock, SIP past president Walter J. Levy, and Dan Paddock are pictured in front of the tribute, which is permanently displayed in the conference room of the Aaron Family JCC.

#### BERKSHIRE HILLS

Rabbi Harold I. Salzmann

Program: Show and Tell  
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

Program: Israel's New Issues  
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 IPI'SA

Program: Forerunner Foreign Destinations presented by Bob Pildes  
Chapter meets the 4th Thursday of the month (except August

and December) at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, IL at 7:15 p.m. For more information write Sam Fireman, PO Box 59106, Chicago, IL 60659. •

#### CLEVELAND

Howard S. Chapman

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

Lawrence Goldman

Program: Israel: The Formative Years

Chapter meets 3rd Monday, 7:00 pm at the Conference Room, Jewish Community Center, 7900 Northaven Road, Dallas, TX. •

#### DETROIT-OAK PARK

Ken Torby

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

#### MARVINSIEGEL CHAPTER

Alan Doberman

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

#### SAN FRANCISCO

BAY AREA

Ed Rosen

#### SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Jonathan Becker

Wherever you place yourself in Israel-Holyland-Judaica philately, an SIP Chapter can further your pleasure and knowledge. •

#### SOUTH FLORIDA

Howard Rotterdam

Program: Ship's Mail

The Society of Israel Philatelists, Dallas Chapter, recently dedicated a framed tribute to the organization's late president, Arnold Paddock.

Attending the presentation were Paddock's family and members of the Israel Stamp Club.

by Mark Issacs

Chapter meets the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. at Temple Sinai, 2475 West Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach, Florida 33445. •

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#### AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

#### CAPTOWN

A. Katzef

#### JOHANNESBURG

Brian Gruzid

Programs:

- Dec I - Larkes and Schnapps

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

#### ST. LOUIS

Alan Barasch

#### CHERRY HILL

Ronald Zukin

#### AFFILIATED STUDY GROUPS

#### J.N.F. STUDY CIRCLE

Howard S. Chapman

#### PALESTINE STUDY GROUP

Irwin Marh

#### HOLOCAUST STUDY GROUP

Dr. Justin R. Gordon

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

A. Katz

## 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.

10578	Marc Milzman	Roanoke, VA
10579	Marc Schwarz	Brookline, MA
10580	Paulo Renati Risi	Brazil

# Famous Farmers of America

Richard Barson, Beachwood, OH, Donald A. Chafetz

I received the cover front shown in Figure 1 from Richard Barson with no story. My interest was aroused when I noted it commemorated a Rabbi's founding of an agriculture school in Doylestown, Pennsylvania in 1896. I was interested in learning more about the Rabbi and his school if it still existed.

A quick Google search revealed numerous articles and even a line to the school now called Delaware Valley College with and enrollment of 2,000 students and offers 25 study majors.

The following biographical sketch is from the American Jewish Archives, <http://americanjewisharchives.org/ajafindingAids/JosephKrauskopf.htm>.

Joseph Krauskopf was born 21 January 1858 in Ostrowo, Prussian-Posen to Hirsch Krauskopf, a local lumber merchant. After his father's death, Krauskopf emigrated to the United States in 1872 to join an half-brother, only to discover he had died. Krauskopf found work for a tea merchant in New Jersey until he entered the first class of Hebrew Union College (HUC). He was recommended to Isaac Mayer Wise by the Christian widow of a newspaper editor, who noted that "he has all the Christian virtues."

While rooming with Henry Berkowitz, the two created a Jewish youth periodical entitled The Sabbath Visitor. This interest in education was to remain an interest for both in their post-HUC careers. Following ordination, Krauskopf accepted a pulpit in Kansas City, Missouri. He remained in Kansas City from 1883-1887 when he became the rabbi at the Philadelphia congregation of Keneseth Israel. Krauskopf was an extremely popular rabbi in both congregations—at Kansas City, his sermons were regularly published and growth in Philadelphia led to the building of a new synagogue.



He was an avid supporter of radical reform in Judaism. In 1885, Krauskopf wrote to Rabbi Kaufman Kohler of Beth El in New York in order to propose a meeting between reform-minded rabbis. As a result of this letter, Krauskopf served as vice-president at the 1885 conference where the Pittsburgh Platform was written. Krauskopf implemented many reforms in his personal congregation including Sunday worship.

Krauskopf's interests extended well beyond Reform Judaism. In 1884, Krauskopf founded the Poor Man's Free Labor Bureau to help indigents find employment. Later, in 1894, Krauskopf received a visa via a special Congressional resolution and traveled to Russia to examine the problem of mass immigration of Eastern European Jews. While in Europe, Krauskopf met with author Leo Tolstoy who said that the key to Jewish survival was in agriculture. Impressed by a model farm school in Odessa, Krauskopf decided to start a similar program in the United States. In Doylestown, Pennsylvania, Krauskopf began the National Farm School, and supported it through lecture tours. He viewed it as "one of the best means of securing safety and happiness to the sorely afflicted of our people."

Krauskopf was also a leader in the Jewish Publication Society. He died in Atlantic City, New Jersey on 12 June 1923. \*



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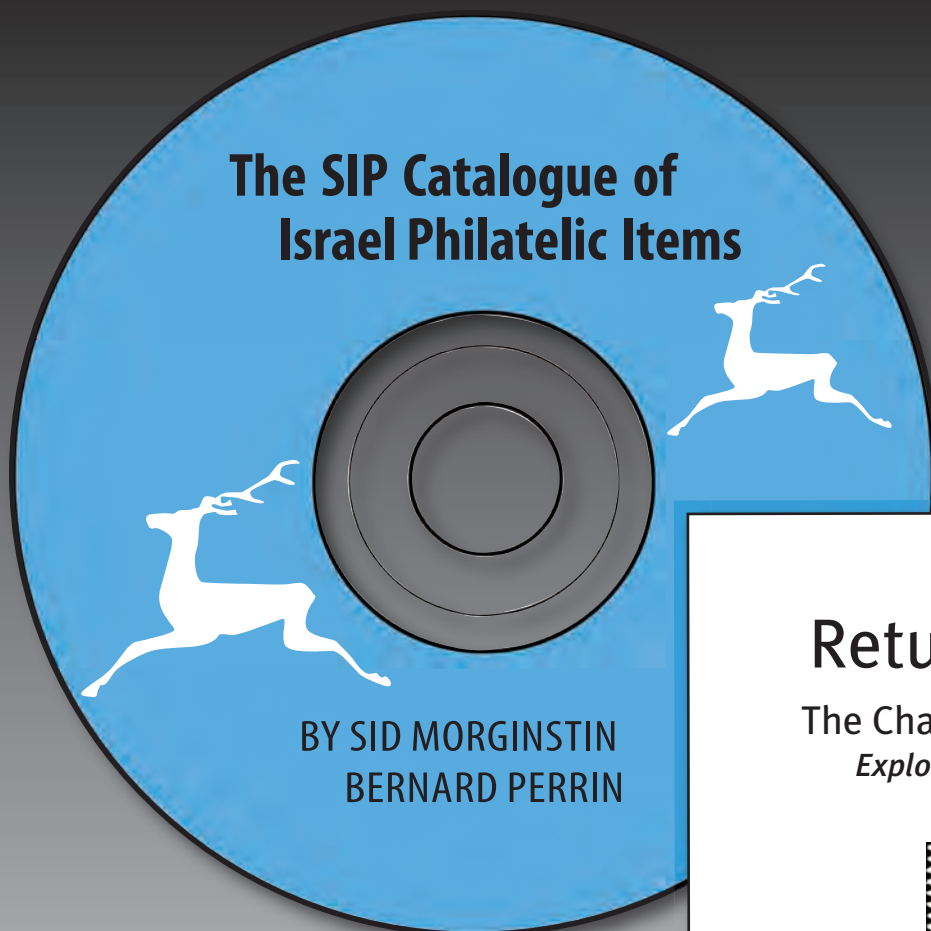
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