



# THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

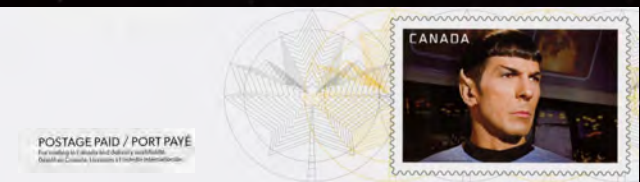
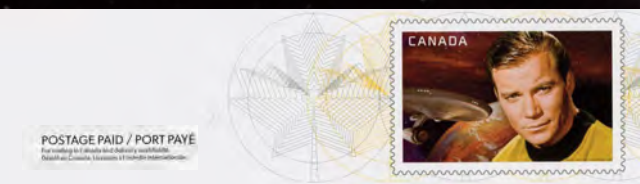
JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. SUMMER 2016

DEVOTED TO THE PHILATELY OF THE HOLY LAND & JUDAICA VOL LXVII NO 3



## 50 years of STAR TREK on Television

IRV OSTERER PAGE 26



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# Society of Israel Philatelists

לדור ודור

From Generation to Generation

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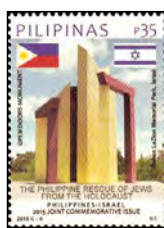
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# SIP Leadership 2016

## OFFICERS

President  
**Edwin G. Kroft**  
 E-mail: e.kroft@shaw.ca e.kroft@shaw.ca

1st Vice President  
 Web Master  
**Donald A. Chafetz**  
 E-mail: SIPeditor@gmail.com

2nd Vice President  
**Dr. Zachary Simmons**  
 E-mail: zsimmons101@gmail.com

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

Associate Editors  
**Arthur Harris**  
**Barry D. Hoffman**  
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**Zach Simmons**  
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Graphic Designer  
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Treasurer  
 Executive Secretary  
**Howard S. Chapman**  
 E-mail: stampareme@aol.com

Immediate Past President  
**Howard Rotterdam**  
 E-mail: hrteach@icloud.com

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

**DIRECTORS**  
**Gene Eisen**  
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## SIP COMMITTEES

**ENDOWMENT FUND**  
**Michael Bass**  
 E-mail: mbass@hy-ko.com

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

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN**  
**Becky Dean**  
 E-mail: bdean@stamps.org

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

**RESEARCH COMMITTEE**  
**Edwin G. Kroft**  
 E-mail: ed.kroft@blakes.com  
**Phil Kass**  
 E-mail: phlkas@ucdavis.edu

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

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

**GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Paul Aufrichtig**

**EDUCATIONAL FUND**  
**David Kaplin**  
 E-mail: SIPEdFund@gmail.com

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
**Becky Dean**  
 E-mail: bdean@israelstamps.com

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**Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg**  
**Moshe Kol-Kalman**  
**Gregg Philipson**

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 Information available from  
**Stephen H. Olson**  
 E-mail: olsonsteveh@gmail.com

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 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP/Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent or Guarantors Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Applications submitted must be accompanied by a full year's dues.

Applications Dues:	January 1 – June 30:		
Life Membership	\$470.00	\$470.00	\$470.00
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Regular Member	\$50.00	\$55.00	\$60.00
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## Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

*I would like to thank Irv Osterer for his designs of the front cover, the Julio Popper (pp 8-13) and Star Trek (pp 26-29) articles and the NY show photo layout (pp 30-32). ■*

I have now attended three international stamp shows, Washington 2006, Israel 2008 and New York 2016. In many ways they were very similar - a large dealer bourse area with much activity, which is wonderful...but with much less activity in the Exhibition and Society areas. The following is my take on the New York 2016 Show. It includes a look at the accommodations and layout of the event with an eye towards improving visitor traffic in our world class Exhibition and Society venues.

### JAVITS CENTER

My major complaint about the Javits Center was the lack of carpeting. After 8 days of walking on the concrete floors and going up and down the subway stairs my legs were like rubber. I realize there was no way to provide carpeting for such a large area, but some in strategic areas would have helped. Fortunately, I had my sneakers which helped a little.

Note to my future self - buy comfortable, thick soled shoes for the next international show.

The bourse area was crowded with dealers and customers, and there was no problem walking the floor. The aisles were wide and always clear except for the impromptu meetings.

Based on the little feedback I heard from dealers and customers, everyone was happy. I even saw moderate lines at the USPS booth. The only dealers who might not have done well were located on the exhibit side of the hall. The traffic there was thin compared to the major dealer bourse area.

There were two main entrances into the Javits Center. One entrance was close to the subway exit with a Starbucks located just inside. It seemed there was always line at Starbucks. I know because I was in it very often.

Just beyond this popular entrance stood the main dealer/postal service areas. The American Philatelic Service booth was located there as well as the Court of Honor.

The second entrance had a display of the Jenny plane similar to the one pictured on the first United States airmail stamp which was accidentally printed upside down. Beyond this display was a food concession which was busy mainly at lunch time. This entrance way led to a few dealers and the exhibit area. I assume it was planned to place the main bourse area just beyond the Starbucks entrance since it would receive the most traffic.

On the bourse side of the hall, a large area was set aside

for children to "dip and pick" for stamps. There always appeared to be plenty of children taking advantage of the fun.

Next to the children's area stood an enclosure which served as the Reading Room/Literature Competition arena. All week talks were presented there on different subjects with attendance varying between very poor to 'OK.' I presented two talks, one on Monday and the other on Friday with fair attendance at each. Unfortunately, the enclosure was next to the bourse area so s background noise accompanied presentations. Luckily, a microphone was provided, but due to the noise, the talks could not be video taped.

### EXHIBIT AREA

The exhibit area was very expansive with plenty of room between the rows of frames. The number of high quality exhibits was overwhelming, really too much to fully appreciate. Consequently, I was selective in which ones I viewed.

A trick I have learned is to try and locate the owners of the exhibits and ask them to walk you through their presentation. They are proud to talk about their material and it provides you the opportunity to ask questions. You find out more about the exhibits in this fashion then if you try to look at or read all the pages.

I continue to marvel in wonderment at all the material on display and the history and lessons that can be learned from the exhibits. To my mind, they are visual history books. Anyone who attends a show and does not spend some time looking at the exhibits is missing a big part of the hobby.

### SOCIETY BOOTH AREA

The society area was located adjacent to the exhibit area and somewhat behind the bourse areas. Our booth, The Society of Israel Philatelists, had a prime spot. We were located at the very beginning of the society area and at the end of the bourse area. We had many members stop by to chat, renew memberships and purchase books we had for sale. It was also an opportunity for members to meet our two spark plugs, Becky Dean and Vicki Galecki. Becky is the administrative assistant located at the APS Headquarters in Bellfonte, PA. Vicki is the Executive Assistant and located in Cleveland. The three of us took turns manning the booth and helping members.

The booth next to ours belonged to the American Topical Society. They also had a large number of members stop by their booth. Many of the other society booths had some traffic, but as the week passed I noticed their booths no longer had members manning them.

Overall, I feel that with only a few exceptions, the SIP experience at the show was one of the best I have ever enjoyed, but I'd like to see future Shows arranged to encourage more foot traffic through the marvelous society and exhibition areas. ■



# Letters to the Editor

## Guest Editorial Feedback

Dear Ed:

As a former president of the chapter, I very closely read and enjoy the publication and can only state that you and the editor are doing an outstanding job. Not as a criticism or complaint I have noted the article of Sid Morginstin (2016 Spring, p. 3) and feel compelled to bring my thoughts about it to you.

Our whole mission is to expand our chapter in order to increase our membership. While Sid's comments may not be incorrect I believe it is inappropriate to place, especially in a prominent position, an article which has as its purpose to discourage the collection of stamps. I believe that this is contrary to our mission and purposes and that similar articles should not be accepted,

Regards,

Paul Aufrichtig, New York, NY ■

## Reply

Hello Paul

Sorry you were not able to attend the AG meeting in New York.

In regard to Sid's article, I gave it a lot of thought before I published it. Basically, I have seen too many people bring a stamp collection to a show with a desire to sell it. Very often they are told it is of minimum value and should be given to a young member of the family. Unfortunately, the collector who put the collection together never informed members of the family of the true value of their collection. As a result, the family believes the collection is very valuable.

My intent was to awaken members to the fact that modern collections are really not appreciating in value and they should consider informing family members of the true value so there is no unexpected disappointment.

I do not feel the article will discourage anyone from collecting. Rather I hope it makes collectors realize that stamp collecting is a hobby, not a money machine. Collect and enjoy the stamps you want and hopefully in the future when you dispose of the collection you will receive a fair return.

Don ■

## Holocaust Letter Connection

Dear Larry,

I was reading your article in the latest issue of **The Israel Philatelist** (Spring, 2016 p.53 - 57) and came to a stop at Figure 4.

The letter to Siegfried is addressed c/o my grandfather Moritz Goldschmidt. 48 Pinehurst Avenue was the first apartment in the United States of my grandparents, father and his two older siblings. Having done extensive genealogy of both my grandfather and grandmother and not having any Amsters in the family tree, I was stumped.

I called my mother and she recalls both Martin and Siegfried and believes that they are somehow related to my grandmother. Since my father was the youngest of the children and passed away a little over a year ago finding the connection might take some effort. My guess is that the relationship is through Hedwig, whose maiden name is Dannenberg, as there are a number of Dannenbergs who are cousins of my grandmother. Hedwig may be a cousin of a cousin, but back then everyone already in the United States helped the newcomers and tried to help those still in Germany. If you could put me in touch with Martin's grandchildren, I would appreciate it very much.

Mark Goldsmith, Teaneck, NJ ■

## Additional Information

Dear Larry,

I have some more information for you. It turns out that Hedwig Amster is the first cousin of my grandmother's cousin's son-in-law. Thus, in Figure 4, my grandparents acted as Martin's mail drop. They moved from that address shortly after and Martin may have taken over the apartment on Pinehurst Avenue until he moved to Audubon Avenue. The J Wolff in Figure 7 is Julius Wolff whose wife is another cousin of my grandmother and is connected to Hedwig in several ways.

Mark Goldsmith, Teaneck, NJ ■

## Who is Miss Newton

Dear editor

I have been a faithful reader of **The Israel Philatelist** dating back to the blue cover issues my dad received as an SIP member years ago. As a current SIP member, I look forward to receiving and reading the magazine. Articles and references frequently send me to the Internet to obtain additional information.

But, a reference in Nathan Zankel's article, "*An Unusual Returned Cover*" that appeared on page 13 of Volume 67, Number 1 has me wondering. Who was "the well-known Miss Newton"? I feel I should know, but don't know. Will you please provide the answer?

Thanks

Gene Zhiss, Charlotte, NC ■

## Reply

Hello Gene

I found the following information on Wikipedia,  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances\\_E.\\_Newton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frances_E._Newton)

Frances Emily Newton (November 4, 1871–June 11, 1955) was an English missionary who lived and worked in Palestine from 1889 until 1938, the last 18 years of which saw the country under British rule. She became Dame of Justice of the Venerable Order of Saint John in 1930, and was a member of the Palestine Women's Council, a consultative committee that advised the British, usually to no avail, on matters affecting women and children. The journalist Owen Tweedy described her as, "comely but podgy—tall & masterful and with the hell of a temper and always having rows."

She was a founding member and honorary secretary of the Palestine Information Centre, referred to by the British Arab News Bulletin as the "first office to put the Arab view before the British public." Described by Norman Bentwich, the first Attorney-General of Mandatory Palestine, as "incurably anti-Jewish ... and a principal supporter of the Arab cause," she also founded the Anglo-Arab Friendship Committee in 1946, with the aim of opposing Zionism.

Living on Mount Carmel in Haifa, Newton became known as someone willing to document acts of violence against Arabs suspected of opposing British rule. She found herself in trouble in 1938 after publishing two pamphlets, *Punitive Methods in Palestine*, which accused the British of atrocities and was denounced in the House of Commons as "all lies," and *Searchlight on Palestine; Fair Play or Terrorist Methods*, which supported the 1936–1939 Arab revolt. The British issued an exclusion order and she was deported in October 1938. When she died of a heart attack in 1955, a British official said she had, "the exterior of an English woman and the mind of a Palestinian."

Don ■

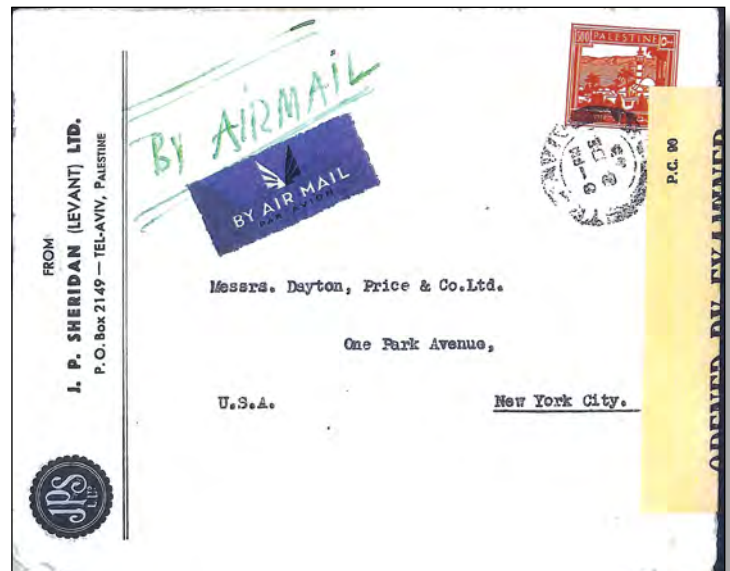
## 500 mils Stamp

Dear Don:

Ed Kroft in his very informative article on "Commercial Usage of the 500 mils Stamp of 1942" requested other examples of commercial usage.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of a single 500 mils stamp on a cover. A single 500 mils stamp on a cover is not seen as often as with multiples on a cover.

The cover was sent from Tel Aviv to New York City and is postmarked December 8, 1943. The route was via West Africa and Brazil to Miami and thence to New York.



Of interest is that the censorship marking is identical to the one shown in figure 6 of Eds' article. Basic air mail postage was 100 mils for every 10 grams of weight and increased 100 mils for every 10 grams of additional weight. The cover and its contents therefore weighed approximately 50 grams.

Irwin Math, Princeton Jct., NJ ■

## Lisbon Article

Don:

It was nice to finally meet you after all of these years of emailing.

I read with interest the Lisbon article (Spring 2016, **The Israel Philatelist**, pp 14-19); however, there are several things that I feel I should bring to your attention about the article.

The red boxed 4 digit numbers are German censor numbers of the Munich censorship office. (Figure 1 from Horst Landsmann's **Die Zensur von Zivilpost in Deutschland I'm 2. Weltkrieg**, 2008, page 170). They are not British censor marks. The cards with these German censor numbers (except Figure 5) were never sent to England (Figure 684).

These card, with the exception of Figure 5, are called "Sardine" covers and are acknowledgment cards for food packages sent by relief organizations in Lisbon, many of which contained sardines.

Pages 34-35 and 37 identify the addresses in the article and are from Charles Entwistle's book **Undercover addresses of World War II** 3rd Edition.

Regarding Figure 5, this is an undercover mail forwarding address for private individuals to communicate with people in "enemy" territory. The post box 506 scheme was run by Thomas Cook & Co. with the permission and supervision of the British Government. The Germans knew about it and


## Prüfervermerke

### Aufteilung der Unternummern

1. Kasten
2. Zahlen
3. Buchstaben und Symbole

Niveau 1: Gruppe Sortierung; Niveau 2: Prüferabteilung  
 Niveau 3: Auswertungsabteilung; Niveau 4: Absendeabteilung  
 (nach Ulf Lindewald)

### Stempel

Nr.	Abbildung Beschreibung Farben	Verwendung Seltenheit
DK2.1	 11-12x8mm, Ziffern 4-5mm hoch, vierstellig. 2000er - 4000er Bereich links unten, Niveau 2. 5000er, 6000er links unten, Niveau 2 Oberprüfer. Ab Anfang 1944 5000er, 7000er rechts unten, Niveau. Selten 8000er Bereich (für Drucksachen. Rot, ab Mitte 1943 auch blau, violett, schwarz, selten grün.	2.40 - 4.45 A

looked the other way.

I would note that chemical testing for secret writing was a very common practice by the Germans.

Finally, I would note that the Lisbon cancels are receiving cancels, not reposting cancels.

Larry Nelson, Mantoloking, NJ ■

## Reply

Larry Nelson's comments regarding the red boxed 4 digit numbers imprint are quite compelling, and we regret that we erred in believing them to represent British censor markings when they absolutely are German censor markings. Despite several quite knowledgeable philatelists having been involved in arriving at our conclusion we were unfortunately off the mark. We thank Larry for his erudite remarks. An Erratum will be found in this issue of The Israel Philatelist in association with Part II of this article.

Dr. Jesse Spector  
 Lenox, MA ■

Entries extracted from Charles Entwistle's book  
**Undercover addresses of World War II** 3rd Edition,  
 pages 34, 35 and 37.

Rue Alexandre Herculano 41 Polish Offices in London  
 possible Polish Red Cross  
 Spector Article Figure 9a

'Casa Macau Lda' Polish  
 Spector Article Figure3

Av Pedro Alvares Cabral 24-B Polish  
 Spector Article Figures 6-7

PO Box 506 Thomas Cook mail to G.B  
 Spector Article Figure 5.

## Israel to New Zealand

Dear Mr Kroft

I read with interest your article on Israel-New Zealand  
 Postal Rates

that was republished in two parts in the New Zealand Stamp  
 Collector in 2014.



One of my major areas for collection and study is early airmails(1920-1949) to New Zealand and so seeing the 1948 and 1949 airmail covers from the new state of Israel to New Zealand was of singular interest.

I'm currently expanding my 5 frame exhibit covering 1929-1945 to include some earlier 1920s covers and significant airmails in the immediate post war period that mark new links to New Zealand. I recalled your article and thought that the first commercial airmails from Israel to New Zealand would be an excellent addition with an important story. .

I would also be interested in any other background information you had on the first two years of airmail from Israel to this part of the world.

Yours sincerely

Steven Ferguson

Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand ■

## NY2016 Observations

In brief, **WORLD STAMP SHOW NY 2016** was an amazing event. Nearly all aspects were great: exhibits, displays, dealers, meetings, venue, and on and on. If you did not attend you missed the greatest philatelic event of the decade. What follows are some tidbits from my personal experience.

Originally, I was planning to be a volunteer for the entire run. These included the set up and take down. I had done the same at **INTERPHIL 1976**. Living near Trenton New Jersey made that feasible. I was also the convention chair of the American First Day Cover Society. I wanted to repeat the volunteer work for **NY2016**.

I also am a dealer. I originally was thinking of sharing a booth with another dealer. That did not pan out. I was going to skip taking a booth until my brother Harvey agreed to let my wife Charyl and I stay at his house in North Jersey for the duration. Otherwise, with hotel or BNB the cost would have been prohibitive. It goes without saying that Charyl and I are most grateful.

On the Tuesday before the show, we moved my stock up north. (From where I live, anything north of New Brunswick is UP NORTH.) That evening I took a bus to New York and walked to the Javits Center. I did the same on Wednesday.

I was on a team mounting working with the frames and mounting exhibits. First, we had to remove the screws at the bottom of all of the frames. We then had to mount the exhibits. This proved most difficult. Many of the screws did not easily go in, if at all. The frames themselves proved problematical. [The floor was not 100% even.] The complaints were many. The company that made them has a representative at the show. He was busier than the proverbial one armed wallpaper hanger.

It seems to me that the frames were not fully tested at an exhibition before New York. Though they are lighter than the current frames, they do not seem as sturdy. Also the plastic sheet easily scratches. On the good side, I like the plastic holders for the exhibit pages.

On Thursday morning, my brother drove the van to the Javits Center. Getting in was a real problem. In the end, as my booth was about 30 feet from the back door, he was allowed to drive to my booth. It took me quite a while to set up. I then went back to mounting. I also helped out on Friday.

I attended part of the opening ceremonies on Saturday. Though they were well done, I was expecting some entertainment – like I have seen at some other international shows.



Unexpected show visitor

Saturday thru Monday was one long blur. Sales were very brisk. It was so fast that I could not properly track all sales.

Tuesday thru Friday the crowds were a bit less, but still very good.

There were many food options available. On some days, food vendors even brought food to the dealers. The food was a bit pricey -- but acceptable.

Sid Morginstin

Trenton, NJ ■

## Mark Your Calender



## SIP Convention 2017

*November 17 - 19, 2017*

*Chicago, IL*

Westin Chicago Northwest  
400 Park Boulevard  
Itasca, Illinois 60143



# Julio Popper

## TIERRA DEL FUEGO EXPLORER

Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg



At the main New York City Public Library on 42nd Street I found a hard copy of the 1987 second edition of Federico Rivera Carles' forty-one page brochure *The Patagonia 'Kingdom' of the Jew Popper; the Andinia Plan Antecedent*.<sup>1</sup> The brochure has on its cover a Masonic symbol, and on the last page in large-bold print, a call:

***"Haga Patria Combata al Judío"***  
***"Build the Homeland Fight the Jew"***

This brochure is only one of many anti-Semitic publications that have intermittently spread in my native Argentina. It refers to the refuted "Andinia Plan," a conspiracy theory started by far-right circles about 1971. According to the plan, Jews were planning to establish a Jewish state in the southern Patagonia lands of Argentina and Chile. Included in the supporting documentation, that Rivera Carles cited to bolster his argument about the veracity of the "Andinia Plan", are references to the Jewish-Romanian Julio Popper's private 1886 enterprise to mine gold in Tierra del Fuego, at the southern tip of Argentina.

### POPPER BAND

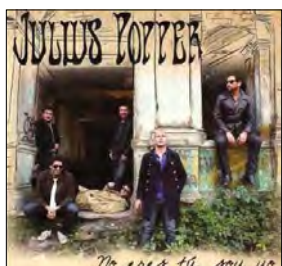


FIGURE 1

Popper's name also pops up (no pun intended) as the name of a Chilean music band (FIGURE 1) known by a name few would associate with a musical group— *Julius Popper*. (Popper's Romanian name was Iulius, Julio in Spanish). When asked for the reason behind the

choice of the unusual name, the group claimed that its inspiration was the novel *The Heart Seen against the Light*.<sup>2</sup>

In his novel, Manns picks up on Popper's alleged cruel crusade against the indigenous people known as Onas or Selk'nam, while also falling in love with a young Selk'nam woman. "It is this turn from hate to love that we represent: how evil can turn into goodness," claimed a band spokesperson. While this is indeed a noble sentiment, nowhere in any Popper biography does such a romance claimed by the "Popper" band find a foothold

in reality. But "another reason," for its name the band spokesperson added, and one that is probably accurate, is so that people will want to know more about this episode in the history of Chile.<sup>3</sup>

### POPPER MOVIE



FIGURE 2

At the 2000 Cannes Film Festival, the acclaimed Chilean filmmaker and director Miguel Littin debuted the screening of his epic film *Tierra del Fuego*, [Land of Fire](FIGURE 2), so named by Ferdinand Magellan in 1520, probably after he saw from his ship the many fires lit by the local inhabitants to light and warm their freezing surrounding. Inspired by Popper's gold-seeking adventures, Littin, like Manns, weaved a story that also took liberty with facts. For example, Popper's story is set in 1850, while he actually only arrived in Buenos Aires thirty-six years later. He is inaccurately pictured killing and capturing Indians as slaves, forcing them to mine for gold and torturing them with appalling savagery. These distortions would not cease to haunt some of Popper's biographies.

### POPPER NOVEL



FIGURE 3

And only recently, an artistically and lavishly illustrated novel (FIGURE 3) was published in France, *Julio Popper: The Last King of Tierra del Fuego*.<sup>4</sup> authors Matz and Chemineau take up Popper's legendary life and adventures in several countries and continents including his Tierra del Fuego enterprises, until his death and burial. The authors also include a few pages about his traditional Jewish upbringing in Bucharest. They offer no reason as to why they were prompted to write the story at this time. I can only speculate that they must have considered Popper's background and adventures as one that merits the type of exposure that the book offers, even if the events are more than a century old.

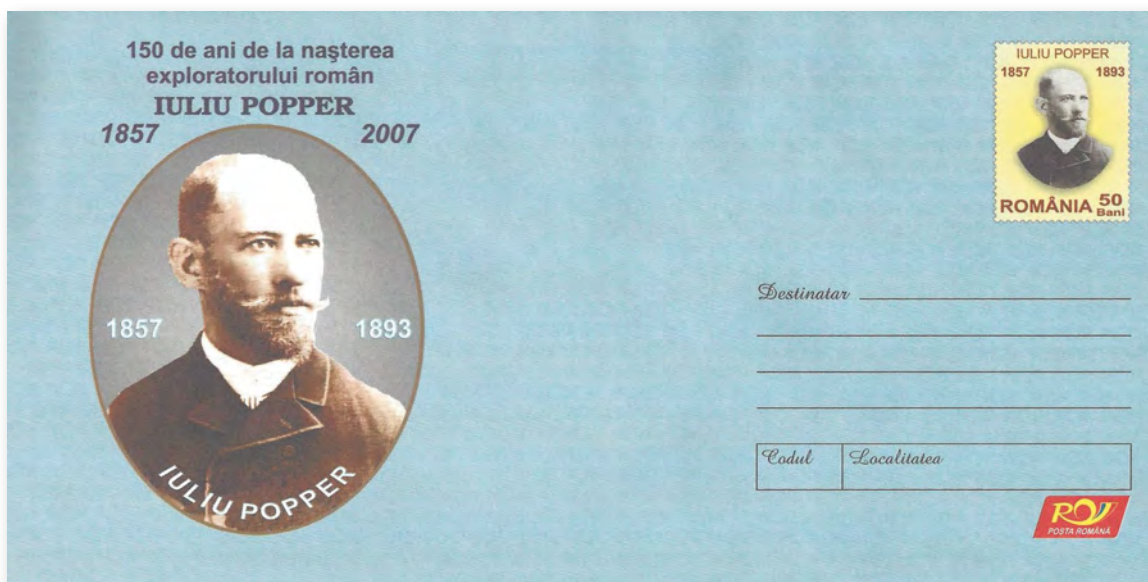


FIGURE 4

## JULIO POPPER'S BACKGROUND

Who was Julio Popper? Was he an excuse for an anti-Semitic conspiracy libel, the inspiration of a musical band's name, an alleged torturer of Tierra del Fuego natives, and the subject of a recently published illustrated French biographical novel? Why is he of interest in Jewish history and to Judaica philately collectors?

A classic study of Popper was published by the Lodz-born Argentinian historian Boleslao Lewin: *Popper: Patagonian Conquistador*.<sup>5</sup>

"Whatever information we can offer has been assembled after long and patient research in Romania."

Julio was born in Bucharest in 1857, (the exact date is unknown, see FIGURE 4) and Max, his younger brother, eleven years later. They were the sons of Naphtali C. Popper (1820-1891), a teacher and director of the first Jewish school in Bucharest (1852-1867) patterned after the principles of the *Haskalah*. In this school, which the young Julio also attended, three languages were required: Romanian, Yiddish and German.

In addition to the secular subjects, biblical history and Jewish religion were also taught. Naphtali Popper also wrote a number of manuals in Romanian and Hebrew and founded and directed the Romanian-Hebrew paper *Timpul-Die Zeit* (The Time). It appeared for only three months due to the local opposition of a more conservative-traditional Jewish readership. For a time he had or was in charge of a bookstore on Vacaresti Street, a well-known commercial artery in

Romania's capital. He was also a delegate to the first Congress of all Zionist Unions in Romania held in December 1881, sixteen years before the First Zionist Congress in Basel 1897.<sup>6</sup>

The epitaph on Naphtali Popper's tombstone located in Bucharest's Philanthropic Cemetery elegantly summarizes his life and the heritage he bequeathed to his sons:

**PROFESSOR. PRINCIPAL OF THE FIRST JEWISH SCHOOL  
IN BUCHAREST. 1852-1867. APPROVED BY DECREE N. 400  
SIGNED BY ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA [EMPEROR].**

Even though he was a Hebrew teacher, he made clear at the school's opening that much emphasis would be placed on the Romanian language so that young Jews will not be exposed to the embarrassing position of not being able to express themselves in the language of the nation in which they live.<sup>7</sup>

Little is known about Julio Popper's mother, Peppi, or why Julio's parents originally decided to move from Poland to Bucharest. Considering Julio's parental home, it is safe to assume that he was well aware of his Jewish background, of Jewish customs and practices, and armed with a solid knowledge of Hebrew and Yiddish.

## UNIVERSITY STUDIES

When Julio, in his late teens, decided to pursue university studies, he found that Jews were denied such possibilities in Romania. Propelled as well by an adventurous and entrepreneurial character, Julio persuaded his parents to let him go to study in Paris. At about seventeen, he knew French, the preferred language of the Romanian cultured



upper classes, as well as Yiddish and Hebrew. He was also able to handle Italian, Latin, Greek, and Spanish. Wherever he went, he made sure to take along his philatelic collection. He majored in engineering/mining. Soon after graduation, he returned to Bucharest to share the good news with his parents, only to leave again and wander around the world.

In the course of seven years, he visited Constantinople, Egypt, Japan, China, and India. Popper again returned to Bucharest in 1881 to visit his family and the country for which he had genuine affection, but he soon resumed his travels for another four years. This time he went to Siberia, from there to New Orleans where he worked on some engineering projects, then on to Havana where he drew the city plans and finally to Mexico and Brazil. It was in Brazil that the twenty-eight year old Julio heard about the discovery of gold near the Magellan Straits in the far south of Argentina, and decided to move to Buenos Aires. This move would change his young life forever. The news of the discovery of gold spread around the world attracting men to a potential new *El Dorado*, a new gold rush.

## POPPER IN ARGENTINA

“Arriving in Buenos Aires, [Popper, in late 1885] made a good impression on all who met him. He was described as tall, strong, with a somewhat prominent face, blond with blue eyes, a bald forehead. His skin [was] always high colored. Until his last moment he had a healthy look [and was] elegantly and carefully dressed, always active and in good humor.”<sup>8</sup>

He was also “an engineer of rare attainments—a civil, mechanical, and mining engineer—good in all three branches; an astronomer; a linguist who spoke and wrote a dozen languages fluently”.<sup>8</sup>

Soon after his arrival in Argentina, Popper promptly made his way into some of the most prominent echelons of the Buenos Aires elites, forging ties with prominent politicians and businessmen. These ties were further strengthened after he joined the Masonic “Docente” lodge, to which the cream of the Buenos Aires aristocracy belonged. By May, only a few months into his stay, he was named inspector of one of the mining companies operating in Patagonia. In this role, he undertook several exploration trips in 1886, reaching first Cabo Vírgenes, in the province of Santa Cruz.<sup>9</sup> Popper’s research led him to conclude that neighboring Tierra del Fuego, further south, was of similar geological formation and would offer far superior conditions for the mining of gold (FIGURE 5). He pointed out, with accurate insight, that “gold was generally found in alluvial formations on sea beaches... consisting of particles.”<sup>10</sup>

Popper presented his report in Buenos Aires personally to Argentina’s president Miguel Angel Juárez Celman (1886-1890). His conclusions were highly appreciated given that Popper also exhibited a profound knowledge of cartography, toponymy, and natural resources. It should also be kept in mind that these were daring trips for the young foreigner. They were undertaken during the autumn and winter months to these bitter cold lands,

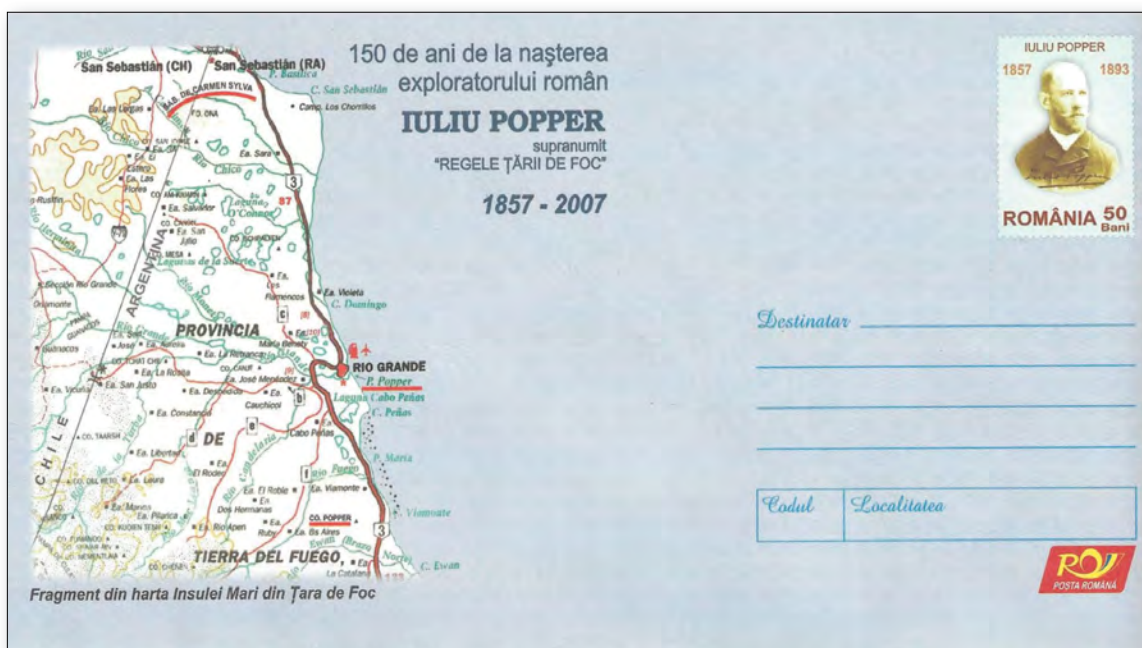


FIGURE 5



FIGURE 6

swept by raging winds and snow, isolated, inhospitable, and remote, without any means of communication available, only sparsely populated by the Selk'man tribe.

Popper's arrival in Argentina was propitious since General Julio Argentino Roca's administration (1880 - 1886) that preceded Juárez Celman's presidency, had already started a military campaign to exterminate the Patagonian indigenous people, aimed at opening the vast lands to "civilization." Popper's enterprise was seen as part of this "civilizational" framework. Only a year after his arrival in Argentina in July 1887, Popper succeeded in the formation of the "Lavadero de oro del sud" (South Gold Harvesters) company in Buenos Aires, with him at its helm. In Tierra del Fuego he went on to establish several settlements devoted to finding gold, the main one being "El Páramo," (The Moor).

He soon came to rule over 2,500 hectares; by 1891, 88,000!<sup>11</sup> He went on to request from the Argentine Congress an additional 275,000, but was denied. In 1888, his twenty-three year old brother Max joined him, but died of tuberculosis just over a year later. About a hundred men of many nationalities worked in Julio Popper's mines, many of them Yugoslavian nationals. At the height of the enterprise, 540 people were employed. In the course of time a police station was set up and rules were to be followed. Popper even commanded a small army. An engineering pioneer, he invented machines which he patented to extract gold from the waters of the

Atlantic. "El Páramo" began to yield one-half to one pound of gold per day. Popper named rivers, mountains, and settlements, many of these names remain in use today. On March 5, 1887 he delivered at the prestigious Argentine National Geographic Institute in downtown Buenos Aires a lengthy and highly praised lecture about his discoveries and work. He would go on to deliver yet another remarkable lecture in 1891. These lectures in Spanish are readily available.

### LEGEND vs. TRUTH

Although Manns' novel and Littin's film paint Popper as a hunter and killer of the native population, there is no evidence that he was "a murderer of Indians" as Manns wrote. Much of this accusation was based on a widely-circulated photo of Popper "that is now, more than anything else, emblematic of the civilized brutality that cleared Tierra del Fuego so it could become the sheep-farming capital. The image," obviously staged, "shows a quartet of uniformed men, one a killer, probably Popper himself, stands with the naked body of a dead Indian at his feet while the others stare off in the distance for more."<sup>12</sup> The photo, which Popper included in an album given to President Juárez Celman, suggests atrocities against indigenous people. The album eventually turned up in an Ushuaia museum for all to see.

At the same time and in other writings, Popper forcefully defended the rights of the native people. But the image about his alleged cruel treatment of the aborigines survived. In fact,

the fight between “civilization and barbarism”, a policy pursued both in North and South America to rid lands of native people, was pursued by the expanding farm owners, Argentine and Chilean, and with the support of their central governments. Popper limited himself to defending his property in the “wild far south” from fellow gold seekers trying to impinge on his holdings.<sup>13</sup>

## POPPER GOLD COINS

By 1889, the thirty-two year old Popper had become the virtual ruler of the northern Argentine half of Tierra del Fuego. (The western half had been adjudicated to Chile in an 1881 treaty). About November 1889, coins of one and five grams of pure gold minted by Popper began to appear. On one side was engraved “Tierra del Fuego—Popper—1889,” while on the reverse “El Páramo” or “Lavaderos del Sud” coupled with the value in grams against a background of a crossed hammer and pickax (FIGURES 6,7,8 ). The first two issues of the coin were minted in “El Páramo,” while the last three, for unknown reasons, in the “Casa de la Moneda” the formal minting house of the Argentine currency in Buenos Aires. It is figured that 17,000 grams of gold were used to mint these coins, a considerable amount. They can still be purchased from coin and gold dealers.<sup>14</sup>



FIGURE 7

Popper’s entrepreneurial drive didn’t stop with gold production. “He was a man of many ideas, but he didn’t have the perseverance to see them through. He came up with the idea of setting up fisheries in the rich Antarctica waters, additional gold farming establishments in Bolivia, Chile, and in the northern Argentine state of Jujuy, and a telegraphic network for southern Argentina.” He published these ideas on April 7, 1893, in a brochure entitled *Atlanta*, but none of these projects materialized.<sup>15</sup>

*The concluding chapter of this intriguing story will be published in the next SIP Journal.*

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FIGURE 8



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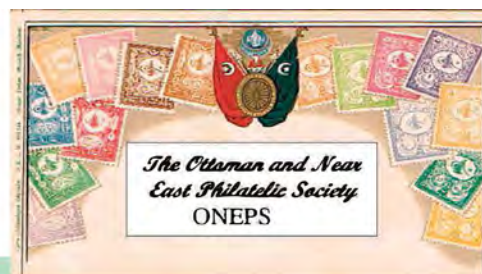
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# Lisbon

Jesse I. Spector M.D., Berkshire Hills SIP  
Edwin Helitzer D.M.D.

## Authors Erratum:

In Part 1 of this article (Vol. LXVII, No. 2, pp 14-19) it was stated that the red boxed 4 digit numbers imprint on the front of covers 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9a were British censor markings,

when in fact they are German censor markings. If any of these covers reached England, it would not have been through direct postal forwarding.

Tragically, for incredibly large numbers of Poles, the German plan was for eventual annihilation rather than just subjugation of the population, so as to offer “Lebensraum” – living room – for German citizens to occupy the country. In the case of Polish Jews, only 350,000 would survive the Holocaust from a pre-war population of three million.

## THANK YOU NOTE

A 30 groschen General Government imprinted postal card sent from Warsaw, Poland sent by registered post on June 19, 1944 to the cover address for Polish Offices in London, possibly the Polish Red Cross in Lisbon. A 60-groschen Adolf Hitler stamp makes up the difference for the postage required for this overseas registered mailing.

The sender, Maria Dybczak, writing in Polish, gives thanks for a parcel containing almonds, figs, lemons and sardines, and she asks if a second-hand suit and some underwear can be sent for her son, as they have lost everything during the war.

German censor markings - the classic Wehrmacht eagle and swastika, and the red rectangular imprints are evident as is the prominent diagonal invisible ink test mark on the reverse.

Pracownicy Państwa! Bardzo dziękuję za otrzymane paczki (1 paczkę wzięły 2 paczki fig, 2p. Lemon). Jestem w ciężkich warunkach i paczki przysyłane naprawdę bardzo potrzebne. Proszę o pomoc. Miałabym do Państwa prośbę, która wyrażona w poprzednim liście. Proszę, o ile możliwe byłoby o jakiś wygodny garnitur dla mojej córki i dla syna lub siostry. Proszę o pomoc.

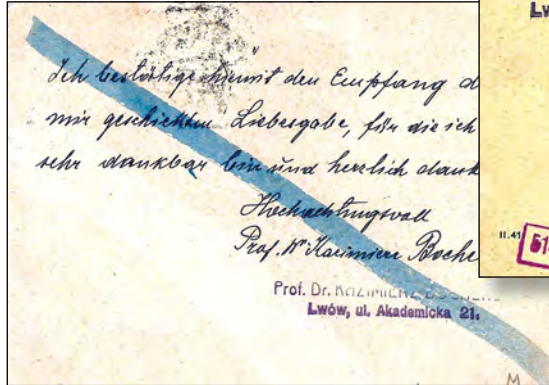


Figures. 12a, 12b  
Warsaw to Lisbon registered mail postcard to cover address of the Polish Red Cross. German censor's marking present.



## INTELLIGENTSIA EXTERMINATION

Figures 13a and 13b show an imprinted 12-groschen postal card with a 20-groschen Hitler postage stamp affixed to cover the overseas postcard rate of 30 groschen. It was sent from Lemberg (Lwow), Poland – General Government territory – on January 5, 1944 to the cover address of the Polish Offices in London, possibly the Polish Red Cross. German Wehrmacht censor marking are evident. A diagonal German test mark for invisible ink writing is present on the reverse. The sender, Professor Dr. Kazimer Bocheinski, thanks the receiver in a German language note for donations received by him.



Figures 13a, 13b  
Lemberg, Poland to Lisbon postal card to cover address for Polish Red Cross with German censor imprints.

Of particular note with regard to this communication is the fact that the Germans earmarked the Polish intelligentsia for immediate extermination, regardless of their religion. They planned to only permit a small number of remaining Poles to survive in subjugation to fulfill the basic needs of the new German population, or, to be integrated into German society if they demonstrated certain “Germanic” racial characteristics.

## ANNEXED TERRITORY CARD



Figure 14

Postal card from Kattowitz, Germany, annexed from Poland, to undercover address of Polish Red Cross in Lisbon. German censor's imprint noted.

Figure 14 is the final entry in the cover mailings to the undercover address for the Polish Offices in London. It was sent by a Polish resident of Kattowitz (Katowice), Poland, in the annexed western territory of Poland incorporated into Greater Germany. Postage was paid with a German Reich, Adolf Hitler 15 pfennig imprinted postal card stamp.

The reverse includes a thank you message for the donated

packets received by Frau (Mrs.) Daschewski, and is overlaid by a wavy, diagonal invisible ink, blue test mark.

## PHILATELICALLY EXQUISITE



Figure 15

Registered postal card from Lemberg, Poland to undercover address in Lisbon with German censor imprint.

A philatelically exquisite example of spy mail is this postal card (Figure 15) mailed from Lemberg (Lwow) District of Galicia to an undercover address in Lisbon, Portugal. The imprinted 12 groschen General Government stamp is augmented by 20 and 60 groschen Adolf Hitler stamps to cover the registered, overseas postage. In addition to the registration label, one finds a blue ink scripted notation “Einschreiben” indicating registered mail.

Red Wehrmacht censor marking of the eagle and swastika, and two red rectangular censor markings adorn the cover. The reverse note by Maria Stieber is in German advising of receipt of donated parcels (Liebesgaben) #665 and #666.



## FIRMA CASA COSTA

Our final four covers were all mailed to an undercover address in Lisbon, the Firma Casa Costa at Rua do Salitre, 25. In each case, the sender acknowledges receipt of one or more packets with specific numbers attached to each received donation. This indicates that the “Liebesgaben” – charity/donations – were directed from an agency, with thanks being offered. We were unable to ascertain the organization utilizing this accommodation address; yet, the poignancy of the appreciation expressed by the receiver stands as a tribute to the attempts to assuage the suffering of the victims of Nazi oppression.



Figures 16, 17

Express mail postal cards from Warsaw to undercover address in Lisbon.

Figure 16 shows a very “busy” postal card sent on April 28, 1944 by express post as evident from the red label –“Durch Eilboten” (through express messenger)– from Warsaw to the Firma Casa Costa in Lisbon. The imprinted 12 groschen General Government postcard was supplemented with an 8 groschen Hitler stamp of the General Government (Scott N78) as well as a 10 groschen (Scott N79) to cover the overseas postcard rate, together with a one zloty (N94) Adolf Hitler stamp to cover the express mail postage.

German censor stamps are located in the lower left corner. The message in Polish gives thanks for receipt of packages 2021 and 2022.

Figure 17 has some minor variation in postage from Figure 16. It is a postal card sent by express mail from Warsaw, Poland on June 5, 1944, a day prior to the D-Day invasion by the Allies in Europe.

The express postage was paid with the one zloty Hitler head (Scott N79) stamp. Delivery was to the undercover address on R. do Salitre, 25. The Wehrmacht censor utilized diagonal, blue ink tests for invisible writing on both front and back of the card. The writer acknowledges in German receipt of the donated package and thanks the sender for the assistance.

## CENSORED POST CARD

Figure 18 is a postal card sent from Grodzisk Mazowiecki, 19 miles southwest of Warsaw, Poland on August 28, 1944 to the undercover address, Firma Casa Costa- in Lisbon, Portugal. The message in Polish is thanking the sender for receipt of package number 1640.

Wehrmacht censor imprint and single-boxed censor stamp are in the lower center of the 30 groschen imprinted postal card from the General Government territory of occupied Poland. Diagonal blue German test markings for invisible ink writing are evident on front and back, more so clearly defined on the latter.



Figure 18

Postal card from Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Poland to undercover address in Lisbon. German censor’s marking and test blue line for invisible ink noted.

The final entry among these four covers to the Firma Casa Costa (Figure 19) is a German post office postcard. It was sent by registered post from Pudewitz (Pobiedziska), Poland, 16 miles northeast of Posen, to Lisbon, Portugal on May 31, 1944 to the undercover (accommodation) address on Rua do Salitre, 25.

Pudewitz was geographically in the western area of Poland annexed to Greater Germany as evident from the map in Figure 3, thus, the use of German Reich stamps, not General Government postage for the more central “independent” territory. Postage was paid with a 30 pfennig and 15 pfennig Adolph Hitler stamp. In addition to the registration label



Figure 19

Registered post card sent from Pudewitz, Poland to Lisbon using German Reich stamps due to annexation into the Reich. Blue “V” test for invisible ink and censor stamps present.

on the left side of the card, one notes the partially visible scripted writing to the left of the stamps with the word “Einschreiben” indicating registered posting.

The message in German acknowledges receipt of package No. 1635. A partial German censor stamp in red is to the right of the red, rectangular boxed #5463 censor stamp. The German censor was careless in applying his red censor imprint on the front of the card, but he or she did apply a V-shaped blue invisible ink test on the reverse.

## ACCOMMODATION ADDRESSES

Now, almost 70 years after the facts of this postal history presentation, one might be forgiven for perhaps sensing a bit too much drama placed in the cat and mouse activities of censor markings and testing for invisible ink, related to messages between belligerent countries through neutral intermediaries. That should not be the case, however. Yes, the adversaries clearly knew that the drop boxes, undercover addresses, accommodation addresses – call them what you may – were not what they said they were, and clearly represented less than subtle means for transfer of communications that in the days before Internet communications and satellites might otherwise not be received by the intended parties.

People did indeed use invisible ink, and messages were hidden behind postage stamps. Clandestine activities, subterfuge, intrigue were, indeed, part of the milieu. And, lest we not take the concerns of the secret services, spies, and censors to heart, the penalty for exposure upon attempting to transmit concealed information, would most often in a totalitarian country result in the forfeiture of one’s life, usually by summary execution. So much, then, for not taking these clandestine activities seriously.

## ANTONIO DE OLIVEIRA SALAZAR

But we return to our earlier remarks concerning an epilogue regarding Antonio de Oliveira Salazar. Salazar would rein for decades, not unlike his peninsular soul-mate, Francisco Franco of Spain. His postwar years in power would see him become evermore autocratic and draconian. By the time he became incapacitated by a massive brain hemorrhage in 1969, he had long overstayed any welcome he once had from a largely docile citizenry, a lack of a concerted political opposition – albeit mainly due to his repressive single party rule – and the almost inevitable egocentric sense of unlimited power historically traditional for most autocrats who are not assassinated before the fact.

With regard to the question of whether Salazar was a hero by virtue of maintaining tenuous neutrality for Portugal by stint of political genius; or, a pragmatic, political villain, the answer is he was both. His ability at manipulating and frustrating both Allies and Axis powers without one or the other cutting his legs out from under him clearly bespeaks a certain genius. But his nuanced skill must be weighed against an undeniable duplicity, such that he played the game regardless of the evil of those with whom he kept company. His use of the Fascist salute, as well as his offering condolences to Germany on the announcement of the death of Hitler by suicide, would put Portugal in the unenviable group of but three European nations to send condolences, the other two being Ireland and Spain.

Salazar was an enabler with regard to the transmission of so-called spy mail – that we grant him. He certainly did not have to allow this form of communication to exist. But pragmatism on his part is not to be considered worthy of accolades. It is best to think of it in terms of one historian’s comments that history is sticky, often dirty and not to be observed by the weak of heart. So be it.

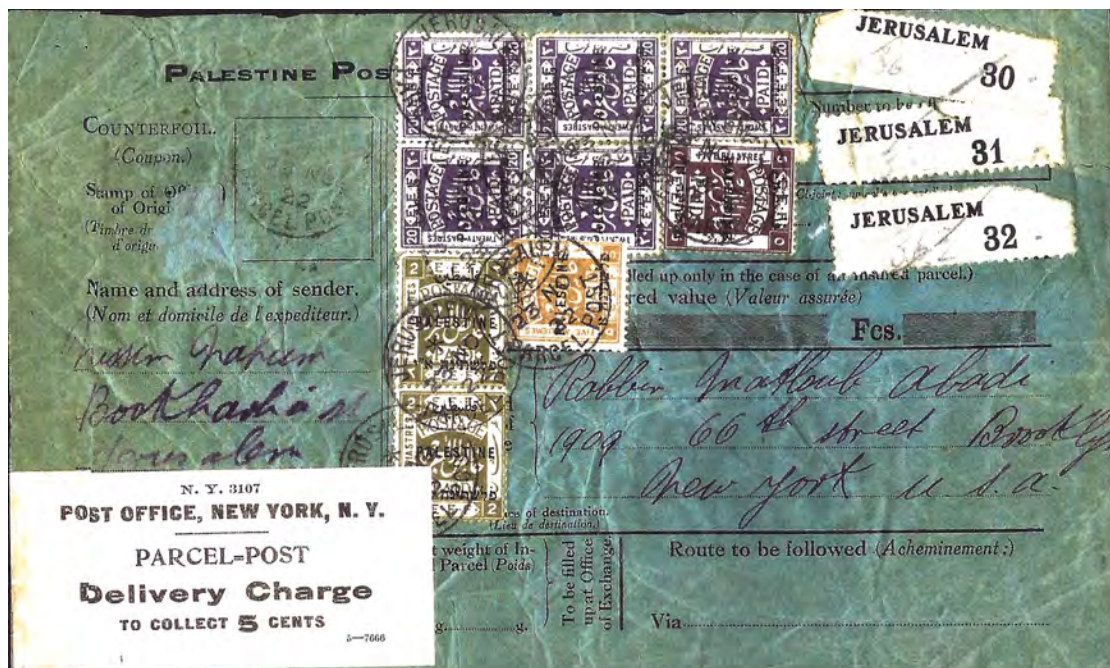
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[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Why\\_was\\_Portugal\\_neutral\\_during\\_World\\_2](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/Why_was_Portugal_neutral_during_World_2). ■



# Interesting Mandate Items

## PARCEL CARD



A parcel card for three packages sent on 23 Nov 1922 from Jerusalem to Brooklyn, NY.

This the earliest reported use of the 20 piastres stamps. The postage includes

4 London One Stamps  
one 5 millimes  
two 2 piastres  
one 5 piastres

London Two  
five 20 piasters stamps

## CALIFORNIA COVER

Registered cover  
Jerusalem to Oakland, CA  
10 piastres, perforated 15 x 14 stamp





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

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

■ **FOR SALE**: Reprint of Volumes 1-3 of the Judaica Post and 13 individual issues covering Volumes 4, 5 and the first issue of Volume 6. Asking \$5 plus postage and handling. e-mail: [bernielubran@verizon.net](mailto:bernielubran@verizon.net). ■

■ **WANTED**: Der Ewige Jude exhibit ticket stub or Fritz Hippler Film Der Ewige Jude film stub, e-mail: [Chai18life@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Chai18life@sbcglobal.net). ■

■ **WANTED**: Lombardy Venetia (Austrian Post) 1863/1864, single stamps with any Holy Land postmark. Aaron Huber, Hadad 9, Petach Tikvah, 4961316, Israel, e-mail: [ashuber@gmail.com](mailto:ashuber@gmail.com). ■

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# Israel Revenue Stamps Update

The year 2016 has been a very interesting one to date for Israel revenue stamps. I have been extremely fortunate in successfully obtaining two prized and extremely rare revenue stamps, ending a 20+ year search.

## RADIO LICENSE STAMP



Figures 1, 2

The first stamp of note has been called the rarest of the radio license stamps – listed in **1987 Wallerstein Specialized Catalogue of Palestine and Israel Revenues** (page 135) as RL 12 – the 3 IL “Yahav Magen” in the shape of a tank with the printed “Bul Betahon” (security tax) overprint (Figures 1, 2). This stamp was used to help defray Sinai War costs.

I have been told that another very rare radio license stamp – the 6 IL mint – may have also surfaced, however I cannot verify that. This stamp is fairly commonly seen used on and off radio license booklets.



## AVIATION TAX STAMP



Figure 5

The second stamp is from the commercial aviation tax stamp series. Typically, these stamps were affixed to passenger boarding passes indicating that an airport tax was paid. The **1987 Wallerstein Specialized Catalogue of Palestine and Israel Revenues** catalogue (page 169) lists only two values in the large size stamps – the 5 IL and the 7.50 IL.

The 2.50 IL, which is not uncommon, is unlisted. More importantly, the extremely rare 4 IL resurfaced after many years. This completes, to the best of my knowledge, the large size aviation stamps, which were later replaced by smaller size stamps.

## JUDEA AND SAMARIA STAMPS

Finally, help is needed in identifying two previously unseen/unrecorded revenue stamps that are somewhat similar to the West Bank truck fee stamps. These tax stamps are from the Ministry of Finance. My best guess is that these are from the late 80s – early 90s. I have two values – 5 NIS and 10 NIS. (Figures 3, 4) I do not know if other values exist or how many values make up this series or what the typical usages were, as I have not seen these used on any documents.



Figures 3, 4

continued on page 21



# Unusual Mandate Covers



Figure 1

A cover (Figures 1, 2) sent by air mail from Jerusalem on 20 Apr 34 to Bombay, India. The air mail fee was 15 mils and a late fee of 2 mils was charged. The fee was charged for a late posting of an unregistered letter. Apparently, a convenience overpayment of 1 mil was paid.

The cover arrived at the Bombay GPO on 30 Apr 34. The letter was redirected to Thomas Cook & Sons, Madras and arrived at the Madras GPO on 2 MY 34. It was delivered to Thomas Cook & Sons offices on 3 MY 34



The air mail label was probably "CANCELED" in Bombay and the letter forwarded by surface mail to Madras. ■

Figure 2

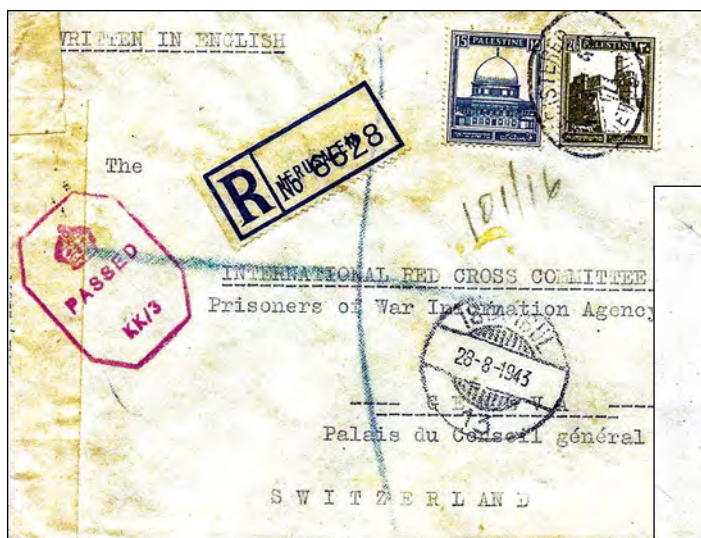


Figure 3

Figure 3, 4 is a registered censored cover sent from Jerusalem on 15 Aug 43 to the International Red Cross, Prisoner of War Investigation Agency, Geneva, Switzerland. The letter fee was 20 mils and the registration fee 15 mils.

The Haifa backstamp is dated 20 Ap 43 and the Geneva receiving postmark is dated 4 SP 43



What is interesting is the letter shift of the word Jerusalem in the registration label. ■

Figure 4

o - o - o - o

continued from page 20

Additionally, there have also been reported sightings of other rare revenue stamps including several of the rare Mas Kniyah (sales tax) stamps from the Wallerstein KN series (page 171) as well as several rare Mas Motrot (luxury tax) seen on page 177.

Any information on any of these stamps would be greatly appreciated. My email address is: [arthurhythec@gmail.com](mailto:arthurhythec@gmail.com). ■



# Israel's First Airmail Stamps

## 1950

### Photo-Essays



Figure 1

Photo essay of the 5pr stamp design before final corrections. The size of the vertical side inscription is larger than the issued stamp. Ex Wallish. Certificate Muentz

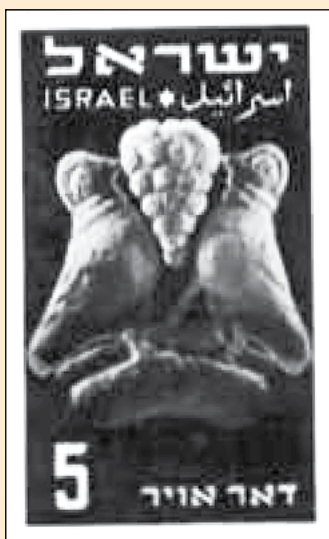


Figure 2

Photo essay of the 5pr unadopted design. The center of the stamp has a larger than issued picture and the side inscription is missing. Ex Otte Wallish.

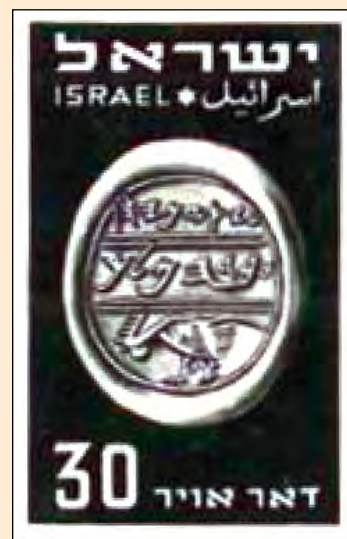


Figure 3

Photo Essay of 30pr unadopted design on high quality white glazed paper. Ex Otte Wallish



Figure 4

Photo essay of 30pr adopted design on high quality thin white paper. Ex Otte Wallish.



Figure 5

Photo essay of 30pr stamp design with minute differences in size and lettering. Mounted on small card. Ex Otte Wallish. Certificate Muentz.



Figure 6

Photo Essay of 40 pr adopted design on high quality white gloss paper. Ex Otte Wallish



Figure 8

Photo essay of 40pr unadapted design on high quality white glazed paper. Ex Otte Wallish. Signed Muentz.



Figure 7

Photo essay of 40pr unadapted design on high quality glazed paper. Ex Otte Wallish.



Figure 9

Photo essay of the 250pr design. The Photo essay is the size of the issued stamp. Ex Otte Wallish.



Figure 10

Complete set of six photo-proofs of the 5-250pr final adopted designs .by Otte Wallish. Certificate Muentz.



**ISRAEL**

YEAR	MINT	TAB	USED	FDC	YEAR	MINT	TAB	USED	FDC
1948....	370.00	—	149.95	—	1981....	10.95	12.95	8.95	19.95
1949....	62.50	—	8.95	—	1982....	15.80	21.50	11.50	17.85
1950....	15.95	—	14.95	—	1983....	16.95	19.95	11.50	16.75
1951....	2.75	129.95	.80	—	1984....	12.50*	19.85	8.55	13.95
1952....	13.95	245.00	7.10	16.95	1985....	21.50*	27.95*	15.75*	24.95
1953....	3.95	82.50	.80	2.75	1986....	20.95*	28.95*	17.95*	24.85
1954....	1.95	13.95	.85	2.95	1987....	33.95*	40.75*	18.65*	33.25
1955....	1.50	4.95	.80	4.85	1988....	17.75*	24.95*	14.95*	24.95
1956....	1.10	2.50	.75	1.80	1989....	39.50*	46.50*	22.50*	53.50
1957....	1.95	29.95	1.30	—	1990....	26.95*	31.95*	19.95*	34.95
1958....	1.10	1.95	.60	1.95	1991....	29.95*	35.75*	19.95*	34.95
1959....	1.25	2.95	.75	2.90	1992....	36.75*	52.95*	29.95*	41.50
1960....	10.50	22.75	6.75	3.95	1993....	20.75*	24.95*	21.95*	34.95
1961....	5.95	10.95	1.50	5.90	1994....	27.50*	34.95*	23.95*	49.95
1962....	7.95	16.95	1.75	6.95	1995....	34.95*	41.25*	24.95*	33.50
1963....	4.75	18.85	1.95	8.95	1996....	31.50*	34.95*	24.50*	30.50
1964....	4.50	13.95	2.95	8.95	1997....	33.95*	37.95*	29.50*	41.50
1965....	4.75	11.50	2.75	9.75	1998....	51.95*	57.95*	29.95*	39.95
1966....	2.95	6.95	2.50	12.95	1999....	34.95*	36.95*	27.95*	36.95
1967....	1.95	3.95	1.85	5.75	2000....	32.50*	36.95*	29.95*	42.50
1968....	2.25	3.95	1.75	8.25	2001....	49.95*	54.95*	29.95*	54.95
1969....	2.95	8.95	2.45	10.50	2002....	41.95*	48.95*	27.95*	39.95
1970....	7.75	9.95	3.75	10.45	2003....	46.95*	51.75*	29.50*	49.95
1971....	7.75	15.50	3.75	14.50	2004....	29.75*	37.25*	29.95*	42.95
1972....	9.95	11.95	3.75	14.85	2005....	38.95*	39.50*	31.95*	43.95
1973....	7.95	9.95	7.75	16.95	2006....	41.50*	41.95*	39.95*	52.95
1974....	1.60	1.85	1.50	4.25	2007....	51.50*	51.95*	42.50*	61.75
1975....	3.75	4.90	3.45	16.50	2008....	63.95*	64.95*	44.95*	59.95
1976....	3.40	4.95	3.25	8.85	2009....	53.95*	54.50*	49.50*	74.50
1977....	5.95	6.95	5.25	15.50	2010....	63.95*	64.95*	59.90*	78.50
1978....	5.95	6.95	4.95	13.75	2011....	64.60*	64.95*	59.85*	79.95
1979....	4.50	4.95	4.25	9.95	2012....	64.60*	69.95*	59.95*	79.95
1980....	7.95	9.95	11.50	16.95					

\*Available in Official Israel Album \$7.95 additional.

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

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# FEATURE: *The Final Philatelic Frontier?*

## STAR TREK at 50

Irv Osterer – Ottawa, Canada



September 8, 2016 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the airing of the first episode of *Star Trek*. To celebrate the occasion, Canada Post has released an ambitious slate of philatelic products.

Signature stamps featuring **William Shatner**, **Leonard Nimoy**, **DeForest Kelly**, **James Doohan** and **John Colicos** in their roles as **Kirk**, **Spock**, **McCoy**, **Scotty** and **Klingon Commander Kor** and are configured to simulate the television closeups and bright colors from the original series. Coil stamps of the Enterprise and a Klingon war ship are also included in the series.

Canada's ties to *Star Trek* may appear tenuous at best to the casual observer. Closer scrutiny will disclose that William Shatner (1931—) was born in Montreal, James Doohan (1920-2007) in Vancouver and that John Colicos (1928-2000) called Toronto home.



Vulcan, Alberta has parlayed its fortuitous city name into an internationally recognized tourist destination, hosting annual *Star Trek* conventions and attracting thousands of visitors each year. The town

even boasts a large sculpture of the Enterprise. First Day covers for the stamps celebrating American actors Leonard Nimoy (Spock) and DeForest Kelley (McCoy) bear a Vulcan, Alberta postmark.

With the exception of the two uncut press sheets, the stamps are priced reasonably. They are attractive souvenirs and will be a big hit for Canada Post as they will be popular with stamp collectors as well as with the enormous worldwide fan base that sustains interest in the original series and its sequels, animated cartoons, comic books, novels and motion pictures. Critics contend that Canada Post should have included at least one of the female characters, while many collectors would argue that a single souvenir sheet would have been more than enough of a tribute to the television show.



"Risk is our Business" Kirk mini sheet from the Prestige Booklet



Lenticular stamps (detail from souvenir sheet)



Star Trek 50 large souvenir sheet — only the Kirk stamp has the "P" for domestic postage



To Judaica collectors, this issue will have particular relevance as William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy — the iconic *Star Trek* legends, are Jewish.

**William Shatner (1931—)** grandson of Jewish immigrants, was raised in a conservative home in Montreal, and was classically trained as a Shakespearian actor before being cast in the role of Captain James T. Kirk. Shatner and actress Nichelle Nichols who played Lieutenant Uhura are credited with the first interracial kiss to appear on prime time television.

The Shatner/Kirk stamp pays Canada's domestic rate of postage throughout the series. It exists on:

- *POSTAGE PAID POSTCARDS valid for use in Canada. These are pre-printed stamps and are different from all the others as they have no denomination.*
- *the first and third panels of the faux perforated SELF-ADHESIVE BOOKLET. Canada's "P" designation for domestic postage appears*



**Pre-printed stamps without denomination on Postcards**



**"Peel and Stick" self-adhesive booklet with faux perforations. All actor stamps have the "P" for domestic postage**

on the top right corner. It is worth noting that all five actor stamps from this booklet will also be available as die cut singles available only in Canada Post's quarterly summer pre-pack.

- *an OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER with the self-adhesive booklet stamp.*
- *the STAR TREK 50 SOUVENIR SHEETS in a vertical strip, perforated and gummed, and attached to the Nimoy/Spock stamp. The "P" designation appears on the top right corner.*
- *TWO MINI SHEETS included in the limited edition PRESTIGE BOOKLET:*
  - the "Risk is our Business" MINI SHEET of four perforated, gummed stamps. The "P" designation appears on the top right corner. Horizontal and vertical pairs of Shatner stamps.*
  - STAR TREK 50 MINI SHEET as a "P" issue, attached to the Nimoy/Spock stamp in a horizontal format perforated and gummed.*
- *the 19 x 25 inch UNCUT PRESS SHEET with six of the Star Trek 50 Prestige booklet mini sheets.*



**Uncut press sheet of the Star Trek 50 actors mini sheet included in the Prestige Booklet.**



**Leonard Nimoy (1931-2015)**, whose first language was Yiddish, played the Vulcan Spock. Towards the end of his life, Nimoy gave many interviews confirming that the origin of the famous “live long and prosper” salute is indeed taken from the hand gesture used exclusively by the Jewish priestly class during *Birkat Ha-Kohaneem*. Jewish tradition warns congregants not to watch — but the young Nimoy was “fascinated” by the ritual, which later became an integral part of his character.

The Nimoy/Spock stamp is featured —

- on a pre-printed stamp with no denomination appearing on POSTAGE PAID POSTCARDS valid for use in Canada.
- on the first and second panel of the faux perforated SELF-ADHESIVE BOOKLET. The Nimoy/Spock stamp will also be available as a die cut singles in Canada Post’s quarterly summer pre-pack.
- on an OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVER with a stamp from the self-adhesive domestic rate booklet.
- perforated and gummed, this time in a vertical format paying the \$2.50 international rate attached to the Shatner/Kirk “P” stamp on the STAR TREK 50 SOUVENIR SHEET with the other actors.
- on TWO MINI SHEETS included in the PRESTIGE BOOKLET:
  - i) “Can’t Change the Laws of Physics” MINI SHEET, first stamp in a strip of three, as a \$2.50 issue, in a horizontal format, perforated and gummed attached to the McCoy stamp.
  - ii) a \$2.50 commemorative, attached to the Kirk stamp in a horizontal format in the STAR TREK 50 MINI SHEET of five, perforated and gummed.
- on the 19 x 25 inch UNCUT PRESS SHEET with six of the Star Trek 50 Prestige booklet mini sheets.

Shatner and Nimoy also appear on two perforated lenticular \$5.00 self-adhesives that are meant to simulate the Enterprise’s transporter on a souvenir sheet, first day cover and on a fourteen piece, \$140.00 uncut press sheet.

Although third parties may issue first day covers for all the *Star Trek* commemoratives, “Official Canada Post First Day Covers” exist only for all the self-adhesive stamps and the lenticular souvenir sheet.

There are two smaller stamps featuring the star ship Enterprise and a Klingon battle cruiser. They exist gummed and fully perforated on a souvenir sheet and also

as faux perforated self-adhesive coil stamps printed alternatively on the same roll. These will also be available as die cut singles in Canada Post’s summer quarterly pre-pack.

Famous quotations from the series are printed on the wax paper backing used for the coil issue. Self adhesive spaceship stamps with faux perforation on all four sides are part of the limited edition prestige booklet. The Enterprise stamp is also printed directly on one of the postage paid post cards.



This is not the first time the famous television series has seen postal use. Antigua Barbuda, Tuvalu, Micronesia, the Maldives, St. Vincent, St. Vincent and The Grenadines and Liberia have also issued colorful stamps and souvenir sheets.



In 1991, the USPS issued a *Star Trek* sticker set that was included with a purchase of a book of space exploration stamps. Leonard Nimoy appeared in a promotional campaign with posters that proclaimed “Stamp Collecting is Logical”. The United States issued their first official *Star Trek* commemorative in 1999 — an impressive Enterprise stamp as part of their “Celebrate the Century” Millennium series.

Australia and the United States have announced *Star Trek* philatelic products for 2016.

Australia’s postal tribute comes in the form of generic Aussie stamps that are se-tenant with *Star Trek* labels much like Israel’s *HaBool Sheli* program. Both Kirk and Spock are featured prominently. The products can be ordered directly from [shop.auspost.com.au](http://shop.auspost.com.au)







The USPS will be issuing four *Star Trek* stamps on September 2, 2016 as part of their FOREVER USA series. The highly stylized retro artwork marks a departure from traditional *Star Trek* iconography. Although three of the four designs have only tenuous Judaica connections, Spock's hand is clearly featured on the blue stamp.



Nathan Abrams writing for *Ha'Aretz* mentions other Jews who had major roles in the franchise. They include the show's first writers, Bob Justman and Herb Solow, Walter Koenig who played Ensign Chekov in the original series and the late Anton Yelchin who assumed the role in the recent *Star Trek* movies. Brent Spiner starred as the android Data in *Star Trek: the Next Generation*. Spock's father, Ambassador Sarek, was played by Mark Lenard (born Leonard Rosenson), the son of a Russian Jewish immigrants. Armin Shimerman was cast as the Shylock-like Letek and reprised the Ferengi role in *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine* as Quark the bartender, along with Max Grodénchik as brother Rom and Aron Eisenberg as Rom's son Nog.



A Google search will list many *Star Trek* articles and blogs that call attention to Jewish references to episodes that explore themes of racial inequity, intolerance, persecution and faith.



In the original series, Spock was the product of a Vulcan father and a human mother. The conflict emerging from this dynamic was the source of many story lines. Perhaps my favorite Jewish series event was cited by Adam Wills in the *Jewish Journal* (2009). In *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Lieutenant Worf, the Enterprise's chief security officer, is cast as the adopted son of Sergey and Helena Rozhenko — played by renowned Jewish actor and singer Theodore Bikel (1924-2015) and English singer, actress Georgia Brown, born Lillian Claire Laizer Getel Klot (1933-1992). Wills is convinced that the Rozhenkos are Worf's quintessential doting Jewish parents. Could Worf have had a *bar mitzvah*?

Wills also recounts a hilarious moment on *Frasier*, which sees the protagonist Dr. Crane, reading what he thinks is a transliterated Hebrew prayer at his son's *bar mitzvah* only to discover after the fact that he was reading something his Jewish Trekkie co-worker had written in phonetic Klingon.

A *Kiddush* in Klingon? Stranger things have happened to our people. We should all live so long and prosper!

Abrams, Nathan. "Leonard Nimoy as Spock Embodied *Star Trek*'s Jewish Undertones" (Feb. 28, 2015) [www.haaretz.com/jewish/features/1.644688](http://www.haaretz.com/jewish/features/1.644688)

Nemecek, Larry. *The Next Generation Companion: Star Trek The Next Generation*. Simon and Schuster (2003)

Rhodes, Margaret. "Star Trek Gets Retro Postage Stamps for its 50th Birthday" [www.wired.com/2016/01/star-trek-gets-retro-postage-stamps-for-its-50th-birthday/](http://www.wired.com/2016/01/star-trek-gets-retro-postage-stamps-for-its-50th-birthday/)

Wikipedia Commons — Vulcan, Alberta photo — public domain image  
Wikipedia — Shatner, Nimoy, Bickel and Georgia Brown files

Wills, Adam. "Top 5 Jewish moments in 'Trek'" [www.jewishjournal.com/geekheeb/item/top\\_5\\_jewish\\_moments\\_in\\_trek\\_20090507](http://www.jewishjournal.com/geekheeb/item/top_5_jewish_moments_in_trek_20090507)

[www.startrek.com/article/remembering-theodore-bikel-1924-2015](http://www.startrek.com/article/remembering-theodore-bikel-1924-2015)

[www.canadapost.ca/startrek](http://www.canadapost.ca/startrek)



The Fine Arts and Technology team at Merivale High School in Ottawa, Canada. The author has his phaser set on stun

# SIP INTERACTIVE

Go to [www.dafont.com/prime-directive.font](http://www.dafont.com/prime-directive.font) to download *Prime Directive*, a tv-movie picture font designed by Michael Gaines. The font is licensed as free for personal use.



You can have covers serviced with Canada Post's new Spock postmark, by sending a stamped self-addressed envelope with Canadian postage to:  
**VULCAN POST OFFICE**  
**304 2ND AVENUE S**  
**VULCAN, ALBERTA T0L 2B0**

Go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjicaQxEtGc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xjicaQxEtGc) to hear Nimoy's Yiddish/English tribute to Theodore Bikel on his 90th birthday





# The whole world is here! כל העולם כבר כאן!

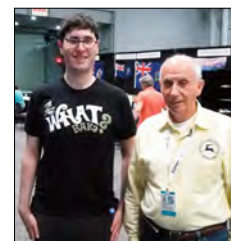
THE WORLD STAMP SHOW took place in New York City at the Jacob Javitz Center from May 28 to June 4 2016. Many SIP members were in attendance. We hope to reprise in Boston, 2026!



▲ GUEST, BENNETT BARDFELD and ARTHUR HARRIS



▲ VICKY GALECKI and BECKY DEAN



▲ JORDAN OSTERER and DON CHAFETZ. JORDAN ATTENDED THE SHOW IN PLACE of his FATHER, IRV OSTERER



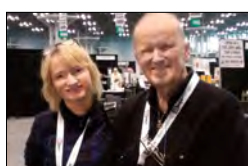
▲ ZVI ALONI, DON CHAFETZ and BECKY DEAN AT BOOTH 1274



▲ DON CHAFETZ, YEHUDA KLEINER and DR. ART GROTEN



▲ JOHN LENNON'S STAMP ALBUM and the FAMOUS INVERTED 24c JENNY WERE HIGHLIGHTS of the SHOW



▲ MIHAEL FOCK and DAUGHTER



▲ MICHAEL BASS, ISIDORE BAUM, HENRY NOGID and IRWIN MATH



▲ RABBI ISIDORO AIZENBERG



▲ DON CHAFETZ, ED KROFT, DR. BOB PILDES, ZVI ALONI and MICHAEL BASS



▲ FRAN ADAMS, DON CHAFETZ, BECKY DEAN, CHRISSE LIEBERMAN and GWYN CHAFETZ ON THEIR WAY TO TIMES SQUARE





▲ DR. BOB PILDES' VERMEIL AWARD WINNING DISPLAY



▲ USA WORLD STAMP SHOW COMMEMORATIVES



▲ MELVIN CHAFETZ, SIP JOURNAL EDITOR DON CHAFETZ and MICHAEL BASS POSE IN FRONT OF THE SOCIETY'S FEATURE DISPLAY PANEL in the JAVITZ CENTER



▲ SIP SUPPER, BROOKLYN DINER, NEW YORK



▲ HOWARD ROTTERDAM POSTAGE DUE LECTURE — PRESENTATION GIVEN AT THE WORLD STAMP SHOW, MAY 29, 2016



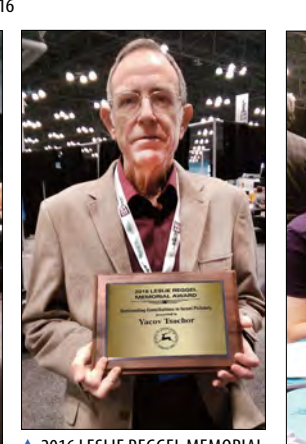
▲ 2015 DICKSTEIN AWARD WINNER ISIDORE BAUM and SIP PRESIDENT ED KROFT



▲ PETER and DAVID SALOVET



▲ ANDREW KATZ



▲ 2016 LESLIE REGGEL MEMORIAL AWARD WINNER YACOV TSACHOR



▲ GUESTS with COVERS



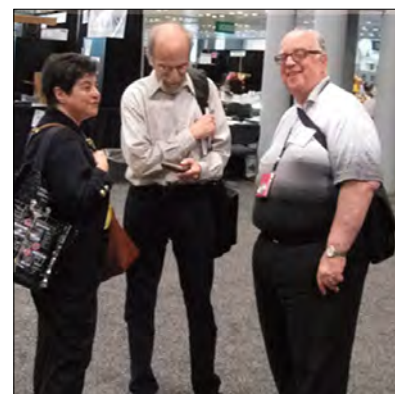
▲ ROBERT ABRAHAMS



▲ YEHUDA KLEINER, ZVI ALONI and MICHAEL BASS



▲ ART GROTEN, YEHUDA KLEINER, ZVI ALONI and YACOV TSACHOR



▲ MRS. DANON, GARY THEODORE and FRENCH SIP PRESIDENT JEAN-PAUL DANON

## כל ישראל חברים





▲ ZVI ALONI, DON CHAFETZ and BECKY DEAN AT BOOTH 1274



▲ AVI SHERMAN, LARRY SHERMAN and DON CHAFETZ



▲ THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE



▲ CANADA POST'S ATTRACTIVE STAR TREK THEMED BOOTH



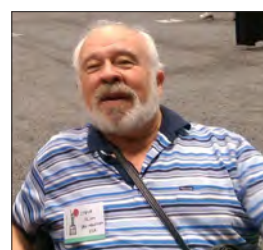
▲ BENNETT BARDFELD



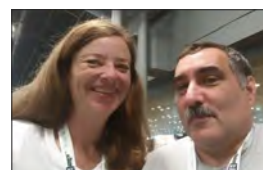
▲ ISRAEL'S WORLD STAMP SHOW "HABOOL SHELI" SPECIAL SHEET



▲ OUR SIP EDITOR DEBUTS ON BROADWAY



▲ STEVE OLSON



▲ BECKY DEAN & HOWARD WUNDERLICH





# GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MAY 29, 2016 NY2016 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW



## MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

The Society of Israel Philatelists held its Annual General Meeting on Sunday, May 29, 2016 at NY2016 in the Room 1E07 of the Jacob K. Javits Center. President Ed Kroft presided over the meeting. Those present were Ed Kroft, Michael Bass, Bob Pildes, Zach Simmons, Howard and Linda Chapman, Joel Weiner, David Ball, Brian Gruz, David Kaplin, Arthur Biderman, Howard Rotterdam, Martin Borsky, Jacob Miller, Yakov Tsachor, Don Chafetz, Mark Isaacs, Albert El, Lawrence Katz, Arthur Harris, Meir Schacherl, Barbara Levine, Michael Gross, Hank Stern, David Lukoff, Paul Appelbaum, Peter Kessel, Isidoro Aizenberg, Joe Running, Steve and Debbie Graham, Howard Wunderlich, Ron Rohin, Dr. Henry Nogid, Chaim Steinberger, James Perman and Becky Dean.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ed Kroft welcomed all attendees, called the meeting to order, and announced the quorum with thirty-four members currently in the meeting. He asked that all rise as he read the listing of deceased members' tribute. Bob Pildes made a motion to dispense reading all individual Executive and Committee reports during the meeting, Howard Wunderlich seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

## SIP NEWSLETTER

Zach Simmons was introduced and thanked for his efforts with the SIP Newsletter. Ed asked for members to get information about themselves, others and what they are doing for the SIP. We want to honor and recognize our membership for all of their efforts. Please send information to Zach at [zsimmmons101@gmail.com](mailto:zsimmmons101@gmail.com).

## THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

Ed went on to thank all of the members of our Society for all that they do. He thanked the executive committee, and all of the volunteers who make the Society a successful venture. Ed explained that the executive committee meets once every three months to keep the inner workings of the SIP alive and moving in the right direction. He discussed the need for volunteers for the Society; we need a Web master, an accountant, etc. Our next elections will be held in Chicago in November 2017. If you are interested in volunteering, please be in touch with Ed at your earliest convenience.

## BUDGET 2016-2017

Howard Chapman presented the draft budget for 2016-2017 and gave brief synapses of the financial standings of the SIP. The main topic was the need to increase our membership and bring new and fresh members to the

Society, which is currently running a budget deficit. There was a discussion regarding the difference between print and digital membership, and what life members actually receive. Howard explained that the \$50 membership fee doesn't even cover the cost of printing and shipping the printed **The Israel Philatelist** to our members. Barb Levine discussed offering the digital version free to print members which we currently do. There was discussion regarding email addresses and the transition from print version to digital. Howard Wunderlich made a motion to accept the budget, Bob Pildes and Zach Simmons seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

## THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

Don Chafetz spoke about the journal and the need for articles. He is requesting short and long articles. He told us that he has been experimenting with posting the journal online at our website as an interactive journal with a display of one or two pages at a time. He will change them to PDF's that will be easier to print and search. Don discussed the digitization project and how all the journals are in the data base and searchable.

## LEGACY

Mike Bass opened by thanking the volunteers in the room for their dedication and service. He discussed leaving a legacy for future collectors of Holy Land philately. He feels that fundraising is not only a financial issue, but a social issue as well, preserving the collections for the future. We need to continue to bring in new members to keep the Society alive. He requested that anyone who is interested, please see him at some point during the show. Bob Pildes asked about the transfer of funds from the different society accounts and it was decided that the reallocation of funds was an investment in intellectual properties.

## SIP AWARDS

Ed Kroft presented the Leslie Reggel award to **Yakov Tsachor** for his outstanding contributions to Holy Land Philately. Ed also presented the Dickstein Award for outstanding contribution to **The Israel Philatelist** to **Isidore Baum**.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. Our next convention and Annual General Meeting will be held at ChicagoPEX in November of 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Dean ■



# MEMBERS' AWARDS NEW MEMBERS NY2016 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW



## MEMBER AWARDS

Alexander, Shaula	Turkish Post in the Holy Land 1841-1918	8 frames	Gold
Bass, Michael	Foreign Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852-1914	8 frames	Large Vermeil
Chafetz, Donald	Printed Matter Into the Holy Land 2nd UPU Period - 1948	1 frame	Vermeil
Chafetz Donald	The Israel Philatelist	Journal	Large Silver
Fisher, Lawrence	The Jewish Homeland, Our Struggle for Survival	8 frames	Gold + special prize for treatment
Fock, Mihael	Jerusalem 1655-1917	8 frames	Large Vermeil
Gruzd, Brian	Israel First Airmails 1950	5 frames	Vermeil
Kibble, Daryl	Interrupted/Delayed mail of the Arab-Israeli Conflict	5 frames	Large Vermeil
Nogid, Henry	The Four Siege Cities of 1948- Rishon Le Zion, Safad, Nahariya, Jerusalem	8 frames	Large Vermeil
Pildes, Dr. Robert	The 1948 Doar Ivri and Dmei Doar Issues of Israel and Their Use	8 frames	Large Gold
Pildes, Dr. Robert	Artists Drawings, Essays & Proofs of the 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel	5 frames	non competitive
Stuchell, Robert	Turkey-Ottoman Post in Lebanon 1841-1918	8 frames	Gold
Tsacher, Yakov	1871-1878 Perforated Ceres: Rates, Routes & Postmarks	8 frames	Gold

## NEW MEMBERS

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

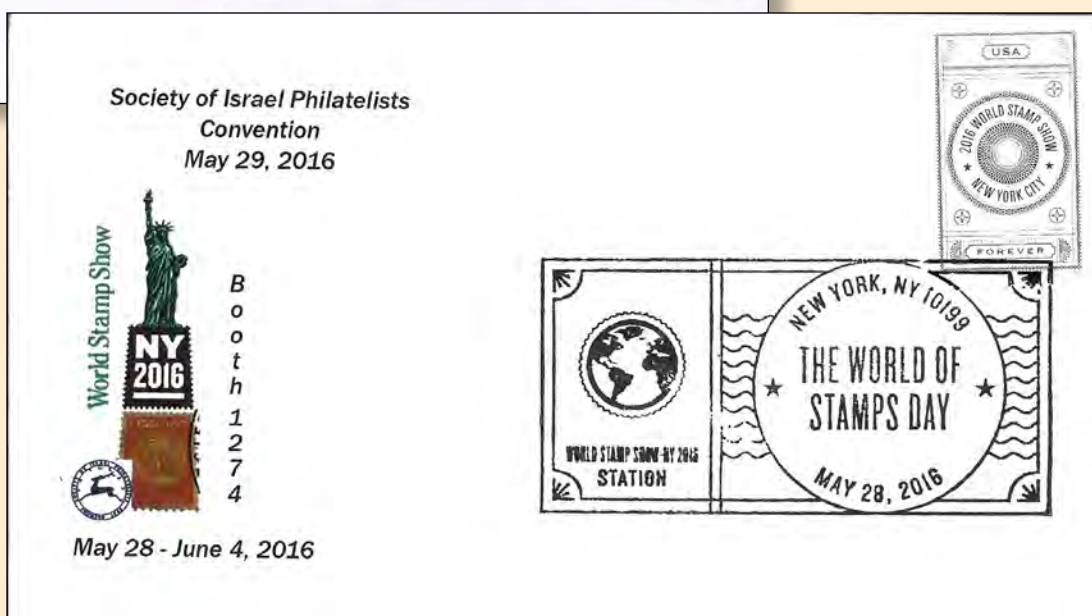
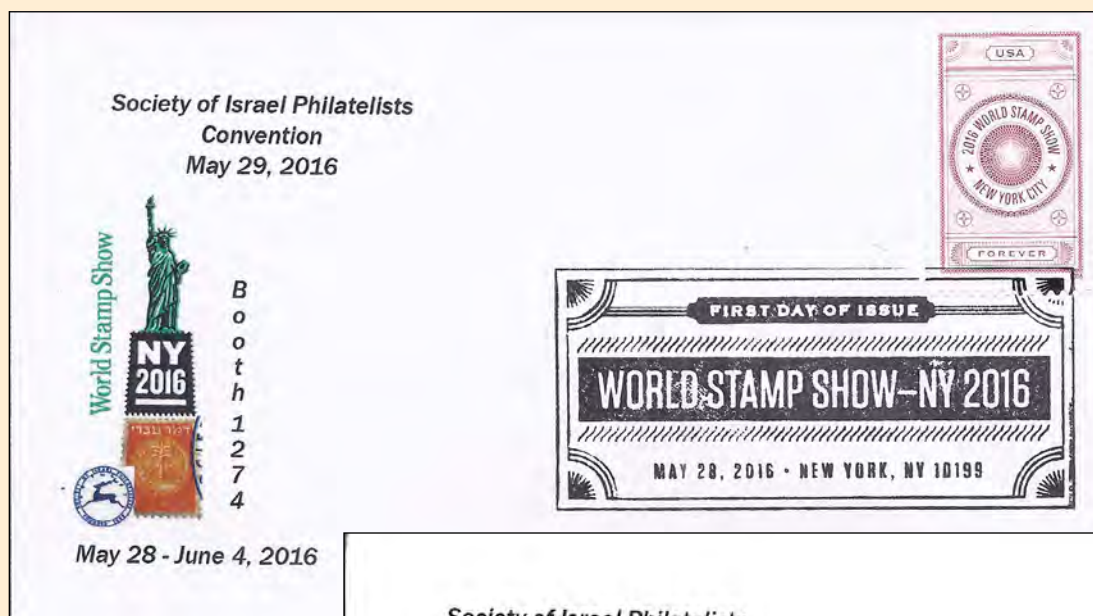
10654	Mark	Kellner	Holladay	UT
5101	Z	Levitt	Pikesville	MD
16692	Michael	Estein	Philadelphia	PA
10591	Arthur	Biderman	N Brunswick	NJ
10655	Alexander	Goldshmidt	Davis	CA
10666	Morton	Robertson	Ft. Lauderdale	FL

10656	Lawrence	Fisher	Ranana	Israel
10657	Howard	Adler	Castleton	NY
10658	James	Erman	Naples	FL
10659	Debbie	Graham	Wilmette	IL
10660	Marc	Drillech	Paris	France
10661	Todd	Reube	Hatfield	PA
10662	Michael	Itkowsky	Bronx	NY
10663	Robert	Stambouli	Nicosia	Cyprus
10664	Lewis	Schifreen	Philadelphia	PA





# UNITED STATES FIRST DAY COVERS NY2016 INTERNATIONAL STAMP SHOW FOREVER STAMPS



## NEW MEMBERS

10665	Aryeh	Friedman	New York	NY
10667	Michael	Zelenak	East Setauket	NY
10668	Rosalyn	Linker	Springfield	PA
10669	Naomi	Steinberg	McLean	VA
10670	Norman	Weissman	Brooklyn	NY
10671	Sylvain	Jakobovics	Brooklyn	NY

10672	Michael	Doherty	Roslyn Heights	NY
10673	Alan	Aronoff	Bayside	NY
10674	David	Scherr	Great Neck	NY
10675	Jack	Mordekai	Livingston	NJ
10676	Ilya	Ronin	San Francisco	CA
10677	Mike	Kohn	Highland Ark	IL

# Dr. Leopold Dickstein Memorial Award



## PREVIOUS WINNERS

1992 Dr. Oscar Stadtler	1999 Marvin Siegel
1993 Dr. Arthur Hochheiser	2000 Fritz Nussbaum
1994 David Dorfman	2001 Bea Stadtler
1995 Fred Blau	2014 Richard S. Herman
1996 Dr. Albert Friedberg	2015 Isidore Baum

The S.I.P. Educational Fund announced in 1992 the establishment of the Dr. Leopold Dickstein Memorial Award. It is presented annually at the S.I.P. Convention and recognizes excellence associated with the Society publication, **The Israel Philatelist** or the **Society web site**. The Award could be for previous years **services** to **The Israel Philatelist**, the **best single** or **series of articles** published or contributions to the society' web site.



In 1992, this award was created by the Society to honor the memory of Dr. Leopold "Paul" Dickstein - philatelist, author, translator, pianist and medical doctor. This award recognizes excellence in endeavor in the field of philatelic publication, translation, editing, exhibiting research and web site.

Paul Dickstein might easily have been a concert pianist had he not opted to attend medical school. He was a highly respected physician garnering many local and statewide honors and appointments. He lectured on Jewish bioethics, enjoyed chamber music and was fluent in six languages. He was an avid stamp collector and studied and wrote prolifically about the stamps and covers of the Holy Land.

All contributions to the Dr. Leopold Dickstein Memorial Fund are tax exempt. ■

## London International Exhibition

April 20 - 26, 1953

## B.A.P.I.P. Cachet Cover





# The Leslie Reggel Memorial Award

**L**eslie Reggel was the founder and the first President of the Pittsburgh S.I.P. Chapter. He passed away on October 11, 1983. Shortly thereafter, the executors of his estate advised the Educational Fund that they, the executors, are authorized to establish a memorial in Leslie Reggel's name, using certain designated funds from the Reggel Estate to be invested for that purpose. The S.I.P. Educational Fund was appointed to administer The Reggel Memorial Award permanently.

The cash from the estate is invested and will continue to remain so for the foreseeable future earning sufficient interest to cover the cost of the annual award.

The "Reggel Memorial Award for Outstanding Service and Contribution to Holy Land and Israel Philately" is an annual award. The winner is selected each year by the two prior year's winners. In 2002, the Award was presented to the seventeen prior award recipients.

The first Reggel Award was presented in 1984 to Dr. Albert Friedberg. Since then, a total of 22 individuals have been presented the award

It is with great pride that we announce the honoree for 2014 to be Dr. Leslie Bard and Dr. Steven Rothman Leslie and Steven National gold medal exhibitors, a philatelic postal historians and philatelic research writer extra-ordinary. It is with great pleasure that the committee present the 2014 award with warm personal congratulations and best wishes for good health and further continued success in your service to our Society.

The Awards Committee ■

## PREVIOUS WINNERS

1984 Albert Friedberg	2000 Henry B. Stern
1985 Marvin Siegel	2001 Howard S. Chapman
1986 Emil Dickstein	2003 Dr. Robert PiIdes
1987 Arie Ben David	2005 Donald A. Chafetz
1988 Oscar Stadtler	2006 David Dorfman
1989 Arthur Hochheiser	2007 David J. Simmons
1990 Norman J. Collins	2008 Moshe Kol-Kalman
1991 Nathan Zankel	2009 Brian Gruzd
1992 Fred Blau	2010 Michael Bass
1993 Michael Madesker	2011 Vicki Galecki
1994 Bea Stadtler	2012 Edwin Kroft
1995 Fritz Nussbaum	2013 Dr. Arthur H. Groten
1996 Arthur Hochheiser	2014 Dr. Leslie Bard
1997 Irvin Girer	2014 Dr. Steven Rothman
1998 Joseph Schwartz	2015 Yacov Tsachor
1999 Stanley H. Raffel	



Yacov Tsachor  
Author, philatelic expert,  
international judge,  
exhibitor, stamp dealer

## 25 YEARS OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS



Recently, the State of Israel and the Hellenic Republic celebrated the 25th Anniversary of Full Diplomatic Relations. Bilateral ties date back thousands of years, as our two ancient nations had a great mutual influence on each other in our shared Eastern Mediterranean region.

For hundreds of years Greece was home to large Jewish Communities in cities like Thessaloniki, Athens, Ioannina, Larissa, Volos, Corfu and Rhodes. The cultural and intellectual religious debates that flourished in these Jewish centers had a major impact on world Jewish history and left an indelible mark on Greek culture. Greek Jewry

was almost annihilated by the Nazi barbarity during the Shoah. However, those Greek Jews who managed to survive maintained their distinct heritage. Others immigrated to Israel and other parts of the world. Greek Jews influenced the culture and economy of Israel, contributing to the rebirth of the Jewish nation in its historic homeland.

Today, following 25 years of upgraded diplomatic ties, Israel and Greece enjoy warm relations based on friendship and mutual strategic interests.

I wish our countries and peoples many more years of friendly relations. ■



Figure 1

# Ida Kaminska

## A Force for the Yiddish Theater

### The State Yiddish Theater

Prior to the Holocaust, the overwhelming majority of Jews in Poland spoke Yiddish. It is not surprising then that the Yiddish theater was very popular among the Jewish middle class. After the Holocaust, the Jews that stayed in Poland clung to the Yiddish theater as a major source of entertainment. Many in the theater's business and acting community felt that a state supported Yiddish Theater would provide some much needed stability.



Figure 2

### THEATER FORMATION

It was primarily through the persistent efforts of Ida Kaminska, the well-known actor-director, that a Polish State Theater was officially formed in 1950. It involved the merger of the two largest Jewish theatrical groups at the time, located in Lodz and Wroclaw. The theater was officially named the Ester Rachel Kaminska Yiddish Theater in her mother's memory. Ester Rachel Kaminska

(1870-1926; Figure 2) was considered the "Mother of the Yiddish Theater" in Eastern Europe.

In 1955, the Yiddish Theater moved its home to Warsaw, first at 13 Krolewska St. and then to its present location at 12/10 Grzybowska St. (Figure 3). Ida Kaminska was theater director from its inception until she immigrated to the



United States in 1968. She also appeared on the stage in major roles as seen here performing with her second husband Meir Melman in *Mirele Efras* (Figure 4).<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

## POSTAL ENTIRE

In 2005, the Polish Postal Authority issued an entire for the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ester Rachel Kaminska State Yiddish Theater. The cachet illustrates a performer in a comic role. The 1.50 zloty “stamp” shows a photograph of Ida Kaminska, with actors on stage in the background (Figure 1).

## A STAR IS BORN

Ida Kaminska was born in 1899 in Odessa, Russia, now Ukraine. Her well-known parents, the famous actress Ester Rachel Kaminska, and her actor-director-producer father Avram Izhak Kaminski,<sup>3</sup> were deeply committed to the Yiddish theater and encouraged Ida to perform on the stage. In her memoir, Ida describes her mother with respect, honor and awe.<sup>1</sup> A touching photo of nine-year-old Ida and her mother was taken in 1908 (Figure 5).<sup>4</sup>

Ida was a consummate actress as well as a successful director. When she set her sights on a specific goal, it was only a matter of time before she successfully accomplished it. She began her acting career at the age of five, performing in both tragedies and comedies, as well by the time she was eighteen directing plays in her father’s troupe.<sup>3</sup>

In 1918, Kaminska married the Yiddish actor-director Zygmund Turkov, with whom she had a daughter Ruth in 1921. The couple divorced in 1932. In 1936, Ida married the Yiddish actor Meir “Mel” Melman. In Warsaw she led a successful Yiddish theater group.<sup>1</sup> Sadly, her success was wiped out overnight by a world tragedy that engulfed all of Europe.

## GERMANY INVADES POLAND

When, in 1939, Hitler’s army invaded Poland to set off World War II, Nazi bombs destroyed both Ida’s theater and home. Her family and acting troupe fled Warsaw to the Soviet border. There they were delayed for several days by German soldiers, until finally they were allowed to cross into

the Soviet Zone.

Although not physically harmed, their luggage and money were stolen.<sup>1,4</sup> War and displacement did not deter Ida, as it was not long before she received support from the Soviets to establish a Yiddish theater in Lemberg. In 1941, Ida and her family again had to flee the advancing German army, settling in Frunze, Soviet Union, then Central Asia and, finally, Moscow. Coincidentally in Frunze, perhaps miraculously, considering the Holocaust raging in Europe, Ida gave birth to her son Victor, while her daughter Ruth had a girl, Erika. The end of World War II saw the family return to Poland where she began her determined efforts to build the Yiddish theater,<sup>1</sup> as described earlier.

## “THE SHOP ON MAIN STREET”

In 1964, Ida accepted the leading female role in *The Shop on Main Street*, a film written by Ladislav Grossman, directed by Ján Kadár and Elmar Klos and co-starring Josef Kroner (Figure 6). The movie won the 1965 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, and Kaminska was nominated in 1966 for the Academy Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role.<sup>5</sup>

## A FINAL IMMIGRATION

In 1967, the Polish government’s anti-Semitic campaign reached such severity that it prompted Ida Kaminska and her family to consider emigrating. The government’s sanctioned anti-Semitism was precipitated by Israel’s success in the Six-Day War. The Polish Communist government lashed out

continued on page 41



Figure 3

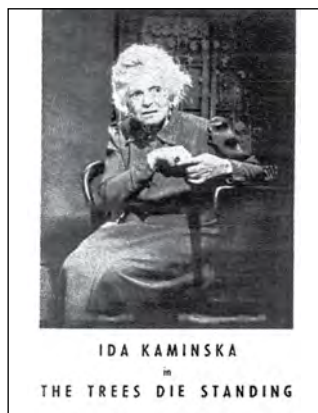


Figure 4



Figure 3



Figure 5



Figure 6

# P.O.W. Mail During 1948-1949

While searching in the Army archives in Israel for information about 1948 P.O.W.s, I found information about the plight of the Jewish P.O.W.s in Arab hands and how the Israeli authorities tried to deal with the situation.

## GENEVA CONVENTION

According to the rules from the Geneva Convention that were sent to the Israelis in Hebrew, Chapter 4 states:

- Article 36- Each side should establish from time to time the amount of letters and postcards the various P.O.W ranks may send each month. They should be sent by mail by the quickest possible method without delaying them for any disciplinary reasons. The letters delivered should not be delayed more than a week from the time they arrive at the camps. The rules also state that generally the exchange of letters should be permitted in their own language. Each side may permit the exchange of letters in other languages also.
- Article 38 states that all items of value sent shall be exempt from any tax from the country of origin or to its destination.
- In article 40 it adds that the censorship of the letters should be completed as quick as possible. Likewise any examination of parcels should be done under conditions that ensure the safety of any food items that may become spoiled.

## P.O.W. TREATMENT

But, despite the Geneva rules on how to treat P.O.W.s, the Israeli P.O.W.s were not treated properly.

There is a long letter in the archives sent to Dr Lehner (from the International Rescue Committee [IRC]) listing the complaints and grievances of the way the P.O.W.s have been treated, specifically those in Egypt. This was not an isolated incident in Egypt. There were similar complaints from other POW camps in other countries. This particular letter is in reference to the P.O.W.s in Egypt. It describes how one POW was subject to a severe beating and then driven

around the Arab town where he was also beaten and stoned by the populace. After 12 days when he was taken back to the POW camp he again was beaten then interrogated and afterwards again beaten. The medical orderly who was a giant man was brutal even to the sick.

The P.O.W.s were forced to perform non-constructive work. Plus the food rations were not sufficient.

When parcels arrived they were left outside in full view of the P.O.W.s for 14 days before being distributed. Also the writer complains that most of the contents of the parcels were being stolen by the medical orderly. He would sell the items for money to buy Hashish.

## PARCELS

In a memo to Dr Lehner (from the IRC) dated December 15, 1948 is a note that they are surprised that the relief consignment which arrived in Cairo in September is still held by the customs authorities. This is against the Geneva Convention rules as stated above that all parcels are exempted from any customs fee. So there is no justification for the delay.

In the archive I also found a letter written by one of the mothers of a Tel Aviv POW. She wrote to the IRC in Tel Aviv regarding her son who was held in Transjordan. She complains that she had been sending letters to her son regularly, but from his letters she understood that he only received one letter. Also she complains that there are weeks and sometimes months without any news.

There is another memo from the G.H.Q.- Israeli Army Manpower Department dated September 14, 1948 to Dr. Emile Moeri Delegee du C.I.C.R. Tel Aviv (International Committee of the Red Cross).

Among the requests and comments in Article 1d they complain about the lack of mail received from the P.O.W.s "So far correspondence reached us twice from Syria, three times from Egypt, eight times from Trans-Jordan and none from Lebanon or Iraq".

They continue by showing in comparison the way the Israelis fairly treated the Arab P.O.W.s "This compares most unfavorably with the postal facilities accorded the Arab P.O.W.s who are allowed to write four postcards and two letters monthly in their own language. The Arab Authorities should therefore be urged to allow Israeli P.O.W.s the same postal facilities in their own language".



## TRANSFER POINT

Based on their requests, they want “To establish a regular postal service, if possible through Cyprus”. I saw another memo dated September 30, 1948. It was sent by the Army Liaison Office to the L.R.C. (Lebanese Red Cross) to Mr. Robert Gouy C.I.C.R.. Tel Aviv. In this memo they complain that they want to again stress the lack of continuity in the correspondence between the P.O.W's and their parents. Again they request “A hope that from now on, we shall be able to organize through Cyprus the correspondence with minimum delay.”

## RED CROSS FORMS

I am including a very interesting Red Cross messages form dated 29 Sept. 48 and 17 Oct 1948. from P.O.W's in an Egyptian camp. One of the uses of this form was for P.O.W's not heard from for over 3 months. In the short note

This routing seems to have been set up afterwards. In another memo dated October. 21, 1948 sent by the Army Liaison Officer to the L.R.C.'s Mr. Troyon C.I.C.R. Tel Aviv. In this memo they comment that on September 28 supplies consisting of parcels for the Jewish P.O.W's in Egypt were sent by air through Cyprus. We now note that such a routing is already in place and used to send to parcels to Jewish P.O.W's.

I have not seen any covers showing any indication that such a mail system through Cyprus was actually used. I would be very interested if anyone has any more information.

the P.O.W. notes that “I only very seldom receive a letter from you.” This notes shows that the Israeli P.O.W.'s were not given fair and legal treatment even for such basic needs that was accorded to them by the Geneva Convention.

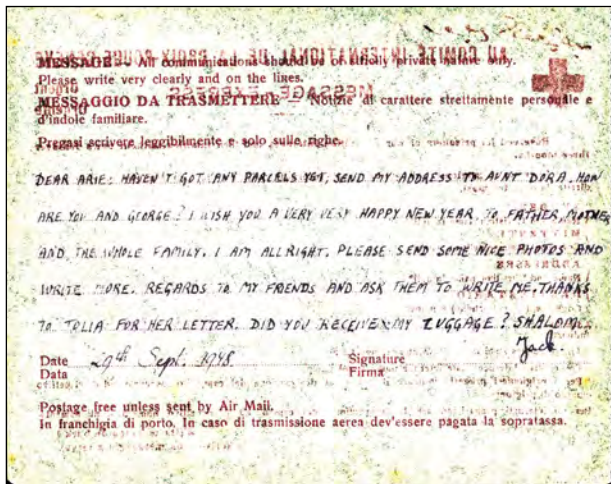
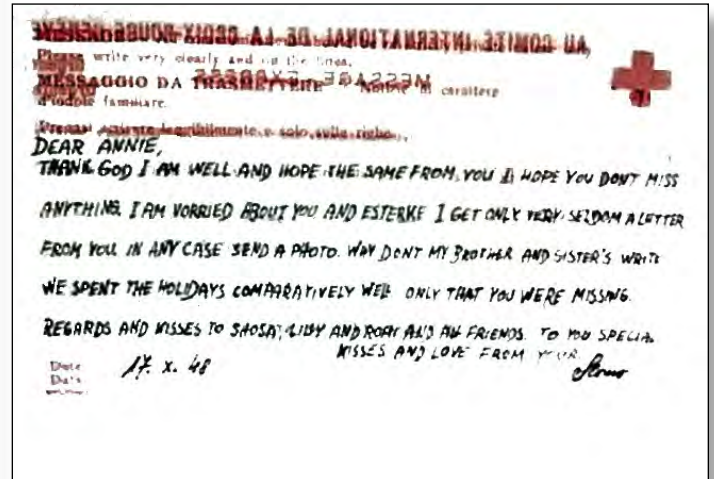


Figure 1

Dear Arie: Haven't got any parcels yet, send my address to aunt Dora. how are you and George? I wish you a very very happy new year, to father, mother and the whole family. I am all right. Please send some nice photos and write more. Regards to my friends and ask them to write me. Thanks to Tolia for her letter. Did you receive my luggage? Shalom Jack 29th Sept. 1948



Friend 2

Dear Annie,  
Thank God I am well and hope the same from you, I hope you don't miss anything. I am worried about you and Esterke. I get only very seldom a letter from you. In any case send a photo. Why don't my brother and sister's write. We spent the holidays comparatively well only that you were missing. Regards and kisses to Saosa and Rory and all friends to you special. Kisses and love from your ?, October 17, 1948 ■

o - o - o - o

continued from page 29

with an anti-Zionist campaign and a general distrust of Polish Jews by official government agencies.<sup>1</sup>

After short stays in Vienna and Israel, Kaminska and her family settled in New York City. She made a bold attempt to create a Yiddish Repertory Theater, but it was not to be. Her first performance in *The Trees Die Standing* (Figure 7) was favorably received, but by the time their contract ended, they had lost money.<sup>4</sup> Disheartened, Ida decided she had lost the battle. There would be no Yiddish theater akin to that in Poland. She chose to retire quietly. Kaminska died on May 21, 1980, and with her death, the story of the

Yiddish theater in Poland comes to an end,” wrote Julian Skrzykowski.<sup>6</sup>

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3. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida\\_Kaminska](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_Kaminska)
4. <https://nyny.ccnmtl.columbia.edu/content/ida-kaminska>
5. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Shop\\_on\\_Main\\_Street](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Shop_on_Main_Street)
6. <http://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/kaminska-esther-rachel-and-ida-kaminska> ■

# West Bank

## The Rural Postal Agencies

### During the Jordanian Period 1960-1967

Joseph Wallach, Moshe Rimer, Israel

When the war ended in 1948-9 and the armistice agreement between Israel and Jordan was signed in 1949, the control over the West Bank was passed over to Jordan. Jordan annexed the West Bank in 1950 and renamed it "The West Bank of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan". The postal services evolved as an organic part of the Jordanian Kingdom's mail with a maximum centralization of power, leaving most of the authority in the capital Amman. The central post office of the West Bank was of course in Jerusalem and subject to the Amman management.

The postal services were established during the fifties on the foundation left behind by the British at the end of the British Mandate on May 15, 1948.

In this manner the central post offices in the main cities that operated during the Mandate were reopened or continued to operate, i.e.: Hebron, Bethlehem, (East) Jerusalem, Jericho, Ramallah, Shechem (Nablus), Jenin, Tulkarm and Qalqilya, and an additional post office in Birzeit (Figure 1).



Figure 1

At first, Jordanian postage stamps with an overprint of the word "Palestine" in English and Arabic were used with Mandatory postmarks. Jordanian stamps appeared next, however this is not the subject of our discussion today (Figure 2).

During the fifties and following the increase in population and the activity of the postal services, new postal units were added and up to 1960 25 postal agencies had been added.

The postal system was built upon 2 basic levels of postal functions:



Figure 2

Stamps with a "Palestine" overprint using a Jordanian postmark.

1. Post Office - MAKT AB BARID (in Arabic)
2. Postal Agency - SHUABAT BARID



Figure 3  
Postal Agency  
Shuabat Barid



Figure 4  
Post Office  
Maktab Barid



In the event that a postal agency increased its activity (due to an increase in population), its status was raised to post office. The processing of postal stamps during this transitional phase was fascinating (as we shall see latter in the presentation).

## 1950-1960

Along with the transition of an agency to a post office status, the words P.A. (Postal Agency - "SHUABAT BARID" in Arabic) were erased from the postmarks via scraping and use of an abrasive. Different permanent rubber and metal stamps were later received to befit the expansion of the postal services. (Sometimes the Arab word SHUABAT was erased from the rubber stamp, but the word BARID (post) remained (Figure 5, 6).



Figure 5  
Postal Agency  
Halhul



Figure 6  
Post Office  
Halhul

## 1960-1967

### The Great Leap, Networking the Villages of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan through Rural Postal Agencies

Up until 1960, 9 - 10 post offices were added to the West Bank's basic postal system and 25 postal agencies, some of which received the status of post office over time. For example:

Halhul, Beit Sahur, Abu Dis, Al-Bireh, Ya'bad, Huwarah, Tubas.

During the 1960's, the Jordanian government decided to expand the postal services by opening hundreds of rural postal agencies across the two banks of the Kingdom. Between 1960 - 1967 over two hundred (!) new postal agencies were added in the West Bank alone.

It is my hypothesis that networking the Kingdom with postal agencies had, in addition to the expansion of the postal services, a political aim - deepening the connection and influence on the population.

## POSTAL AGENCY MANAGEMENT

Management of the postal agencies was given to the village's most powerful person who was amply rewarded. In this manner, the local leadership was "drawn in" and

made dependent upon the central government in Amman. The agency was usually run by the village Mukhtar or those close to him. The agency was built in the Mukhtar's house or in one of his warehouses.

The external characteristics of an agency were:

- Telephone pole
- Postal Agency sign
- Postal box

These three components repeated themselves in every new postal agency that was opened at the time. Post Agency carried signs: POST Agency (Figure 7)



Figure 7  
Rural Postal Agency - Nuba

## PROCEDURE OF OPENING AND OPERATING A RURAL POSTAL AGENCY

The decision to open a postal agency was made in the Kingdom's capital Amman. Prior to the opening, the intended agents underwent a short training for their new role. A new file was opened for each postal agency which listed the agent's employment terms, rights and obligations, the functions of the agency which included providing postal services, sending ordinary and registered mail, delivery acceptance, sending and receiving telegrams, in addition to serving as a telephone office from which one could make a call for a fee.

An interesting document details the office equipment which the agent shall receive, and signed for by him upon the opening of the agency.

For example: the equipment could include a postal box, postmark, assisting cachets: T (Tax), A.R (avis de reception), postage stamps, registration labels and a notebook for daily registration of the changing of the date record sheets. The postmarks were all rubber and similar to



Figure 8

Rural Postal Agency - the hand stamps

an ordinary office stamp. These were mostly rectangular or square, and a few were circular. Their content, apart from the name of the agency, was identical (Figure 8).

Prior to the opening of new postal agency, a public notice was sent from the center in Amman. with only the village name in English and the rest in Arabic regarding the opening of the postal agency and the date of operation (Figure 9). The notices were sent to all post offices and postal agencies and published there. Each postal agency functioned as deliverer and receiver of mail under the closest "mother" post office. Sometimes the connections were triple-layered (Figure 10) <sup>1</sup>:

Postal agency  
|  
Sub post office  
|  
District post office

Examples for a hierarchal triple-staged postal system:

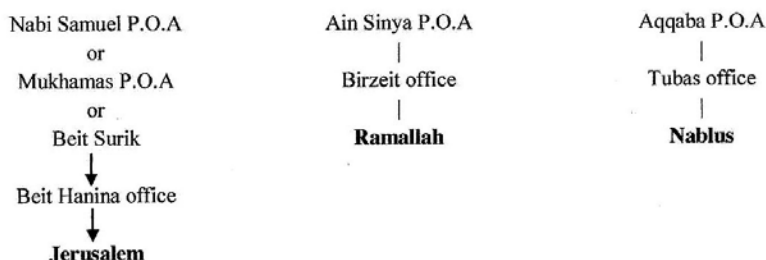


Figure 10

Triple staged post system

## POST OFFICE PROMOTION

As mentioned above, when an agency was promoted to the status of post office, the following changes were made to the stamp:

**1950 - 1960** - "scraping" and abrasion deletion of the words P.A. and Shuabat Barid from the metal postmark as an intermediate stage before receiving a permanent metal postmark, without mention of the postal level.

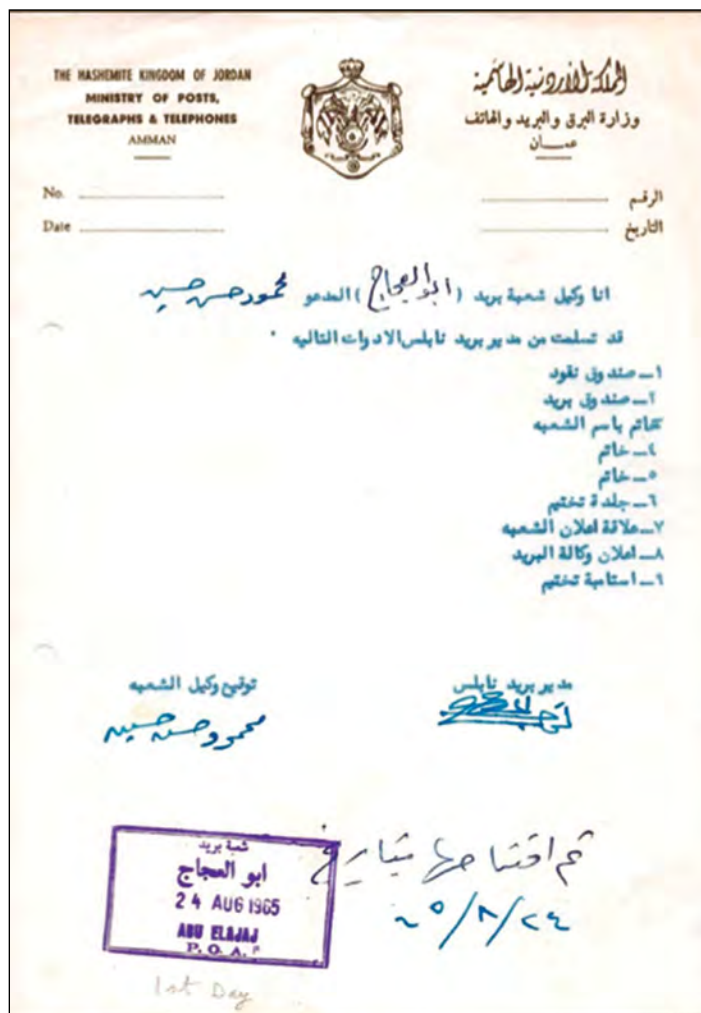


Figure 9

Abu Elajaj new postal agency notice

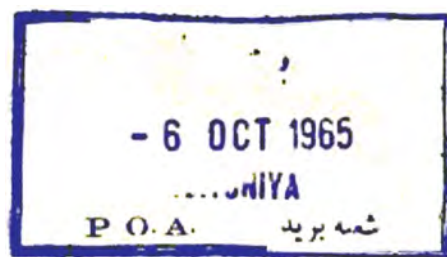


Figure 11

Rubber postmark before promotion



Figure 12

Rubber postmark after promotion



**1960 - 1967** - in addition to or in lieu of the above process, the post office received a rubber postmark during the intermediate stage without mention of the postal level-status and a permanent metal postmark was received later (Figures 11, 12).

The activity of the rural postal agencies was minimal. As a result, ordinary letters which carry the agencies' postmarks are rare (Figure 13), and registered envelopes are extremely rare (I have only 3 such envelopes). Ordinary incoming letters usually received an arrival postmark on the back. The small amount of postal material from the rural postal agencies in the West Bank is a result, *inter alia*, of the short period of time between the commencement of their operation and the Six Day War in June 1967.

## REGISTERED LETTERS

As aforementioned, registered letters from the rural postal agencies are extremely rare (Figure 14). The postal management in Amman did not supply printed labels for all of the hundreds of agencies. One of the two following options was used instead:

1. An empty registration label, without naming the village. The registration label contained a serial number alone, and the village name was entered by hand or sometimes using a rubber stamp with the village name (Figure 15).
2. Using a label containing the name of the district post office. The agent erased the name of the town and wrote the name of the village by hand (Figure 16).

In general, the Jordanian registration labels were prepared and printed in vertical columns of 10 labels and stapled together on the top section of the book, 10X100 pages = 1000 labels numbered 1- 1000.

The agency mostly handled delivery of incoming and outgoing ordinary and registered mail. The agency had 2 receipt books for registered mail: (a) Outgoing mail - where the name of the sender was written with the branch stamp. (b) Incoming registered mail - the receiver's signature, sometimes by fingerprint with the branch stamp (mostly a green receipt).

In addition, he had 9.5X14 cm forms printed in red for receiving fees for a telephone call or for sending a telegram.

## 1967

With the introduction of the military rule in the West Bank in June 1967, the post offices were opened by the military postal administration - ZAHAL (I.D.F.)

Unlike the post offices, the postal agencies did not return to their former status. They became rural telephone agencies that enabled telephone communication.

continued on page 46



Figure 13  
Postmark used on regular mail



Figure 14  
Postmark used on registered mail

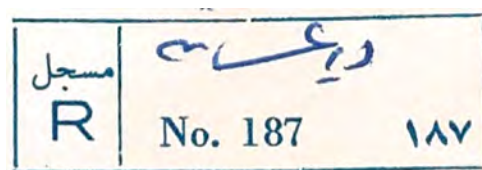


Figure 15  
Registered mail label without town name

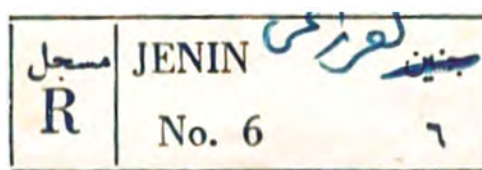


Figure 16  
Registered mail label with town name

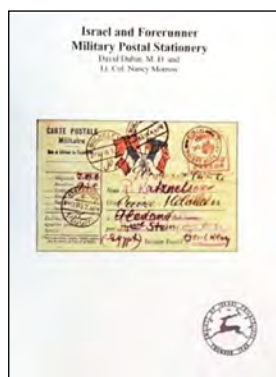
# Recent Publications

## Artists' Drawings, Essays, and Proofs of the 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel and their Usage by Dr. Robert Pildes

Based on Bob award winning exhibit this monograph focuses primarily on the evolution of the Doar Ivri from rejected concepts to the accept designs and subsequent printing trials. This work significantly expands on Chapter One of the book **Doar Ivri Issue of Israel** by Rothman and Tsachor. The price is \$20 plus shipping and handling.



**Israel & Forerunner Military Postal Stationery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition** by Dubin and Morrow expands on the original 2002 publication of the same name. The monograph has been remastered, which includes replacing the black and white images of the postal stationery with color images, and includes over 20 pages of newly reported. The prices is \$18 plus shipping and handling.



**Safad** by Ben David z"l has been restored to the SIP Education Fund Bookstore. The book has been remastered and a number of the black and white philatelic images have been replaced with color images courtesy of Dr. Henry Nogid. The price is \$15 plus shipping and handling.



The Ed Fund has a number of other project that will hopefully be available to members within the next six months.

## Conclusion

As always, the SIP Education Fund is looking for new publications. Many members have wonderful Israel/Holy Land/Judaic collections. In some cases, you have written article(s) about your specialty and/or exhibited in juried stamp show. Members who don't exhibit or write articles are still interested in seeing seldom reported topics. Please consider documenting these items in a manuscript that can be published by the Education Fund before the knowledge is lost or scattered upon the dispersment of the collection. The topic of the publication is up to you the philatelic collector. ■

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continued from page 45

The rural telephone agencies were equipped with a small rectangular stamp that contained the village name in Hebrew and Arabic in addition to the date. This cachet was used to stamp receipts for telephone calls alone, without any other postal usage.

We know of decorated philatelic envelopes which carry the village stamps on a variety of postage stamps and revenue stamps, however these are at the most documentary "memorabilia" of the existence of these cachets.

1 In addition, the notice included the name of the post office under which the postal agency shall operate.:AI Bireh - Ramaliah, Azzoun - Tulkarm, Dura or Halhul- Hebron

## EPILOGUE

### 1995

In 1994 - 1995 the rural post offices and telephone operators that were operated by the military postal administration ZAHAL (I.D.F) were closed.

In 1995, or to be exact on November 8, 1995 (8.11.95), 36 (thirty six!) new post offices were opened throughout the West Bank by the Palestinian Authority. Thus began a new chapter in the chronicles of the West Bank post. ■

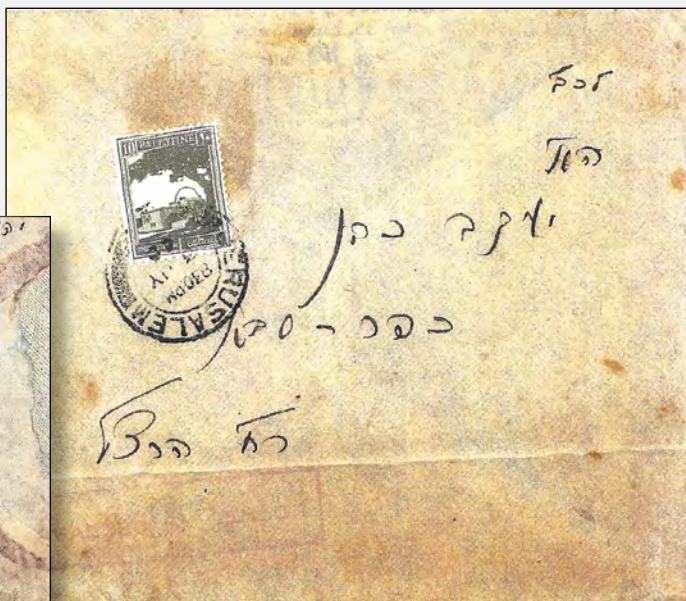


# Lechi Cover

Letter sent from Kenya by deportee Yehoshua Cohen. In 1946 Yehoshua was a member of the "Fighters For Freedom for Israel" (Lechi) also known as the Stern Gang. He was implicated in the September 17, 1948 assassination of U.N. mediator Count Bernadotte but was never charged. The cover is addressed to his father "Ya'akov Cohen, Kfar Sava, Herzl Street.

The letter was carried from the British Kenya Detention Camp to Jerusalem by an official British courier. It is franked 10 mils (letter rate), postmarked Jerusalem 3 JY 46 and has a very faint boxed "Passed Censor" at the lower left.

The return address on the back flap is: Yehoshua Cohen, c/o A.I.G. (Assistant Inspector General), C.I.D., (Criminal Investigation Department) Jerusalem and backstamped Kfar Sava.



Yehoshua was later appointed as Ben Gurion's personal bodyguard. ■



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# 1934 CATAPULT AIRMAIL COVER

## Jerusalem to Recife Brazil

### BACKGROUND

In the early 1930's a surface letter could take 20 to 50 days to travel from Europe to South America via steamer<sup>1</sup>. Due to the growing amount of correspondence between Europe and South America, French (Air France) and German (Deutsche Lufthansa (DLH)) airline companies examined ways to speed the delivery of mail along this route. However, airplanes did not have the range to cross the Atlantic Ocean on a routine basis. The hydrogen-filled rigid airship Graf Zeppelin LZ-127 could cover long distances. In 1929 it left Friedrichshafen, Germany and made a visit to several South America countries carrying mostly philatelic mail. Between 1929 and 1933, the Graf Zeppelin made 22 crossings between Europe and South America. Thus, this service was very limited and could not provide a solution for the routine and rapid transit of mail between Europe and South America.

In 1930 DLH developed a mixed mode mail transit from Berlin, Germany to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil that involved train, land and seaplanes, a Hamburg Amerika Line steamer across the Atlantic (Las Palmas, Canary Island to Fernando de Noronha, off the coast of Brazil) and Sindicato Condor air transit in South America. This service was not successful and only 2 of 14 planned crossings were completed<sup>1, 6</sup>.

### CATAPULT AIRMAIL SERVICE

The first catapult airmail service was initiated by DLH in 1929 across the North Atlantic Ocean to speed delivery of mail between Europe and North America. It relied on a specially modified ship stationed in the Atlantic within the range of a land-based seaplane. The plane would land on the ship and then using a specially designed catapult, the seaplane could be launched at high speed from the ship located several hundred miles from its destination, thus speeding up delivery time.

The North Atlantic catapult air service utilized the modified Nord Deutschen Lloyd steamships, Bremen and Europa,

on their crossing of the Atlantic to/from New York. Max Manning (z'l) described two of the known 1932 North Atlantic catapult covers from the United States to Palestine in a 1974 article in *The Israel Philatelist*<sup>7</sup>.

### SOUTH AMERICAN CATAPULT MAIL

Given the success of the North Atlantic catapult service and the failure of the mixed mode service between Europe and South America, in 1931, DLH devised a plan to utilize a catapult ship stationed in the South Atlantic Ocean to allow air service from Europe, via Africa to Recife, Brazil.

However, it was not until 1933 that DLH test flights were carried out between Bathurst, Gambia (West Africa) and Natal, Brazil using a specially designed ship, the Westfalen<sup>1, 10</sup> in the Atlantic Ocean. The tests were successful, so a second ship, the Schwabenland was built and regular commercial service between Europe and South America was initiated on February 2, 1934 (Figure 1).

At the outset, this four-day transit time was biweekly and





Figure 1

expanded to weekly service by May. The Westfalen was positioned near Fernando da Noronha off the Brazilian coast and the Schwabenland in the South Atlantic off the Gambian coast. In 1935 the service was coordinated with Air France, which used a steamer to cross the Atlantic.

DLH catapult mail remained in use until the outbreak of World War II with the last flight on August 23, 1939<sup>1, 10</sup>. In 1934 DLH made a total of 47 combined east - west flights. This increased to 79 in 1935. By the end of the service in 1939 a total of 482 east - west crossings had occurred corresponding to roughly weekly service in each direction<sup>1</sup>.



Figure 2

Figure 2 depicts a 1935 DLH map showing the route of the service and the connections with the expanding Syndicato Condor airmail service in South America.

Initially, in February 1934 the slower Zeppelins were integrated with the DLH catapult service, but by the end of the year they mainly carried packages and philatelic mail and were no longer part of the DLH service. All Zeppelin flights ended in 1937 with the crash of the Hindenburg in Lakehurst, New Jersey.

## PALESTINE CATAPULT COVER

The cover shown in Figures 3 and 4 is franked with 2, 6 and 20 mils Palestine Pictorial stamps for a total of 28 mils and is canceled by the Jerusalem oval registered cancel on August 29, 1934. This paid the registration fee of 13 mils and the foreign letter rate of 15 mils. There is no indication of payment of airmail service to South America, which was 200 mils at the time according to Proud<sup>9</sup>. It is possible that the Zeppelin/DLH fee was "paid in advance" for a group of covers<sup>3, 4</sup>.

Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

The cover bears a Via Zeppelin, Friedrichshafen etiquette on the front and a Jerusalem Registration #4654 etiquette on the back. There is a DLH Deutsche Luftpost Europa-Südamerika cachet in red (Figure 5) on the front that depicts a Zeppelin and a catapult plane. The back of the cover has a Stuttgart, Germany transit cancel dated September 8 and a Natal, Pernambuco, Brazil receiving cancel dated September 13.

This was catapult flight #25<sup>3</sup> carrying 150kg of mail, which left Stuttgart, Germany on Saturday, September 8 and arrived at Bathurst, Gambia on Monday, September 10 at 1515 GMT. It arrived in Natal, Brazil on September 12 at 1926 GMT and the letter was postmarked the next day<sup>3</sup>. This is within the advertised four day air service from Europe to Brazil with a total transit time of 16 days. The cover is philatelic originating in Liverpool, UK and addressed to the company of philatelist Hermann Stolz.

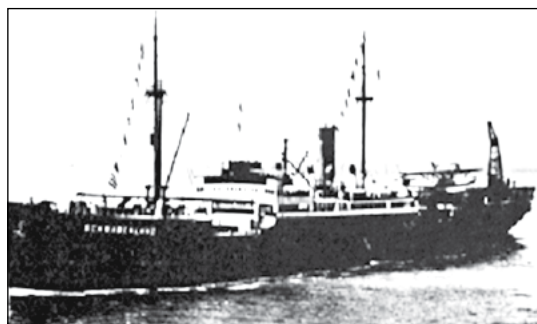


Figure 2

Importantly, this was the first acceptance of mail from Palestine to South America via DLH and this was also the first flight from the Schwabenland (Figure 6), near the coast of Gambia. The Westfalen was moved to Fernando da Noronha off the east coast of Brazil from its previous mid-ocean location. It is believed that 10 catapult covers from Palestine to Recife were flown on flight 25 of which three are reported to exist today<sup>5, 8</sup>. No other catapult covers from Palestine are known.

## THE ROUTE

The cover in Figure 3 took a circuitous route from Jerusalem to Recife, Brazil.

1. First going from Jerusalem to Ludd Airport and via Imperial air service to London.
2. Although inscribed in manuscript that the letter was to go via the Zeppelin service to Brazil it must have missed the Zeppelin cut off time and was forwarded to Stuttgart constituting the first acceptance of DLH catapult mail from Palestine to Brazil.
3. Stuttgart was the starting point of the DLH catapult service and Friedrichshafen, the starting point for Zeppelin service.
4. The cover traveled by air from London to Stuttgart via Hanover, Germany.
5. Either in London or Stuttgart the Zeppelin airmail etiquette was crossed out. The Europa – Sudamerica cachet was added at Stuttgart to all mail on this service.
6. DLH used a Henkle He70 airplane that flew from Stuttgart to Seville, Spain, Las Palmas, Canary Islands and Bathurst, Gambia, the most westerly point on the African continent (Figure 2).
7. It then was flown to the Schwabenland, positioned off the west coast of Africa. The arriving plane was caught on a mat on the side of the ship and mail transferred to a Dornier airplane that was catapulted off the Schwabenland.
8. The Dornier flew to Natal, Brazil in the province of Pernambuco, the most easterly point in South America
9. and then the cover was flown by Condor to Recife, Brazil, a one hour flight.

DLH offered a westbound service to Europe using the Westfalen, positioned off of the Brazilian island of Fernando de Noronha.

## EPILOGUE

Covers from the South American Graf Zeppelin flights that originated in Palestine are quite scarce and considered gems of Zeppelin and Holy Land philately. Catapult covers originating in Palestine are certainly even scarcer. As far as is known all mail from Palestine on this route was philatelic<sup>8</sup> and consisted of the ten covers sent on catapult flight #25. Although philatelic they remain an important reminder of this exciting period in the development of airmail service. Palestine–South American catapult covers.

What about the other Palestine–South America catapult covers? A search of Holy Land auction catalogues over the past 45 years yielded two covers almost identical to the one described herein. The first was Lot #507 in

the April 1999 Nutmeg sale of Arthur Groten's "Via Palestine" collection with registration number 4658. The second was lot #2133 in the 2012 Kelleher auction of the "Jericho collection" with registration number 4660. Both of these covers had 28 mils postage paid with Pictorial stamps with the same August 29, 1934 Jerusalem Registered oval cancellation and both were addressed to H. Stoltz Co. in Recife.

Thus the three covers must be from the group of ten flown catapult covers noted in the Groten and Jericho sales<sup>5, 8</sup>. Does this account for the three known Palestine–South America Catapult covers or are others still to be discovered?

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**Wanted  
Articles!**



# Moses

## THE EARLY YEARS

**T**he Bible never specifically identifies the Pharaoh of the Exodus by name, but it does tell us the story of the Exodus. At the time of Moses' birth, the Bible says that Pharaoh gave the command that every son who was born of the Hebrews should be cast into the river. Fearing for the new born baby's life, Moses' mother hid him in a basket in the reeds along the bank of the Nile. While Pharaoh's daughter was walking along the riverside, she found him and raised him as her son. She gave him the name of Moses which in Egyptian means "drawn out of the water".

The next significant event which occurs in the life of Moses is when he flees the land of Egypt after killing an Egyptian. He fled and became a dweller in the land of the Median where he had two sons.

## THE BURNING BUSH

**T**he Burning Bush is an object described in the Book of Exodus as being located on Mount Horeb. According to the narrative the bush was on fire but was not consumed by the flames. The burning bush is the location at which Moses was appointed by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and into Canaan.

**I**n the narrative, an angel of Yahweh is described as appearing in the bush. God is subsequently described as calling out from it to Moses, who had been grazing Jethro's flocks. Starting to approach, God tells Moses to first take off his sandals due to the place being holy ground, and Moses hides his face. "More over He said: I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." When asked what name he should tell the children of Israel, God said to Moses "I am that I am" (Exodus 3:5-6, 3:13-14).



Rochlin 1844, 1845

Depicts Moses standing near the burning bush. Inscribed "Moses looked and behold the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. Exodus 3-2"

**T**he text portrays Yahweh as telling Moses that he is sending him to the Pharaoh in order to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. This is an action that Yahweh is described as having decided upon as a result of noticing that the Israelites were being oppressed by the Egyptians. Yahweh tells Moses to tell the Israelite elders that Yahweh would lead them into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, a region generally referred to as Canaan. This is described as being a land of "milk and honey". Yahweh instructs Moses to confront the Egyptians and Israelites and briefs the prophet on what is to take place. Yahweh then performs various miracles in order to demonstrate Moses's power to Pharaoh.

**C**hristian hermits originally gathered at Mount Serbal, believing it to be the Biblical Mount Sinai. In the 4th century under the Byzantine

Empire, the monastery built there was abandoned in favor of the newer belief that Mount Saint Catherine was the Biblical Mount Sinai. A new monastery, St. Catherine's Monastery, was built at its foot as the alleged site of the biblical burning bush. The bush growing at the spot was later transplanted several yards away to a courtyard of the monastery and its original spot was covered by a chapel dedicated to the Annunciation with a silver star marking where the roots of the bush had come out of the ground. Anyone entering the chapel is required to remove their shoes just as Moses was in the Biblical account.

However in modern times, it is not Mount Saint Catherine, but the adjacent Jebel Musa (Mount Moses) which is currently identified as Mount Sinai. This identification arose from Bedouin tradition.

In Eastern Orthodoxy a tradition exists which originated in the Orthodox Fathers of the Church and its Ecumenical Synods or Councils, that the flame Moses saw was in fact God's "Uncreated Energies/Glory".

The Burning Bush has been popular symbol among Reformed churches since it was first adopted by the Huguenots-French Calvinists in 1583.

## CONFRONTING PHARAOH



Figure 3  
Rochlin 1842-1843

Depicts Moses before Pharaoh. Stamp inscribed "Thus saith the Lord God of Israel. Let my people go, Exodus 5-1."

According to the Bible, Moses tells Pharaoh God has commanded that the Israelites be allowed to leave Egypt and returned to their homeland. If not, then God will punish Egypt with 10 plagues, the last plague will be the death of Egypt's first born.

After the last plague God sent against Egypt, Israel was permitted to depart, but Pharaoh led his army in pursuit of them to the Red Sea. God commanded Moses to raise his arms so the Israelites could cross the Red Sea. "So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Exodus 14-30".





Figure 3  
Rochlin 1836 - 1838

Depicts Moses displaying the Tablets of the Law. Inscribed "Moses went down from the mount and the two tablets of testimony were in his hand - Exodus 32-15."

**T**he Tablets of Stone (Figure 3) are the tablets of the covenant. In the Bible, they were two pieces of stone inscribed with the Ten Commandments which Moses brought down from Mount Sinai.

According to the Bible, there were actually two sets: the first inscribed by God was smashed by Moses when he was enraged by the sight of the Children of Israel worshipping the Golden Calf; and the second, later cut by Moses and rewritten by God. According to traditional teaching of Judaism they were made of blue sapphire stone as a symbolic reminder of the sky, the heavens and ultimately of God's throne.

## ADDENDUM

Replicas of the tablets known as tabots or sellats are a vital part of the practice of Ethiopian Orthodox Church, which claims that the original Ark of the Covenant is kept in The Chapel of the Tablet in Axum. ■

**B**oth the first shattered set and the second unbroken set were stored in the Ark of the Covenant. The tablets may still be buried in amongst the rubble from the destroyed Jewish Temples. In recent centuries the tablets have been popularly described and depicted as round topped rectangles, but this has little basis in religious tradition; according to rabbinic tradition, they were rectangles with sharp corners.

**I**n Jewish religious tradition the arrangement of the commandments on the two tablets is interpreted in different ways. Rabbi Hanina ben Gamaliel said that each tablet contained five commandments, but the sages say ten on one tablet and ten on the other.

# Holocaust Memorial



Fugyre 1

Jewish refugees pose with Mr. and Mrs. Alex Frieder in this 1940 picture in the Philippines.

*Editor's note: The picture and information about the refugees in the Philippines is taken from the web site: <http://www.cnn.com/2015/02/02/world/asia/philippines-jews-wwii/>. The First Day covers and the stamp provided by Gregg Philipson.*

About 1,200 European Jews fled to the Philippines from 1937 to 1941, escaping the throes of the Nazis only to face another bloody war under Japanese occupation. Many of the Jews came from Austria and Germany, as the anti-Semitic policies including the Nuremberg race laws intensified. Unable to immigrate to countries such as the United Kingdom and the United States, thousands of Jews escaped to places such as Shanghai in China, Sousa in the Dominican Republic and Manila. Those who arrived in Manila didn't realize that they had escaped the Holocaust only to be caught in the war in the Far East, when the Philippines came under attack.

## FROM PERSECUTION TO A WELCOME

This little known chapter of history about Jewish refugees in the Philippines has inspired two documentaries and talk of a possible movie.

"We know about stories like Anne Frank, 'Schindler's List' -- the things that grab popular imagination," said Michelle Ephraim, whose father, Frank Ephraim escaped to the Philippines after Kristallnacht in 1938. "Once you bring an Asia element, it becomes so complicated, interesting and

surprising." About 40 of the Philippines refugees are alive today, according to documentary filmmakers. They were children when they arrived in the Philippines over 70 years ago.

"That was like a rebirth," said Noel Izon, the filmmaker of the documentary, *An Open Door: Jewish Rescue in the Philippines*, in which he interviewed several Jewish refugees. "They went from certain death to this life."

## HOW THE PHILIPPINES BECAME A HAVEN

Manuel Quezon, the first president of the Philippine Commonwealth, and a group of Americans that included future United States President Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Frieders, the Jewish-American brothers, became increasingly concerned about the treatment of Jews in Europe during the late 1930s.

"They had a shared view of the world, they were men who understood what was happening in Europe," said Russ Hodge, co-producer of the documentary *Rescue in the Philippines*. That documentary was screened in 2015 in the Philippines with the country's president, Benigno Aquino in attendance.



Over poker, the Frieder brothers devised a strategy to bring Jewish refugees to the Philippines. The Philippines Commonwealth remained under United States supervision so it could not accept people who would need public assistance. The refuge committee sought highly skilled professionals such as doctors, mechanics and accountants. By 1938, a stream of refugees arrived including a rabbi, doctors, chemists and even a conductor, Herbert Zipper, who survived Dachau concentration camp and later became the founder of the Manila Symphony.

Quezon's ambitions to settle 10,000 Jews in the southern island of Mindanao were dashed as the war arrived to the shores of the Philippines.

## A NEW HOME IN THE TROPICS

For the European Jews who arrived in the Philippines, "it was a cultural shock," said survivor Lotte Hershfield. "We didn't know the language. We had never seen any other people than white people before." The humidity was thick, the heat overpowering and the mosquitoes gigantic. But the young Jewish refugees saw the Philippines as a new adventure. Children climbed mango trees, swam in the bay and learned Filipino songs. Hershfield became friends with local neighbors, played sipa (a local kicking game) and relished tropical fruit such as papaya and guava. Life in Manila was running around in sandals and summer clothes. The experience differed for her parents.



Figure 2

The Jewish refugees gather at an event in the Philippines in 1940

"It was very difficult for my parents," she said. "They never really learned Tagalog. They had been westernized and they stayed mostly within their circle of other immigrants." Many of them lived in crowded community housing where fights would break out. They had gone from being wealthy in Germany to having nothing. "It wasn't what they'd known before in Germany," film maker Izon said. "At the same time, 'they were able to practice their religion, able to intermingle and have businesses.'" Hershfield's idyllic days of playing under the Manila sun came to an abrupt end as the war came ashore to the Philippines.

## JAPANESE OCCUPATION

Starting in 1941, the Japanese occupied the Philippines. In some respects, the Jewish refugees were treated considerably

better than Filipinos. What ironically protected the Jews was their German passports with the swastikas -- they were viewed as allies. "It occurred to me later, that's what kept us from being interned," said Ursula Miodowski, who was 7 years old at the time. The Japanese interned British and American residents



Figure 3

Ursula and Martha Miodowski fled the Nazis through the Philippines in 1939. Martha's husband was Jewish, which meant that her daughter's life was also in danger.

in camps. Filipinos and American soldiers were forced to march 65 miles in the infamous Bataan Death March in which an estimated 10,000 prisoners died.

Japanese officers confiscated residents' homes and also hoarded crops for its military. The local economy shriveled and food became scarce. Life under the Japanese was hard and brutal, surviving refugees said.

When Allied forces began taking back the Philippines, bombs fell daily. Families hid in bomb shelters, not knowing where the next one would fall. Frank Ephraim spent days hiding in a ditch, shaking with a mattress covering his head. One of Hershfield's friends died after stepping on a mine.

As the Japanese were losing Manila, the imperial troops launched a brutal urban campaign. Rapes, torture, beheadings and bayoneting of civilians were widely reported, so much so that a Japanese general Tomoyuki Yamashita was later executed for having failed to control his troops. The Japanese decided to destroy Manila. They were going to give them a dead city, they set about doing that," said Miodowski. "They burned, they killed."

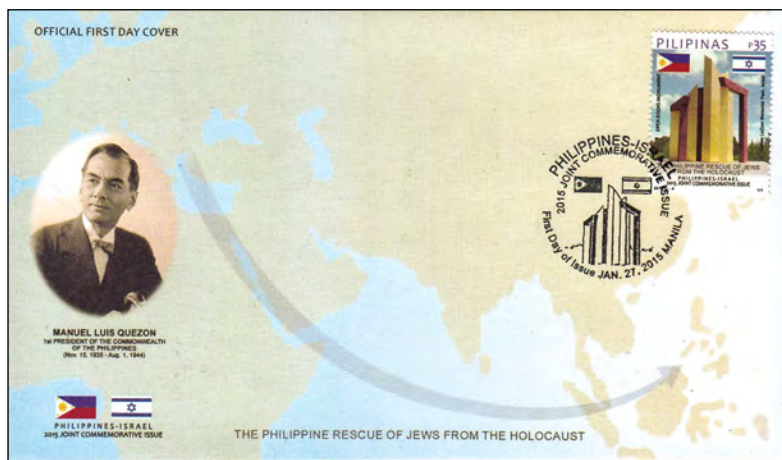
But war time in the Philippines was "preferable to being in a concentration camp," she said. The month long urban street fighting for Manila left the capital in ashes, decimating its economy and infrastructure. The Philippines suffered nearly a million civilian deaths during the war.

Despite the trauma of facing both fronts of the war, Hershfield remains grateful. "We would not be alive today if not for the Philippines. We would've been destroyed in the crematorium."

Quezon was posthumously honored with the title "Righteous Person," which, in the tradition of Israel and those commemorating the Holocaust, the title given to Gentiles (non-Jews) who helped the Jewish people in their time of persecution.

## JOINT STAMP ISSUE

The Philippines and Israel reaffirmed their enduring friendly relations when the governments of the two states issued on 29 January 2015 a joint stamp commemorating the Philippine rescue of Jews during the Holocaust.



Figures 4, 5  
Philippines First Day Cover.. Cachet features President Manuel Luis Quezon.

The launching ceremony, held at the Community Hall of Rishon LeZion, came two days after the International Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January 2015 -- a significant event for all Jews around the world in tribute to those who suffered and lost their lives during the Holocaust.

The Philippine version of the stamp was unveiled by Philippine Ambassador to Israel Neal Imperial, Post Master General and CEO of Philippine Postal Corporation (PHILPOST) Maria Josefina M. Dela Cruz and the Israeli version of the stamp was unveiled by Israel Post CEO and President Haim Elmozino.

The joint commemorative stamp features the national flags of the Philippines and Israel and the Open Doors Monument. The monument, which was unveiled on 21 June 2009 at Holocaust Memorial Park in Rishon LeZion, honors the humanitarian act of President Manuel L. Quezon in saving the lives of Jews fleeing the Holocaust from 1939-1942 through the issuance of around 10,000 visas. Only about 1,300 Jews reached the Philippines.

In his opening remarks, Ambassador Imperial said, "This humanitarian act not only resulted in saving the lives of a large number of Jews and their succeeding generations; it no doubt influenced as well the Philippine vote in favor of United Nations Resolution 181 in 1947, which helped create the State of Israel. These two acts, almost a decade apart and pursued by two different Philippine governments, had one common denominator: a consistent commitment to provide a home for the persecuted Jews."

During the ceremony, an excerpt of the documentary film "Rescue in the Philippines" was shown to the guests. The documentary tells the story of the effort of President Quezon, United States High Commissioner Paul McNutt, the five Frieder brothers, and then Army Colonel Dwight Eisenhower in helping European Jews fleeing the Holocaust to immigrate to the Philippines.

Rishon LeZion, which hosted the launching ceremony, is a host to a large number of Filipino caregivers. ■



Figures 6, 7  
Israel First Day Cover. Features both the Israeli and Philippines stamps and cancels..



# Simchat Torah

*Editor's note. This year the month of October is filled with holidays: Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and ending with Simchat Torah. In 2014 the Israel Post, Ltd. (IP) sent me a New Year Shana Tova card (Figures 1,2 ) which featured three stamps featuring children celebrating Simchat Torah. I found the accompanying description of the stamps interesting since I had not seen the practice in any of my synagogues.*



Figures 1, 2

As far back as the 17th century the children in Ashkenazi communities would come to the synagogue on Simchat Torah night waving flags. The Simchat Torah flags were part of popular paper products such as wall hangings and paper cutouts. Along with the homemade flags, paper flags were printed with images of traditional Jews and included pictures expressing the Sukkot and Simchat Torah holiday experience.

## ERETZ ISRAEL 1930's

In the early 20th century these flags began featuring Zionist motifs which were incorporated into the traditional look.

“For the Torah shall come forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem” was printed as the title of the holiday flag printed in Israel in the 1930's. At the center of the picture stands the Holy Ark with images of Moses and Aaron leaning on the ark and in front of the four sacred animals who express “bold as a tiger, and light as an eagle, and runs like a gazelle and brave as a lion to fulfill the will of the Father in Heaven”.



Figure 3

On the left stand three children, one of whom was characterized as a Yemenite youth with curly sidelocks – a biblical symbol updated for the modern Return to Zion.

On the right stands a European boy wearing a cap and holding a blue and white flag, with the symbol of the “Maccabi” sports club on his shirt – an expression of the new Jew, the muscular man who rejuvenates the legacy of the Maccabees.

## ISRAEL 1950's

In the 1950's the European tradition of decorating became the tradition among Jews from all ethnic groups. The yearning for the Tomb of Rachel and for the Western Wall became the scenes that decorated the Holy Ark – two cardboard doors, through which one could usually see an innocent picture of Torahs. A bunch of boys and girls who were stooped over the Torah emphasized the essence of the equal Israeli ethos, which suited most of the Israeli public.



Figure 4

## ISRAEL 1960's

The victory in the six-day war in 1967 presented and emphasized Simchat Torah in the image of the IDF as a savior. “Rejoice and be joyful on Simchat Torah” in the form of IDF soldiers carrying Torah scrolls and dancing around the Holy Ark. The people's love for their soldiers, their adored heroes became the essence of the flag's look.



Figure 5

*Editor's note: Immediately following Sukkot, we celebrate Sh'mini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, a fun-filled day during which we celebrate the completion of the annual reading of the Torah and affirm Torah as one of the pillars on which we build our lives. As part of the celebration, the Torah scrolls are taken from the ark and carried or danced around the synagogue seven times. During the Torah service, the concluding section of the fifth book of the Torah, D'varim (Deuteronomy), is read, and immediately following, the opening section of Genesis, or B'reishit as it is called in Hebrew, is read. This practice represents the cyclical nature of the relationship between the Jewish people and the reading of the Torah, ■*

# SIP NEWS

## President's column



Hi everyone. I hope you are all enjoying the Summer and are finding some time to enjoy your stamp collections!

New York World Philatelic Exhibition 2016

What a fantastic experience! Seeing old friends. Meeting new ones. The exhibits were well-done and a great pleasure to peruse. I want to thank everyone who attended our AGM, who gave talks about philately, who attended at our Society table and who patronized the dealers. Most of all thanks go to Don Chafetz, Becky Dean, Vicki Galecki, David Kaplin, Howard Chapman, Mike Bass and so many others.

Yacov Tsachor spoke on Fakes and Forgeries at our AGM. Gary Theodore, Howard Rotterdam and I spoke on other HolyLand subjects. For those of you who could not attend, we hope to see you in Chicago in 2017. You will also be able to buy copies of the book, which will contain copies of the Holy Land exhibits, from the SIP Educational Fund. I am so pumped about our Society and the future of philately.

## VOLUNTEERS

Since my last column, I have heard from some of who are willing to volunteer. Thank you. We need more of you!!

## MEMBERSHIP

Our society is the largest holy land philatelic organization in the world. We need to attract new members and ask everyone in the society to do his or her part during the year to try to bring in at least one new member. New York netted us 27 new members. That is so encouraging.

## FUNDRAISING

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to the fund raising campaign for 2016. Please continue to keep our society in mind if you wish to make a charitable donation.

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in our Society provides access to the award-winning journal, the Israel Philatelist, and discounts to acquire many books from our Educational Fund chaired by David Kaplin. Watch for various new forthcoming monographs. Our slide shows and library books are available to be lent. Check out the website.

The Society also has a worldwide network of members who are very knowledgeable about Holy Land and Judaica



## New Philatelic Issues

Stamp Name	Value
Nehama Pohatchevsky, Zelda	2.30 NIS
Ephraim Kishon	11.70 NIS
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- Spring	4.10 NIS
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4 stamps in the series	
Israeli Achievements - Digital Prepress	2.30 NIS
Israeli Achievements - Digital Printing	8.30 NIS
Knesset Building, Jerusalem Jubilee	2.30 NIS
4 stamps in the series	
Israel - Spain Joint Issue	7.40 NIS
Markets in Israel	4.10 NIS (each)
3 stamps in the series	

philately. Contact us if you are looking for info when doing research. Perhaps we will be able to direct you as needed.

## DICKSTEIN AND REGGEL AWARDS

Our Society gives out awards annually for certain contributions made by our members. My congratulations to Yacov Tsachor who rightfully deserved the Leslie Reggel Award for outstanding contributions to Holy Land philately. Issue Baum is to be congratulated for the Dickstein award given to the most deserving contributions to **The Israel Philatelist**, our award winning journal. Both awards are given annually and the winners are determined by a committee process.

All the best,  
Regards Ed ■



**BERKSHIRE HILLS**

Rabbi Harold I. Salzmann

Program: **Philatelic Journeys**

Dr. Kolodny Travelogue

Chapter meets November 1 at Markovits Stamp House 1 Shamrock St., Stockbridge, MA, at 10:30 am. ■

**BROOKLYN SIP CHAPTER**

First Sunday every month

9:00-11:00 a.m.

435 Neptune Ave.,

Room 2b,

Brighton Beach area, Brooklyn

**CENTRAL, NJ**

Gary Theodore

Program: Errors, Freaks and Oddities Chapter meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at 8 p.m. at the Congregation B'nai Tikvah, 1001 Finnegan's Lane, North Brunswick, NJ, ■

**CHICAGOLAND IPPSA**

Program

Forerunner Foreign Destinations  
Presented by Bob Pildes

Chapter meets the 4th Thursday of the month (except November to March) at Lincolnwood Public Library, 4000 W. Pratt Ave., Lincolnwood, IL at 7:15 p.m. For more information write Bob Pildes, 1319 Ridge Avenue Evanston, IL. ■

**CLEVELAND**

Howard Chapman

The chapter meets the first Wednesday evening of each month (except August, January and February) at a member's house at 7:30 p.m. Call 1-440-735-6140 for details. ■

**MARVIN SIEGEL CHAPTER**

Alan Doberman

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

**SAN FRANCISCO****BAY AREA**

Ed Rosen

**SOUTH FLORIDA**

Howard Rotterdam

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

**AFFILIATED CHAPTERS****JOHANNESBURG**

Brian Gruzdl

Programs:

Dec 1 - Latkes and Schnapps

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

**AFFILIATED STUDY GROUP****J.N.F. STUDY CIRCLE**

Howard S. Chapman ■

**PALESTINE STUDY GROUP**

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