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Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

By the time you read this note, the New York 2016 International Stamp Show at the Javits Convention Center will be about ready to open. The Society of Israel Philatelists has a number of activities planned for the show. The details on the Holy Land exhibits, Lectures and meetings can be found on pages 30 - 31 of this issue. I hope many of our members will be able to attend this once in 10 years International show.

If you do attend, please stop by the SIP No. 1274 and say hello. Becky Dean, Vicki Galecki and I will be at the booth and we would very much like to meet and greet as many visitors as possible.

While on the exhibit floor make sure to stop and view the SIP one frame exhibit. The frame features a number of different collecting areas with material provided by 6 different collectors. Much of the artwork was created or reworked by our graphic designer Irv Osterer. Irv also created the beautiful cover for this issue.

If you have time, on Sunday May 29 starting at 4 pm I will give a lecture on **How to be a Published Author**. If you have ever thought about writing an article and were unsure on how to have it published, this lecture is for you. There should be time at the end of the talk for questions and answers. I am always in need of articles for the journal so here is the opportunity to learn how be published! Hope to be able to meet and greet many of you at the show.

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Guest editorial by Sid Morginstin

IT'S WHAT I (USUALLY ALONE) THINK ABOUT ISRAEL COLLECTIONS

As you may know, I run the **NEGEV HOLYLAND AUCTION**. This deals in the stamps and postal history of pre-1948 Palestine, Israel, some Arabic, and selected Judaica.

Very often I am offered collections of Israel mint tabs and/or First Day Covers. The person showing these collections to me is usually either a senior citizen or a son/daughter selling his/her father's collection.

I give the collection a very fast run thru. I then ask if there is someone in the family who might want the collection. Invariably, the answer from the senior citizen is that his/her children or grandchildren are not at all interested. The son/daughter states that they just want the money.

I then go into my explanation. It is prefaced with "Please

do not shoot the messenger." The following is an expanded version.

When Israel was established in 1948, many American Jews felt that the easiest way to support Israel was to buy its stamps. They did not do this as an investment. Now that they are elderly or have passed on, many of these collections are coming onto the market.

The stamp market is governed by the rules of supply and demand, but heavily skewed to demand. For example, I am sure that you have heard of the United States upside down airmail stamp. There are just 100 and many collectors want one. One recently sold for about \$200,000. There are other stamps where less than 5 are known to exist. Their value is very low as there are very few collectors interested in them.

We now have an over saturated market for Israeli material. There are some "better" Israeli items that do sell. These include mint tabs from 1948 thru 1951 and about from 1988 to date. Early First Day Covers with full tabs are also good (but we need to be careful of fraudulent items). Nearly all items from 1951 to about 1988 are practically worthless.

Some years ago, I had to handle an estate of a doctor. Instead of buying 2 or 3 or even 5 of a stamp, he bought 50 or more. For some items he bought hundreds. I told his son that he would be lucky to get 10 cents on the dollar of what his father spent. I got him about 12 to 13 cents.

Even on the "better" items the price is down. When I was growing up I told my father that for my birthday I wanted either a set of Israel 7 thru 9 or nothing. My father listened to me – and bought me NOTHING. I am glad that he did that. At the time, a set cost about \$6,000 to \$7,000. I can now buy a set for about \$3,000 to \$4,000.

Nearly every United States stamp issued since the Civil War is still good for postage. However, it may be foolish to use some of them. Since 1948 Israel has had 5 or 6 currency changes. All existing stamps were devalued and cannot be used for postage. Only stamps from 1988 onwards can be used for postage. However, these are often sold at a deep discount from face value.

We can go over to some dealers and buy United States discount postage. That is, for \$500 you will get about \$600 worth of postage. Yes, instead of one 49 cent stamp you will have to use 3 or 4 stamps to get to 49 cents.

At this point the person is somewhat discouraged. To be nice, I look through the collection again and point out the better items. If there is something that I can use – and that is not often, I make a fair offer.

I also ask him/her if there is any synagogue or youth group who might want the collection. I also suggest that they contact another auction house (I mention 2 that I have dealt with) stating that they might do better there as those houses are better equipped to handle collections. ■

Letters to the Editor

Hi Don,

After reading the excellent article on the *Palestine Mandate One Pound Pictorial Stamp of 1942* by Ed Kroft in *The Israel Philatelist* Fall 2015 issue, I reviewed the “one pounders” in my collection.

The one-pound value sheet is comprised of two panes of one hundred stamps each (ten vertical rows of ten stamps) (Figure 1). Separating the panes is a gutter (Figure 2).



Figure 2
Sheet number 1758
Sheet position 10
Guillotine cut of gutter on right side

Each gutter is the size of a stamp. Each pane was perforated separately. This created encroachment of extra perforations and misalignment of perforations. Review of my blocks and singles with gutters attached showed that no full gutter was seen. All pieces had attached gutter portions that appear to be guillotine cut. Missing from my Pictorial Issue gutter block and gutter pair collections is the one pounder.

The Pictorial Issue stamps were printed in England by Messrs. Harrison & Sons Ltd. and shipped to the General Post Office in Jerusalem for distribution to the post offices in Palestine. Affixed to each sheet of stamps was a sheet number that was placed atop position twenty; the last stamp on the top row of the sheet (Figure 3).



Figure 3
Sheet number 0114
Sheet position 20
Showing selva margins

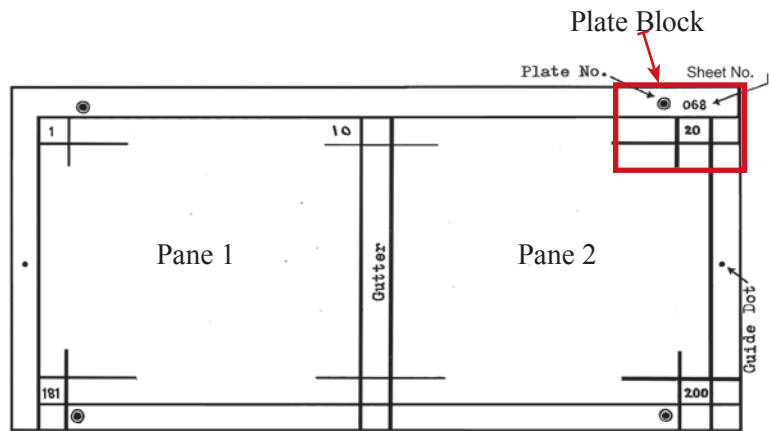


Figure 1

Reviewing blocks of four of the one pounder in my collection, I noticed several sheet numbers were placed over the tenth position on the sheet. All of these blocks had a gutter portion attached.

The Norman J. Collins monograph of *The Crown Agents Requisition Books* states that printings of the one pounder were dispatched on January 9, 1941 and July 10, 1941 in sheet quantities of 1,372 and 1,250, respectively. On pane two, all sheet numbers above the plate block at position 20 started at number one for each printing. The sheet numbers on the plate blocks in my collection are no higher than the sheet numbers recorded in the Collins monograph. On pane one at position 10, the sheet numbers recorded on the blocks with a gutter portions attached do not exceed two times the amount of sheets dispatched.

Based upon the above comments, it is my assumption that a continuum of numbers was placed on the left panes of the sheets. The numbers type that was used appears to be identical. Therefore, it is probable that the panes were separated in England. I have no knowledge of entire one pound sheets, nor of gutter blocks or pairs. An immediate lesser value of 500 mils is known in gutter blocks and gutter pairs.

Any knowledge of full one pound sheets, gutter blocks and gutter pairs would be appreciated.

Irwin Math, Princeton Junction, NJ ■

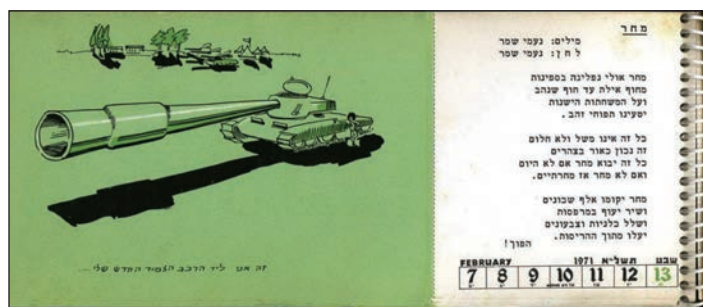
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Dear Mr. Chafetz,

Since publication of *Israel and Forerunner Military Postal Stationery in 2002*, many cards not originally included have come to my attention, and I have been assembling them for a supplement to be published by the SIP.

In response to Lawrence Katz in a recent *Israel Philatelist*, (Summer 2015, page 5) asked the membership to send me copies or scans of cards from all periods that I can include in the update. Acknowledgment will be made of any new card added. Please email me if you need my regular mailing address.

So far, several members of the SIP have been very generous in providing me scans. I have found many Pre-State cards, most from the World War II years, and I would like to make this section as complete as possible.



Another section that is begging for completion is the joke cards provided by Bank HaPo'alim. They comprise #464-#513 in my book. These were issued every six months between 1970 and 1977 and came spiral bound and attached to a tag with a poem. Mr. Ben Wallace has sent me scans of many such cards not found in my book (one is illustrated above with the soldier bragging about his "new set of wheels", with the tag comprising a poem by the famous songwriter Naomi Shemer called "Tomorrow"), and anyone with such cards, and especially those with intact card booklet pages is encouraged to contact me

Thank you
David M. Dubin, M.D.
dubin5@aol.com ■

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Hi

The Holocaust Stamps Project now has its own slide show presentation, recently posted on-line through vimeo. Thanks, in advance, if you can take the time to watch (about 9 minutes total) (foxboroughrcs.org/students-families/frcs-holocaust-stamp-project/).



My pride about the Holocaust Stamps Project is showing! The year it began in my classroom (2009-2010) the students counted almost 25,000 donated stamps. As of February 23, 2016, the collection has 6,946,089 stamps, about 63% of the 11 million stamps goal. Eleven stamps collages have been completed and three more are in-progress. Please note:

Unfortunately the website URL did not process well in the show. Feedback on the video or project is welcomed Please feel free to share the web site far and wide!!!

Charlotte Sheer
charlotte.sheer@verizon.net, <https://vimeo.com/158579929> ■

o - o - o - o

Dear Sid, Dear Don,

In **The Israel Philatelist** of March, 2016, vol. LXVII, No.1, you gave a book review of the book **Palestine Stamps 1865-1981**. As you wrote all is written from the Arab side.

I can recommend another book about this subject. It is called **Palestinian History in Postage Stamps**, 2012 2nd edition, 495 pages of stamp information on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The author, Nader Khairiddine Abuljebain, lives at the moment in Qatar and is working on a 3rd edition.

Enclosed more information about the book and the publisher, The Institute for Palestine Studies in Beirut, Lebanon.

It is the same organization that produced the propaganda stamps of the 1927 Mandate stamps, issued in 1987 as **Palestine Intifada labels**. You see them often on E-bay.

Best regards,
Bart Belonje, Netherlands ■

o - o - o - o



Dear Mr. Chafetz

I'm writing to you since I am in need of help. I specialize in collecting Shai covers and Shai material in general. After having collected several hundred Shai covers, I am currently attempting to mount and describe each one. I am attaching a picture of a cover with a Shai cancellation that reads in Hebrew "Shai – Keren HaKayemet LeIsrael (the Hebrew equivalent of: Gift – JNF). There are 2 versions of the Shai design, this short one with the horizontal writing and the same design with vertical writing. On different covers, the cancellations appear in pink, red or blue color ink.

After much research in the US and the JNF in Israel, I have discovered that these particular Shai designs were not issued

continued on page 6

BOOK REVIEW

Dr. Stephen Rothman, Beverly Hills, CA

The book is 549 pages of the history of Israel's independence, told through the eye of the postal historian. It was published by the Israel Philatelic Federation as a project of the Society of the Postal History of Eretz-Israel. It is a "free copyright" which allows open access to all the material in the book

Background

The story begins with a review of the historical and Political background leading up to Israel's Independence. It then describes the unofficial postal links between Israel and the outside world. Following this is a short review of the stamps in use during this period. These are demonstrated by beautifully illustrated covers. A complete list of the interim stamps is included in an appendix. A brief description of the types of postmarks in use during the period as well as the different usages of the postmarks follows.

Postal rates

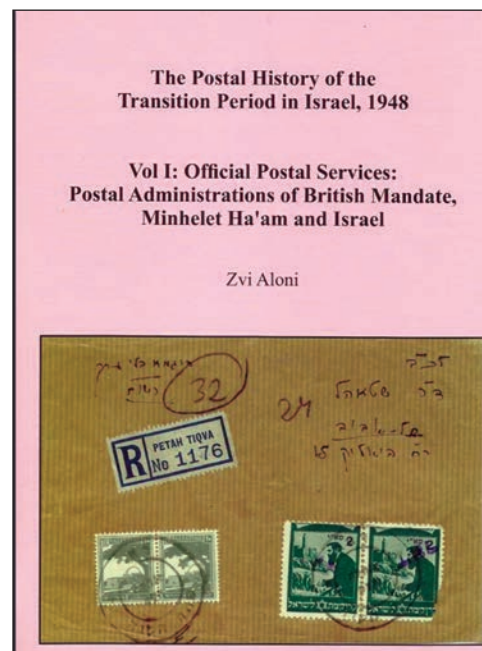
The postal rates during the period are broken down by mail type and demonstrated with interesting examples. Following this are chapters on official mail, taxed mail, and airmail to foreign destinations as well as a detailed discussion of local air mail service.

Post offices

The largest portion of the book by far is the section on the 80 cities and towns that had post offices at the end of the British Mandate. Beginning with Afula and ending with Zichron Yaakov each town is briefly described and illustrated with a contemporaneous photograph. Cities with more than one post office are described in greater detail. Interesting and elegant examples are presented for each town including the great rarities of the period.

CTOs, fakes, forgeries

The book concludes with a discussion of canceled to order philatelic material which is described in nonjudgmental terms. Fakes and forgeries are covered in great detail in the last long chapter of the book.



Conclusion

This book is a wonderful review of the period. It is suitable for the novice and the advanced collector. Its organization is logical and flows smoothly. It is beautifully printed. The illustrations are of very high quality. Classic covers have been reproduced from the greatest collections of our time. It has but one flaw and that flaw is significant. The manuscript needed a heavy literary edit by a native English speaker to remove the Israeli syntax and sentence construction. I had to read some of the sentences twice to fully understand what was being stated. With that said, it was really worth the effort. The book is an interesting historical book and an indispensable philatelic reference.

The book is available from the SIP Educational Fund for \$82,00.■

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continued from page 5

by the Israel JNF, though I have unable to find out anything further. I am most interested in finding out if anyone knows the origin of these cancellations, the organization that might have issued them and its location, and the time period during which the cancellations were used.

I would appreciate any information that any of your readers might be able to supply. I can be contacted by email at: Bendicoff@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Chaim Bendicoff, Baltimore, MD ■

כל ישראל חברים

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MAY 28 – JUNE 4, 2016

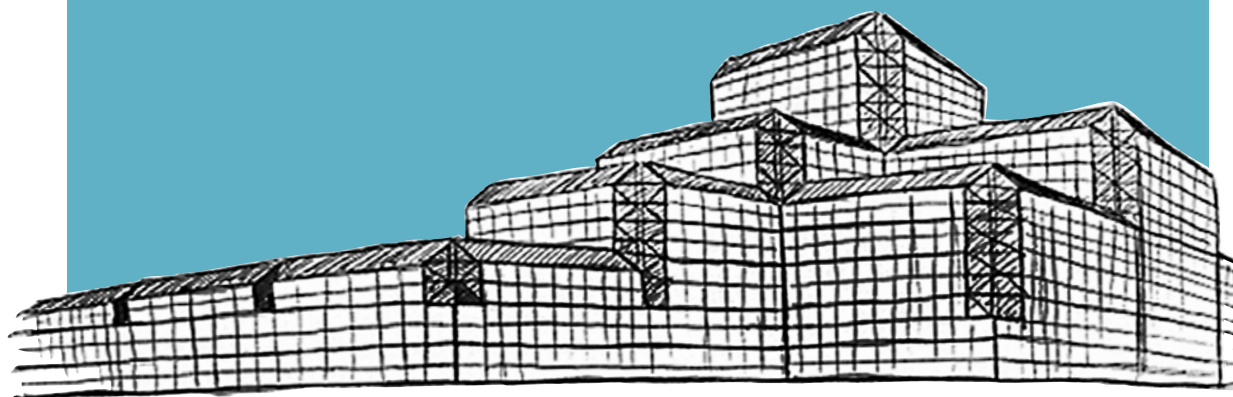
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Wednesday, June 1	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday, June 2	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday, June 3	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, June 4	10:00 am - 3:00 pm

World Stamp Show



SIP MEETINGS

SUNDAY, MAY 29

10:00 - 11:00 am	<i>SIP General Membership Meeting</i> Room 1E07
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	<i>Postal Rates, Postmarks and Stamps of Three Governments in the Holy Land During 1948</i> Room 1E09
1:00 - 2:00 pm	<i>Introduction to the Stamps of Palestine Under the British Mandate</i> Room 1E11

MONDAY, MAY 30

1:00 - 2:00 pm	<i>Holy Land Postage Dues 1900–1970</i> Room 1E07
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Contact SIP chair, Don Chafetz at sipeditor@gmail.com for more details.

Discover more about World Stamp Show-NY 2016 at www.ny2016.org



Commercial Usage of the 500 mils Stamp of 1942

Ed Kroft, Vancouver, Canada

The Fall 2015 issue of **The Israel Philatelist** (Vol LXVI number 4, pp. 6 - 9) contained my article on the commercial usage of the one Pound stamp. I was pleased to receive compliments and positive feedback on the piece. Consequently, I decided to write about the equally elusive comrade of the one Pound stamp, the scarlet 500 mils (Figure 1) which also depicts the view of the city of Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee (Lake Kinnerett). Both articles should be read in tandem as the first article also contains examples of usages of the 500 mils (both FDC and commercial).

STAMP HISTORY

Only 629,000 copies of the 500 mils stamp were printed on white wove paper, less than 100,000 more than the one pound stamp. Both stamps were issued on January 15, 1942 and were perforated 14x14.

TYPICAL USAGE

The most typical commercial usage of the 500 mils stamp was on airmail, often to the United States. The stamp was introduced to pay for higher postal rates necessitated by increased airmail rates. These rates increased by virtue of the entry of Italy and Japan into World War II. This in turn



Figure 1

prompted airmail to travel from Palestine throughout Asia and across the Pacific Ocean or alternatively, by January 15, 1942, across Africa and the Atlantic Ocean. Between 1942 and 1948, mail could travel by air and surface or by air throughout. Airmail service throughout the route was more expensive, particularly as distances increased.

After World War II, heavy parcels and heavy commercial airmail attracted higher postage, even though airmail rates were generally on the decline. Higher postage is evident on registered entires (whether insured or not), large commercial envelopes and parcel cards.

SCOPE OF THE ARTICLE

This article about the 500 mils stamp shows letters, entires and a parcel card to various destinations. Although mail to the United States is most common and is shown below, the article also depicts mail to Great Britain, Canada and France. Once again, I welcome my fellow collectors to share other examples of commercial usages of the 500 mils with the readership.

A registered letter sent by air from Tel Aviv to London. Postmarked March 13, 1942, with transit markings of Jerusalem (April 4, 1942), Washington (April 23, 1942), and New York (April 24, 1942).

Letter likely sent to the United Kingdom (UK) from Lagos Nigeria via PanAm FAM 18 service to Lisbon and then via BOAC to London. BOAC service from Palestine to Lagos. Palestine and UK censorship labels.



Figure 2

Postage Fee - Total weight 30 grams	
Basic postage 140 mils/5gr	140 mils
Additional weight 140 mils x 5	700 mils
Registration	15 mils
Total fee	855 mils

An airmail letter postmarked April 14, 1943 in Tel Aviv to London. Palestine and UK Censorship labels



Figure 4

Postage Fee	
Basic postage 135 mils/5gr	135 mils
Additional weight 135 mils x 5	675 mils
Total fee	810 mils



Figure 3

Postage Fee - Total weight 30 grams	
Basic postage 100 mils/5gr	100 mils
Additional weight 100 mils x 4	400 mils
Express	25 mils
Registration	15 mils
Total fee	540 mils

A registered entire sent by express airmail service by the Palestine Corporation Ltd. to New York. The letter was registered and postmarked in Tel Aviv on February 10, 1943. United States customs service fee of 10 cents paid and covered by red sealing wax. Palestine Censorship marking on front of cover. Transit markings of Miami and New York dated March 10, 1943.



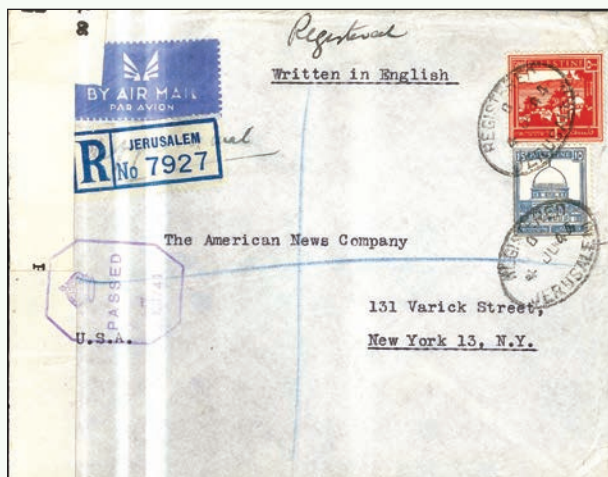


Figure 5

Postage Fee - Total weight 30 grams
 Basic postage 100 mils/5gr 100 mils
 Additional weight 100 mils x 4 400 mils
 Registration 15 mils
 Total fee 515 mils

A registered letter sent by air from Jerusalem to New York. Postmarked July 4, 1944. Transit markings of Miami (July 7) and New York (July 7, 8 and 11). BOAC flight via West Africa and Brazil to Miami. Censorship marks and label/tape.



Figure 6

Postage Fee - Total weight 30 grams
 Basic postage 100 mils/5gr 100 mils
 Additional weight 100 mils x 4 400 mils
 Registration 15 mils
 Overfranked 20 mils
 Total fee 535 mils

A registered letter sent by air from Tel Aviv to Larchmont, New York. Postmarked April 19, 1945. Transit markings of Miami (May 7) and New York (May 9). BOAC flight via West Africa and Brazil to Miami. Censorship marks and label/tape.

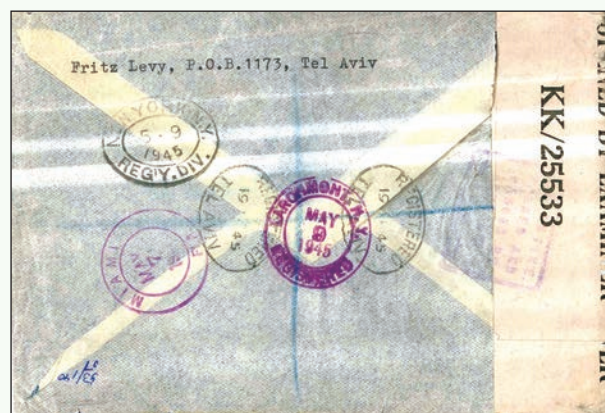




Figure 7

Postage Fee - Total weight 44.4 grams	
Basic postage 125 mils/10gr	125 mils
Additional weight 100 mils x 4	500 mils
Express	40 mils
Registration	<u>15 mils</u>
Total fee	680 mils

Pencil notation of 44.4 grams confirms the rate paid.

A registered entire sent by air from Tel Aviv to New York. Postmarked July 13, 1945. Customs cachet requires payment of 10 cents.

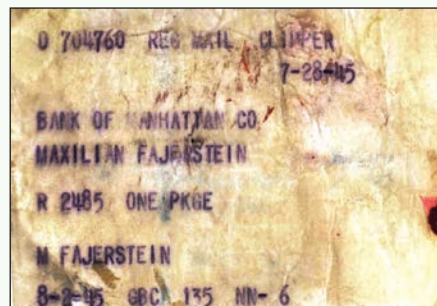


Figure 7a

Onion-skin label was glued upside down to the back of the entire. It was left-of-center, covering the 50 and 15 mils stamps. Residual wax helps to show its original position. This appears to be a Customs Service device, not a label added by the Postal Service.

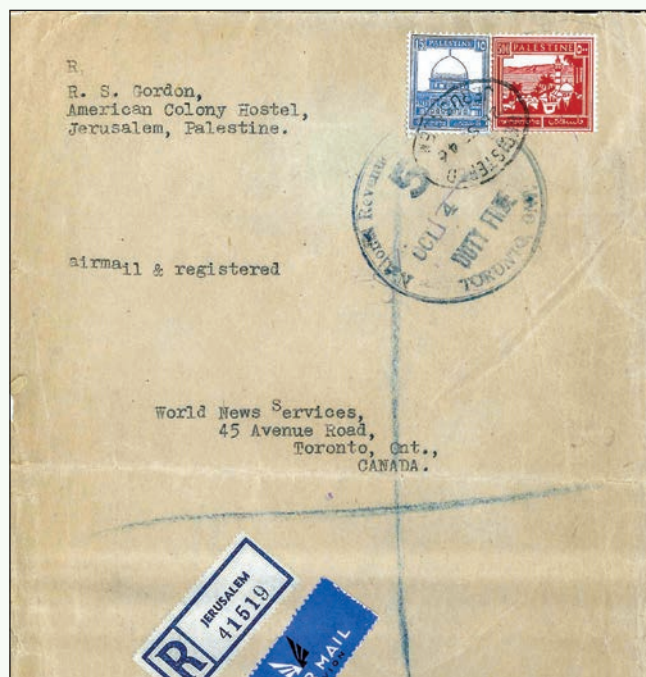


Figure 8
Postage Fee

Basic postage 125 mils/10gr	125 mils
Additional weight 100 mils x 4	375 mils
Registration	<u>15 mils</u>
Total fee	515 mils

A registered envelope from Jerusalem to Toronto Canada. Postmarked September 28, 1946. Transit marking of New York on October 3 and arrival duty free in Toronto on October 4. BOAC air throughout.

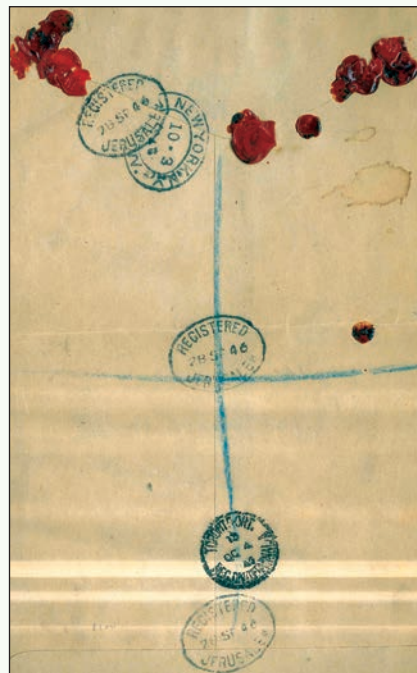


Figure 8a

A parcel card sent from Jerusalem to Chicago postmarked August 4, 1946. Pinholes from attachment of customs form evident in top left corner.



Figure 9

Postage Fee - Total weight 6 kg, 300 grams
Postage 925 mils

A registered envelope sent from the Palestine Brewery Limited in Rishon Le Tsyion to Paris France. Postmarked October 21, 1947. Air France or BOAC throughout.



Figure 10

Postage Fee

Basic postage 35 mils/10gr	35 mils
Additional weight 35 mils x 16	560 mils
Registration	15 mils
Total fee	610 mils ■

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Lisbon

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

As the lights went out in cities throughout Europe and England in World War II, an anomaly would remain until the end of the conflict- “The City of Light”- Lisbon, Portugal. Lapped by the easternmost tip of the Atlantic Ocean on the Iberian Peninsula, this previously backwater metropolis would become a way station for refugees from Nazi oppression, as well as the home for spies, profiteers, corrupt public officials and bankers, prostitutes and diplomatic corps and secret services from all of the actors in the world conflict.

This teaming mass of disparate entities would literally share tables at restaurants, attend the same government parties, and surreptitiously obtain information or make money off of the needs of the belligerent parties to the war or from those desperate to escape. It is from this distillation of the war’s detritus that we present an incredibly rare look into the postal history intrigue that made up a major line of communication for the involved individuals and governments. Through a treasure trove of mailings from occupied Poland to Lisbon and then beyond, we invite you to witness the world of spy mail and intrigue that was Lisbon during World War II.

That must be the first question to be addressed in order to appreciate the machinations that existed. Portugal had been ruled by the autocratic, nationalistic, right-wing dictator,



Figure 1

Antonio de Oliveira Salazar and map of Portugal
<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Iberian+Peninsula/@40.4369792,-11.6973331,5z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0xd69d53cee2b5e97:0xbffbf7e d27eca70>

Antonio de Oliveira Salazar (Figure 1), since his assuming power in 1932. The army had previously taken control of Portugal in a coup d'état in 1926, ousting the 16 year republic that had removed the previous monarchy in 1910.

Salazar, an economist by profession, had initially declined the premiership of the new government and instead became Minister of Economics. By 1932, with his credibility apparent and few interested in becoming premier during difficult economic times, he assumed the position of Premier of Portugal, albeit as an autocratic ruler of the country.

In contrast to those sinister dictators of the time, Hitler and Stalin, and the outrageous Mussolini, Salazar was considered a benevolent dictator by his 7.7 million citizens, and fought to maintain a balancing act of neutrality in his relations with Britain, Germany and Spain despite political pressures applied by each of the war's belligerents. Without exaggeration, one wrong step by Salazar could at any moment have resulted in invasion by one or the other of the parties; and, let there be no misunderstanding, each of these nations had military plans for just such an undertaking were they to believe the balance of power on the Iberian peninsula to be turning against them.

NEUTRAL PORTUGAL

Salazar's fellow fascist dictator on the Iberian Peninsula, Spain's Francisco Franco, had come out on top in the Spanish Civil War thanks to the assistance of the German Condor Legion and to Portugal's support for the Royalist movement; and, Franco was indebted to the Nazis to the point of almost throwing in his lot with the Axis powers in World War II.

Salazar, despite his assistance in the Spanish civil war was nevertheless wary of Franco, for fear of being inadvertently pulled into the conflict on the Axis's side. He surmised that his country would potentially be among the first to face invasion by the Allies should he side with the Axis. Portugal escaped that fate when Franco got cold feet and avoided direct union with the Axis, albeit while still maintaining close ties with Germany. Hitler was too preoccupied elsewhere at the time to protest Spain's inaction with an invasion of Spain— an undertaking that would have been a walkover had he pursued it. A similar fate would have assuredly awaited neighboring Portugal with its extensive natural resources had an invasion of Spain taken place.

WHY LISBON?

With Portugal's neutrality thus established, and particularly, with Salazar's acquiescence, both Allied and Axis powers took advantage of Lisbon's neutrality and location in Western Europe to put eyes and ears on the ground in order to surreptitiously obtain vital information on the actions of their respective enemy. And for those escaping the Nazi maw

Lisbon would be described as the "Big Casablanca." For it was from Lisbon that a small number of fortunate refugees could make their way to safety on steamships to England or the Americas, and for the very wealthy, by Pan Am Clipper or British flying boat to safe haven

Salazar's actions were anything but pure beneficence. The nation would benefit immensely from the sale of Portuguese sugar, tobacco, and the mineral tungsten to all comers. Tungsten, mined in great quantity in Portugal, was critical for hardening steel in the making of armor plate that could withstand hits by explosive shells, and in the making of armor-penetrating bullets.

He

surmised that

his country would

potentially be among the

first to face invasion by

the Allies should he

side with the Axis.

TREATY OF WINDSOR

Intriguingly, while unequivocally demonstrating Fascist leanings, Salazar nevertheless, respected the ancient Treaty of Windsor, signed in 1386 between Portugal and England- the oldest alliance in the world and still in force to this day. His decision to stick with the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance would permit him to acquiesce to the British evacuation of 2,000 Gibraltarians to Madeira in 1940 when Gibraltar faced possible invasion by both Germany and Spain. The treaty also allowed Salazar to lease an island in the Azores to the British, on which RAF bases were constructed and together with subsequent United States collaboration, to wage a successful war on German U-boats in the Atlantic.

CAT AND MOUSE

With this as background information, we now draw the curtain on the fascinating postal history material that will shed further light on "The City of Intrigue"- Lisbon. We will subsequently conclude with a reprise of our protagonist,



Figure 2

The General Government territory represented the partitioned central area of Poland following the German invasion of September, 1939. By September 29, 1939 Poland had been partitioned into a western area incorporated into Germany, an eastern area incorporated into Russia as predetermined by the two countries, and a central area of self administration known as the General Government, albeit under ultimate control of the Germans. (<http://www.scrapbookpages.com/AuschwitzScrapbook/History/Articles/Birkenau01.html>).

Antonio de Oliveira Salazar, hero or villain. Was he sympathetic to Germany, pragmatist par excellence, or both? But first, let us enter the philatelic world of censors, undercover and accommodation addresses, and invisible ink messages- the cat and mouse game that would be played out between those desiring to get their messages to the outside world and those intent on thwarting the attempt- the world of spy mail.

We begin with a quite rare postcard (**Figure 3**) sent by registered mail from Warsaw, Poland to Lisbon, Portugal on June 26, 1942. The posting includes a 30 groschen and 60 groschen General Government stamp paying the cost of mailing a postcard by registered mail on an international route.

A German censor's imprint is located above the registration stamp on the left (1). The receiving address in Lisbon, Firma Casa Macan (2), was a famous Lisbon spy drop box. The various pencil marks in both red and black (3) indicate that the card was then forwarded on to the Polish administration in London. The rectangular red imprint at the lower center of the card containing the numbers 2183 (4) is a British censor stamp, confirming that this card was indeed forwarded from Lisbon to London where the censor's review took place. The reverse of the card contains a message offering thanks for packages received. An octagonal Lisbon reposting stamp dated July 8, 1942 is present on the obverse as well.

SPY HOTEL

One might at first glance wonder at the transfer of this card, containing a quite benign message, being nevertheless forwarded to Britain, but it must be recalled that neutral Portugal, and Lisbon in particular, was one of the only remaining places in Europe where the belligerents were literally side by side attempting to obtain whatever fragments of information about the adversary that could then be put to use in confounding them, or to making sense of the status of citizens in the occupied lands and their well-being or lack of it.

For example, the glamorous Hotel Palacio in Estoril, just outside Lisbon, (**Figure. 4**) was the temporary home for a number of the more fortunate, wealthy Jewish refugees from Europe who had escaped from German occupied countries by either entering Spain from southern France and then entering Portugal via train, or having reached Casablanca in French Morocco and making their way to Portugal by air or sea. While these refugees sunbathed they were at the same time under the watchful eyes of Gestapo agents, whose demeanor and accents made them anything if not obvious to all parties. The hotel was full of spies representing all of the war's belligerents.

For the allies to obtain any information from the occupation of central Poland- the General Government territory- was quite challenging if not almost impossible. Thus the mailings from that area arriving in Lisbon were sought after for potential intelligence information. **Figure 5** is an extremely

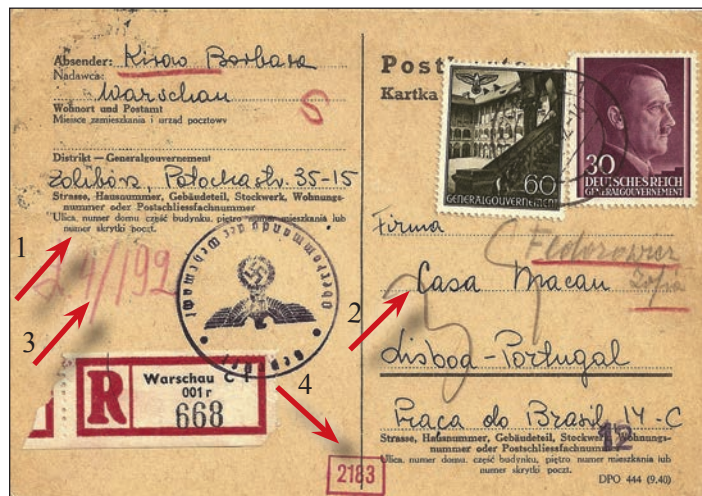


Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

rare, superb postcard sent by registered mail from Warsaw, Poland to Lisbon, Portugal on October 19, 1940. Note the blue manuscript “Luftpost” (1) used to indicate that the airmail fee of 20 groschen has been paid. The General Government stamps include a 50 groschen German eagle and swastika overprint in black on a Polish 1937 series stamp (Scott N32), together with a General Government 60 groschen stamp. A prominent German circular Wehrmacht censor stamp is in the center of the card (2).

The card was then reposted in Lisbon on November 22, 1940 (3) and sent to the United Kingdom as evidenced by the British censor’s red, rectangular imprinted number in the lower right of the card (4). The message on the obverse is in Polish and relates ostensibly to family matters. Certainly, on the surface not a treasure trove of intelligence, but then again, as we will see shortly, the attempts at getting messages out of occupied Nazi lands would involve, among other measures of sending messages written with invisible ink or placed behind postage stamps, leading to German countermeasures to thwart such attempts.

Figure 6 reveals a 15 Pfennig President Hindenburg postal card posted by a Polish resident of Posen (Poznan) on February 2, 1944 to an accommodation address of the American Polish Relief Council in Lisbon, Portugal, as evident by the Council’s red stamped rectangular imprint on the left of the card (1). Posen was in the western part of Poland in the territory directly annexed into the German Reich, thus accounting for the use of German postage, in contrast to General Government postage used in the central Polish territory. A circular Wehrmacht censor imprint is present (2) and a prominent blue diagonal German test mark for invisible writing (3) has been made across the front of the card.

Two British censor imprints are located in the lower left corner (4). A Lisbon reposting mark is stamped adjacent to the German postage cancellation (5). The message in German on the obverse thanks the receiver for packages received in good order, and states that the sender is in good health and that things are going well for the individual.

These communications served as means of assuring that packages did arrive; yet, the likelihood of the receiver being in good health and not in danger was often not by any means the case. The Nazi’s were to cause the forceful immigration of 900,000 Poles, mainly Jews, from the areas of western Poland that had been directly incorporated into the German Reich into the General Government territory, where they could be isolated and eventually exterminated.

A postcard (**Figures 7, 8**) that was sent by airmail from Warsaw, Poland on February 23, 1944 to the same accommodation address of the American Polish Relief Council in Lisbon as in **Figure 6** again shows the large rectangular imprint of the Relief Council (1). Postage was paid with a 50 groschen, Adolf Hitler General Government stamp (Scott N91).

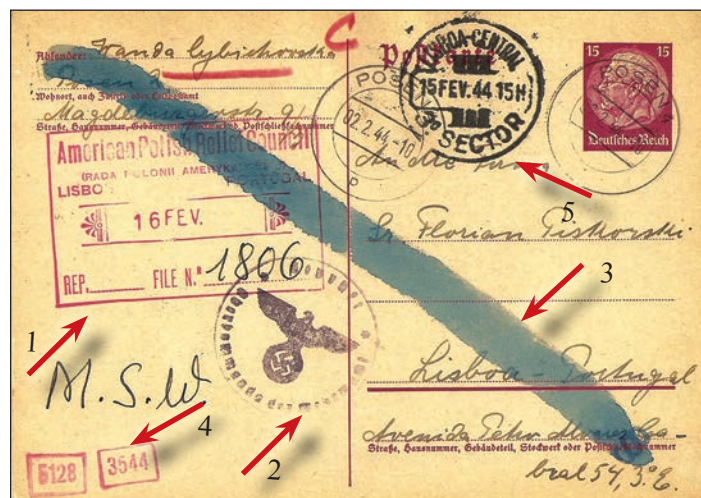


Figure 6



Figure 7

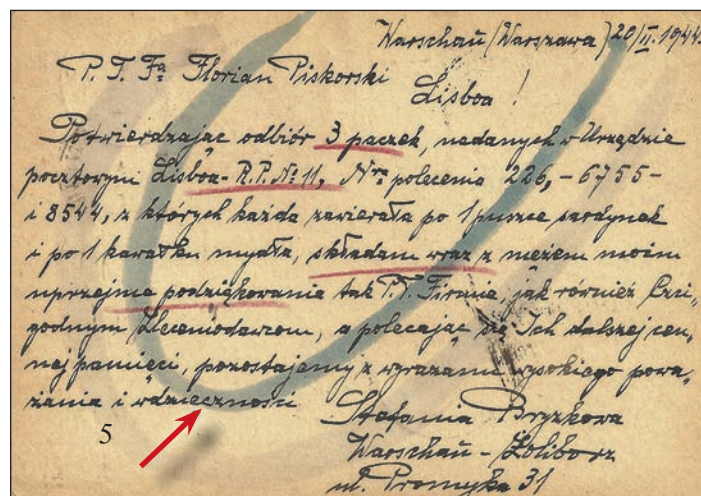


Figure 8

Note that the words “Deutsches Reich”- German Reich- were added to, and placed above the words “General Government” (2), the latter being present alone on earlier stamp issues immediately after conversion from overprinted Polish stamps to the initial general Government stamps in early 1940.

A German Wehrmacht censor imprint (3) and two British red rectangular censor imprints (4) are located in the lower left corner. The obverse of the card includes a message in Polish giving thanks for receipt of a food parcel. A large, circular German test mark for invisible writing (5) is prominently displayed on the reverse over the message.

THE CHILDREN

As previously mentioned, the Portuguese were willing to receive Jewish refugees with the understanding that they would be in transit out of the country within a reasonably short period of time. The sometimes-interminable wait for hoped-for visas to immigrate to the United States, Britain or Palestine was a nerve-racking and at times tragic experience.

Figure 8 shows Jewish refugee children who had been helped out of German occupied Europe by Jewish rescue groups based in Lisbon and would make their way to the United States. Many of these attempts to get Jewish children out of harms way failed due to bureaucratic delays and visa mix-ups.

PSEUDO ADDRESSES

The covers we now describe are noteworthy for one commonality amongst them- they are all addressed to pseudo addresses- undercover addresses with bland recipient names that in reality were cover for the Polish Red Cross in Lisbon, Portugal. These communications were then forwarded to England as evident by the imprint on the covers in the form of red rectangular boxes containing the censor’s number applied when the communication was examined on arrival in Great Britain.

One senses the palpable intrigue between adversaries in that it is assuredly evident to all the actors that the recurrent use of the Lisbon address at R. Alexandre Herculano, 41 2/c addressed most frequently to Mr. Josef Barecki, was more than coincidental. Each cover offers thanks for parcels received. Certainly the German censor’s test marks for invisible ink writings indicate that both sides knew how the game was to be played, and likely hoped that on a rare occasion, some meaningful information might be ascertained from the postings.

The intrigue was if anything not subtle. The engaging German ambassador, Baron Oswald von Hoyningen-Huene, closely shadowed the British ambassador, Sir Walford Selby, during dinners and cocktail parties with local business leaders and ambassadors of belligerent powers who rubbed elbows in neutral Portugal. How incongruous, this meeting



Figure 8



Figure 9a

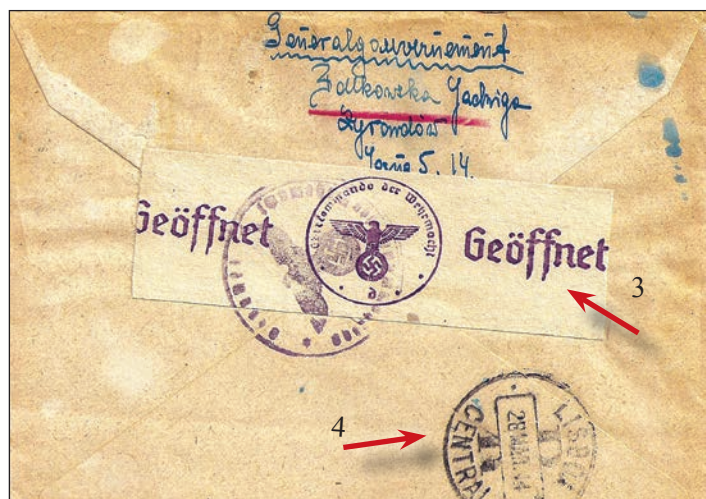


Figure 9b

of adversaries in these surroundings while Europe burned.

A registered letter (**Figures 9a, b**), unfortunately sans enclosure, sent on March 3, 1944 from Zyrardow, Poland, 30 miles southwest of Warsaw to the undercover address of the Polish Red Cross in Lisbon. A 50 groschen (Scott N91) and 60 groschen (Scott N92) Adolf Hitler General Government territory stamp paid the postage. The blue imprinted "Einschreiben" indicates registered mail (1). German (2) and British censor imprints are evident, and the cover also shows traces of the German test mark for invisible ink writing. The reverse includes German censor tape (3) stating that the mail was opened. A Lisbon receiving imprint is also evident on the obverse (4).

Lest one is left with the impression that these espionage activities were without serious repercussions in neutral Portugal, the danger to refugees who the Germans were intent on not allowing escaping meant that their status could be altered by the Portuguese Secret Police (PVDE). They might be prevented from obtaining visas, or were denied transport by ship or plane, and could then be deported back to pro-German Spain or to occupied France, falling into the hands of the Nazis. If the person was felt to be a political threat to the Germans, particularly if their notoriety would be a propaganda boost for the allies, the refugee might even be kidnapped with the assistance of a pro-German PVDE official. Rossio Square (Figure 10) was a location for refugees to speak in hushed tones, all the while being closely watched by the PVDE. Likewise, the square at night (Figure 11) was filled with refugees, spies and the Portuguese police doing their intricate dance while fooling no one

map <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Iberian+Peninsula/@40.4369792,-11.6973331,5z=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0xd69d53cee2b5e97:0xbffbf7ed27eca70>. ■

to be continued



Figure 10



Figure 11

CLASSIFIED ADS

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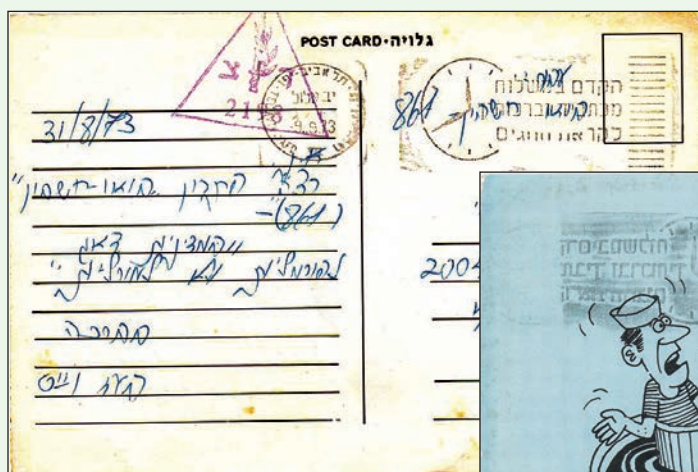
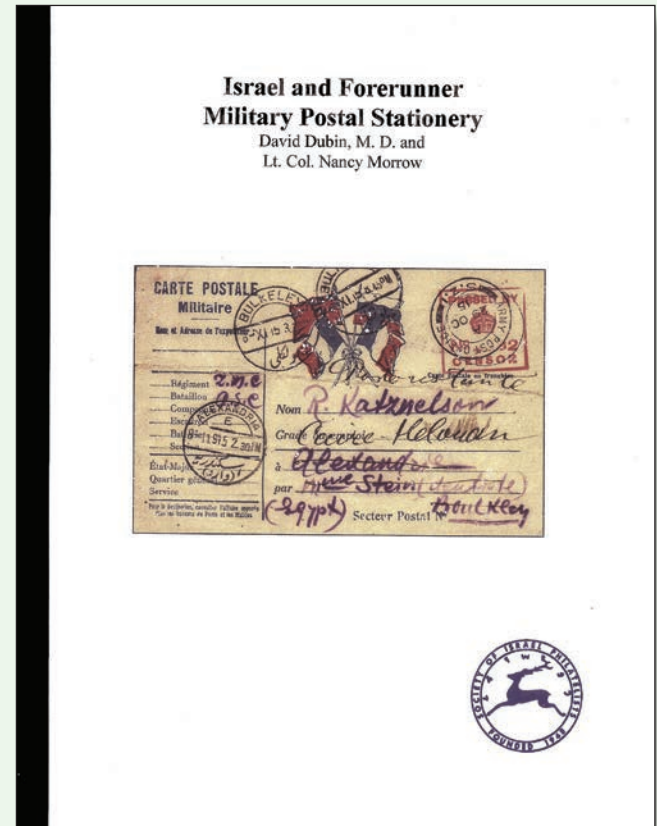
■ **WANTED**: for a new collection. Mail from the USA to the holy land. Interesting usages, routes rate etc. Prefer before 1936. Contact me or send photos to Slgrothman@aol.com. ■

Israel Military Postal Stationery

Lawrence Katz, Providence, RI

I have a copy of the **Military Postal Stationery** list that was published in 2002. I was wondering if **The Israel Philatelist** will ever run an update for items that were not included in the list, as I have acquired a few such items. I have attached scans.

If no one has printed an update, I hope the journal might ask for submissions of other items that were not listed so that an update might be assembled and published by the SIP.



Address side of the card



In the submarine we were sure we had arrived already at our base."



Front: I arrived in time,
thanks to your generosity!
Many thanks!



Reverse: 11 rules addressed to
hitchhiking soldiers, rather
than a location for an address.

The six military postcards are on one single sheet, ready to be separated into individual cards. I found the single sheet folded in half, so I made separate scans of the two sides. Three of the cards are 268, 269 and 270. The others are in the same style, but they are not listed in Dubin's book. All of them are signed by the artist Jackie.



card 1



card 2



card 3



card 4



card 5



card 6

Card 1 A good year of cultural
exchange.

Card 2 A good year of prosperity.

Card 3 A good year of tranquility.

Card 4 A good year where entry by
foreigners will be forbidden - stopped.

Card 5 A good year for lovers.

Card 6 A good year for population growth -
fertility. ■

A TALE OF TIME AND TIMELESSNESS

Harriet Epstein, Vienna, VA

How many gates to the Old City of Jerusalem are there now, and how many have there been during the course of Jerusalem's history?

HISTORY OF THE GATES

Neither part of this question is easy to answer. There are many distinct periods in the history of Jerusalem. The walls of the Old City have moved over time, and with them, the gates, as well.

The current walls were built under the orders of Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent in 1538. They range in height from 16 to 49 feet and are 10 feet thick. Today there are 43 surveillance towers and 11 gates, four of which are not open. But, of course, if we were able to count all the gates from all the previous walls, there would be many more.

One painting of Biblical Jerusalem shows three different walls and three gates - the **Susa Gate**, probably leading towards Persia, the **Beautiful Gate**, and the **Gate of Nicanor** (a common Greek name). At the time of the Crusaders there were only four gates to the City. To make matters even more confusing, most of the present gates have at least one or more Hebrew names and one or more Arabic names. The Hebrew word for gate is "sha'ar", and the Arabic word is "bab".

GATES ON STAMPS

Depictions of many of the gates of Jerusalem have appeared on stamps of Israel and also on Israel's paper money. In 1968, Israel issued a stamp showing the sculptures at the Lion's Gate in conjunction with its Tabira Philatelic Exhibition (Figure 1).



Figure 1

It subsequently issued large and small sets of four of the gates for the 1971 Independence Day issue and 4 more gates, in both sizes, for Independence Day 1972 (Figure 2). Foreign



Figure 3

countries have also featured on their stamps the Jerusalem Gates (Grenada Figure 3 and the Netherlands Antilles Figure 4).



Figure 4

CLOSED GATES

The Old City, an area of only 220 acres as enclosed by the present wall, is divided into four quarters - the Jewish Quarter in the SE (near the Temple Mount), the Moslem Quarter in the NE (the largest), the Christian Quarter in the NW, and the Armenian Quarter in the SW (the smallest).

Each of the present gates has its own fascinating history. First I will briefly cover three of the unopened gates known as the **Huldah Gates**, located on the southern wall at the Temple Mount. They once led to tunnels under the Temple Mount. They are the **Single** or **Excavation Gate** leading to Solomon's Stables, the **Double Gate** and the **Triple Gate** used to enter and exit the Temple compound. These gates were built during the Herodian period (40 - 4 BCE) and were used by pilgrims visiting the Second Temple until Crusader times.

“On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; all day and all night, they shall never be silent.” Isaiah 62.6

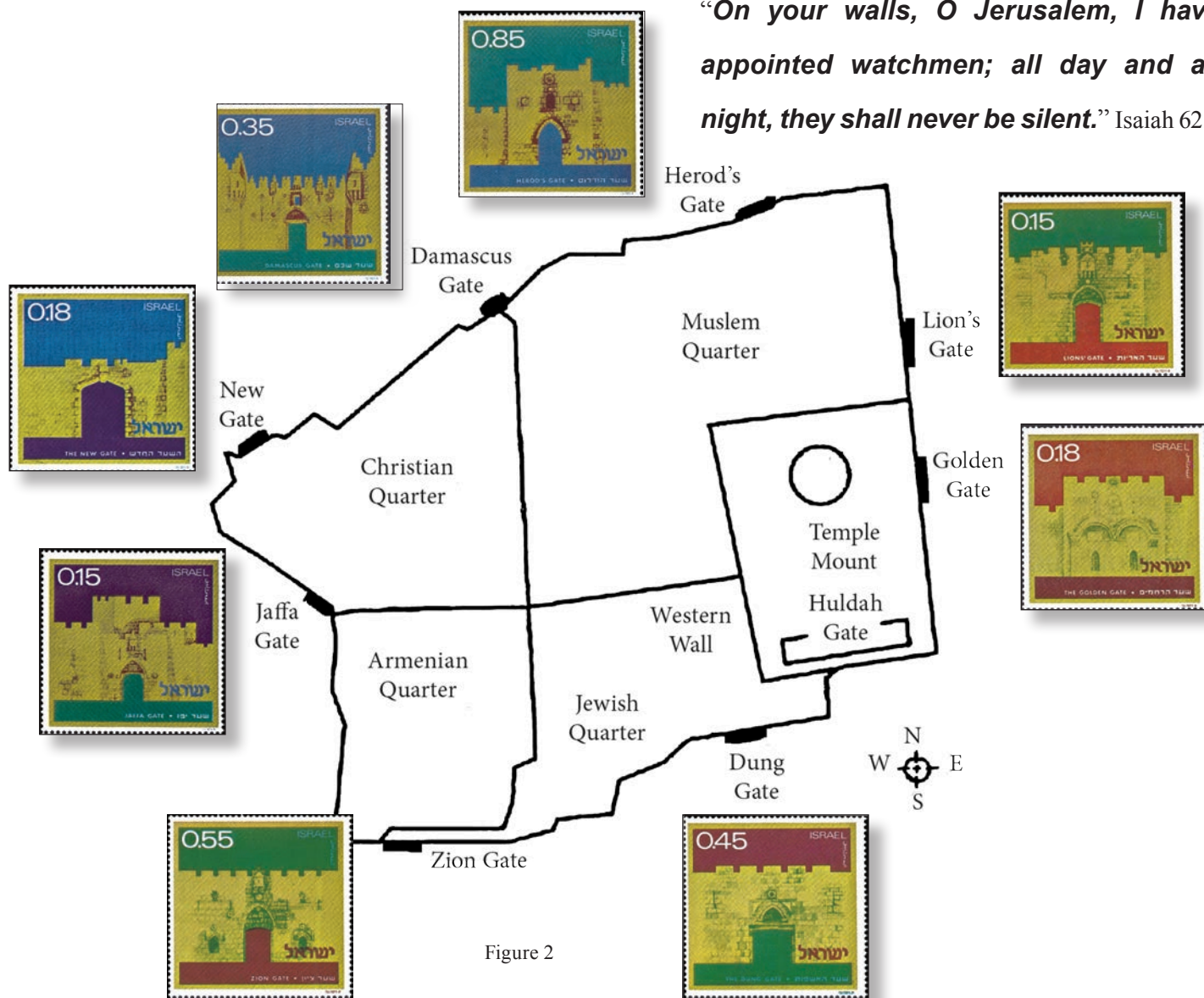


Figure 2

The 4th closed gate, known as the **Golden Gate** or the **Gate of Mercy**, was built in the 6th century CE in the middle of the eastern wall, overlooking the Mount of Olives. It was believed that the Messiah would enter Jerusalem through the Golden Gate to rebuild the Holy Temple, as prophesied by Ezekiel.. To prevent this occurrence, Sultan Suleiman sealed off the gate in 1541. It is blocked so well, it cannot be seen from within the walled city. Because the Messiah was to be preceded by Elijah, Suleiman also established a

Muslim cemetery directly outside the gate, so that Elijah, who was of the priestly class, would be unable to pass there.

Christians believe the Golden Gate was the gate where Jesus and his Disciples entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and Muslims believe this is the gate the Koran references, through which the just must pass on Judgment Day, so the site is important to all three faiths. There seems to be an earlier gate just under the current one.

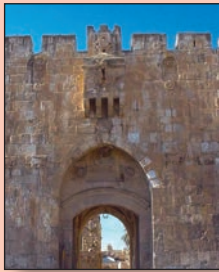
OPEN GATES



The most elegant and busiest of the seven open gates is the **Damascus Gate**, also known as the **Nablus Gate**, for one of the roads there leading away from Jerusalem heads first to Nablus, and then on to Damascus, Syria. The first gate on the site was built by Herod Agrippa I in 41 CE. A later gate, which had two pedestrian entrances on the sides, was built by Hadrian in the Roman period, and a still later one was built by Sultan Suleiman. The Damascus gate is located in the middle of the northern wall, and is Israel's finest example of Ottoman architecture. It is also known as the **Gate of the Column** because a Roman column once stood nearby on a semicircular plaza. Today an Arab market is located just within the gate.



On the eastern part of the northern wall lies **Herod's Gate**, or the **Gate of Flowers**. It probably dates from the period of Suleiman. The first name was given in the 16th or 17th century when pilgrims mistook a much more recent nearby building for Herod's palace. There is also a Moslem cemetery in the vicinity where, according to tradition, the dead will be resurrected in the end of days. An Arabic word, "sahra" means "eternally wakeful," and a similar word, "zara" means "flowers." As you can tell, both words are relevant to the gate.



The **Lions Gate**, or **St. Stephen's Gate**, is found on the northern section of the eastern wall, just beyond the Temple Mount. It dates from the period of Suleiman and leads to the Pools of Bethesda, the Via Dolorosa, and the markets. There are two animal carvings on each side of the gate, which are generally considered to be lions, but are actually tigers. Legend has it that Suleiman dreamed that lions would devour him if he failed to restore the Old City walls, and so he rebuilt the walls forthwith and adorned the wall at one of the gates with lions. Lions are heraldic symbols of the Mameluk (Egyptian 1260-1517) period. It is also believed that St. Stephen was stoned to death nearby. During the Six Day War of 1967, Israeli Paratroopers entered Jerusalem through this gate and fought their way to the Western Wall to liberate the eastern half of Jerusalem from Jordanian control. However, during the battle, an Israeli tank got stuck in the entrance.



A gate with the unpleasant-sounding name **Dung Gate**, also known as the **Moor's Gate**, is located on the east of the southern wall. It leads to the Western Wall Plaza and southwest to excavations near the Temple Mount. The current gate was built by Suleiman. A passage from the Prophet Nehemiah indicates that waste matter was carried out of Jerusalem from the Temple Mount through an earlier **Dung Gate** near this site into the Kidron Valley. Jewish ritual baths or mikvahs of the Herodian period may be found in nearby cisterns cut into rock. This is the gate the Moors of North Africa used to enter Jerusalem at the time of Suleiman. They then lived near this gate, inside the wall.



The **Zion Gate**, or **David's Gate**, lies to the west of the **Dung Gate** on the southern wall at the edge of the Armenian Quarter. It was built by Suleiman and faces King David's tomb on Mt. Zion. Zion was also the name of the city David founded. Bullet marks from the 1948 War of Independence where the Palmach attempted, but failed, to hold the Jewish Quarter, may be seen on the gate and nearby wall. During the Six Day War, the IDF entered the City from this gate. Today the **Zion Gate** is open to allow cars and other vehicles to enter and leave the Armenian and Jewish Quarters. This gate is located near the ruins of a first century aqueduct and other excavations of historical interest.



In the middle of the western wall is the **Jaffa Gate**, also called the **Gate of the Friend**. The original gate in this location was built by the Romans; the current gate is from the time of Suleiman. Jewish and Christian pilgrims disembarking at the port of Jaffa entered Jerusalem through it. The Arabs named the gate for Abraham, whom they considered the "friend of God." The Tower of David is adjacent to this gate. Part of the **Jaffa Gate** was disassembled in 1898 when the German Emperor Wilhelm II entered Jerusalem. In 1917 British General Allenby entered the City through the **Jaffa Gate**. The Jordanians closed it during their occupation from 1948 -1967. One legendary belief about this gate is that Suleiman executed two of the architects who designed his new wall in anger, and buried them near this gate. However, these are actually the graves of two other people. The **Jaffa Gate** was the center of Turkish business and community life during the days of Ottoman rule.



The final and highest gate, located on the west side of the northern wall was built later than the other gates, in the year 1887, and is known as the **New Gate**. This gate was built by Sultan Abdul Hamid II at the request of French Catholic pilgrims who wanted to travel more quickly between the newer suburbs outside the wall, where many now lived, and the Christian Quarter with its holy places. The **New Gate** was blocked under the Jordanian occupation, and a military outpost was built above it. Even this youngest of gates has a legend. The Arabs believe a nearby tower, known as Tancred's Tower, built of stones originally cut for Herod's palace, is the place where David killed Goliath. So they call it Goliath's Castle.

CONCLUSION

Originally many of the Jerusalem Gates were turned at an L angle to the wall, instead of being flat against it. This provided greater security, as the gates could not be seen when approaching head-on. Over the years, many of the gates have been repositioned flat against the wall. The **Jaffa Gate** is an example of a gate that is still turned.

No doubt continuing archaeological efforts and scholarly research will continue to reveal amazing facts and stories about the Jerusalem Gates.

Editor's note: The map and images of the gates can be found at

<https://www.google.com/#q=gates+of+jerusalem&safe=active&tbm=isch> ■

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Ida Holz

Gene Eisen, Raleigh, North Carolina

An alarm has been sounded in the United States concerning the decline in women majoring in Computer Science at universities since a peak in the mid-1980s. In 1984, 37.1% of Computer Science degrees was awarded to women, whereas fewer than 12% of Computer Science degrees went to women in 2010-11.



Figure 1

The reasons for the precipitous decline are complex¹, but the trend has clearly caught the attention of university administrators and industry leaders for a call to action to initiate possible approaches to reverse the declining trend.¹



Figure 2

HOLZ STAMP

On October 21, 2015, the Uruguayan Post issued a stamp honoring Ida Holz (Figures 1, 2), an accomplished Computer Scientist who can serve as an ideal role model for women choosing Computer Science as a career. A photo of Ida Holz with a mock-up of the commemorative stamp is shown in Figure 2 at the ceremony held in Montevideo, Uruguay on October 21, 2015.² The second of the two attractive first day cover features a picture of the Uruguayan postal headquarters in Montevideo (Figures 3, 4).

EARLY LIFE

Ida Bard Holz was born in 1935 in Montevideo, Uruguay to Jewish parents. When she was 18 she decided to move to Israel where she worked on a kibbutz and then served in the Israeli army. She returned to Uruguay in 1957 to work and attend college.² While taking mathematics classes at the Institute de Profesores Artigas, her mathematics professor invited her to take a course in Computer Science offered at the Universidad de la República. Taking this class was the spark that lit the fire for her enthusiasm for Computer Science. In the early 1970's, Ida Holz was a part of the

first generation of Uruguayan Computer Science students initiated by the Facultad de Ingeniería at the Universidad de la República.³

HOLZ'S INTERNET CAREER

In 1964, Holz married the painter Anhele Hernández, with whom she had two children, Arauco and Avara. In 1976, they moved to Mexico, where she worked in the Dirección General República de la Política Económica y Social. Afterward, she worked for the Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas of Mexico. The Mexican government then offered her the Directorship, but she had decided to return to Uruguay.³

In the early 1990s, Ida Holz helped lead the group of computing pioneers whose efforts resulted in the development of the first networks of what has become the Internet in Latin America. She played a leading role in the construction of the Latin American Network Forum, the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Address Registry and the Latin American Cooperative of Advanced Networks. (Red CLARA). For over 20 years, she directed the Central Computer Services

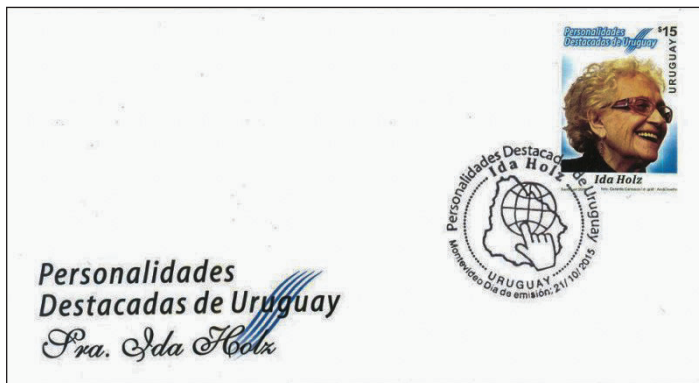


Figure 3

at Uruguay's Universidad de la República. It was under her direction that the university installed the first node of the Internet in Uruguay. In 2012, she was elected President of Red CLARA. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Agency for Development of Electronic Governance and the Information Society. She also serves on the Committee of the One-Comp per-Child Program..

The culmination of Ida Holz's career came in 2013 when she became the first Latin American woman to be inducted into the Internet Society Hall of Fame. ^{2, 4} She has been called

by some in Latin America the "Mother of the Internet." You couldn't ask for a more perfect model for women seeking a career in Computer Science.

Appreciation is extended to Stanley Serxner for his key translations from Spanish.



Figure 4

References

1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_computing
2. <http://www.redclara.net/index.php/en/noticias-y-eventos/>
3. https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ida_Holz
4. https://www.internethalloffame.org/inductees/ida_holz ■

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One Pound Stamp

Irwin Math, Princeton Jct, NJ & Palestine Study Group

After reading the excellent article on the “*Palestine Mandate One Pound Pictorial Stamp of 1942*” by Ed Kroft in *The Israel Philatelist*, Fall 2015, issue, I reviewed the “one pounders” in my collection.



Figure 1

England by Messrs. Harrison & Sons Ltd. and shipped to the General Post Office in Jerusalem for distribution to the post offices in Palestine. Affixed to each sheet of stamps was a sheet number that was placed atop

SHEET DESIGN

The one pound value sheet is comprised of two panes of one hundred stamps each (ten vertical rows of ten stamps) (Figure 2). Separating the panes is a gutter which is the size of a stamp. Each pane was perforated separately that created encroachment of extra perforations and misalignment of perforations.

Review of my blocks and singles with gutters attached showed that no full gutter was seen. All pieces had attached gutter portions that appear to be guillotine cut (Figures 2-4). Missing from my Pictorial Issue gutter block and gutter pair collections is the one pounder.

STAMP PRODUCTION

The Pictorial Issue stamps were printed in

position twenty; the last stamp on the top row of the sheet (Figure 5).

Reviewing blocks of four of the one pounder in my collection, I noticed were several sheet numbers placed over the tenth position on the sheet. All of these blocks had a gutter portion attached (Figure 4).

The Norman J. Collins monograph of *The Crown Agents Requisition Books* states that printings of the one pounder were dispatched on January 9, 1941 and July 10, 1941 in sheet quantities of 1,372 and 1,250, respectively. All sheet numbers started at number one for each printing. The sheet numbers on the plate blocks in my collection are no higher than the sheet numbers recorded in the Collins monograph.

Figure 4
Block with gutter and
control number,
stamp positions
numbers 9 - 10, 29 - 30



Figure 5
Block with
control number,
plate number,
stamp positions
numbers
19 - 20 , 39 - 40

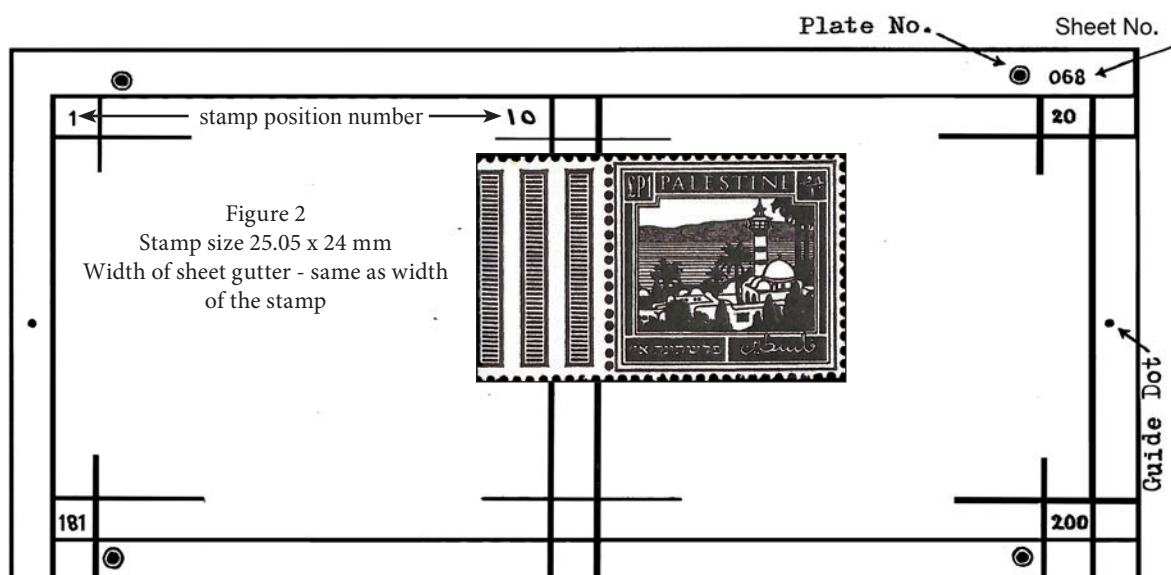


Figure 3
Stamp with gutter
and bottom selvage



The sheet numbers recorded on the blocks with gutter portions attached do not exceed two times the amount of sheets dispatched (Figures 4-5).

Based upon the above comments, it is my assumption that a continuum of numbers were placed in the left panes of the sheets. The numbers type that was used appear to be identical. Therefore, it is probable that the panes

were separated in England.

I have no knowledge of entire one pound sheets, nor of gutter

blocks or pairs. An immediate lesser value, 500 mils stamp, is known in gutter blocks and gutter pairs.

Anyone with knowledge of full one pound sheets, gutter blocks and gutter pairs would be appreciated. ■

New York, New York

What a Wonderful Town

The Society will have a one frame exhibit at the show which is a small sample of our Society's collecting specialties. The illustration on the opposite page shows the contents of the frame.

I would like to thank Irv Osterer for generously contributing his design and graphic arts skills to the effort of laying out the frame and ensuring all the pages are of the highest quality

Starting in the upper left corner of the illustration, the first page features the SIP logo and our booth number. The logo page was created by Irv Osterer.

The next two pages are from The Holocaust Stamp Project by the Foxborough Regional Charter School. They are part of the Society's continuing Education effort. The pages were provided by Charlotte Sheer.

The first two pages in the second row are from the collection

Meetings & Lectures		
Sunday May 29 10 - 11 am	SIP General Membership Meeting	Rm 1E07
Sunday May 29 11 - 12 am	Postal Rates, Postmarks, and Stamps of Three Governments During 1948	Rm 1E09
Sunday May 29 1 - 2 pm	Introduction to the Stamps Palestine under the British Mandate	Rm 1E11

Exhibits and Frame No.	
Israel First Airmails 1950 - Brian Gruzd	1704-1708
Palestine (1865-1948) - Syed Imtiaz Hussain	1733-1737
Ottoman (Turkey) Empire Issue: 1876-90 - Iqbal Nanjee	1874-1881
The 1948 Doar Ivri and Dmei Doar Issues of Israel and Their Use - Robert Pildes	1903-1910
Turkish Post in the Holy Land 1861-1918 - Shaula Alexander	3125-3132
Israel 1948 Transition Period. Cities under Emergency Conditions - Itamar Karpovsky	3133-3140
Jerusalem 1655 - 1917 - Mihael Fock	3245-3252

of SIP president Ed Kroft and they feature gems from World War I.

The last page in the second row features JNF labels from Howard Chapman's collection.

The Synagogue Postmark page in the third row was created by Irv Osterer.

The second page in the row is from Michael Bass award winning exhibit on World War I.

The baseball themed page in the bottom row is a joint effort by Don Chafetz and Irv Osterer. It features three Judaica themed cachet first day covers prepared by the B'nai B'rith Philatelic Service. These are three of over 100 covers featured in a forthcoming book on the service.

Please stop by and view the frame so you can quickly sample the breadth of our exhibiting topics. ■

Sunday May 29 4 - 5 pm	How to be a Published Author	Reading Rm
Monday May 30 1 - 2 pm	Holy Land Postage Dues 1900 - 1970	Rm 1E07
Friday June 3 1 - 2 pm	How to be a Philatelic Editor	Reading Rm

Artists Drawings, Essays and Proofs of 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel - Dr. Robert Pildes	Non-competitive
---	-----------------

Foreign Postal Operations in the Holy Land 1852-1914 - Michael Bass	3293-3300
The Four Siege Cities of 1948 - Rishon Le Zion, Safad, Nahariya, Jerusalem - Henry Nogid	3313-3320
The Conquest and British Military Administration of Palestine and (Greater) Syria: 1914-1920 - Jonathan Becker	3370-3377
Interrupted/Delayed mail of the Arab-Israeli Conflict (Postal History) - Daryl Kibble	3402-3406
Postal Stationery of the Ottoman Empire - Levantine	3927-3934
The Jewish Homeland, Our Struggle for Survival - Lawrence Fisher	4235-4242



Edmond James de Rothschild

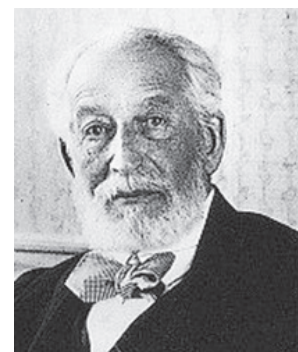


Figure 1

Baron Edmond Benjamin James de Rothschild 1845 - 1934 (Figure 1) was a member of the French branch of the Rothschild banking dynasty. He was born in the Paris suburb of Boulogne-sur Seine, the youngest child of James Mayer Rothschild. He grew up in the world of the Second Republic and the Second Empire and was a soldier “Garde Mobile” in the first Franco-Prussian War.

PALESTINE PHILANTHROPY

Edmond took little active part in banking but pursued artistic and philanthropic interests. In 1882 he cut back on his purchases of art and began to buy land in Palestine. He became a leading proponent of the Zionist movement, financing the first site at Rishon LeZion. In his goal for a Jewish homeland, he promoted industrialization and economic development. He also played a pivotal role in Palestine’s wine industry. Under the supervision of his administrators in Palestine, agricultural settlements and vineyards were established with two major wineries opened in Rishon LeZion and Zichron Yaakov.

It is estimated that Edmond de Rothschild spent over \$50 million dollars in supporting the settlements. He backed engineering research in electricity and financed development of an electric generating station. In a 1934 letter to the

1934

Baron Rothschild’s financial contributions saved many of the early Noveve Tzion colonists from disaster. He established the Palestine Jewish Colonization Association (PICA) and purchased large stretches of land. After the First World War, he helped Weizmann and Sokolow in their activities. The stamps are inscribed “Father of the Yishuv.”



Figure 2
Rochlin 288

1954

Inscribed “Benjamin Levit Rothschild, Father of the Yishuv” Issued on his re-interment in Israel.



Figure 3
Rochlin 1451



Figure 4
Rochlin 1799

The souvenir sheet on the left marks the 50th anniversary of the death of Baron Edmond de Rothschild.

The left hand stamp is inscribed “Ramat Hanadiv.” This is the estate in Israel where he is buried. The painting by Berman Shetrok features the Gate to Ramat Hanadiv

The souvenir sheet’s middle two stamps show no value but together form a map of Israel showing land acquired since 1862 through the activities of Baron Rothschild and the PICA.

The stamp on the far right displays a portrait of the baron with his name in English and Hebrew placed below it. “Father of the Yishuv” is placed along the left side of the portrait and birth and death dates are located on the tab below.

League of Nations, Edmond stated that “the struggle to put an end to the Wandering Jew, could not result in the creation of the Wandering Arab”.

ROTHSCHILD’S PASSING

Baron de Rothschild died in 1934. In 1954 his and his wife’s remains were transported to Haifa, Israel aboard a naval frigate. A state funeral was held with former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion giving the eulogy. The couple were buried in Ramat Hanadiv Gardens near the town of Zichron Yaakov. For his Jewish philanthropy, Baron de Rothschild became known as “The Known Benefactor”. In his memory, his son bequeathed the funds to construct the building of the Knesset, Israel’s Parliament building.

KEREN KAYEMETH STAMPS

In 1934 the Keren Kayemeth issued a set of 5 stamps in his honor. All the stamps are without denomination (Figure 2 pictures one of the stamps).

In 1954 again a single stamp was issued with the denomination of 50 prutot (Figure 3). This stamp comes in light blue and dark blue, and is known imperforated in both blue shades. The stamp honors 30 years since the re-internment and burial in Israel of the Baron and his wife,

The JNF issued a mini sheet with his portrait, the gates to Ramat Hanadiv Gardens where he is buried and a map of Israel showing all the places that he established or financially supported (Figure 4). ■

Articles Needed for next journal

A Movie Actress and an Autograph



Figure 1

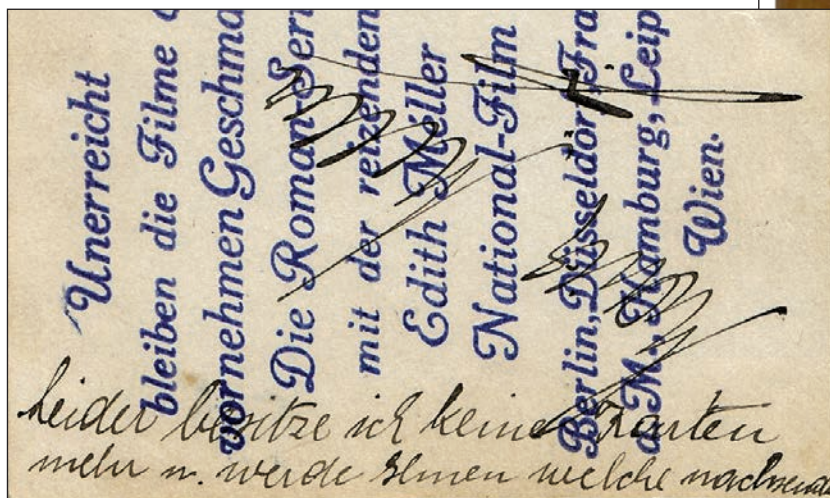


Figure 2

Many years ago (don't know where and when) I had bought this picture post card as I liked the style of four different images with the dramatic title "Ich lasse Dich nicht" which means "I don't leave you alone" (Figures 3,4). Evidently this card had to do with a movie, and when I turned it over, I saw an advertisement for the National Film Company and a handwritten message plus signature (Figures 1,2). But, then the card slumbered for many years in one of my philatelic boxes. Now, when I recently opened this box and found that card, I became curious and I made up my mind to get to know more about the sender.

THE POSTCARD

The card (Figure 4) is franked with a blue 20 Pfennig "Germania" with a diamond watermark tied by a "Berlin-Schöneberg 18.5.20" cancellation and addressed to Nuremberg, Bavaria. Now, the postal historian knits his brow because as of May 6th, 1920 the postal rate for a postcard within Germany was 30 Pfennig and not just 20 Pfennig. It seems the postal personnel thought the card to be printed matter. And again, a printed matter post card would have cost only 10 Pfennig. It appears that movie actress Meller certainly did not care for postal rates!

The printed advertising text translates as "*Unequaled forever are the movies of exclusive taste: The novel serials with the lovely Edith Méller, National Film Berlin, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt a. M., Hamburg, Leipzig, Vienna*"

The handwritten message "*Leider besitze ich keine Karten mehr u. werde Ihnen welche nachmachen*" translates as "Sorry I am out of cards and I let reprint some for you" plus the actress' signature "Edith Méller".

Figure 3

This photograph was taken in 1929 by the Jewish photographer Alexander Binder (1888 – 1929). He was one of the leading German portrait photographers in the 1920s and had customers like Greta Garbo etc. His studio was on Kurfuerstendamm in Berlin.

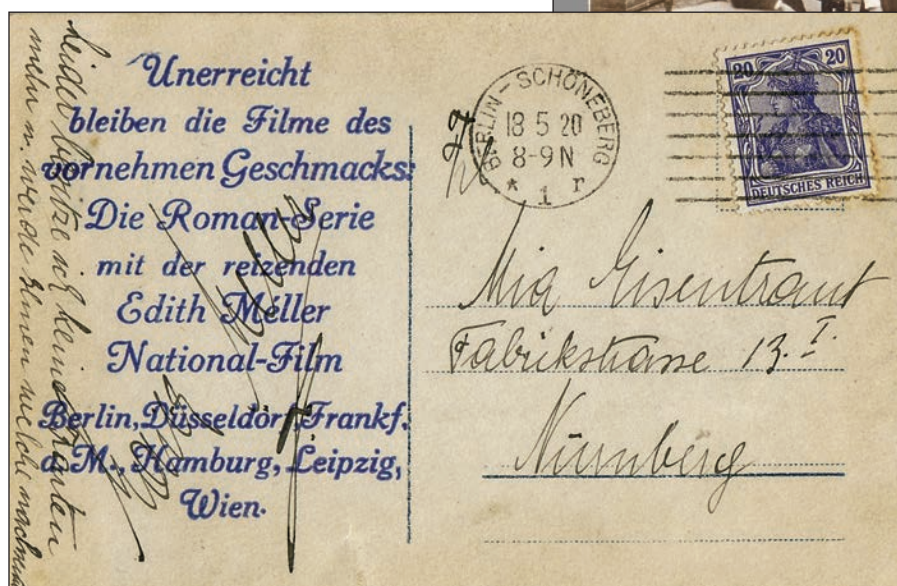


Figure 4

THE ACTRESS

Can you imagine a movie star of today would write such a message to a fan? I doubt it.

Well, who was Edith Méller?

She was born on September 16, 1897 in Budapest, Hungary. Edith was the daughter of a Jewish mill owner, and spent her childhood and youth in Pressbaum near Vienna, Austria. She attended a theater school in Vienna and her first engagement was at the historic **Theater an der Wien**. Edith appeared in a silent movie in 1915, and in 1916 she played a minor part in the movie **Bogdan Stimoff** directed by Georg Gustav Franz Jacoby (1882 – 1964). More silent movies followed, mostly directed by Jacoby who she married in 1922.

Méller was an attractive woman and the audiences loved her for her melodramas, comedies and adventure movies. In 1921 she even acted with Pola Negri, the absolute silent movie diva. But, the following years her popularity faded, and she only played minor parts in the period of dying silent movies. Tragically, her husband Georg Jacoby fell in love with the actress Elka Brink (1905 – 1985) who he married after his divorce from Edith in 1925.

THE TRAGIC END

After appearing in more than forty movies, Edith Méller's career was ended by sound films. The Nazi regime imposed a ban on acting and she had to retire from the business.

During World War II when the deportations were taking place, she received a generous offer from her former husband, Georg Jacoby, who had since married the famous Austrian-German-Hungarian movie star Marika Rokk (1913 – 2004) in 1940. They told Méller to hide in a mansion in the middle of the Black Forest. The building had been bought by Jacoby a few years earlier from the Jewish film producer Alfred Zeisler (1892 – 1985) who had immigrated to the United States. During the war, Méller immigrated to the United States, but did not have success as a movie actress. After the war, she returned to Berlin and died in 1953 at the young age of 56, lonely and poor. ■

Israel's First Airmail Stamps 1950

Photo-Essays

Brian Gruzd, Birman Park, South Africa

Editor's note: Selective items from the award winning the exhibit are being shown here. The exhibit is being shown at New York 2016, frames 1704 - 1708.

Six experimental positioning of the complete set of stamps are shown (either 6 stamps or 8 stamps). The designer did not know the final number of stamps in the set. The designs are both horizontal and vertical of the various denominations.

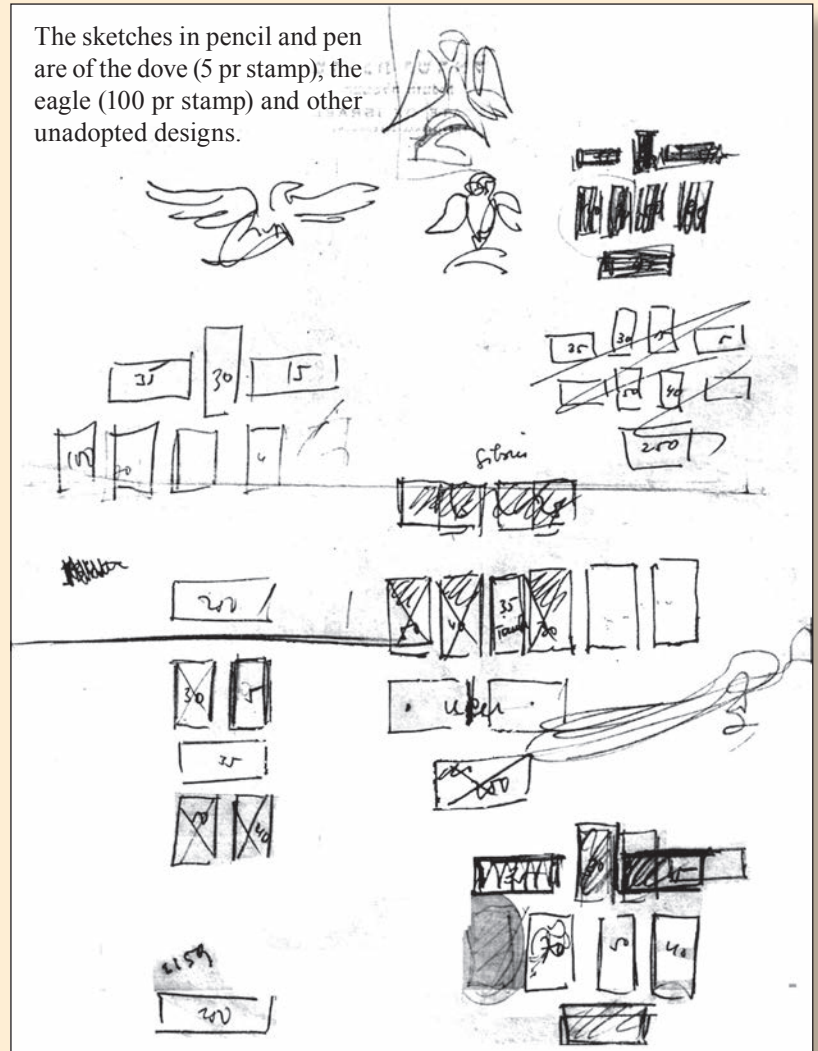


Figure 1

Unique artist's draft sheet on back of provisional government stationery.



Figure 2

Photograph used for
40 pruta design

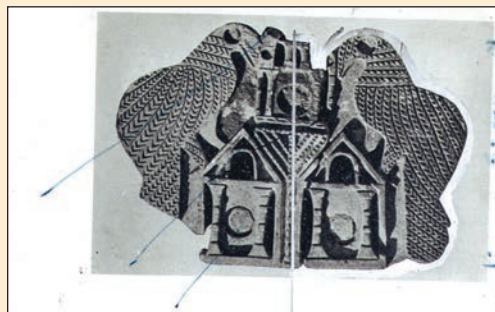


Figure 3

Photograph used 50 pruta design



Figure 4

Photograph used 250 pruta design



Figure 5
Artists drawing of 50 pruta value as issued

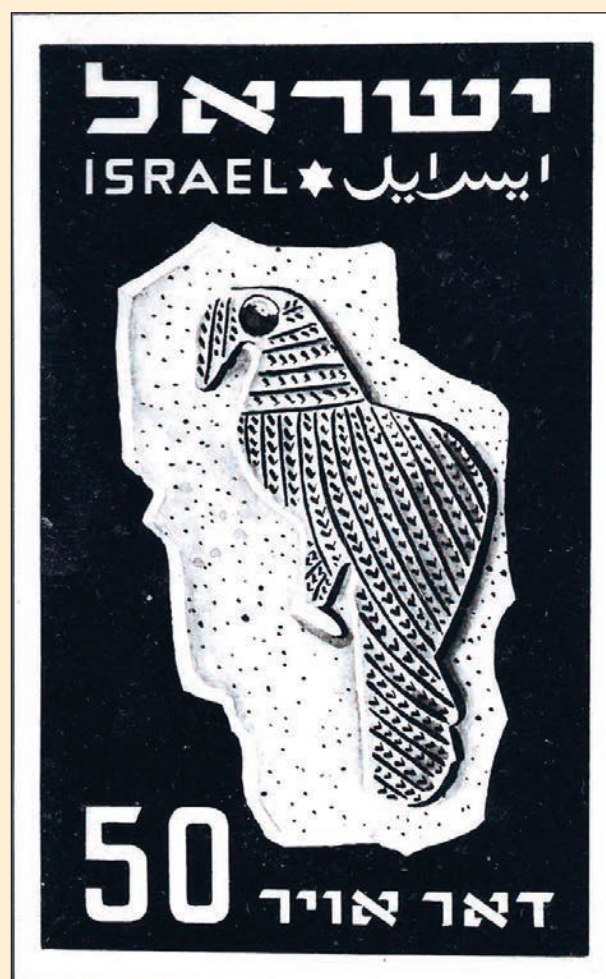


Figure 6
Enlarged photo essay of the final adopted
50 pr design without Hebrew lettering on the side.

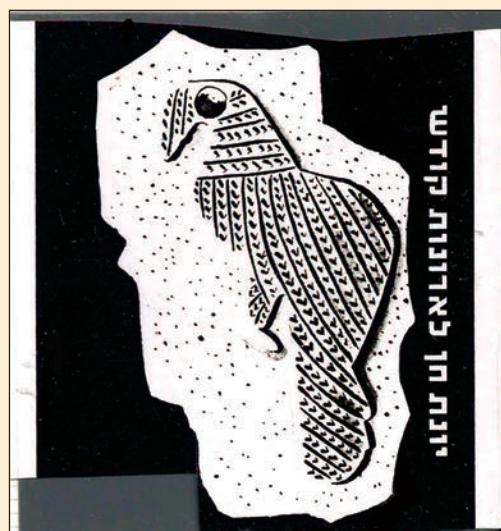


Figure 7
Enlarged photo essay 50 pr final adopted design with "Israel" and 50 pr
denomination cut out during final process but with side inscription.



Figure 8
Enlarged photo essay 50 pr final adopted design with "Israel" cut out
during the final process but with side inscription. ■

Printed Matter

Ed Kroft, Vancouver, Canada

This is the first in a series of articles which will depict gems from the period of Holy Land postal history which occurred between May 2 - 14, 1948, known as the Second Interim or Minhelet Ha'am period. A fair amount of the material created or mailed during this 13 day period is philatelic or in some cases even a fake or forgery. A great deal of the material is routine and consists of registered or unregistered single weight domestic single weight covers postmarked from Tel Aviv or Haifa. The gems of this period, however, may be discovered once a collector

- acquires knowledge of the period's prevailing stamps, postmarks and postal rates,
- the contents and significance of the Hebrew text written on the front and back of covers,
- the postal operations of the 80 postal offices and agencies,
- the prevailing practices of the UPU,
- the illegitimate practices of forgers and
- the habits of various philatelic dealers and collectors of the period.

An outstanding reference text which details all of this information was written by Zvi Aloni in 2015. It is entitled **The Postal History Of The Transition Period In Israel 1948, Vol I: Official Postal Services: Postal Administration Of British Mandate, Minhelet Ha'am And Israel** and is available for sale by the SIP Educational Fund.

Part I of the series highlights two examples of printed matter usage. To most collectors, this material appears routine. Many people sent newspapers, wrappers, letters and sometimes even postcards at the prevailing domestic printed matter rate of 3 mils per 50 grams. Some printed matter was heavy enough to warrant the addition of additional postage of 3 mils per 50 grams. However, it is quite rare to find examples of returned domestic printed matter and printed matter sent abroad.



Figure 1

Top of pile - two covers returned to same sender

Undeliverable commercial printed matter with postage not exceeding 7 mils. A request for the return in case of non-delivery. Returned to the sender on payment of a second postage fee

1. Franked 3 mils Minhelet Ha'am stamp
2. Charged 6 mils return fee for 2 covers paid by Minhelet Ha'am stamp, tied by Tel Aviv postmark
3. Marked to pay 6 mils
4. Manuscript on the front indicates that return postage guaranteed by the sender if the address is incorrect.

RETURNED DOMESTIC PRINTED MATTER - TOP OF THE PILE

Companies often sent printed matter in bulk. Envelopes would sometimes bear a legend which indicated that mail should be returned to the sender because that sender had guaranteed payment of the return postage. The 1948 postal regulations indicated that undeliverable printed paper/matter with postage not exceeding 7 mils (with a request for return in the case of non-delivery) are to be delivered to the sender on payment of second postage of an equal amount (Figure 1).

Consequently, a single weight piece of printed matter weighing 50 grams or less would be returned to the sender with additional postage due assessed of 3 mils. Sometimes the amount would be reflected in handwritten script on an envelope. Other times, a Jewish National Fund ("JNF") stamp bearing a DOAR overprint would be affixed to the

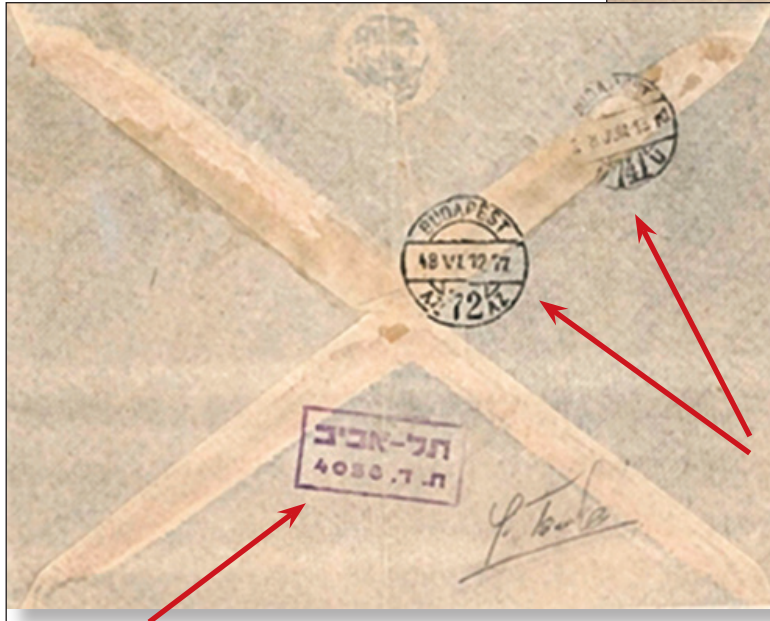
mail. JNF stamps were accepted and typically used to pay postage due because there were no special postage due stamps issued by the provisional Jewish government. In both cases, the sender would pay the postage due on return of the mail.

Senders of bulk mail accepted this system because the return of incorrectly addressed mail or of mail sent to persons who had moved away allowed the senders to cull their mailing lists to reduce future postage and other costs. It was inconvenient for the post office employees to affix postage due stamps on each envelope so the cumulative postage due was paid through affixation of the correct amount of postage due on the envelope or postcard on the "top of the pile" envelopes being returned to the sender. **Figure 1 is the only "top of the pile" cover reported for the Second Interim Period.**

PRINTED MATTER SENT ABROAD CONTRARY TO POSTAL REGULATIONS



Figure 2



Senders cachet

Figure 3

Budapest arrival postmarks

After April 24, 1948 Lod Airport was closed and Mandate Airmail traffic ground to a halt. During the Second Interim Period, mail destined for foreign destinations went by land or by sea and the surface rate was 5 mils per 50 grams (minimum 250 grams).

However, UPU regulations did not permit the mail to be franked with JNF stamps, but just with stamps issued by the Palestine British Mandate. The postmarks were also not to be those of the Minhelet Ha'am because only Hebrew was used in these marks. The cancellations used on the pictorial Palestine stamps were to be those issued by the Palestine Mandate postal officials and had been in use in the 80 postal offices prior to May 2, 1948.

After April 24, 1948, mail left Haifa by ship to travel to Europe. The mail consisted mostly of single weight letters franked with postage for surface mail and possibly airmail. The mail did not always reach its destination. It is unusual to find foreign backstamps on covers unless the cover was

registered. It is even more unusual to find properly franked examples of printed matter (rather than letters or postcards) being sent and arriving abroad.

Figure 2 depicts an outgoing Printed Matter commercial cover sent from the Tel Aviv JNF office to the Budapest branch. The cover is franked to pay for the surface rate with a 5 mils Minhelet Ha'am stamp (Ben Yehuda Bale #10) tied by Tel Aviv Minhelet Ha'am postmark. On the back of the cover is the sender's cachet and two Budapest arrival postmarks (June 12 & 13, 1948) (Figure 3). The cover was likely carried by sea aboard the S/S Kedma, which left Haifa on May 6, 1948 carrying the last mail under British Mandate rule from Palestine.

The cover was mailed contrary to the UPU and Mandate postal regulations. Mail destined abroad during Mandate rule should have been only franked and canceled by Mandate stamps and postmarks. ■

Palestinian Authority Registration Labels

Dr. Josef Wallach, Rehovot, Israel

This article is an addition an earlier article in **The Israel Philatelist**, June, 2010 (vol. LXI, No 3, p. 88)

The most important news is the fact that a new system of bar code Registration was introduced and new type of metal postmarks all over the Palestinian Authority Area (Figures 1,2).

Unfortunately, I do not have a registered cover of Hevron of the new type. It is important to note that Israel does NOT recognize the new Palestinian Authority Registration system. Thus, each registered letter when addressed to Israel is forwarded as a regular NON-Registered cover in Israel! Note that the authorities registered mail is accepted worldwide.



Figure 1
A registered cover from Betlehem



Figure 2
A registered cover from Huwarah (in the north,Nablus district)

Ed Fund Update

David Kaplan, Ed Fund Director

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

Note: Shipping and handling charges extra unless noted otherwise.

The Education Fund has just published **Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at the SIP National Convention: NOJEX2015** and it is available through the on-line Education Fund bookstore. The book, available in both print (2 volumes), Item #702 (\$110), and digital (CD) format, Item #802 (\$60), documents the 15 exhibits in over 1000 pages.

The Second Edition of **Palestine Mandate Postmarks** (\$18), Item #401, which is now available, incorporates all of the corrections and updates that David Dorfman published in the **The Israel Philatelist** between 1998 and 2002. These changes effected many on the entries in the various tables; updated individual entries in given tables with earlier or later usage dates.

Bale Israel 2016 Catalogue, Item #901 (\$110), is available through the bookstore. Because of contractual agreements with selling the catalogue, the book can be shipped to individuals in the United States and Canada only. The Ed Fund has a limited number of catalogs and will not restock when sold out.

FUTURE PROJECTS

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

Safad, written by Arie Ben David, will be returning to the catalogue. The Ed Fund has received permission to reprint the book from a copyright holder. It has been remastered and a number of the black and white philatelic images have been replaced with color images courtesy of Dr. Henry Nogid.

Dr. Robert Pildes is turning his award winning **Artist's Drawing, Essay, Proofs and Associated Material of the 1948 Doar Ivri** exhibit into a monograph. This monograph will focus 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 **Doar Ivri Issue of Israel** by Rothman and Tsachor.

Dr. David Dubin is writing a supplement to the definitive monograph **Israel & Forerunner Military Postal Stationary** that he coauthored with Lt. Col.

Nancy Morrow. This supplement will be appended to the current book and will be sold as a single book. The project has also been expanded to remaster the original monograph, which includes replacing the black and white images of the postal stationary with color ones.

He seeking members' assistance for complete this task. First, he is asking members to forward to him images of postal stationary that were not reported in the monograph. Second, David has many of the items reported in the original monograph but not all. He is seeking assistance of members who may have some of the missing items. You can contact David directly, dubin5@aol.com, to get a list of the missing items and to forward to him items not reported in the original monograph.

The Ed Fund is pleased to announce that is has permission to update and publish Irwin Smalhauser's **The Remembrance Letters and Commemorative Covers of the Ministry of Defense State Of Israel**. The book originally documented the Remembrance Letters including translations of the letters and the Commemorative Covers from the inception in 1952 through 1984. The Ed Fund has remastered and updated the book; black and white images of covers and letters have been replaced with color images and added letters and cover issued from 1985 to 2015. All the color images are courtesy of Ben Wallace. Work is now focused on translating the added Remembrance Letters.

Work has started on **Israel/Holy Land Exhibits at the SIP National Convention: NY2016**, which will be the third in the series. At this time, I am working on obtaining permission from the thirteen exhibitors, both SIP members and nonmembers.

Don Chafetz is preparing a definitive catalogue of the B'nai Brith Youth Organization (BBYO) Cachet **First Day Covers**. These covers, which were designed by Dr. David Firestone and he has agreed to supply missing covers.

THANK YOU

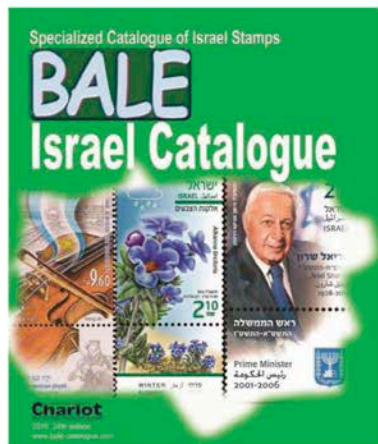
As Director of the SIP Education Fund, I would like to thank Steven Rod for his recent philatelic donation. The donation was in honor of both Nate Zankel and Hank Stern for their



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long time service to the SIP and for his friendship with these two extraordinary individuals. Again, on behalf of the SIP Education Fund, thank you Steven.

CONCLUSION

As always, the Education Fund is looking for new publications. Many of you have wonderful Israel/Holyland/Judaic collections and in some cases, you have written article(s) about it and/or exhibited it in a juried stamp show while others of you who don't exhibit are interested in 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 dispersement of the collection. The topic of the publication is up to you, the philatelic collector. ■

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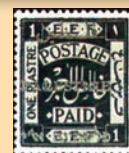
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Wanted
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Figure 12



Figure 13



Figure 14



Figure 15

The Palmach

Yechiel M. Leheavy, Margate, NJ

Following the United Nations decision on November 29, 1947, to partition Mandated Palestine, Arab militia gangs blocked the roads and besieged Jewish towns, including Jerusalem. At that time 2,200 Palmach members were the only force to engage in battle. As the War of Independence unfolded, the Palmach units were responsible for holding Jewish settlements against Arab armed gangs. The units operated all over the country. Although few in numbers and arms, Palmach soldiers held out long enough to allow the Haganah to mobilize the Jewish population and prepare for war.

After the establishment of the Israel Defense Force (IDF), the Palmach, under the command of Yigal Alon, was organized and expanded to form three IDF infantry brigades:

Yiftach, IDF Brigade # 10, with three battalions operating in eastern Galilee (1st, 2nd and 3rd), commanded by Moshe Kelman.

Harel, IDF Brigade # 11, with three battalions operating in the Jerusalem (4th, 5th and 6th), commanded by Yitzhak Rabin.

Negev, IDF Brigade # 12 with three battalions operating in the northern and southern Negev (7th, 8th and 9th), commanded by Nachum Sarig. The 9th battalion was the jeep mounted “Negev Beasts”. (The author was a member of the “Negev Beasts”).

Israel has issued stamps to commemorate Independence Day since 1950. The first stamp was issued for the 2nd Independence Day. Israel Memorial Day, the day of remembrance for the fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism, was enacted into law in 1963. It is a day of solemnization for the fallen. In 1967 Israel issued its first Memorial Day stamp. Many stamps were issued to celebrate these two calendrical events. Among them are quite a few that were issued to mark events in which the Palmach participated.

HONOR THE PALMACH

Below is a presentation of stamps honoring the Palmach. Two sets of stamps were issued to commemorate Independence Day. Two stamps were issued in remembrance of the fallen on Memorial Day. One set of stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the War of Independence of 1948.

The first set of stamps was issued in 1951 to commemorate Israel's 3rd Independence Day. It shows sites of decisive battles fought in Israel's War of Independence in 1948. One stamp depicts the Metzudat Yesha - the Yesha Fortress - in which the Yiftach Palmach Brigade fought (**Figure 12**, Scott # 46). The other stamp depicts the battle of the Kastel fought by the Harel Palmach Brigade (**Figure 13**, Scott # 47).

The next set of three stamps was issued in 1952 to commemorate Israel's 4th Independence Day. This set also shows sites of decisive battles fought in Israel's War of Independence in 1948. Two of the stamps illustrate battles fought by the Palmach. The battle of Yad Mordechai that was fought by the Negev Brigade (**Figure 14**, Scott # 62), and the battle of Safad fought by the Yiftach Brigade (**Figure 15**, Scott # 64). The 3rd stamp, the Battle of Degania (Scott # 63) was fought by the kibbutz members defending the settlement themselves.

MEMORIAL DAY

In 1967 Israel issued its first Memorial Day stamp. It portrays a monument dedicated to the memory of “those who broke through”, and relieved the siege of Jerusalem. “Those who broke through” – Haportzim – was the nick name of the Harel, Palmach Brigade (**Figure 16**, Scott # 341). The monument is located on the road to Jerusalem.

Figure 16



From 1968 on, Memorial Day stamps were issued every year. In 1986, the Memorial Day stamp shows the monument dedicated for the Negev Brigade (**Figure 17**, Scott # 937), located north of Be'er Sheva.

Figure 17



In February 1998, the year of the 50th Anniversary of Israel, a set of three stamps and a souvenir sheet were issued. The issuance was to commemorate Israel's War of Independence of 1947 - 1949.

The first stamp of the set shows a picture of the Yiftach Palmach Brigade soldiers with the liberated citizen of Safad (**Figure 18**, Scott # 1325). Safad was liberated on May 11, 1948. In addition, the stamp shows a photograph of the Safad postage stamp issued by the Haganah on May 4, 1948 -- the Interim postal period (Bale # 124).

Figure 18



The next stamp (**Figure 19**, Scott # 1326), shows armored vehicles on the road to Jerusalem at Sha'ar Hagai. The armored cars were on the way to the besieged Israeli Jerusalem. The stamp is a tribute to the Harel Palmach Brigade that broke through the siege on April 9, 1948.

Figure 19





Figure 20

The last stamp shows a picture of the Ink Flag raised in Eilat by Avraham Adam, a.k.a. Bren, an officer of the Negev Palmach Brigade (**Figure 20**, Scott # 1327). The flag raising on March 10, 1949, officially marks the end of the War of Independence. Bren, as a general, was a war hero during the 1973 Yom Kippur War.



Figure 21

All three stamps show at the bottom the War of Independence Ribbon. The souvenir sheet (**Figure 21**, Scott # 1328), shows, more or less, the same illustrations as those on the three stamps.

However, there are some minor variations. For example, the War of Independence Ribbon is shown at the bottom of the sheet, the center stamps is double the size and the denominations are different.

DISBANDING THE PALMACH

As mentioned above, on May 28, 1948, Israel established a single unified force, the IDF. The Palmach with its three brigades, under the command of Yigal Alon, were incorporated into the IDF. However, the merging of the Palmach into the IDF involved a series of power struggles with Ben Gurion. He was at the time the Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense. Ben Gurion raised the question of whether the Palmach should continue to preserve its special character and its special headquarters under the command of Yigal Alon. He argued that all units must be under the direct command of the IDF. The Palmach was a broad spectrum left-wing national organization. Most of the Palmach members came from the kibbutz movement and so were its officers. Hence, under pressure from Ben Gurion, who wanted to de-politicize the army, the provisional government accepted Ben Gurion's view and decided on November 7, 1948, to disband the separate staff and Headquarter of the Palmach. As a consequence many senior members of the Palmach resigned from the army. In the Fall of 1949, the IDF

released the Palmach members from active duty. And, this was the end of the Palmach ⁴.

EPILOGUE

For many consecutive years most of the leading officers of the IDF, including 6 chiefs of staff and 40 generals, rose from the ranks of the Palmach ⁵. Most of the Palmach attributes and warfare ethics were incorporated into the IDF. These attributes included, among others, a pioneering spirit, and moral warfare code of ethics (Tohar Haneshek) - purity of the weapon - command tactics and leadership in the battle (the famous battle-cry of field commanders "Follow Me")

After the war, Palmach members established 36 new settlements all over the country. In addition, the Palmach has also left its imprint on many aspects of Israeli politics, society and culture. There is a whole long list of notable Palmach cultural and political leaders ⁵.



Figure 22



Figure 23



Figure 24



Figure 25

SOME HONORED ON STAMPS

- Yehuda Amichai, a poet (Figure 22, Scott #1453),
- Rechavam Ze'evi "Gandi", a general and Minister of Tourism, who was assassinated by Palestinian terrorists (Figure 24, Scott # 1484),
- Shaik Ophir, a television and film actor (Figure 24, Scott # 1626), and
- Naomi Shemer musician and singer, who composed the song "Jerusalem of Gold" (Figure 25, Scott # 1773e).

The Palmach legacy is still alive.

References

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2. Jewish Virtual library, "Jewish Parachutists in WW 11", www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org.jsourc/holocaust.parachute, in Mandatory
3. "Jewish Insurgency in Mandatory Palestine", www.wikipedia.org.
4. Yigal Alon, 1953 Sefer HaPalmach (in Hebrew), Vol. 2:971-974.
5. Palmach, "The Disbandment", www.wikipedia.org, ■

o - o - o - o

Ruby Myers (Sulochana)

Roberto Brzostowski, Argentina

Born in 1907 in Pun, Bombay Presidency, Sulochana was from an old Baghdad Jewish family. The brown-eyed actress, self named Sulochana, was among the early Eurasian stars of Indian Cinema.

Ruby was discovered by Mohan Bhavnani of Kohinoor Film Company. Among her popular films were Typis Girl (1926), Balidaan (1927) and Wildcat of Bombay (1927). She had three romantic super hits in 1928/29 with director R.S.Chaudhari: Madhuri (1928), Anarkali (1928) and Indira B.A. (1929). At the time, she was at the peak of her fame in silent films. In her best days, she was the highest paid actress at Imperial Studios film.

Her fame became widespread with a short film on Mahatma Ghandi, which included a hugely popular dance of Sulochana's from Madhuri, synchronized with sound effects.

The 1930s was the best decade for her career. She worked with D. Billimoria who played her lover. They worked together exclusively between 1933 and 1939. In the mid-1930s, she started Rubi Pics, a film production house.

The Israel Philatelist Spring 2016



With time she received few acting offers as newer, younger and more proficient actresses entered the scene.

In 1973 she was awarded the "Dada Saheb Phalke Award", India's highest prize for her lifetime achievement.

She died on October 10, 1983 lonely and forgotten in her flat in Mumbai. A sad end for the woman who once earned a salary larger than the Governor of Bombay and who even acted in a film named after her – Sulochana (1933).

Reference

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby_Myers ■

www.israelstamp.com

The First Four

Mea Shearim Mandate Cancels

1920-1921

Nathan Zankel and the Palestine Study Group

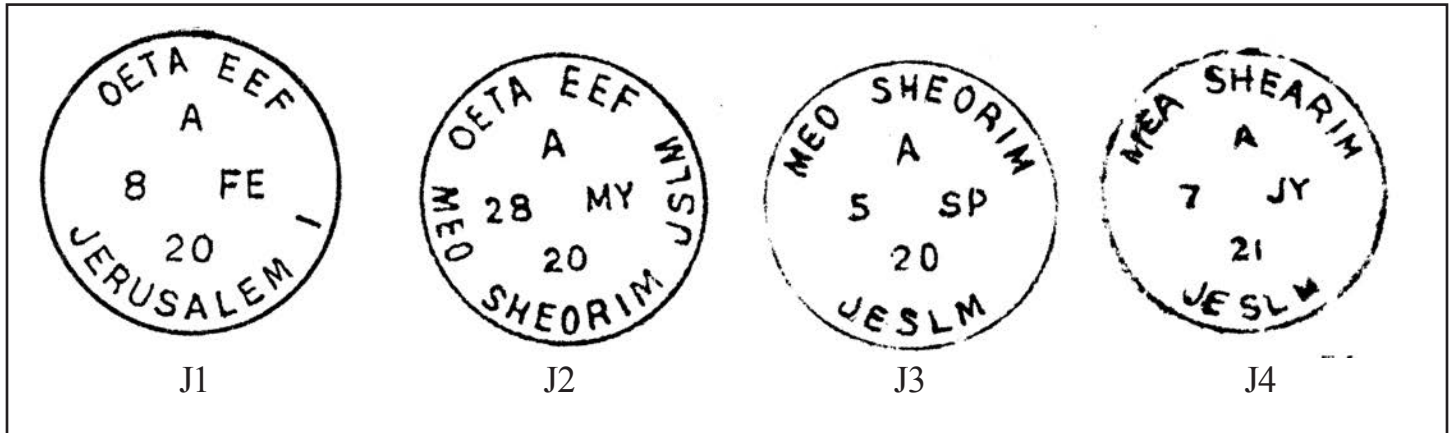


Figure 1

The Ottoman Empire operated a branch post office in Mea Shearim (the Jewish Quarter) until the Egyptian Expeditionary Forces occupied Jerusalem in December 1917. The Military Administration reopened the Main Post Office on December 17, 1917, but it was over two years before they reopened the Mea Shearim branch office on January 14, 1920. They put into use a skeleton post mark similar to some in use at the Main Post Office, with the addition of the numeral one after Jerusalem (Figure 1, J1). E. Glassman published a book in 2002 entitled **Mandate Jerusalem Postmarks**. This revised and updated a similar book he did with Michael Sacher twenty years earlier. Figure one from his book shows the first four Mea Shearim cancels. The first cancel, J1, is recorded in use for less than two months and is quite rare.

About March 8, 1920 it was replaced by another skeleton cancel, “OETA EEF MEO SHEORIM JSLM”, shown as J2 in Figure 1 and was used until July 1920. The Military Administration ended on June 30, 1920. The Mandate post offices prepared new cancels deleting “OETA EEF”. Glassman included in his book a chart listing the cancellations, their specifications, earliest and latest known dates of use, and a valuation code. The portion of the chart pertaining to the first four cancels

Figure	Title	Diameter	Index	Earliest	Latest	Value
J1	OETA-EEF JERUSALEM 1	29	A	14 JA 20	8 MR 20	H
J2	OETA-EEF MEO SHEARIM	29	A B	8 MR 20	28 JY 20	F
J3	MEO SHEARIM JESLM	30	A B	3 AU 20 *	18 JA 21	F
J4	MEA SHEARIM JESLM	30	A B	23 JY 20	29 DE 21	E

Figure 2 * 28 JY 20 new early date

Is shown in Figure 2. The third cancel “MEO SHEORIM JESLM” was introduced and is number J3. Glassman states its earliest date is 3AU20. I have one dated earlier on 28JY20 and this cover is shown later in Figure 5.

In the fourth postmark, J4, the spelling is changed to MEA SHEARIM and this spelling continued to be used in subsequent cancels until the end of the Mandate.



Figure 3

A J1 cancel on a cover mailed to the United States on 17FE20 with a 2 millimetres Typograph stamp. This paid the printed matter rate to foreign destinations.

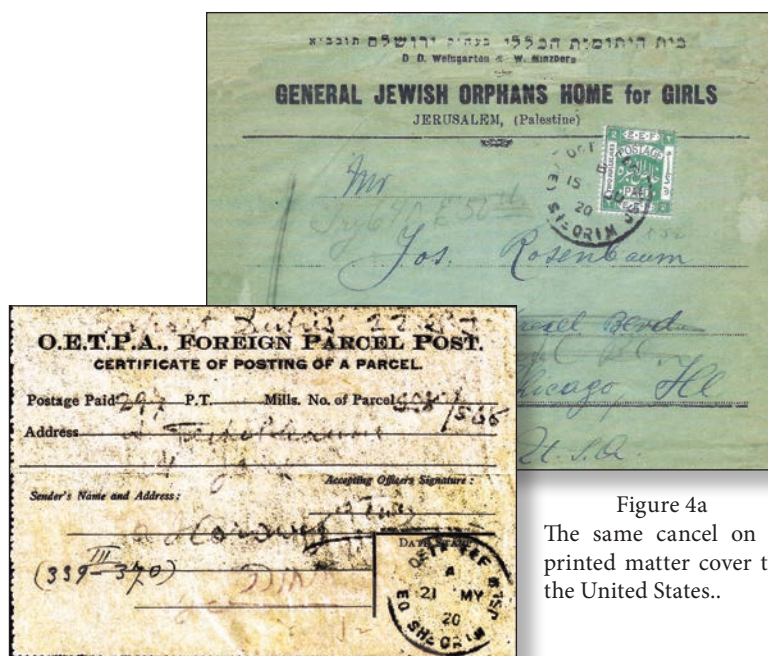


Figure 4a

The same cancel on a printed matter cover to the United States..

Figure 4

It shows the second cancel J2 on a “certificate of posting a parcel”.



Figure 5

Another printed matter cover where the letters OETA EEF have been removed. This cover is dated 28JY20, five days earlier than the 3 August date recorded by Glassman.

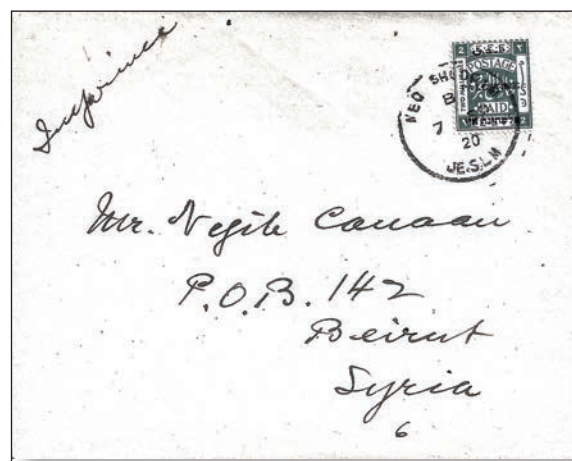


Figure 5a

The same J3 cancel dated 7SP20 with an early use of a Jerusalem I overprinted 2 millimetres stamp. The first overprinted stamps were issued on September 1, 1920.



Figure 6

The J4 cancel with the revised spelling, MEA SHEARIM. It has a pair of 5 millimetre Jerusalem I perf 14 stamps. This paid the foreign letter rate, and the cancel is dated 12NO20.

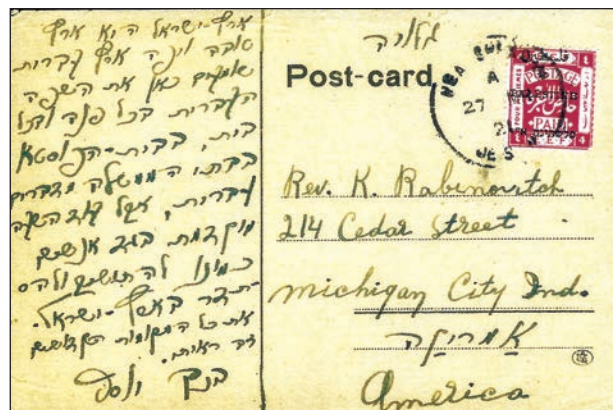




Figure 6a


The same cancel on a postcard to the United States. The four millimetre stamp is canceled 27MR21 and is an overprinted Jerusalem II stamp which was issued 27DEC20. Glassman reports this cancel was used until the end of December 1921.

If anyone has additional information about these cancels please send it with a good color photocopy to the Palestine Study Group, P.O. Box 7449, North Brunswick, NJ 08902 USA or: e-mail it with a good color scan to nate@nbis.com. We are specially interested in additional earlier and later dates of use. ■

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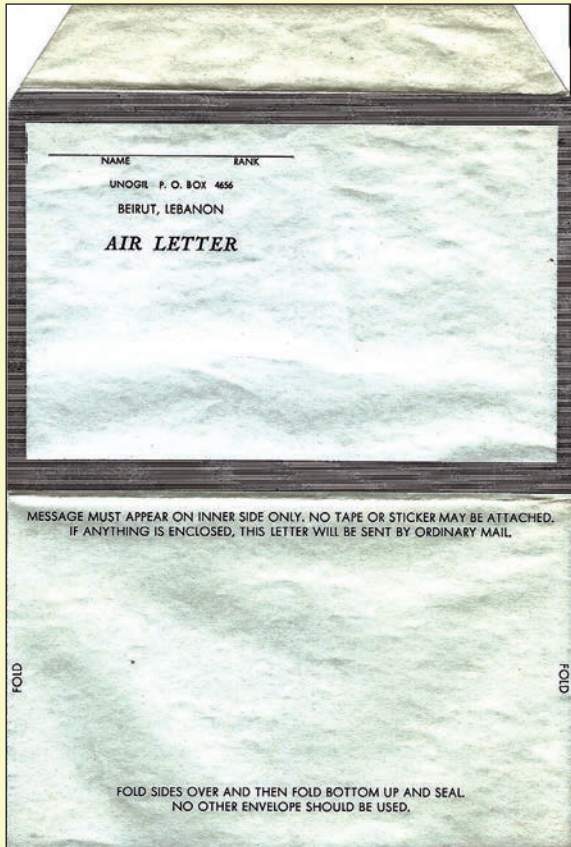
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Rabbi Tony Goldstone, Salford, England

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The Holocaust

MARTIN AMSTER FAMILY EXPERIENCE

Larry Nelson, Mantoloking, NJ

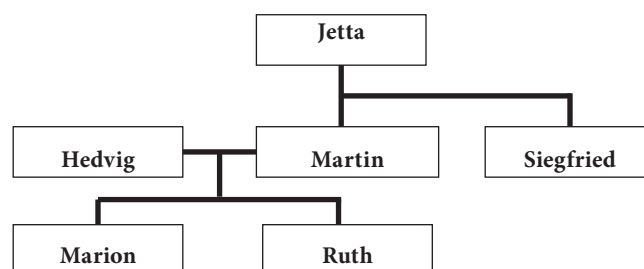
BACKGROUND

Martin Amster lived in Kassel, Germany in the period before World War II. He had a wife, Hedvig and two daughters, Marion and Ruth. The family is shown in **Figure 1** along with Martin's truck which he used to deliver the margarine that he sold.

Kassel had a relatively small Jewish community of 2,301 Jews in 1933. Even though the Kassel Jews made up less than 2% of the population, it was a strong center of antisemitism. Thus, when Kristallnacht (Crystal Night) took place in Germany on November 9, 1938, the Kassel



Figure 1
Amster Family - Ruth standing of the running board



Jews were attacked and their synagogues burned. Afterwards, 300 Kassel Jews were sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp. What follows is the story of Martin and his family and their experiences during the Holocaust as told by their postal history.

MARTIN AMSTER

Martin was born on June 22, 1898 and lived in Kassel. He had one brother, Siegfried, who was a doctor. After Kristallnacht, he was one of the 300 Jews in Kassel sent to Buchenwald. In the spring of 1939, the Germans released 2,300 Buchenwald prisoners in a "Barmherzigkeit Aktion" (mercy action) on the condition that they leave Germany as soon as possible or they would be sent back to the camp.

Martin was part of this group. With the likely help of his wife's sister who lived in the United States and Jewish relief agencies such as HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), he was able to make it to England and the Kitchener camp. This camp was funded by the Central British Fund for German

Jewry with help from the Anglo-Jewish community, the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Society of Friends. The camp provided a safe haven for around 4,000 Jewish men from Germany and Austria.

Normally the British required a complete set of immigration papers before they would let anyone into England. However, in light of the need to help the Jews released after Crystal Night, the British relaxed the standards and allowed Jews to enter on a transit visa if they had a "reasonable prospect" of re-emigrating to another country. Martin met this standard.

Figure 2 shows a cover from his wife Hedvig to Martin and



Figure 2
Kassel to Kitchener Camp, Kent, England



Figure 3
Kassel, Germany via HIAS to New York



Figure 4
Kassel to New York

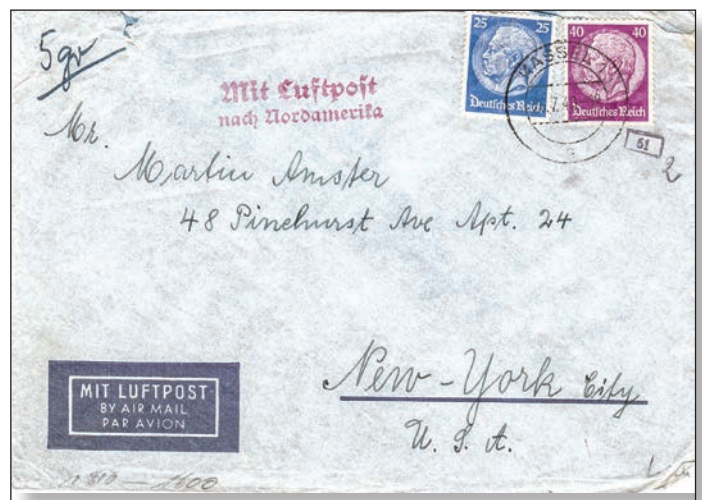


Figure 5
Kassel to New York



Figure 6
Kassel to New York



Figure 7
Kassel to New York

establishes that prior to August 30, 1939, he was already at the Kitchener Camp and lived in Hut 29/1. There are several interesting aspects to the cover. It was mailed just 2 days before the start of World War II. The Germans opened the cover the same day and examined it for any violations of the German's currency control laws. By the time the cover reached England, the war had started and it was censored by the British. Since the PC66 censor label covered the return address, the censor wrote it below the label. Finally, the cover was franked with part of a booklet pane which is unusual. However, it turns out that Martin was a stamp collector and his wife was helping him with his hobby by using the booklet pane.. Before leaving Germany, Martin gave his stamp collection to a friend for safe keeping.

MARTIN AMSTER

From the Kitchener Camp, Martin was able to make it to the United States. Shown in **Figure 3** is an airmail cover dated June 28, 1940 sent by his wife Hedvig care of HIAS, at their headquarters in New York City. At about the same time, on June 6, 1940, Martin's mother Jetta (Henriette) sent a letter to Martin's brother, Siegfried (**Figure 4**). Note that the return address is the same, so Martin's mother was living at his home in Kassel. By this time, German censorship was in full swing and both covers were censored in Frankfurt. By July 26, 1940, Martin had moved to the same address (48 Pinehurst Ave, Apt 24) as his brother (**Figure 5**).

The above covers also share the fact that starting around January 1, 1940 the Germans required Jews to use Sara or Israel as their middle name in the return address.³ Martin's wife did so but his mother failed to comply, yet the cover still went through the German postal system.

By August 23, 1940 Martin had moved to another address at 510 Audubon Avenue, Apt 24 (**Figure 6**). His wife used 7 semi postal stamps on the cover sent to him on December 3, 1940 care of Mr. Wolff at the same address (**Figure 7**). This time the British also censored the cover in Bermuda. The last cover I have to Martin from his mother Jetta is dated November 28, 1941 (**Figure 8**). Germany declared war on the United States on December 11, 1941 so probably this is the last letter that got through. The combined Hindenburg/Hitler stamp combination is not very common.

JETTA AMSTER

I have one final letter to Martin this time through the International Red Cross from his mother. A cover dated December 10, 1942 was sent to Martin by the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross (**Figure 9**). The enclosed letter explained how the Red Cross message system worked. The censorship regulations are shown in **Figure 10**. But most importantly, it enclosed a German Red Cross letter sheet (**Figure 11**) from his mother with the following prophetic message:

I have not had a report (news) from you. Children doing well.
The Israel Philatelist Spring 2016



Figure 8
Kassel to New York



Figure 9
Kassel via Red Cross, New York to New York

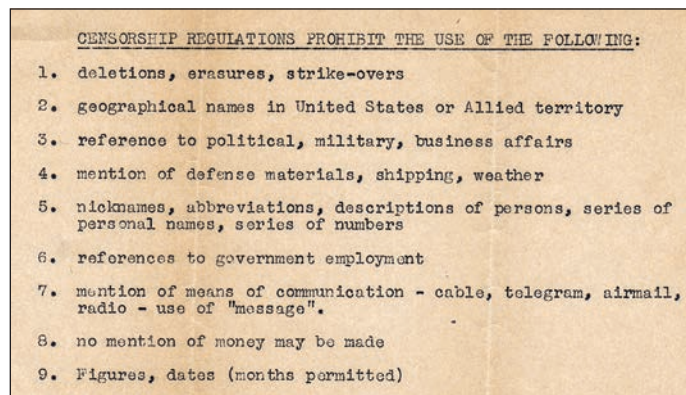


Figure 10
Red Cross Message System

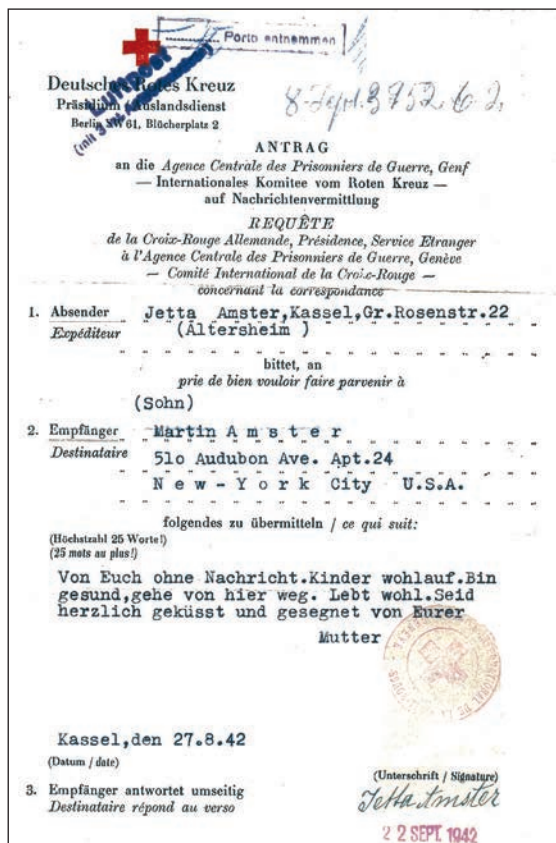


Figure 11
German Red Cross letter sheet

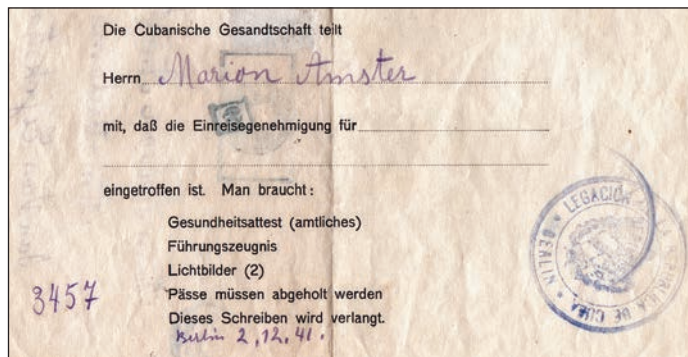


Figure 12
Cuban Embassy note to Marion Amster

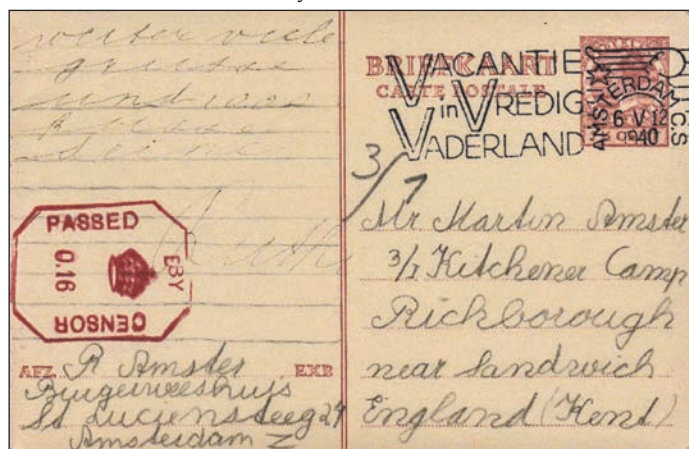


Figure 13
Ruth Amster to Martin Amster, Kitchner Camp

I am healthy, going away from here. Farewell (Goodbye).
You are warmly kissed and blessed by your mother.

The letter sheet was dated August 27, 1942. There is a handwritten "8 Sept" date at the top which is probably when the German Red Cross received the letter and gave it a control number (395262). At the bottom is a 22 Sept 1942 date by the Red Cross in Geneva with their faint red handstamp. The Red Cross letter from the New York Chapter was dated December 9, 1942. Thus, it took about 105 days to reach Martin. And this is true even though the letter sheet had a handstamp which reads in English: Airmail (with 3 international reply coupons) and a "postage removed" handstamp. It does not appear that the airmail postage did much to speed up the delivery.

So what happened to Martin's mother? The Yad Vashem database of Shoah Victims ⁴ has the following information regarding Jetta. She was born on May 8, 1866 and was the wife of a Kassel businessman. She was deported from Kassel to the Theresienstadt Ghetto on September 7, 1942. She died in the Ghetto on April 26, 1943. I suspect that Jetta knew that she would probably not be coming back when she sent the Red Cross letter sheet to her son.

HEDVIG AMSTER

What happened to Hedvig after Germany declared war on the United States and normal mail communications were no longer possible? Again, the Yad Vashem data base provides the answer. Hedvig, who was born on November 7, 1900, was deported from Kassel to the Riga, Latvia Ghetto on December 9, 1941. From there she was sent to the Stutthof Concentration Camp near Danzig on October 1, 1944. She died there on March 31, 1945. The Russians liberated the camp on May 9, 1945.

MARION AMSTER

In 1939 Martin's two daughters Marion (born April 9, 1928) and Ruth (born October 10, 1931) were sent to the Netherlands on two different Kindertransports. Both of them were at the Burgerweeshuis orphanage in Amsterdam.

Here is Marion's story. After a short time in quarantine in Amsterdam (January 4 to January 10, 1939) she was sent to Emmahuis (January 10, 1939) and then to the Burgerweeshuis Orphanage (March 16, 1939) where there were a number of Jewish children. After a short time at the orphanage, she was placed with a Dutch Jewish family, Abraham Cohen, on June 29, 1939. While with the Cohen family, Marion was trying to emigrate. In that regard, **Figure 12**, shows a card dated December 6, 1941 sent to her from the Cuban Embassy in Berlin regarding emigration to Cuba. The card was addressed to "Herrn" Marion Amster. Marion can be either a man or woman's name.

One day when Marion returned from school, the Cohen family had left and gone into hiding. She then went to the Joodsche Raad van Amsterdam (Jewish Council) for help



Figure 14
Burgerweeshuis Orphanage, Amsterdam

and was taken in by Fre Tal-Vaz Dias (Mrs Tal), the secretary to Gertrude van Tijn, who headed up the Jewish Councils emigration department ⁵.

On September 29, 1943, the Germans sent the last of Amsterdam's Jews to the Westerbork transit camp. By that time, Marion and her adoptive Tal family were also in Westerbork. From Westerbork Marion and the Tal family were sent to the Bergen-Belson concentration camp in Germany. When they arrived at Bergen-Belson, they were placed in the so called "star camp" for possible exchange by the Germans. This meant that their living conditions, while bad, were better than those in the general camp.

On April 11, 1945 a train with over 2,000 Jews, including Marion and the Tal family left Bergen-Belson for the Theresienstadt Ghetto. Given the difficult war conditions, the train never made it to Theresienstadt, but wandered around Germany for two weeks at which time the so called "Lost Train" was abandoned by the crew. The Red Army freed the surviving Jews near the small town of Tröbitz (about 50 miles south of Berlin). By late August, almost all of the Jews had left Tröbitz. Marion and the surviving members of the Tal family returned to Amsterdam. With the help of Marion's aunt, who lived in Texas, and her father, she was able to come to the United States in the summer of 1946.

RUTH AMSTER

Ruth Amster's story is different from her sister's. Ruth stayed at the Burgerweeshuis orphanage after she arrived there on March 22, 1939. On May 6, 1940 she wrote a card to her father at the Kitchener Camp indicating that she would hope to see him soon as she was coming to England (**Figure 13**) which shows this card which she donated to the Museum of Jewish Heritage). She was one of the 73 children on the SS Bodegraven which sailed from the port of IJmuiden for England on May 14, 1940. This was the last ship to sail from the Netherlands for England. Ruth was not able to connect with her father and was sent to stay with a family in Wales. However, before the war was over, Ruth was able to go the United States and be with her father, Martin.

After the war, Martin remarried and was employed as a food
The Israel Philatelist Spring 2016

service worker in a hospital. Regarding his stamp collection, after the war his "friend" denied ever receiving the stamp collection. Marion married Jack Klugerman in 1959 who was a mathematician who worked in the aero space industry. Marion died in 2012. Ruth is still alive and lives on Long Island, New York.

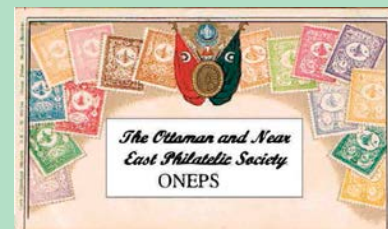
POSTSCRIPT

I would like to thank Mr. Klugerman for help in supplying information for this article. Figures 1 and 12 are from his family materials.

I would like to hear from anyone with more information on the subject of this article - [censorship@comcast.net](mailto: censorship@comcast.net).

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President's column



Hi everyone. Spring is finally here and, for many of you, Passover is close at hand.

NEW YORK WORLD PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

COMMENCING MAY 28, 2016

Many of us are excited to attend one or more days at the show. Please feel free to come to our society booth and meet with Don Chafetz, Becky Dean, me or one of our volunteers. I hope to see you at the Society's annual general meeting on Sunday, May 29 or at one of the talks given by members of our Society on the 29th or 30th. Yacov Tsachor has agreed to speak on **Fakes and Forgeries** at our AGM. Details of other talks given by me, Gary Theodore, Howard Rotterdam and Don Chafetz can be found on our Society's website.

VOLUNTEERS

Since my last column, I have not heard from any new folks who are willing to volunteer. **WE NEED YOU!!** I have said on many occasions that our society cannot run by itself. In late November 2017, in Chicago, I will be concluding my second term and intend to step down as president of our society at our annual general meeting. The terms of our current board members will also expire. I am asking all of the membership to consider running for our executive.

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.

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.

THANK YOU

My continued thanks to all of our executive and board members for their dedication to the aims and goals of the Society. Don Chafetz, Becky Dean and Vicki Galecki and others have been a great help with New York. Howard Chapman is one of our many members who has contributed so consistently to the welfare of the society. I am also grateful for our affiliation with the American Philatelic Society and the benefits from that relationship.



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DICKSTEIN AND REGGEL AWARDS

Our Society gives out awards annually for certain contributions made by our members. This year's winners will be announced at the AGM in New York and will be featured in the Summer 2016 issue of **The Israel Philatelist**.

All the best,
Regards Ed ■

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