



THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. FALL 2017

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ISAAC BRUDO'S PRIVATE POST IN MOROCCO

Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg..... 30

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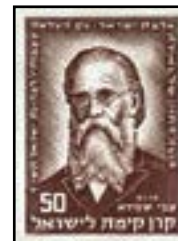
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Recently I was interviewed by Donald Harrison, publisher of the web based Jewish newspaper, **San Diego Jewish World**. His motto is "There is a Jewish Story Everywhere." This belief is based on three major assumptions:

- 1) Jews have left an imprint almost everywhere, Sometimes they were forced to leave their country of birth by an oppressor; other times, they migrated to find a better life. But wherever... And wherever they have gone, they have left traces.
- 2) The Hebrew Bible has worldwide influence. Almost wherever you go, you will find place names that are taken from the Bible. Similarly, you may find art, in any of its many forms, inspired by the Bible.
- 3) The modern nation of Israel has relationships with countries throughout the world.

Donald has traveled extensively in the San Diego area and has scouted out many sources for Jewish stories west of the Mississippi River, South of the Mexican border and throughout the Pacific rim.

His latest book **77 Miles of Jewish Stories** tells stories and anecdotes of people on the road from San Diego's Pacific Ocean coast to the Arizona border following Interstate Highway 8. A distance of 77 miles.

INTERVIEW

A newspaper friend had interviewed me last year before the 2016 International Show in New York City. She knew Donald was looking for local Jewish stories so she suggested he interview me on my stamp collecting activities.

Over a phone conversation, we set up a meeting at my house for the interview. Donald indicated that many years ago he had been a collector, but his collection has laid dormant for many years.

The interview began with the usual opening question - **How did you become a collector?** I will use some of the answers from the published interview.

I was a student in Sunday school at Temple Beth El in Buffalo, New York, in 1948, the year of Israel's independence. The school's director, Marvin Garfinkel, regularly received new issues of Israeli stamps which he resold to synagogue members and their children. In Sunday school, we would all go to his office and look at the stamps he had available for us to purchase. He was a little bit like a dealer.

What was it about the Israeli stamps that attracted you?

I like stories, I liked to read the stories behind the stamps. I believe that every stamp tells a story about the reason it was issued.

Also, I liked the art work that goes into its design. When you consider that a stamp is a miniature piece of art, able to tell a story either with an individual stamp or a series of stamps that takes design talent. I appreciate the artist's ability to visually tell that story. And, then, I like to do the research to learn more about the story behind the stamps.

Tell me about the journal, **The Israel Philatelist**, that you edit.

I was contacted by the president of the Society of Israel Philatelists, who asked if I would like to become the editor of **The Israel Philatelist**. I had in the past contributed various articles. I hesitated at first, wondering if my dyslexia might make the job of editing too difficult. Against my wife's "better advice," I decided to accept the position in October 2003.

I try to include stories written not only about stamps and covers from Israel but also from Turkish Palestine, British Mandate Palestine, stamps and postmarked envelopes issued by Israel's Arab adversaries in the various wars since David Ben-Gurion declared Israel's independence in 1948.

Additionally, the journal delves into such postal history topics as the Holocaust, Jewish baseball players, synagogues around the world, and famous Jews.

WHY BECOME A COLLECTOR?

If you are interested in history and like to study and read Jewish themed stories, philately offers tremendous opportunities. As mentioned above, in the journal I like to tell interesting stories. What I consider important about Holy Land philately is that we Jews are not numerous in the world, just a very small percentage of the world's population. Yet, we have a rich history and we have people who made really significant contributions to the world. Through philately, I am trying to keep their stories, our history and our traditions alive..

Even if you don't collect stamps, I think it is important to support the effort of Israel philatelists by reading stories about Judaism that you might not find anywhere else.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you would like to read the full interview, the web address is <http://www.sdjewishworld.com/?s=chafetz&x=61&y=9>
The web address for the **San Diego Jewish World** is <http://www.sdjewishworld.com>

Any member who wants to share their story on why they are a collector can email their story to: sipeditor@gmail.com. ■

Letters to the Editor

OVERLAND COVER RATES

Dear Don,

We do not know each other and I am not a member of the Society of Israel Philatelists, but one of your members has informed me about an article published in the **The Israel Philatelist**, Issue Spring 2017.

The article is called "Haifa-Baghdad Overland Mail" by Nathan Zankel. I specialize in the Overland Mail Baghdad-Haifa and had exhibited my collection at Spring Stampex 2017. The exhibition was also featured in the show bulletin. My collection, has been awarded a Gold Medal.

The Overland Mail article in your bulletin contains a small error as Nathan writes

Figures 3-4 - A registered cover from Jerusalem to Baghdad posted on 26th October 1923. This is the earliest recorded cover from Palestine and proves that mail for the route was being accepted in October 1923. Palestine postal records were lost after the British left Palestine in 1948 and there are no records of the postal rates charged...

The postal rates and surcharges ARE KNOWN and are indicated on my internet site at: http://fuchs-online.com/overlandmail/01_eastwards_Palestine.htm.

The image of the Palestine Cover shown in the article is also not clear enough to decipher the postage on the cover.

Looking forward to your reply,
Kind regards from Germany
Rainer Fuchs ■

YIDDISH NEWSPAPER LABEL



Shalom,

Attached is a scan of a stamp I cannot identify. Can anyone identify this stamp for me?

Thanks
Irving Adams

Don,

Morgen Freiheit was the hallmark Yiddish Communist newspaper in the United States in the 1920s. Major labor supporter and anti-racist. It was the party's banner publication. Excellent historical Jewish connection. I believe it has excellent potential.

Best,
Jesse Spector ■

Hi Don,

Well, I've the definitive answer to your question.

"Morning Freedom" was the name of a Communist paper published in New York. The small letters say "Read and Create" i.e. get more readers to subscribe.

I'm glad that I was not too far from my original translation. But I checked this out with a friend, Yiddish professor David Roskies.

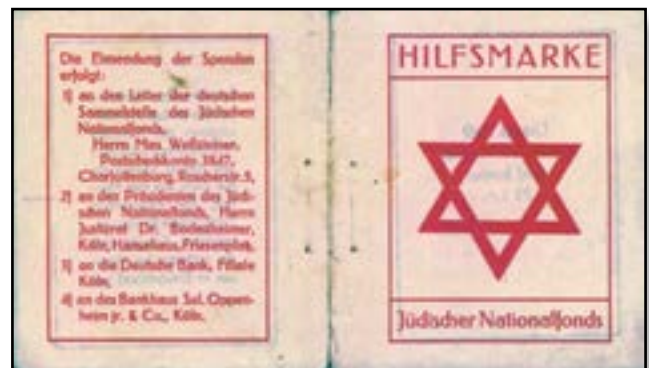
Best wishes,
Isidoro Aizenberg ■

GERMAN DONATION LABELS

Hi Don

Attached are the items we previously discussed.

Thanks
Ron Rohin ■





Don, This is as close a translation I can provide.

These are donation stamps for the Jewish National Fund

Donations of 1 Mark will be published in the national organs of the Jewish National Fund, and proceeds from donations will go to the General Center for Wounded Warriors and Distressed Families in Germany.

Submission of the donations are to be sent to:

- 1 The head of the German collection center of the Jewish National, Mr. Max Wollsteiner, Checking account 3847, Roscher St. 5, Charlottenburg
2. The President of the Jewish National Fund, Head of the Judicial Council, Dr. Bodenheimer, HansaHaus, Friesenplatz, Cologne
3. The German branch bank branch Cologne
4. Banking House Sal, Oppenheim Jr. & Co., Cologne.

Cheers,
Fran Adams ■

CHANGES TO IRCs

Good morning Don,

International Reply Coupons (IRCs) have provided a specialty area of philately since they were introduced by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1907, to facilitate payment of postage in letter exchanges between nations. Starting in the year 2000, the UPU began imprinting expiration dates (of

approximately 4 years) on IRCs; new designs were adopted every 4 years. The current IRC has an imprinted expiration date of 31 December 2017. The latest design, introduced for use 1 July 2017, worldwide, has an imprinted date of 31 December 2021 and is called the "Istanbul Model" - for the design was adopted at the UPU conference held in Istanbul.

The advent of e-mail has seen a huge decline in first class mails - and the exchange of letters between family and friends - in technologically advanced nations. This decline has witnessed a concurrent decline in the sale and use of IRCs. The United States Postal Service stopped selling IRCs in 2013. Canada Post has just advised me that they will stop selling IRCs this year.

In an e-mail exchange with Yuval Assif - the Israel Post's Philatelic liaison - I was just advised that Israel Post will also cease selling IRCs in 2017.

The UPU list of nations selling IRCs - which still includes Canada and Israel - may be seen at the following link, for those wishing to purchase the latest design of the IRC.

[http://www.upu.int/nc/en/activities/international-reply-coupons/countries-selling-ircs.html?sword_list\[0\]=international&sword_list\[1\]=reply&sword_list\[2\]=coupon](http://www.upu.int/nc/en/activities/international-reply-coupons/countries-selling-ircs.html?sword_list[0]=international&sword_list[1]=reply&sword_list[2]=coupon)

All UPU member nations, whether they sell IRCs or not - are obligated to honor and redeem IRCs presented at their Post Offices.

Fred Korr ■

POLISH CANCELLATION

Good afternoon Don,

The Summer 2017 **The Israel Philatelist** arrived today.

The letter "Palestine 1st flight cover" - from Poland to Mandate Palestine postmarked 27 Oct 1936 - asks why there would be a Polish postmark, with Hebrew lettering/text reading, in part (first flight to) "Eretz Israel".

There are two easy answers to this question:

a) Poland had what was likely the largest population of orthodox Jews in Europe. In Yiddish, the Kingdom of Judah with the Jewish religion's central Temple had been known as Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel) for several hundred years.

b) British Mandate stamps, from the 1920 and 1921 overprints to the pictorial series of 1927 - 1942, ALL carried the Hebrew abbreviation: Aleph Yud = Eretz Yisrael.

Fred Korr ■

Search for Lost Relatives Division of the Jewish Agency to Eretz Israel

Jesse I. Spector, Donald A. Chafetz, and Sol S. Shalit

We have come into possession of two late Palestine mandate era documents printed in Hebrew (one form shown Figures 1-2). On first glance they might strike one as rather bureaucratic and likely banal; however, on translation would open for us old wounds of the immediate post-Holocaust period. For you see, these documents were inquires and communications by which desperate searches for lost souls from the Holocaust were being carried out. The aftermath of the unfathomable tragedy of genocide was compounded by the grief, and yet hope, that among

the handful of survivors, ones' relatives and friends might be located alive somewhere in the world.

RELATIVE SEARCH FORMS

In this truly needle-in-a haystack undertaking, the Jewish Agency for Eretz Israel would respond to well over a million requests for whatever shreds of information might offer a ray of hope-or, if not, then at least closure to their painful search. Join us as we raise the curtain on the **Jewish Agency's Search for Lost Relatives Division**.



Figures 1 - 2

Jewish Agency to Eretz Israel, Search for Lost Relatives Division enquiry response form and form machine cancellation

Figure 1 is a printed quasi-government form from the Jewish Agency to Eretz Israel, Search for Lost Relatives Division, dated April 28, 1946, in Jerusalem. The communication is to "The Shvaiger Family, c/o Tenzer, 17 Melchet St." This folded form was posted with a 3-mils machine duplex cancel with Jerusalem circular dated cancellation (CDC) dated April 30, 1945 (Figure 2). We paraphrase the communication as follows with parenthetic explanatory notations:

Dear Sir/Madame:

We hereby inform you that we have received a greeting (message) from abroad bearing the name: Shmuel Shvaiger (conversion of names into Hebrew were frequently done phonetically so that the actual

spelling may be different), from Regina Shvaiger from Vishna, possibly Carpathian Russia, who resides now in Holishiv, Czechoslovakia.

Please respond to our office in writing or by voice and let us know by the enclosed reply form (not part of our acquisition and therefore likely forwarded back accordingly) all the details known to you on the person above (age, parents' names, place of origin, etc.) so that if this message is meant for you we shall then be able to provide you with additional details.

Regina Shvaiger is also in search of Sara Esther Klein in New York, and Vilmush Shvaiger in London."

*Sincerely yours, S. Antman,
Search for Lost Relatives Division.*

We have another folded form letter dated January 22, 1947, with bureau imprint as in Figure 1 from The Jewish Agency, addressed to Mr. Zvi (TZVI) Noyshtein, Binyamin St., Bernshtein House Rehovot. The contents are paraphrased as follows:

In reply to your letter of 12/1/47 we wish to inform you that Bela Ivshitz (or Ibshitz), of the House of Kraisler, daughter of Rivak Finemesser from Warsaw who resides at Hama'a lot Street, Bayit Katan ("little house") Jerusalem, is asking to get in touch with Noyshtein Henyek (or Benyek), son of Anka of the House of Korngold from Warsaw, Tzolna Street.

EVOLVING JEWISH AGENCY ROLE

What we find remarkable about the Jewish Agency for Israel is not only its durability for over a century, but, its ability to reinvent itself to contend with the never-ending change in the landscape of the Jewish presence in the Holy Land. The Jewish Agency was established in 1908 as an offshoot of the World Zionist Organization (WZO), predicated on the insightfulness of WZO's founder, Theodore Herzl, that the foundation to eventual Jewish statehood in Palestine required a body serving at the head of a hierarchal governmental structure. Thus was born the Palestine Office (in Hebrew, "Office of the Land of Israel"). Its directive was threefold:

- dealing with the Ottoman Empire rulers of Palestine,
- buying land for Jewish settlement and
- supporting Jewish immigration.

ZIONIST COMMISSION

Figure 3 is a photo of immigrants having arrived during the second Aliyah (1904-1914) of Eastern European and Russian Jews, and, as the photo suggests, rapidly assuming the posture of pioneer settlers.

The British victory over Turkey in Palestine in World War I lead to the 1917 proclaimed Balfour Declaration supporting a Jewish Homeland. Dr. Chaim Weizmann, head of the British Zionist Federation, created the Zionist Commission to promote recommendations to the British for a Zionist-oriented Jewish outlook in Palestine. The Palestine Office was thus incorporated into a new entity, the **Zionist Commission**, with separate departments for the major issues of immigration, agriculture, education and land purchase.

JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

In 1921 the Zionist Commission became the **Palestine Zionist Executive**, having now arrived at the quasi-governmental status in British Mandate Palestine. The Executive not only continued the activities of the Palestine Office but undertook the running of schools, hospitals, and setting up a Jewish defense force, the Haganah, in the face of ever increasing Arab hostility.

Finally, in 1929, the Palestine Zionist Executive arrived at a restructuring, officially designated the **Jewish Agency for Palestine**. This was a much larger agency, now including both Zionist and non-Zionist membership. Ostensibly a philanthropic organization with world-wide funding for its multiple directories, politics remained a major thorn to cooperation among those favoring and those opposed to the eventual creation of a sovereign Jewish state.

Early in the 1930's British heel-dragging in the creation of a Jewish homeland, and the sense that Weismann was not forceful enough under Arab pressure placed upon the British, resulted in Weismann's resigned and eventual replacement with David Ben-Gurion as Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive.

Ben-Gurion would then oversee until 1948 the Jewish Agency and its four departments: government, security, Aliyah, and education. The founding of the State of Israel in 1948 would result in Ben-Gurion leaving this post to become Israel's first Prime Minister.



Figure 3
Jewish immigrants to Palestine during the second Aliyah in the early 20th century

The Jewish Agency had thus matured over four decades of development and name changes into the structure that would become the State of Israel. For political scientists "structure" and "hierarchy" are intrinsic to an appreciation of how ends are met.

JEWISH AGENCY'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Let us briefly revisit what the Agency had accomplished at ground level during that time.

In 1929 the Jewish Agency assumed the responsibility from the World Zionist Organization for encouraging and



Figure 4

The Jewish Agency for Israel headquarters, Jerusalem, Israel

supporting immigration to Palestine. The results were astoundingly successful, yet, progressively more troubling to the Arab population. In 1922 Jews made up 13% of the population and by 1941 that number had risen to 33%. The increase amounted to 367,000 Jews having immigrated legally, with an estimated additional 50-60,000 entering illegally. The Arab population during this same period had almost doubled in size due to their natural birth rate as compared to the Jewish increase resulting almost exclusively from immigration. By 1946 the Jewish percent of the population remained unchanged at one-third, but the actual number of Jews had increased by 135,000 despite British attempts to deny entry entirely.

The increase in population was accompanied by the establishment of hundreds of new towns with infrastructures including schools and hospitals, as well as ancillary kibbutzim established one by one on an almost overnight basis. The Jewish Agency had thus become the brain and heart of the pre-state Jewish community, functioning out of an attractive, if somewhat fortress-like building in Jerusalem built in 1922 (Figure 4) and continuing its existence to the present day.

SEARCH FOR RELATIVES

With the end of World War II in 1945, the repercussions from the tragedy of the Holocaust brings us to the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives, and our study stimulated by the acquisition of the two documents described above.

The Nazi slaughter of millions of Jews resulted in a cascade of inquiries coming into the Jewish Agency's headquarters from relatives around the world seeking any bits of information that might shed light on what had become of kin and friends caught in the maw of the German's ethnic cleansing of Jews. Because many international Jewish agencies ceased to exist during the war, the Jewish Agency in Palestine shouldered the task as the main source of information for the distressed relatives.



Figure 5

Jerusalem office of the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives, Jerusalem, Israel



Figure 6

Enquiry encounters held at the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives



Figure 7

Enquiry encounters held at the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives

BUREAU ACTIVITIES

To deal with the mammoth undertaking, the Agency created the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives. Branches were set up in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa (Figures 4 - 5). Individuals could be interviewed in person seeking information about relatives lost in Europe during the war (Figures 6 - 7), as well as through written communication by survivors of the Holocaust attempting to reconnect with relatives who might have survived in parts unknown.

Additionally, the Bureau listed names in newspapers on a daily basis, both in Hebrew and in English, as well as announcing lists of names on the radio on both the Hebrew-language Voice of Jerusalem, as well as in Hebrew and Yiddish on **Voice of Zion in the Diaspora**. The Bureau eventually also published its own weekly (**To the Near and Far**) listing names and messages to missing relatives (Figures 8- 9). The latter publication continued for 63 issues until September 1947, posting more than 180,000 names of Holocaust survivors.

The Bureau fielded over one million inquiries, assisted in 30,000 Jews in Palestine being reunited with family, and made possible 60,000 Holocaust survivors contacting kin that lived in Palestine. The Search Bureau for Missing Relatives continued to function until 1999 when it was closed with some of its activities being transferred to the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem.

In the post-war years, the Bureau for Missing Relatives not only helped reunite families but also assisted Holocaust survivors whose legal records were no longer extant, in order to verify issues requiring confirmation of age, pension rights, etc. More recently, thousands of Russian immigrants from the former Soviet Union have availed themselves of the records of the Bureau in search of family members with whom they lost contact as much as fifty years ago.

OUR SEARCH RESULTS

To step back a moment in time we wish to address the parties involved in the two communications we presented above. With that in mind, we undertook a search of the files of Holocaust-related deaths as well as listings of survivors brought to the attention of agencies compiling such information.

That our investigation failed to find any of the named individuals on these documents in the Holocaust search engines we accessed can be thought of as either a promising outcome- at least they are not recorded amongst known victims of the Nazis- or, that they shall be among the missing whose outcomes will forever remain indeterminate. The magnitude of the global catastrophe obviously placed limits on the ability to determine the fate of all who still might in the long-run have been reunited with those searching for them.



Figure 8
Weekly publication of **To the Near and Far** newspaper listing names and messages in missing person searches



Figure 9
Weekly publication of **To the Near and Far** newspaper listing names and messages in missing person searches

CONTINUING BUREAU ACTIVITIES

We conclude with the knowledge that the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives served a noble purpose for a significant number of survivors of the Holocaust and their relatives, who in the aftermath of the war sought fragments of information to reconstruct shattered lives. It is also gratifying to note that the Jewish Agency for Israel, the progenitor of the Bureau, continues to thrive to the present day. With the

establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, many of the activities previously in the purview of the Agency shifted to the State. Rather than the Agency becoming superfluous it then focused its activities in a number of areas that have challenged Israel over the ensuing seven decades.

Initially, as a non-governmental organization, and subsequently as a quasi-governmental unit, it remains the primary organization for immigration (Aliyah) including the famously popular Taglit-Birthright Israel program for Jewish young people between the ages of 18 - 26 to visit Israel for 10 days, all expenses paid. Additionally, the Agency outsources Israeli citizens as emissaries around the world to serve as sources of information, particularly on college campuses, to encourage immigration, and offer internships for international students and young professionals to work for varying lengths of time in Israel.

In the mission to strengthen ties between Israel and Jews in the Diaspora, nine current programs bring Jewish and

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Zionist education and culture to areas throughout the world. An additional nine programs nurture vulnerable populations in Israel and globally; and finally, nine programs exist to deal with the seemingly intractable problem of establishing co-existence between Israel's Jewish and Arab populations. A full plate is how we describe the ambitious goals of this energized agency, is it not?

CONCLUDING THOUGHT

A final thought for the postal historian whose soul resides in the Holy Land. An inquisitive streak is of great benefit so as to avoid overlooking a diamond in the rough. Two form letters that for those unversed in Hebrew might have been passed over seemed nevertheless to nuzzle our curiosity. After hemming a bit over the effort, but then having sought out assistance to offer a translation, we were able to, so to speak, part the sea for a fascinating insight into a story that might otherwise not have been. Lesson learned, indeed.

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Interesting Israel Cover

Ken Torby



Haifa, Israel to Marion, OH
June 28, 1948

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Registration fee 15 prutah



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Marion, OH
July 1948
July 27, 1948

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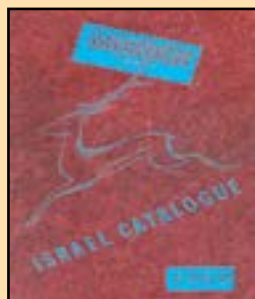
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■ **FOR SALE:** Nearly complete collection of Israel FDC's from 1970-2014, approx. 1700 covers. Also Israel pictorial cancellations on covers from 1950-1969, approx. 700 covers. Please contact Mark at, gereb@aol.com. ■

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

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

■ **FOR SALE:** I have back copies of the IP from the 1970's that are available for only the S/H charges. e-mail: bernielubran@verizon.net. ■

■ **WANTED:** Der Ewig Jude exhibit ticket stub or Fritz Hippler Film Der Ewig Jude film stub, e-mail: Chai18life@sbcglobal.net ■

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

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SYNAGOGUES OF THE WORLD CELEBRATED ON B'NAI B'RITH FIRST DAY COVERS – PART II

by Gene Eisen and David Firestone

FRENCH SYNAGOGUE

Lunéville is a small town of about 20,000 inhabitants in northeastern France. The *Synagogue of Lunéville*, completed in 1786, was the first one to be built in the Kingdom of France since the Jews were expelled in the thirteenth century.

Abraham Isaac Brisac, one of the leaders of the small Jewish community, obtained the authorization of Louis XVI to construct the synagogue; the stipulation was that the building is placed away from the public road, actually behind a home and out of sight from the street. The home was destroyed by arson in 1914.

The architect Charles Augustine Piroux in Lorraine architecture style constructed the lovely synagogue. Covered with pink sandstone from Vosges, it was decorated with royal symbols in honor of Louis XVI's recognition of the Jewish community.⁷ Three years after the synagogue's completion, the French Revolution took place and Louis XVI was no more.

The FDC commemorating the bicentennial of the French Revolution, Scott C120, July 14, 1989, is graced with a picture of the Lunéville Synagogue (Figure 14). Views of the synagogue's façade and interior are illustrated in Figures 15a, b.

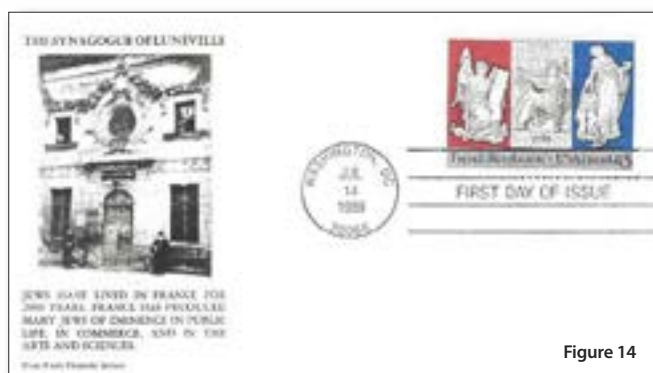


Figure 14



Figure 15a



Figure 15b

GREEK SYNAGOGUE

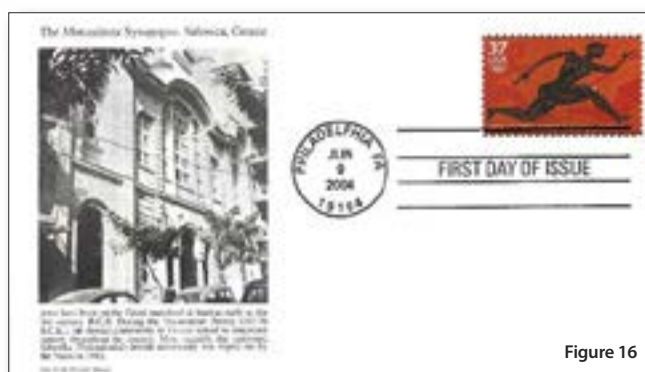


Figure 16



Figure 17a



Figure 17b

Jews lived on the Greek mainland as early as the third century B.C.E. Benjamin of Tudela, the twelfth century Jewish traveler; observed that Jews in Salonica (Thessaloniki) engaged in dying, weaving and making silk garments. Sephardic Jews immigrated to Salonica following their expulsion from Christian Spain in 1492. The community had a great economic and cultural influence on the Sephardic Jewish world. In the middle of the nineteenth century, Jewish educators and scholars from Western Europe came to Salonica to develop schools and industries. The tragedy of Salonica was the destruction of the Jewish population by the Nazis during World War II. An estimated 54,000 Jews were shipped to the Nazi extermination camps.⁸

The *Monastira (Monastir) Synagogue* in Salonika was built in 1925-1927 by Jewish immigrants from Monastir, Yugoslavia, now Macedonia, near the Greek border. It was designed by the Czech Jewish architect Eli Ernst Levi.⁸ The Monastira Synagogue is pictured on the June 9, 2004 FDC, commemorating the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece, Scott 3683 (Figure 16). Two views of the two-story structure show the impressive exterior facade and the beautiful Torah Ark (Figures 17 a, b). The Monastira Synagogue was among the few that survived WWII, thanks to the intervention of the Red Cross that used it for storage. A severe earthquake in 1978 caused damage to the building. After monumental efforts, the synagogue was restored in 2017.⁹

SOUTH AFRICAN SYNAGOGUE

Jewish association with South Africa began with the Jewish astronomers and cartographers who contributed to the success of Vasco de Gama's voyage, which led to the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope in 1497. The Dutch East India Company established a settlement at the Cape in 1652, which attracted Jewish merchants from Holland. The influx of Jews into South Africa between 1880 and 1914 grew from 4,000 to 40,000. Recent years have seen some emigration of Jews to Israel and Australia.

Although Jews were given equal rights after the Second Boer War (1899-1902), they were subject to persecution in the period leading up to WWII.

In 1930, the *Quota Act* was intended to curtail Jewish immigration to South Africa. In 1937, the *Aliens Act* prevented German Jews from entering South Africa from Germany. The Boers who supported Nazi Germany over Great Britain generally supported these laws.

Today the Jewish population stands at about 70,000. Johannesburg has the largest center of Jewish life with a population of 66,000. The *Great Synagogue in Johannesburg*, found on the Oct. 8, 1993, FDC of the African violet, Scott 2486, is one of the most beautiful in South Africa (Figure 18). The original structure on Wolmarans St. was built in 1915 and served until the late 1980's. With the decline of the central business district, attendance at the Great Synagogue declined sharply. The new synagogue, although built on a smaller scale, reproduced the original synagogue as much as feasible in terms of the proportions and such key features as its dome, columns, and arches. It also includes the original fittings of the Great Synagogue, such as the *bimah* and pulpit.¹¹ Views of the interior and exterior of the Great Synagogue are in Figures 19a, b.



Figure 19a



Figure 19b



Figure 18

SINGAPORE SYNAGOGUE

You mean to say there are Jews living in Singapore? Yes indeed, and there are even two standing synagogues and a congregation without walls. The first Jewish immigration to Singapore was Sephardic Jews of Baghdadi origin, escaping tyrannical Ottoman rule in Baghdad in the early 1800's. In 1840, the wealthy Sephardic Sassoon family established business interests in Singapore. The new community also attracted Sephardim from Persia and Ashkenazim from Eastern Europe seeking religious freedom.

In 1841, the small community built a synagogue on what was then called Synagogue Street, the first Jewish quarter in Singapore. In 1878, the *Maghain Aboth Synagogue* was completed to serve the growing Jewish population. It is the oldest synagogue in Southeast Asia. Presumably, Menasseh Meyer built his own "private" synagogue, *Chesed El*, meaning *Grace of God*, in 1905, after a dispute with a member of Maghain Aboth.^{12,13} Both synagogues were declared national historic sites in 1998.



Figure 20



Figure 21a

The *Chesed El Synagogue* is pictured on the FDC of the Year of the Dragon, Scott 3370 and Jan. 6, 2000 (Figure 20).

The beautiful façade and stain glass windows of *Chesed El Synagogue* are in Figures 21a,b.

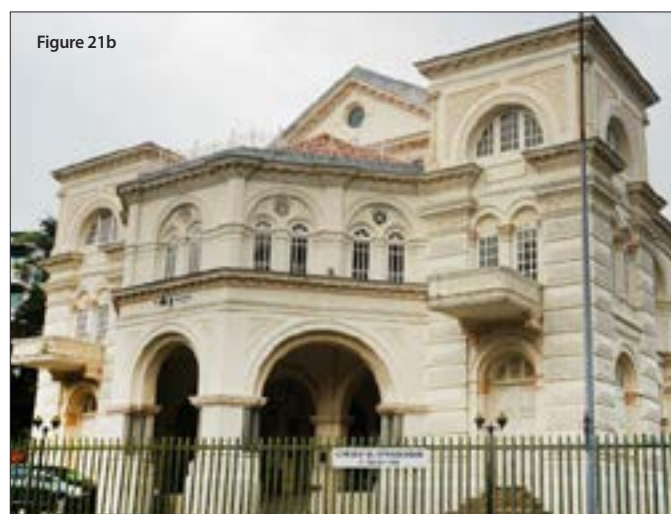


Figure 21b

CHINESE SYNAGOGUES

Kaifeng

During the Sung Dynasty, Kaifeng in Hunan Province welcomed a group of about 1,000 Jews who arrived in the tenth century from either Persia or India to work in the dyeing industry. The exact origin of these people has yet to be determined by DNA sequencing their descendants living in China today. These Jews were cut off from other Jewish communities, and their existence was unknown to Europeans until the seventeenth century.



Figure 22a

The Jews of Kaifeng built several synagogues, all of which were destroyed over time by fire or war.¹⁶ Based on documents that were found in Kaifeng, a model of the Kaifeng Synagogue was constructed in the *Beth Hatefuso* Museum of the Jewish Diaspora, Tel Aviv, which is pictured on the Chinese New Year FDC, January 5, 1998, Scott 3179 and the Israel issue of September 1, 1998, Scott 996 (Figures 22b). An interior view of a Kaifeng Synagogue is based on a 1722 drawing by Jean Dominge, S. J. in *Mandarins, Jews, and Missionaries*¹⁷ (Figure 23).

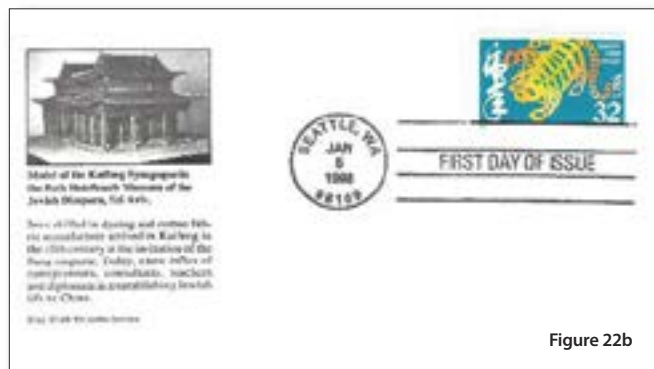


Figure 22b

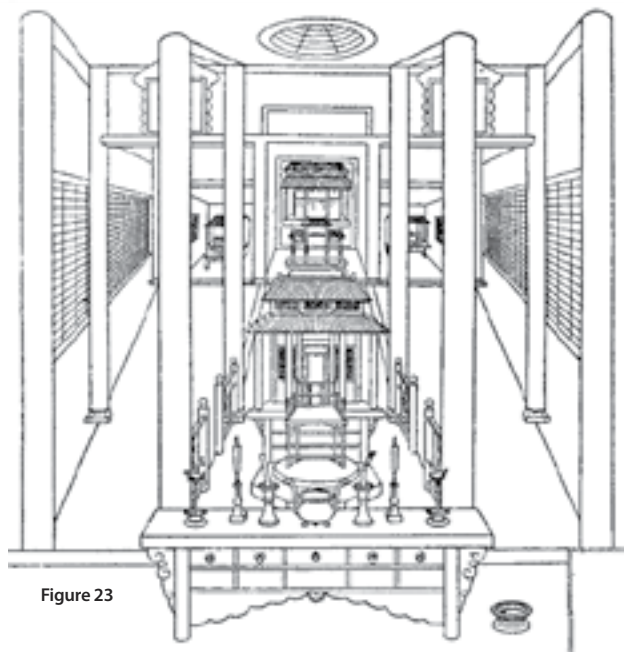


Figure 23

Shanghai

The opening of Shanghai in 1843 brought Jewish business people from Baghdad, Bombay, and Cairo. As the Jewish population grew, three synagogues were built by the early 1900s. The Jewish population expanded by several thousand when Jews fled to Shanghai after the 1917 Russian Revolution. Between 1932 and 1940, the Jewish population increased substantially because they could enter the free port of Shanghai. The greatest influx of Jews occurred between 1938 and 1941 when about 17,000 mostly Polish Jews were allowed to enter Shanghai, which by then was occupied by Japan. In 1941, the Japanese formed a restricted sector for stateless refugees, mostly Jews, of one square mile in the Hongkew district. The Shanghai Ghetto ended with liberation in 1945.¹⁸

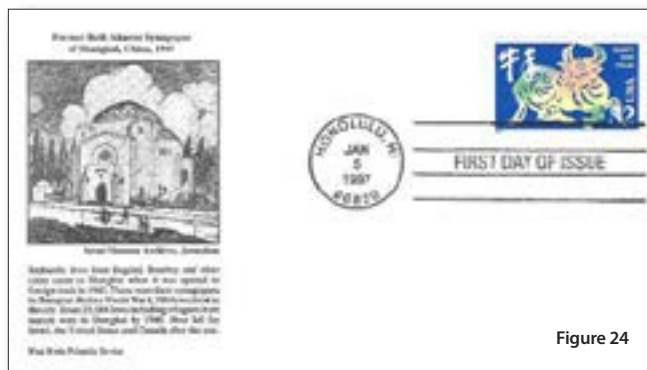


Figure 24

One of the synagogues in Shanghai was the *Beth Aharon Synagogue*, built in 1927 by the Sephardi businessman Silas Aaron Hardoon. The synagogue is illustrated on the January 5, 1987 FDC, the Year of the Ox, Scott 3120 (Figure 24). Among the Polish Jews fleeing from Nazi persecution were 400 rabbis and students of the *Mirrer Yeshiva*, the only Eastern European *yeshiva* to survive the Holocaust intact, as well as members of other *yeshivas* in Lithuania and Byelorussia. They were all housed in the *Beth Aharon Synagogue*, along with the Russian Shanghai Jewish Club.

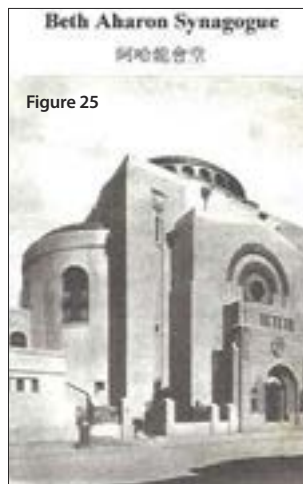


Figure 25

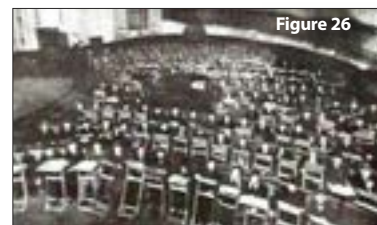


Figure 26

Throughout World War II the *Mirrer Yeshiva* members continued their studies and taught at Jewish schools in Shanghai.¹⁹ A photo of the *Beth Aharon Synagogue* is pictured in Figure 25. Students and teachers of the *Mirren Yeshiva* are shown studying in the sanctuary of the synagogue circa 1943 (Figure 26).

After the Communists won the Chinese Civil War, the *Beth Aharon Synagogue* became headquarters for the government newspaper. During the Cultural Revolution, the building was changed into a factory and eventually demolished in 1985.¹⁹

Hong Kong

Jews arrived in Hong Kong when the territory was ceded to Great Britain by China in 1842. The Jewish community was first established in 1857. *The Ohel Leah Synagogue* commemorates Leah Sassoon, the mother of the Sassoon brothers who donated the land. The Synagogue was constructed in 1901. The Jewish Community had grown from about 250 in 1854 to 6,000 in 2002. There are now four congregations in Hong Kong.



Figure 27



Figure 28a

The Ohel Leah Synagogue is on a cachet of the FDC of the Year of the Rat, February 8, 1996, Scott 3060 (Figure 27). It is believed that five of *Ohel Leah's* Torahs originated in the Kaifeng Synagogue. The façade and interior of the synagogue in Figures 28a, and

28b are built in a colonial style that incorporates elements from the Edwardian free classical style. Two impressive octagonal towers flank the exterior. The synagogue was renovated in 1996-1998. The restoration received an *Outstanding Project Award* from UNESCO.^{20, 21, 22}



Figure 28b

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22. <http://thetempletrail.com/ohel-Leah/>

2017 Synagogues of the World Figure Captions

- Figure 1 — Göteborg Synagogue FDC
 Figure 2a — Göteborg Synagogue Exterior
 Figure 2b — Göteborg Synagogue Interior
 Figure 3 — Basel Synagogue FDC
 Figure 4 — Lengau Synagogue FDC
 Figures 5,6 — Basel Synagogue Exterior, Interior
 Figures 7,8 — Lengau Synagogue Exterior, Interior
 Figure 9 — Worms Synagogue, FDC
 Figure 10 — Worms Synagogue, Bale 146
 Figures 11a,b — Worms Synagogue, FDC
 Figure 12 — Fassenstrasse Synagogue FDC
 Figures 13a,b — Synagogue Exterior, Interior
 Figure 14 — Lunéville Synagogue FDC
 Figures 15a,b — Lunéville Synagogue Exterior, Interior
 Figure 16 — Monastirota Synagogue FDC
 Figures 17a,b — Monastirota Synagogue Exterior, Interior
 Figure 18 — Johannesburg Synagogue FDC
 Figures 19a,b — Johannesburg Synagogue Johannesburg Exterior, Interior
 Figure 20 — Chesed El Synagogue FDC
 Figures 21a,b — Façade and stain glass windows of Chesed El Synagogue
 Figures 22a,b — Model of Kaifeng Synagogue FDC & Israel stamp, Scott 996
 Figure 23 — Drawings of Interior of Kaifeng Synagogue
 Figure 24 — Beth Aharon Synagogue FDC
 Figure 25 — Beth Aharon Synagogue Façade
 Figure 26 — Students and teachers in Beth Aharon sanctuary
 Figure 27 — Ohel Leah Synagogue FDC
 Figures 28a,b — Ohel Leah Façade and Interior

A Farewell To My Collection

Walter J. Levy, Dallas, TX

Stamp collectors are advised to decide what will eventually become of their collection.

If they don't, others will ultimately make that decision!

This article describes what I did with my five Israel collections:

1. Singles
2. Tab Singles
3. First Day Covers
4. Autographs on Israeli Covers
5. Netanya Philately

PHILHARMONIC STAMP

I chose the 1961 issue commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO) (named the Palestine Symphony Orchestra 1936 - 1948) in order to demonstrate the use of one stamp for multiple collecting interests.

Figure 1 features four musical instruments. One has to know a bit of Hebrew to learn from the stamp's right side that it commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra.

The tab at the bottom states in Hebrew and French that it celebrates the 25th anniversary of the IPO. Added in yellow are the stamp designers, M. & G. Shamir's, rendering of a menorah (symbol of Judaism), a tuning fork, and part of a musical clef.



Figure 2
Israel Philharmonic Orchestra FDC cover
signed by Itzhak Pearlman

who was the founder of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra. He recruited most of its musicians from Europe, thus saving them from the Hitler calamity. From the French and Hebrew, we note that this picture was taken at the first concert of the new orchestra in 1936.



Figure 1
Israel Philharmonic Orchestra 1961

The First Day Cover in Figure 2 honors this presentation further. There is a special cancellation of this event. The cachet features in green the commemorative symbols. There is a picture of the orchestra with the famed Italian conductor Arturo Toscanini (1867-1957). The violinist in the front chair is Borislav Huberman (1862-1947), Polish violinist,

The FDC is autographed by renowned Israeli-American violinist Itzhak Perlman. Perlman signed his name in Hebrew at a 1980 concert of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra at which he was the violin soloist. He has appeared frequently with the IPO.

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION

An explanation is in order about the autograph collection. It consists of nearly two-hundred items, personally obtained by me or gotten for me by friends or bought from dealers. There is only one requirement for inclusion: the signatory must have a connection with the State of Israel.

Included are artists, academicians, musicians, prominent rabbis, military leaders, famous professionals, political figures such as American presidents, secretaries of state, congressional leaders, and Israeli presidents, prime ministers, cabinet ministers, and ambassadors. Autographs are on FDCs (preferred) or on postal envelopes. Every attempt is made (not always successfully) to select a cover which in some way relates to the signatory by stamp, cancellation or cachet.

NETANYA COLLECTION

My interest in Netanya philately was prompted by the fact that I have relatives in this city. I visited quite often and did walk the road to the beach (Figure 3).

Located on the Mediterranean Sea, 19 miles north of Tel Aviv and 35 miles south of Haifa, the city is known as a vacation resort, water sports center and formerly for its diamond-cutting and diamond-polishing industry, as seen in the Figure 4 souvenir sheet. Tourism and immigrant absorption are major economic activities.

Founded in 1929, Netanya's population now tops 250,000. Its Coat of Arms is shown in Figure 5. Philatelic research brought rewarding results: Mandate, Interim, Holocaust, military mail, JNF/KKL items, picture postcards, FDCs, commercial and commemorative covers and special postmarks. It was a varied and comprehensive collection.

THE DISPOSALS

When I decided to discontinue collecting and dispose of my collections, I so informed my family. I offered them any collection; there were no takers.

I then proceeded to make inquiries with possible resources which might be interested in what I had to offer. Before making a final decision, I reported to my family and indicated that my previous offer to them was still good. It was then that one of my sons-in-law expressed interest in the autograph collection, but under one condition: I had to continue with it for as long as I could. Well, I was delighted! Something I cherished would stay in the family. And this actually involved two collections. One can't do autographs on Israeli covers without Israeli covers.

Since this agreement, nearly two dozen items have been added to the collection. Here are just six acquired by my son-in-law, by me or through our joint efforts.

1. Michael Arad, Israeli-American architect, and designer of the World Trade Center memorial at Ground Zero in New York City.
2. George W. Bush, 43rd President of the United States (2001-2009, Figure 6).
3. Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Senator from New York (2001-2009), U.S. Secretary of State (2009-2013), 2016 Democratic presidential candidate.
4. Israel Meir Lau, Chief Rabbi of Israel (1993-2003), and since 2008, Chairman of Yad Vashem (Figures 7, 8).
5. George Stephanopoulos, American journalist, and political commentator.
6. Elie Wiesel (1928-2016), Holocaust scholar and 1986 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (Figure 9).



Figure 3
Netanya walk to the beach



Figure 4
Resort and diamond cutting featured



Figure 5
Netanya Coat of Arms

Third, the Netanya Philately collection I sold to a local stamp dealer who found a customer for it in another state.

Finally, the collections of Singles and Tab Singles, comprising thirteen albums.

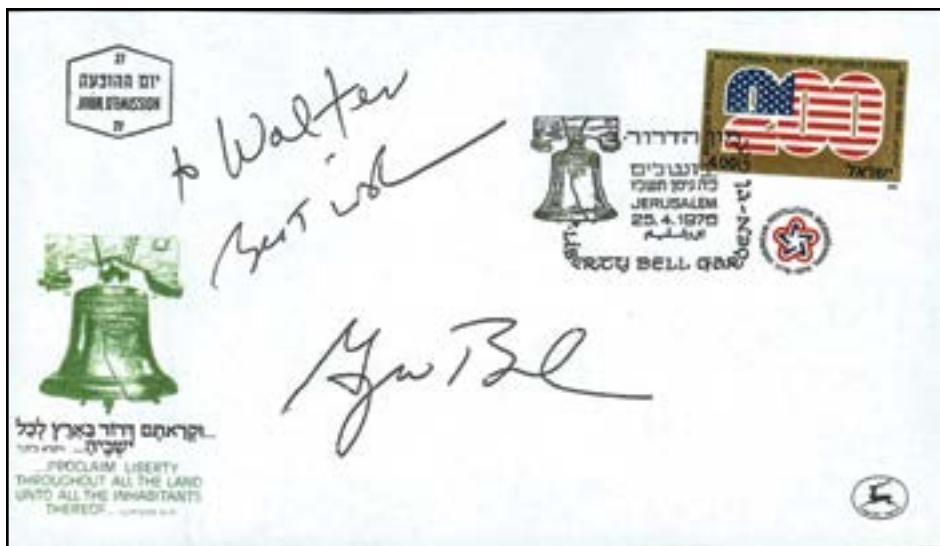


Figure 6
George W. Bush, 43rd President of the United States (2001-2009).

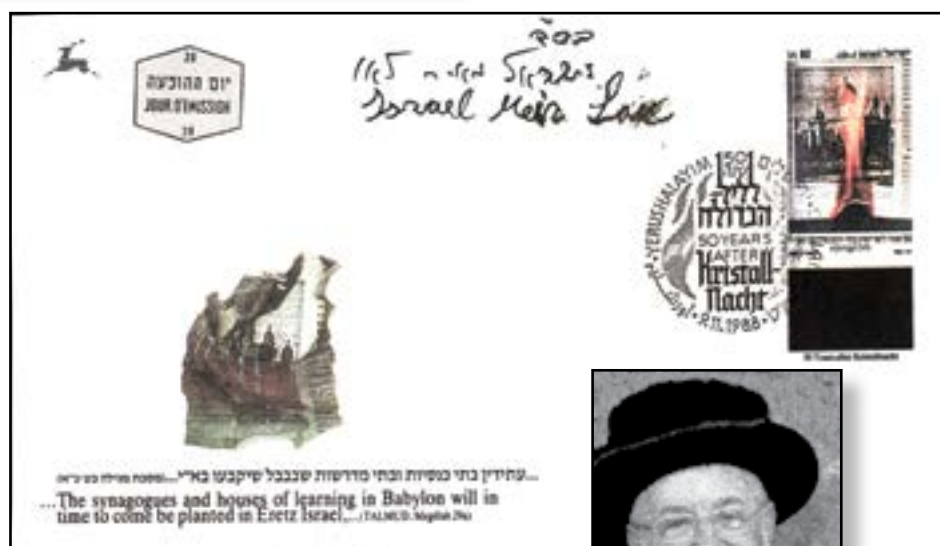


Figure 7
50th Anniversary of Crystal Night



Figure 8
Israel Meir Lau, Chief Rabbi of Israel (1993-2003), and since 2008, Chairman of Yad Vashem



Figure 9
Elie Wiesel (1928-2016)
Holocaust scholar
1986 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

I decided to donate both to the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library of the University of Texas at Dallas. The university and my accountant required an appraisal. This was done by our late friend and respected philatelist Marvin Siegel. These two collections are still available for research and viewing at the library.

This farewell to my five Israel collections was not as sad as I had anticipated.

I shed only a little tear. ■

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Famine in Persia 1871/72

A GERMAN RABBI'S AID APPEAL AND THE UNEXPECTED SUPPORT OF A BAVARIAN MAYOR

Peter F. Baer



Figure 1

It always pays not only to check front and reverse of old folded letters with a philatelic eye, but also to read the message if it still exists. So quite often if we have the message we can gain insight into long ago incidents.

The folded letter (Figure 1) I would like to discuss had been mailed in Dürkheim, nowadays Bad Dürkheim. It was sent as printed matter (postal rate 1 Kreuzer) in 1872. This city is located in the Palatinate area which then belonged to the kingdom of Bavaria. The destination was Handorf in the Prussian kingdom. I could tell more about the two different stamp watermarks or the typical Bavarian postmark, but this is not the point of the article.

When I found this cover I immediately was interested in the printed addressee completed by the handwritten local destination. I opened the letter and found two printed messages dated January 12, 1872, and a list to be filled out



Figure 2

Authors summary of Figure 2 letter

The message with the headline "EUER WOHLGEBOREN" (hard to translate - the meaning is "highly respected Sir" as salutation). The rabbi writes about his requested distribution of the article already printed in DÜRKHEIMER ANZEIGER on January 8th in as many as possible newspapers. And he talks about his mailing letters to so many communities (even to those without Jewish population). He then tells about the mayor of Pfarrkirchen.

WHO WAS DR. ADOLF SALVENDI?

The first message (Figure 2) has the headline "cry for help". It was sent to the Jewish community in order to collect charitable donations for the suffering Jews in Persia.

The sender was Dr. Adolf Salvendi, district rabbi in Dürkheim. He was born in 1837 in Nové Mesto nad Váhom (Slovakia) and died in 1914 in Karlsruhe/Germany. He received his initial education with Slovakian Rabbi Josef Weisse. Salvendi became a Rabbi in Kościerzyna (Berent in German) for a short time and then moved to the Bavarian Palatinate.

In 1866 he won a competitive position advertised in the **DER ISRAELIT** journal for the position of district rabbinate in Dürkheim-Frankenthal. He held this strict orthodoxy office until 1909. He had a leading position in several charity activities. Besides his involvement in Persia, he relentlessly collected money for the Jews in Russia and Palestine. In appreciation of his activities, Dr. Salvendi became an honorary member of the central committee of Chovevei Zion (Friends of Zion) in 1884. This was a Europe-wide movement founded in 1881.

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF DÜRKHEIM

The Jewish community in Dürkheim was one of the oldest in the Palatinate dating back to 1300. During the 17th century, they had to pay Danegeld to the Earl of Leiningen. (*Editor's note: "Danish tax" raised to pay tribute to the Viking raiders to save a land from being ravaged*⁸). It was called the geld or gafol in eleventh-century sources. In 1687 four Jewish families lived in Dürkheim. The so-called city manifestation from 1700 declares that the Jews used to settle at the best locations in town which aggrieved the Christian merchants. Therefore they were forced to sell their houses along the main street and had to move into side streets. This regulation was valid for the next 90 years. As of the middle of the 19th century, there were Jewish merchants, a few craftsmen, winery owners and a workforce completely integrated into the provincial life. In 1871 there were 5,511 people in Dürkheim including 281 Jews. In Nazi Germany, all Jews were driven out, deported or murdered.

JEWISH COMMUNITY OF PERSIA

The Jewish community in Persia is the oldest community outside Palestine with roots dating back to the first temple period in the sixth century BCE. The Jews that stayed in Persia



Figure 3

under Cyrus settled in the Persian provinces of Hamadan and Susa. The independence of Persia was ended when the Arabs conquered the country in 642 CE.. Islam was declared the state religion. Up to the 19th century, the Jews in Persia were discriminated against. Often complete communities were forced to convert to Islam. This caused an immigration wave to Palestine and strengthened the Zionist idea.

CRY FOR DONATIONS

Dr. Salvendi's drastic words crying for help refers to the famine in the Persian province of Shiraz. According to reports of the British consul 25,000 Jews are threatened by starvation. The Rabbi insistently asked for donation (Figure 3). Each donor was to be noted in the journals **HAMAGID** and **DER ISRAELIT**. The appeal is ended by Isaiah 58 verses 7 and 8 where charity (Tzedakah) is requested.

The situation in Persia as described by Dr. Salvendi was not excessive at all.

In 1872 the German gazette **DAHEIM**, issue 29, wrote a detailed report about the situation. A letter sent by the British missionary Robert Bruce to his superior back home had been released to the public. Twenty-five-year-old Bruce from the Church Mission Society (CMS) had traveled to Persia in 1869 to learn the Persian language. He experienced the famine in Isfahan first hand. He succeeded in raising a donation of 16,000 Pounds Sterling. The donation was organized by the Anglican Church in Ireland and England in order to relieve the hardest misery.

THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND

The following are some translation of passages from the detailed Bruce's missionary's letter:

Authors summary of Figure 3 letter

The letter with "RETTUNGSRUF! THEURE BRÜDER!" (These two phrases mean "cry for help" and "dearest brethren"). It is the message where the rabbi writes about the bad harvest in the district of Shiraz causing the threatening famine of 25,000 Jews. He ends with Isaiah 58, 7-8.

7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and ADONAI's glory will follow you.

The current situation of the Muhammadans in this country is extremely miserable. The streets in Isfahan, Jedd and most southern and eastern cities are covered by dying and dead persons. Travelers arriving here in Isfahan declare unanimously that there are bodies all over, eaten by dogs and beasts.

The road from Isfahan to Tehran is crowded by thousands of beggars leaving the poor Eastern area on their way to the capital hoping to snatch a piece of bread. Most of the old people die from starvation on the roads, and the beggars savaged the cadavers to allay their hunger by eating the raw meat.

The Persian postal service had completely collapsed. The government enforces taxes with unheard of ruthlessness and cruelty. Particularly terrible is the misery among the Jews. I saw them living in underground caves close to death from starvation. I never before have seen such dirty misery and squalidness in my life.

There I met the Persian tax collector who said to me: "Sir, I tell you that I have taken away their beds from under their bodies and ripped off their clothes. What can I do? I am a servant and must obey."

Quite often I hear stories about the slaughtered and eaten children. If you experience the calamity and ruefulness you sadly must believe in this horrid truth.

WIDER CRY FOR DONATIONS

Bruce's information about cannibalism was confirmed by British authorities. Also, the Australian newspaper **SYDNEY MORNING HERALD** reported the same on September 8, 1871. An official report said about two million people died from starvation.

But now I like to talk about the second message which tells about an unusual intervention significant even today (Figure 3).

Rabbi Dr. Salvendi asked the local newspaper **DÜRKHEIMER ANZEIGER** to print the following message as they had done previously on January 8, 1872. The Rabbi writes that the charitable donations have already reached a total of more than 2,000 Guilders. Then he explains that he had sent his aid appeal to cities where no Jewish community existed on the off chance they might help. In many cases, these letters were returned. Not so the letter addressed to Pfarrkirchen in Bavaria. In this small settlement lived 4,119 people in 1871 but no Jews. Fortunately, the Rabbi's cry for help reached the mayor's office.

On December 26, 1871, the mayor composed a circular with the following words:

Though in our town no Jews live, the Rabbi's appeal is appropriate to inform our nobles and citizens because the distress is extreme. Every needy human may be certain of support from a Christian. Therefore, we invite our citizens to donate voluntarily. The final amount we will mail to Dr. Salvendi immediately.

This circular plus the Rabbi's appeal raised a total amount 25 Guilders and was sent via money order to Dr. Salvendi.

The Rabbi words moved the mayor into action:


Such a noble gesture inspired by a spirit of real and absolute humanity deserves to be published in all circles, and I request all editorial offices of daily and weekly papers in Palatinate to print this message.

I think that is a wonderful story of neighborly solidarity overcoming religious differences.

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ISRAEL TABS, BLOCKS AND TOPICALS




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

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Colleagues Discover the “God Particle”

Gene Eisen

INTRODUCTION

Belgium issued a souvenir sheet on Oct. 24, 2016, recognizing twelve Nobel Laureates (Figure 2) who are Belgian citizens. One of those honored was François Englert, a Holocaust survivor and the 2013 co-winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics.

A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR



Figure 1

François Englert

François Englert (Figure 1) was born in Etterbeek, Belgium on November 6, 1932. His parents had emigrated from Poland in 1924 with his infant brother, seeking a better economic life and an escape from the virulent anti-Semitism of their home country.

François' parents built a successful textile shop and were doing well until Nazi Germany invaded Belgium in 1940. The persecution against Belgium's Jewish population began slowly. After two years, Jews were required to wear the Star of David so that they could be easily singled out. Then things became desperate as Jews began to be deported to concentration camps.¹

The Englert family survived the war in Belgium thanks to help from many brave people, as described in Englert's moving words:

My parents were hiding in a place unknown to me. Being separated from them helped to increase my chances of survival, I was taken care of by Camille and Louise Jourdan, the owners of a café-restaurant in Lustin...and the priest Warnon of Annevoise, where our family, fleeing from Lustin after a denunciation, reunited and stayed to the end of the war; he presented us to the village inhabitants as Christians; he went as far as baptizing me so that I could attend the Catholic College as an ordinary student; he enrolled my brother, dressed in a fake soutaine, as a seminarian as if preparing him for priesthood....¹

EDUCATION AND CAREER

Englert returned to a reasonably normal life after

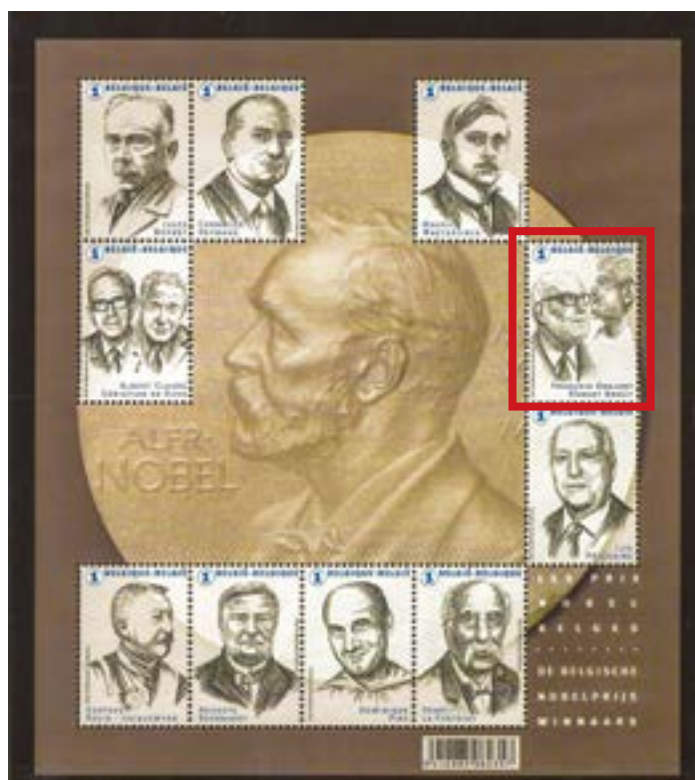


Figure 2 Belgium Nobel Laureates

the war. He excelled in his secondary school studies, particularly in mathematics. Choosing to pursue a degree in electromechanical engineering, he entered the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), graduating in 1955. Englert's interests turned from practical applications to theoretical questions, so he pursued his MS (1958) and Ph.D. (1959) in physics at ULB.²

From 1959-1961, Englert worked at Cornell University in the United States, first as a research associate of Robert Brout and then as an assistant professor. He later decided to return to ULB where he became a university professor and was soon joined by Brout. At ULB, Englert and Brout collaborated on research in particle physics.²

THE HIGGS BOSON AKA THE "GOD PARTICLE"



Figure 2 Peter Higgs

The Higgs boson is a particle in the Standard Model of particle physics. In 1964, three papers by three different physics groups proposed the existence of this elusive particle named after Peter Higgs, (Figure 2) one of the authors in the original series of papers.³

Leon Lederman, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, and science writer Dick Teresi labeled the Higgs boson as "The God Particle" because it is so central to our final understanding of matter.⁴

THE NOBEL PRIZE

On July 4, 2012, physicists working at the Large Hadron Collider announced that they had discovered a particle matching the predicted description of the Higgs boson. A simulated event at the Large Hadron Collider depicts the decay of a Higgs particle following a collision of two protons in the experiment (Figure 3).

These series of experiments in 2012 provided verification of the existence of the Higgs boson, which earlier had been predicted by Englert, Higgs, and Brout. In 2013, François Englert and Peter Higgs were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of the Higgs mechanism.

Had Robert Brout not died in 2011, there is no doubt that he would have shared the prize with Englert and Higgs.

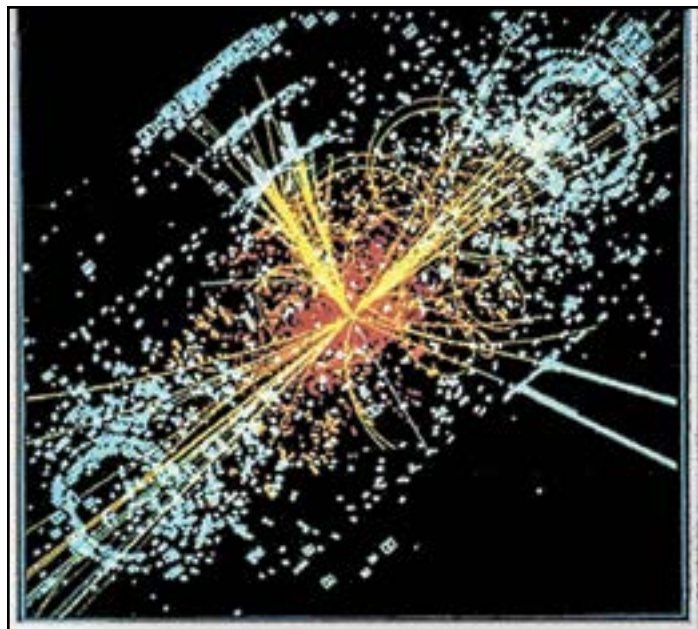


Figure 3

Simulated data from the Large Hadron Collider particle detector shows the Higgs boson produced after two protons collide. Credit: CERN.

The God Particle is now officially recognized in the lore of particle physics.

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The Six-Day War

REMINISCENCE

Robert A. Moss, Metuchen, NJ



Figure 1
Tzahal



Figure 2
Straits of Tiran



Figure 3
The Western Wall

June 2017 marked the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War between Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and Syria. In retrospect, the lightning-like victory of Israel over formidable adversaries poised to destroy it still seems miraculous. At the time, the world's Jewish communities were filled with fear and foreboding.

I recall a huge open-air rally in Manhattan, at which the distinguished historian Barbara Tuchman, author of **The Guns of August**, warned of the dire days ahead and asked us to contact our representatives and senators to urge support for Israel. Yet, Abba Eban, Israel's Foreign Minister, found no such support on his visits to De Gaulle in Paris or Lyndon Johnson in Washington.¹

PERSONAL QUANDARY

On a personal level, my wife and I faced a particular quandary: our wedding was scheduled for June 11 1967. How, we wondered, could we celebrate a simcha in the face of an impending catastrophe? The war began on June 5 and ended six days later on June 10. Israel's victory was enormous:

1. the West Bank,
2. all of Jerusalem,
3. the Sinai desert to the Suez canal,
4. the Golan Heights were in Israeli hands

Our wedding on Saturday evening, June 11, celebrated more than our simcha and I am convinced that a significant portion of the cocktails consumed was not only in our honor.

PHILATELIC COMMEMORATIVES

Considering the enormity of Israel's victory, its subsequent philatelic commemoration was relatively modest: three stamps were issued on 16 August 1967 to mark the event; Figures 1-3.

Figure 1: The stamp depicts the sword and olive branch emblem of Tzahal, the Israel Defense Forces. "Tzahal" is the Hebrew acronym for "tzva hahaganah le-Yisrael." The tab bears a quotation from Deuteronomy 31:7

Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

There is a very similar verse in Joshua 1:9

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Figure 2: It shows an Israeli ship passing through the **Straits of Tiran**. The Egyptian blockade of the Straits cut off Israeli access to the Gulf of Aqaba and thus to its southern port of Eilat. This action was in violation of agreements reached after the Sinai war of 1956 and was part of the Egyptian "noose" tightening around Israel in June 1967. International agencies (United Nations) and authorities did nothing to oppose the Egyptian action.

After the war, the Straits were again open to navigation by all nations.

The tab carries a quotation from Isaiah 43:

*When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.
When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.*

Figure 3: It celebrates the Western Wall, part of a retaining wall built by Herod (ca. 5 B.C.E.) around the Temple Mount to provide support for his expansion and reconstruction of the second Temple. The Romans in 70 C.E. destroyed Herod's Temple. The Western Wall, as the sole remnant, became the holiest place for Jewish prayer.

After Israel's 1948 War of Independence, Jordan controlled East Jerusalem, including the Temple Mount and the two mosques, which dominate it. Jewish access was forbidden and the Western Wall was unreachable. Thus, the principal prize of the Six-Day War was the capture of the West Bank and East Jerusalem. Jews were now free to resume prayer at the Western Wall, which, after 2000 years, was no longer controlled by Romans, Christians, or Muslims.

The tab of the Western Wall stamp cites 1 Kings, 9:3,

*And the Lord said unto him,
I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication,
that thou hast made before me:
I have hallowed this house, which thou hast
built, to put my name there for ever;
and mine eyes and mine heart
shall be there perpetually.*

There is some irony here in that God's promise was made to King Solomon and refers to the first Temple, not the second Temple and its Western Wall. Biblical quotations are malleable.

FINAL THOUGHTS

The Six-Day War was a watershed in the modern history of the Middle East whose consequences are still playing out. Some, like the peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, are laudable; others, such as the seemingly intractable conflict with the Palestinians, are regrettable. Nevertheless, the celebration of this 50th anniversary seems well warranted, and Israel's philatelic commemoration appropriate in both scale and subject.

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Doar Ivri Gem

From the collection of Selwyn Uria



Incoming cover to Israel that was taxed with the Dmei Doar five color 1st postage due stamps.

Cover sent from Montreal, Canada to Kfar Darom c/o P.O. Box, Tel Aviv on October 21, 1949, Kfar Darom was a village in the Negev that maintained like all settlements a P.O. Box in Tel Aviv.

In Canada, the cover was marked with a faint circular purple postage due handstamp "T 150 centimes". Israel applied a square purple box indicating the postage due fee was 150 mils. The fee was converted to 150 mils. The postage due was collected by the application of the five different first postage due stamps. The stamps total 151 mils which represents an overpayment of 1 mil. The stamps are canceled and tied to the cover with a Tel Aviv cancel date 3 - 11 - 1949. (Tsachor certificate). ■

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ISAAC BRUDO'S PRIVATE POST IN MOROCCO

Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg

Searching for an article among many that I had clipped, set aside, and kept for future reference, I came across one in **Linn's Stamp News**, entitled *Local Post in Morocco*.¹ I recall saving the article because it made reference to an Isaac Brudo, considered to have been responsible for starting the earliest of several private local posts in Morocco at the end of the 19th century. Near Brudo's name, I had noted in pencil "Was he Jewish?"

My olfactory nerve was on the right track. Not only did Brudo turn out to be a member of the tribe, but he was also one of several Jews of European origin responsible for pioneering and launching several Moroccan private local postal services.

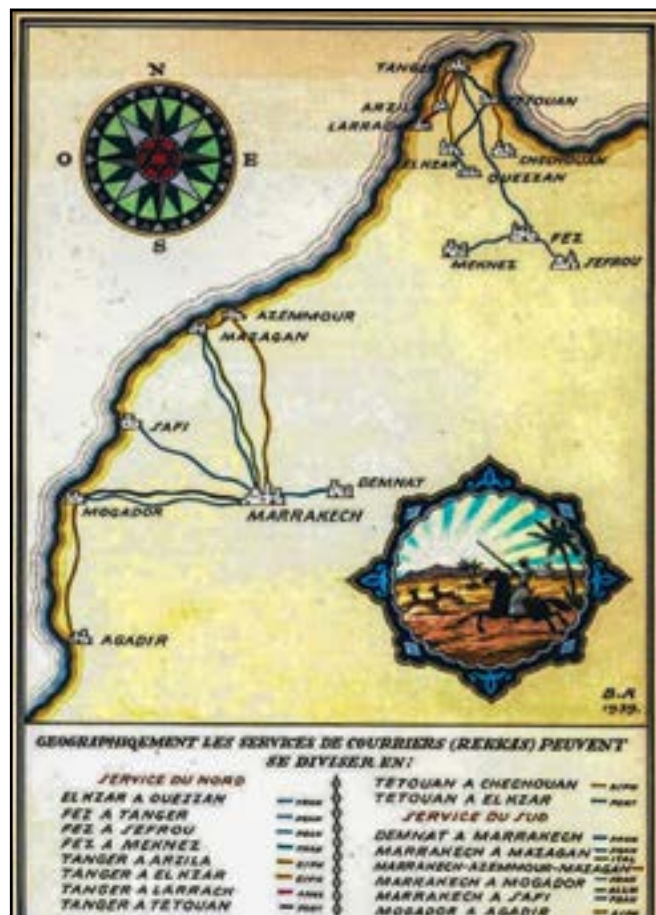


Figure 1

Map Morocco private posts

http://www.collectorsclub.org/Presentations/2014/140903/MOROCCO_POSTAL_HISTORY_1852-1925_CCNY_V1.pdf

THE HUNT

I was now ready to start digging for information about Brudo. What a fascinating world I found! Furthermore, this Moroccan private postal service was coming to my attention on the heel of my two previous contributions to **The Israel Philatelist** also dealing with the private posts: Julio Popper in southern Argentina and the last one about Jacob Abraham Jesurun in Curaçao. (Is there, perhaps, enough material for a small volume entitled **Jewish Pioneers of Worldwide Postal Services?**)

Much of the information for this article, I gleaned from a number of posted articles in French and English journal's websites. None, however, offers a whole picture of the Brudo stamps. I've tried

to pull all the information I gathered together and gear it to the Judaica philately reader and others interested in the subject. I intentionally stayed away from the technical aspects of the stamps as I estimated that this information was not relevant in this context.

JEW IN MOROCCO

As with so much else in our Internet/Google age, there are reams of information readily available about almost any subject with the pressing of a few keys, and a search for “the Jews of Morocco” is no exception. There are also multiple books available about Moroccan Jews in French, Hebrew, and English. Consequently, I’m going to limit myself to referring to just a few facts about Moroccan Jews that are relevant to my topic.

Morocco’s proximity to the European mainland made the land accessible to cross-Mediterranean migrations in all directions, depending on local political-religious conditions. Jews came to Morocco from several European countries, and in turn, if conditions turned sour, moved back and settled in cities bordering the North Sea, the Ottoman Empire, and Eretz Israel.

GOLDEN PERIOD

In the late 17th century, a major political change took place with the rise of the Alawid Dynasty – assisted by the Jews. The alliance forged by the two groups was to last centuries, as manifested by the role of King Hassan II (1929-1999) in protecting the Jewish community of his day from radical Islamic anti-Israel manifestations.

When the Vichy government earlier introduced its version of the Nuremberg Laws in Morocco, despite the opposition of the sultan and king, Muhammad V (1927-1953, 1957-1961), the father of Hassan II, did not allow Moroccan Jews to be discriminated against. Instead, he advocated for Jews to be treated in the same way as Muslims. Such a relationship between Muslims rulers and its Jewish population was unique and radically different from how it developed in other Muslim countries.

By the waning decades of the 19th century, Morocco, at the crossroads of many cultures, was ripe for further European colonial enterprises. The Portuguese, Spanish, Germans, and French had established footholds in the land. Morocco’s biggest cities were in the interior, where political power was concentrated: Fez, Meknes, and Marrakesh.

BUSINESS NETWORK

Jewish communities were scattered all along the trade routes, from the Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts to the northern edge of the Sahara. Jewish merchants were engaged in long-distance trade, linking Morocco with sub-Saharan Africa, other parts of North Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. Jewish peddlers were ubiquitous in the countryside, connecting a vast network of small settlements

with the major towns of the interior. A good number of these business enterprises were in the hands of Jews who were also actively involved in Jewish communal life.

In the coastal cities of Tetouan, Tangier, Rabat, El Jadida, Safi, and Essaouira where many consulates were located, many Jews, in disproportionate numbers to Muslims, were agents of foreign firms. The foreign consulates and mercantile houses also retained a number of Jewish protégés as their agents in the interior of the country.² The Moroccan port-cities were the most prosperous, while the interior of the country remained isolated, and tied to them only by caravans.³

LOCAL POST

Already in 1852, the French consulate opened a postal service in Tangier, being followed by the British in 1857 and the Spanish in 1865. These services, however, were limited to the port city and the European cities of these countries across the Mediterranean.

But it was in the context of a foreign diplomatic presence in the mid-eighteen hundreds that added to the business acumen and entrepreneurship of the son of the French vice-consul in Mazagan (now El Jadida), Isaac Brudo. He had the initiative to create a postal service intended to assist foreign traders lacking this form of communication with the interior of the country.⁴



Figure 2
Isaac Brudo (1860 - 3/20/1945)
Buried:
Mazagan Jewish cemetery, Morocco

LOCAL POST SERVICE ESTABLISHED

The very first local post service in Morocco began on October 24, 1891 with the cooperation of the French



Figure 3
J. Brudo’s Mazagan Morocco cancel
postal service. It was weekly at first, then soon became daily. This was a result of its overwhelming success leading to

it being “quickly emulated, not only by other Europeans, including French nationals, but also by the Sultan of Morocco.” Soon the so called “Cachets Maghzen” (made up of 13 different handstamps) and the “Sherifian Post” (The Sherifian Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Administration that began in 1911 and launched by the new Sultan Moulay Abd El Aziz).

Editor’s note: The Sherifian postal service, also called Rekkas, functioned from November of 1892 and first used hand seals better known as “Maghzen Cachets”. It was organized and regulated by a letter from the 20 Djoumada El Aouala (November 22, 1892) of His Majesty the Sultan Moulay Hassan 1st. There are 13 octagonal seals and 13 round seals. The former were intended for private use, and the latter for that of Her Majesty’s services. Each seal is available in 6 different colors: purple, black, blue, green, red and orange.¹²

Brudo’s administered-mail was transported between Mazagan, site of the most important port on the Atlantic coast of Morocco, and Marrakesh, the royal, ancient, capital of southern Morocco. It was home to what was one of the Arab world’s largest Jewish populations. The mail traveled 205 kilometers (about 127 miles) through Sidi Bennour, Smira and Souinia, following almost a straight line. Each trip took about 46 hours.⁵



Figure 4

Rekkas, the Morocco “postmen” that transported Brudo’s mail.

It was transported by “Rekkas” (couriers) (Figure 4) who were hired at the rate of 2s per day. Mounted on Arabian horses, these armed riders covered up to 25 miles per day. Theirs was a difficult task, carrying “the mail over hill and dale. These Rekkas have appeared in paintings and sketches,

inspired in varying degree by the artist’s imagination.” Isaac Brudo ran his office from his residence in Mazagan. His counterparts in Marrakesh were two other Sephardi Jew, Jacob Hazan, who handled the mail, together with his assistant, Abraham Corcos.⁶

BRUDOS’ STAMPS



Figure 5
First stamps

The first Brudo stamp issued “was worth 25 centimes” (Figure 5). The stamp design is simple – large figures on a background of lines, with below the words ‘Mazagan a Maroc,’ (“Maroc” in this case stood for Marrakesh) and above, ‘Service de Courriers,’ (a courier service, not much different in its concept from the contemporary DHL or FedEx, except that the transportation fee was paid by the affixed stamps). The printing was done by lithography in red on white paper.



Figure 6

In [September] 1892, the tariff having been lowered, the 25c value was surcharged with the words ‘10 cents,’ in thick letters on a line, the surcharge being black and blue (Figure 6).

Later in the same year, the final series was put into use, comprising five values (Figure 7) [and] in 1894 a new value, 20c, was added. The design represents a portico with the value framed in the center.⁷ The 25 centimes stamp was the cost of postage for an ordinary letter and any printed matter of up to 100 grams, about three and a half ounces.



Figure 7
2nd issue

Official authorization was granted by the French for Brudo [not only] to print [but also] to cancel stamps of his service. The third issue used six-pointed stars around the border to indicate his ethnic origin (Figure 8). “Canceled in Latin and Hebrew letters. ...[the] bullseye cancellations were the order of the day to prevent fraudulent re-use of the stamps.”⁸ Certain proclivities never change (Figure 9).



Figure 8
3rd issue

BRUDOS' CANCELLATIONS

Six different cancellations exist on three [Brudo] issues from 1891 to 1902 when this local service was absorbed by the French Post (Figure 9).



Figure 9
Sample cancellation

EXPANSION - MARRAKESH TO SAFI



Figure 10
Marrakesh to Safi issue

In 1897, Brudo, ostensibly satisfied with his successful mail service, opened up another service going from Marrakesh to Safi, on the Atlantic coast in Western Morocco. The Safi locale was managed by Brudo's friend Joseph André, a local merchant.

The stamps used for this service were printed by Waterloo & Son in London. The oblong design represents a native village. On account of a curious mistake of the engraver, the values [were] printed in Spanish and in Italian, though there [were] hardly any Italians in the country; the second language should have been French (Figure 10).

ADDITIONAL ROUTE - MARRAKESH TO SAFI



Figure 11
In 1899 a new set, representing an antelope hunt, was put into service.



POSTAGE DUE STAMPS

Lastly, a series of postage-due stamps, of simple design, was issued, the inscription being in French and the values in Spanish currency.⁹ (Figure 12)



Figure 12 and Figure 9 (top 2 stamps)

OTHER PRIVATE POSTS

The *Alnis Guide to the Local Posts of Morocco* devotes several pages to a listing of every Brudo issued stamp, in addition to its varieties, cancels, and including its forgeries and reprints.¹⁰

Twenty-one Moroccan private couriers from town to town were established between 1891 and 1906, and all ended by 1911. Some of them generated several stamp issues including postage due stamps. A complete summary list of these services, the Moroccan cities they served, the years during which they operated, and the people responsible for running them, are listed in the *Evolution du service postal au Maroc*.

At least thirteen out of the twenty-one were handled by these Jewish Sephardi businessmen:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Aaron Cohen, | went into business), |
| 2. Salvador Hassan, | 5. James Nahon, |
| 3. Joseph Cohen, | 6. David Elmaley, |
| 4. Messod Bensimon | 7. Joseph André, |
| (a former headmaster | 8. Jousé Benchimol and |
| of the Jewish Alliance | 9. Isaac Brudo, of course |
| School in Fez who later | |

Photos of many of these stamps appeared with Girer's cited article.¹¹

With the exception of the couriers of Brudo (1891/1900), Abudarham (1894/1901) and Marx (1893/1911), their lifespan was short (2 to 4 years) and even very short (4 to fifteen months).¹²

“The Moroccan sultan Hassan I who ruled between 1873-1894, approached Brudo in 1892 to buy out his enterprise. Brudo refused. But [the] Brudo line closed in July 1900 and was taken on by the French Post which allowed the use of the remaining stock of Brudo stamps until 15.07.1902.”¹³ Only in 1917 would Morocco issue its own stamps, even under French colonial administration, with the wording in French and Arabic.

TRIBUTE STAMP

Isaac Brudo's mail service came to be considered of such a pioneering nature that Morocco issued a semi-postal (charity) stamp on May 1, 1949, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the first Mazagan local postage stamp (issued in 1899), and for Stamp Day. The center picture is of a “Chasse à la gazelle,” that is, the hunting of gazelles. In small letters on the bottom of the stamp, it says: “Courrier Français Brudo Mazagan-Marrakesh 1899” (Figure 13). This was to be the first homage given by an official post service to a private postal service, including the surname of its Jewish founder.¹⁴



Figure 13

FINAL THOUGHT

Finally, I could not but wonder, how all these Jewish businessmen, mostly of French origin, involved with the local postal services, were operating and reacting just as the Dreyfus affair (1894-1906) was raging in Paris.

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- Isaac Brudo as the son of the French vice-consul, but none offers the reference as to what the actual name of the vice-consul was.
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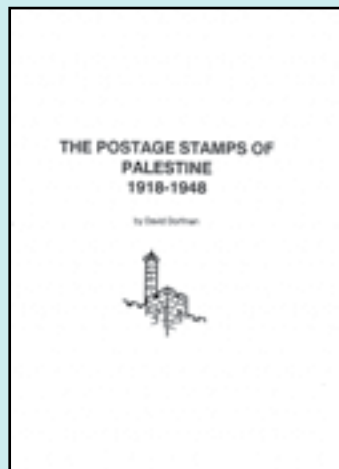
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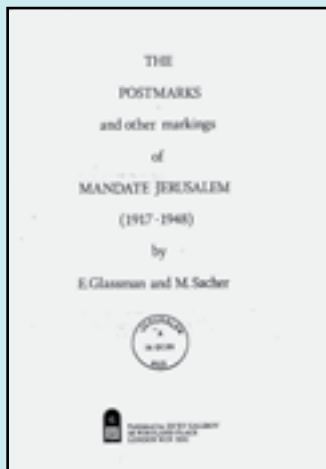
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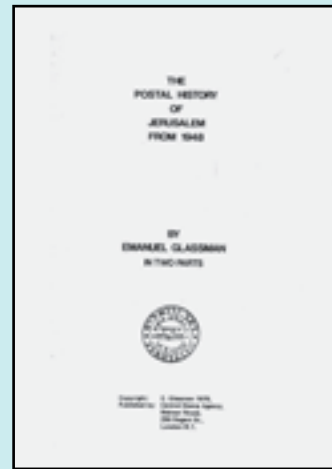
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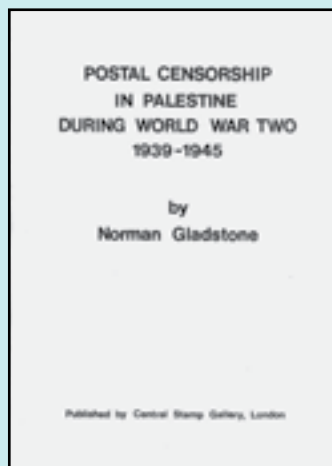
The Postage Stamps of Palestine:
1918-1948
by David Dorfman



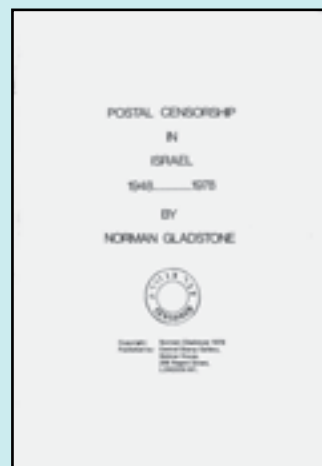
The Postmarks and Other
Markings of Mandate Jerusalem
by E. Glassman and M. Sacher



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Sinking Of The S.S. Cap Arcona

Bruce Chadderton, New Zealand



Figure 1

S.S. Arcona postcard mailed aboard ship in October 1935.

Insert: Ship's postmark on post card reverse (Author's collection)

The S.S. Cap Arcona was a former luxury ocean liner that had been taken over by the German Kriegsmarine in 1940. She was used as a floating accommodation vessel (i.e. barracks) and later used to evacuate military and civilian personnel from the Baltic Sea area. With her engines worn out, the Cap Arcona was taken out of military service on 14 April 1945.

On the 18th of that month, operations to board approximately 9,000 prisoners from KZ Neuengamme (the concentration camp near Hamburg) and KZ Mittelbau-Dora (near Nordhausen in central Germany) on the S.S. Cap Arcona, S.S. Athen and S.S. Theilbeck began.

Reichführer-SS Himmler had issued orders that all concentration camp prisoners should be killed before they could be liberated. To comply with this directive, once loading operations were complete, the SS (Schutzstaffel), planned to take these vessels out into the Baltic and sink them

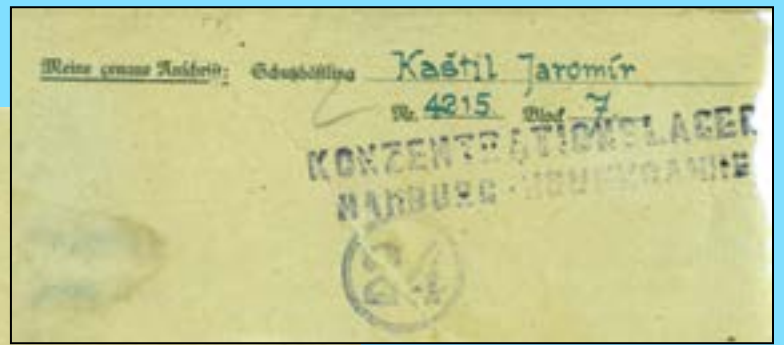


Figure 2
Kastil lettercard return address
Author's collection

Figure 3
Lettercard sent in March 1944

Lordahl L1aA – used between
November 1943 – March 1945

This lettercard has the camp censor boxed
marking and censor's initial at the lower
left

Author's collection

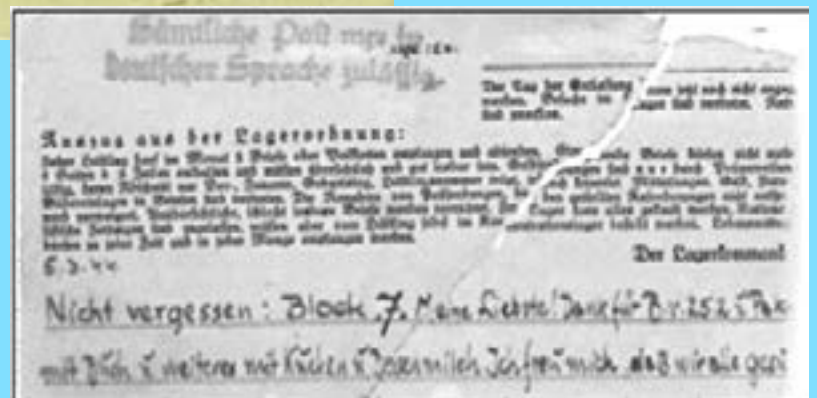


Figure 4

Inside of lettercard sent by Jaromir Kastil. The stamped cachet at top is a
reminder that only letters in German will be accepted or sent.

Kastil's first line (Nicht vergessen: Block 7.) is a reminder to make sure letters
sent to him are addressed to Block 7. Prisoners would only receive mail which
had their name, camp prisoner number, current block number and birth date
included correctly in the address.

with the prisoners on board. This was
known by the crew of the three vessels
and they put up a stoic resistance to the
SS officers-in-charge of the loading
operation.

Included amongst the prisoners was
#4215 Jaromir Kastil and #18670 Stefan
Prostějov. Kastil was a political prisoner
from Prostějov (renamed by occupying

German authorities as Prossnitz) in occupied Czechoslovakia. Originally imprisoned in April 1940 at KZ Dachau he was transferred to KZ Neuengamme in January 1941.

Orspiszewski was a former cavalry soldier from Ozorków in central Poland. He had originally been imprisoned in KZ Auschwitz (also as a political prisoner in May 1942) following his arrest by the Gestapo. He was transferred to KZ Neuengamme on 10 March 1943 with a group of 1,000 prisoners to do construction work in the Hamburg region.

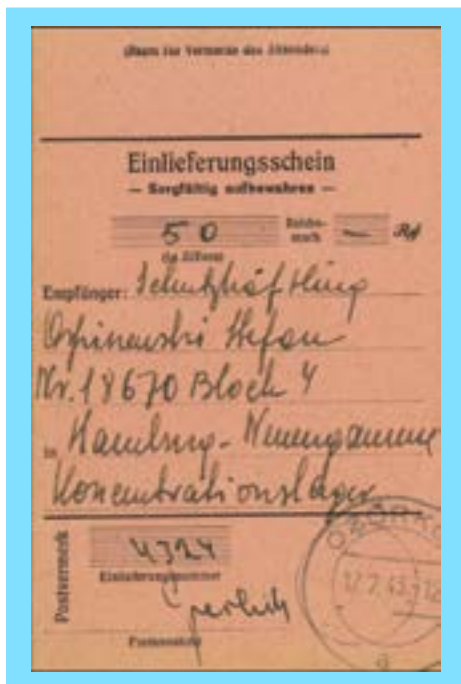


Figure 7
Sender's receipt of Post money order sent
Author's collection

Camp records show that Olszewski suffered a variety of episodes of ill-health while imprisoned. He had survived these principally due to medical treatment he was able to purchase.

Maybe surprisingly concentration camp

prisoners were able to receive financial support through money orders forwarded to them via the Deutsch Post money order system (Figure 7).

INMATES FATE

By 27 April the S.S. Cap Arcona held 6,500 prisoners and 600 guards. The over-crowding and lack of food and water meant the death rate amongst prisoners was high.

On the morning of 3 May, the S.S. Athen was ordered into Neustadt to take on board 600 prisoners from KZ Stutthof who had just arrived. They had survived a murderous all night shooting rampage by SS guards and U-boat marines. The skipper of the S.S. Athen having docked in Neustadt refused to take on more prisoners or leave port.

At 2.30 pm that afternoon eight British rocket-firing Typhoon aircraft from Squadron 263 attacked the S.S. Cap Arcona. This attack was followed by one by the Typhoons from Squadron 198 which hit the S.S. Theilbek and the S.S. Deutschland, another vessel anchored nearby. Sorties against the S.S. Cap Arcona by the Typhoon Bomber Squadron 197 followed and all three vessels began to sink.

The SS guards and crew from the S.S. Cap Arcona were able to escape the sinking and burning vessel, but many of the prisoners remained trapped below decks where they

died. Those that managed to get off the S.S. Cap Arcona and S.S. Theilbek had to swim for their lives, while being strafed by the RAF aircraft and shot at by SS guards (on the water) and U-boat school sailors (if the prisoners made it to shore).

Approximately 350 prisoners from S.S. Cap Arcona survived that gauntlet of death, while only 50 survived from the S.S. Theilbek.

One such survivor was Jaromir Kastil. A letter from the Burgermeister at Neustadt recording this fact is found in his personal record at KZ-Gedenkstätte Neuengamme (Figure 8).

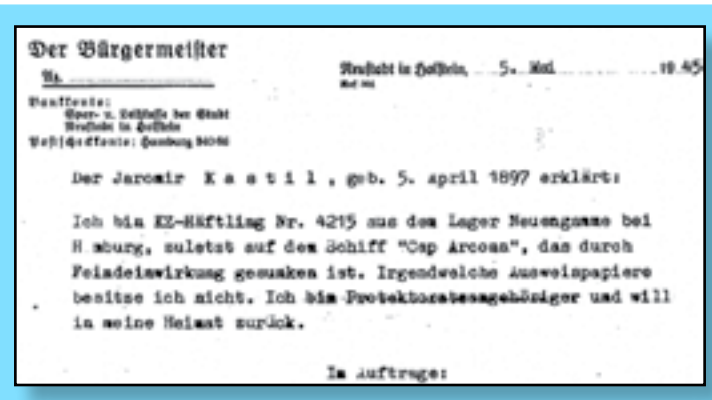


Figure 8
Letter explaining that Kastil is a survivor
of the sinking of Cap Arcona
Courtesy of Archive of KZ-Gedenkstätte Neuengamme.

Stefan Orspizewski was not so lucky.

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Szyk Liberian Cover

Gregg Philipson, Austin, TX



An April 25th 1950 Liberian cover sent to a United States soldier stationed at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi Miss, U.S.A. from Monrovia Liberia.

The cover is properly franked with \$.24 consisting of three blocks of four of the 1949 Arthur Szyk \$.01, \$.02 and \$.03 issues.

These Liberian Szyk covers are extremely hard to find. The 1949 FDC that has all six of the Szyk issues on the cover was produced by Frank Bruns who was a consultant to the Liberian post office.

The Scott numbers for the issues are 309-311 but the entire series numbers are 309-312 (1, 2, 3 and 5 cent issues) and c63 - c64 for the \$.25 and \$.50 airmail issues. ■

Uruguay Remembers the Holocaust

Gregg Philipson, Austin TX

The UN General Assembly designated January 27th (the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz/Birkenau death camps) as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. On this annual day of commemoration, the UN urges every member state to honor the victims of the Nazi era and to develop educational programs to help prevent future genocides.

January 27, 2015 marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz by

soldiers of the Soviet Union. I spent the day educating children at a local high school about the Holocaust and chaired an evening program in Texas that over 700 people attended.

This day should however, not be confused with Yom Ha' Shoah. Yom Ha' Shoah began on the evening of Wednesday April 15th and ended on Thursday 16th 2015. It is set on the 27th day of the month of Nisan and marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

URUGUAY HOLOCAUST STAMPS

On January 28th 2015 Uruguay issued a set of stamps to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz and to honor Ana Benkel Vinocur, (Figure 1) a Holocaust survivor and a famous Uruguayan author.

The FDC was issued with a set of either tabbed or un-tabbed stamps. Figure 2 is the tabbed version that I acquired from a

dealer in Uruguay. The sheet was issued with eight stamps (four of each issue) in a regular and inverted pattern. There are two each of four tabbed labels across the bottom. (Figure 3). There were only 15,000 copies printed and are not yet cataloged to my knowledge. Both stamps are rectangular (39 mm. x 27 mm) with circular perforations. The gum is water activated.



Figure 1
Ana Benkel Vinocur



Figure 2
First Day Cover



Figure 3

THE SURVIVOR AND AUTHOR

Ana Vinocur was born in Łódź, Poland, on September 25, 1926. She survived the Nazi invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939, the establishment of the Łódź ghetto, the liquidation of the ghetto, her arrival in Auschwitz, contracting tuberculosis, camp liberation and her immigration to Uruguay in 1947. She died in 2006 at the age of 79.

In 1972 she published a book entitled **Un Libro Sin Tituloor**, **A Book Without A Title**. The title of the book is explained with the question: does there exist a title capable of explaining and expressing the story about mass murder and the extermination of a people?

A scarce signed 1976 English edition of the book can be found in the Gregg and Michelle Philipson Collection and Archive. (Figure 4).

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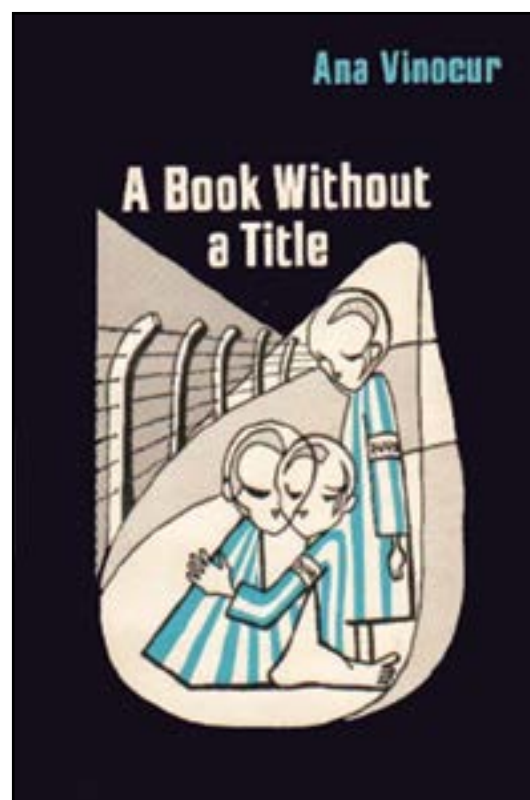


Figure 4

Additional pages of a **gold medal** and **Grand Award** winning thematic Exhibit. Over the next several issues, the single frame exhibit **The United Nations and Palestine: 1947-1951** exhibit will be presented. The exhibit consists of 12 oversized pages which have been reduced to fit the pages of **The Israel Philatelist**. It is constructed as a thematic exhibit with a social history viewpoint, which is slightly different than a pure thematic as it uses official mail from the United Nations. Our purpose in presenting this thematic is to encourage Judaica collectors to consider building an exhibit which focuses on educational goals.

Special Committee on Palestine

10 June - 25 July 1947



Palestine Mandate
plate number

Enrique Fabregat of Uruguay was one of 11 neutral country representatives on the committee.



Enrique Fabregat

Offices were opened in the Jerusalem YMCA and public hearings were held 4-17 July.

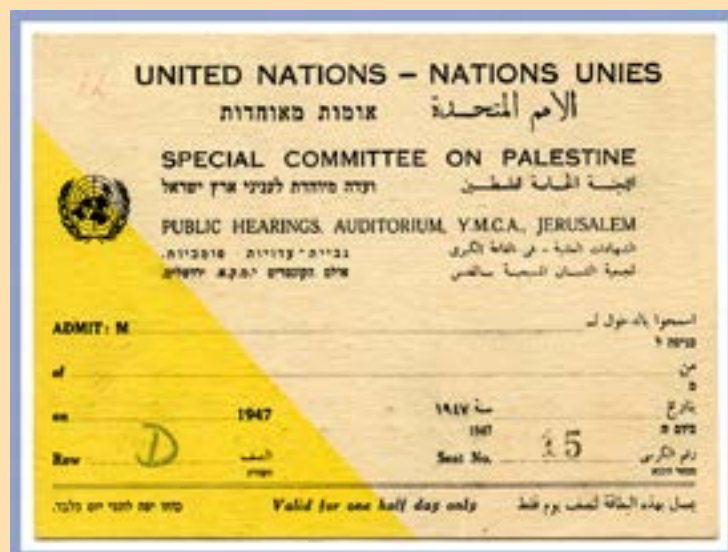


Jerusalem YMCA
missing phosphor tag

The special committee on Palestine began its administrative work on 10 June, obtaining the governing documents for the Palestine Mandate. They traveled extensively in the mandate, surveying and collecting testimony from Arab and Jewish populations. Two meetings were also held in Beirut with Arab League government representatives of Lebanon, Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Syria, before traveling to Transjordan.



UNSCOP countrywide pass issued to American committee member J. Stieren, Salvia Hotel
Passes printed 29 May 1947 and issued by M.E.F. Permit Office. **Only recorded example**



UNSCOP Public Hearing ticket in English, Hebrew and Arabic



Lebanon
1947 issue



Arab League

King (Amir) Abdullah ibn Hussein of Transjordan met with the committee 25 July and suggested the Arab portion of Palestine be added to Transjordan.



King Abdullah ibn Hussein
of Transjordan
Arab League Issue

Jewish leader Dr. Chaim Weizmann, testified as a private Jewish citizen.



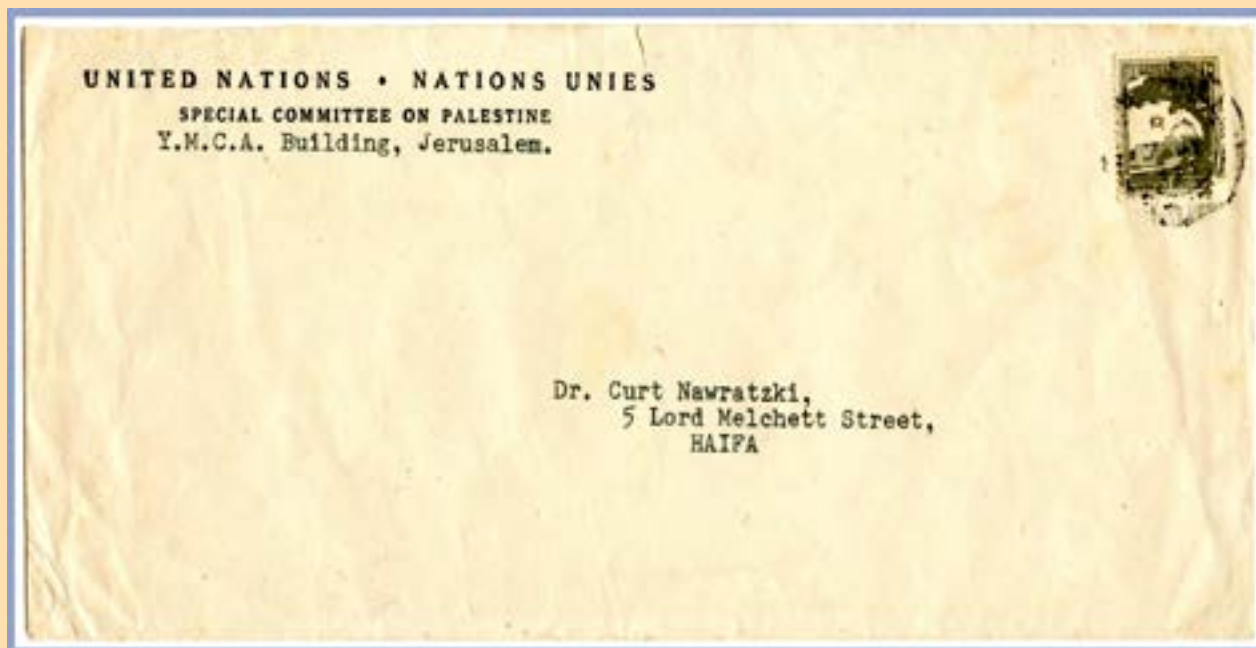
Dr. Chaim Weizmann
tab quote Jeremiah 31,17
"...your children shall come
back to their own country."

The purpose of the exhibit is to document efforts between 1947 and 1951 of the fledgling United Nations organization to settle the land dispute between the Arab and Jewish populations in the Palestine Mandate. That theme is explored using material which includes a wide variety of philatelic elements such as various types of stamps, stationery, covers, etc. The title page presents the introduction and an exhibit plan which is a guide to the content of the exhibit as a whole. Each subsequent page explores a different facet of the United Nations effort and includes as many different items as possible. The body text provides the historical story line. As the exhibit presentation progresses, I hope you find it both entertaining and informative.

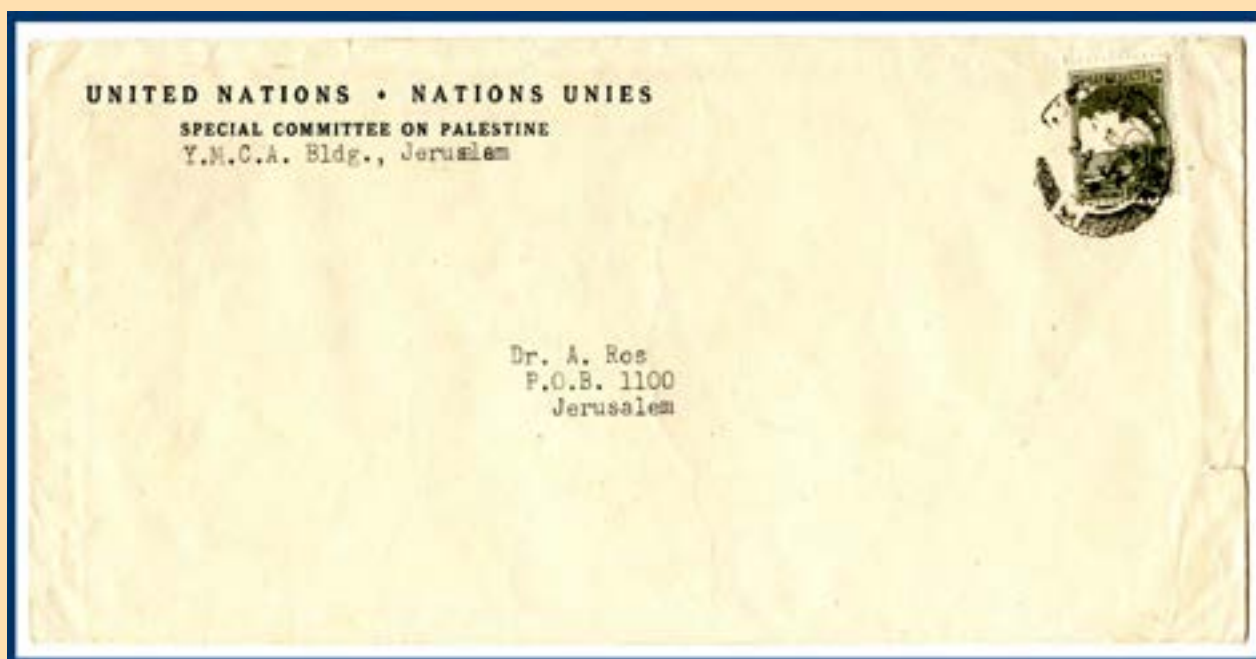
Special Committee on Palestine

10 June - 24 July 1947

Committee mail mainly concerned requests for documents or hearing attendance in support of information gathering.



UNSCOP, Jerusalem to Haifa, 7 July 1947; 10p domestic letter rate
Two recorded examples of Committee service mail sent to Haifa



UNSCOP, Local service within Jerusalem, 24 July 1947; 10p domestic letter rate
Mailed on last day of mission operation in Palestine. Only recorded example of Committee service mail sent within Jerusalem

The Exit Permit Stamps of Israel Gaza and Sinai

Arthur Harris Boca Raton, FL

Figures 1-2 text

The first lines read
“Civil Administration – Gaza Area”
(Hebrew and Arabic.)

The second set of lines read
“Transit Station – Rafiah”
(Hebrew and Arabic.)

Figure 1



The series of self-adhesive “letter” stamps for use in the Gaza and Sinai areas was issued in July of 1986. The B, C, D and E stamps were used on exit and other travel permits for traveling between Israel and Jordan. The values are in Dinar and are the same as the letter stamps for use in Judea and Samaria.



Figure 2



The F, G and H stamps were used for travel to Egypt. The values of the letter stamps are in Dinar: the F stamp for exits is 26 Dinar, the G stamp for adults is 8 Dinar and the H stamp for visitors is 31 Dinar. The stamps shown in Figures 1 and 2 without control numbers are considered specimens, some are stamped as such and others simply have a line drawn through them.



Figure 3

An IDF form that was used for exit and entry through Rafiah in July of 1986. The reverse of the form shows that military Agra – pnim hevel aza (Interior Area Gaza) were used as payment. This is the only document that I have for use in Gaza-Sinai.



Figure 4

The AR denominated stamp is inscribed Wharf in both Hebrew and Arabic (Figure 4) and may have been used for travelers leaving Israel at the Gaza wharf, although the meaning of the AR is not known.

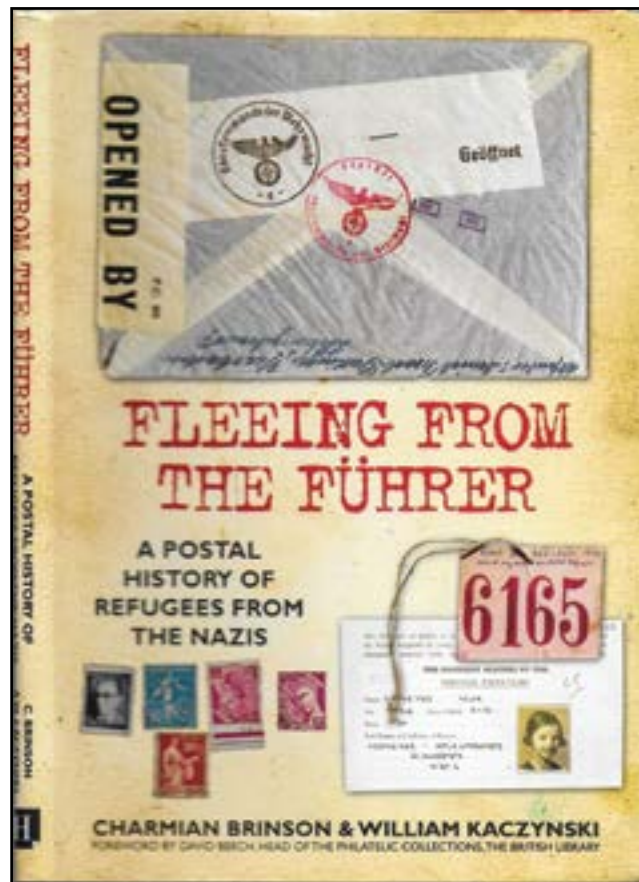
There are in addition to the AR perforated stamp at least two Gaza-Sinai perforated letter stamps – B and E (figure 5). These stamps illustrate the desert fox logo of the IDF Southern Command.



Figure 5

The exit stamps from the Gaza-Sinai areas are seldom seen. This is evident in the scarcity of documents as compared to those from Judea and Samaria. The few later documents from all areas that I have are from the early 1990s. I would love to hear from anyone with additional information. ■

BOOK REVIEW



Fleeing From The Führer, A Postal History of Refugees From the Nazis

Dr. Jesse Spector

For historians who publish their research endeavors, it is axiomatic that the greatest success in resurrecting historical events, individuals or an era, results from a meaningful incorporation of both primary and secondary source material. For the postal historian, there is clearly the assumption that the primary sources- covers, enclosures, philately- are the instigating factors in producing the text. But, material sans “heart” can make for a cold meal, indeed. It is thus the secondary sources, possessing the perspective of time and distance that nuance what is otherwise a potentially limited didactic encounter.

With that in mind, Brinson and Kaczynski present us with a tour de force in **Fleeing From The Führer** with a masterfully flowing account of the anguished tribulations of refugees attempting to flee the enveloping Holocaust. Six scores of high-quality postal history illustrations- some from the family

treasures of author Kaczynski- are presented in concert with well researched intimate vignettes of the senders and receivers of the mailings who would otherwise have remained unknown to us were the material viewed in isolation. Add to this an immensely readable historical iteration of the Holocaust intertwined with the illustrated images and you end up with a volume that proves as informative and touching for the postal historian as it is for a non-philatelic audience.

POSTAL HISTORY PERSPECTIVE

It is worth stressing that the title of this work defines the mainstay under discussion. This is not a narrative on Holocaust concentration camp mail with associated personal stories; rather, it is an in-depth postal history perspective of individuals communicating as they seek to escape the maw of Nazi captivity with its attendant consequences.

In some cases the lines of distinction are thin indeed, what with entrapment in Vichy France internment camps resulting in eventual transport of many of its Jewish captives to the Nazi death camps. Nevertheless, the defining quality of this encyclopedic, yet eminently readable compact work, is the inclusiveness of sites and situations in which these refugees might find themselves during an almost two-decade history from pre-war to post-war travails.

ATTEMPT TO FLEE

Beginning with historical perspectives of the decade prior to the onset of war, the reader is reconciled with the inevitability of the urgency for the Jews of Europe to extricate themselves before it is too late.

Thus follow the initial chapters detailing the ordeals of attempted emigration; the palpable inexorable closing of the gates imposed by ever stricter immigration quotas in safe havens, and the eventual Nazi imposition restricting Jews from leaving occupied Europe after November 1939.

THE STORY

Concise, well-written chapters are devoted to life in internment camps in Great Britain, France, China and Japan, as well as more exotic locations including Kenya, Jamaica, Mauritius, India, and, of course, Palestine.

Throughout, the seamless intertwining of postal history illustrations and narrative, together with the authors' in-depth research, whenever obtainable from Holocaust database survivor sites and national archives, concerning the sender and/or receiver of missives, makes for a compelling, intimate read, rather than a purely academic, albeit well done, exercise. Not infrequently a vignette concludes with a heart-wrenching sentence such as: "transported from there to Auschwitz where she perished."

The rationale for internment of non-belligerents is detailed in chapters on incarceration in Allied lands for individuals

listed as enemy aliens based on their German or Italian ethnicity, despite the individuals having resided in, for example, England, for decades (not unlike the situation experienced by Japanese Americans on the West Coast following Pearl Harbor).

Similarly, for Jews fortunate enough to have escaped from Nazi-occupied Europe, there remained the very real potential that they would be deported to internment camps in England, Canada, Australia, and, yes, even New Zealand, because of war-necessitated security concerns, as bizarre as that might appear beyond bureaucratic thinking.

The fascinating details of cultural, religious and social lives constructed by the incarcerated in these camps as described by Brinson and Kaczynski makes for fascinating reading in its own right.

Chapters are devoted, as well, to both the myriad secular and religious organizations that sought to assist in the welfare of these escapees from Nazism, including, among others, the International Red Cross, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the Hebrew Immigration Aid Society, and the Quaker-run, Friends Committee for Refugees and Aliens; and, to the post-war, internment camps for displaced persons (DP) scattered globally, the last of which remained in existence until 1957!

Were that not enough for one slightly less than 200-page volume, there is an eclectic, excellent chapter on undercover mail in wartime, and a moving chapter on "People who made a Difference," which speaks for itself.

CONCLUSION

I would be remiss not to mention the authors' well-researched bibliography of almost 100 titles, as well as lucidly presented notes for each of the volume's twelve chapters.

Fleeing From The Führer accomplishes what postal historians strive for- a definitive historical narrative based on the excellent philatelic material. The authors have succeeded in their undertaking quite admirably.

SBN 978 0 7524 6195 3., 191 PP, The History Press, Stroud, Gloucestershire, UK, 2011. Hardcover \$35.00, Paperback \$24.95.

Jesse I. Spector M.D.

Jesse I. Spector, a retired hematologist-oncologist, has published extensively on postal history, particularly The Holocaust. ■

The Other Buchenwald

Justin Gordon

*Note: I obtained a post card approximately 20 years ago with the return address of **Buchenwald** but with an **Auschwitz cancel**. No one I showed it to could explain it. I put it aside for 20 years and last year I was going through a*

Nazi memorabilia site and saw a letter with a similar return address and Auschwitz cancel. This time I was determined to find an answer. This is the explanation.

THE COVER

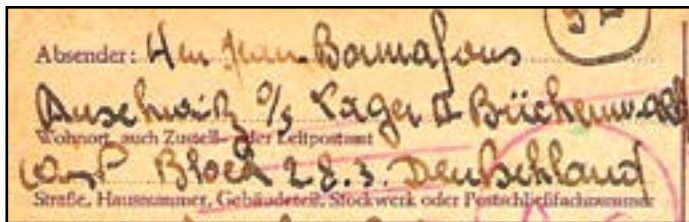


Figure 1

Return address: Jean Barmafous,--Auschwitz O/S, Lager II Buchenwald,--West, Block 28.3 Deutschland



Figure 2

A bit confusing, as we know that Buchenwald is near Weimar, Germany. So where did this card originate from?



Figure 3

Censor markings: Auschwitz-Gemeinschaftslagers (civilian work camp) Auschwitz West-Post.
Cancel: Auschwitz, May 16, 1944.

HOUSING

The Buna complex was massive and surrounded by 10 camps housing all the workers. The camps were in varying states of completion and contained a population that was a cross section of the Reich's conquests. (as indicated in the

Name of Camp	Nationalities/Groups
Camp I Leonhard Haag	*Germans, Flemings and Italians
Camp II	West: French, Ukrainians, Belgians, and Germans
Judenfriedhof or Buchenwald	East: Poles (from the bordering area of the Greater Germany), Ukrainians, and Germans
Camp III	Polish prisoners belonging to Organization Schmelt Polish forced laborers, Female East European workers, Russian women
Camp IV Buna, Monowitz KZ, Work edcation camp	KZ prisoners as well as AEL prisoners.

Camp II, opened in November, 1941 was called Judenfriedhof (Jewish Cemetery) more than likely called so because of the Jewish Cemetery located north of the camp. The name was changed to **Buchenwald**. It was comprised of ten standard size barrack complexes, each including nine living barracks, two latrines, one bathhouse barrack and two kitchen buildings. Initially

chart) Living conditions in the camps ranged from poor to slave conditions. Below is a listing of the camps and the populations that were housed there.

Name of Camp	Nationalities/Group
CampY	Eastern European Workers (Ostarbeiter) Ukrainian men, women and children Poles Forced laborers, special duties column Jewish prisoners from Org. Schmelt
Camp VI Pulverturm Main Cmp VIIIB Camp E715	British prisoners of war Germans
Camp VII Youth Camp (JugendLager)	German apprentices and commercial clerks, "armaments Vacationers" (Rustungsurlauber)
Camp VIII	German workers and Wehrmacht helpers British POW
Camp IX	Unknown
Camp X	Unknown8

the camp was treated as a single administrative unit; however it grew so quickly that it was divided into two camps. Camp I or **Buchenwald East** housed 3,901 Poles, and Camp II or **Buchenwald West** housed 2,719 workers-1,905 Frenchmen the rest Flemish. (Piotr Setkiewicz: **The Histories of Auschwitz IG Farben Werk Camps 1941-1945**:(Oswiecim,Auschwita Birkenau State Museum:2008). ■

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ISRAEL'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

Gregg Philipson, Austin, TX

The Figure 1 photo is of the US Embassy in Tel Aviv from a visit in 2008. Michelle and I were staying at a hotel nearby. There was the American Flag on our embassy along with a huge two story banner wishing Israel a Happy 60th Birthday.

The American Flag furling just below a similar printed image of our flag on the banner alongside the Israeli flag took our breath away! This was such a proud and happy moment for us as Americans and as Jews!!!



Figure 1



The Israel "Today and Beyond" cover canceled at Jerusalem was obtained in Israel while we were there celebrating the 60th Anniversary. Most likely I picked it up at the international stamp show we attended at the Rabin Center in Tel Aviv during that visit. ■

Ed Fund Update

Fall 2017

RECENT AND UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

Rochlin's Handbook of the Issues of the Jewish National Fund is now available through the Education Fund Bookstore. The price will be \$75 plus shipping and handling (\$5.50 for the United S and \$75.00 for International).

The project is not completed; the SIP Education Fund hopes to continue to improve the catalogue by replacing the remaining black and white images with color and by continuing to add unreported items to the catalogue. We hope that all of the JNF collectors will forward to the Ed Fund or to Howard Chapman missing color images and unreported items (including background), preferably scan at 300 dpi or greater. These will be added to the catalogue with the intent of publishing a new version of the catalogue periodically. On a personal note, I would like to extend special thanks to Howard Chapman, Ben Wallace and David Dubin for their assistance.

The Ed Fund has a number of other books in various stages including:

1. **Commemorative Covers for the Opening of Israeli Post Offices in Gaza 1956-1957** by Steve Zwillinger;
2. **The Transformation and Evolution of the Civilian Postal System in Palestine During the British Military Campaign of 1917-1918** by Ed Kroft;
3. **Postal Stationery of Israel, 2nd Edition** by Sid Morginstin; and
4. **Israel/Holy Land Exhibits: ChicagoPex 2017.**

DIGITAL BOOKS

The Ed Fund carries a number of book titles in digital format (on CD). Though I am slow to admit it, technology



has changed and fewer digital devices can accept a CD. I propose shifting from the current system, which is mailing a CD upon ordering, to posting electronically via apps, such as Dropbox or Hightail, and/or switching to thumb drives. In the case of the former, the patron would receive the item quicker and without any shipping charges. Before I make any changes, I would like SIP membership feedback (sipedfund@gmail.com). ■

IMPORTANT DUES NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

2017 National dues remain the same as last year at \$30.00 and **The Israel Philatelist** is distributed only on-line. If you wish to receive a hard copy, there is an additional \$20.00 charge.

Life members have access to the journal on-line and can receive mailed copies for a charge of \$20.00. Dues must be paid by January 31, 2017 or you will not have access to the on-line copy.

Dues should be sent to Howard Chapman, 25250 Rockside Road, Bedford Heights, OH 44146. ■



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Egyptian Post During 1948-49 War in Parts of Palestine
Which in 1949 Became South Part of the

West Bank of Jordan

Josef Wallach



Figure 1
Souvenir cover portraying the Egyptian set of King Farouk. The stamps are overprinted "Palestine" tied by the Bethlehem 11 June 48 British Mandate single circle cancellation (s.c.).

Nearing the 1948 British Palestine departure date, the British Department of Posts and Telegraphs issued Notice Nr. 53 dated April 13, 1948 for public information. It is headed "The termination of the Mandate - Suspension of Post Office Services". According to the decree, all rural postal agencies should be closed on April 15, all post offices on April 30, and Haifa, Tel Aviv, Jaffa and Jerusalem Main Post Offices on May 5, 1948.

While Palestine ceased to be a member of the UPU and international mail connections discontinued, the Jewish sections of Palestine established the "Minhelet Ha'am" postal services. We do not know what happened in the Arab sector and can only guess that the closing of postal facilities caused real chaos until some services were re-introduced by the

invading Arab countries. Egypt was the best prepared with Egyptian stamps having been overprinted "Palestine". The Egyptian Army opened postal facilities and provided special postmarks along its invasion path in Majadal (Ashqelon), Isdud (Ashdod), Faluja and Beer Sheva. As early as June 1948, they opened facilities in the West Bank area in Hebron, Beit Lahem and Beit Jala. The Egyptian postmarks were used along with the British Mandate postmarks.

The central section of the West Bank came under Jordanian influence, but we do not know how and when postal facilities actually began operation. No special Jordanian postmarks were available during 1948. Jordanian stamps were overprinted "Palestine" and became available on December 2, 1948, and were all canceled with Mandate postmarks.

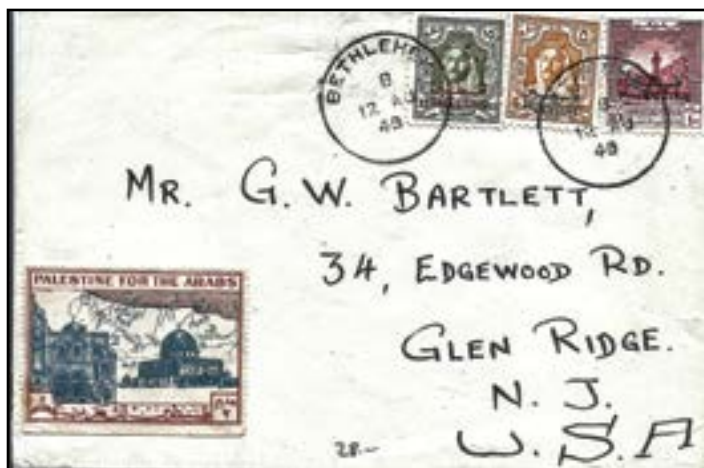


Figure 2

Jordanian "Abdallah," King of Jordan overprinted "Palestine" tied by 12 August 49 British Mandate s.c. postmark with propagated private label "Palestine for Arabs."



Figure 3

1949 Jordanian registered Palestine stamps, tied by Bethlehem British Mandate double circle (d.c.) postmark with A.V.2 cachet to Cairo. Egyptian circular censor cachet applied on arrival.



Figure 4

1 Sept. 1949, British Mandate s.c. postmark, tying Jordanian overprinted "Palestine" stamps. Registered cover sent to Beirut.



Figure 5

POW cover from Beer Sheva under Egyptian control. Ben Sheb, Egypt postmark, exempt from postage to Israel POW camp. Red Cross, censor, Egyptian and Israeli cachets. Note: Beer Sheva is not part of the West Bank.



Figure 6

Beer Sheba Egyptian postmark tying Farouk overprinted "Palestine" stamps, registered cover. Note: Beer Sheva is not part of the West Bank.



Figure 7

Hebron September 1948, Egyptian postmark tying Egypt, Palestine stamp to Arab POW in Israel with Israel censor cancel, Red Cross handstamp, Egyptian cachets.



Figure 8

Hebron September 1948, Egyptian postmark tying Egypt, Palestine stamp to Arab POW in Israel with Israel censor cancel, Red Cross handstamp, Egyptian cachets.



Figure 9

Bethlehem, December 1948 Egyptian postmark tying stamp to POW, addressed to Israel, Red Cross, Israel censor, and Jordan/Jerusalem 4 line cachets.



Figure 10

Bethlehem British Mandate s.c. postmark 30 A 49, tying Egyptian stamps overprinted "Palestine" to last day cover (Egyptian leave Jordan center).



Figure 10

Bethlehem, Egyptian postmarks tying set of King Farouk air mail overprinted Palestine set of stamps, registered by metal device #12 (handwritten) souvenir cover.



Figure 12

Beit Jala reintroduced British Mandate double circle postmark tying Jordain overprinted Palestine stamps.



Figure 13

Beit Jala, Egyptian postmark tying Egyptian overprinted Palestine stamps to cover, address to Cassel (Hessen, Germany) plus (Lebanon) cachet.



cover 14

Reverse side of cover Figure 13. Shows the complex/return address (Jerusalem, Betlehem) needed to locate Beit Jala via Beyrouth/Amman, Jordan new route, plus censor cachet. ■

Professor Herman Schapira

1840 - 1898

Joe Weintrob

Professor Schapira was also an ardent Zionist, adhering from the very start to the Basel program. In 1884 he suggested the idea of starting a Jewish National Fund in order to acquire land in Palestine.

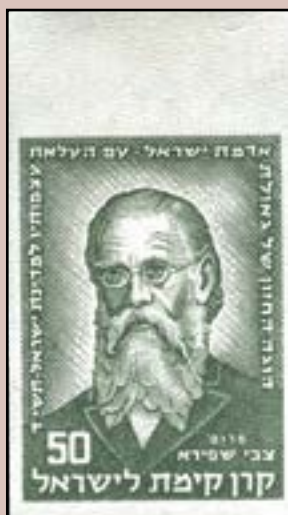
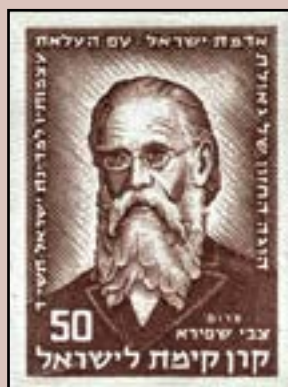
He voiced his idea again in the First Zionist Congress of 1897, but it was only realized fully four years later after Schapira had died. Nonetheless, he is still considered the founder of the JNF, which became an important player in the Zionist movement and had a great effect on the development

and forestation of modern Israel. At that same 1897 Zionist Congress, Schapira brought up the idea of establishing a Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

During a Zionist lecture tour in Cologne, Germany, he contracted pneumonia and died in the city on May 8, 1898.

The issue marks the re-internment of the remains of Professor Schapira in Jerusalem.

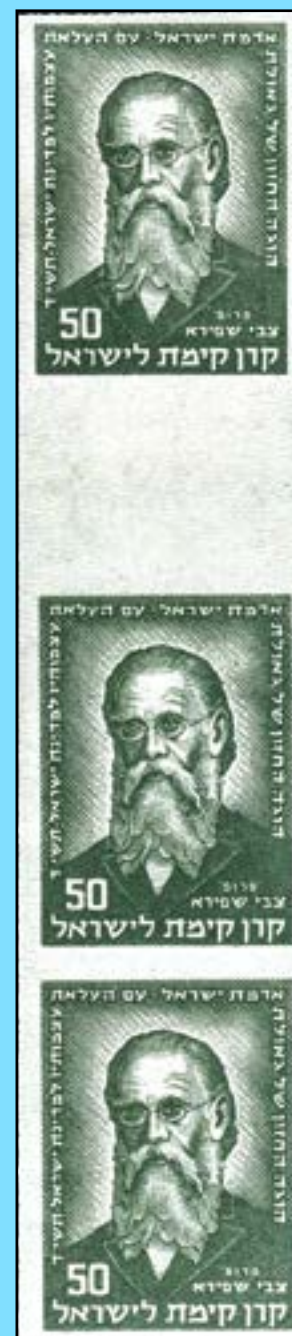
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermann_Schapira ■



Imperforated



Gutter pair



Imperforated gutter pair

SIP President's column



I am humbled and pleased to be writing to you as the new President of the Society of Israel Philatelist. It has been over 30 years since my last term as President and things have certainly changed. Mike Bass and Ed Kroft have left a legacy that is very difficult to follow. I am truly fortunate that they served as President of this great Society ahead of me.

I look forward to our editor, Don Chafetz continuing to publish our gold standard award winning Journal, **The Israel Philatelist**. I wish to congratulate and to thank for serving the following persons who will be your Board and Officers, along with other volunteers:

First Vice-President: Edward Rosen
Second Vice-President: Joel Weiner
Directors: Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg
Dr. Zachary Simmons
Howard Wunderlich
Edwin Kroft

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Our Society is a volunteer organization. This means that with the exception of the Executive Assistant we recently hired, all work for the Society is done on a volunteer basis. Our new Society Executive Assistant is Jacqueline Baca Ramos. Jacqueline is located at our Society Office at the APS Headquarters in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. Hiring a part-time Executive Assistant was a huge step for our Society. This gives us continuity of location and operations, even with a change in Society Officers.

I hope that all of you will have an opportunity at one time or another to visit the APS Headquarters and meet our Executive Assistant, Jacqueline. The APS Building houses the APRL, the finest Philatelic library in the world.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

In addition to all persons named above, I look forward to continuing to work with the following: Todd Gladstone, M.D., Archivist; David Kaplin, Educational Fund; Michael Bass, Endowment Fund; Paul Aufrichtig, Grievance; David Dubin, M.D., Library; Dr. Philip Kass, Research; Vicki Galecki, Slide Programs and all around Assistant and Howard Rotterdam, Past President.

Being a voluntary organization, I must request that each of you think hard as to how you can help our Society. I am sure

that each of you receives many wonderful hours of enjoyment and entertainment through your stamp collecting and the reading of our wonderful Journal, as I do. We can all help to further this enjoyment by working to help our Society grow and function.

We need more people to step up and help our Society to operate successfully. Please contact me and let me know any way you feel you personally can help our Society, whether as a future Board Member, Secretary, Treasurer, Controller, publicity, fund raiser or writer for **The Israel Philatelist**.

We need you!

If you are unable to volunteer to help our Society, you certainly can help by making a small donation to our **Endowment Fund** or other Society fundraising collection.

If you have not already done so, please pay your dues now. This will help us reduce collection costs.

Help recruit new members

ADVERTISERS

I also want to thank our many long time advertisers for their continued support. I strongly encourage all members to support them.

CONVENTION - SHOWS

I hope that many of you will have the opportunity to come to our Society Annual Meeting to be held at CHICAGOPEX in Chicago, Illinois, November 17-19, 2017 and the World Stamp Championship Israel 2018 Show in Jerusalem, May 27-31, 2018.

I look forward to personally meeting each of you.
Philatelically yours,

Howard S. Chapman ■

NEW MEMBERS

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

10682	Uria	Richard	Beachwood	OH
10690	Joel	Meyers	White Plains	NY
10691	Mark	Kindrachuk	Saskatoon	Canada
10692	Barbara	Mccarthy	New Oxford	PA
10693	Peter	Boice	Erie	PA
10694	Leonard	Zehr	Windsor	Canada
10695	Donald	Harrison	San Diego	CA

Reinstated

10643	Alex	Ben-Arieh	Jerusalem	Israel
5910	Marvin	Gold	Woodmere	NY
10483	Gary	Birnbaum	Coronado	CA

Member's Awards

BANDUNG 2017 WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION TRANS STUDIO CONVENTION CENTER AUGUST 3 - 7th 2017

Dr. Henry Nogid
**A Four Siege Cities, Rishon LeZion, Safad, Nahariya,
Jerusalem** Large Vermeil (85 points)

APS STAMPSHOW August 3-6, 2017 Richmond, Virginia

Dr. Arthur Groten
Sealing the Letter in 19th Century Great Britain Large Vermeil
American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity
Award

Howard Rotterdam
Compulsory Registration in Israel Large Silver
Women Exhibitor Sterling Achievement Award

Gary Theodor
**Usage of the Mandatory Semi-Postals of Lebanon: April
1945 to December 1949** Large Silver

SESCAL 2017 Ontario, CA October 13-15, 2017

Donald & Betty. Chafetz
Add-on Cachets to Slogan Cancellation Covers
Silver-Bronze

Lawrence Fisher Awards

My thematic exhibit entitled **The Jewish Homeland, Our Struggle For Survival** just won a Gold medal at an international FIP exhibition. To date the exhibit has won:

- A Gold medal plus winning the European Championship in the **History and Organizations** category in 2015 as a part of London 2015
- A Gold medal in New York 2016 with a special prize for treatment
- A National Large Gold medal in Zaragoza, Spain with a special prize for Material in 2016
- A Gold Medal in Brazillia, 2017

This is great news for keeping the word alive about our very special country and the daily struggles we go through. ■



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