Clown Care: An Israeli Medical Frontier
Sandra W. Moss, M.D.
pp. 30-31
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Editor’s Notes
Donald A. Chafetz

Is the world of stamp collecting dying out like the dinosaur or are we like the Phoenix that will rise to new heights? I have these concerns for some time. I believe we are like the Phoenix and will become greater than ever.

HOW I BECAME A COLLECTOR

I do not remember exactly how I started to collect stamps, except my cousin had started. I assume since she collected, my parents or grandparents felt I should. This was in my very early teens and the dark ages - before television was widespread and common. There was no internet or computers! As a budding collector, I remember waiting daily for the mailman hoping to see some new stamps to add to my collection.

I started my Israel collection while I was attending Sunday School. The school director was a collector and had a standing order with the Israel Philatelic Service to receive all new issues. He always ordered extras and would sell them to any interested student. You can guess where the hard earned money from my newspaper route went.

None of the kids in my “gang” were collectors, but one of my friends’ grandfather was. Occasionally, I would stop by his house and he would show me his collection. I discovered where all the stamp stores were in my neighborhood and would visit them by bike. There were also 5 and 10 cents stores which sold packets of stamps as well as a bookstore which did the same.

Through the years, as I have added to my collections and knowledge thereof, I have had the opportunity to meet many people literally from around the world some at international stamp shows and some, fittingly enough, via mail.

WHY LOOK BACK?

So why has this editorial wondered into my philatelic past? Blame it on an epiphany at Starbucks. You see my neighborhood Starbucks is my Cheers (i.e. old TV show about a bar “where everybody knows your name”). Everyone knows my name because it is stenciled on my Disney Donald Duck t-shirt that I like to wear.

Anyway, it was during a stop in Starbucks that I noticed a father and his two small children sitting at a table. Each had their tablet open and the kids had headphones on. I could not see what they were doing but I assume the kids were playing games and the father was reading an article or the news.

This is where my mind slipped into my save philatelically mode. To me, the father represented the future of collecting and the kids, potential second-generation philatelists. Was this just my wild imagination at work or am I psychic?

Let me share my reasoning. Nowadays, very few people use the mail for personal correspondence. Most mail if used at all is for paying bills, shipping packages or business advertising. What mail is received has either a meter stamp or a patriotic flag or “US” design. When I go to the post office to purchase stamps I do not hear anyone asking for any of the beautiful commemorative stamps. (As an aside, if you want a philatelic challenge, try to build a postal history collection based on commemorative stamps of the last 20 years).

To my mind, the father I saw represents the generation that in a few years will have the kids in college or be an empty nester. He will be too young to retire but may be thinking about it. He will have some disposable income and will be considering how to keep life interesting in retirement? HE SHE REPRESENTS THE TYPE OF PERSON WE NEED TO MARKET STAMP COLLECTING TO. We need to make him aware of the beautiful stamp designs and the history that can be learned from philately.

MY EXPERIENCE

Based on my experience, if the parent or grandparent becomes interested in collecting, there is the possibility that he or she can entice his or her kids into the hobby at some point. I have been somewhat successful with my daughter Gwyn, and a little bit with my wife Betty. How? My daughter is a great movie buff and has started collecting stamps related to movie stars. She has started on a small scale with the United States issues but is becoming aware of foreign stamps.

In southern California our big stamp show is SESCAL. She and I live within driving distance of the show and have started attending it once a year. She has become aware of discount postage and how to haggle with the dealers on the prices.

My wife goes to the show and has started to read some of the exhibits. She is a very good cartoonist. A few years ago she added some cartoons to a few slogan cancel covers and I made an exhibit of her “collection.” She won a silver medal. The judges liked the exhibit and encouraged her to do more.

SO WHAT IS THE BOTTOM LINE?

The future of philately depends on present collectors aiming at connecting with the middle age person and slowly mentoring them. We need to let them progress at their own pace and find their niche area. Hopefully, once they are bitten by the collecting bug they will be able to introduce other members of the family to the hobby of Kings.

I believe the hobby will not fade away like the dinosaur, but will stay vibrant as it is introduced to a new audience as we explore new outlets. We need to focus our marketing efforts on the use of web sites, Facebook, Twitter and emails.

www.israelstamps.com
Letters to the Editor

Dear Don

As an avid collector of Israeli Joint Issue postage stamps, I was pleased to see that in the Spring 2019 issue of *The Israel Philatelist* [page 40] contained an article on the subject, submitted by Howard Rotterdam. It was a Part Two follow-up of Part One published in 2010. I find that a couple of statements in this article deserve some clarification for the sake of avoiding any potential misconceptions among our journal's readers.

The first occurs in bullet point #3 of the section entitled “Joint Issues 2011 – Present,” i.e., The China Joint Issue of 2012. It was well publicized by Israel, but the China Postal Agency never mentioned this was a Joint Issue.

On the contrary, the China Postal Agency, a.k.a. China Post Group Corporation, issued a set of two (2) stamps that appear to be in perfect conformance with the “twin issue” definition described by Howard Rotterdam. These were released in sheets of sixteen stamps, each comprised of two panels containing eight stamps (non-inverted) and separated by a suitable gutter that cites that this is a “China-Israel Joint Issue.” The stamps of both nations are appropriately franked and canceled on the Souvenir Leaf that explicitly commemorates the event, i.e., 20 years of diplomatic relations between the nations.

The second erroneous statement is to be found in bullet point #2 of the section entitled “Twin Issues” namely, that the first Israel–United States joint issue commemorating Chanukah occurred in 1989. The actual year was 1996.

Best Regards
Bob Abrahams
Central New Jersey Chapter
tmnboss@aol.com

Bosnian Stamp

Hi Don,

I just noticed your question about the Bosnian stamp in the Letters to the Editor, Summer 2018 *The Israel Philatelist*

I'm attaching the image (Figure 1) of the full mini sheet of this 2012 stamp (part of my “Menorah on Stamps” small collection) that points to the La Benevolencija organization described briefly in Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Benevolencija](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Benevolencija)

La Benevolencija is a Jewish humanitarian organization based in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the Siege of Sarajevo in the 1990s, the organization provided medical aid, food rations and educational services for the people trapped in the city.

Regards
Yefim Rozenshtein

*The Ben Ezra Synagogue*

Hi Don

The interesting article featured in *The Israel Philatelist* Summer 2019 about the Geniza of Old Cairo of the Ben Ezra Synagogue reminded me of a little 36-page guide book (Figure 2) which I acquired. Although not strictly philatelic, it ties in nicely with Gene Eisen’s article.

Best Regards
Bob Abrahams
Central New Jersey Chapter
tmnboss@aol.com

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3
The illustrated booklet produced in 1954 is rather quaint in its use of English and spelling. It was put together by an unnamed author and has a number of recommendations by prominent members of the Cairo museum and antiquities authorities and also religious members of the military.

The author describes the building and its history and many interesting facts about the Jewish, Christian (Coptic) and Muslim communities from antiquity to the 1950’s. It also adds religious texts from the Bible and Talmud.

I may surmise that the author was an Egyptian Jew and attached to the synagogue in some way. Interestingly is his dedication (Figure 3). It is clear that it was produced after the overthrow of King Farouk and his son in 1952/3 and during the Presidency of Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Sonny Kosky

**CORRECTION**

Don

Another great job - but a correction (The Israel Philatelist Summer 2019)
Page 57 photo upper right (Figure 4). Sid Morginstin and Helene Reiss (not Morganstin). Same for phot below (not shown here). – though Helene is hidden!!!

Sid Morginstin

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Support our Advertisers

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2nd New Member Contest

**START DATE: MAY 15, 2019** - **END DATE: NOVEMBER 30, 2019**

All new members who pay full dues (by PayPal or check) by February 29 and their current paid up SIP sponsor will be eligible to win an unused set of

**Doar Ivri Israel 7 - 9**

One name from all new members and one name from sponsors will be drawn.

**A total of two sets of Doar Ivri Israel 7 - 9 will be awarded.**

This is a great opportunity for all members to add these key stamps to their collection.

Sponsor must sign the application and mail to Howard Chapman, 25250 Rockside Road, Bedford Hts., OH 44146.
Doar Ivri First Issue of Israel
1948 - 1952

Ed Kroft, FRPSC

A. 500 MILS STAMP

Figure 36
On May 11, 1948, the stamps were printed on plate number one in sheets of 50, arranged in 10 horizontal rows of 5 stamps each with 5 descriptive tabs adjacent to the bottom row of stamps.

The 2270 sheets were numbered 082-2251. Plate number and serial number were contained in a corner block of four. In total, 11,350 stamps with tabs were printed.

The stamps were brown on yellowish paper. The perforations were 11 x 11.

The 500 mils stamp bears a silver shekel coin with the same image as the 250 Mils coin, but dates from the third year of the first revolt.

The tab inscription is “Silver shekel from the third year of the first revolt” and the coin's inscriptions, “Shekel Israel year three” and “Jerusalem the Holy.”.

B. DOMESTIC MAIL

Figure 37 Postage 25 mils
I have not seen examples of the 500 mils on correctly franked domestic mail. Figure 37 is an example of an overfranked cover.

May 16, 1948 Registered letter
Haifa to Haifa
Basic rate: 10 mils per 30 grams
Registration fee: 15 mils
Overfranking 475 mils

Backstamps

D. FOREIGN AIR MAIL

Figure 38 Postage 935 mils - 13 x rate
1948 Registered Airmail Rehovot to Brooklyn
Arrival postmark Brooklyn, July 1, 1948 (postmark on back)

Doar Ivri stamps: 10+15+2 x 50+500 mils
+ Jerusalem 250 mils with tab + Flag 3 x 20 mils
Basic rate: 70 mils per 25 grams; Additional weight 12 x 70 mils = 840 mils
Registration: 25 mils
Censored, United States customs cachet on front.

C. FOREIGN SURFACE MAIL

I have not seen examples of the 500 mils on correctly franked foreign Surface mail.
Figure 41 Postage 2420 mils - 37 x Rate
September 26, 1948
Tel Aviv to New York

Doar Ivri stamps 2 x 5, 8 x 20, 250, 2 x 500, 1000 mils
Very high commercial franking, includes all three high value Doar Ivri stamps
Basic rate: 65 mils per 10gms = 65 mils
Registration fee: 15 mils = 15 mils
(Presumed since no label on piece)
Additional weight: 36 x 65 mils = 2340 mils (65 mils / 10grs)
Provenance Dr. R. Pildes
Figure 42  Postage 520 mils - 8 x rate  
June 10, 1948  
Tel Aviv to New York  
Doar Ivri stamps: 20 + 500 mils  
Basic rate: 65 mils per 25 grams  
Additional weight: 7 x 65 mils per 10 grams  
United States customs fee: 2 x .05¢  
United States Customs oval handstamp  
Provenance Dr. R. Pildes

Figure 43  Postage 595 mils - 13 x rate  
October 8, 1948 registered air mail  
Tel Aviv to Prague  
Arrival postmark October 13, 1948  
Doar Ivri stamps: 5 with tab + 500 mils +  
Festival stamps: 10 + 4 x 20 mils with selvedge  
Basic airmail rate: 40 mils per 10 grams  
Additional weight: 13 x 40 mils  
Registration fee: 25 mils  
Convenience overfranking 10 mils

Figure 44  Postage 2040 mils (wrapper 27 ½ x 24 cms)  
October 27, 1948 Registered Airmail  
Tel Aviv Hakirya to Chicago  
Doar Ivri stamp: 500 mils with tab  
1st Festival stamps: 5, 20, 65 mils with tabs, 65 mils vertical pair,  
65 mils block 20 stamps with 10 tete-beche pairs, 2 full plate blocks #3, #4,  
Basic airmail rate: 65 mils per 10 grams  
Additional weight: 30 x 65 mils  
Registration fee: 25 mils  
Upon arrival, charged 10¢ postage due as “Letter Package”  
United States Customs cachet on front
Figure 45 500 prutot - at least 11 x rate
1949, registered airmail
Haifa to Lugano, Switzerland

Doar Ivri stamp: 500 prutot with full tab
Stamps missing from the cover piece
Basic Rate: 40 prutot per 10 grams
Registry fee: 25 prutot
Additional weight: at least 10 times rate.

Figure 46 Postage 755 Prutot - 10 x rate
June 16, 1949, registered airmail
Tel Aviv to Staten Island

Doar Ivri stamp: 5, 500, 250 Jerusalem prutot
Basic rate: 70 prutot per 10 grams
Additional weight: 9 x 70 prutot
(US custom fee not collected on arrival)
Registration fee: 25 pr
Convenience overfranking - 30 Prutot

Figure 47  Airmail 1050 prutot - 15 x rate
September 5, 1949
Tel Aviv to Santa Monica, California

Prepared for registration but blue registration cross annulled
Doar Ivri stamps: 2 x 5 + 2 x 10 + 2 x 15 + 7 x 20 + 2 x 50 + 500 prutot & Jerusalem stamp 250 prutot.
Basic Rate: 70 pr per 10 grams
Additional weight: 14 x 70 prutot
Figure 48  Postage 725 Prutot - 10 x rate
December 31, 1948, Registered airmail
Tel Aviv to New York
January 9, 1949 New York arrival postmark

Doar Ivri stamps: 5, 20, 4 x 50 (1 with tab), 500 prutot
    Basic rate: 70 prutot per 10 grams
    Additional weight: 9 x 70 prutot
    Registration fee: 25 prutot

Passed Tel Aviv Parcel Post Customs - cachet on back
United States customs cachet on front
United States customs fee levied on arrival .10¢
    Blue label non-denominated JNF label

Figure 49  Postage 500 Prutot - 7 x rate
1949  Air mail Haifa to Bremerton, Washington

Doar Ivri corner tab stamp: 500 Prutot
    Basic rate 70 Prutot per 10 grams
    Convenience overfranking 10 Prutot

Figure 50  Postage 500 Prutot - 5 x rate
1949  Air mail Tel Aviv to Bombay, India

Doar Ivri stamp 500 Prutot

Figure 51 Commercial Sample Wrapper 945 prutot - 27 x rate
September 5, 1949
Ramat Gan to Switzerland

Doar Ivri stamps: 3 x 15+ 3 x 50+ 500,
    Jerusalem 250 prutot
    Basic rate 35 prutot
    Commercial Samples rate (same as Printed Matter)
    Additional weight: 26 x 35 pr per 25 grams

From Sweets & Chocolate factory Ce.De.
    Very unusual Commercial Samples rate probably for
    chocolate bar - approximate weight 27 x 25 grams = 675 grams
E. PARCELS AND PARCEL CARDS

Figure 52 Postage 4545 Prutot
May 6, 1949, 3rd highest recorded franking with Doar Ivri stamps
Jerusalem to New York
Doar Ivri stamps: 3 x 15 + 500 + 4 x 1000 mils (2 vert pairs) all tied by clear Jerusalem postmarks.
3 Parcel cards (Mandate type) for parcels numbered. 2865/6/7. Slips affixed to parcel’s front.
Weight: 9.50, 9.350 & 10.0 kgs respectively
German coupon at bottom left indicates sent by local book dealer (Buchhandler Engros).

Figure 53 Postage 2105 Prutot, parcel card
April 1949 Haifa to New York
Doar Ivri stamps: 5 + 2 x 50 + 4 x 500 prutot
Parcel weighed 1.8kg.
F. Revenue Usage

Figure 55  Power of Attorney  530 mils
November 1, 1948
Mixed revenue usage: Doar Ivri stamp 500 mils +
50 mil first Revenue stamp tied by office cachet

G. Additional Foreign Airmail Usage

Figure 54  Promissory Note
September 6, 1948
Doar Ivri stamp 500 prutot

Figure 56  Postage 500 mils - 7 x Rate
September 2, 1948  Air mail Tel Aviv to Brooklyn, NY
Doar Ivri stamp: 500 mils
Basic rate: 65 mils per 10 grams
Additional weight: 6 x 65 mils per 10 grams
Registration fee: 15 mils
Convenience overfranking: 30 mils

Figure 57  Postage 745 Prutot - 9 x Rate
June 18, 1949  Air mail Tel Aviv to Chicago, IL
Doar Ivri stamps: 5, 2 x20, 4 x 50, 500 Prutot
Basic rate: 70 Prutot per 10 grams
Additional weight: 8 x 70 Prutot per 10 grams
Registration fee: 25 Prutot
Express fee: 40 Prutot
Convenience overfranking: 50 Prutot
On arrival, customs collect: 2 x .05¢

Figure 58  Postage 850 mils - 10 x Rate
September 2, 1948  Air mail Gedera to
Johannesburg, South Africa
Doar Ivri stamp: 500 mils, Festival 5, 20, 5 x 65 mils
Basic rate: 85 mils per 10 grams
Additional weight: 9 x 85 mils per 10 grams

Snow Birds
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USPS return fee, USPS postage due fee for their new
address notification and the costs for resending The
Israel Philatelist.
Anti-Jewish Propaganda Cover

Gregg Philipson

Figure 1
Cover has two Hindenburg Mourning Stamps as well as a Hindenburg regular issue with two very clear circular date stamps and a red crayon Receiving Mark.

Postmark: Vacha Land, Germany June 1, 1935
To: Washington D.C. Nord Amerika

Figure 2 (cover’s reverse)
2.5” circular label that reads:
“Wer beim Juden kauft ist ein Volksver’rater”
Whoever Buys from Jews is a Traitor ■
ONEPS promotes the collection and study of postage & revenue stamps, stationary and postal history of the Ottoman Empire, the Republic of Turkey, and Ottoman successor states, including the Near and Middle East, Egypt, Arabia, & the Balkans.

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Cilli Rostoker

Larry Nelson

Yad Vashem (Figure 1) has an excellent searchable central database (Figure 2) of Shoah victims’ names at its website (www.yadvashem.org), click on “Digital Collections.” It is very helpful for postal history researchers; however, sometimes a mistake is made which is understandable because the database contains over 4 million names. This is the story of one such mistake.

The Letter

Figures 3-4 shows both sides of an Air Letter posted on February 14, 1945 with an Egypt postage prepaid cancel. It was sent to Brooklyn, New York and was properly franked with a 3d stamp to pay for the air mail service. It was censored by the military authorities and passed through Base Post Office 4 in Egypt on February 17, 1945.

The Sender

It was sent by Jewish Captain Rostoker with the REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) MEF (Mediterranean Expeditionary Forces) to his aunt. He had just received (via his wife) a letter from his mother in Russia (Ukraine). He gave his mother’s address as Cilli Rostokers, 5 Zalozetki Str. Czernowitz, USSR and asked his aunt to write to her.

The Search

I entered “Cilli Rostoker” into the Yad Vashem data base and got one hit. It was for a 67 year old widow who live at “Str. Dr. Zaloziecki nr. 5” in Cernauti, Romania. A little research showed that this indeed was Captain Rostoker’s mother. In 1940 the area around Cernauti, Romania became part of the Ukraine and Cernauti became “Chernivtsi” in Ukraine and Cernauti became “Czernowitz” in German. The address listed by Yad Vashem was from a list of Jewish residents in Cernauti/Czernowitz as of the August 1942 census.

In 1941 Romania retook the city and created a large Ghetto of about 50,000 Jews, two thirds of whom were deported to Transnistria where most of them perished. In 1944 the Red Army occupied Cernauti/Czernowitz and it was returned to the Ukraine.

The Solution

So how did Cilli Rostoker’s name become listed as someone who was killed during the Holocaust? I think that the answer is that Yad Vashem simply entered the names and addresses of the Jews who lived in Cernauti/Czernauti based on the August 1942 census records. Since many of these Jews did not survive the war, it was a reasonable thing to do. However, a few of the Cernauti/Czernowitz Jews did survive and Captain Rostoker’s mother was one of them. ■
In a previous article that appeared in the Winter 2018 issue of *The Israel Philatelist*, I illustrated the Ministry of Health – Red Crescent stamp that has no denomination. I have recently obtained another stamp (Figure 1) that has the identical design, but with a grey background and a value of 9. I am unsure if that value is in fils, dinars or shekels.

Figure 2 illustrates a 1,000 fils stamp from the Ministry of Higher Education on a document dated 14 Oct 1999 on the top and 21 Oct 1999 on the bottom.

Finally, I have been able to acquire a complete set of the Ministry of Finance stamps issued in Gaza in 2014. Figure 3 shows the complete set of 12. The first two stamps have denominations of 250 and 500 fils; followed by 1, 2, 3, 6 and 9 NIS and 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 10 JD (Jordanian Dinar). All the stamps have rouletted perforations. They are used on various applications and documents.

I would love to hear from anyone with more information. email: arthurhythec@gmail.com
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Many brilliant minds never had the opportunity to blossom before being snuffed out during the Holocaust. However, society can be thankful for the individuals that escaped the Nazis and went on to make significant contributions to the world of science or literature. Roald Hoffmann was such a person.

In 1981, Hoffmann shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Kenichi Fukui. Ukraine issued a stamp in Hoffmann's honor on the occasion of his 80th birthday; July 1, 2017 (Figures 1, 2). It is unusual for Ukraine to issue a stamp recognizing a living person.

A Tranquil Early Youth

Roald Hoffmann was born to Clara (née Rosen) and Hillel Safran on July 18, 1937, in Zloczów, Poland, now Ukraine. The town was typical for this area of eastern Poland. It was known as Galicia and populated by Jews, Poles, and Ukrainians. Roald’s parents named him after Roald Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer. His father was a civil engineer and his mother was trained as a school teacher.

Surviving World War II and the Holocaust

Galicia was a fairly quiet part of the world until Germany invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, to begin the Second World War. This area of Eastern Poland was occupied by the Russians from 1939 to 1941, during which time the Jews were no worse off than the rest of the population. Then the Nazis invaded the area as the Russian military retreated. As Hoffmann describes in his Nobel Prize autobiography,

“Then in 1941 darkness descended, and the annihilation of Polish Jewry began.”

The Safran family was first forced into a ghetto and then to a labor camp. His father was able to smuggle six-year-old Roald and his mother out of the camp in early 1943. A Ukrainian family named Mykola Dyuk hid them, two uncles and an aunt in the attic and storeroom of the local schoolhouse. They remained hidden for eighteen months until they were freed by Russian soldiers in June 1944.
Sadly, his father was killed by Nazi soldiers for his involvement in a plot to arm the camp prisoners for an anticipated escape.

**REACHING AMERICA**

After the war ended, he and his mother were sent to a series of displaced persons’ camps. In 1949 when Hoffmann was twelve-years-old, they were able to immigrate to the United States. The family settled in Brooklyn, New York. At this point, Hoffmann began to quickly learn English. This was his sixth language. His mother remarried Paul Hoffmann who developed a warm relationship with his stepson.

**ONWARD AND UPWARD**

Hoffmann was accepted at Stuyvesant High School, an elite school in New York City. He attended Columbia University, receiving his BA degree in 1958. Hoffmann took classes in chemistry and liberal arts and was undecided about which direction to pursue, finally choosing to concentrate on chemistry. He was accepted at Harvard University where he received his MS (1960) and PhD. (1962).

While attending a summer class in Sweden in 1959, he met Eva Börjesson. They were married a year later and now have two children, Hillel Jan, and Ingrid Helena.

**OUTSTANDING CHEMISTRY CAREER**

In 1965, Hoffmann joined the faculty of Cornell University. Now, he holds position as the H.T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters, Emeritus at Cornell. Hoffmann’s chemistry research has been in the electronic structure of stable and unstable molecules, and the study of transition states in chemical reactions. He teamed with Robert Burns Woodward to develop rules for elucidating reaction mechanisms. These are now known as the Woodward-Hoffmann rules. These studies eventually led to Hoffmann’s Nobel Prize in Chemistry shared with Kenichi Fukui. Woodward likely would have shared the prize had he lived, but Nobel had stipulated in his will that the award can only be given to a living person.

**VENTURING INTO LITERATURE**

Hoffmann began to write poetry in the 1970s, but his first poem was not published until 1984. Hoffmann points out that it is much more difficult to publish in a literary journal than a chemistry journal, as he discovered. He has now published five volumes of poetry:

- The Metamict State (1987),
- Gaps and Verges: Poems (1995),
- Chemistry Imagined 1995),
- Memory Effects (1999) and
- Soliton (2002).

His poetry topics are far from limited to science. They cover all aspects of life’s experiences. One poem published in Soliton paints his experience as a child when hiding from the Nazis. It begins:

**Fields of Vision**

From the attic the boy
watched children playing, but
they were always running
out of the window frame.

Hoffmann has also written two plays: Oxygen (2001) with Carl Djerassi and Something that Belongs to You (2009).

Hoffmann has co-authored with Shira Leibowitz Schmidt a volume entitled Old Wine and New Flasks: Reflections on Science and Jewish Tradition (1997), which explores Hoffmann’s views on God and traditional Judaism.

He has been recognized with many awards, including the American Chemical Society Award in Pure Chemistry (1969), the Arthur C. Cope Award in Organic Chemistry (1973) and the National Medal of Science (1983).

References
BAAL SHEM TOV

Moshe Kol Kalman

MYSTICAL RABBI

Rabbi Yisroel ben Eliezer was born in 1698 in Okopy, a small village that over the centuries has been part of Poland and Russia and is now part of Ukraine. He died in Medzhybizh, once part of Lithuania, Turkey, Poland and Russia and is also now part of Ukraine.

He was often called Baal Shem Tov or Besht and was a Jewish mystical rabbi and is considered to be the founder of Hasidic Judaism. Besht is better known to many religious Jews as Baal Shem Tov which in English means “Master of the Good Name.”

EARLY LIFE

From the numerous legends connected with his birth it appears that his parents were poor, upright and pious. When he was orphaned, his community cared for him. The community gave up the hope of him ever becoming a rabbi and instead made him a “helper.” He was responsible for taking the children to and from school and rehearsing with them short benedictions and prayers.

In 1716 he married, but unfortunately his young wife died. As a result he left his birthplace and settled as a teacher at Tluste.

FINDING HIS WAY

Baal Shem Tov's appearance was characteristic. In shabby peasant clothes, he presented himself at the town of Brody to Abraham Gershon, his future brother-in-law. Gershon was about to give him alms when the Baal produced a letter from his pocket showing that he was the designated bridegroom for his sister Chana. After his marriage, he did not remain long with his brother-in-law; instead he went to a village in the Carpathians between Brody and Kassowa. The couple had two children: Udl (born in 1720) and Zvi Hersh.

The Baal’s financial condition improved when he took a position as a ritual butcher in Kshilowice near Laslowice. He soon gave up this position in order to operate a village tavern that his brother-in-law bought for him. During the many years that he lived in the woods in his early life, he had come into contact with peasants. From them, he learned how to use plants for healing purposes and to effect beneficial cures. In fact, his first appearance in public was that of an “ordinary” Baal Shem who made amulets and prescribed cures.

SPIRITUAL LEADER

After many trips in 1740 to Podolia and Volhynia as a Baal Shem, Besht, he considered his following large enough and his authority established to expound his teachings in the shtetl of Medzhybizh. People, mostly from the spiritual elite, came to listen to him. Medzhybizh became the seat of his movement and the home of the Hasidic dynasty.

He was supported at the beginning of his career by two prominent Talmudists, the brothers Meir and Isaac Dov Margolios. Later, he won over recognized rabbinic authorities who became his disciples and attested to his scholarship.

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Some direct historical evidence remains of the Baal during the days he lived in Medzhybizh. Legal documents have been discovered that shed light on this period from the Polish Czartoryski noble family archives. Other direct evidence includes the Baal’s daily prayer book with his handwritten personal notes in the margins, owned by the Chabad Library.

SPIRITUAL APPROACH

Later developments of Hasidim are unintelligible without consideration of the proper relation with the universe. He did not combat the practice of rabbinical Judaism; it was the spirit of the practice which he opposed. His teachings were the result not of speculation but of a deep religious temperament. He laid stress upon a religious spirit and not upon the forms of religion. Since every act in life is a manifestation of God and must perforce be divine - it is man's duty so to live that the things called "earthly" may also become noble and pure, that is divine. Much of his success was due to his firm conviction that God had entrusted him with a special mission to spread his doctrine. At this time too, according to Hassidic tradition, he learned how to work miracles with the name of God.

Reference

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The Israel Philatelist — Fall 2019

MONTEFIORE’S RACHEL’S TOMB

The Mausoleum

Rabbi Samuel Fishman

INTRODUCTION

In the Summer 2019 issue of The Israel Philatelists, there was an article about Rachel's tomb and Moses Montefiore's efforts to restore the tomb. Last summer, on a tour of England, my wife and I visited the Montefiore's Ramsgate estate.

On the tour we learned that Montefiore did more than restore and renovate Rachel's Tomb in the Holy Land. He built a replica of the tomb on his estate, where Moses (1784-1885) and his wife Judith (1812-1862) are interred.

Here is some information from the brochure we received when visiting the site, along with enlargements of the accompanying images.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Mausoleum next to the Synagogue is a replica of Rachel's Tomb, on the road to Bethlehem, which Lady Montefiore had repaired in 1839. Sir Moses commissioned the mausoleum for his wife Judith who, predeceased him.

The Montefiores are laid to rest side by side in brick vaults covered by identical chest tombs of Aberdeen marble. As is traditional, the tombs face east towards Jerusalem under a small stained-glass skylight. The floor is of Minton tile. The porch is filled with iron grills in a Moresque fretwork pattern.

The inscription is from the last verse of the Hebrew hymn “Adon Olam.” A translation of the Hebrew:

Into his hand I consign my spirit while I sleep, believing that I - soul and body - may wake again. The Lord is with me and I will fear nothing.

OTHER STRUCTURES

Behind the mausoleum are two large stones reportedly taken by Sir Moses from the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Other blocks of stone there were salvaged from the lintel of the Judith Lady Montefiore Theological College. The Hebrew words say “Yeshivah” (Theological College).

Behind the mausoleum is a short Roman pillar of Egyptian porphyry, a gift of Mehmet Ali (1768-1849), Khedive of Egypt, with whom Montefiore established friendly relations. It was placed there by Lady Montefiore to indicate where she wished to be buried.

These buildings remind us of a 19th century link between these islands (England) and the Holy Land and of a devoted couple who were steadfast in their faith, proudly patriotic forerunners of multiculturalism in this green and pleasant land. ■
Cabin Boy to Commodore

Joe Weintrob

Uriah P. Levy, a descendant of early American settlers, left home when he was 10, running away to become a cabin boy. At twenty, he was a ship’s captain. Rising through the ranks, he eventually became the first Jewish Commodore in the Navy. At the time, it was the highest rank available.

Naval Career
Born in Philadelphia in 1792, Levy had a career that spanned pirate-chasing to authorship - he wrote A Manual of Internal Rules and Regulations for Men-of-War. His career also included 16 months in a British prison during the War of 1812 when his ship was captured. He successfully pushed for abolishing flogging as a punishment in the Navy.

Despite his successes, he was court-martialed several times over fights with fellow officers, procedures tinged with questions of anti-Semitism.

Monticello
A great admirer of Thomas Jefferson, he purchased Jefferson’s home Monticello in 1834. He did extensive restoration and purchase hundreds of acres to add to what was left.

He used the property as a vacation home and his widowed mother, Rachel Philips Levy, lived there for two years before dying. She is buried on the property.

His mother lived in the house and is buried on the grounds. Levy died on March 26, 1862 in New York City. Upon his death in 1862, Levy gave the Monticello estate to the People of the United States.


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israelstamps@gmail.com
Surprising Souvenir Sheet Connections

Yefim Rozenshteyn

If you are asked how Israel, Lundy and Staffa can be connected in the stamp world – it will not be easy to instantly give the answer and not before you read this essay that reflects at least one connection.

Figure 1

ISRAEL

On May 14, 1948, the day before the expiration of the British Mandate, David Ben-Gurion, the head of the Jewish Agency, declared “the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz Israel, to be known as the State of Israel.”

The Scott catalogue lists the Doar Ivri stamp set (Scott 1 - 9) (Figure 1) of the new State as issued on May 16, 1948 although they were prepared before the end of the British Mandate. That meant the work had to be carried out in secret and in haste. A factor that held back the printing of the stamps for the nascent state was that the Jewish national leadership had not made a final decision on the name of the new country - the name State of Israel does not appear on the initial printing but rather Doar Ivri (דאר עברי; “Hebrew Post”). The first set with the name Israel (Scott 10 – 14) was the 1948 Holiday stamps issued on September 26, 1948.

The images appearing on the Doar Ivri stamps are of coins from the era of the wars during the Second Temple period (between 516 BCE and 70 CE) and Bar Kochba Revolt (132 - 135 CE). The coins represent the struggles for Jewish sovereignty in the Eretz Israel. This theme was particularly apt for the situation of the emerging state.

The history books can tell us nothing about the conditions under which the coins of the Great Jewish Revolts were minted.

Fortunately, we have evidence of the circumstances surrounding the preparation and printing of Israel’s first stamps in 1948. Israel’s Postal Authority in Tel Aviv preserved all the details:

• Collecting of a sufficient stock of paper obtained from all manner of unconventional sources.
• Collecting the perforation machines
• Preparation of the designs by the artist Otte Wallish (1903 – 1977).
• Producing of the color trials on the Haaretz newspaper press in Tel Aviv that printed the ‘Keren Kayemet’ (KKL) stamps in the past.
• Printing of the trials on wrapping paper for ‘Broadway’ cigarettes.
• Setting-up of the printing press in the Government Office Center and the conspiratorial beginning of the printing of the stamps before the termination of the British Mandate.
From the first day, all stamps of Israel are printed in sheets with tabs (labels) usually attached below the bottom row (sometimes at the sides). The tabs carry additional textual or pictorial information (except for the three Postage Due stamps: Scott J1 – J5, J6 – J11, J12 – J20. They have blank tabs).

**PROBLEMS**

There were multiple printings of the Doar Ivri stamps - especially the low values - during the period of their use. The printing plates and the tab row settings were separate units and were stored separately between printing runs. As a result, many tab varieties developed. **Bale Catalogue** lists more than 250 printing, perforation, paper color, etc. varieties.

The most well-known variations are the ‘wrong tabs’ - when the printer mistakenly attached the wrong tab row to the printing plate. In one case, the tab row of the 10 mils stamp (Figure 2) carries the tab inscription of the 15 mil stamp. The second case is that of the 15 mils stamp (Figure 3) having the tab inscription of the 50 mils stamp.

But the turmoil for the governmental transition didn’t stop the souvenir industry from producing products. The philatelic cover in Figure 4 is an example.

Looking for collaterals related to Doar Ivri stamps, I came across a group of inexpensive Souvenir Sheets from Staffa.

**STAFFA**

Staffa is an island of about 82 acres in Scotland. The Vikings gave it this name (‘stafa’ for stave or pillar island) as its columnar basalt reminded them of their houses, which were built from vertically placed tree-logs.

Felix Mendelssohn composed the ‘Hebrides Overture’ which brought fame to the island (Figure 4), which was uninhabited at his time, and is still uninhabited. It is now in the care of the National Trust for Scotland.

The Staffa “Post Office” was comprised of 2 mailboxes - on a jetty and by the famous Fingal’s Cave entrance - where letters could be mailed back to the mainland, weather permitting.

As no one lived on Staffa and visitors were invariably from the mainland in the first place, it was doubtful whether the mail service amounted to anything more than a tourist curiosity. Any Staffa stamps made after 1986 can be considered as ‘labels’ because the mailboxes on the island were removed and you could no longer mail anything from the island. The production of them effectively stopped in the late 90s although there are a few made in the 2000s.

Staffa’s stamps were produced by the controversial English stamp dealer Clive Feigenbaum (1939–2007). They were issued with the permission of the island’s owner at the time, but were produced primarily for collectors and are not thought to have ever performed any postal function.

Scott Catalog doesn’t list Staffa stamps. The only catalog that lists Staffa stamps is Gerald Rosen’s **Catalogue of British Local Stamps**.

The most famous Staffa stamp is the Aircraft flying over Staffa Island. The series ‘Gold Nations of the World’ (Rosen SF.319-341) started with UN emblem issued on 01/09/1976. The Limited Edition of FDC were produced monthly between July 1, 1976 and October 13, 1978 for 23 Nations.

The story about the offering of this gold stamp (Figure 5) and the dramatic dispute with United States Custom related to importing of Staffa gold stamps to the United States reminds one of a detective drama.
At first, the Lundy stamp charge, or ‘puffinage’, only covered the carriage of mail between the island and the mainland. Since 1974, the Lundy ‘puffinage’ has incorporated the UK charge and a separate UK stamp is no longer required.

Scott doesn’t list the Lundy stamps as well as Staffa’s but there are a few catalogs that extensively list Lundy stamps, i.e. Rosen and Labbe.

Since 1929, some 350 Lundy stamps have been issued, many of them now very rare and highly collectible. Some 40,000 pieces of mail are sent from the island every year and Lundy is the oldest private postal service operating in the world today.

**How are these stories connected?**

In 1975, Staffa issued 6 stamps (Doar Ivri replicas) (Figure 7) and a souvenir sheet (Rosen, SF.275-280) honoring 25 years of Israel Postal Service (which actually happened in 1973). Intentionally or mistakenly, the stamp and the sheet feature the 10 mil stamp with the wrong tab! The imperforated sheet exists without a cancellation.
Also, there are 3 small souvenir sheets that feature the 3 Doar Ivri 250, 500 and 1,000 mils stamps (Rosen SF.281-283).

In 1989, this souvenir sheet was overprinted to honor the 60 years of stamp issues by Lundy (Figure 8).

Going through the Rosen Catalogue didn’t reveal Staffa stamps dedicated to any Postal Services other than Israel and Lundy Postal Services before 1979. Looking thru the image-accumulation websites such as www.colnect.com, www.pinterest.com or Google Images didn’t reveal any such dedication after 1979.

The highly popular web site http://www.stampsonstamps.org/ that lists virtually all stamps on stamps around the world neither mentions any Staffa stamps honoring any foreign Postal Services nor stamps issued by any other country.

**Final Thoughts**

It is very difficult to understand why Clive Feigenbaum decided to honor only Israel and the Lundy Postal Services except for his love for Israel, Lundy Postal History and stamps.

The number of these sheets issued by Staffa is not known; the initial sheet is widely available although the overprinted is rare.

Author’s Note:

This is my first essay related to philately. My sincere thanks to Gary Wayne Loew, the well known Postal History researcher and the prolific writer in all aspects of philately. He inspired me to start.

References:

In accordance with President Roosevelt’s 1944 executive order it authorized one thousand refugees to enter the United States. The actual count was 982 people. They boarded the ship and left Naples, Italy, in July, 1944 for the trans-Atlantic crossing to a new land and life.

**BACKGROUND**

Ruth Gruber (the famous Jewish Journalist/Author) played an important role in escorting the refugees to Oswego on the U.S.N.S. Henry Gibbins (Figures 1, 2). She then got Roosevelt to let them stay. The story is told in her 1983 book “Haven” and the 2001 movie of the same name.

**THE COUNT**

In accordance with President Roosevelt’s 1944 executive order it authorized one thousand refugees to enter the United States. The actual count was 982 people. They boarded the ship and left Naples, Italy, in July, 1944 for the trans-Atlantic crossing to a new land and life.

**FORT ONTARIO EMERGENCY REFUGEE SHELTER**

On June 12, 1944, the Fort Ontario Emergency Refugee Shelter was established in Oswego, New York by order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Figure 3). It was operated by the War Relocation Authority. It was the first and only refugee center established in the United States. In August 1944, the shelter received 982 refugees of predominantly Jewish descent and of various national backgrounds, especially Yugoslavian, Austrian, Polish, German and Czechoslovakian.

The whole “rescue” effort was called “Safe Haven.” The Refugee shelter is now the Safe Haven Museum and Education Center.

**References**


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In 2011, Israel Post issued a stamp honoring medical clowns and specifically the Clown Care Project, the parent organization of Israeli medical clowns. The stamp features a female clown with her iconic red nose leaning over the hospital bed of a little boy sporting the balloon hat she made for him (Figure 1). She applies the red nose end of her stethoscope to the boy’s nose and is rewarded with a smile. A stethoscope arranged to invoke the shape of a heart adorns the tab. The first day cover includes a balloon pup next to a stethoscope and the first day cancellation portrays a male clown doctor (Figure 2).

BEGINNINGS

Medical clowning first came to public attention in the United States in the 1970s with the social activism and clowning activities of physician Hunter “Patch” Adams. In New York, clown doctors began working in hospitals in 1986 under a program called the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit, founded by circus founder (and clown), Michael Christensen. Trained medical clowns visited hospitals and worked with children in inpatient and outpatient units. The Big Apple Clown Care program closed in 2017 following the circus’s bankruptcy sale.

ISRAEL CLOWN DOCTORS

Over the past two decades, Israeli hospitals have taken medical clowning to new levels, fully integrating clowns into an array of departments in twenty-nine hospitals across the country. Trained clowns work with children in:

- pediatric emergency rooms,
- outpatient departments,
- hospital wards,
- radiology departments,
- intensive care units,
- and operating suites.

Israeli clowns don’t merely visit hospitals to cheer up sick children, but are integral members of multidisciplinary medical teams.

RESEARCHING CLOWN DOCTORS

The range of medical clown activities in Israeli hospitals is reflected in over twenty published articles by Israeli investigators. Most articles were published in Israeli medical journals (including the Hebrew language Harefuah), while some appeared in European journals. In some cases, clowns were included among the authors.

In addition to case reports and preliminary observational studies, most Israeli studies of clown efficacy included control groups in which traditional (non-clown) interactions between physicians and children were documented and compared with the clown interaction groups.

Published studies backed by statistical analyses demonstrated the value of clowns in helping children during medical testing including:

- simple breathing capacity tests (spirometry),
- drawing blood for testing (phlebotomy),
- and radiologic procedures.
Clowns eased the potential psychological trauma of
• invasive physical examination in the evaluation of sexually abused children,
• anxieties associated with preoperative procedures,
• the pain associated with joint injections in children with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis,
• and the discomfort of allergy skin-prick testing.

In the range of hospital settings,
• Physicians were able to perform more thorough physical examinations when clowns distracted and calmed fearful children.
• The need for pharmaceutical sedation in young children undergoing painless non-invasive scans that required prolonged immobility was radically reduced when medical clowns remained with the child.
• Some studies noted reduced anxiety among parents during a clown’s interaction with their child.
• There is speculation, though no data as yet, that clowns in neonatal intensive care units might form a therapeutic triad with distressed parents and fragile newborns.
• Some early studies have focused on clown interactions with adult dementia and psychiatric patients.

**DREAM DOCTORS**

Founded in 2004, the non-profit Dream Doctors Project serves as a modern guild for Israel’s medical clowns. The Dream Doctors Project draws clowns from the performing arts (including street theater) and, after five months of intensive training, integrates them into health care facilities across the country. Although work with children is the centerpiece of clown doctoring, clowns also work in a variety of adult settings.

Women and men are equally represented. Clown ranks include both religious and secular Jews. Recently, two Israeli Arabs, one Christian and one Moslem, have joined the ranks of clown doctors. Hopefully, more are being trained to aid Arabic speaking children and families.

Outside the hospital setting, the Dream Doctors Project works with Jordan River Village, a camp for Israeli children of all ethnicities with chronic and life-threatening illnesses. The “Clownbulance” provides make-a-wish outings for children enduring long-term hospitalization.

**CLOWNS AFIELD**

Israeli medical clowns have moved beyond national borders to bring their skills to children around the world. In cooperation with the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dream Doctors conduct seminars and training sessions in developing and developed countries. Israeli medical clowns have worked in such settings as an HIV orphanage in Ethiopia and a refugee camp for Arab children in Greece.

In 2010, Dream Doctors joined the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) emergency medical mission to Haiti in the wake of the devastating earthquake. The 2015 earthquake in Nepal also saw Dream Doctors working with the IDF relief mission, easing the suffering of physically and emotionally traumatized children. One veteran Israeli clown observed that language was no barrier: gibberish and pantomime are universal languages. Since 2015, qualified medical clowns may be called up to fulfill their reservist duty by serving with IDF missions to international disaster zones.

*continued on page 33*
A classic quote of varied attribution is that history is written by the victors. A corollary worthy of inclusion might be that amongst the victors size matters.

As World War I drew to its conclusion in November, 1918, the victorious British, French and Americans could bring to the fore Generals Haig, Foch and Pershing in mythologizing historical perspective of the conflict as they would have it remembered. In reality, we believe Field Marshall Bernard Montgomery got it right when in 1931 he stated: “I would name Sir John Monash as the best general on the Western Front in Europe,” as did British historian A.J.P. Taylor, who portrayed General Sir John Monash as “the only General of creative originality produced in the First World War.”

These remarks would be echoed by the likes of Churchill, King George V, Clemenceau, among many other authorities for decades after the Great War.

**Philatelic Tribute**

With these accolades in mind we raise the curtain on an Australian general whose commanding influence in World War I would appear outsized coming from a country composed of just over four million souls. Let us now consider whether our protagonist was not only a great militarist, but arguably, what many Aussies avow, the greatest Australian of his century. As a collage of philatelic and numismatic items suggest (Figures 1-3) the Aussies do have their bias, but we shall keep an open mind as our story unfolds.

**BACKGROUND**

John Monash was born in West Melbourne, Australia on June 27, 1865. His birthplace was a far cry from his family’s origins in Krotoszyn, Prussia (previously Poland), where his father, Louis Monash, was a prosperous merchant, and where an uncle by marriage was the iconic Jewish historian, Heinrich Graetz. Additionally, his paternal grandmother, Bertha Manasse, came from a long line of scholar-rabbis.

When gold-fever erupted in Europe in the early 1850s following the arrival of tons of gold bullion from Victoria, Australia, Louis emigrated to Melbourne to make his fortune as a commission agent and general merchant. At that time, the city boasted about 300 Jewish families of European heritage, with a synagogue dating to 1841. Louis returned to Europe at age 32 to find a Jewish wife. He wooed and marrying 21-year-old Bertha Manasse. Louis came from an orthodox religious background, while Bertha’s family had, despite their religious history, become essentially secular.
The marriage took place against her family’s wishes because of ambivalence concerning fears that Louis would impose outdated customs on their daughter, while dragging her away to a distant wilderness.

In 1874 the effects of a financial crash in Australia devastate Louis Monash, and he moved the family to Jerilderie several hundred kilometers in the Australian scrub to try his luck with a general store. It was there that a young teacher, William Elliot, had opened a classroom and soon discovered John to be an academic marvel.

Two years into John’s education Elliot informed Louis and Bertha that their son’s genius was being wasted in his bush school, and recommended his returning to Melbourne for further schooling. The parents acquiesce and John is enrolled at Scotch College where he quickly rises to number one in mathematics. A year later he joins the East Melbourne Synagogue choir and in July, 1878 has a bar mitzvah.

A notable event is that at age 14 (Figure 4) John begins his first diary, and will continue detailed entries throughout his lifetime. The entries are amazingly revealing, seemingly free of self-censorship, detailing his anxieties, fears, accomplishments, dislikes and contentiousness in business, military affairs and personal matters, while unabashedly describing his conceits, particularly with regard to numerous successful encounters with females.

**A Turning Points**

John’s scholastic prowess is such that he enters Melbourne University at age 16 intending to study engineering. By now his parents are no longer orthodox, although still respecting Jewish tradition. John has begun to divorce himself from religion, swept into the era’s tide of Darwinian theory and intellectual opposition to Judeo-Christian beliefs.

Children were not the only beneficiaries of medical clowning during the Nepal mission. In a 2017 article entitled *Disaster Zones: Should We Be Clowning Around?* Israeli investigators found that the clowns had a positive impact not only on traumatized Nepalese children, but also on a majority of on-site Israeli medical personnel.

His early years at Melbourne are academically a disaster, but he eventually buckles down and excels in mathematics.

In the mid-1880s a wave of nationalism sweeps Australia, John becomes one of the first students to join the new University Company of the 4th Battalion, Victorian Rifles. In January, 1885 the Company receives helmets and uniforms. (Figure 5).

**Academic Success and then...**

Monash excels in his academics, performs on the piano at concerts with exceptional skill, is involved in university politics and becomes color sergeant of the rifle company. On the negative side his assertiveness, vanity, and sense of intellectual superiority make him disliked by students and fellow members of the rifle company.

The death of his mother from cancer in 1885, and his father’s failing business, result in John abandoning his courses and “floats” in uncertainty for several years. During that time, he becomes employed in construction work on the Melbourne suburban railway line, where he performs extremely well and gains extensive experience in civil engineering.

In 1887 Monash receives a commission as lieutenant in the North Melbourne Battery of the Metropolitan Brigade of the Garrison Artillery, and in 1890 he crams his way into successfully completing his delayed university studies, receiving a degree in civil engineering; two years later furthering his career with a degree in arts; and, crowned these off with a law degree in 1895. His military career was also taking off, with promotion to captain in 1895, major in 1897, and assuming command of the North Melbourne battery. Monash was now convinced that a career in engineering and the military was ordained as his future.

**Self Examation**

A diary entry in the late 1880s is a confessional of sorts as Monash admits to serious character flaws including “absurd vanity and brutal self-assertion.” Regardless, he remains supremely self-confident.

**References**


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continued from page 31
To cut to the chase, John Monash decides that with a newly created engineering firm he has established in partnership doing well and his military career having great promise, it is time to settle down with a Jewish wife. He is educated, well-spoken, polite, confident… and the smart officer’s uniform doesn’t hurt his prospects on the dance floor. It is at a German Club dance in 1889 that he meets 20-year-old Hannah Victoria Moss. She calls herself “Victory,” Monash calls her “Vic.” She is from a wealthy London family, whose late father came to Australia in the 1820s, prospered in business, finance, mining and as a landowner, while also having a reputation as a ruthless “Modern Shylock.”

Vic is a beautiful, elegant woman, outgoing, and one of the most stylish of Melbourne’s smart set. Their marriage in 1891 yields almost immediately to confrontation, both mental, and…. depending on who one is to believe…. physical. The mutual provocation leads within months to talk of separation and divorce, until cooler heads compromise. Nevertheless, decades of sniping, shouting, and provocations will ensue, alleviated only by the blessed separation that his military career will afford!

The two social climbers will be off to a fine financial start in life, and a daughter, Bertha (Bert) will be born to the couple in 1893. John refuses to attend her naming ceremony in the synagogue, confiding that while he might have been married by a rabbi that was as far as he was willing to go.

CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS

The last decade of the 19th century finds Monash in possession of the exclusive patent rights for reinforced concrete construction in Victoria Province. Figure 6 shows a tatty but otherwise excellent cover addressed to Monash’s firm in 1894.

The company’s bridge building proved highly successful, until one of their bridges collapsed under testing, and had to be rebuilt at their own expense. Suffering a substantial loss of capital, he gradually switches his engineering savvy from building bridges to constructing buildings, resulting in his financial fortunes increasing substantially through the first decade of the new century.

CIVILIAN CAREER

His military career now takes off when he is promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1908. In 1913 he is appointed to command the 13th Infantry Brigade as a full colonel. His conduct in military maneuvers in February, 1914 wins high praise; and, his pamphlet on recommendations for company commanders becomes a basic training document.

John Monash is now a pillar in Melbourne society and in business affairs. He buys a large mansion and a luxurious automobile; hires a chauffeur and servants; lectures at the university in engineering; is elected to university council and important committees; becomes president of the University Club; and, is prominent in the Boy Scout movement. He is now, as well, the calm anchor of an extended family, at peace with himself, self-confident, in possession of a superior intellect, and having demonstrated superb administrative competence. His stars are aligned when world war explodes six months later.

MILITARY SERVICE CONTROVERSY

The outbreak of war finds reserve officer Monash going on active duty, briefly as a chief censor and intelligence officer, before being granted field command of the 4th Infantry Brigade, consisting of four battalions, Australian Imperial Force (AIF). The self-described paunchy desk-bound engineer, approaching age 50, will now lead men into battle.

Already there are stirrings against his appointment based on his German-Jewish ancestry, with concern that he might not be loyal to the Allied cause against his native land. Nevertheless, a number of high-ranking officers support him and the appointment stands.

GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN

The 4th Brigade embarks for Egypt in December, 1914 on 38 ships carrying 30,000 men. Australia will eventually deploy 332,000 men to fight in The Great War. After training at Heliopolis, they take part in the campaign against the Turks at Gallipoli, landing on the peninsula on April 25, 1915. Monash is given the left-center section between Pope’s Hill and Courtney’s Post.

The valley behind this line would come to be known as “Monash Valley.”

Much has been written about his performance, both positive and negative, and colored by the motives of those writing the reports. Monash clearly did acquit himself favorably in the face of endless days under withering rifle and machine gun fire, and artillery shelling from the advantageous Turkish positions on the heights. Monash’s forces were in an inadequate defensive positions with the AIF backed up against the shore below and mountainous terrain facing them. His sector experienced the greatest blood-letting of the entire futile campaign.

GOOD AND BAD NEWS

Despite the incessant carnage over several months Monash is perceived as someone with exceptional decision-making skills, excellent organizational ability, and sincere caring for
his men’s well-being. These attributes are rewarded in July, 1915 with his promotion to brigadier general. The promotion is marred somewhat by spiteful rumors still insisting that he is a German spy!

The extent of the debacle enveloping the invasion forces at Gallipoli can be appreciated when one considers that within a month of landing, Monash’s own brigade has been decimated from an arrival force of 4,000 now down to 1,800 men still able to fight. Three hundred are dead, the remainder wounded or incapacitated by disease.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Figure 7
Charles Bean, official war correspondent for the AIF

Figure 8
Keith Murdoch, political correspondent for the Sydney Sun newspaper

It is during the Gallipoli campaign that Monash falls into the sights of what will become his nemesis throughout the war, Charles Bean, the official war correspondent for the AIF (Figure 7).

Bean is a 35-year-old Bathurst-born, English-educated barrister, and Sydney Morning Herald writer whose anti-Semitic sentiments are not concealed. He will connive with 29-year-old Keith Murdoch (Figure 8), the Melbourne political correspondent for the Sydney Sun (and future father of media and newspaper mogul Rupert Murdoch) to denigrate Monash.

While initially unable to find fault with Monash’s performance, Bean feels compelled to stress that Monash is “Jewish by race and religion,” and, that regardless of his military prowess, these traits should disqualify him from attainment of senior officer status in British Commonwealth service. Jews, he says, are extremely bright and overly aggressive in seeking advancement.

WITHDRAWAL - CASUALTIES

Figure 9
2015 commemorative stamp memorializing the evacuation of Gallipoli

It is beyond the scope of our exposition to detail the battles of Monash’s command. Yet, it behooves us to reiterate that by the time of the final Allied defeat and withdrawal from the peninsula in December, 1915 (Figure 9), Australia had sustained 8,709 killed, New Zealand 2,701, Britain 21,255 and France 10,000. The Turks would sustain 86,692 dead as the price for holding the battlefield. All belligerents would experience a several-fold larger number of wounded and disease-incapacitated casualties.

Monash would depart the carnage an experienced, battle-hardened veteran. His stamina was markedly improved; and, his sense of military tactical theory aroused as to sorely-needed alterations in future battles to avoid the costly errors of the Gallipoli campaign. Apropos, a quote from the general (Figure 10) gives one the palpable sense of his chomping at the bit for change. Now, if only he were given the opportunity to formulate and implement the process.

LESSONS LEARNED AND EGO

Figure 10
Poignant quote by General Monash stressing need for direction in war strategy

The downside for John Monash would be his tendency to embellish his activities, particularly his self-aggrandizement in communications sent through Vic to the press back home. The overtness of their undertaking did not go unnoticed by those who bore a grudge as he strove to keep his name in the spotlight in a competitive military hierarchy, where he was intent on reaching its pinnacle. His sense of worth and his ego would prove difficult to restrain in waters infested with sharks waiting to bring him down.

To be continued ■
Historic sketches of the ELEKTRIT Radio Engineering Association in Wilno 1925 - 1939

Raimundas Marius Lapas

The purpose of this article is to briefly unravel the story of the Wilno based ELEKTRIT Radio Engineering Association (Towarzystwo Radiotechniczne ELEKTRIT). (Figure 1). They manufactured radios between 1925 and 1939 and were the largest industry in pre-war Wilno with annual sales exceeding one million dollars. By 1939 some 1,100 workers were employed with annual production well over 50,000 radios. They were the sole exporter of radios produced in pre-war Poland.

AN INDUSTRY IS BEGUN

Local Jewish entrepreneurs Samuel and Hirsh Chwoles and Nachman Levin founded ELEKTRIT in 1925. The company’s beginning was simply a small storefront selling radio supplies with a repair shop in the yard. Their address was Wileńska 24. In 1927 ELEKTRIT introduced their own produced radios to the local market. Initially they were simple detectors without speakers. Their timing was perfect as that year the Wilno Radio station started its broadcasts. The detectors became an overnight success and production increased at a rapid pace. ELEKTRIT began to manufacture radio receivers as well as parts, mechanical reels, transformers, capacitors, as well as speakers, which were also used by the local radio station. In this way, ELEKTRIT played a very vital role in promoting radios in the Wilno district. (Figure 2)

NOT A MONOPOLY BUT A MARKET SHARE

In 1934 ELEKTRIT purchased patent rights from the Viennese company MINERVA, while Austrian engineers travelled to Wilno to instruct the locals. That occurred at the newly built plant at ul. Generala Szeptyckiego. The company rapidly grew and by 1936 they built three addition spacious plants. Thus, they increased their production area to 10,300
ELEKTRIT employed the conveyor belt principle using five or six production lines, but worked seasonally from September to March. There most highly regarded model was the Allegro (Figure 3).

Soon ELEKTRIT became the leader in radio production in Poland. In 1936 some 54,000 radios were manufactured with a retail value of 6.4 million zlotys (1.2 million United States dollars). Some 1,100 workers were employed, including numerous skilled engineers and technicians.

Thanks to these professionals ELEKTRIT products were globally recognized for their outstanding quality. Eighty percent (80%) of all the parts used in the radios were in-house manufactured. Other parts were provided: radio tubes (PHILIPS), resistors (HORKIEWICZ), condensers from several different companies, while speaker membranes were imported from England. The Wilno plant also manufactured microphones as well as a sound systems for movie houses.

THE BEST LISTENERS END UP THE SMARTEST

ELEKTRIT radios were widely sold on the Polish soil and far beyond, including the Scandinavian countries (Finland, Norway and Sweden), nearby Estonia (but not Latvia - home of the famous locally produced VEF radios) and deeper into Western Europe - England, The Netherlands, Belgium, and France. They penetrated the Eastern European nations of Romania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, as well into such countries as Greece, Turkey, Malta and even Palestine. (Figure 5)

COMPANY EMPLOYEE SUPPORT

ELEKTRIT sponsored a number of employee sport teams - soccer, boxing, swimming and canoeing. They printed a wide range of publications: calendars, brochures, posters (notably the art déco gem designed by artist Henryk Tomaszewski promoting the “Eroica” model radio). Even a Communist oriented group found refuge in the plant. In 1935 it staged a major strike resulting in victory. Workers won their demands, but its organizers were soon fired. Later a employees union was established which worked well with their superiors. (Figure 4)
Clever marketing tactics promoting ELEKTRIT products were widespread in Wilno where they were manufactured.

The legendary Walt Disney hero Mickey Mouse advertised the ELEKTRIT line as documented in a photograph of a storefront window taken in Wilno in 1939. (Figure 6)

Lithuania, for obvious political and geographic conflicts, did not sell ELEKTRIT radios. Strangely enough in the 1940 edition of Lithuania’s telephone directory with a section listing for the city of Vilnius we find an entry for Elektritas electro technical supplies as well as radio and a bicycle shop, proprietors, Žukauskas, Vl. and Miškevičius, L. Trakų g-vė 18 with phone number 3199. Perhaps this store was selling ELEKTRIT remainders with a Lithuanian version of the factory’s old name?

**COMPETITION**

We should herewith note that there was a second radio manufacturer in pre-war Wilno. ESBROK RADIO (formally named Zakłady Przemysłowo-Handlowe Esbros Radio Co., A. Etingin i S-ka). The plant was first located in the heart of the city at ul. Mickiewicza (later known as Gedinimo prospektas) 23 and then relocated to ul. Rydza-Śmigłego (Śvirigaila) 15. One can speculate that it was an offshoot of the Dutch based PHILIPS Company. The ESBROK plant was short-lived and could not compete with ELEKTRIT which monopolized the market. For example, in 1937 ESBROK produced a mere 1,010 radios in comparison to ELEKTRIT’s 26,6777 radios.

Obviously, the eve of World War II did not “help” either Wilno company.

**DEMISE KEEPS NO CALENDAR**

As was the case for every previous year, the 1939 - 1940 season introduced six new models. Production began in August of 1939; however, due to the beginning of World War II manufacturing soon halted. This was a major blow to the Polish economy.

Having occupied the city of Wilno, the Russian forces returned the city back to its “legal owners” Lithuania. It once again became Vilnius. Unfortunately, major pilferage occurred in the city. Everything useful to Soviet industry was shipped to Russia. ELEKTRIT's production line, its equipment and even a number of employees were shipped off to Minsk.

In a local sawmill, the Russians hastily initiated the Molotov radio plant (радио фабрика им молотова). The vacant buildings in Vilnius were soon occupied by a fur manufacturer, which employed Jews from the local ghetto. After the war it became a secret Russian Ministry of Aviation radio technology plant. Later, a similar secretive operation began that produced measuring instruments. With the demise of the USSR this plant was restructured as a limited company “Rimeda” which shortly went bankrupt.

### POSTAL HISTORY

Probably in the early years of operation ELEKTRIT used regular Polish postage stamps on their mail. The only item that I am aware of is illustrated in Henryk Berezowski’s book Towarzystwo Radiotechniczne ELEKTRIT Wilno 1925 - 1939. On page 41 he shows a commercial advertising window front (addressee unknown) franked with a 15 gr. Polish postage stamp with a WILNO December 5, 1930 postmark (Figure 7).

By the 1930s, meter mail became popular amongst major and even small companies throughout the continent. Poland - and even Wilno was no exception. ELEKTRIT used two different meters. The first one was a D 26 subscript three-line slogan RADIOAPARATY ELEKTRIT ZAWSZE PRZODUJĄCY! (Translation: “ELEKTRIT Radios - always at the front!”) dated February 11, 1937. Unfortunately, my cover is not complete and brittle with the top right hand corner missing, hence not knowing the denomination of the postal rate charged.(Figure 8)

After some time, the franking machine at ELEKTRIT wore out and a new design was used: a two line ELEKTRIT
Figure 8
This brittle window cover has seen better days; however, it is the only recorded example of the first ELEKTRIT meter mail cancellation # 26 dated 11.II.38.

RADIO WYSOKA KLASA PIĘKNY STYL (translation: “ELEKTRIT Radio. High class. Beautiful style”). The cover I possess was franked with 80 gr. and sent from Wilno on April 24, 1939 with a A 4 serial marking (Figure 9). It was sent registered mail as an order letter (“list zleceniowy”) to the post office in Pabiance (backstamped Pabianice May 25,1939 on the reverse).

This same postmark is listed in the Vytautas Fugalevičius’s cancellation catalogue Pašto antspaudai (Kiel, 1990) on page 333 dated February 29, 1939 with the subscript D 94. Was it altered months later, or a new machine employed in its place - we’ll probably never know as almost all the Polish meters listed and reproduced are from other sources without the denominations and can not be considered authoritative. They were probably altered when reproduced as hand drawings for this catalogue.

Another item worth noting is a 1937 slogan cancel “Wystawa Radio dla miasta i wsi 15 - 30 - IX -37” (translation: “Exhibition 15 - 30 - IX -37 Radio for the city and all”) sporting two broadcasting towers. Posted from Wilno on September 27, 1937 it reminds us what an important role radio played in the city and surroundings as a vital source of information and entertainment (Figure 10).

Figure 9
A newly designed ELEKTRIT meter mail cancellation appeared in 1939. Only a few examples are known to exist.

Postscript
These ELEKTRIT radios are highly desired by collectors.

A search of the Yad Vashem database yielded no information on the founders Samuel and Hirsh Chwoles and Nachman Levin.

Any individuals interested in further pursuing this or any Wilno/Vilnius related postal history topic can email me at studijar@msn.com.

References
3. Lietuvos telefono abonentų sąrašas 1940. Kaunas, Pašto valdybos leidinys, 1940.
4. Unless otherwise indicated, all illustrated objects are from the author’s reference collection.

Address changes must be sent to Sarah Berezenko 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823-1367 at least 2 weeks prior to the issue date for The Israel Philatelist. The journal will not be resent or replaced if the treasurer did not receive notification of the change in advance of the effective issue. The member will be responsible for the payment of the USPS return fee, USPS postage due fee for their new address notification and the costs for resending The Israel Philatelist.
The Four Chaplains Stamp of 1948

Howard Rotterdam

The Four Chaplains, also sometimes referred to as the "Immortal Chaplains" or the "Dorchester Chaplains", were four United States Army chaplains.

As the troop ship SS Dorchester sank, they gave their lives to save other civilian and military personnel. The date was February 3, 1943 and World War II raged. The Chaplains helped other soldiers board lifeboats and they gave up their own life jackets when the supply ran out.

The chaplains joined arms, said prayers, and sang hymns as they went down with the ship.

Who Were The Chaplains

George L. Fox was born March 15, 1900, in Lewiston, Pennsylvania, the eldest of eight children. When he was 17, he left school and lied about his age in order to join the Army to serve in World War I. He joined the ambulance corps in 1917. As a medical corps assistant, he was highly decorated for bravery and was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart and the French Croix de Guerre.

He studied at the Boston University School of Theology, where he was ordained a Methodist minister on June 10, 1934. He served parishes in Thetford, Union Village, and Gilman, Vermont, and was appointed state chaplain and historian for the American Legion in Vermont.

In 1942, Fox volunteered to serve as an Army chaplain. After Army Chaplains school at Harvard, he reported to the 411th Coast Artillery Battalion at Camp Davis. He was then reunited with Chaplains Goode, Poling and Washington at Camp Myles Standish in Taunton, Massachusetts, where they prepared to depart for Europe on board the Dorchester. The Dorchester was captained by Preston S. Krecker. Who went down with the ship.

Reform Rabbi Alexander D. Goode (PhD) was born in Brooklyn, New York on May 10, 1911, the son of Rabbi Hyman Goodekowitz. He was raised in Washington, D.C.

While studying for the rabbinate at HUC, he worked at the Washington Hebrew Congregation during summer breaks. He originally applied to become a Navy chaplain in January 1941, but was not accepted. After the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, he applied to the Army, receiving his appointment as a chaplain on July 21, 1942.
Clark V. Poling was born August 7, 1910, in Columbus, Ohio. He studied at Yale University’s Divinity School in New Haven, Connecticut and graduated with his B.D. degree in 1936.

He was ordained in the Reformed Church in America, and served initially in the First Church of Christ, New London, Connecticut, and then as Pastor of the First Reformed Church, in Schenectady, New York.

With the outbreak of World War II, Poling decided to enter the Army, wanting to face the same danger as others. His father, who had served as a World War I chaplain, told him the chaplains risk and sometimes give their lives. With that knowledge, he applied to serve as an Army chaplain, accepting an appointment on June 10, 1942 with the 131st Quartermaster Truck Regiment. He reported to Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi on June 25.

Later, he reported to Army Chaplains School at Harvard, where he met Chaplains Fox, Goode, and Washington.

John P. Washington was born in Newark, New Jersey on July 18, 1908. Father Washington’s first parish was at St. Genevieve’s in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He later served at St. Venantius for a year. In 1938, he was assigned to St. Stephen’s in Kearny, New Jersey.

Shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack of December 7, 1941, he received his appointment as a chaplain in the United States Army, reporting for active duty on May 9, 1942.

He was named Chief of the Chaplains Reserve Pool, in Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, and in June 1942, he was assigned to the 76th Infantry Division in Ft. George Meade, Maryland. In November 1942, he reported to Camp Myles Standish in Taunton, Massachusetts.

He met Chaplains Fox, Goode and Poling at Chaplains School at Harvard.

The United States Post Office issued a commemorative stamp in 1948 to honor the chaplains. It was designed by Louis Schwimmer, the head of the Art Department of the New York branch of the U.S. Post Office Department.

The stamp is highly unusual, because United States stamps were not normally issued in honor of someone other than a President of the United States and until at least ten years after his or her death. The stamp went through three revisions before the final design was chosen.

None of the names of the chaplains were included on the stamp, nor were their faiths (although the faiths had been listed on one of the earlier designs). Instead, the words on the stamp were “These Immortal Chaplains...Interfaith in Action.” Another phrase included in an earlier design that was not part of the final stamp was “died to save men of all faiths.” By the omission of their names, the stamp commemorated the event, rather than the individuals person, thus obfuscating the ten-year rule.

C.R. Chickering designed the final version of the stamp based on Schwimmer’s original idea.

Printing was done by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing by Photograure.

At a dedication ceremony, President Truman, addressing a group of 400 persons who gathered in the White House Rose Garden for the ceremony, pointed out that three faiths had been represented on the sinking ship—that took place on the Dorchester. “The greatest sermon that ever was preached is right here on this stamp,” he said.

Chaplain Goode went on active duty on August 9, 1942 and was selected for the Chaplains School at Harvard. Chaplain Goode was then assigned to the 333rd Airbase Squadron in Goldsboro, North Carolina. In October 1942, he was transferred to Camp Myles Standish in Taunton, Massachusetts, and reunited with chaplains Fox, Poling and Washington, who had been among his classmates at Harvard.
SS Dorchester was a War Shipping Administration troop ship allocated to United States Army and operated by its agent Agwilines. During World War II, it was sunk on February 3, 194 in the Labrador Sea by a torpedo from German U-boat 223 3. Of the 904 persons on board, 675 died. Of the 230 original survivors, one died after being recovered.

The Dorchester had been sailing to Greenland as part of naval convoy SG 19 when the U-boat attacked. The ship lost power, listed heavily and sank quickly. Many of the lifeboats were lost and others capsized due to overcrowding. The frigid temperature of the water caused many of the troops in life jackets to freeze to death before they could be rescued. The sinking of the Dorchester resulted in the greatest loss of life on a troopship in World War II.

U-Boat 223

U-boat U-223 served from June 1942 to March 1944. She went on six patrols, served in 8 wolfpacks and sank 5 ships. She was sunk in action by British ships in the Mediterranean, on March 30, 1944. When sinking the Dorchester, the Captain was Karl-Jürg Wächter.

KKL STAMPS

Ben Zvi Misperf

Joe Weintrob

The stamp was issued to commemorate the election of Yizhak Ben Zvi as the Second President of the State of Israel. Stamp is inscribed “For High Achievement.” It was used on school diplomas. The “50” value has a brown cancel and perforation thru the bottom 1/3 of the stamp (red circle).
The first major concentration camp opened by the Third Reich on March 22, 1933, KL Dachau became the model for the entire Konzentrationslager System, and was the only camp to remain open throughout the entire Hitler regime.

Due to the long history of KL Dachau, a wide variety of postal objects is observed. Some of these originated from the many Dachau sub-camps engaged in armaments production.

Scott Sawyer

Editor's note: This is the beginning of a series on German Concentration Camp Mail based on Scott's gold medal exhibit. The actual exhibit pages are shown.

German Concentration Camp Prisoner Mail
1935-1945

Rare early lettersheet and postal card with pre-printed regulations, sent in 1933 by Otto Marx, Jewish prisoner No. 346. Otto Marx was one of the earliest prisoners in Dachau, and arrived in the camp on April 12, just a few weeks after it was opened.
Neutral lettersheet written by prisoner Otto Marx, to which he later added a date of April 27, 1933 (darker ink). This letter was actually written on April 25, censored on the 27th, and forwarded to the Gestapo in Munich. As a result of running afoul of the camp censor ‘obliterated area on page 2). Marx was severely beaten by three SS men.
2a. Germany – Dachau

Lettersheet/Postal Card

Early lettersheet written by prisoner Otto Marx, Block 4/4, dated March 31, 1934.

Early postal card with similar pre-printed regulations, sent by prisoner Maier Schloss in Block 1/I on August 25, 1935, with both camp postal censor and block censor (K1) marks.
Overprinted Lettersheets

2a. Germany – Dachau

Early lettersheets with pre-printed regulations partially crossed out by overprinting (top) and by hand (bottom), written by prisoner Otto Marx shortly before his release in late 1935.
West Bank Censorship

Avo Kaplanian

INTRODUCTION

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan censored a big part of the West Bank mail. This included local, as well as outgoing and incoming mail from abroad. The West Bank was placed under Jordanian administration at the end of World War II.

The many different all Arabic censor marks, mostly civilian but some military, are found in many different shapes and colors. Now and then an Arabic reseal censor label was used.

To Begin

![Censor Mark Example](Image)

I would like to go back a few years, to the late 1940s to be exact, and show in Figure 1 a double circular cachet with a 34 mm diameter and an Arabic four lines of text reading:

The Kingdom of Hashemite Jordan censored Amman

What is interesting about this censor mark is that it was not exclusively used in the West Bank. It was also used on mail to and from the East Bank, i.e. Jordan proper.

In Figure 2 we see this mark on a cover from Amman to London mailed on 15 October 1949. Four stamps totaling 35-fils plus two “Aid” stamps totaling 18 fils, i.e. the obligatory 50% “tax” of the total franking on the cover. This censor cachet was used much earlier than the other censor marks listed here. It was solely used during the month of October 1949, and only between the 14th and 28th of the month.

CENSORS GALORE

From 1949, we jump to the late 1950s and early 1960s. During those years, many censor marks were used in the West Bank: both on local and international mail.

As was mentioned before, these markings were all in Arabic and came in different shapes such as circular, double circular, square, rectangular, hexagonal, boxed and unboxed, etc. The colors were either red, black or violet.

MILITARY CENSORSHIP

Next to civil censor marks, military censorship was also exercised in the same area and during the same period, i.e. the late 1950s and early 1960s. I know of four censor marks: (Figure 3).

(Note: ekd- earliest known date; lkd latest known date).

![Censor Mark Examples](Images)

Civilian Censorship

Figure 4 is a systematic listing of all the information and censor marks and technical information known to me so far.
CIVILIAN CENSOR MARKS

Figure 4

- single circle - diameter: 28 mm
- black or violet color text: censored/6
- ekd: 23/03/'58 - lkd: 06/11/'60

- single circle - diameter: 30 mm
- violet color - text: censorship
- ekd (earliest known date): 01/10/'58
- lkd (latest known date): 10/01/'63

- double circle - diameter: 28 mm
- violet color - text: censorship /3
- usage dates unknown

- single circle - diameter 35 mm
- violet color - text: censored/6
- ekd: 12/12/60 - lkd: 04/07/61

- double circle - diameter: 27 mm
- violet color - text: censorship
- ekd: 15/05/58 - lkd: 29/08/59

- hexagon - 34 x 34 mm
- violet color - text: 6/ censored
- ekd: 17/12/62 - lkd: 13/07/'63

- single circle (thick) - diameter: 30 mm
- black color - text: censorship
- ekd: 01/10/'58
- lkd: 10/01/'63

- double circle - diameter: 29 mm
- violet color - text: censorship
- ekd: 18/01/'58 - lkd: 11/01/'60

- double rectangle - 26 x 29 mm
- violet color - text: 6/ censored
- ekd: 14/12/64 - lkd: 09/09/'65

- boxed rectangle - 27 x 25 mm
- violet color - text: censored
- ekd: 04/01/'58 - lkd: 08/11/'58

- single circle - diameter: 25 mm
- black color - text: censorship - 3
- only one cover is known to exist with the date 26/11/'58

- double circle - diameter 28 mm
- violet color - text: censorship /3
- usage dates unknown

- hexagon - 34 x 34 mm
- violet color - text: censored/9
- ekd: unknown - lkd: 26/06/62

- boxed rectangle - 27 x 25 mm
- violet color - text: censored/9
- ekd: 07/12/58 - lkd: 25/08/59

- double circle - diameter: 23 mm
- red color - text: passed
- only one cover is known to exist with the date 08/11/'49

- double circle - diameter: 25 mm
- black color - text: censorships - 3
- only one cover is known to exist with the date 26/11/'58

- single circle - diameter: 40 mm
- black or violet color - text: censorship /8
- ekd: 01/10/'58 - lkd: 28/12/58

- double circle - diameter 29 mm
- violet color - text: censorship
- ekd: 15/05/'58 - lkd: 29/08/'59

- double circle - diameter: 28 mm
- black color - text: censored/4
- ekd: 23/04/58 lkd: 20/12/'59

- hexagon - 34 x 34 mm
- violet color - text: censored/9
- ekd: unknown - lkd: 26/06/62

- double circle - diameter: 23 mm
- red color - text: passed
- only one cover is known to exist with the date 08/11/'49

- double circle - diameter 28 mm
- black color - text: censorship /3
- usage dates unknown

- hexagon - 34 x 34 mm
- violet color - text: censored/9
- ekd: unknown - lkd: 26/06/62

- double circle - diameter: 28 mm
- black or violet color text: censored/4
- ekd: 23/04/58 lkd: 20/12/'59
Of these censor marks, CCM 3, CCM 5 and CCM 6 are the least common and are very hard to find. Censor marks CCM 8, CCM 9, CCM 10, CCM 12 and CCM 16 are found most frequently. To illustrate the usage of these censor marks, I am showing a few covers with the markings.

**Figure 5**
A cover mailed from Leipzig (East Germany) to Jerusalem on November 26, 1958. On the front is censor mark CCM 5 in black, which was struck upon arrival in Jerusalem.

**Figure 6**
**Figure 7**
Figures 6, 7 are the front and the back censor on a local cover mailed from Jerusalem to Ramallah on September 28, 1958. Upon arrival the next day in Ramallah, the cover was censored and supplied with censor mark CCM 8 reading in Arabic “censored/6”.

**Figure 8**
**Figure 9**
Figures 8, 7 shows the covers front and censor and Figure 10 the back censor. It was mailed in Jerusalem and sent to Cairo on December 17, 1962. The cover was first censored in Jerusalem with a strike of CCM 11 (6/censored) censor mark and in Cairo with the black circular “Postal Censorship 1” cachet.

**Figure 10**

**Figure 11**
**Figure 12**
Figures 11, 12 show an air letter mailed in Anabta (West Bank) to Chicago on July 30, 1959. On the back is the CCM 14 (censored/9) rectangular censor mark in violet.
In addition to the usage of these different civil and military markings, a manuscript marking indicated some letters were censored. A few examples of such so-called manuscript censorship follows.

Figure 18 is the front and Figure 19 is the back of a domestic cover mailed in Hebron to Jerusalem / Ramallah on December 4, 1958. On the back we see the arrival postmark of Ramallah (5 December 1958) and part of the B.H. 280 bilingual label with the text: “Received torn / open and officially secured.” On the left in Arabic and green ink is the hand-written word “censored” with the signature of the postal clerk.

Figure 13 is a local cover mailed in Jenin to Qalandia, near Jerusalem, on July 22, 1959.

On the back (Figure 14) is the black CCM 16 (censored/10) square censor mark.

Figure 15 is another local cover mailed in Irbid to Qalandia on July 7, 1959.

On the back (Figure 16), we see the violet rectangular strike of MCM 1 (military censorship 1) (Figure 17). Furthermore, on the right, we see part of the black on red “military censorship” re-seal label.

A similar cover is shown in Figure 20. The local cover is mailed in Irbid to Qalandia / Jerusalem on September 4, 1959.

On the back (Figure 21, we see the transit postmark of Jerusalem (5 Dec. ’59) and the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Airport (Qalandia) dated Sept. 6 ’59. Here also the Arabic manuscript “censored” in red plus the postal clerk’s signature.

What is more interesting is the one-line cachet in violet reading “Military Censorship” MCM 3 (Figure 22) struck twice on the left and the right.
Figure 23 shows a cover mailed in London to Jerusalem on January 8, 1960. On the back (Figure 24) is the transit postmarks of Amman (Jan. 10, '60) and Jerusalem (Jan. 11, '60) plus the arrival postmark of Jerusalem Citadel, also Jan. 11, '60.

On the front and back of the cover is the Arabic hand-written word “TAHQIQ” in red meaning inspected or investigated plus the signature of the responsible postal employee.

Finally, Figure 25 shows a cover mailed in Oakland, California to Bir Zeit on April 1, 1966 (very late date).

On the back (Figure 26) are the transit postmarks of Jerusalem (April 4, '66) three times and Ramallah (April 5, '66) plus the arrival postmark of Bir Zeit (April 6, '66).

On the front, we see the Arabic manuscript inspection or investigation in blue.

The cover was force registered in Jerusalem and was struck by the two lines Arabic cachet in violet reading: “Received with gum traces on the flaps”. Furthermore, on the left we see the in Arabic hand-written sentence reading: “I have received the full contents. A check for the U.S. $20.00 and nothing else”. The signature of the addressee Miss Hanan Ma’bar is under the sentence. Then on the right, we see the signature of the Bir Zeit post office director. ■
A Seldom Seen Franking

Yacov Tsachor

The Palestine domestic postcard rate was 4 mils as of 1st September 1920 till 1st April 1941. These mailed postcards are common and plentiful.

**NORMAL POST CARD POSTAGE**

Recently, I came across a seldom seen variety of the 4 mils rate. Figure 1 depicts a commercial postcard sent from Jaffa to the Tel Aviv Court. It is mixed franked 2 mils Blue-Green London I (Figure 2) and 2 mils Yellow London II (Figure 3). Both stamps are tied to the post card by a TEL AVIV – JAFFA 13 FE 23 postmark (Figure 4).

This postcard franking with 2 E.E.F. stamps of the same denomination but of different colors and issues is unusual

Reference
I’d like to expand on some of the ideas in Howard Rotterdam’s article on the Israel-China joint issue of 2012 (The Israel Philatelist, Spring 2019). This issue provides a starting point for an overview of Israel’s joint issues, and allows us to ponder the question of “what is a joint issue?”

Are there hard-and-fast rules that nations participating in joint issues must follow? It seems to me that there is one basic feature, and this criterion is not commonly found among the prevailing definitions. Namely: To qualify as a “Joint Issue,” the participating nations (or other entities) must declare, in concert, that this is a SANCTIONED JOINT ISSUE.

Although not cited in most definitions, in order to constitute an official “joint issue,” both nations must sanction their participation in the release. (See Rick Miller, Linn’s Stamp News, 09/27/04), The crux of the matter is that in order for a “Twin Issue” to qualify as a “Joint Issue” the program must be officially sanctioned by the participating countries. This enables the purist to identify “true” joint issues.

We may cite numerous instances when two countries released new issues commemorating the same event and on the same day, but these are not official joint issues because their release was not officially sanctioned as a “joint issue.”

This example supports my point of the basic definition of official sanctioning. On 24 January 2002, Israel and China issued an officially sanctioned joint issue to commemorate ten years of diplomatic relations between them. Nothing else regarding the joint issue conforms to the standard criteria.

Although Israel and China collaborated to issue and cancel this souvenir leaf (i.e. joint issue) (Figure 1) on the same date, commemorating the same event, neither country issued a new stamp in commemoration of the “event.” Also, there is no First Date of Issue designation on their respective cancellations. Instead, the Israel stamp is one from among a set of four (4) stamps issued by Israel in July 2001 (Figure 2).

The Chinese stamp is also one from among a set of four 4 (Cultural relics from the tombs of Prince Jing, i.e., the Eternal Fidelity Palace Lamp) issued in 2000. Pictured on the souvenir leaf as part of the graphic is a stamp that depicts the Kai-Feng-Fu synagogue that is located in China. This stamp is one among a set of three issued by Israel in 1988 (Figure 3).

Thus, consistent with qualifying as a Joint Issue, we have two sovereign nations that canceled their own stamps to commemorate a common event. The cancellations were applied on exactly the same date on a common Souvenir Leaf. Inconsistent with being a joint issue, neither nation issued a new stamp, neither issued stamps that commemorated the common event and neither issued stamps similar in design or in any way otherwise related.
**Israel Joint Issues**

It is generally recognized that Israel’s entry into a joint issue program occurred in 1993. A distinctive feature that clearly indicates a joint issue is the concurrent release of a Mini-Album. This product contains a Souvenir Leaf on which are mounted a stamp(s) from Israel and its partnering country or entity that clearly identifies the event that the two parties are commemorating. In most instances, but not all, it contains a statement that this is, indeed, a “joint issue.”

Also included in the Mini-Albums is a single mint stamp from each country along with a bulletin/fact sheet issued by the Israeli Postal Authority. As one can see, there are few rules when it comes to the determination of joint issue status. Each has to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Let’s evaluate the aforementioned 2002 Israel – China issue. On the “pro” side we have seen many retail resources that refer to this as a “joint issue.” Why, because there is a souvenir leaf that commemorates an event (10 years of diplomatic relations between the two) and common cancellation date. On the “con” side neither country issued a new commemorative stamp; there is no corresponding bulletin from the Israel Postal Authority; no Mini-Album was produced.

**Israel Joint Issues With Deviations From Defining Criteria**

I count 39 Israel joint issues in my collection. There are a few others that were planned but never took place. There are others that may appear to be possible joint issues but lack official sanction. I have a list of 44 issues from 1993 through the present day with some notations. My intention is to evaluate each on a one-by-one basis in future publications.

Outside of the parameters that should be met to qualify and, thus, rank unequivocally as a JOINT ISSUE, I have identified Israel and/or partnering nation stamps that clearly deviate from the generally accepted definition. Among those that do not adhere to the prescribed format are:

- Joint issues in which the stamps from Israel and its partner country are not of like design, e.g., Israel - Georgia
- Joint issues in which the stamp contained on the Souvenir Leaf is one from among a set of two or more stamps from one or both countries, e.g., Israel - Belgium
- Joint issues that have no relevance to a specific event or person, e.g., Israel - Slovakia
- A joint issue that encompasses three countries, e.g., Israel – Austria - Hungary
- A joint issue in which one of the participants is an entity other than a sovereign nation, e.g., Israel – United Nations
- A Souvenir Leaf that commemorates a specific event, but for which neither country issued a new stamp, e.g., Israel - China
- Joint issue stamps that were released by one country, but not the other (as cited by Rotterdam, only the Israeli half of the “joint issue” with Uruguay was released; similarly, in December 2012, Belarus issued a souvenir sheet commemorating 20 years of diplomatic relations with Israel but Israel did not reciprocate
- Joint issues for which Israel and/or the joint nation issued a specialized stamp sheet (e.g., mini-sheet, the sheet with the header, souvenir sheet, inverted sheet). e.g., Israel – Slovakia; Israel – Nepal; Israel – Malta;
- Stamps from Israel and another nation that adhere to the prescribed definition of a joint issue but were released prior to the official Israeli-sanctioned declared onset of Israel’s participation in the “joint issue” concept in 1993
- Joint issues that were scheduled but did not take place, e.g., Israel - Gibraltar
- Stamps issued on precisely the same date by Israel and another nation to commemorate a singular event but which neither designated as a “joint issue.” This may be said to represent the most significant differentiation between an actual joint issue and one that falls more into a gray area.

To some degree, that “gray area” still piqued my curiosity. So, I collect both and seek to rationalize why apparent joint issues were not sanctioned.

By way of example I offer the following:

- On January 26, 1988, Australia issued a set of five stamps commemorating the bicentennial of the arrival of European settlers on its shores. On the same date, Israel issued a stamp commemorating the Australian bicentennial.
- On the same date in 1993 Israel and Poland issued postage stamps to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising (Holocaust) - this qualified as a “sanctioned joint issue.”
- Twenty years later, on the same date in 2013 Israel and Poland issued stamps commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising - this did not qualify as an officially sanctioned joint issue (although it resides in my collection).
- In 2018 the two nations again issued a sanctioned joint issue. These particular issues are of interest because they do not commemorate a single event but, rather, two events, namely, the 70th anniversary of the establishment of Israel and the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining its independence.

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The 22nd Chess Olympiad, organized by FIDE, took place between October 26 and November 10, 1976, in Haifa, Israel. For the first time, the event comprised both an open and a women's tournament.

The Olympiad ended up with significantly fewer teams, however. International politics once again interfered in the world of sports, as many FIDE member nations withdrew in protest against the Olympiad being held in Israel, a country many of them didn’t recognize.

Among the nations that stayed away from Haifa were all of the Arab countries. Other absentees were the entire Eastern Bloc, including most of the usual medal candidates. A number of Eastern European players had recently defected, however, and now represented various Western countries. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/22nd_Chess_Olympiad

Philatelicly interesting is that the cards were sent during Israel’s inflation period - late 1970’s early 1980’s. This fact is reflected in the postage applied to the identical cards over the 2 years the cards were used. Included in the Figure description for the cards are the postal dates and rates. I do not know if the Israeli was a philatelist, but he did use a variety of Israeli stamps to pay the changing rates. Included with the cards are images of the stamps on the cards.

INTRODUCTION

Recently my stamp collector friend, Bob Eygenhuysen, give me 6 post cards and one letter sheet sent from Israel to the United States. Close examination of the cards indicated they were International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) post cards. The sender and recipient were playing a chess game(s) via the mail. This is pre-internet Face-time era.

What is Chess?

To understand how the players used the cards to record their moves here is a brief description of the game. Chess is a two-player strategy board game played on a checkered board with 64 squares arranged in an 8×8 grid. Figures 1 - 6 show stamps issued by Israel to honor the game and players.

The Israel Philatelist - Fall 2019

www.israelstamps.com 55
Figure 7
Dated 11-05-78, postage fee: 4.30 lira

Figure 8
Dated 08-09-79, postage fee: 8.00 lira

Figure 9
Dated 12-13-79, postage fee: 9.50 lira

Figure 10
Dated 01-09-80, postage fee: 9.50 lira

Figure 11
Dated 02-06-80, postage fee: 9.50 lira

Figure 12
Dated 05-27-80, postage fee: 15 shekel

Figure 13
Dated 06-17-80, postage fee: 9.50 shekel
HOW MOVES ARE RECORDED.

Each player had 16 pieces consisting of 6 different types on a the checkered board (i.e. King, Queen, Bishop, Rook, Castel, Pawn). Each piece had restrictions on how it could be move. So that participants could follow and record their moves, each player had a board set up in their residences. As the cards arrived or were sent, the player would move the piece on their board. This was their bookkeeping method.

Since each square on the board was uniquely numbered, it was easy to designate a move. As shown on the above card in Figure 14) the first line on the left is designated “Move No 1.” This indicates that black moved a piece from square 78 to square 66 (i.e. 7866). Whites responded by moving a piece from square 32 to square 34 (i.e. 3234). Players would exchange cards recording the date the card was sent and received. It appears that six moves could be recorded on a card and then a new card was started.

I do not have enough cards to say who won the match. Based on the cards I do have, at least 3 different games appear to have been played.

Interestingly, the picture post card and the air mail letter sheet (Figure 8) has some personal information and includes the senders’ next moves. So even on vacation the players continued the game.

CONCLUSION

Of course now if there is international chess playing I assume it is done on a computer with emails or maybe in real time with a chess app (Figure 15). Yes, the internet has changed even the game of chess. Unfortunately, philately also loses since we will no longer be able to find International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) post cards and we will suffer the loss of a unique means of recording changing postal rates. Note that the Israeli player placed a variety of stamps on his returned cards.

If anyone collects these cards and would like them, send me an email: sipeditor@gmail.com.
I hope all of our readers had a great summer and are ready to spend more time with their stamp collecting hobby. I take this opportunity to wish all of you who celebrate, a Happy, Healthy & Sweet New Year.

Stamp Shows
Stamp Show season has officially begun. Hopefully, we can all attend, enjoy and exhibit at many shows this next year. If you have an opportunity, please share your love of Holy Land collecting with others.

Personally, I made a presentation at the October Garfield-Perry Stamp Club meeting. I showed pictures of my JNF exhibit, with additional items of interest. Though, I am the only Holy Land collector in the Club, the talk was very well received. Each of you can have the pleasure of talking about your collecting interest at your local club meetings. Maybe, you might decide to give a presentation at our annual meeting at NOJEX 2020. I can hope.

Our Society needs your help. We are a volunteer run organization. We need volunteers to help our Society operate tables at local stamp shows, become involved in the operation of our National Society, as an officer, operate our website, public relations, etc. If you have the expertise, time and inclination, please contact me.

Most stamp shows will give us a free table if we agree to have a person sit at the table during the show. We will send you copies of The Israel Philatelist and membership applications. You, the volunteer, talk with people when they stop by and sign up new members. Again, please contact me to volunteer.

SIP Membership
We need to increase our membership. Talk with those around you at stamp shows and meeting. Invite others to join the Society of Israel Philatelists. You and/or your new member may win a set of Israel Scott #7-9 singles. See details elsewhere in the Journal.

SIP Auction
I am pleased to again thank Ed Rosen for the excellent job in handling our Society's second donation auction. Please help your Society by donating better quality material for the next auction. The material should be sent to Ed Rosen (Hsofzion@aol.com) or myself (howard@transconbuilders.com). Your donation will be acknowledged.

Share Your Ideas
What have you been doing or plan to do in the near future to enjoy your philatelic hobby? Let us know. Share your excitement with others by submitting a Letter to the Editor and/or article. Please include pictures.

Support our advertisers. The advertisers help support the publishing of this gold medal Journal.

Respectfully yours,
Howard S. Chapman, President
howard@transconbuilders.com
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Member’s Awards

MILCOPEX
Milwaukee, WI
September 20 - 22, 2019

Bob Pildes Gold
Israel Forerunners: Turkish Admnistrion 8 frames

How would you like to own
Israel Doar Ivri 7 - 9!

Well, you might if you enter the contest the SIP is sponsoring. The rules are very simple.

Between May 15, 2019 and November 30, 2019, just sign up a new member. You and the new member immediately become eligible in a drawing for a set of Doar Ivri 7 - 9.

So here is your chance to help the society grow while at the same time try for the golden ring - Doar Ivri 7 - 9.

See page 5 for details on the contest.

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