



ИЗРАИЛЬСКИЙ ФИЛАТЕЛИСТ

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БИРОВИДЖАН БИРОВИДЖАН בִּירוֹבִּידְזְחָן

В этом журнале

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A Photojournalist Genius	20
Israel's Fastest Butterflies	24
The Jewish Brigade Group and Its Predecessors	36





THE ISRAEL PHILATELIST

JOURNAL OF ISRAEL PHILATELISTS INC. SPRING 2019
 DEVOTED to the PHILATELY of the HOLY LAND and JUDAICA ★ VOL. LXX NO. 2



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E-mail: stampareme@aol.com

1st Vice President
Ed Rosen
E-mail: Hsofzion@aol.com

2nd Vice President
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Editor
Donald A. Chafetz
E-mail: sipeditor@gmail.com

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Howard S. Chapman
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Executive Secretary
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E-mail: jeanpaul.danon@free.fr

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EDUCATIONAL FUND
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Moshe Kol-Kalman
Gregg Philipson
Jesse Spector
Joel Weintrob

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Editor's Notes

Donald A. Chafetz

**Israel-Palestine Philatelist, vol. 3, no. 7
March-April 1952, p. 59**

The first issue of **Israel-Palestine Philatelist** was published in September 1949. The editorial board consisted of Dr. Louis A. Sarrow, Joseph M. Wise and Dr. H. A. Fraenkel.

Here is a brief summary of the background information on Dr. Fraenkel and Joseph M. Wise found in the March-April issue of the **Israel-Palestine Philatelist**, Dr. Fraenkel was born in Vienna, Austria where he obtained a law degree. When Hitler came to power and invaded Austria, the only means Dr. Fraenkel had to take money out of the country was to send his valuable stamps abroad.

TRADITION

When Tevyah was asked why the fiddler was sitting on the roof he replied "Tradition." In the beginning, there were no traditions. Traditions are created by people over time and according to habit.

I thought about the topic of traditions as I was working on the layout for this issue of **The Israel Philatelist**. When I became editor in 2003 I had a little option as to how I laid out **The Israel Philatelist** since it was a cut and paste procedure – no computer.

After a few years, I learned to use Adobe's suite of computer programs. As a result, I had more flexibility in the layouts. I slowly developed my own traditions as to how I laid out the journal.

INTERNET INFLUENCE

Then the Internet became a new outlet for the journal and publications in general. In many ways, this forced me to rethink how I lay out **The Israel Philatelist**. You might be wondering why this is so.

Well, with the Internet we do not have a captured audience as we have with a print journal. Firstly, Internet users can look at many different types of articles in a short period of time. If the article/journal does not hold their interest they move on. Secondly, Internet presentations make use of graphics, pictures, sound and videos that attract and hold the viewers.

ROLE MODELS

With these thoughts in mind, I have been thinking about my traditional layout approach to the journal and my exhibits. Frankly, I find most philatelic journals and exhibits rather boring and seldom do I read them in their entirety. I assume many of our members do the same.

I'm now working on developing new traditions for the layout of the journal. I have two visions in mind when I begin a

As the Society begins its 70th year, I thought it an appropriate time to look back at our birth. As far as I know, no formal history of the society has been written. I used our web site's database of journals to piece together our story. ■

After immigrating to the United States, he started a stamp business and published a few stamp catalogs. In December 1948, together with Joe Wise, Dr. Fraenkel organized the first meeting of IPPSA in New York. With president .Dr. Sarrow, Joseph M. Wise, and Manny Sack, Dr. Fraenkel started the **Israel-Palestine Philatelist** in the fall of 1949. Some time later his wife took over the stamp business Dr. Fraenkel limited himself to his writing and publications.

Right now, Dr. Fraenkel is busy writing his book on stamps of Israel, in which he tries to turn the history of Israel's stamps into readable material for everyone. ■

new issue – the **National Enquirer** newspaper and Internet news sites.

What is so captivating about these two very different "publications" you might ask? Well very simply, if you go to a grocery store and while standing in the checkout line you will see the **National Enquirer** and perhaps a magazine on How to Watch Paint Dry on the nearby rack. While I would never buy a copy of the **National Enquirer** or Drying Paint, I always note the front page and am curious about the articles inside.

PRESENTATIONS

Both the **National Enquirer** and Internet news have presentations that are provocative with pictures and bold headlines. I am left admiring the eye-catching presentation of stories.

So, for the opening page of an Israel Philatelist story, I try to think how the **National Enquirer** or Internet news would present the story to grab the reader's attention. And in today's computer world, I have the advantage of creating a layout which I can quickly change by resizing images, and playing with different fonts or colors as I attempt to pique a reader's interest.

RESULTS

How does my new tradition incorporate techniques observed on the Internet? I notice articles I tend to read are short, concise and feature photos. The page layouts have headings to guide me through the article. As a result, I can very quickly read an article and move on to the next one.

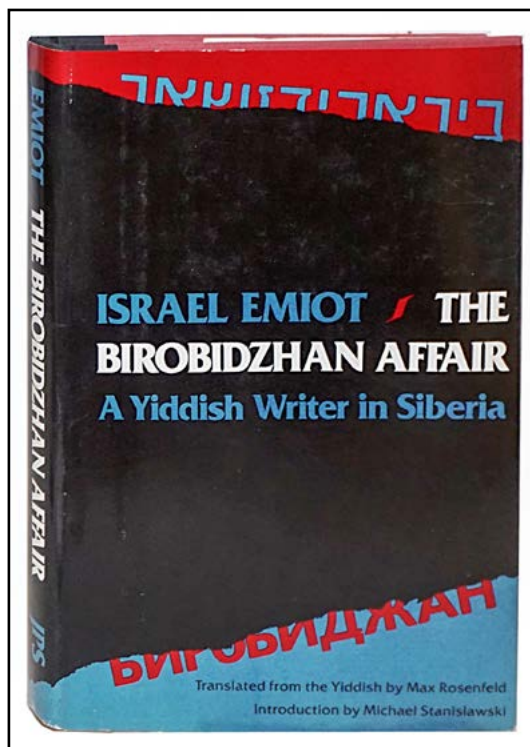
While I cannot necessarily shorten articles in the journal, I can include sub-headings to make the pages less intimidating and less dense by the use of "white space." These techniques guide the reader as they read.

How well I succeed with my new traditions only you, the reader, can decide. Care to comment? ■

Letters to the Editor



2019 Spring front cover



Hi Don

You requested that I write something reference the design of the front cover ... so here it is.

Since the lead story in this issue of **The Israel Philatelist** is about Birobidzhan, I thought it might be an interesting challenge to create a Soviet era rendition of the cover.

I am indebted to Michael Stanislawski for his help with the Russian text and Cyrillic fonts used in my layout. Stanislawski is the Nathan J. Miller Professor of Jewish History at Columbia University. Among his many academic honors are the Guggenheim Fellowship for Humanities and the National Jewish Book Award for American Jewish History.

For those interested in further study, please consider reading **The Birobidzhan Affair: A Yiddish Writer in Siberia**, by Israel Emiot (translated from the Yiddish by Max Rosenfeld and published by the **The Jewish Publication Society of America**, 1981). Professor Stanislawski wrote a comprehensive introduction to this very interesting, and little known chapter of Jewish history. Emiot's sensitive memoir chronicles the persecution of Jews and Jewish culture in the last years of Stalin's Russia.

ALSO - there is now another STAN LEE issue from Africa - a gaggle of ugly British MARVEL COMICS stamps that some might be interested in. If I have a chance- I will put something small together for you.

Irv Osterer ■

RABBI AIZENBERG Z"l

Dear SIP

I think all of us- in many countries, not just in the United States- looked forward to the Judaica philatelic articles in **The Israel Philatelist** of Rabbi Isidoro Aizenberg z"l, who sadly passed away in New York, two months ago.

Perhaps there are pieces that he prepared or worked on some choice articles that can be printed/ reprinted- in his honor. Yehi zichro baruch. May the family & many friends be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

David Schonberg
Jerusalem ■

HLPH JOURNAL STATUS

Don:

When I was in Israel in January, I called the Israel Philatelic Federation and asked about the journal -- **Holyland Postal History**. I was told that there are no plans for any future issues. This is unfortunate as the journal contained many fine articles.

I have a supply of back issues. These are available at \$30 USA each postage included.

I was told that there **MAY** be a thematic show in May 2020.

Thanks
Sid Morginstin
email: leadstamp@verizon.net ■

DIENSTMARKE MARKING

Hi Don

In reading **The Israel Philatelist**, Fall 2018, page 11 discusses a few Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael (KKL/JNF) labels presented an interesting question, not addressed in the few lines of text.

Of the 3 design examples illustrated, two - one of the "Herzl looking at Jerusalem" and one of the "Israel Landscape"- have the German word "Dienstmarke" overprinted, at the top. Clearly, these issues must have been from a German speaking nation - likely either Austria or Germany. KKL/JNF "stamps" were labels, not postage stamps, and provided no postally valid service, except in Israel, during the Interim period of 1948 - the weeks between when the British departed and the State of Israel was created.

The notable problem is that **Dienstmarke** means "for Official GOVERNMENT use only (on a Government mailed envelope or parcel)"; such overprints were created to prevent employees from pilfering stamps, to use on their own, personal correspondence. However, since the KKL labels

had no postal validity in any nation having German as the official language, can any member offer an explanation for this seemingly non-sensical overprint on KKL/JNF labels?

Fred Korr ■

BE IN THE KNOW

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2nd New Member Contest

START DATE: MAY 15, 2019 - END DATE: OCTOBER 31, 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

Part 1, Winter 2019, pages 27-31

D. FOREIGN AIRMAIL USAGES

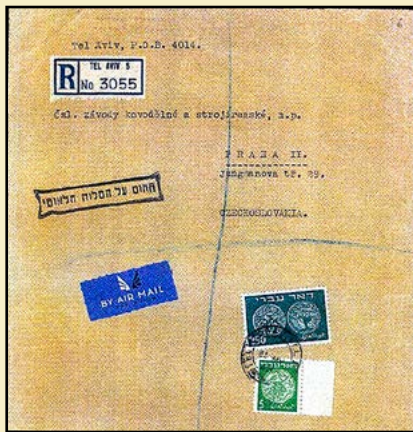


Figure 8 Postage 255 mils

May 31, 1948 registered airmail Tel Aviv to Prague, Czechoslovakia

Basic rate 35 mils per 10 grams, registration fee 15 mils

Fee: 6×35 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 225 mils
(cover was overpaid by 30 mils)

or

Fee: 7×35 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 260 mils
(cover was short paid 5 mils (no postage due charged))



Figure 9 Postage 1835 mils

July 11, 1948 registered airmail Jerusalem to New Jersey
Basic rate 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils

Fee: 28×65 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 1835 mils
The registration label is from Jerusalem Mea Shearim branch office.



Figure 10 Postage 365 mils

August 20, 1948 registered airmail

Rishon Le Tsyion to Wellington, New Zealand

Basic rate 70 mils per 10 grams, registration fee 15 mils

Fee: 5×70 + registration fee 15 mils = 365 mils

Censored in New Zealand.

Returned to sender as no registered service available.



Figure 11 Postage 470 mils

August 22, 1948 registered air mail Haifa to Chicago
 Basic rate 65 mils per 10 grams + registration fee 15 mils
 Fee: 7 x 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 470 mils

Note: 250 mils w/Tab, passed Customs Duty free
 Backstamped transit NEW YORK August 14, 1948
 and Chicago arrival August 16, 1948



Figure 12 Postage 600 mils

August 23, 1948 registered airmail Tel Aviv to Baltimore
 Basic rate 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils

Fee 9 x 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 600 mils
 250 mils stamps with tabs



Figure 13 Postage 835 mils

September 6, 1948 registered, express airmail Tel Aviv to New York
 Basic rate 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils + express fee 40 mils

Package sent on September 6, 1948 - arrival October 5, 1948

Fee: 12 x 65 mils = 780 mils + registration fee 15 mils + express fee 40 mils = 835 mils
 Upon arrival in the United States, checked by Customs
 Custom's fee: 20 cents "small packet" fee charged paid by the two postage due stamps
 Wax seal applied by Appraiser's Department Port of New York



Figure 14 Postage 1853 mils

September 9, 1948 registered airmail
Tel Aviv to Geneva, Switzerland

Basic rate 40 mils per 10 grams + registration fee 15 mils
Fee: 46 x 40 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 1855 mils
(underfranked 2 mils)

Note: full set of Doar Ivri 1-9 with partial tab set



Figure 15 Postage 825 mils

October 21, 1948: registered airmail
Tel Aviv to Brooklyn, New York

Basic rate 65 mils per 10 grams + registry fee 15 mils
Fee: 12 x 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 795 mils
(overfranked 30 mils)

10 cent customs fee charged on arrival
(paid by the a postage due stamp)



Figure 16 Postage 2420 mils

September 26, 1948 registered airmail
Tel Aviv to New York City

Basic rate 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils
Fee: 37 x 65 mils + registration fee 15 mils = 2420 mils

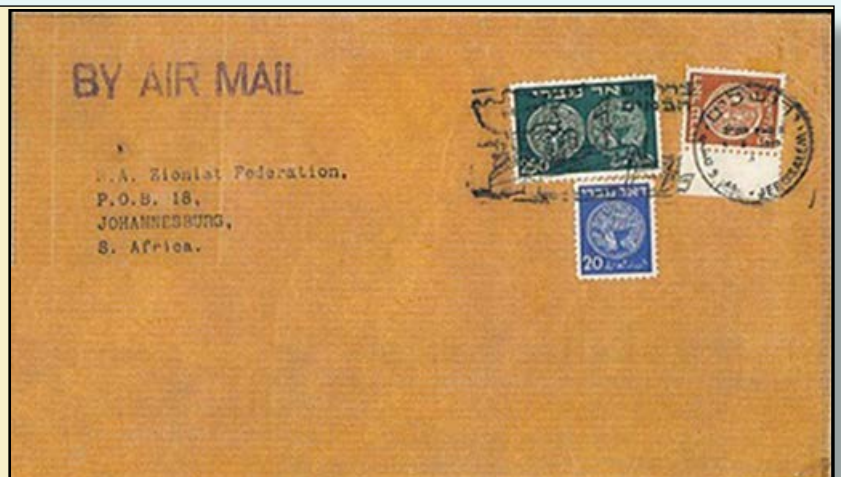


Figure 17 Postage 320 mils
 November 1948 airmail
 Jerusalem to Lembourne, Australia
 Basic rate 160 mils per 10 grams. Fee: 2 x 160 mils = 320 mils



Figure 18 Postage 325 mils
 December 17, 1948 registered air mail censored
 Haifa to Sao Paulo, Brazil
 Basic rate 75 mils per 10 per grams + registration fee 25 mils
 Fee: 4 x 75 mils + registration fee 25 mils = 325 mils
 Censored, additional HAIFA transit postmark December 20, 1948

Figure 19 Postage 320 prutot
 February 4, 1949 airmail
 Jerusalem to Zionist Federation, South Africa
 Basic rate: 80 prutot per 10 grams
 Fee: 4 x 80 prutot = 320 prutot ■



to be continued

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Israel 1948 Interim, Doar Ivri and Postage Dues

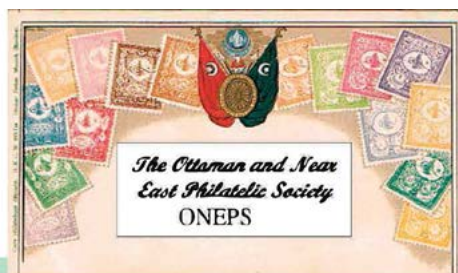
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Ona Šimaitė

The Quiet Warrior for Life

Raimundas Marius Lapas



Ona Šimaitė (1894 - 1970)
A simple librarian who saved many Jewish lives



Figures 1, 2

Cover handwritten by Ona Šimaitė of the University Library and sent from Vilnius June 8, 1941 to Comrade Osherovich at the Gorky Library in Minsk.

Reverse features two different bilingual Belarusian / Russian Minsk receiving cancellations dated June 10, 1941



A FIND

When I recently saw the cover (Figures 1, 2) in a popular on-line auction, I knew I had to have it. To an average collector nothing fancy could strike the eye. The cover has a simple Soviet definitive with a common Vilnius postal cancellation dated 1941. The reverse sports several Minsk receiving cancellations. But what really intrigued me was the return address written in Russian with the exception of one word: Vilnius:

Она Шимайте.Vilnius.(Вильнюс)
университетская библиотека

The name in the return address was that of a **Champion of Freedom**, Ona Šimaitė. Luckily, no collector took careful note of the return address. Was this due to a lack of knowledge of the Russian language? Or even greater ignorance of history? Only one other collector bid against me, but I won possession of the cover of a courageous woman who risked her life to save others. This cover cost a mere five dollars (although I won't reveal what my highest bid was for it to be successful)!

CREATED TO GIVE LIFE TO OTHERS

Born in Akmenė, Lithuania on January 6, 1894¹ and later educated in Moscow, Ona Šimaitė became a librarian at Vilnius University in 1940.

In 1941, the Nazis invaded Lithuania and created a horrendous death chamber for countless innocent Jews known as the Vilnius Ghetto. She began entering the ghetto under the pretext of recovering library books from Jewish university students.

Over the next three years, she smuggled in food and small arms and other provisions, and smuggled out literary and historical documents for the Paper Brigade. She was assisted by noted playwright, poet and political activist Kazys Boruta (1905 - 1965) amongst others. (Figure 3)



Figure 3

In 2005, the Lithuanian Post Office released a 1 litas commemorative depicting playwright Kazys Boruta (designed by A. Ratkevičienė).

Ona also served as a mail carrier for ghetto inhabitants, connecting them with the outside world. She found people who would forge documents for the Jew, offered her home as a temporary refuge, and smuggled Jewish children out of the ghetto, placing them with families who agreed to hide them.

FATE WAS ON HER SIDE

In April 1944, the Gestapo arrested Šimaitė and tortured her. A ransom paid by the rector of the university spared her from immediate execution, but she was deported to Dachau. Later she was transferred to the Ludelange internment camp in France.

After liberation by the Allies, Šimaitė remained in France, working as a librarian³ except for a period from 1953 to 1956 spent in Israel. (Figure 4)



Figure 4
Ona Šimaitė with a friend during her brief residency in Israel, circa 1955.

RIGHTEOUS AMONG THE NATIONS

On March 15, 1966, Yad Vashem recognized Ona Šimaitė as a Righteous Among the Nations^{2,1} (Figure 5) and planting a tree in her honor.³ (Figures 6, 7)



Figure 5
Medal of Righteous
Among the Nations



Figures 6, 7
Yad Vashem recognized the heroic efforts of Ona Šimaitė
by planting a tree in her honor

Another individual that joined Šimaitė in the ranks of the Righteous was: Japanese vice-consul in Kaunas, Lithuania, Chiune Sugihara. (Figures 8, 9)



Figure 8
In 2004 the Lithuanian post office released a 1 litas commemorative depicting Chiune Sugihara. (designer K. Katkus).

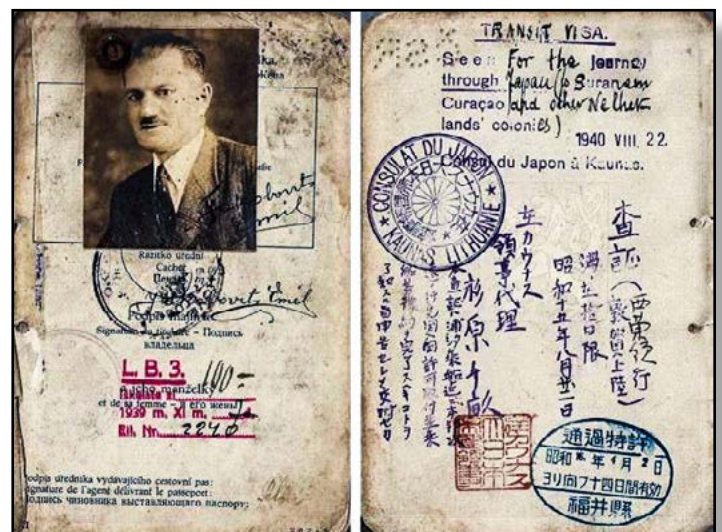


Figure 9
Transit visa issued by the Consulate of Japan in Kaunas, Lithuania on August 22, 1940 indicating "Seen for the journey through Japan to Surinam, Curaçao and other Netherland colonies."

Jan Zwartendijk, Director of Philips radio plant in Lithuania, was also the part-time acting consul of the Dutch government in exile. (Figures 10, 11)



Figure 10

Commemorative cachet cover in honor of the Dutch consul in Lithuania during 1940 - 1941 Jan Zwartendijk franked with a 0.75-euro commemorative "Introduction of the euro in Lithuania" with a special cancellation "Visas for life 75th anniversary."



Figure 11

Visa # 87 issued by the Vilnius City and district chief on November 14, 1939 franked with one 2 litas, one 5 litas, and a pair of 10 litas Lithuanian visa revenue stamps. Right hand side features the Consulate of the Netherlands in Kaunas visa dated July 31, 1940

A LEGACY THAT STILL LIVES



Figure 12

Plaque hanging on the wall of the University of Vilnius marking the courageous efforts of its employee librarian Ona Šimaitė

Šimaitė died outside of Paris, France on January 17, 1970¹ and, per her request, her body was donated to science.

On April 9, 2004 a plaque was unveiled in the Daukantas yard of the University of Vilnius reading (translation): "Ona

Sources

1. Stankevičius, Rimantas. Gyvenusi tautos himno dvasia. Onos Šimaitės gyvenimas ir veikla. [self published], Vilnius 2004.
2. Šukys, Julija. Epistolophia. Writing of the life of Ona Šimaitė. University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 2012

Šimaitė (1894 - 1970) worked at the University of Vilnius Library in 1940 - 1941. Vilnius ghetto Jewish rescuer, World Righteous Heroine." (Figure 12)

Later in 2015, Lithuania's first street named in honor of a Righteous Among the Nations was unveiled in its capital Vilnius⁴ as O. Šimaitės gatvė. (Figure 13)

Alas, neither the Lithuanian nor the Israeli Post has yet to honor the deeds of this noble and righteous woman in the form of a commemorative postage stamp.



Figure 13

Notes

1. "Ona Šimaitė Summary". Yad Vashem. Retrieved 2 June 2014. File M.31.2/191.
2. "Ona Šimaitė Rescue Story". Yad Vashem. Retrieved 2 June 2014.
3. "Lithuania's first street honoring Holocaust Righteous unveiled in Vilnius | Jewish Telegraphic Agency", www.jta.org. September 25, 2015. Retrieved 2015-09-26.

All historic documents and philatelic item's are from the author's reference collection. Anyone interested in discussing this or any aspect of Lithuanian Judaica can contact him directly at mailto: studijar@msn.com ■

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Parcel Post Service Under The Military Administration

Part 1 appeared in the 2019 Winter issue, pages 14 - 17. A study of the various uses of parcel labels under the military administration, 1967 - 1994, shedding light on postal

procedures and domestic politics in the communities under military government control.

Dr. Josef Wallach, Itamar Azmon, translator Dr. David Dubin

REVIEW

In the first part the reader will find a comprehensive introduction to the topic, including a detailed description of the style of each label. As a reminder the following two photographs show a summary of the labels described

in Part 1. The labels are segregated by the various known Types. The label Types mentioned in this article refer to the classifications in these two photos.

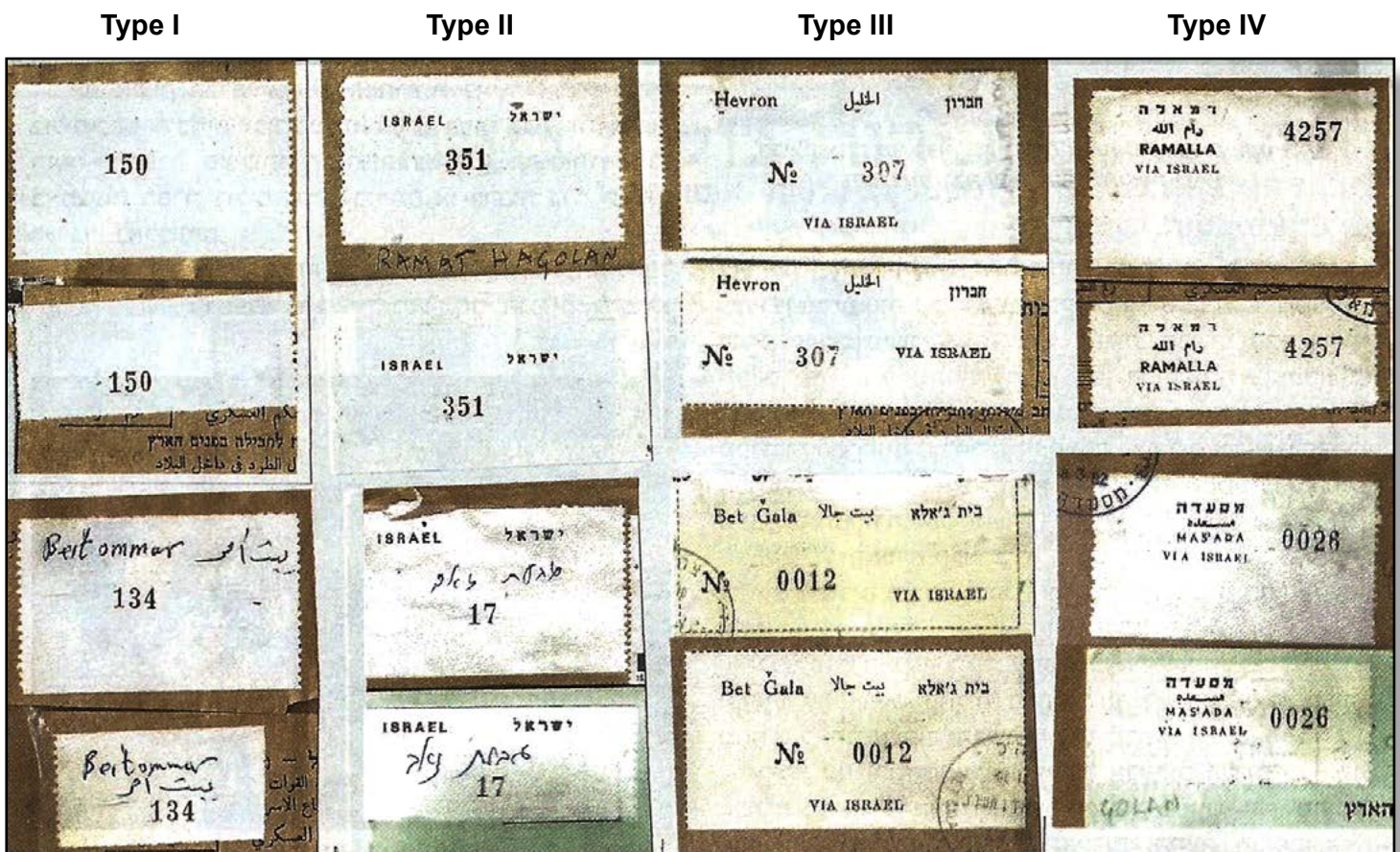


Figure 1

Parcel label types in use in the West Bank (Judea & Samaria), Gaza Strip, Sinai and the Golan Heights during the period of 1967-1994. Labels are classified by type (in columns going left to right): **Type I**, blank label with serial number only; **Type II**, blank label with serial number and the

inscription “Israel”; **Type III**, printed label with place name appearing horizontally in three languages in one row; **Type IV**, printed label with trilingual place name appearing vertically in three rows.

COMMUNITIES ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

In the communities on the Golan Heights one can find an extremely rich assortment of labels. This stems from the

confusion that reigned in the postal offices and from the lack of clear, standardized procedures. Another reason for the presence of exceptionally variable labels arises from the historical fact that at a certain time the Golan Heights were annexed to Israel, requiring a change in postmarks.

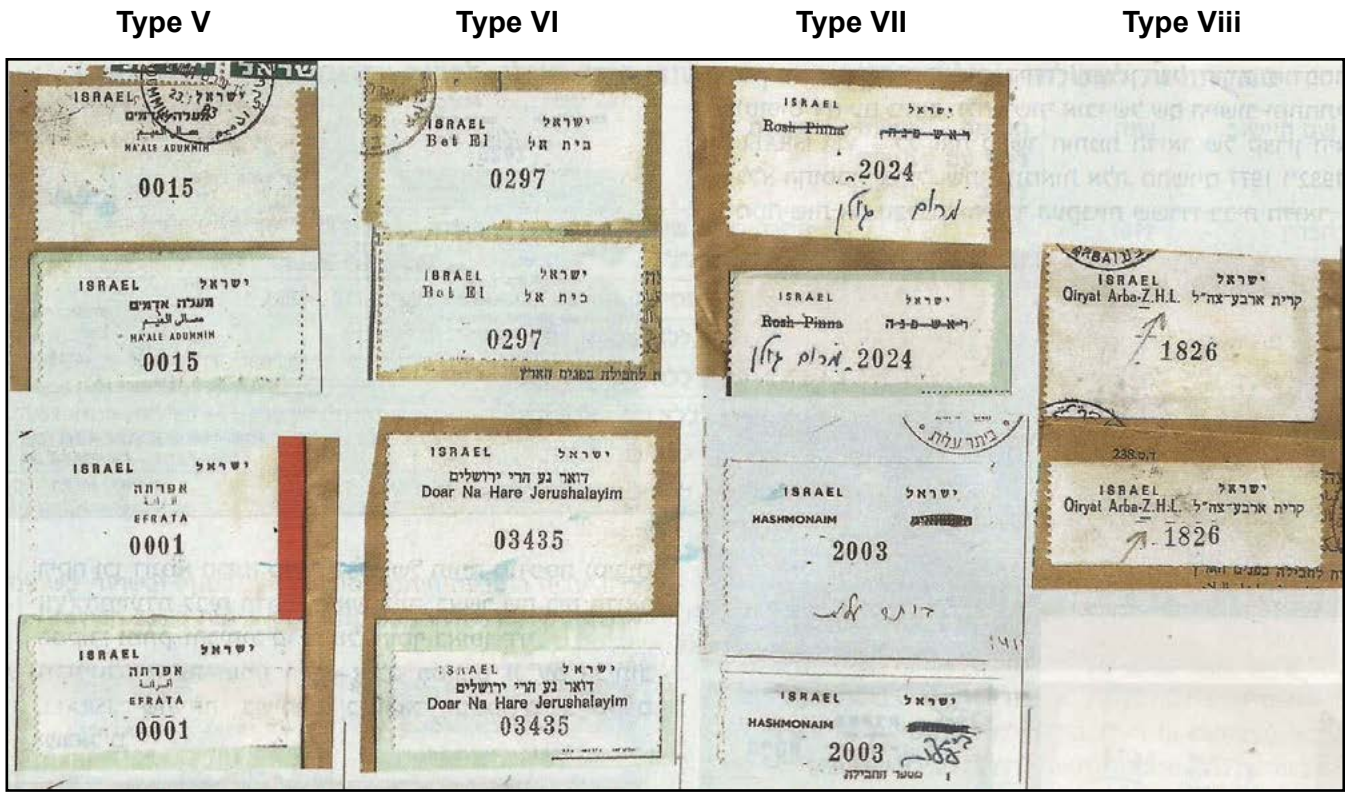


Figure 2

Additional parcel labels by type (from left to right): Type V, trilingual printed label of the type used within Israel proper; Type VI, bilingual printed label of the type used within Israel proper;

Type VII, usage of label from regional post office, obliterating the office name and hand writing the local office name; Type VIII, bilingual label inscribed “Z.H.L.” (Israel Defense Forces).



Figure 3

The entrance of the military administration post office in Majdal Shams. On the left is the Bedouin postmaster.



Figures 4, 5

A parcel sent May 17, 1982, from Merom Golan with a parcel label printed for the post office in Rosh Pinna. The inscription was changed by hand to “Merom Golan.” The change is identical on both the parcel label and the parcel card.

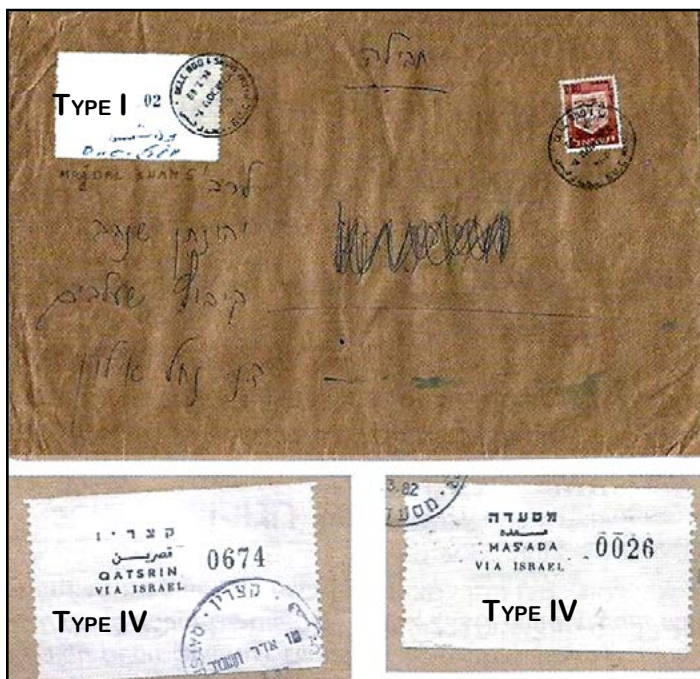


Figure 6

Delivery policy for parcel labels for the settlements on the Golan Heights was not uniform throughout the entire period. For the town of Majdal Shams a provisional label (type I) was utilized by adding the town name by hand in Hebrew and Arabic, while the nearby Druze village of Mas'ade used a trilingual printed label (type IV). In Katzrin a label appears with the inscription "VIA ISRAEL" – the usual style for the West Bank and always accompanied by a postmark including the Israel Defense Forces inscription "Z.H.L.," – yet this inscription does not appear on this postmark.

GOLAN HEIGHTS PERIODS

One can therefore separate the labels of the Golan Heights settlements into two chronological periods – (1) the period prior to the annexation of the Golan Heights to Israel and (2) the period following annexation.

During the first period all postmarks and parcel labels included the added inscription "Z.H.L." (Israel Defense Forces). After the period of annexation, this addition was removed.

The following are a number of examples of the lack of a standard procedure for parcel labels:

1. From the Druze settlement Majdal Shams a blank label (Type I) is known from 1969, with the name of the

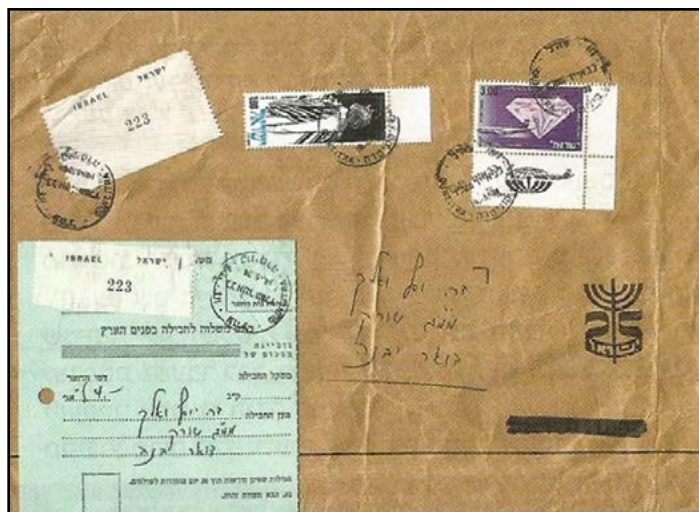



Figure 7

Blank parcel tag of type II from Quneitra

town hand written in Hebrew and Arabic.

2. From the Druze settlement of Mas'ade, a label from 1982 (Type IV) is known with the village name in three languages arranged vertically. This is not a routine example, as few post offices on the Golan Heights received printed labels. Moreover, this label is inscribed "VIA ISRAEL," in the fashion of labels from the West Bank.
3. From Kibbutz Merom Golan two versions of label are known – a blank label and an exceptional example from 1982 of a printed label (Type VII) meant for the post office in Rosh Pinna, with that town's name crossed out and the name "Merom Golan" written in by hand.
4. A label from the route of the Golan Heights mobile post office – along this route blank labels (Type II) were used, signifying the postal station by placing a postmark inscribed "Golan Heights I.D.F." (used to cancel the postage stamps) on the blank label. When the route was divided into two routes (northern Golan Heights and southern Golan Heights) in 1982, the labels were canceled with The postmark "Northern Golan" or "Southern Golan," but not with the added "I.D.F." inscription.

continued on page 18



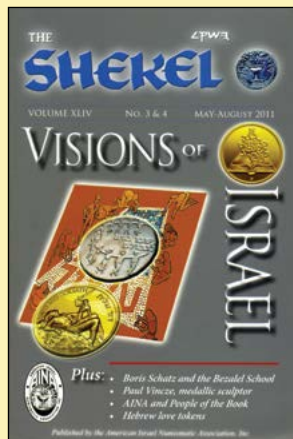
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TYPES OF PARCEL TAGS FOR DOMESTIC DELIVERY

Golan Heights settlements (including mobile post offices)

Settlement name	Year	"I.D.F" on postmark?	Known label Types	Comments
Majdal Shams	1969	Yes	I	Blank label with hand written town name in Hebrew and Arabic
Mas'ade	1982	Yes	IV	Printed label
Quneitra	1969	Yes	I	Blank label without town name
Merom Golan	1974	Yes	II	Blank label without town name
Merom Golan	March 1982	Yes	II	Blank label without town name (Statistic: labels ##101-399 between 1974 & 1982)
Merom Golan	May 1982	No	VII	Exceptional usage of Main Post Office Rosh Pinna label
Katzrin	1977	No	IV	Exceptional use of "VIA ISRAEL" on label canceled by postmark without added "I.D.F."
Katzrin	1982	No	IV	Ditto. (Statistic: Labels #0005-0674 between 1977 & 1982)
Golan Heights Mobile Post	1979	Yes	II	Blank label without post office name
Golan Heights Mobile Post	March 1982	Yes	II	Blank label without post office name
Golan Heights Mobile Post	May 1982	No	II	Blank label without post office name. (Statistic: labels #270-351 between March & May 1982)
Northern Golan Mobile Post	May 1982	No	II	Blank label without post office name
Southern Golan Mobile Post	May 1982	No	II	Blank label without post office name



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to be continued ■

Research Help Needed

Dr. David Dubin

Librarians tend to be somewhat compulsive. Since childhood I have been a list maker, and since beginning my stamp collecting career, I have enjoyed locating places mentioned on stamps, identifying people on stamps and the like.

I have maps of Israel that are in tatters from my constant annotations and attempts to find small towns mentioned on one stamp or tabs. Perhaps, not surprising, I am not alone.

I found a Wikipedia article titled **List Of People On The Postage Stamps Of Israel** (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_people_on_the_postage_stamps_of_Israel), and I went to work trying to update it. I tried to link the articles to other Wikipedia entries when they existed, but I would also like to write short biographical entries for those people not yet listed. (Some have articles written in languages other than English, which might help, while others may not have much biographical information available).

KATOWICE CONFERENCE

The plurality of the missing Wikipedia entries are for attendees of the **Katowice Conference** (the 1884 convention of Hovevei Zion, proto-Zionist organizations). Twenty-six attendees (Figure 1) appear in the photograph on the tab of the 2008 **Rabbinic Forerunners of Zionism** stamp honoring Rabbi Samuel Mohilewer (Figure 2). Of the 26 individuals I could only link to information on eleven delegates. Some of the articles I linked to were in Hebrew or other languages.

READER HELP!

Would any intrepid reader like to join me to create an English Wikipedia article by translating the foreign-language articles into English or by doing their own independent research?

“My Wikipedia editing abilities and my lack of coding knowledge were impediments to on-line updating. I hope others will be more adept. I also encourage the readership to update, amend or add to existing items on the Figure 2 list.”

I couldn't find the list in English for the delegates on the stamp. It does appear in the Hebrew Wikipedia article. ■

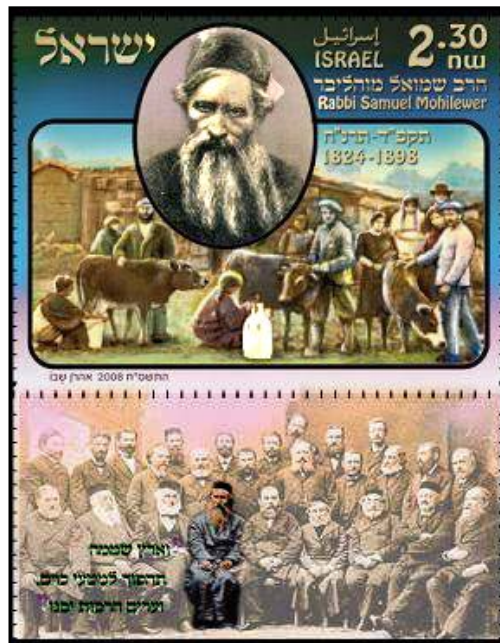


Figure 1



Figure 2

Seated (Right to left):

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Jacob Deiches | 6. Rabbi Samuel Mohilewer |
| 2. Dr. Israel-Michel Rabonowitz | 7. David Gordon |
| 3. Aleksander Zederbaum | 8. Leib Klewansky |
| 4. David Friedman | 9. Kalonimos Wolf Wissotzky |
| 5. Leon Pinsker | |

Standing (Middle row, right to left)

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Ez Lobinger | 5. Dr. B Drobnowitz |
| 2. Leibish Davidsohn | 6. Leib Schalit |
| 3. Charles Woolrich | 7. Israel Jasinowski |
| 4. Zev-Wolf Luntz | 8. Josef Chasanowitz |
| | 9. Saul Pincus Rabinowitz |

Standing (Back, right to left

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Katriel-Zvi Mirkin | 5. Zelig Freuthal |
| 2. Pinhas Pines | 6. Baruch Freidenberg |
| 3. Benjamin Ritenberg | 7. Sh Friedlander. |
| 4. Moritz Moses | |



Figure 1

The design was based on Capa's photograph, Woman Gathering a Bundle of Hay on a Collective Farm in Ukraine, August 1947.

Figure 2

A maxicard with a photograph of Capa.

Robert Capa

A Photojournalist Genius

Gene Eisen

INTRODUCTION

Robert Capa is considered to be the greatest war photojournalist of the 20th century. He was born Endre Erno Friedmann to a middle-class Jewish family, Julia nee Berkovits and Dezso Friedmann, in Budapest, Austria-Hungary on October 22, 1913. Growing up on the Pest side of Budapest, Endre was raised in a liberal Jewish environment. His mother owned a successful fashion shop and his father was the shop's tailor.

Endre's extreme liberal views were not welcome in Hungary, so in 1931, he set off to study journalism at the University of Berlin. To support himself, he worked as a darkroom assistant, which provided Endre's first exposure to photography. When the Nazi party came to power in 1933, the unwelcome situation for Jews in Germany forced Endre to move to Paris where he did freelance photography. It was in Paris that he changed his name to Robert Capa to avoid the antisemitism that his surname attracted.^{1,2,3}

While in Paris, Capa became involved professionally and romantically with the German-Jewish photographer Gerta Pohorylle, who later changed her name to Gerda Taro. They initially worked under the same alias, but later they worked independently.¹

CENTENARY POSTAGE STAMP AND GOLD COIN



Figure 3

The Hungarian National Commission for UNESCO proposed that the international organization adopt the centenary of Robert Capa's birth in 2013 as one deemed worthy of celebration. The proposal was enthusiastically accepted. Hungary then proceeded to issue a centennial coin and stamp in 2013.

The National Bank of Hungary issued a gold coin, which pays tribute to the centennial anniversary of Robert Capa's birth (Figure 3). The obverse design shows Capa's year of birth and death and as he was remembered,

clicking on his camera . The reverse includes a clever depiction of 35 mm film along with the coin's denomination and year of issue, "2013."⁴

The Hungarian centennial stamp for Robert Capa was issued on October 22, 2013 (Scott 4295), the centennial anniversary of Capa's birth (Figures 1, 2, 4). A maxicard mimicking the stamp is in Figure 5.

CAREER AS A PHOTOJOURNALIST

Capa's career covered five wars:

- Spanish Civil War;
- Second Sino-Japanese War;
- World War II across Europe;
- 1948 Arab-Israeli War;
- First Indochina War.

During his career, he risked his life many times simply to get the right photographs of the events as they unfolded. Capa's real-life pictures of danger and death led to his philosophy: "If your pictures aren't good enough, you aren't close enough."^{2,3}

Capa's first venture into "battle" (so-to-speak) was the Spanish Civil War (1936 - 1939) (Figure 6) where he was joined by his partner Gerda Taro (Figure 7).



Figure 7

Taro took this photo of Capa on assignment in Spain using a 16mm movie camera. Soon after in 1937, Taro was killed in a freak auto accident when a tank hit the car in which she was riding. She was only 27 years old.¹

Capa had many of his photographs of the Spanish Civil War published in **Life Magazine**. One of his most controversial photographs, Loyalist Militiaman at the Moment of Death also known

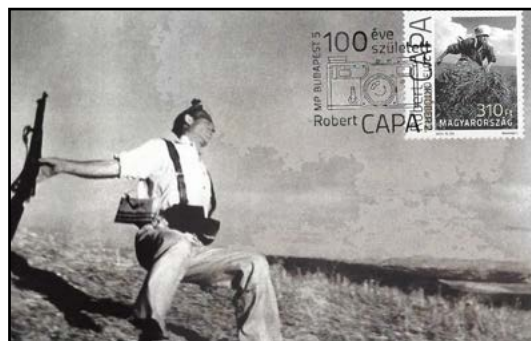


Figure 8

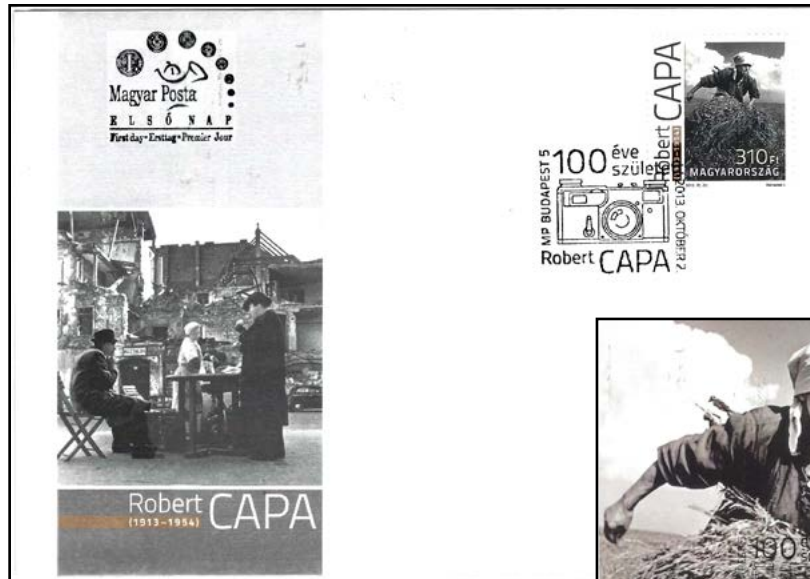


Figure 4

The first day cover features one of Capa's photographs.



Figure 5

as **The Falling Soldier**, September 5, 1936, is shown in this maxicard (Figure 8). The photo appears to capture a Republican soldier at the very moment of death after being fatally shot as claimed by Capa, but several articles claim that it was staged.^{1,5}

WORLD WAR II

During World War II, Capa joined the first group of soldiers that landed on Omaha Beach on D-Day June 6, 1944. With bullets flying and soldiers dying all around him, he managed to take several photographs of the event.

It was the invasion to save civilization, and **Life Magazine's** Robert Capa was the only still photographer to wade into the battlefield with the troops. Capa took four rolls of film, but most of the film showed no images.

Shown in Figure 9 is one of the surviving images that Capa took of an American soldier, 22-year-old Private First Class Huston Riley, trying to reach shore under Germany enemy fire. Riley later recalled,

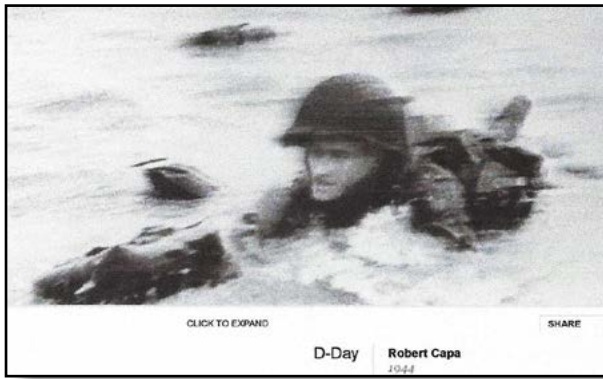


Figure 9

“What the hell is this guy doing here? I can’t believe it. Here’s a cameraman on the shore.”

The images like this one have a grainy, blurry look that gives them the frenetic feel of action.⁶

In 1947, for Capa’s work recording World War II in photos, General Dwight D. Eisenhower awarded Capa the **Medal of Freedom Citation**. Capa was inducted into the **International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum** in 1976.³

AN UNTIMELY DEATH

In 1954, Capa was traveling on an assignment in the First Indochina War. He was with a French regiment and was riding up a road to photograph the advance. He stepped out of the Jeep in which he was riding directly onto a land mine and was instantly killed on May 25, 1954, at age 40.¹

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1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Capa
2. Chochrane, William. **Stamps of Hungary: Robert Capa: Photographer, Centenary** (2013).Hungary Post Sept. 21, 2014
3. <http://iphf.org.inductee/robert-capal>
4. <http://news.coinupdate.com/hungary-robert-capa-forint-gdd-coin-30101>
5. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Falling_Soldier
6. <https://www.magnumphotos.com/newsroom/conflict/rober-capa> ■

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PAPILIO ALEXANOR

Among the many butterflies of Israel, two species are distinguished by their swift flight. Butterfly *Papilio alexanor*, also known as Southern Swallowtail, is one of the most magnificent butterflies in Asia (Figure 1).

The first description was made in 1800 by Esper. With a wingspan of 6 - 8 cm this *Papilio alexanor* is one of the smallest representatives of this family. The butterfly has a basic yellow color with characteristic tiger stripes on it. Butterfly *Papilio alexanor* is known for its swift and tireless flight. Females even lay eggs on the wing without stopping.

Papilio alexanor has only a small territory. It is generally rare to see Butterfly *Papilio alexanor* since its single generation is only around from April to July. It is found in the mountainous regions (1700 m) of Southern Europe, Asia Minor, the Balkans, Israel, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. It inhabits hot and dry calcareous slopes in open habitats.



Figure 1
1998 Palestinian Authority stamp
picturing butterfly *Papilio alexanor*

PAPILIO ALEXANOR MACCABAEUS & ALEXANOR ORIENTALIS

Near Jerusalem, we meet subspecies *Papilio alexanor maccabaeus* (Figure 2) one of eight subspecies known. The subspecies are infrequently found, but lone fliers cover an area far and wide. They love hot meadows (Figure 3).

Note the extra row of perforations across the middle of the stamp.



Figure 2
1965 Israel stamp picturing
Papilio alexanor maccabaeus
butterfly.

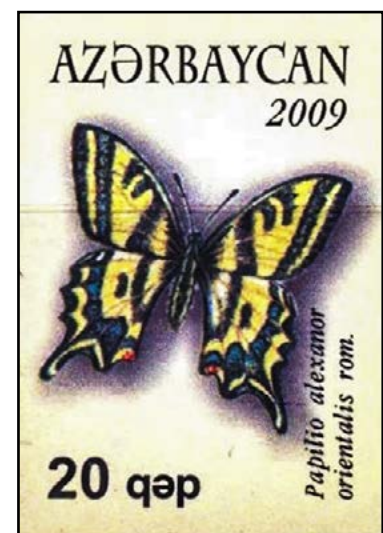


Figure 3
2009 imperforated stamp of
Azerbaijan with subspecies
Papilio alexanor orientalis.

CHARAXES JASIOUS



Figure 4
1955 Israel stamp with
butterfly Charaxes jасius

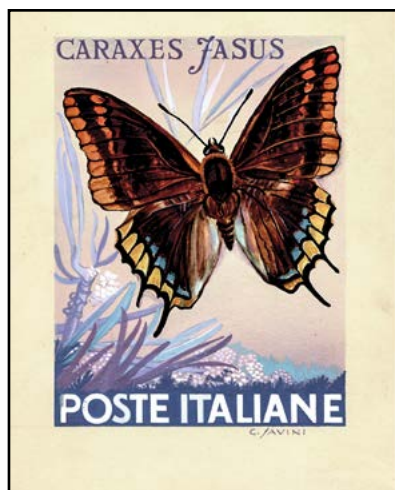


Figure 5
1960 Italian artwork design of
Charaxes jасius butterfly

Butterfly Charaxes jасius or foxy emperor is a spectacular species in form and behavior. This large butterfly can be found throughout Africa and the Mediterranean (Figure 4). Its typical habitat in Europe is the Maquis shrubland, up to 700–800 meters above sea level. In Africa it is found in the savanna and thornbelt habitats.

Its first description was in 1767 by Linnaeus. With a wingspan of 8 – 10 cm the Charaxes jасius is a powerful flier, huge in flight and cannot be missed or readily mistaken for anything else. The butterfly is brown and orange with blue, white and gray spots. Hind wings have two tails with blue spots at the base, which give it special beauty (Figure 5 - 1960 Italy artwork design for butterfly Charaxes jасius).

To see the Charaxes butterfly does not mean it is easy to catch since it flies amazingly fast. The butterfly when disturbed takes off at a speed of about five meters per second. This magnificent butterfly inhabits the Mediterranean basin, in the Maquis, the Garrigue and along the edges of woods rich in strawberries. It is rare in the spring, but it is quite abundant in late summer. Two generations live between May and July and between August and the end of October. The butterfly feeds on over-ripened fruit as well as sap leaking from wounded trees.



Figure 6
1977 Ivory Coast Lux block of
butterfly subspecies Charaxes jасius epijасius.

There are six subspecies known in Africa (Figure 6 - subspecies Charaxes jасius epijасius).

I am always glad to help philatelists create or improve on philatelic exhibits on butterflies.

I hope that my article will stimulate interest among philatelists in studying worldwide philatelic material about butterflies. I hope for new interesting discoveries by philatelic enthusiasts.

My address for letters is: Vladimir Kachan, street Kulibina 9-49, Minsk-52, BY-220052, Republic of Belarus. My e-mail: vladimirkachan@mail.ru ■

Israel Defense Stamps

Arthur Harris

At some point in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the State of Israel issued Defense stamp labels in a stapled booklet format. The labels were used to pay a tax (identical to Agra or Mas Heshbonot) on letters and packages that were carried by private taxis in order to facilitate a speedy delivery.



Figures 1, 2

CATALOG LISTING UPDATE

Wallerstein's 1987 *Palestine and Israel Revenues* catalog, lists on page 181 only two values, the 10 prutah and the 50 prutah. There are two listings for the 10 prutah – with either a red or a green control number (Figures 1,2). There is however, a third listing for the 10 prutah that does not have the “No” printed to the left of the serial number (Figure 3).

1. State of Israel
2. The Treasury
3. Serial Number
4. Defense Stamp



Missing No



Figure 3



Figures 4, 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

In addition to the 50 prutah, there is also an unrecorded 20 prutah, as shown in Figures 4, 5. I have recently obtained another unrecorded value – the 100 prutah shown in Figure 6 with the identical format.

Figure 7 illustrates how the defense stamp was used. The 50 prutah was used as tax payment to Aviv Taxi Ltd. that made a delivery from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The lower left side of the receipt is imprinted with “Send your freight by Aviv Parcel.” ■

0 - 0 - 0 - 0

Israel Scouting

Joe Weintrob

The Israel Boy & Girl Scout Federation was founded in 1953, although the Hebrew Scout Association and other small scout units have existed since 1919.

The Israel Boy & Girl Scout Federation is the only nonpolitical Youth Movement in Israel. It is supported mainly by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The Israel Scout Movement has played a special role in the country's life and in its struggle for independence. The Baden-Powell Scouting program has been supplemented by activities providing the youngsters with more independent roles. The Israel SCOUT program is co-educational in keeping with the prevailing practice throughout the Israeli school system, with boys and girls working and studying together on an equal footing. Pioneering has always been one of the fundamental principles of Israeli society and its educational system, and thus the Israeli Scout Movement educates its members in this spirit - to work and to voluntary services.

All Associations belong to the Federation and are bound by a single constitution, however, each Association may have its own regulations in keeping with its special character. A major aim of the Federation is the strengthening of ties of friendship between the various Israeli Communities and providing them with a deeper understanding of each other's way of life. All Associations have similar programs based on the fundamental principles of Scouting with emphasis on community service, camping and hiking.

Reference

Beals, Alan, **Jewish Charity Seals Catalog 2006**, 2nd edition, Star Print Media, Inc., e-mail: Starprint3@AOL.com.



Shown is a sheet of ten tabbed stamps featuring scouting activities. Going left to right, the stamps depict

1. Column of scouts marching
2. 2 Scouts tending a fire
3. Scouts practicing semaphore signaling
4. Scouts practicing field craft
5. 4 Scouts gathered around a senior scout leader
At top of the stamp is portrayed a tent
On either side the boy scout and girl scout emblems
6. Scout holding a staff and a trophy
7. Boy scout and sea scout with a sailboat in the background
8. Scout giving a hand salute
2 Different types of tents in background,
9. Scout blowing reveille over encampment,
10. Scout practicing archery ■

Charles M. Stern II

Joseph Weintrob

The remains of a Jewish soldier who died in the bombing of Pearl Harbor has been identified.

Charles M. Stern Jr., of Albany, New York, was an ensign who enlisted in the United States Navy on August 1, 1940. He was 26 years old when he died on the battleship USS Oklahoma on December 7, 1941. He was one of the 429 crew members who was killed during the Japanese attack on the vessel.

Stern was buried with the remains of other unidentified sailors of the attack in a mass grave at the Pacific National Memorial Cemetery in Hawaii,

In 2015, the POW / MIA Defense Accounting Agency exhumed the unidentified remains of Oklahoma killed and used more sophisticated DNA tests to identify the remains of the dead. The agency announced on Tuesday that Stern's remains were identified.

In 1943, Albany Veterans Post 105 and the Jewish Welfare Board dedicated a banner of service at the Albany JCC representing 550 Jewish men killed in service. The book *The Jewish Veteran* pointed out that one of the golden stars on the flag represented Stern, the first Albany man to be killed in action.¹



Figure 1
Charles M. Stern, Jr.



Figure 2
DE-187 US Stern

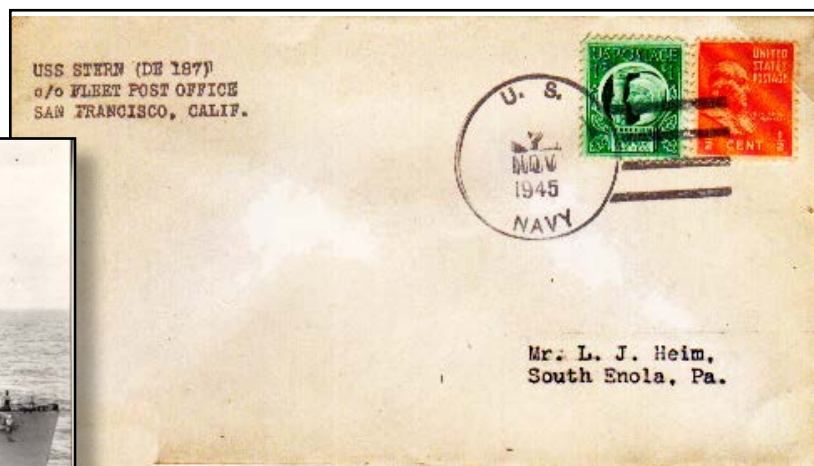


Figure 3
Cover sent from the US Stern

Stern (DE-187 - Destroyer Escort) was laid down on 12 August 1943 at Newark, N.J., by the Federal Shipbuilding & Drydock Co.; launched on 31 October 1943; sponsored by Mrs. Joan M. Stern; and commissioned on 1 December 1943, Cmdr. James R. Hinton, USNR, in command.

Stern was struck from the Navy list on 7 March 1951. She served the government of the Netherlands as Van Zijill, until she was returned to the custody of the United States Navy in 1967. In 1968, Stern was sold to Simons Scheepsslooperis N.V., Rotterdam, and scrapped.²

Stern received three battle stars for her World War II service.

Reference:

1. March 6, 2019 <http://www.maritimeherald.com/2019/the-remains-of-a-jewish-soldier-who-died-in-the-attack-on-pearl-harbor-were-identified/>
2. <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhrc/research/histories/ship-histories/danfs/s/stern.html> ■

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The 2019 Fundraising Campaign kicked off in December, 2018. Contributions acknowledged here received through April 1, 2019. Sincerest thanks go out to our wonderful members for your kind support. All monetary contributions are fully tax-deductible. For more information, please contact the Endowment Fund Director, Michael Bass at mbass@hy-ko.com or 330-467-7446 X 3196.

Birobidzhan

THE JEWISH AUTONOMOUS OBLAST OF RUSSIA

Jesse I. Spector and William Kaczyinsky



Figures 1
Front of registered letter from Birobidzhan to Moscow, 1943



Figure 2
Back cancel

INTRODUCTION

It seems counterintuitive that the politically and ethnically murderous Soviet Union of the first half of the 20th century could, nevertheless, spawn the embryogenesis of the first national identity of a Jewish nation since the Roman destruction of Judea in 135 C.E. Yet, that is exactly what occurred.

Our coming into possession of an exceptional 1943 registered cover posted in the Soviet Siberian province of Birobidzhan whetted our appetite to explore the amazing story of a plan to construct a Bolshevik republic to serve expressly as the homeland for the three million Jews of Soviet Russia.

The cover that attracted our attention (Figures 1, 2) is an aesthetically appealing piece of postal history. We begin with the corner cache of an ultramarine wreath encircling an iconic hammer and sickle and star emblem (#1). A block registration rectangle (#2) on the left includes the words Birobidzhan in Russian and Yiddish, and the abbreviation J.A.O. for Jewish Autonomous Okrug (or Oblast)- referring to a Russian province. CDC cancellation of the stamps indicates posting from Birobidzhan on 11 July 1943 (#3).

The cover is addressed to Moscow, Kropotkinskaya Street, building #10, publishing house of the newspaper “Ainekeit”

(Integrity), a newspaper of the Jewish anti-fascist committee during World War II. At the top center is an underlined word in Cyrillic script, a shorthand postal term indicating signature confirmation required for receipt (#4).

The sender of the letter is an A. B. (or A.T. or A.P.) Shtain- a Jewish surname- with a return address of Birobidzhan, and the abbreviation J.A.O. at the State Theater. The theater is named after Lazar Moiseyevich Kaganovich, a famous, nay, infamous Soviet politician who assisted in Stalin’s rise to power. He was known as “Iron Lazar” for his ruthless involvement in the great purges of the late 1930s when he served as minister for railways. We suspect, but cannot prove, that the sender may be Alexei Stain, renown Jewish writer, and poet from Vilnius. He was invited to become the main producer of the State Theater in Birobidzhan in the mid-1940s.

The reverse of the cover (Figure 2) shows a receiving stamp in Moscow on 21 July 1943 at the Frunzensky Center. The number below the date refers to the post office center in the Moscow district named for Michael Frunze, a famous Bolshevik. With our cover as a prelude, we now raise the curtain on our story.

LIFE IN RUSSIA

Jewish existence in Imperial Russia preceding the 1917 Russian Revolution was a precarious enterprise, and the outcome for Jews after the Bolshevik victory would remain tenuous. For you see, even before the Revolution, Lenin rejected the idea of Jewish nationalism, asserting that cultural autonomy conflicted with the internationalism of the proletariat. What was required, said Lenin, was assimilation.

Stalin, writing in 1913, would elaborate further on Lenin's premise, stating that the basic concept of a sovereign nation rested on an assumed commonality of language, territory, economic life and culture; concluding that Russia's Jews failed to meet this definition. All they had in common, declared Stalin, was a religion that to his mind reflected little more than petrified rites.

JEWISH QUESTION

With the leadership's dogma in mind, Russia entered the 1920s wrestling with a dichotomy in the Soviet approach to the Jewish question. On the one hand, the Bolsheviks did endorse Jewish political and religious freedom, as well as establishing a campaign to eliminate historically organized anti-Semitism. On the other hand, every attempt was made to assimilate Jews so they would become equal citizens in a new socialist society, that at its core, was secular, and to do so without coercion. A tricky tightrope for the Soviets to walk, indeed.

In 1922, to placate growing nationalistic sensibilities among Russian minorities including Ukrainians, Uzbeks, Georgians, and others, a Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was created. Jewish Bundist requests for a similar extension to communal autonomy was rejected out of hand.

The government did establish a Jewish section of the Bolshevik Party, the Yedevksia, as an instrument to encourage Jews to enlist more pro-actively in the Revolution. The Jews too were permitted to use Yiddish as their native language, although Hebrew was prescribed as being identified with Zionism-which Soviets considered nationalistic and bourgeois imperialistic.

BIRTH OF BIROBIDZHAN

In 1928, in part to undermine continuing support for Zionism, the Soviets would modify their long-standing insistence that Jews did not constitute a people defined as a nation. A major propaganda program intended for international consumption announced the establishment of a Jewish autonomous region in the remote easternmost part of Siberia adjacent to China, ostensibly to become the alternative for Russia's three million Jews to Zionist hopes for a "Palestine dream." Birobidzhan (Figure 3) had its birth.

At the outset, the Soviet leadership had no intention of creating an autonomous Jewish region in the distant recesses of eastern Siberia. This was a desolate, barren, mountainous wilderness devoid of infrastructure, and possessing an abominable climate- intolerably hot summers prone to mosquitoes and epidemics, alternating with subzero, soul-depressing howling winters.

For a voluntary mass internal migration of several million mainly urban shopkeepers to this "Jewish Utopia,"

Birobidzhan was for even the most idealistic planner a bridge too far. Unfortunately, the desired locations in parts of Ukraine and northern Crimea- locations in which there existed a historical Jewish cultural and religious experience- were anathema to the indigenous non-Jewish populations, whose anti-Semitism was only kept in check through the heavy-hand of Soviet suppression.



Figure 3
Soviet Russia in the 1930s

The advantage then to a reluctant acceptance of eastern Siberia as the new Jewish homeland was rationalized as threefold: (1) as a block to growing Chinese infiltration into the region; (2) as a check on Japanese military intentions from the puppet kingdom of Manchuria in the 1930s along the 200 mile border

with Russia; (3) and as a pioneering venture to create an infrastructure to support an area rich in timber and mineral resources that few Russians were willing to exploit under the harsh natural conditions, but, where perhaps a large number of Jews might be enticed to settle by dangling a carrot of national autonomy in front of them. A goal of a settlement

of 100,000 Jews by the mid-1930s was anticipated, but by the end of the decade, the number was but 20,000, less than 1% of the total Russian Jewish population.

INITIAL SETTLEMENT

It was not for lack of trying that the numbers remained unsustainable. Jewish relocation in the late 1920s was brisk and hopeful for the initial settlers. The government invested heavily in incentivizing migration with generous monetary stipends to settlers, promising free education through the college level, offering a vast array of jobs similar to the massive industrial development in the far eastern counterpart of Kuznetsk-Magnitogorsk in the coal and iron-rich Urals, and the granting of free housing.

And, of course, the apparent autonomy was a great calling card for Jews oppressed over countless decades by overt anti-Semitism under the Tsars and barely suppressed through Bolshevik dictates. Yiddish was the official language of Birobidzhan, although Hebrew was banned in a country that prohibited all religions. Street signs were all in Yiddish, and Yiddish schools, press, and theater were permitted. The extent of Jewish teaching, however, was strictly proscribed to remain secular and cultural, not religious. Zionist teachings were prohibited.



Figure 4
Propaganda poster encouraging Jewish immigration to Birobidzhan Oblast



Figures 5 - 8
Life for Jewish settlers in Birobidzhan in the 1930s

LIFE IN THE SETTLEMENT

With the above pros and cons in place what proved to be the outcome of this massive venture? In early 1928, 654 Jews arrived to settle in the area. Half had left by the fall of 1928.

Severe weather, the death of livestock from anthrax, crop failure, insufficient housing, lack of agricultural experience, and desolation for a previously urban, mercantile population all contributed to the exodus.

Nevertheless, in the early 1930s, a massive campaign to induce more Jewish settlers did indeed encourage migration through the use of propaganda films, posters (Figure 4), uplifting novels describing a Soviet utopia and the official establishment in 1934 of Birobidzhan as a Jewish Autonomous Oblast. The Jewish population would peak at about 30,000 by World War II, scattered almost evenly between a number of agricultural communes and city dwellers. The numbers are deceiving, however, in that the later influx of Jews was hastened by the Nazi invasion of Russia, whereas in the earlier period of the mid-1930s the number of Jews remained well under 10,000, among which was a small contingent of idealistic American immigrants.

EXPERIMENT FAILURE

The demise of the experiment would result from manifold problems including

- failure to provide adequate housing except for a few high-priority workers,
- the mass of workers and their families confined to primitive barracks with minimal or non-existent hygienic facilities;
- an inability to develop an adequate infrastructure in the city of Birobidzhan for settlers coming from urban backgrounds;
- disillusionment for many to adjust to an agricultural communal settlement existence;
- extreme weather;
- rampant diseases;
- a pervasive sense of isolation from vibrant urban centers in this distant and;
- inhospitable land.

STALIN'S HEAVY HAND

Jews had entered the Siberian wilderness with measured enthusiasm despite these misgivings; yet, in the final analysis, hope would be ultimately crushed under the heavy hand of Stalin. In 1936 Stalin listed a series of conditions required for an autonomous region to become elevated to a sovereign republic- the latter being the ultimate objective of supporters of a Jewish national homeland in the "Russian Palestine" of eastern Siberia. It was immediately clear that his requirements, including a minimum Jewish population numbering at least 150,000, could not be met in Birobidzhan.

Were the natural and artificial constraints not enough to discourage all but the hardest and hopeful, the later 1930s would see the murderous paranoia of Stalin encroach into the furthest reaches of Russia with purges, arrests, show trials and executions in the hundreds of thousands of his presumed enemies, including many Jews in Birobidzhan. The area was declared "out of bounds" as Stalin isolated and eliminated his perceived enemies, and instituted a new round of anti-Semitism.

Why then the rekindling of anti-Semitism with the rise of Nazism? Stalin had conflated Zionism with fascism, and American capitalism with fascism, ergo Zionism with capitalism, and a head-spinning irrationality ensued placing the Jews in the cross-hairs of his mania. Things would never be the same; yet, paradoxically, the advent of World War II and the German invasion of the Soviet Union would spare the Jews of Birobidzhan from total annihilation.

ES GIT FER DIE JEDEN?

The Russian Great Patriotic War waged against the Nazis would bring a temporary respite from the Soviet's relentless attack on religion. Stalin, ever the pragmatist, required the mobilization of the full physical and moral support of the population in order to avoid annihilation by the Nazi steamroller that invaded the mother country in June 1941.

There is an old Jewish question, is es git fer die Jeden? (is it good for the Jews?) when one attempts to interpret events that may impact Jews in world affairs. In that regard, the eve of the war saw Jews in Birobidzhan living on 70 collective farm settlements in the district capable of benefiting the war effort. Additionally, Jews escaping from Nazi-occupied Poland eastward into Russia resulted in an increase in the population by several tens of thousands.

The final defeat of the Nazis, however, would see the Birobidzhan Jewish leadership once again attacked in new purges aimed at rooting out "bourgeois nationalists" and "rootless cosmopolites." Jewish leaders were accused of betraying the homeland by accepting relief packages from America, implying that this act



Figures 9 - 10
Chabad synagogue and adjacent Jewish museum in Birobidzhan



Figure 11
Sholem Aleichem Amur State University, Birobidzhan



Figure 12
Main square, Birobidzhan

demonstrated Soviet weakness. Additionally, the old saw of attacking Jewish leaders for fostering Jewish culture was again brought to the forefront. For Stalin, it was a return to business as usual.

TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE THINGS

Despite these foreboding events, there was, paradoxically, renewed post-war interest in the idea that the district could serve as a potential home for Jewish refugees from the Holocaust. The Jewish population did indeed peak at almost 50,000 Jews in 1948, approximately 25% of the total population. The downside was that by this time Stalin's anti-Jewish purges combined with the creation of the State of Israel in former Palestine made living in Birobidzhan unappealing for Jews.



Figure 13

The death of Stalin and the rise of Khrushchev in 1953 would not see the Jewish situation improve. Virulent anti-Semitism followed into the 1960s and 1970s resulting in ever-increasing Jewish exodus, with the 1959 census in Birobidzhan showing the Jewish population had decreased to 14,000, and by 1989 falling further to 8,887, 4% of the district population of 214,000. The mid-2010s would find about 2,000 Jews remaining in the area, making up about one half of a percent of the population.

True, Stalin never intended for the Jewish nation to survive except as a neutered, secular institution through the constriction of Communism. One might mull over the fact that the State of Israel has since its founding also becomes increasingly secular- yet, by the agency, not an imposition.

CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES

As far as the present is concerned, according to Rabbi Moredechai Scheiner, the former Chief Rabbi of Birobidzhan, the Jews of the district now enjoy the benefits of Yiddish culture and Jewish traditions without any anti-Semitism.

Rabbi Eliyahu Reiss has assumed the position since 2010, and let us bring down the curtain on this failed attempt at establishing a Jewish independent homeland in Russia- a Jewish nation- with a quiet walk with the rabbi through the streets of modern-day Birobidzhan, a city of 75,000 inhabitants with an economy based on light industry.



Figure 14
: Birobidzhan Jewish community in our times

Birobidzhan's synagogue (Figure 9) and adjacent museum (Figure 10) opened in 2004 on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish Autonomous Oblast; Yiddish and Jewish tradition are a required component in all public schools as part of the region's national heritage; street signs are in Yiddish and Yiddish is the region's second official language after Russian, although spoken by only a handful of the remaining Jews; Yiddish theaters exist; the Sholem Aleichem Amur State University (Figure 11) teaches Hebrew language, history, and classic Jewish texts; kosher meat arrives by train from Moscow every few weeks; and, a giant menorah, claimed to be the largest in the world, dominates the main square in Birobidzhan (Figure 12).

PHILATELIC LINK

With regard to this final item, we conclude with a philatelic epilogue: the Jewish Autonomous District of Birobidzhan issued a series of stamps in 1992 showing a menorah and

carrying the inscription in Cyrillic “Hebrew Republic Within the Russian Federation.” They also produced a series of menorah overprints of stamps from the former Soviet Union (Figures 15 - 21). These stamps would be invalid for other than local use, requiring contemporary issue Russian Federation postage for transmission out of the area.

Well then, a small breath of life, as if the ground on which an entire forest had burned down has sprouted a few wisps of new growth. But, at such cost, such tremendous cost, as would the ghosts of the past attest to. Yet, the spark in the eyes of this small community of current Birobidzhan Jews (Figures 13-, 14) is most interesting would you not agree? Despite all that has transpired they speak of LIFE.

Acknowledgement:

We are indebted to Professor Irina Naumova at the University of Hartford for her invaluable translation and insightful commentary on this cover, allowing us to then spawn this article.

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8. Jewish Autonomous Oblast. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_Autonomous_Oblast
9. Birobidzhan. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birobidzhan/> ■



Figures 15 - 21

The overprint was printed in black ink by topography and applied to Soviet definitive stamps,

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Scott 4596, 1977 1kop; | Scott 4599, 1977 4kop |
| Scott 4604, 1977 20kop; | Scott 5838, 1989 1kop |
| Scott 5839, 1989 3kop; | Scott 5981, 1991 2kop |

The overprint, also in black ink, is a crudely made menorah, and the inscription in Cyrillic characters reads vertically from the left “Evrey (Hebrew) Republic Within The Russian Federation,” and the year date, 1991. Below is the denomination of 5.00 (rubles).

Each of the overprinted stamps was printed in sheets of fifty with a total print quantity of 15,000 sheets.

Printing of 15,000 imperforated sheets of fifty with the overprint was also produced

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The Jewish Brigade Group and Its Predecessors

Larry Nelson

BACKGROUND

When World War II started, there were Jews serving in various units of the British military; however, there were no Jewish units. The Jewish Agency and others lobbied to have a Jewish fighting unit, but the British government and the Military commanders were opposed. It was not until July 1940 that the British finally authorized the Jews of Palestine to enlist in the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Police Corps.

In September 1940, Palestine Jews were allowed to enlist in Jewish Infantry companies which became part of the East Kent Regiment ("Buffs"). Jews in both of these organizations only served as support troops, not combat troops. There were also various Jewish anti-aircraft and coastal artillery companies as well as Jewish companies which supported the Royal Air Forces as ground troops.

In August 1942, the British finally established the Palestine Regiment which consisted of 3 Jewish and 1 Arab Battalion. Most of the Jew in the Palestine Regiment came from 15 companies of the Buffs. They served mostly as POW guards in places like Egypt and Cyrenaica. Jewish men and women in Palestine were also allowed to enlist in such support organizations as:

- Royal Army Service Corps,
- Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service,
- Women's Territorial Air Force Service,
- Royal Army Ordnance Corps,
- Royal Engineers,
- Royal Army Medical Corps, etc.

Still no Jewish fighting units.

JEWISH BRIGADE GROUP

It was not until September 20, 1944, that the British War Office, under pressure from Winston Churchill and others, finally announced that a Jewish Brigade Group ("Brigade") fighting unit could be formed. It would consist of around 5,000 men. On September 28, 1944, the Brigade was officially established. By October 1944 its headquarters was established in Burg al Arab, Egypt, approximately 45 miles southwest of Alexandria.

It consisted of the following units:

- 1st, 2nd, and 4th Battalions Palestine Regiment
- 643rd (Palestine Field company, RE, (Royal Engineers)

- 178th (Palestine) Company, RA S.C. (Service Corps)
- Jewish Brigade Group Ordnance Field Park and Workshop Sections
- * Brigade and Field Regiment Signals
- * 140th Field Ambulance
- * 200th Field Regiment (one battery Jewish), RA (Royal Artillery)

* indicates British units⁴

As you see, the fighting troops came from the Palestine Regiment which in turn had received most of its troops from the Buffs. There were troops from 54 countries in the Brigade. It took a while, but finally, there was an independent Jewish fighting unit!

COMBAT DEPLOYMENT

- The Brigade trained for several weeks and then on October 31, 1944, left for Italy.
- On November 5, 1944, they arrived in Taranto, southern Italy, for additional training near Fluggi.
- It was not until February 28, 1945, that the Brigade was moved to the Italian front line.
- From March 4 to March 30, 1945, they were attached to the 8th Indian Infantry division.
- They fought against the German 4th Parachute Division and the 114th Jäger Division of the Gothic Line.
- On April 9, 1945, they crossed the Senio River and established a beachhead after heavy fighting. The Brigade lost 40 killed and 70 wounded in this assault.
- From March 31 to May 1, 1945, the Brigade took part in the Battle for Bologna.
- The war in Italy ended on May 2, 1945, with the surrender of all German forces in Italy.

From Bologna, the Brigade moved to Modena, Ferrer, Venice, and Milan. Soon, they were on their way to Tarvisio, a small town in the Northeast corner of Italy near the Austrian and Yugoslav borders.

The Brigade had Mogen David unit markings on their vehicles and other equipment. The surviving Jewish civilians and refugees were surprised and happy to see these fighting Jewish troops. The Brigade provided much-needed help and assistance to the Italian Jews and approximately 150,000 Jewish refugees/displaced persons⁵.

On July 27, 1945, the Brigade left Tournia, Italy and on August 2, 1945 they arrived in the Toucnia area of Belgium.

The British military did not want the Brigade in Germany. By the end of August the various elements of the Brigade were scattered over Belgian and the Netherlands as follows:

- 140th Field Ambulance near Amsterdam
- 1st Battalion near Antwerp
- 2nd Battalion near Amsterdam
- 3rd Battalion near Rotterdam and
- Brigade Headquarters near Malines, Belgium.

The Brigade was mainly used to guard POWs. On their own initiative, members of the Brigade provided help and assistance to the Jewish communities in their areas.

By the end of June 1946, all of the Brigade units were concentrated in the Ghent area of Belgium (Leopold Barracks). The decision had been made to disband the Brigade by July 8, 1948. On that date the Headquarters unit was disbanded and everyone was returned to Palestine. Many members of the Brigade fought in Israel's 1948 War of Independence. Thirty-five members of the Brigade became generals in the Israeli military.

BRIGADE POSTAL HISTORY

As outlined above, the Brigade was formed from various "predecessor" units, starting with the East Kent Regiment ("Buff").

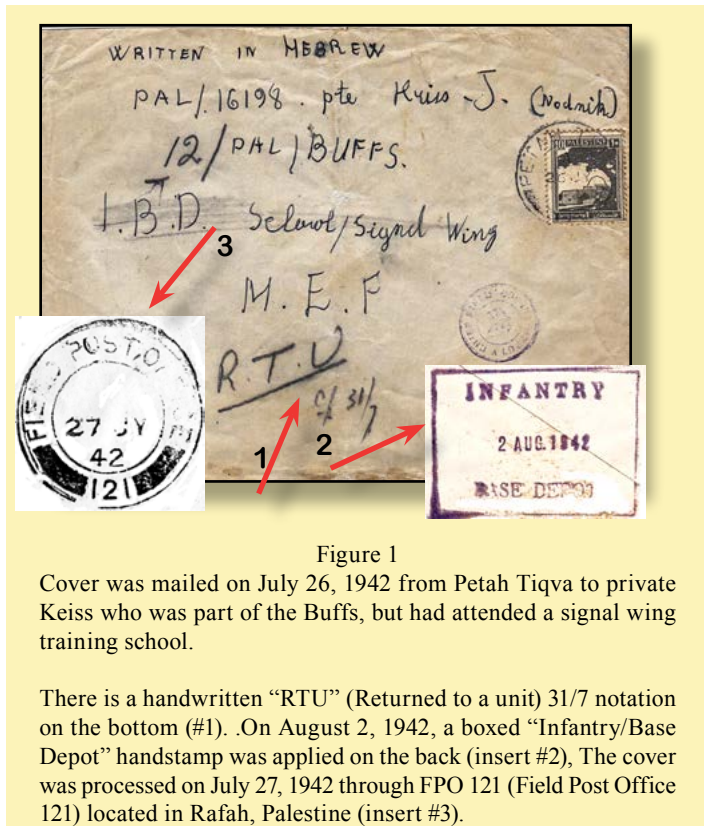


Figure 1

Cover was mailed on July 26, 1942 from Petah Tiqva to private Keiss who was part of the Buffs, but had attended a signal wing training school.

There is a handwritten "RTU" (Returned to a unit) 31/7 notation on the bottom (#1). On August 2, 1942, a boxed "Infantry/Base Depot" handstamp was applied on the back (insert #2). The cover was processed on July 27, 1942 through FPO 121 (Field Post Office 121) located in Rafah, Palestine (insert #3).

By November 12, 1943, private Keiss was in "E/Coy (E company) 2nd Jewish Bn (Battalion) Pal(Palestine) Rgt (Regiment)."



Figure 2

An Express cover sent to private Keiss from Hadera which was processed through FPO 156, Palestine.

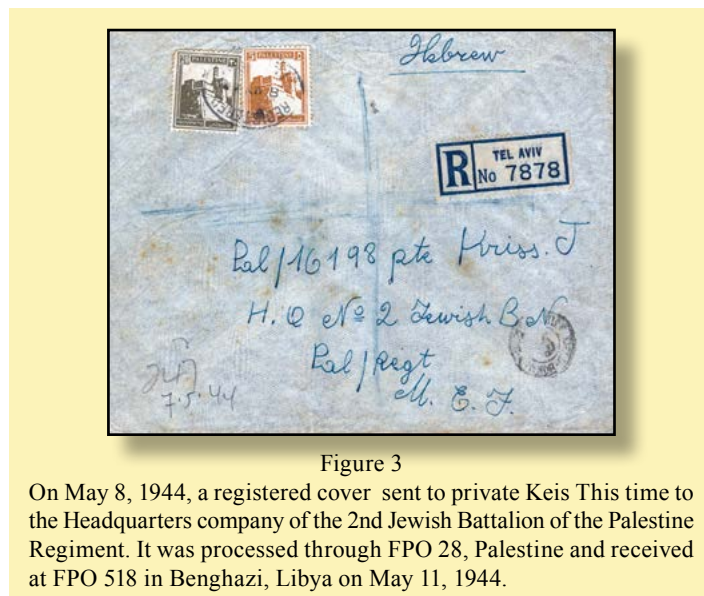


Figure 3

On May 8, 1944, a registered cover sent to private Keiss This time to the Headquarters company of the 2nd Jewish Battalion of the Palestine Regiment. It was processed through FPO 28, Palestine and received at FPO 518 in Benghazi, Libya on May 11, 1944.

Sometimes it is not possible to tell that a cover was sent from the Palestine Regiment because there is no return address. However, if the contents have remained with the cover, a return address may be given (Figure 4).

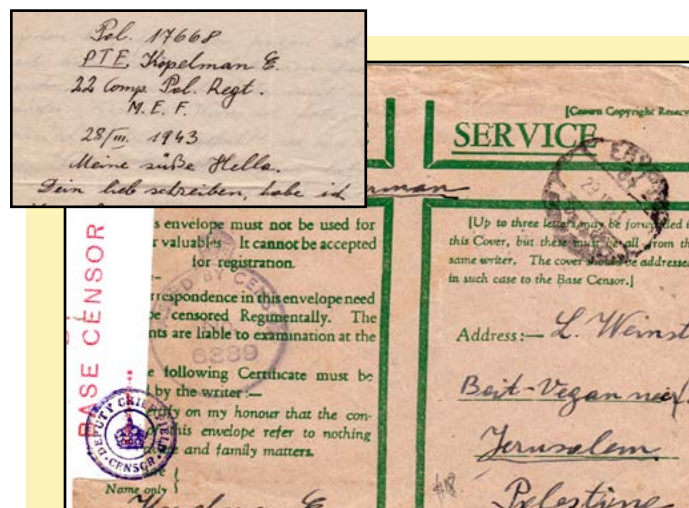


Figure 4

The cover is dated March 28, 1943. The green "Honour" envelope only shows that a "Base censor" cover was processed in Egypt on March 29, 1943. However, the return address on the enclosed letter shows that it was sent by a private in the 22nd company of the Palestine Regiment.

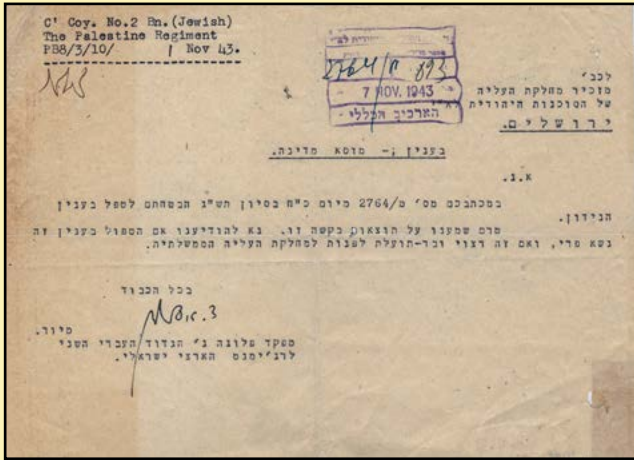


Figure 5

While the cover is missing, the letter written in Hebrew dated November 1, 1943, from the 2nd Battalion of the Palestine Regiment was received by the Jewish Agency on November 7, 1943.

Translation by Dr. David Dubin

To the Aliya Department

Jewish Agency of Eretz Israel

Re: Musa Medina (maybe someone's name?)

D(ear) S(ir),

In your letter #M2764 of 28 Sivan 5703 (1943) you promised to deal with the above issue.

We have not heard any result of our inquiry. Please let us know if the inquiry bore fruit, and if it is advisable and worthwhile to refer the matter to the government immigration department.

With all respect,

Commander company C, 2nd Jewish Battalion
Eretz Israel Regiment

The green "Honour" envelope shown in Figure 6 is dated June 22, 1941, and was examined by both civilian and military censors in Egypt. It was mailed from FPO 199 which was located in Tobruk, Libya.

At this time all of the soldiers in Tobruk were surrounded by and under attack from Italian and German Forces. They could only be supplied by sea. We do not know to which unit this Hungarian speaking soldier was attached, but we know that everyone at Tobruk was engaged in some form of combat.

When the Germans invaded Greece in April 1941, over 1,500 Jewish soldiers were serving in the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps. When the British surrendered, they were captured along with other remaining troops on April 29, 1941. Most of them were sent to Stalag VIII B near Lambsdorf in Upper Silesia. The Germans treated the Jewish British soldiers the same way as the non-Jewish British soldiers.



Figure 7

Figure 7 shows a POW letter sheet dated January 21, 1942, from private Melchior Sajovit to his wife. He enclosed a photo and asked her to send him a photo. He asked her to write soon and enquired about their son and how the new apartment was working out. His cover was censored at the POW camp and in Egypt. Private Sajovit survived the and was reunited with his family in early summer of 1945.⁹ ■

To be continued

SIP CONVENTION

NAPEX 2019

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Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
McLean, Virginia

JEWISH SOLDIERS IN COMBAT SITUATIONS PRIOR TO THE BRIGADE

At this point, I would like to digress from the story of the Brigade and show two examples of Jewish troops who were in combat situations.



Figure 6

JNF Errors

Joe Weintrob



1951 Organization Anniversary

Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Histadrut Ha Ovdim (Worker's Organization). Right stamp has the image printed on the gum side of the stamp. (Rochlin 1388-1392)



1954

Commemorates the election of Yitzhak Ben Zvi as the Second President of the State of Israel. The stamp is inscribed "For High Achievement." It was used on school diplomas. The right stamp has a brownish cancel and horizontally misperforated thru the center of the stamp. (Rochlin 1453-1456)



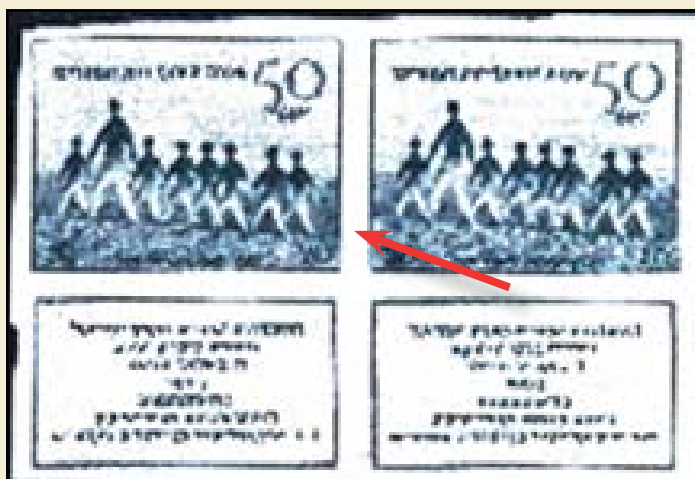
1949 Personalities of the JNF

Marks the election of Chaim Weizmann as the first President of the State of Israel. The honor was bestowed in recognition of the crucial role that he played in the establishment of the State. Notice the double vertical perforates. (Rochlin 1297-1301)



1953 Teachers Congress

Issued to mark the First Congress of Hebrew Teachers. The tab bears the text "The Teacher's Organization in the Land of Israel was founded in Zichron Yaakov in July 1903. The participants included Menachem Ussishkin, David Yelin, Eliezer Ben Yehuda and others." Stamps missing vertical and horizontal perforations. (Rochlin 1412-1413) ■



Israel Joint Issues

Howard Rotterdam

In 2010, *The Israel Philatelist* published an article I wrote about Israeli joint issues with other nations. Joint issues are a fascinating collectible. They show the wide

JOINT ISSUES 2011 - PRESENT

issues, but since then there have been three issues a year.

- The largest number of issues commemorate anniversaries of diplomatic relations (9 of the 21 issues) The longest relationship is 65 years (Uruguay).
- The shortest relationships are 20 years with China, India and Croatia. Typical of this type is the 2016 joint issue with Greece (Figure 1).
- The China Joint issue of 2012 (Figure 2) was well publicized by Israel, but the China Postal Agency never mentioned that this was a Joint Issue.
- Pope Francis' visit to Israel in 2015 (Figure 3) engendered a lot of interest from collectors of Israel and Vatican. It was collected by many Catholics as well as collectors of religion on stamps.
- I was not familiar with the Battle of Beersheba. The Joint issue with Australia (Figure 4) prompted me to do some research. We owe a great deal to the ANZAC and Indian troops that won that Battle at great cost.
- In 2014 a Joint Issue with Ecuador was planned to honor President Raphael Correa's trip to Israel. The Ecuadorians canceled the trip and never followed through on the issue, but Israel issued its half of the 2014 issue anyhow (Figure 5).

The stamp shows Orchids indigenous to each country. Ecuador along with several other left-leaning South American countries closed their embassies around this time. Most have since reopened.

TWIN ISSUES

Most of the joint issues are Twin issues where the two countries issue stamps of identical or similar designs. The only exception is the issue with Greenland (Figure 6). Israel depicted an antelope on its stamp and Greenland's show a polar bear.

variety of countries with which Israel maintains relations and the various ways these relationships are depicted. See the Table on the next page. In 2011, there were no joint



Figure 1

The scenes show the Greek port of Thessaloniki and the Israeli port of Haifa). Interestingly, Greece chose Thessaloniki, which had a very large Jewish population prior to World War II.



Figure 2
China joint issue

TABLE OF JOINT STAMP ISSUES SINCE 2010

Year	Cooperating Nation	Theme	Issue Type
2012	China	20th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Birds	Twin
2012	Nepal	Highest and Lowest Locations on Earth	Twin
2012	India	20th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations – Festival of Lights	Twin
2013	Australia	World War I - Battle of Beersheba	Twin
2013	Greenland	Endangered Species	Parallel
2013	Uruguay	65th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Gurvich Painting	Twin
2014	Malta	50th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Halls of the Knights	Twin
2014	Thailand	60th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Flags, Fruits	Twin
2014	Ecuador	Visit of President of Ecuador (Planned but Ecuadorian Stamp never issued)	Unilateral
2015	Philippines	Rescue of Jews during Holocaust	Twin
2015	Germany	60th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Architecture	Twin
2015	Vatican City	Visit of Pope Francis to Israel	Twin
2016	Greece	25th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Ports	Twin
2016	Spain	30th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Flags, Bridge	Twin
2016	Bulgaria	Migrating Birds	Twin
2017	Portugal	40th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Dolphins	Twin
2017	Croatia	20th Anniv of Diplomatic Relations - Flowers	Twin
2017	Russia	Cathedral of All Saints	Twin
2018	Estonia	70th/100th year of independence - Litwinsky House	Twin
2018	United States	Hanukkah	Twin
2018	Poland	70th/100th year of independence - Flags	Twin
2019	Singapore		
2019	South Sudan		
2019	Vatican City		

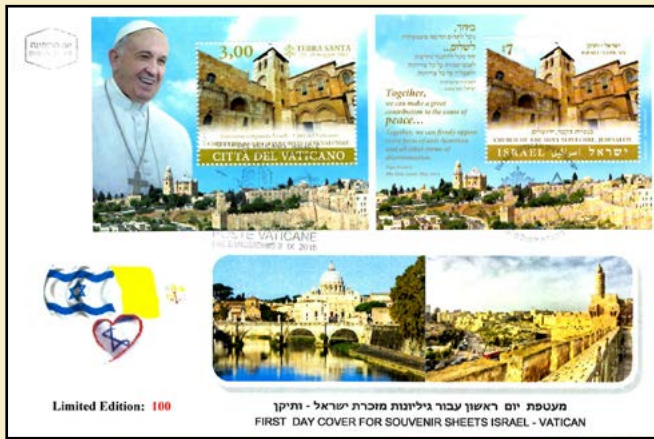


Figure 3
Vatican joint issue



Figure 4
Australia joint issue



Figure 5
Ecuador joint issue



Figure 6
Greenland joint issue



Figure 7
India joint issue



Figure 8
United States joint issue

- There are two Hanukkah stamps in this group. The first was the 2012 Joint Issue with India which celebrates Hanukkah and the Hindu festival of Deepavali. Both holidays have the lighting of candles in their tradition and are called “the Holiday of Lights” (Figure 7).
- The second is the Joint Hanukkah stamps issued by Israel and the United States in 2018 (Figure 8). This is the second time this has occurred. The first time was in 1989.

As of this writing, the 2019 stamp program will include joint issues with Singapore, South Sudan, and the Vatican. I look forward to seeing what countries cooperate with Israel next.

Perhaps, soon will be the year when an Arab nation chooses to break the ice. I'm sure that the Israelis will be up to the challenge. ■

ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR, 1904

לשנה טובה תכתבו Happy New Year

Cary Finder

The Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893, was a huge success. Two men, Charles Goldsmith and Joseph Koehler each had the idea of producing souvenir cards to sell at the fair. In ensuing years, other fairs were held across the United States, and beautiful souvenir cards became a common sales item. The early cards were on the backs of government postal cards which carried 1¢ postage. Other non-postal cards required 2¢ postage. Because these cards were colorful and eye-catching, entrepreneurs sometimes took these souvenir cards and overprinted the designs with an additional ad.

In 1898, the US Post Office changed the rules to allow non-postal cards to only require 1¢ for postage; and the souvenir, holiday and greetings card industries exploded. Jewish holiday cards, mostly printed in Germany prior to World War I, were no exception.

Before a change in Post Office regulation in 1907, only the address could be placed on the side of the card with the stamp. All images, printing, and writing had to be placed on the other side, referred by postcard collectors as the front of the card. These cards are referred to as 'undivided back' cards.

ST. LOUIS LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION

In 1904, the Louisiana Purchase Exposition was held in St. Louis from April 30 to December 1. This fair was no different from previous fairs as hundreds of different cards were produced as souvenirs for the Fair¹. One souvenir card, showing the Festival Hall and Central Cascades (GI 494-2), was produced for the Hesse Envelope Co., probably printed in Germany by Emil Pinkau, of Leipzig.

Rosh Hashana 5665 was September 10, 1904, during the Fair. As shown in Figure 1, someone chose to overprint this St. Louis souvenir card with

A Happy New Year
לשנה טובה תכתבו

to produce a Rosh Hashana card. The overprinting was likely done in the United States, possibly by the Hesse Envelope Co. or by someone else after purchase.

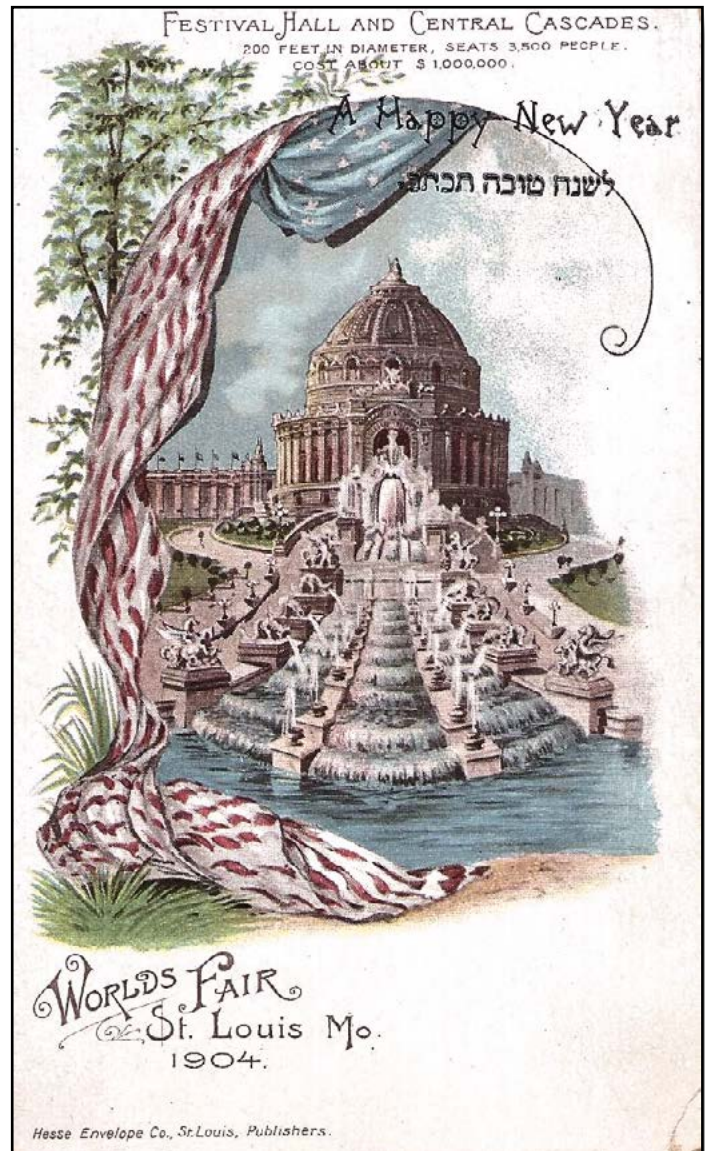


Figure 1

This card is, unfortunately, not used. Because it is printed, it is unlikely that it was only done on one card. Other such cards should exist, and some may be used. Because the card is unused, it is impossible to determine whether this was done for Rosh Hashana, 5665 or at some later time, but the use of the St. Louis World's Fair card makes it likely to have been for 5665.

Reference

1. Megson, Frederic & Mary, *American Exposition Postcards, 1870-1920*, pp 50-89, 1992. ■

A Member of the Belgian Resistance

J. S. Sawyer

The surrender of Belgium to invading German forces on May 28, 1940, marked the beginning of the Belgian Resistance and its long struggle for the remainder of the war. The earliest members of the resistance movement were Belgian soldiers, many of whom had been interned in German POW camps but subsequently released. Belgian civilians also participated, initially through passive resistance, such as refusal to cooperate with the Germans in government administrative work, and later through active resistance involving sabotage and assassination.



Figure 1
General location of KL Ravensbrück, Fürstenberg, Germany.

RESISTANCE EFFORTS

The resistance movement in Belgium was also committed to helping Jews avoid deportation to the concentration camps in the east. Besides hiding Jewish families, members of the resistance actively frustrated the attempts of the German administration from identifying and organizing Jews for subsequent deportation. The underground newspaper **La Libre Belgique** published the following extract in 1942:

“Greet them [the Jewish citizens] in passing! Offer them your seat on the tram!
Protest against the barbaric measures that are being applied to them. That will make the Boches [Germans] furious!”

Members of the resistance even attacked a German transport train headed for KL Auschwitz on April 19, 1943, freeing 17 Jewish prisoners. Ultimately, over 1600 Belgians were designated “**Righteous Among the Nations**” by the state of Israel for their efforts in World War II.

JULIA TROUILLARD

Persons caught by the Germans and identified as belonging to the Belgian Resistance could expect to be interrogated, tortured, interned in a concentration camp, or summarily executed. One member of the resistance has been identified as a young woman named Julia Trouillard, who was arrested by the Gestapo in 1942, first imprisoned at Antwerp, and later at Brussels.

In June 1943 she was transferred to KL Ravensbrück (Figure 1).

Figure 2 illustrates a pre-printed envelope sent by Julia to her parents in Antwerp. This is a very unusual posting in that only a few examples



Figure 2
Pre-printed envelope (Lørdahl Type E12aby) used from KL Ravensbrück with CDC dated October 16, 1943, written by prisoner Julia Trouillard, and posted in Brussels.

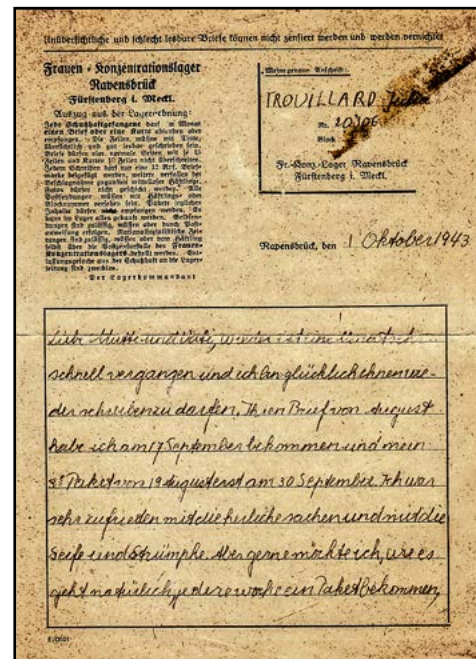


Figure 3
Pre-printed letter sheet (Lørdahl Type S12by) used from KL Ravensbrück, written by Julia Trouillard to her parents on October 1, 1943.

of prisoner mail originating from KL Ravensbrück are found posted in locations other than Fürstenberg. Over two weeks separate the date of cancellation from the date of writing. Apparently, the letter was transferred through the camp administration to Antwerp, where it was franked with Belgium postage and placed in the mail stream, probably at the direction of the Gestapo.

The enclosed letter, written on a pre-printed letter sheet, and which begins with “Dear mother and father...”, is shown in **Figure 3**. Both of these items are also unusual in that there are no stamped censor marks present.

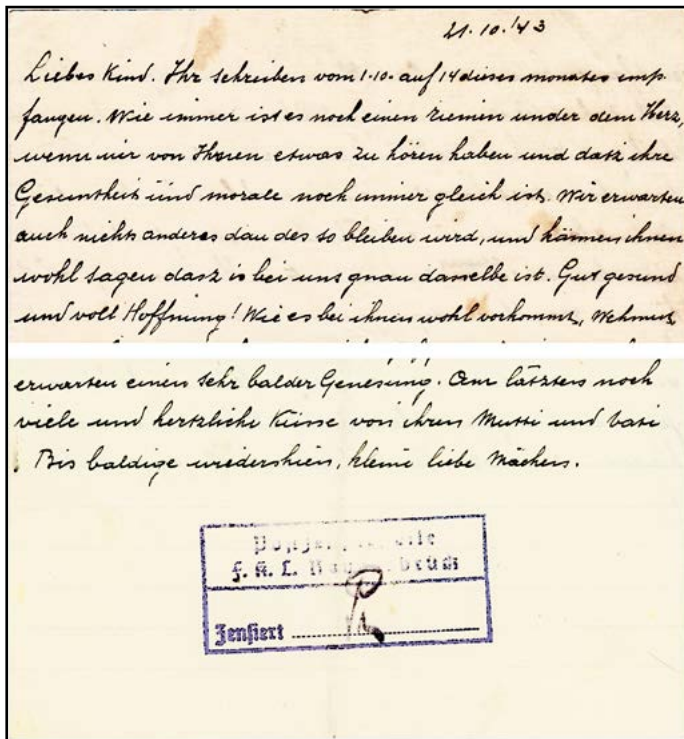


Figure 4

Portions of an incoming letter sheet with censor mark (Lørdahl Type C1a) sent to prisoner Julia Trouillard in KL Ravensbrück from her parents, written October 21, 1943.

Figure 4 shows the top portion of the first page and the bottom portion of the last page of a letter sent to Julia in KL Ravensbrück by her parents a week later, which begins with “Dear child...”

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Figure 5

Both sides of a pre-printed lettercard (Lørdahl Type L1bx) with camp censor mark (Lørdahl Type C1a) and special label (Lørdahl Type SL1) used from KL Ravensbrück with CDC dated May 17, 1944, written by prisoner Julia Trouillard.

The pre-printed lettercard shown in **Figure 5** was written in May 1944, and based on the special label attached inside we can surmise that Julia was transferred to the Neubrandenburg sub-camp, where the prisoners labored in a mechanics workshop. The instructions direct that packages should be sent to the sub-camp, but letters are to be sent to the old address at the main camp.

Unlike the envelope in Figure 2, this lettercard has the features normally associated with mail sent outside Das Reich, including OKW censorship stamps and tape, standard camp censor marks, a chemical swipe to check for invisible ink, and postage at the correct 25 pfennig rate. We know that she was alive in May 1944, but also that the death rate for prisoners in sub-camp Neubrandenburg was relatively high.

AFTER THE WAR

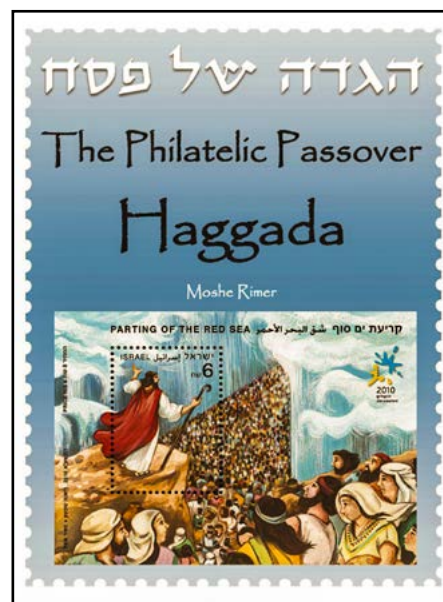
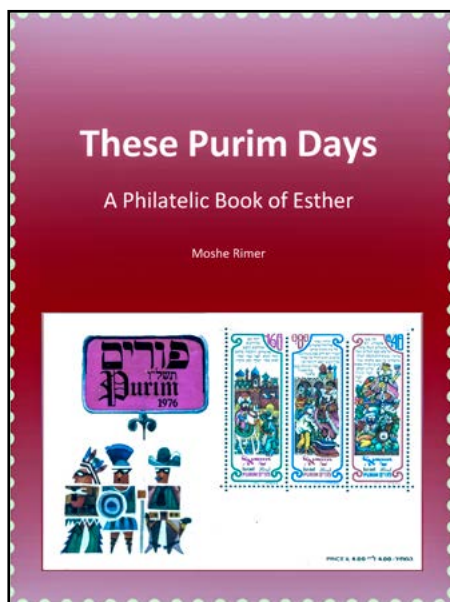
It is not known whether she survived beyond the subsequent evacuation of the camp before the approaching Red Army in April 1945.

Though not conclusive, the fact that the incoming letter is shown in **Figure 4** still exists supports the possibility that she survived the war. I would appreciate any information that readers may have regarding the fate of Julia Trouillard (contact through sipeditor@gmail.com).

Sources:

1. *La Libre Belgique*, No. 40, August 1, 1942.
2. Leni Yahil, *The Holocaust: The Fate of European Jewry, 1932–1945*. *Studies in Jewish History*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1991, p. 435.
3. Lørdahl, Erik, *German Concentration Camps, 1933-1945, History and Inmate Mail*, War and Philabooks Ltd., Tårnåsen, Norway, 2012 (CD version 6). ■

ED FUND UPDATE



Thank you for your interest in the recently published English translations of Moshe Rimer's books **These Purim Days: A Philatelic Book of Esther** and **The Philatelic Passover Haggada**. Both books, translated by SIP Librarian David Dubin, are lavishly illustrated with philatelic material from around the world and are perfect for the respective holiday celebrations.

Great reviews of **These Purim Days** and **The Philatelic Passover Haggada** were published in the March 28, 2019 and April 11, 2019 issues of JewishLinkNJ. The reviews can be found on-line at www.jewishlinknj.com. The Education Fund is interested in feedback if you used one or both of these books to enhance your holiday celebration.

With respect to **The Philatelic Passover Haggada**, the Education Fund has a number of slightly damaged copies (one or two wrinkle pages or slightly creased cover), that cannot be sold at full price, \$17. These damaged copies are being sold for \$15. Please contact the Ed Fund if interested in purchasing one of these copies.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

I would like to extend my thanks to Dr. Josef Wallach. He recently gave the Education Fund permission to print two of his titles. One, **Postal History Guide to the Territories Administered by Israel: 1967-1994**, is new to the SIP Education Fund Bookstore. This book documents the Israeli Military Postal Administration of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank), Gaza and the Golan Heights from the Six Day War to the handing off of postal responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority. (This book is currently at the printer.)

Dr. Wallach has a number of additional books he would like to work on, such as **The Postal History of the West Bank of Jordan: 1948 – 1967 Vol. II**, which documents the Northern

Districts of the West Bank. He is looking for assistance from a MS Word literate SIP member who can work with him on these projects. The individual will help Dr. Wallach organize and document his material into a 60 to 100 page book. If interested, contact the Education Fund and I will put you in contact with Dr. Wallach.

DONATED PUBLICATIONS

Finally, the Education Fund has a number of donated philatelic books. The non-SIP published books will be posted on the on-line bookstore. These books cover Holy Land philately during Forerunners, World War I, the British Mandate, and 1948 Transition Period. Please check out the on-line Bookstore for a complete listing of books.

Thank you for your continued support of the SIP Education Fund Bookstore. ■

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Golf and Philately



Israel 1961 4th Revenue issue

Gary Theodore

In researching a philatelic item a collector wants to use direct evidence and not have to make assumptions. However in doing research on the document in Figure 1 I had to make a “best guess.”

I quickly purchased this item from a “dollar bin” because of the Israel revenue and did not really examine it until much later. I was surprised to see that “U.S. Ten Dollars” had been received for a non-resident membership fee at the Caesarea Golf & Country Club. This golf course is still the only 18 hole course in Israel and was built under the sponsorship of James de Rothschild in 1961

I was very surprised to see that it was made out to “Mr. Harpo Marx.” I quickly assumed that it could be the “Harpo” of the famous Marx brothers.

Harpo was born in 1888 and was the second oldest of the five brothers. His older brother was Leonard (Chico) and his younger brothers were Julius Henry (Groucho), Milton (Gummo) and Herbert Manford (Zeppo). He was nicknamed “Harpo” because of his ability to play the harp, even though he could not read music, and did so in almost every Marx brothers film.

I discovered that Harpo was an avid golfer and Figure 2 shows him in a foursome wearing his famous beret. After his death in 1964 at the age of 76 he was cremated and, per his will, his ashes were scattered in the sand trap that he often found his ball located in.



LtoR Jack Pearl, Bing Crosby, Jack Benny, Harpo

<https://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images?p=golf+picture+harpo+marx%2C+bing+crosby+jack+benny&fr=aaplw&imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fs-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com%2F736x%2Fbc%2F2b%2Fdd%2Fbc2bdd5abbca79fd817326ee83ee2a09.jpg>

British Mandate Period

Ed Kroft FPRSC

I have always been interested in and have collected aspects of the postal history of the British Mandate period. Publications on the postal history of the Mandate or related subjects do not contain complete lists of the postal rates. These publications include those written by Proud, Hochheiser, Dorfman and the **Bale Mandate Catalog**. The first few issues of the excellent publication by Tobias Zywiets, *The Middle Eastern Philatelic Bulletin*, contained excerpts from the Palestine Gazette and have proven most helpful.

As the rates are not always readily available, I have extrapolated from materials I own or see in catalogs, on the internet or in journals. An area that puzzled me involved mail that was registered and insured. I was not certain about the odd rates and the markings on the mail. As an aid for myself and others, I have written this article. I make specific points about how to calculate the rates, list the rates as I perceive them, and then list items for the Collectors and Exhibitors to look for when analyzing covers for correct franking and completeness.

I. CALCULATION OF CORRECT POSTAGE/FRANKING ON COVER

1. Fee for insurance also covered mandatory registration . No need to add separate fee for registration of the letter.
2. Look for £P and gold francs markings on cover to determine amount of insurance fee(including registration).
3. Add inland or foreign surface or foreign airmail rate for letter - look for weight marking in grams on the cover to determine mail rate.
4. Special letter rates existed for UK/Ireland surface mail at different time periods.
5. The cover might be a regular envelope or postal stationery entire with prepaid embedded stamp paying the registration fee.

II. INSURANCE FEES AND LETTER RATES

Insurance Fees were set at three different times during the British Mandate period.

A. October 1, 1921

1. Insurance - 20 mils for value up to £10; 10 mils per each additional £10 value, up to a maximum £40.
2. Inland rate - 5 mils for 20 gr. plus 3 mils for additional 20 gr.
3. Foreign Surface rate - 13 mils per 20 gr. plus 9 mils per each additional 20 gr. to end of 1922.
January 1, 1923: 13 mils per 20 gr. plus 7 mils per each additional 20 gr. until June 19, 1930.

Note: inland and foreign registration fee was 13 mils as a stand-alone fee until May 1, 1940

B. 1926

1. Insurance - 20 mils for value up to £12; 7 m per additional £12 value.
2. Inland - 5 mils for each 20 gr. plus 3 mils for additional 20 gr.
May 1, 1940: 7 mils for each 20 gr. plus 5 mils for each additional 20 gr.
3. Foreign Surface- Until June 19, 1930- 13 mils for 1st 20 gr. , then 7 mils for each additional 20 gr.
4. June 19, 1930: 15 mils for 20 gr. and 9 mil for each additional 20 gr. until May 1, 1940
May 1, 1940 :15 mils for 20 gr. and 10 mils for each additional 20 gr. until April 1, 1941
5. Foreign Airmail: Different rates beginning in late 1920s

Note: As of May 1, 1940, the inland and foreign registration fee was 15 mils as a stand-alone rate

C July 1,1940

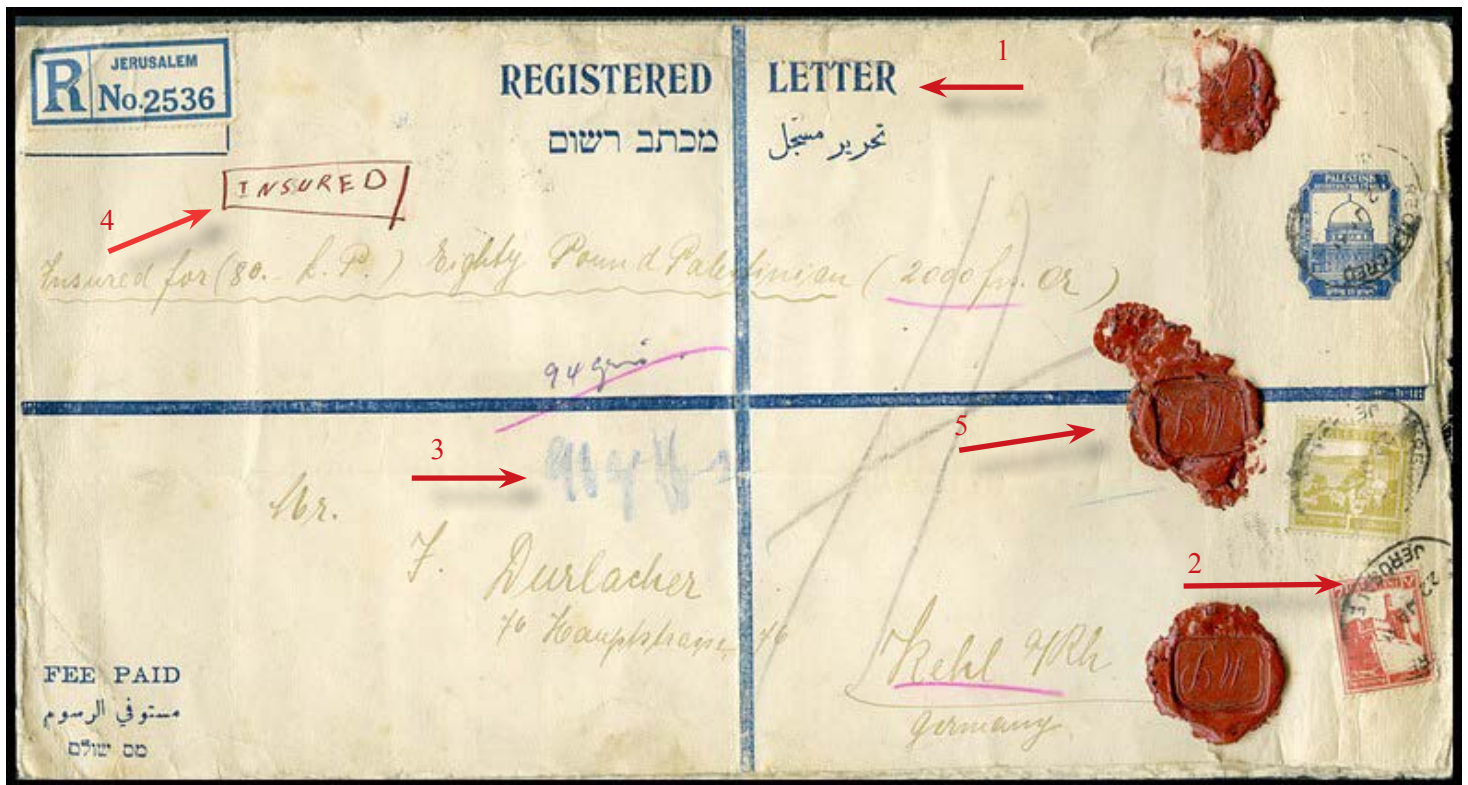
1. Insurance- 25 mils for value up to £12; 10 mils per additional £12 value.
2. Inland- 7 mils for 20 gr. , 5 mils for each additional 20 gr.
April 1, 1941: 10 mils for 30 gr. plus 6 mils for each additional 20 gr.
3. Foreign Surface- Until April 1, 1941: 15 mils for 20 gr. and 10 mils for each additional 20 gr.
4. April 1, 1941 : 20 mils for 20 gr. and 13 mils for each additional 20 gr.
5. Foreign Airmail: Different rates

Note: inland and foreign registration fee was 15 mils as a stand alone rate.

III. KEYS FOR THE COLLECTOR AND EXHIBITOR TO LOOK FOR WHEN ANALYZING COVERS FOR COMPLETENESS AND CORRECT FRANKING

1. Collect inland covers for all 3 rate periods.
2. Collect foreign surface mail for all 5 rate periods.
3. Are any covers franked for Airmail and do they have an Airmail etiquette or marking?
4. Collect covers to different foreign destinations with various franking.
5. Are any covers franked for express? April 5, 1945- Introduction of the 40 mils fee for foreign express; inland express fee- charged earlier than April 5, 1945 and consists of different rates for different periods
6. 1925- Introduction of 20 mils fee for late posting of registered packet- Are any of these fees reflected on the cover?
7. Look at wax seal impressions- May be impressions of Hebrew letters like Mem, Peh- May stand for Misrad Palashtina/ post . May be something else like name of postal office- Haifa post office or Latin letters.
8. What to look for: (a)registered insured express cover with late posting ; and (b) Airmail registered insured cover to unusual destination with high value franking including a high value pictorial stamp.

I welcome comments from readers and other unusual examples of registered insured mail of the British Mandate period. ■



Commercial Cover - Jerusalem To Germany

1. Registered envelope RE3 (the big size type)
(additional stamps Bale #95 (7mils), #101 (90mils))
2. Mailed 22 JA 31
3. Marked 94gr front and back
4. Insured for £80
5. Sealed with 3 wax seals in red on the face

Postage rate:

Basic Rate	13 Mils
Additional Weight 4 X 7mils =	28mils
Initial insurance fee	20mils
(includes required registration)	
Additional Insurance Fee 7 X 7mils =	<u>49mils</u>
Total Fee	110mils

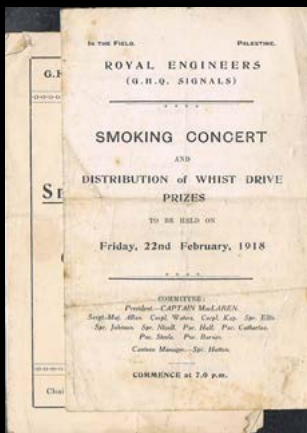
SIP Donation Auction #1

closing date June 14, 2019

1 pc	<i>POSTAL RECEIPT</i> , Ottoman TIBERIADE (Tiberias) Bridge cancel, Bale #813 black, cancelled twice. PH Estimated Value \$50	MB	\$20.00
2 doc	<i>WWI</i> , British programs for SMOKING CONCERT, 2 diff. February 22, 1918 and December 24, 1918, folded and rough condition, but very scarce. PH. Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00
3 *	<i>PALESTINE STAMPS</i> , Second postage dues, full set of 5, plus Third postage dues, 8 values (Sm missing), Mint LH, F-Vf. PH Estimated Value \$30	MB	\$15.00
4 cvr	<i>REGISTERED TEL AVIV Cover</i> , to Detroit 1925. 2x13mil London overprint stamps tied to cover. Many backstamps. Rough at top, but still nice. PH Estimated value \$40	MB	\$20.00
5 cvr	<i>1941 ON ACTIVE SERVICE Cover</i> , from Egypt to "Kallia, Dead Sea, Palestine", censored 3 times, with scarce THE DEAD SEA backstamp, light tropical stains. PH. Estimated value \$75	MB	\$25.00
6 cvr	<i>1944 U.S. A.P.O.682</i> cancel, free franking, addressed to Mrs. W. Gibbs, Augusta, GA from her husband unit censor, stationed in TEL SHOMER, PALESTINE. Clean. PH. Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00
7 lot	<i>WWII COVER LOT</i> , 7, to or from Palestine including registered (2), Polish forces etc. Condition fair to good. Great lot. PH Estimated value \$200	MB	\$75.00
8 cvr	<i>1948 SAFAD</i> May 12 cancel, violet, on 5m Palestine ptctortat stamp tied to cover, addressed to Tel Aviv, scarce. Clean. PH Estimated value \$50.	MB	\$20.00
9 cvr	<i>INTERIM PERIOD</i> Parachutists full strip of 7 stamps, blue with "Doar" Tel Aviv style overprint, cancelled Tel Aviv 4 times tied to #10 envelope, slightly scuffed and repaired on r/h side. PH. Bale catalogue value only of stamps \$100	MB	\$25.00
10 cvr	<i>TWO PERIOD COVER</i> , 10m total Palestine stamps cancelled May 5, 1948 last day of Mandate plus 2x5m Dar Ivri tabs with May 16, 1948 First day of Israel, with cachet, clean. PH Estimated value \$30	MB	\$15.00
11 cvr	<i>1949 COVER</i> with 3m Tab block of 4 of First Festival (Scott #10) with Tel Aviv cancel, addressed to Ramat Gan with 5m First Postage due stamp tied to cover with Ramat Gan cancel. PH Estimated value \$75	MB	\$25.00
12 pc	<i>PACKAGE CUT-OUT</i> 1952 Jerusalem cancels on Menorah (Sc. #55) and Negev #25. scarce postally	MB	\$25.00



Lot 1



Lot 2



Lot 4



Lot 3



Lot 5



Lot 6



Lot 7



Lot 8



Lot 10



Lot 11



Lot 9



Lot 12

13 doc	PRESENTATION PAGE with Israel first Postage dues, full set Scott #J1-5 tied with 1950 Jerusalem cancels. Scarce as such. PH. Estimated value \$60	MB	\$20.00
14 var	NEW YEAR 1970 Variety on .15ag perf 14x14 (2 nd Printing) Bale #767p, with TAB, cat. \$600, Mint NH. PH Estimated value \$300	MB	\$100.00
15 var	HEBREW WRITERS 1974, Missing black color, Bale #581a, Mint NH. PH Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00
16 var	MACCABIAH 1981 , Bale #797a two tabs, missing color and missed perforated, Mint NH, PH. Estimated value \$100	MB	\$30.00
17 t/b	1971 CITIES TETE-BECHE sheets, Bale IRS23-24, Mint NH. Estimated value \$60	MB	\$20.00
18 leafs	SOUVENIR LEAFS (2 diff.) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP, 1989, numbered, only 500 of each, with special cancels, hard to find. Clean. PH. Estimated value \$200	MB	\$35.00
19 t/b	SEA ANENOME 1992 Tete-beche sheet, Bale #IRS35nd, catalogue \$120. Mint NH, Estimated value \$60	MB	\$30.00
20 cvr	VENDING MACHINE LABELS , full set of 7 from 1993 Binational Stamp Exhibition, First Day up to 48 shekel high value. Bale \$110. PH Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00
21 sht	HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE SHEETLET of 10, as needed for Lighthouse album, 1995, Mint NH, hard to find. Estimated value \$75	MB	\$25.00
22 cvr	ISRAEL 98 STAMP SHOW cover addressed to Germany, with two souvenir sheets including the IMPERF PHILATELIC MUSEUM sheet numbered. Most unusual. PH. Estimated value \$60	MB	\$20.00
23 pc	SYNAGOGUE POSTCARDS , 2, France, Arlon and Epinal, very clean, circa 1920's. PH,. Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00
24 wr	JUDAICA, Newspaper wrapper , THE ZIONIST RECORD, South Africa, 1949 to New York. 1D stamp tied by cancel. Unusual. PH. Estimated value \$40	MB	\$15.00
25 lab	JNF JABOTINSKY stamps, two imperf gutter strips of 4, one with values in black and one with values in white, without gum as issued, most likely proofs. PH. Estimated value \$50	MB	\$20.00

MB = Minimum Bid. Sale Ends June 14, 2019, 5 pm pacific standard time. E-mail bids to Ed Rosen, Hsofzion@aol.com. No commission added. A single charge of \$5.00 postage will be added to all winning bidders.

We want to thank the following donors: Mike Bass, Bob Cohen estate, Howard Chapman, Button Stamp Co., House of Zion



Lot 13



Lot 14



Lot 15



Lot 16



Lot 18



Lot 20



Lot 21



Lot 23



Lot 24



Lot 25

FELBA 2018

German - Israel Stamp Exhibit

November 16 -18, Fellbach, Germany

Dr. Les Glassman

It was a great honor to be appointed by the Israeli Philatelic Federation as the commissioner to FELBA 2018, an International bilateral German Israeli Stamp Exhibition. It was held in Fellbach, Germany from the 16th to the 18th of November, with FEPA (Federation of European Philatelic Associations) recognition (Figure 1).

I was delighted to discover that Deutsche Post would be issuing two stamps commemorating the exhibition. The 70 ct (Figure 2) stamp depicts the Alte Kelter Exhibition Hall. The 45 ct (Figure 3) depicts the 90th anniversary of the club BSV Fellbach and Fellbach as a wine producing region. Both stamps highlight the bilateral German - Israel relationship.



Figure 2

The German Post furnished two special cancellations depicting the Brandenburg Gate and the Menorah and 70 years of Israeli Independence.



Figure 4

WELCOME TO THE EXHIBIT

My wife and I were accompanied by Izhak Barak who was appointed as Jury member and Yehoshua Eliashiv an exhibitor. There are no words to express our sincere appreciation to the organizers of the exhibition Hans Streche, Dieter Schaile, and Bernward Schubert. We were met at Frankfurt airport by Gerhard Schweinle who kindly drove us to Fellbach.

The exhibition was held at the Alte Kelter a magnificent hall in Fellbach (Figure 1). We mounted the 12 exhibits from



Figure 1



Figure 3

Israel which comprised 41 frames, In Germany, the frames are arranged to accommodate 12 pages per frame.

The opening ceremony was a very well attended event with press coverage. The Mayor Gabriele Zull welcomed the Israeli delegation. She told my wife and me that she visited Israel when she was 18 years old and fell in love with the country (Figure 5). Alfred Schmidt the President of the German Philatelic Federation reminded the audience about the Shoah and the dangers of fascism. He mentioned the special relationship between our two countries.

I was asked to speak and Izhak translated into German. I thanked the German Philatelic Federation and the organizers

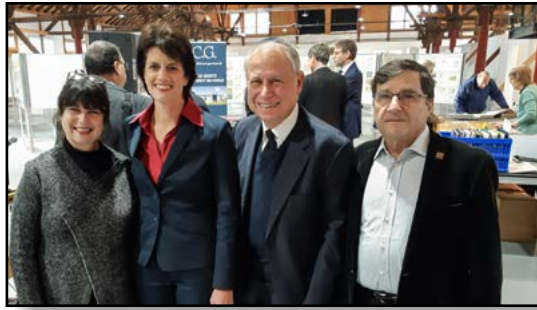


Figure 5
Mrs. Glassman, Mayor Gabriele Zull,
Dr. Glassman, Izhak Barak



Figure 6
L-R: Yehoshua Eliashiv, Bernward Schubert, Alfred Schmidt President
of the German Philatelic Federation, Dr. Glassman & Izhak Barak

of Felba 2018 for inviting us to participate in this unique and special event. I remarked that the special cancellation which was also presented as Felba 2018 medal (Figure 4) depicts both the Brandenburg Gate and the Menorah, which are significant symbols of both countries emphasizing unity, freedom, and peace.

On behalf of the Israeli Philatelic Federation, I thanked the organizers and both Izhak Barak and me presented the Mayor of Fellbach and the president of the German Philatelic Federation with a silver model of Jerusalem. We were honored to sign our names in the "Golden Book" of the city of Fellbach.

EXHIBITS AND AWARDS

Les Glassman	Gold (90) SP Best 1 Frame Exhibit	Pre Philatelic Postal History of Jerusalem
Julian Schamroth	Gold (87) 8 Frames	The Postmarks and Postal Routes of Rhodesia 1884 - 1924. A Philatelic Journey
Yehoshua Eliashiv	Gold (87) SP 8 Frames	The Postal History of Latvian Air Mail 1921 - 1940
Yehuda Kleiner	LV (83) 3 Frames	15th - 17th Centuries Postal Instructions on Letter
Arieh Favell Lavee	LV (80) 6 Frames	Photography, Camera, Picture
Baruch Weiner	V (83) SP 1 Frame	Arab P.O.W.'s from the 1948 Independence War
Les Glassman	V (83) SP 1 Frame	Anglo Boer War the Mocambique Connection
Les Glassman	V (83) 1 Frame	Mocambique Company Airmails
Yochanan Mey Raz	V (78) 5 Frames	Preventing Accidents and Diseases
Yehuda Kleiner	V (77) SP 1 Frame	Prepayment and the First Stationaries
Paulo Deuk	LS (70) 5 Frames	A Tour in Jerusalem
Paulo Deuk	S (73) 1 Frame	Ayrton Senna 1964 - 1994

After the opening ceremony, the invited guests and the public marveled at the various exhibits. There were 109 exhibitions for all to enjoy, encompassing all aspects of philately which was enjoyed by all who attended. I found it very significant that the opening exhibit was on the topic of Concentration Camp mail.

Catalogs of FELBA 2018 were freely available. There were many stamp dealers present. A special postcard and letter together with the 2 special stamps and cancellations were available from the German Post. Later that evening the Fellbacher Weingartner organized a wine tasting at the Alte Kelter. The next day the 17th Fellbacher stamp day took place. Visitors could enjoy the exhibits, browse and purchase from the stamp dealers and the German Post. A festive evening for FELBA 2018 BSV Fellbach 1928 eV was held in the Schwabenlandhalle Musically accompanied by the Musikverein Lyra from Fellbach - Schmiden. Over a thousand visitors attended the exhibition which was a tremendous success.

On the last day of the exhibition, the Palmars Award Ceremony took place. I am very pleased to report that the Israeli participants did extremely well. Out of our 12 exhibits we received 3 gold and 5 special prizes.

BITTER & SWEET

Attending Felba 2018 was a bittersweet experience as my wife and I had participated in a Poland Heritage tour only four months before. We had witnessed the unimaginable horrors of the Shoah. The exhibition was held a week after the anniversary of Kristallnacht - the night of shattered glass. I was invited to showcase Israeli exhibits and help rebuild and foster new relationships and friendships

continued on page 56

Many people who attended the exhibition came up to me and some spoke Hebrew others mentioned that they had visited Israel several times. Jurgen Samlenski showed me the monuments he helped erect in various towns where the Jewish inhabitants were deported. Bjorn Reitzenstein who was a member of the Jury showed me the Sulzbach Rosenberg Synagogue stamp and postcard he helped design. Gerhard Schweinle showed us the Stuttgart Shoah train station deportation memorial, Dieter Schaile and his wife kindly drove us to their town where they had obtained the keys to the Friedhof Judischer Cemetery and the Synagogue.

It was a special honor and privilege to have represented my country, I was overwhelmed when I was called up to collect the Deutschland - Israel Exhibition Award medal and certificates, I received loud applause and congratulations. The Brandenburg Gate and Menorah that was engraved on the medal symbolizes unity, freedom and peace and friendship between our two nations and people.

To the Organizing Committee of FELBA 2018, thank you so very much.

Vielen Dank. ■



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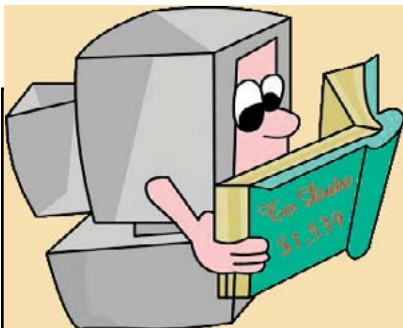
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SIP AT NAPEX 2019

Friday, June 7: 10 am to 6 pm
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Sunday, June 9: 10 am to 4 pm

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NAPEX show rate (June 7-10):
\$111/night + taxes
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<http://www.napex.org/future.html>

Leslie Reggel Memorial Award

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

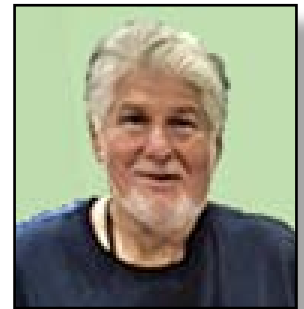
The "Reggel Memorial Award for Outstanding Service and Contribution to Holy Land and Israel Philately" is an annual award. The winner is selected each year by the two prior year's winners. In 2002, the Award was presented to the seventeen prior award recipients.

The first Reggel Award was presented in 1984 to Dr. Albert Friedberg. Since then, a total of 32 individuals have been presented the award

It is with great pride that we announce the honoree for 2018 to be Ed Rosen a philatelic exhibitor, a leading Holy Land dealer and SIP 1st vice President. It is with great pleasure that the committee present the 2018 award with warm personal congratulations and best wishes for good health and further continued success in your service to our Society.

The Awards Committee ■

Ed Rosen
SIP Vice President
Exhibitor
Stamp dealer



PREVIOUS WINNERS

1984 Albert Friedberg	2000 Henry B. Stern
1985 Marvin Siegel	2001 Howard S. Chapman
1986 Emil Dickstein	2003 Dr. Robert Pildes
1987 Arie Ben David	2005 Donald A. Chafetz
1988 Oscar Stadler	2006 David Dorfman
1989 Arthur Hochheiser	2007 David J. Simmons
1990 Norman J. Collins	2008 Moshe Kol-Kalman
1991 Nathan Zankel	2009 Brian Gruz
1992 Fred Blau	2010 Michael Bass
1993 Michael Madesker	2011 Vicki Galecki
1994 Bea Stadler	2012 Edwin Kroft
1995 Fritz Nussbaum	2013 Dr. Arthur H. Groten
1996 Arthur Hochheiser	2014 Dr. Leslie Bard
1997 Irvin Girer	2014 Dr. Steven Rothman
1998 Joseph Schwartz	2015 Yacov Tsachor
1999 Stanley H. Raffel	2018 Ed Rosen

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Dr. Leopold Dickstein Memorial Award

The 2018 Dr. Dickstein Memorial Award is presented to Dr. Josef Wallach of Israel. Through the years Dr. Wallach has written numerous original research articles and a book on the Postal History of West Bank. Other articles include Israel stamp designs, Klussendorf stamps, Gaza Strip postal service, Artists Essay of the 1948 Festival Stamps, Israel Military Post Service. He has also written articles on the postal history of the Mandate Period

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



Dr. Josef Wallach

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1992 Dr. Oscar Stadler	2000 Fritz Nussbaum
1993 Dr. Arthur Hochheiser	2001 Bea Stadler
1994 David Dorfman	2014 Richard S. Herman
1995 Fred Blau	2015 Isidore Baum
1996 Dr. Albert Friedberg	2018 Dr. Josef Wallach
1999 Marvin Siegel	

SIP President's column



We have just completed a successful 2018 calendar year and membership renewal. We are pleased that all of you have elected to continue receiving our gold medal journal, **The Israel Philatelists**.

Our membership drive was successful with 32 persons joining during the drive.

The new member winner of the set of Israel Scott #'s 7-9 stamps was Mr. Ron Warshawsky. The sponsoring member winner was Yechiel Lehavy. We thank all those who participated.

FIRST SIP DONATION AUCTION

On June 14, 2019 the SIP will hold its First Donation Auction. The lots are listed on pages 52-55 and on the SIP web site at israelstamps.com.

All material has been donated to the Society and 100% of the proceeds go to help the Society cover our annual operating budget.

I want to remind people to bid early and bid high.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We are starting a new membership drive on May 15, 2019 and end on October 31, 2019. All persons joining the society between those dates, including those dates, and the

sponsoring member will be eligible for a drawing to win Scott #7-9, MNH. There will be two separate drawings, one for the new member and one for the sponsor.

SIP CONVENTION

The next Society Convention is scheduled for June 7 - 9, 2019, in conjunction with NAPEX. The show will be held at the Hilton McLean, Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102. Our Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, June 9th

Please plan to attend the NAPEX Show. There will be great Holy Land exhibits, lectures, a dealer's bourse and most importantly friendship and camaraderie with members of the Society. Please contact me if you will be at the Hilton on Friday. We will try to schedule a group dinner. Saturday night is the NAPEX Show award dinner. Check the show schedule for the Holy Land lectures. The convention meeting will be Sunday morning.

I would like to hear from each of you as to your collecting interest, and how your Society can benefit you and you the Society. We need to help each other to prosper in Holy Land Philatelics. One thing each of you can do to help is ask your friends and acquaintances to join the Society. We have room for a lot more members in our collecting community.

Keep enjoying Holy Land Philately. Share your collecting interests with us. Join a study group. Expand your knowledge of Holy Land Philately. Support our advertisers.

See you at NAPEX!

Howard S. Chapman, email: stampareme@aol.com ■

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NEW MEMBERS Members are requested to inform the Grievance Committee within 30 days if they knew of any reason why the following applicants

should not be admitted to membership as provided by the Society By-Laws.

D10741	Markku Palmgren	Rauma	, Finland	D10752	Marcel Polarski	Occitanie,	France
D10742	Philippe Nahmias	Paris,	France	P10753	Dov Gabriel	Oyster Bay,	Ny
D10743	Sandra Moss	Metuchen,	Nj	D10754	Ran Barash	Gan-Yavne,	Israel
D10744	Gerard Spanier	Linwood,	Nj	D10755	Alan Breen	Seattle,	Wa
P10745	George Flicker	Estell Manor,	Nj	D10756	Nahum Raz	Johannesburg,	South Africa
P10746	Pauline Tint	Walnut Creek,	Ca	D10757	Ms. Sara Halevi	Jerusalem,	Israel
P10747	Henny Uyl	Ingersoll,	Canada	Reinstated Members			
D10748	Amron Mont	Liverpool,	Uk	D10485	Jules M Meisler	Silver Spring,	Md
D10749	Ron Warshawsky	Santa Clara,	Ca	P8858	Isaac Shubich	Palmetto Bay,	Fl
P10750	Deepak Balasubramanian	Coimbatore,	India	P10451	Elliot Mitchnick	Herndon,	Va
D10751	Sio Fu	Rowland Hts,	Ca				

New Philatelic Issues



Stamp Name	Value
Printed Press in Eretz Israel Set of 3 stamps, each 4.10 NIS	12.30 NIS
Memorial Day 2019	2.50 NIS
Endangered Mammals in Israel Set of 3 stamps, each 2.50 NIS	7.50 NIS
Hava Nagila	11.80 NIS
Ethnic Festivals in Israel The Mimouna Festival	4.10 NIS

Member's Awards

Sarasota Stamp Exhibit

Feb 1-3-2019

Dr. Robert Pildes

Israel Forerunners: of the Holy Land

8 frames

Large Gold

Science Oriented Youth	11.80 NIS
The Purim Mitzvahs Set of 8 stamps, each 2.50 NIS	20.30 NIS
Mountains in Israel Set of 2 stamps, 4.10, 7.40 NIS	11.50 NIS
Greetings - Happy Birthday Definitive Stamp	
Birds in Israel Set of 10 stamps, each 2.50 NIS	25.00 NIS



Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.
Publication Listing Spring 2019



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Contact: David Kaplin **Email:** SIPedFund@gmail.com
PO Box 2282, Kyle, TX 78640
216 406-5522

Make checks payable to SIP Educational Fund

* Life Member Discount only applied to price

ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	PRICE*	S & H		TOTAL w S&H
			US	INTNL.	
300	IP REPRINTS				\$
301	IP Reprints 1-10 Sep 1949 - Jun 1959	\$15.00	\$4.85	\$59.00	
302	IP Reprints 11-16 Sep 1959 - Jun 1965	\$15.00	\$7.50	\$82.00	
303	IP Reprints 20-22 Oct 1968 - Aug 1971	\$15.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
304	IP Reprints 23-24 Oct 1971 - Aug 1973	\$15.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
305	IP Reprints 25-27 Feb 1974 - Dec 1976	\$15.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
306	IP Reprints 17-18 Sep 1965 - Aug 1967	\$36.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
307	IP Reprints 19 Sep 1967 - Aug 1968	\$25.00	\$4.85	\$27.00	
308	IP Reprints 28-29 Feb 1977 - Dec 1978	\$36.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
309	IP Reprints 30-31 Feb 1979 - Dec 1980	\$36.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
310	IP Reprints 32-33 Feb 1981 - Dec 1982	\$50.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
311	IP Reprints 34-35 Feb 1983 - Dec 1984	\$50.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
312	IP Reprints 36-37 Feb 1985 - Dec 1986	\$50.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
313	IP Reprints 38-39 Feb 1987 - Dec 1988	\$50.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
314	IP Reprints 40-41 Feb 1989 - Dec 1990	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
315	IP Reprints 42-43 Feb 1991 - Dec 1992	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
316	IP Reprints 44-45 Feb 1993 - Dec 1994	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
317	IP Reprints 46-47 Feb 1995 - Dec 1996	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
318	IP Reprints 48-49 Feb 1997 - Dec 1998	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
319	IP Reprints 50-51 Feb 1999 - Dec 2000	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
320	IP Reprints 52-53 Feb 2001 - Dec 2002	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
321	IP Reprints 54- 55 Feb 2003 - Dec 2004	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
322	IP Reprints 56-57 Feb 2005 - Dec 2006	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
323	IP Reprints 58-59 Feb 2007 - Dec 2008	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
324	IP Reprints 60-61 Feb 2009 - Dec 2010	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
325	IP Reprints 62-63 Feb 2011 - Dec 2012	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$41.00	
326	IP Reprints 64-65 Feb 2013 - Fall 2014	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$59.00	
327	IP Reprints 66-67 Winter 2015 - Fall 2016	\$60.00	\$4.85	\$59.00	
400	BOOKS				\$
401	Palestine Mandate Postmarks 2nd Edition - Dorfman	\$18.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
402	Tabs of Israel - Rozman	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$16.00	
403	Palestine Postal Forms - British Military Administration 1917-1920 - Hochheiser	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
404	Palestine Mandate Issues of 1921-1948: Crown Agents - Collins	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
405	Government of Palestine Post Office Ordinance of 1930	\$11.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
406	Tel Aviv Postmarks of the Palestine Mandate - Groton	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
407	Plate Blocks & Tabs of the Doar Ivri Issue - Levinson	\$9.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
408	Basic Israel Philately - Simmons	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
409	Postal Stationery of Palestine Mandate - Hochheiser	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
410	Safad - Ben David	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
411	Doar Ivri Issue of Israel - Rothman & Tsachor	\$7.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
412	The Postal History of the Polish Field Post Offices - Kucharski	\$9.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
413	Greeting Telegrams of the JNF - Ladany	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
414	Palestine Mandate Stamp Catalog 2001 - Dorfman	\$50.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
415	Study of Israel's Dateless Cancellations - Chafetz	\$9.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
416	Postal Stationery of Israel, 2nd Edition - Morginstin NEW NO DISCOUNTS	\$50.00	\$4.00	\$41.00	
417	Israel & Forerunner Military Postal Stationery, 2nd Ed. -Dubin & Morrow	\$18.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
418	History of Israel Through Her Stamps - Stadler Full Color	\$12.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
419	A History of Jewish Arts & Crafts - Courlander	\$25.00	\$4.00	\$27.00	
420	Palestine Mandate Stamp Pages (blank pages)	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
421	Post-War Censorship - Gladstone	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
422	Judaica in Philately - Borodinsky	\$22.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
424	Minhelet Ha'am - Fluri	\$6.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
425	The Stamps of Palestine - Hoexter	\$8.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
427	Palestine Postal Forms Civilian Administration 1921-1948 - Groton	\$17.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
Total Amount Due including Sales Tax and Shipping & Handling (S&H)					

Society of Israel Philatelists, Inc.
Publication Listing Summer 2018



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ITEM #	DESCRIPTION	PRICE*	S & H		TOTAL w S&H
			US	INTNL.	
400	BOOKS				\$
428	Taxi Mail of the Holy Land c. 1930-1975 - Groten	\$26.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
430	The Flying Camel: Levant Fairs of Mandate Palestine - Groten Full Color	\$47.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
431	Official Postcards and Special Cancellations of the Zionist Congresses - Riemer	\$13.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
432	Postcards from the Holy Land - A Pictorial History of the Ottoman Era 1880-1918 - Salo Aizenberg - Full Color NO DISCOUNTS		\$30 US \$70 Can/Mex \$85 Intl		
433	Hebrew Letter Censor Marks - Simmons & Pearl	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$16.00	
434	Interim Period Postage Stamps of Israel: March-July 1948 - Forsher	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
436	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol II - Part 2 - Shimon, Rimon, Karpovsky NO DISCOUNTS		Israel \$50.00 All Other Countries \$62.00		
437	Israel Definitive Stamps-Specialized Catalogue, 1982 & 1983 - Wallach NO DISCOUNTS	\$10.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
438	Postal History of the West Bank of Jordan 1948-1967 Volume I - Wallach NO DISCOUNTS	\$10.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
439	Haifa and Jaffa Postmarks of the Palestine Mandate - Goldstein & Dickstein	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
440	The Doar Ivri Issue -Printings & Settings Handbook - Shabtai NO DISCOUNTS	\$150.00			
441	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol III: Israel Foreign Postal Links - Shamir & Siegel NO DISCOUNTS		Israel \$22.00 All Other Countries \$30.00		
443	Return to the Land - the Challenge of Rebuilding Israel - Exploring History through Stamps - Marty Zelenietz - single copy prices - Special quantity prices available. NO DISCOUNTS		\$10.50 US \$24 Can/Mex \$30 Intl		
444	Harris' Catalogue of Israel's Triangular Military Handstamps	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
445	Descent into the Abyss - The Shoah by Bruce Chadderton	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
446	2011 Israel Philatelic Catalogue of Maximum Cards, Postal Openings, Information Folders, Bulletins, Etc. - Morginstin & Perrin	\$25.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
447	Hatemail - Aizenberg NO DISCOUNTS	\$31.95	\$3.50	\$41.00	
448	The History of Israel's Postage Stamps (Stamps from 1948 to 1956) - Ribalow	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
449	Places and Post Offices with Biblical Names - Blum	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
450	Postal History of the Transition Period in Israel 1948, Vol I: Official Postal Services: Postal Administration of British Mandate, Minhelet Ha'am and Israel - Aloni NO DISCOUNTS	\$82.00			
451	Artists' Drawings, Essays, and Proofs of the 1948 Doar Ivri Issue of Israel and their Usage - Pildes	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
452	Holocaust Postal History: Harrowing Journeys Revealed through the Letters and Cards of the Victims - Justin Gordon NO DISCOUNTS	\$30.00	\$3.75	\$40.00	
453	Smalheiser's The Remembrance Letters and Commemorative Covers of the Ministry of Defense State Of Israel: 2nd Edition NO DISCOUNTS	\$40.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
454	The Philatelic Megillah Esther in Hebrew - Rimer Published by Israel Philatelic Federation NO DISCOUNTS		Israel \$14.00 All Other Countries \$22.00		
455	Rochlin's Handbook of the Issues of the Jewish National Fund NEW NO DISCOUNTS	\$75.00	\$5.50	\$75.00	
456	These Purim Days: A Philatelic Book of Esther - Rimer Translated by David Dubin NEW NO DISCOUNTS - Special quantity pricing available.	\$15.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
457	The Philatelic Passover Haggada - Rimer Translated by David Dubin NEW NO DISCOUNTS - Special quantity prices available.	\$17.00	\$3.50	\$27.00	
500	BOOKS ON CD				\$
530	The Flying Camel - Levant Fairs of Mandate Palestine - Groten	\$20.00	\$3.50	\$14.00	
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