

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL



Private taxi companies began carrying mail in Palestine during the early thirties. The Regulations of 1930 clearly claimed for the authorities the right/monopoly to deliver letter mail, which was anything up to 250 grams:

"..... Wherever within Palestine post or post communications are established the Postmaster General possesses , by virtue of the Post Office Ordinance (Chapt.115), the exclusive privilege of carrying from one place to another all letters and performing all the incidental services of receiving , collecting, dispatching & delivering all letters....."

The monopoly exclusivity did not extend to parcels, creating some kind of loophole which taxi companies could use describing their handling of "consignments" rather than "letters". It is known that the Post office sometimes enforced the law & taxi drivers ,found to had been taking letters & packets from one town to another for private persons, had been fined. Taxi companies were willing to cooperate with the Post Office, but their offers had not been accepted. The illegal status of this service continued for a few years even after the State of Israel was founded. Only in the early 1950's the Post Office finally acknowledged the existence and value of this service and permitted it , upon payment of a special fee, over and above which the company was free to charge what it would. Additional services like insurance, COD and express were also offered to the public. "Express" service permitted delivery directly to the recipient rather than the recipient having to come to the taxi company office. We almost don't have any official information regarding the fee amount collected for each item. A.H Groten noted in his article that the fee was equal to the cost of normal postage and E. Glassman wrote in his catalog that Post Office charged 100 prutot for each item in the 50's and 25 agorot in 1974 .

In order to collect the taxi post fee special stamps indicating the payment of the fee were issued by the Israeli Post and began appearing on envelopes and parcels about 1953. The exact date of issue of those stamps is not known. Those stamps were used to indicate that the charge levied by the Post Office on the service had been paid & that is why should be considered as a kind of special postage stamps .Those stamps were printed in big rolls probably of a few hundred each and were rouletted by special roulette or were perforated .The printing was performed on gummed paper in red or green ink. Taxi companies bought rolls of those labels in advance and attached them to the parcels or letters. The stamps had to be cancelledbut as can be seen from the philatelic material the companies did not do so in most of the cases.

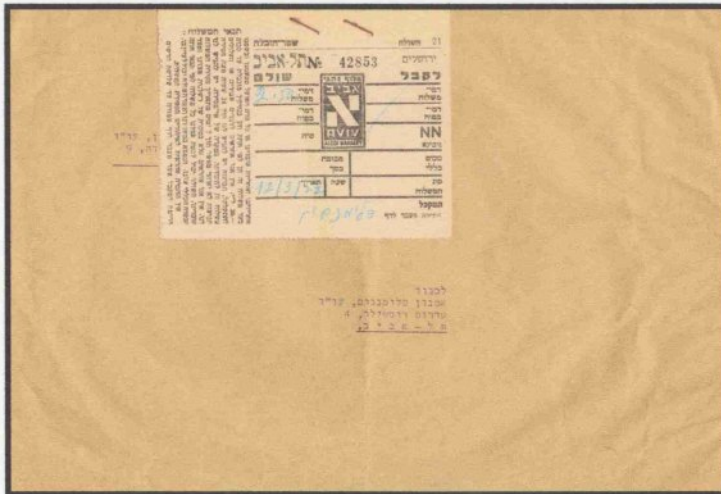
Until now no serious attempt to catalogue the different types of those labels was made probably because the philatelic dealers had no financial interest in including those stamps in their catalogs since they could not obtain stocks of those labels. In this exhibit all the different types of such labels found and known by me will be shown .

TYPE NO.	COLOR	LOGO SIZE	FONT	NUMBER STRUCTURE	PERF.	APPROX. SIZE
TAXI - IA	RED	17 x 13 MM THICK	ROUNDED.LONG "ל"	123456	11	56x 51 MM
TAXI - 1B		17 x 13MM THIN	ROUNDED.LONG "ל"	123456	11	56 x 51 MM
TAXI - IC		15 x 11 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	*123456	ROULETTED	48 x 48 MM
TAXI - ID		15 x 11 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	123456	ROULETTED	48 x 48 MM
TAXI - IE		15 x 11 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	12345*	ROULETTED	48 x 48 MM
TAXI - 1F		15 x 11 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	№ 12345 x	ROULETTED	48 x 48MM
TAXI - 1G		15 x 11 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	№ 123456 x	ROULETTED	48 x 48 MM
TAXI - II	GREEN	16x 12	VERY THICK & SQUARE	123456	11	55x 50 MM
TAXI - IIIA	GREEN	17 x 13	ROUNDED.LONG "ל"	12345	11	FROM 51 x 57 TO 55 x 59 MM
TAXI - IIIB		17 x 13 THICK LETTERS	ROUNDED.LONG "ל"	123456	11	
TAXI - IIIC		17 x 13 WITH THIN LETTERS	ROUNDED.LONG "ל"	123456	11	
TAXI - IIID		SMALL 11 x 8 MM	ROUNDED.SHORT "ל"	№ 123456	ROULETTED	
TAXI - IV	GREEN	9x 7 MM	ROUNDED	123456	11	44x 23 MM

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TYPE - IA



Front side.



Big size envelope sent from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv by "Aviv" taxi company on 12.3.72.
Fees of 2.5 IL were paid. Franked by type Ia taxi post stamp.



Thick lines & font
Type Ia

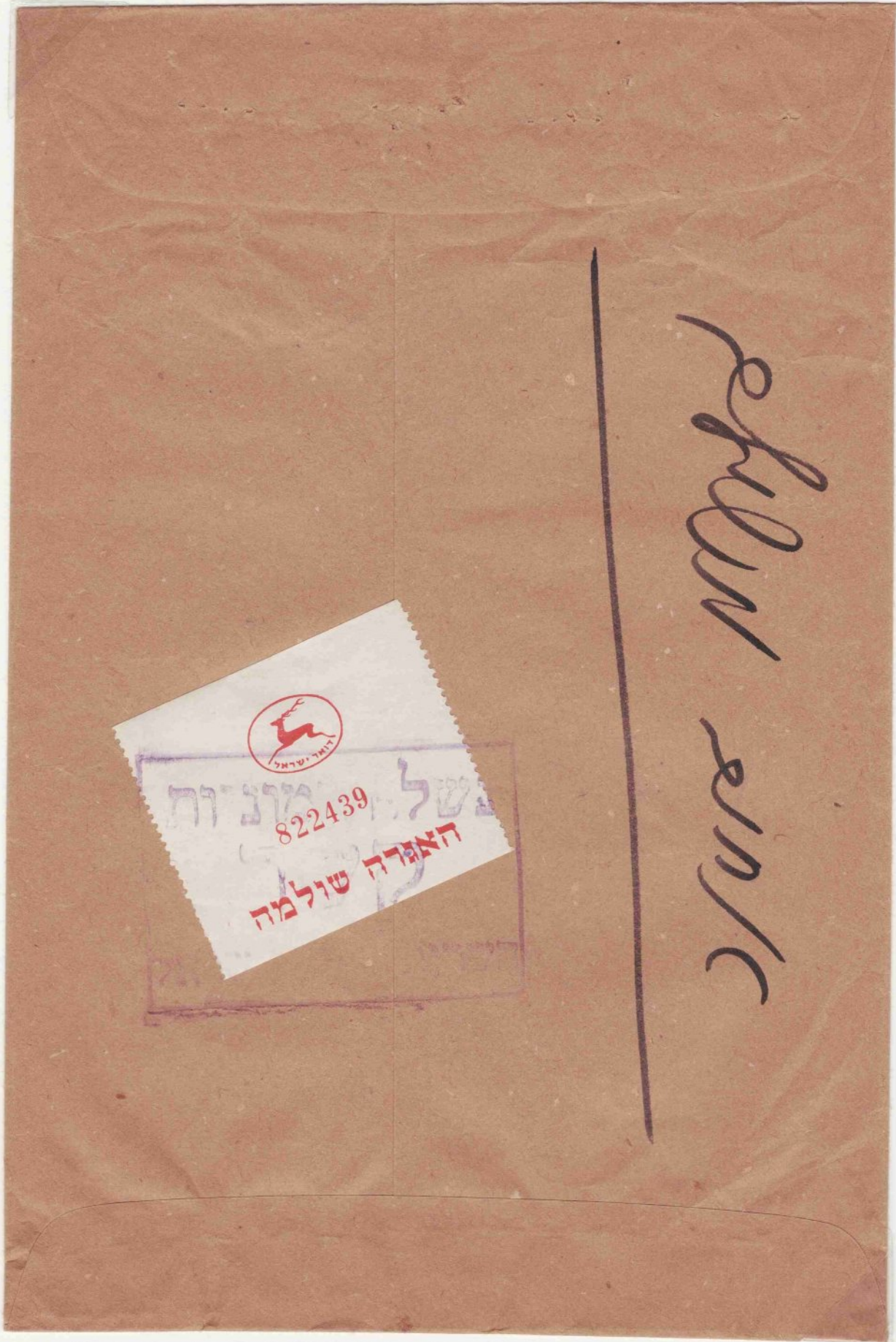


Thin lines & font
Type Ib

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL



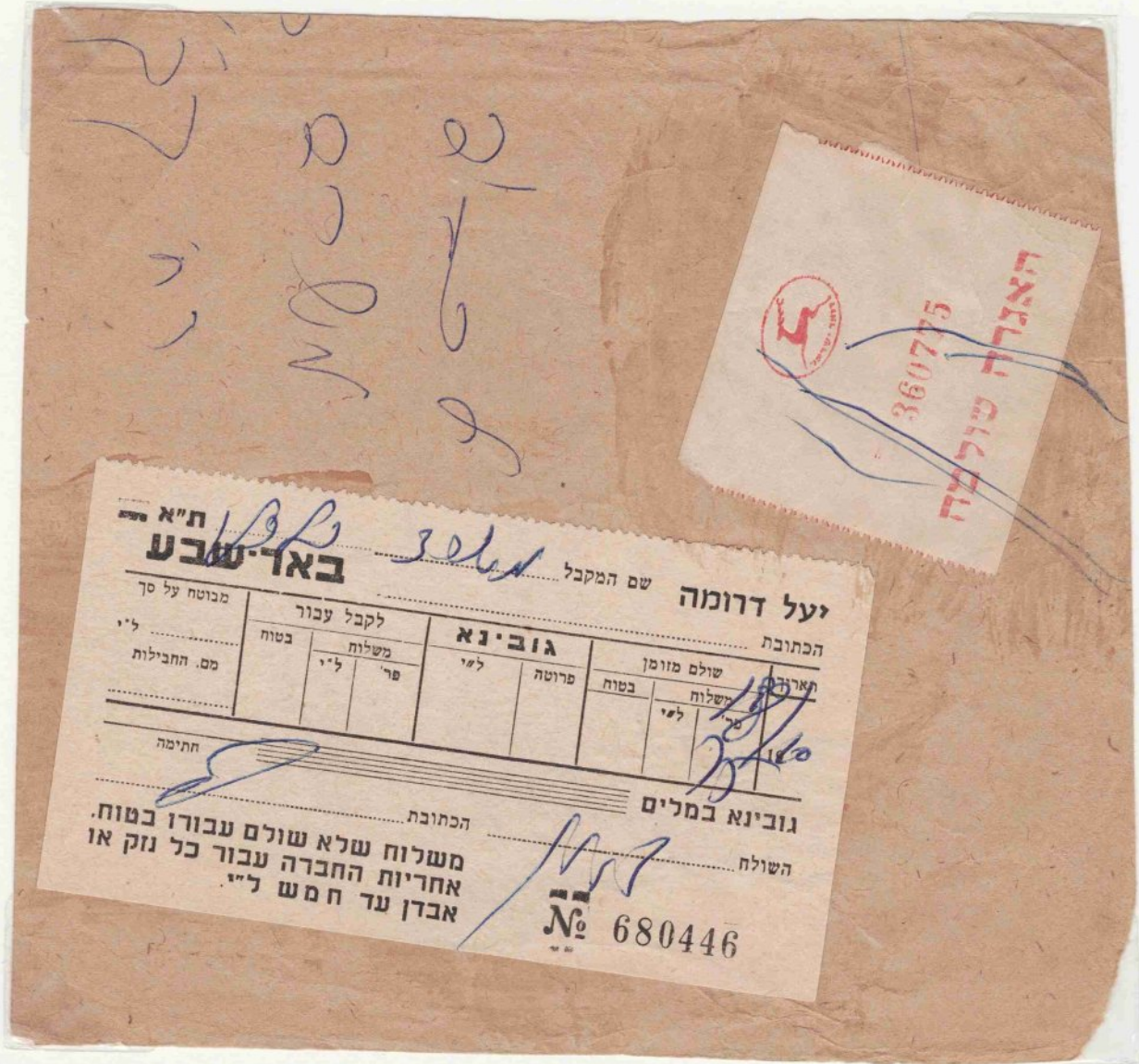
TYPE - IB



Big size envelope sent inside Tel Aviv by "Keshet" taxi company . Franked by type **lb** taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

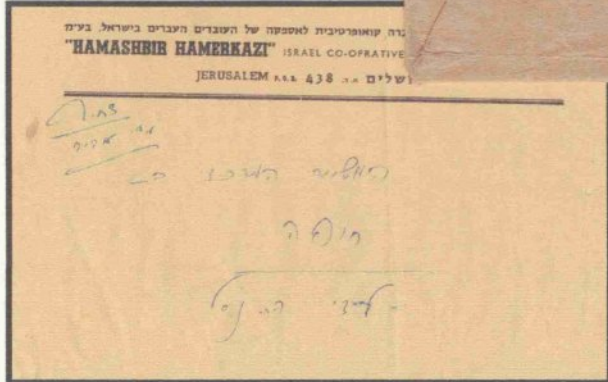
TYPE - Id



Cutout from a big envelope sent from Beer Sheva to Tel Aviv by "Yael Daroma" taxi company on 18.10.75. Franked by type Id taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - IF

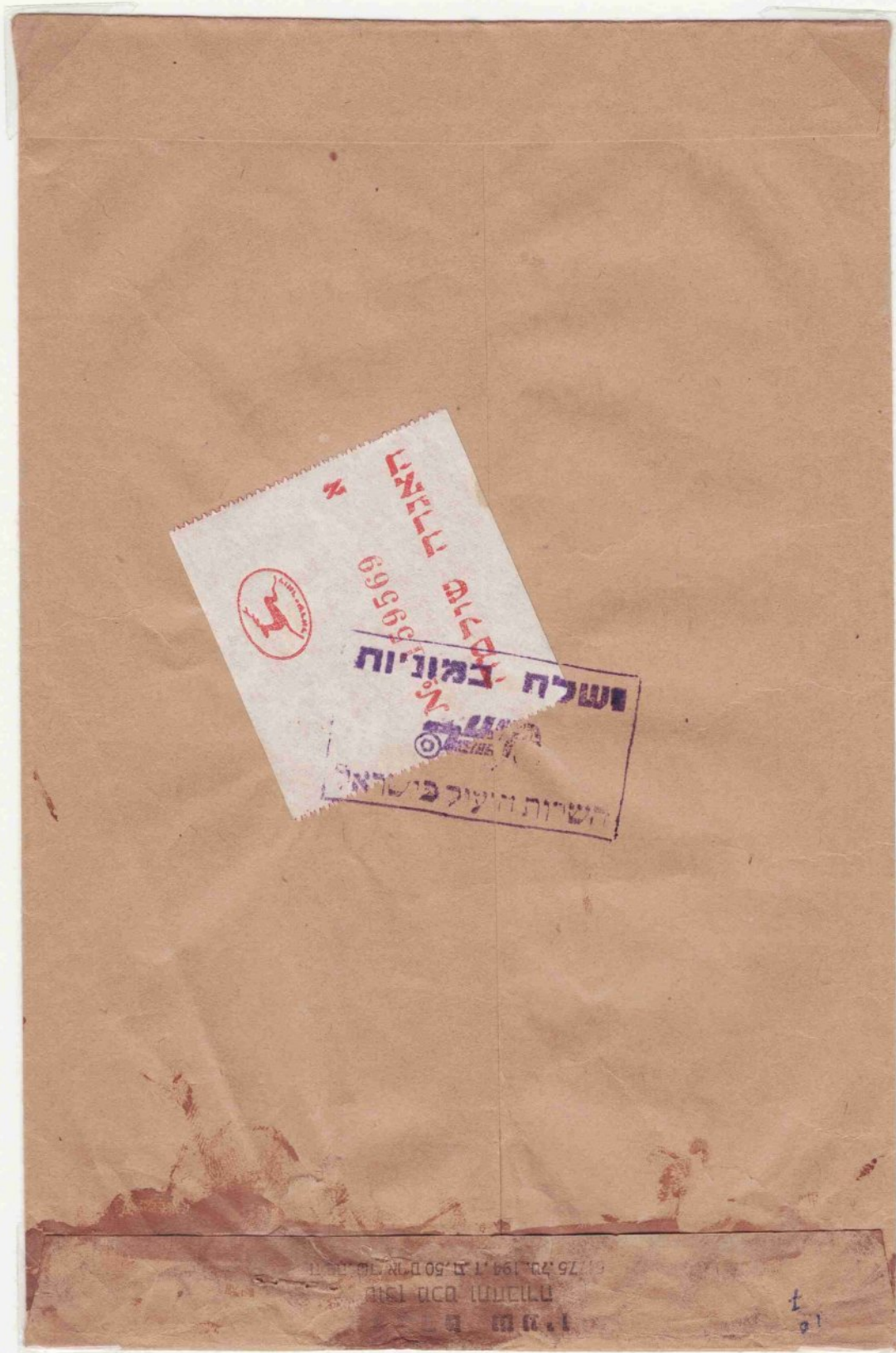


Letter sent from Jerusalem to Haifa by "Aviv" taxi company . Franked by type If taxi post stamp.

Front side

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

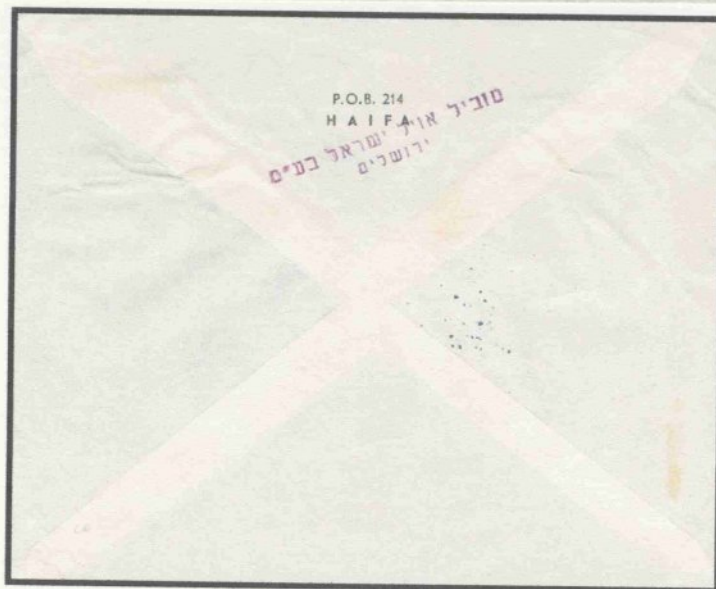
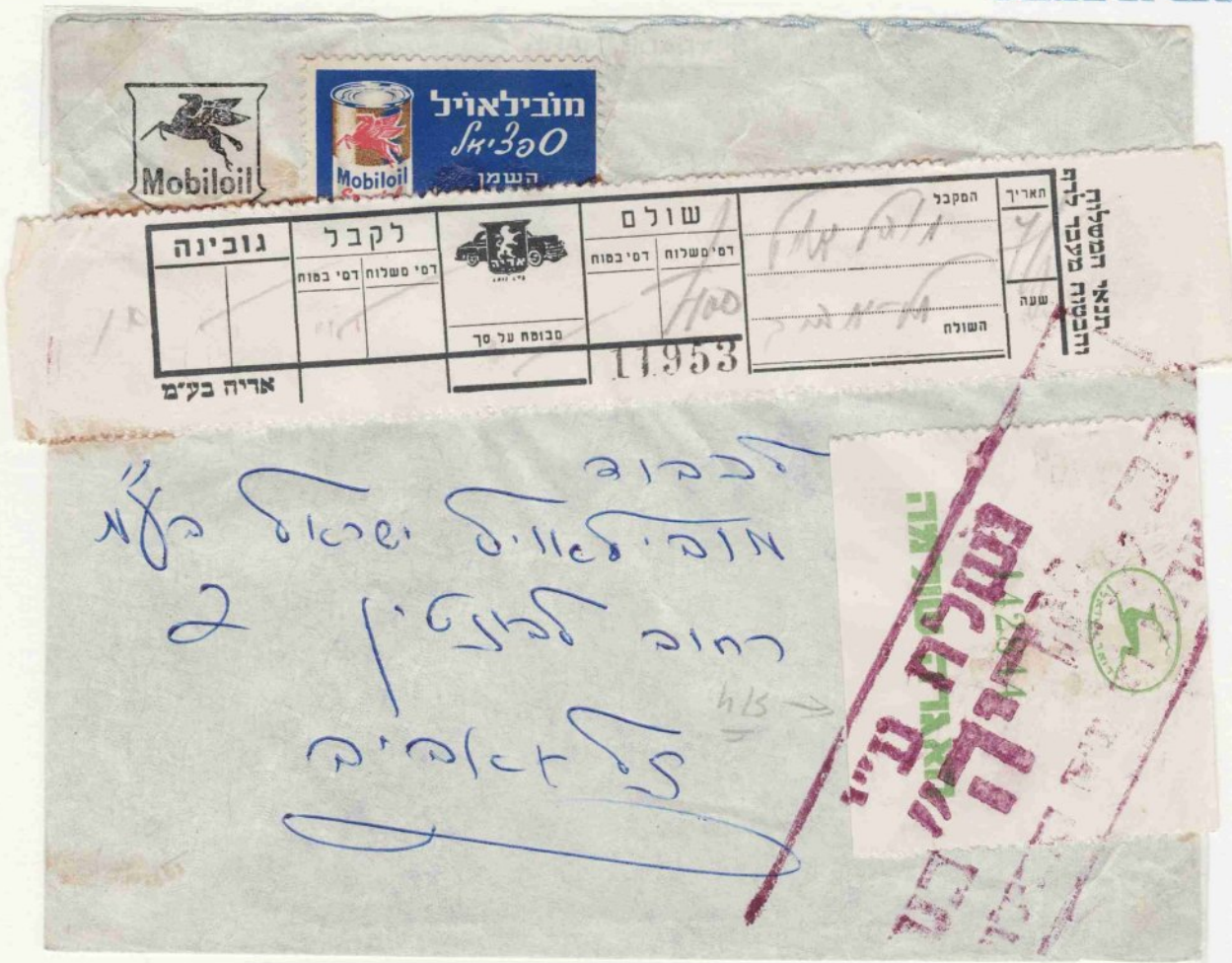
TYPE -IG



Letter sent from Haifa to Tel Aviv by "Keshet" taxi company . Franked by type Ig taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - II



Back side

Letter sent from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv by "Arie" taxi company . Fees of 0.4 IL were paid. Franked by type II taxi post stamp.

האגרה שולאה

Very thick & square font
Type II

האגרה שולמה

Thin & rounded font
Type III

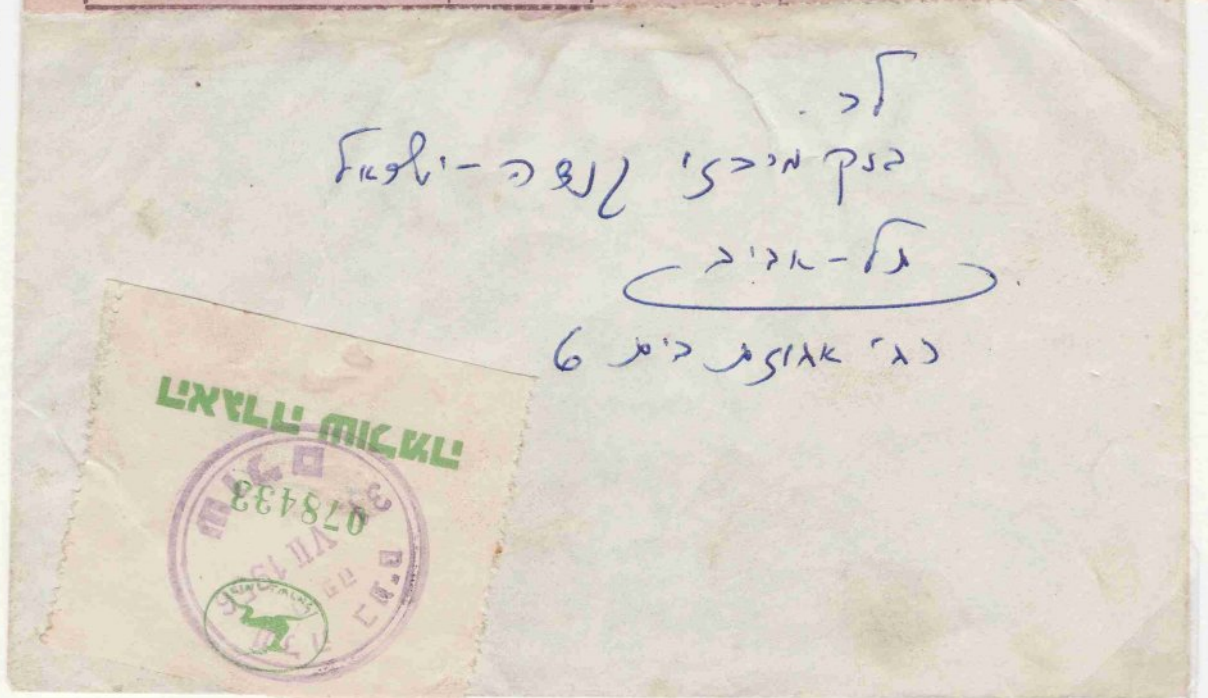
TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - II



אוביא		לקבל	טל. ת"א 6093, 5010, יפו 81568, חיפה 4204, 3811, ים 5706, 5922	
דמי מסלוח		דמי מסלוח	שולם	המסבל זכר איננו
דמי מסלוח		דמי מסלוח	דמי מסלוח	קנין
מבוסס על סך		מבוסס על סך	500	השונה
265094		תל-אביב		תוריד 81/4

Letter sent from Afula to Tel Aviv by "Aleh" taxi company. Fees of 0.5 IL were paid. Franked by type II taxi post stamp.



Letter sent from Tel Aviv to Haifa by "Arie" taxi company express service. Fees of 0.75 IL were paid. Franked by type II taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

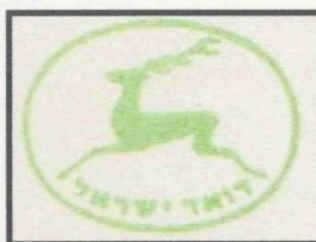
TYPE - III A



Three type IIIa stamps from different printings. It can be clearly seen that it was no strict control after the quality of printing and the size of the stamp and the place of the numerator vary. It also can be seen that the cliché was not cleaned properly and regularly and because of that the printing quality degraded considerably from printing to printing .



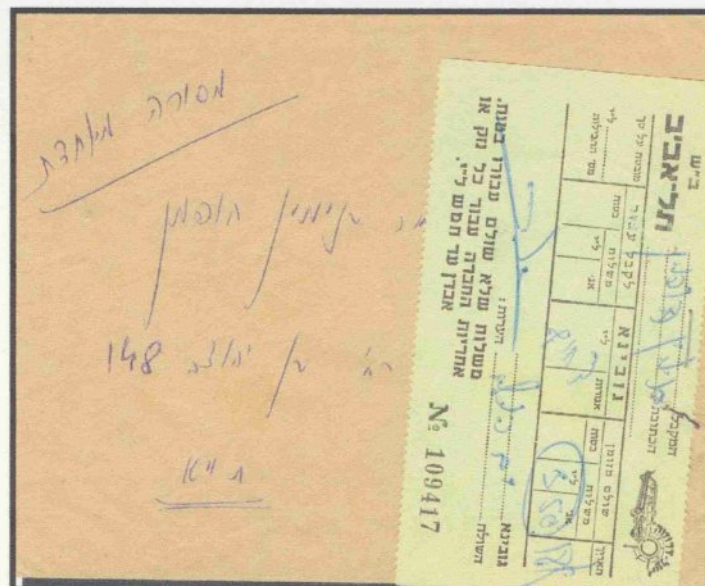
THIN LETTERS IN LOGO



THICK LETTERS IN LOGO

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - III C

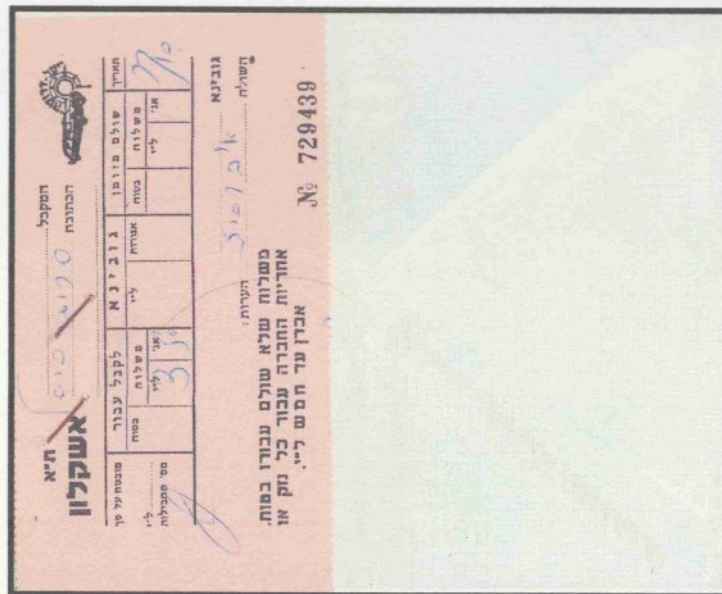


Front side

Letter sent from Beer Sheva to Tel Aviv by "Yael Daroma" taxi company . Fees of 3.5 IL were paid. Franked by type IIIc taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - III D

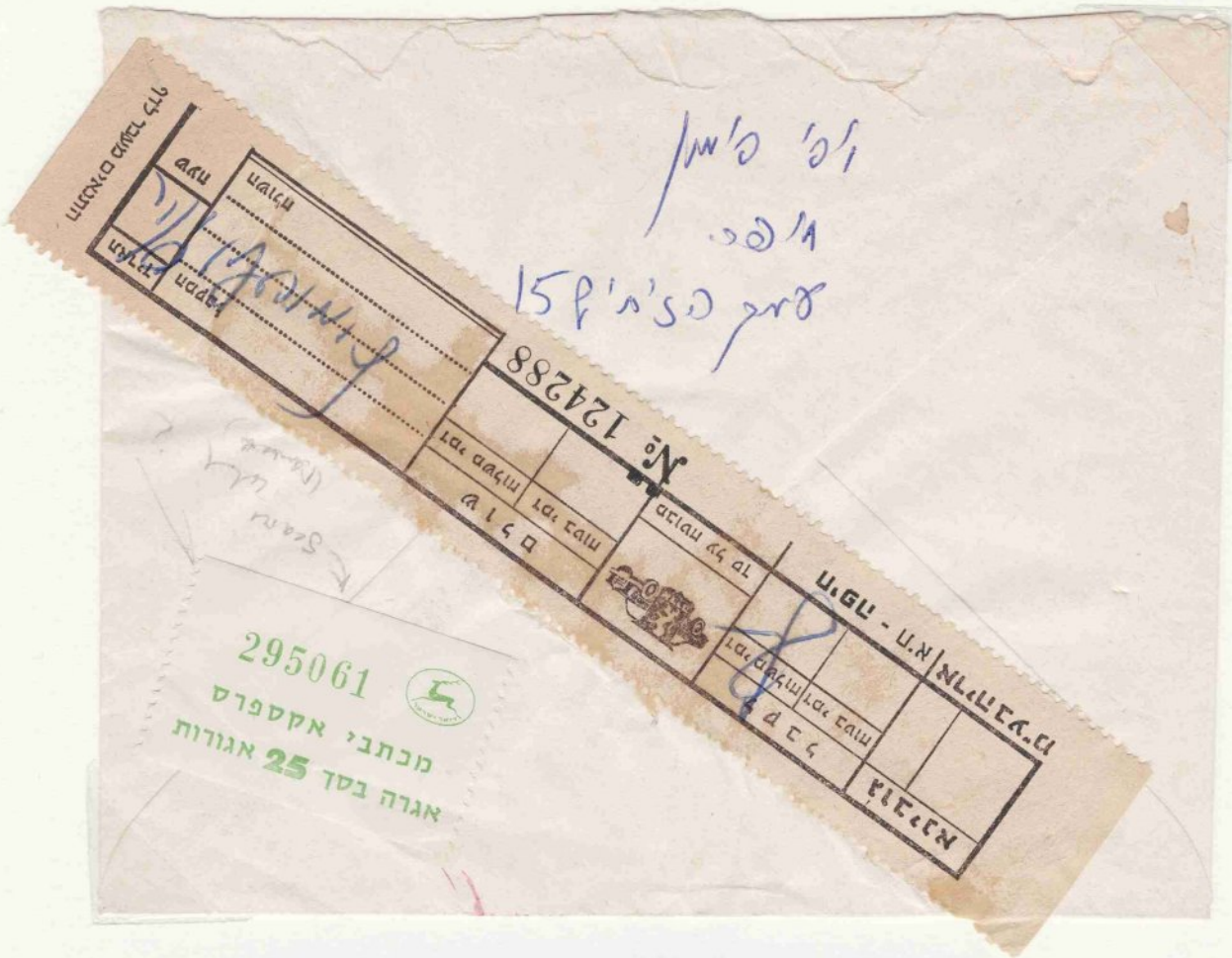


Back side

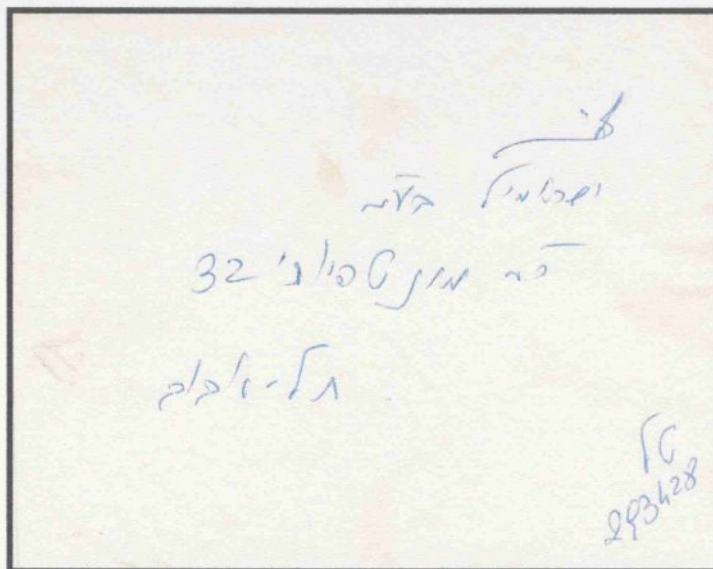
Letter sent from Tel Aviv to Ashqelon by "Yael Daroma" taxi company express service. Fees of 3.5 IL were paid. Franked by type III D taxi post stamp.

TAXI POST STAMPS OF ISRAEL

TYPE - IV



295061
 מכתבי אקספרס
 אגרה בסך 25 אגודות



Front side

Letter sent from Haifa to Tel Aviv by "Arie" taxi company . Fees of 8 IL were paid.
 Franked by type IV taxi post stamp.

