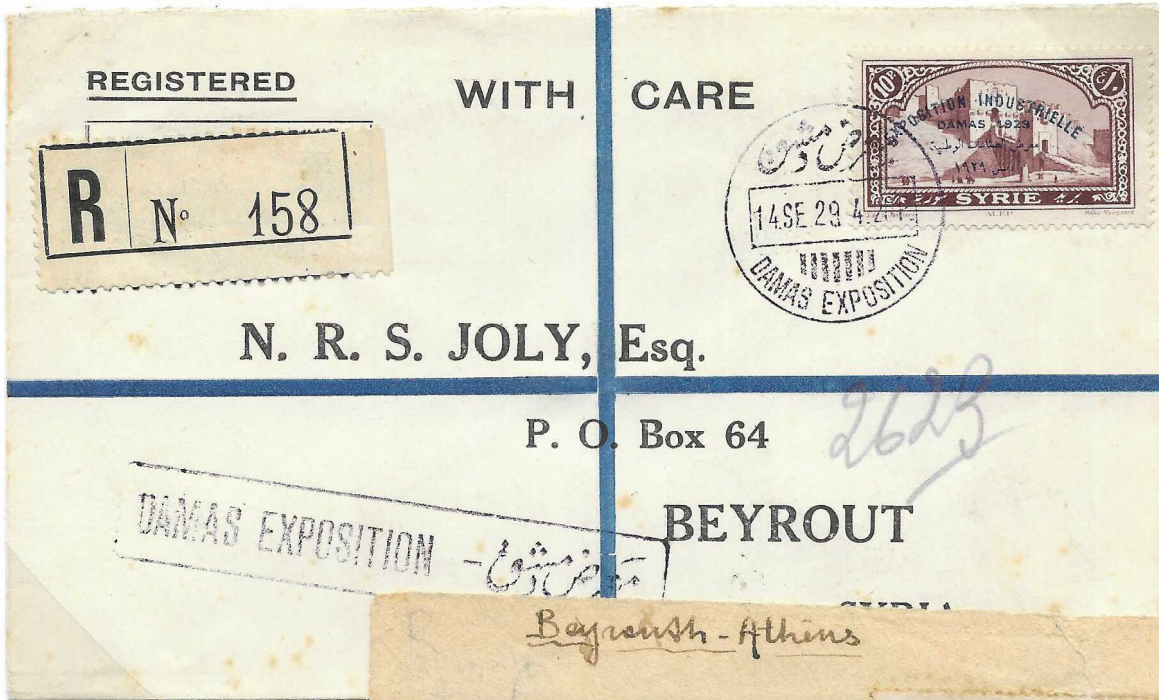


SYRIA II
Damascus Industrial Exhibition

Damas Exposition
10 September 1929
14 September 1929



On 5 September 1929 in honor of an Industrial Exposition in Damascus, the current regular postage and airmail stamps were overprinted "Exposition Industrielle/Damas 1929." Examples shown above on covers to Beirut and Romania. Note special postmark used at the exposition grounds.

SYRIA II
Second Pictorial Airmails

Damas
2 March 1938
29 December 1944



On 1 September 1937 a new set of pictorial airmails was issued, showing scenes of Aleppo and Damascus. Examples shown here, with one in mixed franking with the 1931 airmails.

SYRIA II
10th Anniversary of Airmail

Damas
16 July 1938



On 15 July 1938, a single airmail stamp was issued commemorating the 10th anniversary of the first direct airmail service between France and the Levant by Pilot Maurice Nogues. Cover received in New York on 1 August.

en cas de non livraison dans un délai de 3 jours retourner à l'expéditeur

Première liaison aéro postale France-Syrie

X^e année



FRANCE SYRIE
X^e ANNEE
الجمهورية السورية
الخامسة عشر
سنة
البريد الجوي
بين فرنسا وسوريا



RETOUR
A L'ENVOI

Madame Salah Ghazzi

Poste Restante

M A R S E I L L E
F R A N C E

الذكرى السنوية العاشرة لاول اتصال بريد جوي
بين فرنسا وسوريا



PAR AVION

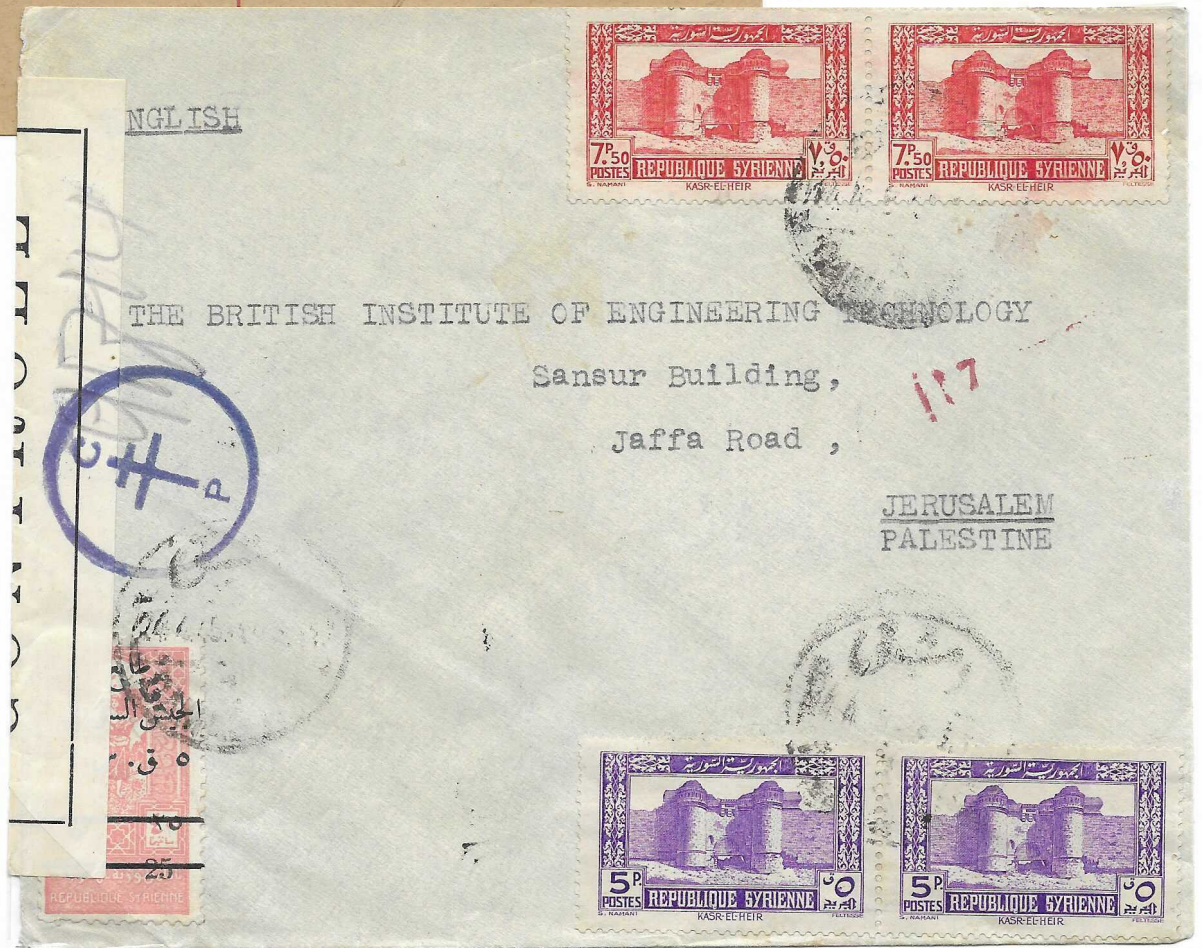
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رقم 145
N° 145

SYRIA II
Second Pictorials

Deir-el-Zor
25 June 1943

Damas
24 April 1943



A set of engraved pictorial stamps was issued in 1940, depicting various scenes in Syria. Examples shown on postal card to Lebanon and cover to Palestine.

SYRIA II
Third Pictorial Airmails

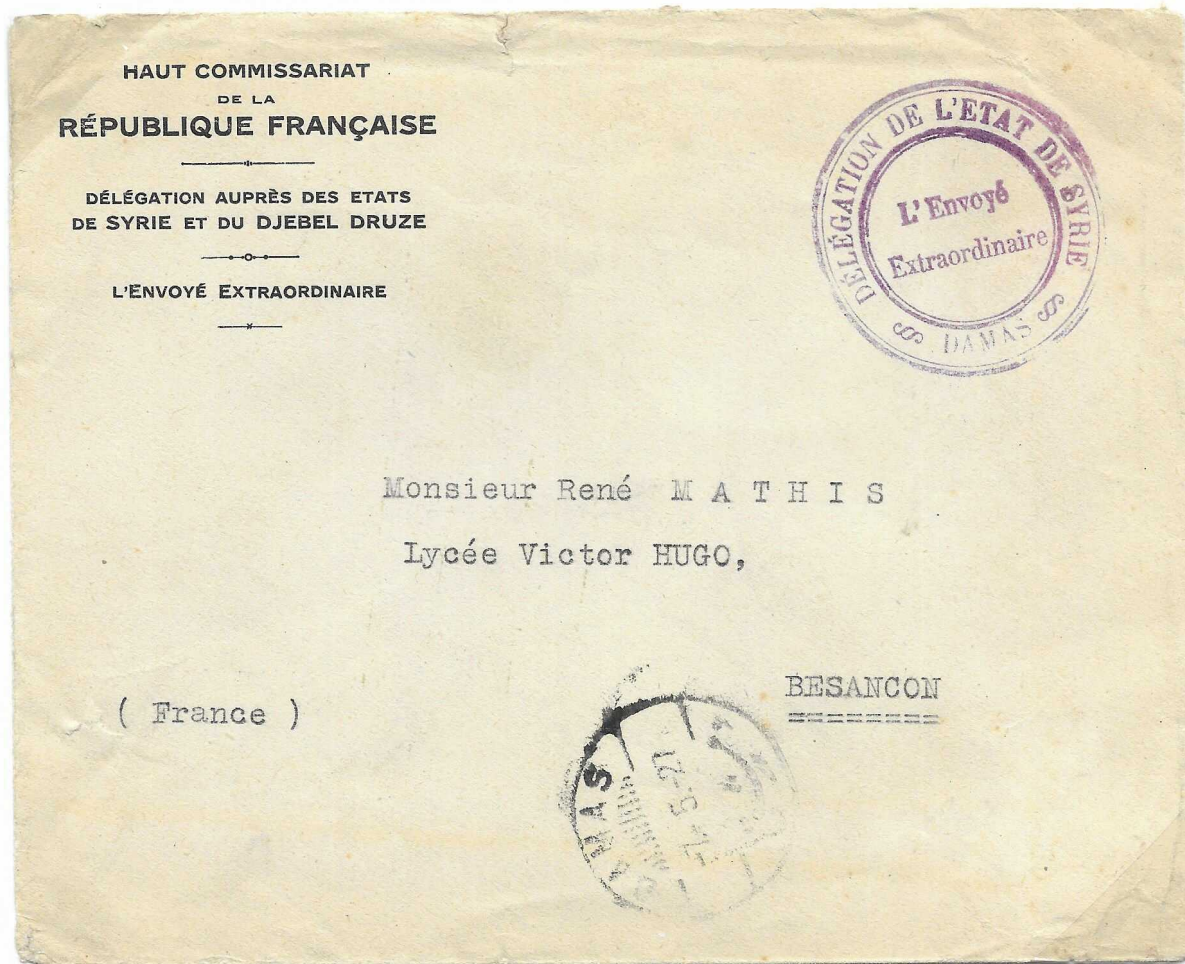
Damas-Salhie
15 May 1940



The final stamps issued for Syria during the French period was yet another set of airmails issued on 15 May 1940 depicting the bridge over the Euphrates at Deir-el-Zor. Shown here on a registered cover to Beirut.

SYRIA II
Official Mail

Damas
7 May 1927



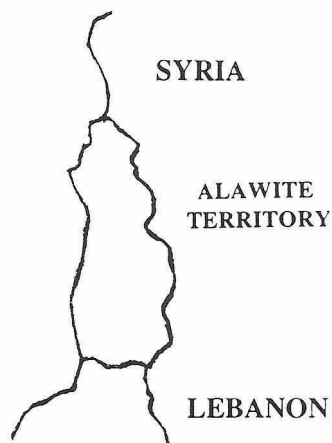
Official mail of the Delegation to the States of Syria and Djebel Druze sent from Damascus to France. With the official cachet of the Delegation, payment of postage was not required.



During the war, Trans-Atlantic airmail rates rose sharply due to longer routing. This cover from Latakia to New York City was franked with stamps paying postage of 101.50 piastres. Free French censor tape applied and marked with circular "CP (Postal Control)" and Cross of Lorraine.

ALAWITE TERRITORY

In 1923, the French became weary of Syrian resistance to their administration and decided on a "divide and conquer" policy under which different geographic areas and religious sects were granted various degrees of autonomy. Greater Lebanon became a separate French mandate, and the Alawite Territory (Alaouites in French) along the Mediterranean coast of Syria was set up as a separate state to be provided with its own postage stamps.



Djeble
January 1930



Official cover sent by a member of the French Delegation to the Alawite State from the town of Djeble to Paris. Backstamped in transit in Beirut on 8 January 1930 and for receipt in Paris on the 15th.

ALAWITE TERRITORY
First Overprints

Lattaquie
19 January 1925



The first stamps for the Alawite Territory were issued in January 1925, consisting of overprints inscribed "Alaouites" in French and Arabic as well as being surcharged in piastres. Above cover sent from Latakia to Mulhouse by the Director of Health, Hygiene and Public Assistance for the Alawite Territory. Received in Mulhouse on 30 January.

ALAWITE TERRITORY
First Airmail Overprints

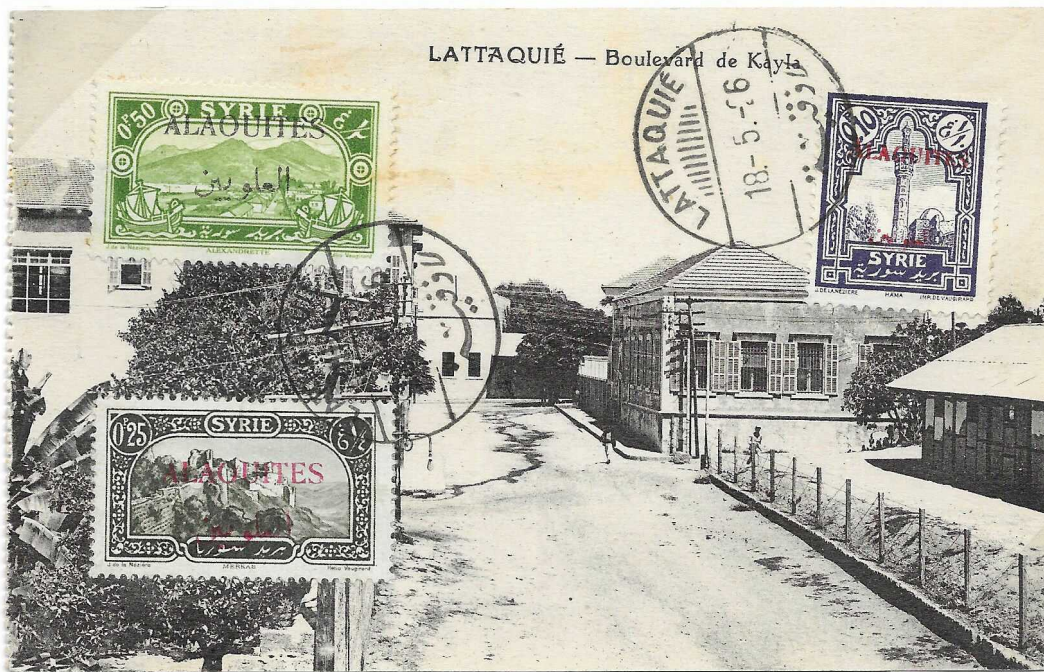
Tartous
18 January 1925



Airmail stamps for the Alawite Territory (12,595 sets) were also issued in January 1925, consisting of similar overprints inscribed "Alaouites" as well as "Avion" reading down along the right side. Above cover sent from Tartous to Damascus, where it was received the following day. In addition to the four issued values, a few copies of a prepared but unissued 2 piastres on 2 francs denomination came into philatelic hands.

ALAWITE TERRITORY
Second Overprints

Lattaquie
 18 May 1926
 13 December 1926



Later in 1925, a new set of overprints was issued, this time with "Alaouites" in French and Arabic on pictorial stamps of Syria. In addition, changes in rates in 1926-1928 required that some of these be surcharged with new values. Examples shown above on picture postcard to Senegal and registered cover to Massachusetts.

ALAWITE TERRITORY
Second Overprints

Lattaquie
26 March 1930
4 December 1931



Two interesting if philatelically influenced covers. The upper example is overfranked with the 25 piastre highest value of the set but was properly mailed to Germany, where it was received on 7 April. Lower cover has two different errors. The two postage stamps were intended to be surcharged 12 P. and are so designated in Arabic, but the French surcharge reads only 1 P. The two postage due stamps have double overprints. Backstamped for receipt in Haffé the following day.

ALAWITE TERRITORY
Second Overprints

Banias
11 February 1926

Safita
23 June 1929

Rouad
27 July 1934



Alawite covers used from the smaller post offices are an entirely different matter. Examples such as those shown above are distinctly elusive.

