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Authoritative Expertizing, Since 1970, of the Stamps and Postal History of Egypt and Sudan

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After a thorough and careful study of the item submitted to me for authentication as EGYPT, 1922 (28<sup>th</sup> June), 3 millièmes orange (of December, 1921), with bilingual (English / Arabic) "O.H.S. / أميري" overprint, lithographed in black, a mint block of four, with never-hinged, full original gum — Nile Post #020 / #020a / #020c; Balian #166 / #166a / #166d; Zeheri Official #19 / varieties of #19; Stanley Gibbons #0100 / varieties of #0100; Scott #019 / varieties of #019 — of which an exact-size, color photograph is affixed to this document, I hereby certify it to be .....

## GENUINE IN ALL RESPECTS

"O.H.S."

The أميري overprints of March–June 1922 were applied by two different lithographic stones, each of one hundred images (ten by ten) — designated by me as stone 'A' and stone 'B'. Each stone was prepared by means of four transfers of a 'matrix' of twenty-five types (five by five) taken from a common intermediate stone. Original full sheets of two hundred stamps of the 1m, 2m, 3m and 5m denominations were separated into upper and lower panes of one hundred stamps, and were then overprinted randomly by stone 'A' or stone 'B'. It is therefore the case that impressions from both stones occur with nearly equal frequency on upper and lower panes of each of the four values. This submitted block is fully sound and well-centered, with some miniscule, and insignificant, tone spots on its gum. It is from positions #15-16 over 25-26 of a lower pane (sheet positions #115-116 over 125-126), overprinted by pos. #15-16 over 25-26 of litho stone 'B' (subtypes 10-6 over 15-11 of the 25-subtype matrix). The left-hand stamp of its lower pair shows the variety, 'short upper end of "S"' (matrix subtype 15 ... Nile Post #020c, Balian #166d), and the right-hand stamp of its lower pair shows the compound variety, 'large "hamza"' (س as opposed to ع, ع, ع, ع, etc.) / 'left-hand leg of first "H" short at base' (matrix subtype 11 ... Nile Post #020a, Balian #166a). Although the respective quantities of stamps overprinted are not known for this issue, that of the 3 mills was very small indeed, and it is unquestionably one of the scarcest Official stamps of Egypt. For that reason, forgeries of this overprint are particularly abundant on the 3 mills value. To my knowledge, the submitted block has not been certified previously by any expert or expert committee. I have applied, in violet, my "C. F. Hass" authentication mark to the reverse of its northwest stamp.

Charles F. Hass

29<sup>th</sup> April, 2003



Certificate No. 2003-014 (\*©2003)

Submitted by Mr. Paul D. Frank