PERFIN of THE SHELL COMPANY OF EGYPT LTD

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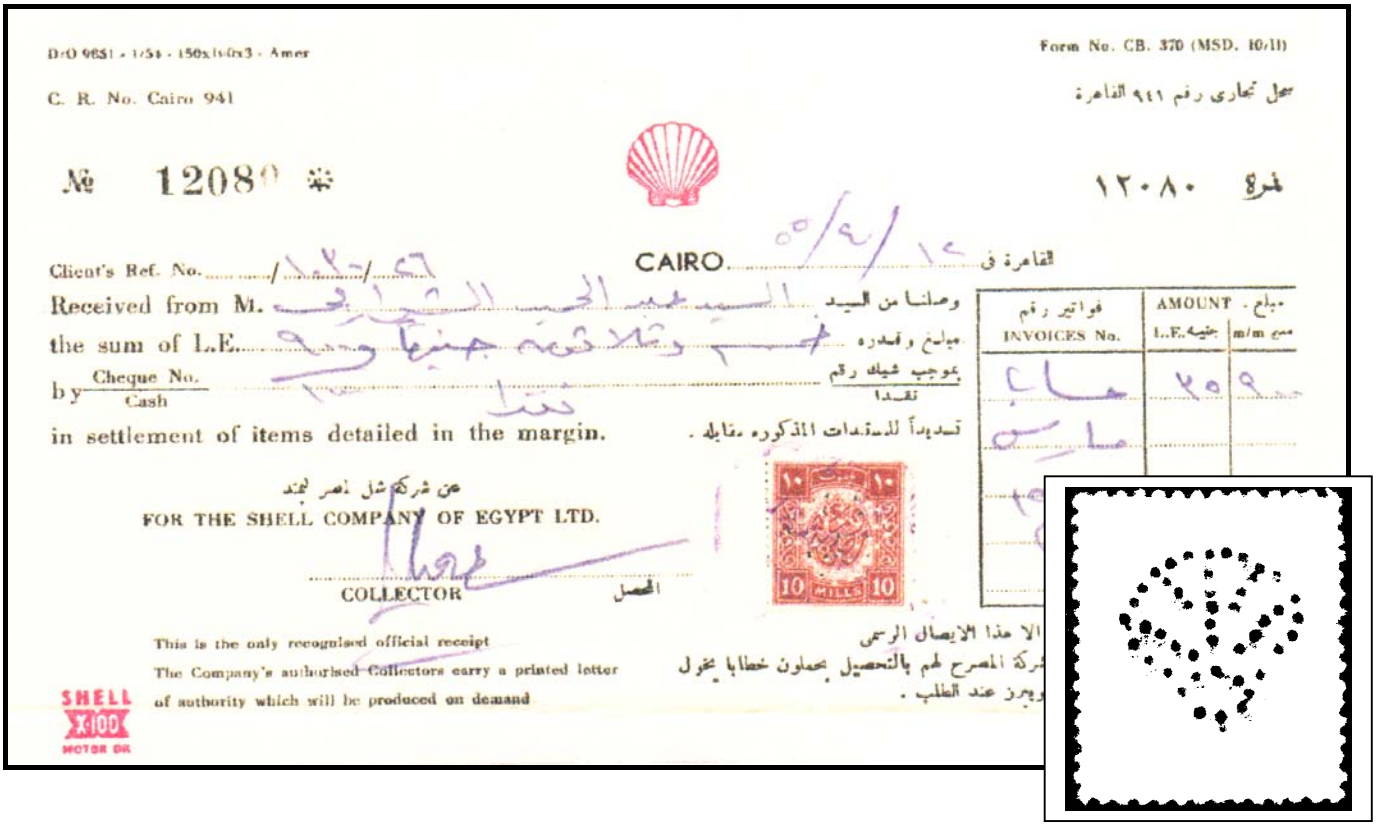
It is the greatest pleasure to someone who makes studies in philately and searches to find items which have not been recorded. This is the case with perfins. It is not easy to find new identities for companies using perfins on Egyptian stamps.

Since publishing my *Catalogue of Egyptian Perfins* I have often been asked if I know the origin of the perfin which was something like the old Pharaonic lotus flower.

Last month, whilst checking some invoices, I found a 10 Mills (brown) 1939-49 Tax Stamp punctured with a Sea Shell shape (46 holes). The invoice was from The Shell Company of Egypt and dated 12/4/1955. What a coincidence. It would seem that Shell was using their perfin only for tax stamps to put on invoices and receipts.

After Nasser nationalised the foreign companies in Egypt in 1960, Shell Company became MISR PETROLEUM CO.