

## Indochinese Culture Official Use Overprints

Indochina created its first series of official stamps by overprinting the Indochinese Culture stamps in 1933.



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Varieties

INVERTED OVERPRINTS



OVERPRINT SHIFTED LEFT



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Imperforate Varieties



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Postmarks



HAIPHONG  
TONKIN



HANOI R.P.  
TONKIN



SAIGON-CENTRAL  
COCHINCHINE



BACLIEU  
COCHINCHINE



BIEHHOA  
COCHINCHINE



HAIPHONG DOCKS  
TONKIN



HAIPHONG  
TONKIN



HANOI R.P.  
TONKIN



FORT-BAYARD  
KOUANG TCHEOU WAN



KAMPOT  
CAMBODGE



MAO-KHE  
TONKIN



NINHCHU  
ANNAM



PHNOM-PENH  
CAMBODGE



QUANG-YEN  
TONKIN



SADEC  
COCHINCHINE



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Postmarks



SAIGON-CENTRAL  
COCHINCHINE



SAM-NUA  
LAOS



SAVANNAKHET  
LAOS



THANH-HOA  
ANNAM



TUYEN-QUANG  
TONKIN



TUY-HOA  
ANNAM



UONGI-BE  
TONKIN

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 1 and 5 cents

In 1933, two official stamps were added to a return envelope pre-franked with a 50 centime French stamp. Lest there be any doubt about the official nature of the correspondence, the envelope was handstamped in blue at the lower left "PLI DE SERVICE." It also bears the seal of the mayor of Hanoi, likewise in blue.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 11-4 33

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 1 and 10 cents

The address label affixed to a French-Vietnamese dual-language publication bears 30 cents worth of postage composed of 1-cent and 10-cent official stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
BACLIEU COCHINCHINE 8-5 33



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 5 cents

When official stamps are used on plain envelopes, they are easy to overlook. Here, a letter sent on the day after Christmas to an engineer with the French Tramways Company was franked with a 5cent official postage stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
BEN CAT COCHINCHINE 26-12 33  
REVERSE  
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 26-12 33



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 cents

Until 1937, the letter rate to France was 6 cents. In 1934, a staff member at the Cancer Prevention Agency, employing the organization's privilege as part of the colonial government, mailed a letter to Paris using an official 6 cent stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 2-2 34

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 cents

The sender in the Cochinchinese Treasurer's office affixed a 6-cent official stamp on a letter to Pondicherry, French India in 1934. Letters anywhere within the French Community were charged 6 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 8 AOUT 34  
REVERSE  
INDE PONDICHERRY 20 JUIL 1934



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 cents

The sender in the Tonkin Resident Superior's office affixed a 6-cent official stamp on a letter to Germany in 1935. Although the foreign letter rate was 15 cents at the time, the governmental cover exhibits no indication of any attempt to collect postage due.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
PHU-THO TONKIN 14-10 35  
REVERSE  
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 15-10 35  
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 19-10 35  
LAUTERBACH (HESSEN) 21.II.35

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 and 10 cents

Sent by a member of the Cambodian Resident Superior's cabinet, this letter carried 36 cents worth of official postage for an airmail service to Marseille in 1935.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 26-11 35  
airmail label  
two-line PAR AVION JUSQU'À MARSEILLE

REVERSE

MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION B<sup>CHES</sup> DU RHONE 9 • XII 1935  
MARSEILLE ARIVEE B<sup>CHES</sup> DU RHONE 9 • XII 1935



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 and 10 cents

Effective 19 March 1930, the surcharge for airmail service was set at 60 centimes per 10 grams. The same fee applied to official mail. In the case of this 1934 airmail letter from the Head of Marine Services in Saigon to Marseilles, postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	6 cents
<u>airmail surcharge</u>	<u>60 cents</u>
total	66 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 19-5 34  
airmail rate certification handstamp

REVERSE

MARSEILLE ARRIVEE BCHES DU RHONE 27 • V 1934

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 6 and 60 cents

Effective 19 March 1930, the surcharge for airmail service was set at 60 centimes per 10 grams. The same fee applied to official mail. In the case of this 1934 airmail letter from the Head of Marine Services in Saigon to Marseilles, postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	6 cents
<u>airmail surcharge</u>	<u>60 cents</u>
total	66 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 19-5 34  
airmail rate certification handstamp

REVERSE

MARSEILLE ARRIVEE BCHES DU RHONE 27 • V 1934

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 10 cents

The cachet and signature at the lower left certify the official nature of the mailing. Because the letter was double weight, a 10 cent stamp was affixed for postage.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
LONGXUYEN COCHINCHINE 22-4 33  
REVERSE  
CAN-THO COCHINCHINE 23-4 33

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 15 cents

A single 15-cent brown official overprint was used along with two regular definitives to pay the 36-cent rate to France in 1933. One of the definitive stamps was the basic 15-cent brown of the Indochinese Culture series.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 15-7 33  
airmail rate certification handstamp

REVERSE

PARIS -R.P. DISTRIBON 24 • VII 1933



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 21 cents

Postage for a registered letter from the Annam Treasury to France was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	6 cents
registration fee	15 cents
total	21 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

HUE ANAM 23-5 34  
registration label

REVERSE

PERIGUEUX DORDOGNE 1-7 34  
BERGERAC DORDOGNE 2-7 34

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 60 cents

While official stamps were supposed to be limited to governmental use exclusively, occasionally stamps that found their way into private hands were put to use for commercial mailings.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON RP SUD VIETNAM 30-8 1950

Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Use of 60 cents

This small card was provided to a ship passenger by the “Messageries Maritimes” Company in 1953. Space was provided for entering the passenger’s name, travel class, dining room table and seating for dinner. Also, two spaces were provided for police and customs officials to enter handstamps. The official stamps no doubt served to verify that entry fees had been properly paid.

Nom du Passager <u>SE JEAN Francois</u> Classe <u>1ère</u>	
Table	VISA POLICE VU AU DEPART JAN 1953 SAIGON REPUBLIQUE DU VIET-NAM
Serv	VISA DOUANE Vu au départ le 9.8.53. <i>[Signature]</i>

Two 60c postage stamps from Indochina (Postes-Indochine) are affixed to the left side of the card.

POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 9-8 1953



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Usage

The supplementary fee for airmail service was 30 cents per 10 grams. Here a heavy letter from the Merchant Marine Service was franked with official stamps for a triple airmail charge.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 3-6 33  
airmail label  
airmail rate certification handstamp

REVERSE

MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION B<sup>CHES</sup> DU RHONE 11 • VI 1933



Indochinese Culture  
Official Use Overprints  
Usage

A 1934 envelope from the Agronomic Research Institute was franked with five different denominations of official stamps representing all four designs from the Indochinese Culture series: Junk, Angkor Thom, Rice Farmer and Apsaras.



POSTAL MARKINGS  
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 21-4 34  
airmail label  
airmail rate certification handstamp  
REVERSE  
MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION 29-4 34