Soon after the start of World War II, the post office raised the letter rate to France to 10 cents. Here the sender placed the 10 cents blue stamp over the "PAR AVION" imprint to ensure that the letter went by surface mail.



POSTAL MARKINGS
DOSON TONKIN 15-2 41
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 16-2 41

The Arrête of 31 January 1935 announced that the surcharge for airmail within Indochina was 5 cents per 5 grams or fraction of 5 grams. As a result, postage for this letter was computed as follows:

internal letter rate	5 cents
airmail surcharge	5 cents
total	10 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 10-8 37
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 11-8 37

Expedited service (SERVICE ACCÉLÉRÉ) by automobile instead of horse-drawn postal wagons required a 5-cent fee in addition to the 5 cents postage.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29-10 32
expedited service label
REVERSE
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 29-10 32

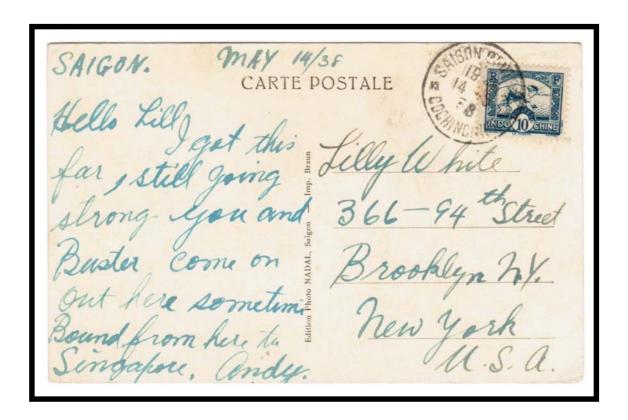
A 10-cent Indochinese Culture underpaid the 15-cent foreign letter rate, which had been in effect since 1932. In accordance with UPU rules, a manuscript note indicated that the amount due was 0.20 gold francs. Blue crayon shows that this equated to 1.75 Luxembourg francs.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHAN-TIET ANNAM 23-11 34
"insufficiently franked" handstamp and T in triangle due marking
manuscript due amounts
LUXEMBOURG VILLE VII 21.12.34

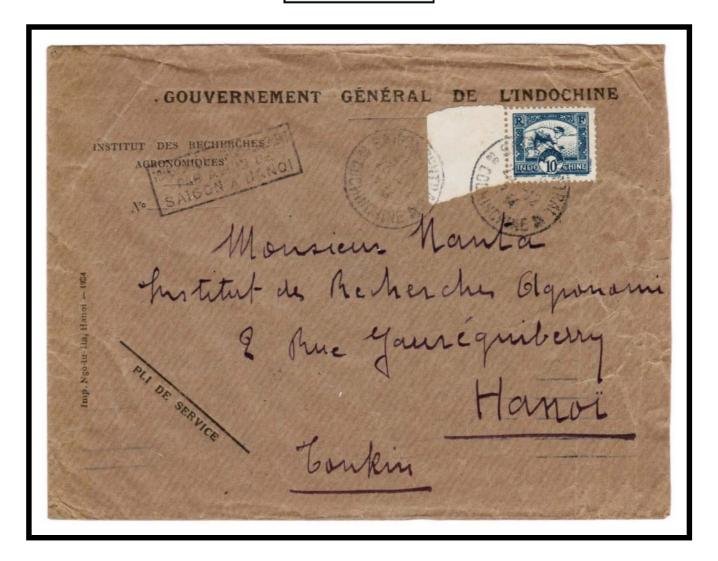
Initially, the 10-cent value was printed with blue ink on white paper. A single stamp paid for delivery of a postcard from Saigon to the United States. Effective 1 April 1938, the rate for postcards addressed to foreign destinations became 10 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 14-5 38

A second weight step (20-50 grams) letter from the Agronomy Research Institute was carried by Air France's trial flight on 23 December 1934 from Saigon to Hanoi. To promote airmail service, mail was handstamped with an "exceptional transport service" marking. The flight arrived at Hanoi on Christmas Eve 1934.

TRANSPORTE EXCEPTIONNNELLMENT
PAR AVION DE
SAIGON À HANOI



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 23-12 34
propaganda handstamp

REVERSE

HANOI R-P TONKIN 24 DEC 34

With additional postage on the reverse, a pair of 10-cent blue Indochinese Culture stamps paid for airmail and registration of bank correspondence sent to Paris.



POSTAL MARKINGS

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 4-2 39
airmail and registration labels

REVERSE

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 4-2 39 SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 4-2 39

In 1932, two 10-cent blue stamps paid for a registered mailing within Cochinchina. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	5 cents
registration fee	15 cents
total	20 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHUNGHIEP COCHINCHINE 12-7 32
registration label

REVERSE

CAN-THO COCHINCHINE 12-7 32

In 1932, postage for an internal registered letter was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	5 cents
registry fee	15 cents
total	20 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

VINHLONG COCHINCHINE 8-11 32 registration label "Too Late" handstamp

REVERSE

CAN-THO COCHINCHINE 9-11 32

Postage for a registered mailing to India in 1930 was overpaid with three 10 cents blue Indochinese Culture Stamps. Postage was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate (0-20 grams)	10 cents
registration fee	15 cents
convenience charge	5 cents
total	30 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON B COCHINCHINE 4-2 33
plain R with manuscript registration number

Members of the military could send surface rate letters within the French Community for free. Here an officer affixed 30 cents worth of postage to pay the surcharge for airmail service to France.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SEPT PAGODES TONKIN 21-12 39
REVERSE
HANOI R.P BIS TONKIN 22-12 39

LA FLECHE SARTHE 29-12 39

For official governmental correspondence handstamped "TRES URGENT," four 10-cent blue Indochinese Culture stamps were employed for airmail service to Marseilles in 1940.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29-3 40
airmail label

Six examples of the 10-cent blue Indochinese Culture definitive stamps, coupled with 21 cents on the reverse, made up the postage for a 1932 mailing to France. Postage was calculated as:

letter rate to France	6 cents
registration fee	15 cents
airmail surcharge	60 cents
total	81 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 18-3 32 airmail and registration labels

REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 18-3 32 SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 22-3 32 MARSEILLE-GARE BCHES DU RHONE 5 • 4 1932

Posted from Xaunloc, Cochinchina to Scotland via airmail service for the Saigonto-Marseilles leg, postage for this mailing was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate	10 cents
airmail surcharge	60 cents
total	70 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

XUANLOC COCHINCHINE 4-8 32

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 5-8 32

In 1940, the sender attempted to use an Argentinean envelope in reverse from Indochina to Buenos Aires. The letter was determined to be underpaid and cited for postage due in the amount of 0.6602 gold francs.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 13-6 40 large T with manuscript amount due "S" in triangle

REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 14-6 40 BUENOS AIRES ARGENTINA 1940

With an additional 1\$50 worth of postage on the reverse, two of the 10-cent ultramarine stamps paid the postage for airmail service to France in 1947.



POSTAL MARKINGS

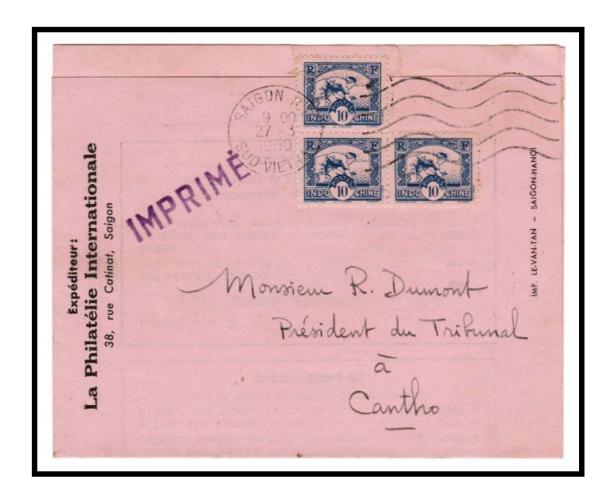
DALAT ANNAM 18-3 47

REVERSE

DALAT ANNAM 18-3 47

SAIGON R. P. COCHINCHINE 20-3 47

Printed matter (IMPRIMÉ) could be sent at rates much less than regular rates. Here a philatelic price list was mailed for only 30 cents at a time when the local letter rate was 1\$20, four times larger.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. SUD VIET-NAM 27-3 1950
REVERSE
CANTHO SUD VIET-NAM 28-3 1950

Postage in the amount of 3\$90 on the reverse, plus 30 cents on the front made the total postage 4\$20 for an internal registered letter in 1950. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	1\$20
registration fee	3\$00
total	4\$20



POSTAL MARKINGS

PHANRANG CENTRE VIET-NAM 24-3 1950 registration label

REVERSE

PHANRANG CENTRE VIET-NAM 24-3 1950 DALAT PLATEAUX INDOCHINOIS 25-3 1950 SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 27-3 1950

Up to October 1951, regular internal letters were 1\$20. This letter may have qualified for a much-reduced local drop letter rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS

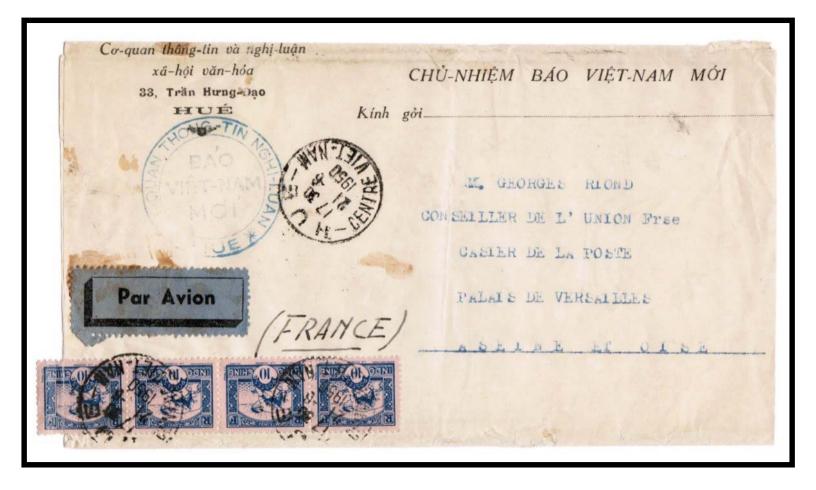
DALAT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 5-7 1951

Effective 8 November 1946, the internal letter rate doubled from 20 cents to 40 cents. A strip of four examples of the 10-cent ultramarine served as postage for a local letter within Hue in October 1947.



POSTAL MARKINGS HUE ANNAM 25-10 47

In combination with 4 piasters worth of stamps on the reverse, the total postage paid for this 1950 airmail letter to France was 4\$40. The imprinted information identifies the sender as the editor of the *New Viet Nam Journal* located in Hue.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUE CENTRE VIET-NAM 21-6 1950
airmail label
REVERSE
HUE CENTRE VIET-NAM 23-6 1950

A 1949 airmail letter to France was franked with a block of six 10-cent ultramarine definitive stamps. A postal meter in the amount of 1.80 piasters was printed over top of the stamps. Postage for the letter was calculated as:

letter rate to France	1.20 piasters
supplementary airmail fee	1.20 piasters
total	2.40 piasters



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. NORD VIETNAM 1-8 1949
1 AOU 49 HANOI R.P. (meter)

With another 3\$50 worth of stamps on the reverse, seven copies of the 10-cent ultramarine Indochinese Culture stamp made the total postage 4\$20 on a letter to Switzerland in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS

DALAT PLATEAUX INDOCHINOIS 19-10 1951

REVERSE

DALAT PLATEAUX INDOCHINOIS 19-10 1951

Starting in World War II, the colors of the 10-cent stamp were changed to ultramarine on pink – only the second denomination of the series to be printed on colored paper. Here, eight copies of the 10-cent ultramarine stamp paid for delivering an internal letter on Christmas Eve in 1948.



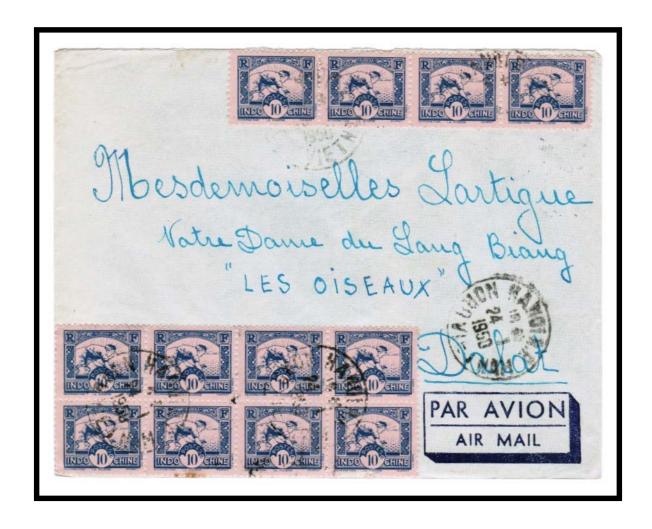
POSTAL MARKINGS

DALAT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 24-12 48

REVERSE

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 24-12 48

Twelve 10-cent stamps paid the internal airmail rate in 1950. When postal rates were adjusted at the end of 1948, the airmail surcharge for internal letters less than 10 grams was eliminated. Hence, the 1.20 piasters worth of postage covering the internal letter rate for this letter from Hanoi to Dalat also satisfied charges for airmail service.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. NORD VIET NAM 24-1 1950
REVERSE
DALAT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 26-1 1950

Twelve copies of the 10-cent ultramarine definitive stamp paid for surface mail service to France in 1950. Effective 1 February 1949, the rate for surface mail to France rose from 60 cents to 1.20 piasters.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 10-4 1950

MARSEILLE-REPUBLIQUE B R 30 SEPT 50

Fifteen copies of the 10-cent ultramarine stamp paid for airmail service to France in 1948. Effective 5 July 1948, the letter rate to France had risen from 40 cents to cents, making the letter underpaid. There is no evidence of the letter having been cited for postage due.

This is an example of an envelope fabricated from lined notepaper.



POSTAL MARKINGS
DALAT ANNAM 8-8 48



In 1951, twenty-two copies of the 10-cent ultramarine stamp were affixed to a Foreign Service envelope posted from the American Information Service branch located at Pnompenh.

POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-9 1951
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 28-9 1951
REVERSE
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-9 1951

Cambodia issued its first stamp, the 1\$50 Sihanouk, on 3 November 1951. Use of Indochinese stamps was tolerated until the following April. This cover was posted on 1 February 1952, the first day of issue for the remaining values of the first issue.



POSTAL MARKINGS
BATTAMBANG CAMBODGE 1-2 1952
REVERSE

ROYAUME DU CAMBODGE PREMIER EMISSION DE TIMBRES POSTENATIONAUX 1-2 1952

Indochinese Culture Use of 15 cents brown

The 15-cent brown Indochinese Culture stamp paid the postage for a surface rate mailing to Bangkok, Thailand in 1932. Effective 1 October 1932, the foreign letter rate increased from 10 cents to 15 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 28-11 32
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 28-11 32
BANGKOK G. P.O. 1. 12. 32

Indochinese Culture Use of 15 cents brown

A pair of 15-cent brown stamps paid for an internal registered letter via expedited service. For a 5-cent charge, a sender could ensure that his letter went by a fast vehicle that connected sections of the yet incomplete Trans-Indochina Railway.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TAM-KY ANNAM 18-11 32 registration and expedited service labels

REVERSE

TOURANE ANNAM ANNAM 18-11 32 HA-NOI R.P. TONKIN 21-11 32

Indochinese Culture Use of 15 cents brown

Postage for an airmail letter to England in 1933 was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate	15 cents
airmail surcharge	30 cents
total	45 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 12-8 33 rate certification handstamp framed Saigon Marseille routing instruction

REVERSE

MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION BCHES DU RHONE 20 • VIII 1933

A single 15-cent blue rice farmer stamp paid for delivery to a foreign destination in 1937. The foreign letter rate remained at 15 cents from 1932 through 1939.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COMMERCE COCHINCHINE 26-11 37

Since 1932, the foreign letter rate had been 15 cents. To promote the use of airmail, the surcharge was sometimes not applied on first flight letters. In this case, the 15-cent stamp was perforated with the initials "BIC" as a bank security measure.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R.P TONKIN 4-2 36 airmail label flight cachet

REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 17-2 36 CANTON 23.2.25 CANTON S.O. No. 4 23.2.25

Posted on the last day of 1935, postage for a letter to the United States was paid with a 15-cents blue Indochinese Culture definitive stamp. At the top, was the sender's instruction that the letter should go via the *S.S. d'Entrecaoteaux*.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON COMMERCE COCHINCHINE 31-12 35

A single 15 cents blue stamp paid for surface rate service from Laokay, Tonkin to Brussels, Belgium in 1936. At the time, the foreign postcard rate was 9 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS LAOKAY TONKIN 8-9 36 framed BM

To pay the foreign postage rate for a picture postcard sent from Saigon to Switzerland in 1941, the sender affixed a 15-cent blue Indochinese Culture stamp. Effective 1 February 1940, the foreign postcard rate increased from 13 cents to 15 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 6-3 41

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Two blue 15-cents definitive stamps paid the registered letter rate to India in 1937. Postage was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate	15 cents
registration fee	15 cents
total	30 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 16-1 37
registration label

REVERSE

MADURA-F 25 JAN. 37 ATTANGUDI 26 JAN. 37

Postage for a surface rate, registered letter to Canada in 1937 was paid with a pair of 15-cent definitive stamps. Even though the registration fee for foreign letters had risen to 20 cents on 6 October 1937, the former fee was charged.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 24-11 37
registration label

REVERSE
CHICAGO, ILL REGISTRY DIV. DEC 24 1937
BUFFALO, N.Y. REGISTERED DEC 25 1937
TORONTO ONT. REG. DIV. TERMINAL DE 25 37
PETERBOROUGH DE 25 37

The 6-cent internal letter rate had been in effect since 1938. However, effective 16 April 1942, the registration fee had increased to 30 cents. Here, a pair of 15-cent blue definitive stamps contributed to the 36 cents total postage for a local, registered letter in mid 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 12-6 43 registration label manuscript "Vaguemestre"

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 12-6 43

Three 15-cent definitive stamps paid the airmail letter rate to Germany in 1934. Postage was computed as follows:

foreign letter rate	15 cents
airmail fee	30 cents
total	45 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 29-9 34

In accordance with the Decision of 9 October 1939, the airmail rate to Morocco rose to 35 cents making the required postage 45 cents (10 cents + 35 cents).



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAIPHONG TONKIN 5-7 40 censor's signature handstamp (Hong Kong) (turquoise) three-line handstamp canceling airmail instruction (red)

REVERSE

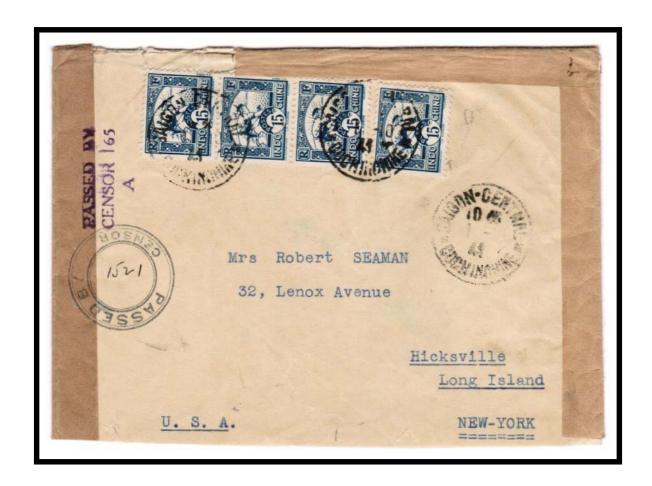
HAIPHONG TONKIN 5-7 40
MEKNES VILLE NOUVELLE MAROC 11-11 40

Even though postal operations were cut back significantly during World War II, the post office continued to provide most basic services. Registration was still available for internal letters.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 16-11 43
registration label
REVERSE
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 16-11 43

Four 15 cents blue Indochinese Culture stamps paid for a surface rate mailing to the United States in 1941. The letter was examined by censors in Singapore en route and again upon arrival by American censors.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1-10 41 censor's signature handstamp (Singapore) censor's resealing tape censor's signature handstamp (United States)

REVERSE

Six 15-cent blue Indochinese Culture stamps paid for airmail service to French India in 1928. As postal rates were driven up by postwar inflation, more and more low value stamps were required to mail letters, especially airmail letters.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 10-4 48

Six 15-cents blue stamps contributed to the postage for an airmail letter addressed to London in 1936. To indicate that the sender had overpaid the postage, a postal clerk placed a "franked by sender" notation at the top, center. Although the letter had been privately handstamped "RECOMMANDEE," there is no registration marking applied by the Indochinese post office. Blue crayon shows that the British treated the letter as registered mail.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 23-1 36 double black bars across airmail indication

REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 24-1 36 REGISTERED PUTNEY, S.W. 15 4 FE 36

A block of eight 15-centime stamps paid postage fees an airmail letter sent from Saigon to France in 1948. Postage was calculated as:

letter rate to France	40 cents
airmail surcharge	80 cents
total	120 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-A COCHINCHINE 21-2 48

With another 60 cents on the reverse, twelve copies of the 15 cents blue stamp paid for airmail service from Saigon to France in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 14-2 48

Postwar inflation resulted in significantly higher postal rates. Sixteen copies of the 15-cent stamp, totaling 2\$40, were affixed to the back of a registered, airmail letter sent from Pnompenh, Cambodia to France in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-4 48
REVERSE
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-4 48
registration label

From October 1937 until June 1939, the surface letter rate to foreign destinations was 18 cents. The 18-cent stamp was issued in 1938 to fulfill the need for a definitive stamp satisfying this rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TONG TONKIN 4-5 39
REVERSE
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 4-5 39
HAIPHONG TONKIN 5-5 39

A pair of 18-cent stamps paid for an internal registered letter during World War II. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	6 cents
registration fee	30 cents
total	36 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS VINH ANNAM 2-9 42 registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 3-9 42 HANOI BIS TONKIN 3-9 42

The postage for a local registered mailing from Cantho to Saigon was calculated as follows:

local letter rate	5 cents
registration fee	15 cents
total	20 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 7-9 37

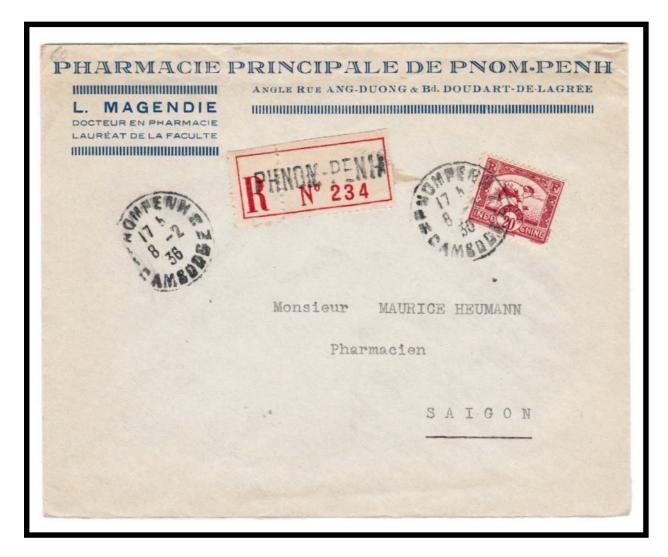
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 7-9 37

Postage for an internal registered letter, as in the case of this 1936 mailing from Pnompenh to Saigon, was calculated as:

local letter rate	5 cents
registration fee	15 cents
total	20 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 8-2 36
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 9-2 36

Indochinese Culture Use of 20 cents

The 20-cent stamp saw extensive use on money order receipts as the tax on this type of money transfer was 1\$20.







SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 10-2 1949 POSTAL MARKINGS SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 26-1 1949

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 12-2 1949

Two of the Type I 20-cent stamps were perforated with the letters "BIC." The initials stood for the Hanoi branch of the Bank of Indochina, which is confirmed by the corner imprint on the window envelope.



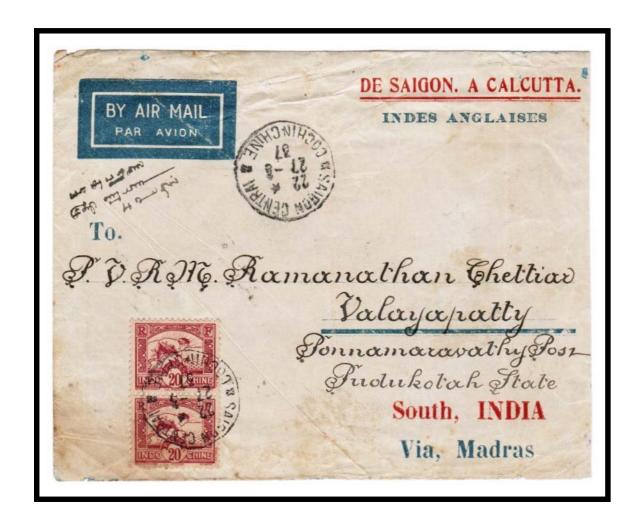
POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 10-9 37 airmail label

REVERSE

CALCUTTA G.P.O. D.B.N. 12 SEP. 37 BOMBAY G.P.O.DELIVERY 14 SEP 37 BOMBAY WIN DW 14 SEP. 37

A pair of Type I 20-cent stamps paid for airmail service from Saigon to India in 1937.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 27-3 37
REVERSE
CALCUTTA G.P.O. D.B.N. 29 MAR 37

Two of the Type II 20-cent stamps, characterized by the small size of the numerals for the 20-cent denomination frank this wartime mailing.

Posted at Saigon, the sender indicated on this envelope airmail service via KNILM, the Dutch national airline.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2-10 39 airmail label censor handstamp and resealing tape

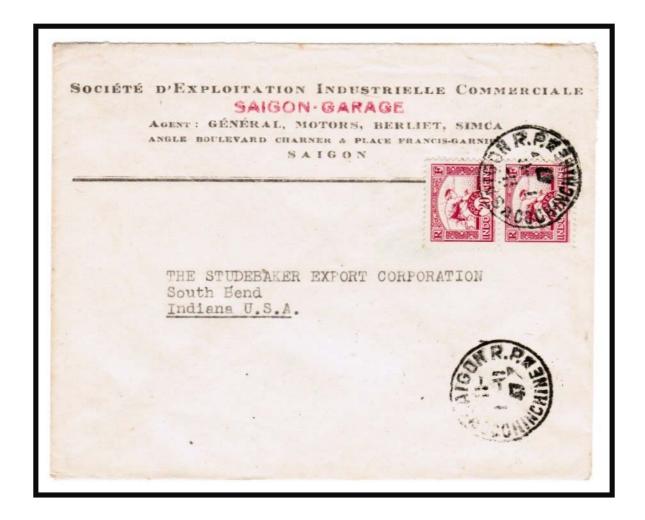
REVERSE

censor handstamp and resealing tape

Postage for a "money card" sent by airmail from Saigon to Toulon in 1939 was paid with a pair of 20-cent stamps. In 1939, the surcharge for airmail service was still 30 cents per 5 grams.

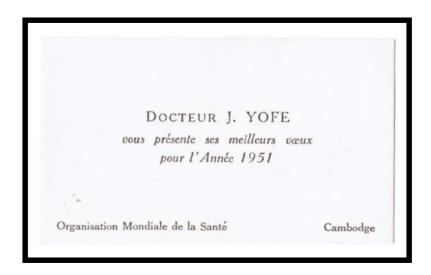


A pair of 20-cent Rice Planter stamps paid the surface rate postage for a business letter sent to the United States in 1947.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 1-11 47
REVERSE
HONG KONG 4 12 NO 47

These small envelopes were for what the French call enchantillons for greetings, invitations and the like. Here a New Year's greeting in the size of a business card was sent with two Type III 20-cent Indochinese culture stamps.





POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 30-12 1950

For a picture postcard sent buy surface mail ("PAR BATEAU") to Belgium in 1947, the sender affixed a pair of 20-cent definitive stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 18-7 47

The Type I version of the 20-cent stamp was the first type issued. In May 1932, three 20-cent stamps paid the supplementary fee for airmail service to France, which was 60 cents through June 1932. The stamp for basic postage has been removed.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TOUR-CHAM ANNAM 17-5 32 airmail label framed "Saigon-Marseille" route handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 18-5 32 MARSEILLE-GARE-AVION BCHES DU RHONE 29 • V 1932

In 1947, a strip of three Type II 20-cent stamps paid for a surface letter from Saigon to the United States.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 18-10 47
REVERSE
HONG KONG 3 28 OC 47

The sender paid his postage in the amount of 1\$20 with six 20-cent Type II stamps for an airmail letter to France in 1947. In march 1947, the airmail surcharge rose to 80 cents per 5 grams.



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI TONKIN 12-7 47

Six examples of the Type III stamp frank this 1950 letter to France. This cover is marked "VOIE MARITIME" for surface transport at the 1\$20 letter rate. Effective 1 March 1949, the basic letter rate rose to 1\$20.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG NORD VIETNAM 13-9 1950

Six Type III 20-cent stamps paid the internal letter rate for this mailing from the Marie Curie School in Saigon. The internal letter rate was the same as the rate to France.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 26 8 1950
REVERSE
DALAT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 28-8 1950

Six 20-cent stamps paid for mailing an airmail letter from Mimot, Cambodia to France in 1947. Postage was computed as follows:

letter rate to France	0\$40
airmail supplement	0\$80
total	1\$20



POSTAL MARKINGS
MIMOT CAMBODGE 7-8 47
REVERSE
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 11-8 47

Seven examples of the Type III stamp were employed on this November 1947 letter to France. In April 1947, the airmail fee had risen to 80 cents. The letter rate was 40 cents. Even with 1\$40 postage, this letter was charged postage due perhaps a consequence of being overweight (more than 10 grams).



POSTAL MARKINGS

DALAT ANNAM 16-11 47 framed "AFFRANCHISSEMENT INSUFFISANT" postage due handstamp REVERSE

SAIGON R P COCHINCHINE 16-11 47

Indochinese Culture Use of 20 cents

Postage for a mailing to France in December 1948 was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	60 cents
airmail surcharge	120 cents
total	180 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

BACLIEU COCHINCHINE 27-12 48

REVERSE

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 28-12 48

Nine 20-cent stamps were insufficient postage for this 1949 airmail letter to France. In April 1949, the airmail letter rate was 2.40 piasters. The letter was cited for postage in the amount of 0.22 francs.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TOURANE ANNAM 6-4 1949
T in triangle with handwritten amount due

A block of ten 20-cent definitive stamps paid for airmail service to Paris in 1947. In this case, postage was determined as follows:

letter rate to France 0\$40 airmail surcharge (second step: 2 x 0\$80)1\$60 total 2\$00



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD COCHINCHINE 23-12 47

Along with the seven additional copies on the reverse, the ten 20-cent stamps on the front make the total postage on this airmail letter to Reunion 3.40 piasters in 1952.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 18-3 1952

To pay the airmail letter rate of 2.40 piasters, twelve 20-cent stamps were affixed to this cover posted from Pnompenh in 1949.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 10-9 1949

Based on new airmail rates that came into effect on 10 March 1948, postage for this letter to the United States was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate	1.00 piasters	
airmail surcharge	2.00 piasters	
total	3.00 piasters	

At least one stamp is missing from the front of the mailing.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 27-4 48

Fifteen 20-cent stamps totaling 3 piasters paid for airmail service to France in July 1951. Postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	1.20 piasters
airmail surcharge	1.80 piasters
total	3.00 piasters



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 28-7 1951

REVERSE

CHAUDOC COCHINCHINE 17 AOUT 10 SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 19 AOUT 10

Indochinese Culture Use of 20 cents Type II and 60 cents

A combination of Indochinese Culture definitive stamps with a total value of 2 piasters was affixed to a picture postcard sent from Hanoi to France in 1950. Effective 1 May 1950, the airmail surcharge for letters and postcards became 1\$80 per 5 grams or fraction of 5 grams.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. NORD VIET-NAM 10-3 1950

A colorful selection of low value South Vietnamese stamps were combined with two 20-cent Type III Indochinese Culture definitives for a 1951 mailing to the United States.



POSTAL MARKINGS HA-NOI VIET-NAM 7-10 1951

Postage on this mailing to Paris was made up of a combination of Indochinese and Vietnamese stamps. The two Vietnamese stamps were cancelled but the Indochinese stamp was left untouched as it had been demonetized the previous year.



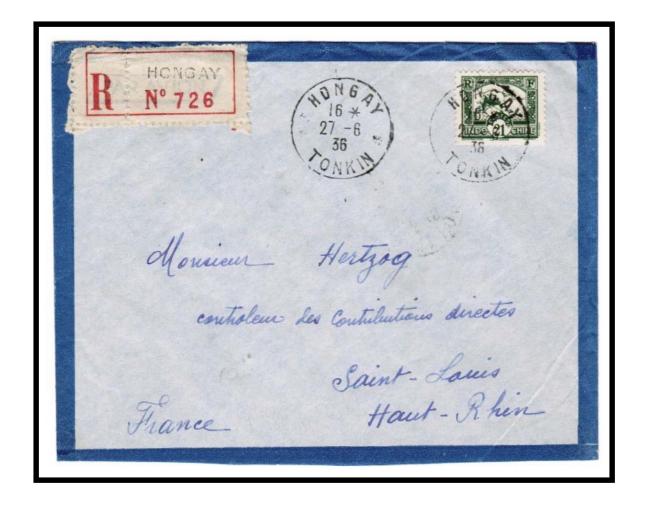
POSTAL MARKINGS HA-NOI VIET-NAM 4-2 1953 T in triangle

After the local letter rate increased to 6 cents on 1 April 1938, the 21-cent stamp exactly paid for local postage (6 cents) and registration (15 cents).



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 5-10 38
registration label
REVERSE
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 6-10 38

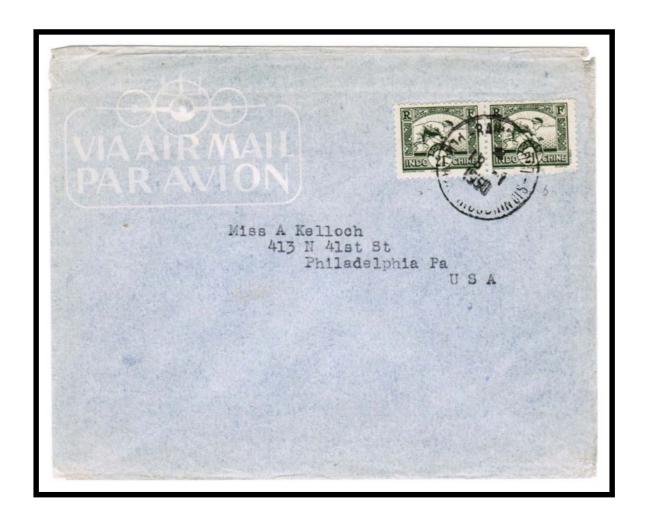
The seemingly odd value of 21 cents was exactly correct for internal registered letters as well as registered letters to France. Here the registration label was purposely placed to cover the preprinted "PAR AVION" on the envelope. Airmail would have required more postage. The letter was in transit for approximately one month.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HONGAY TONKIN 27-6 36
registration label
REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 28-6 36 SAINT LOUIS HAUT RHIN 31-7 36

Even though a pair of 21-cent stamps would hardly pay the postwar airmail postage for a foreign letter, there is no evidence that this letter was cited as underpaid.



POSTAL MARKINGS
BANMETHUOT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 18-1 1950

With 96 cents worth of postage on the reverse, a 1949 mailing to Monaco was franked with a total of 1\$80. Postage was computed as follows:

letter rate to France	0\$60	
supplementary airmail fee	1\$20	
total	1\$80	



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 15-1 49
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 15-1 49

With an additional 1\$14 worth of postage on the reverse and six 21-cent stamps on the front, the total postage paid for an airmail letter to Paris in 1949 was 2\$40.



POSTAL MARKINGS
VIENTIANE LAOS 18-2 1948
REVERSE
VIENTIANE LAOS 18-2 1948
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 22-2 1949

With 70 cents worth of postage on the reverse and the ten 21-cent stamps on the front, the total postage affixed to this 1948 mailing to Paris was 2.80 piasters. At the time, the letter rate was 60 cents and the airmail surcharge was 1.20 piasters. Thus, it appears that the postage was overpaid by 1 piaster.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI TONKIN 14-12 48
REVERSE
HANOI TONKIN 14-12 48

Twenty copies of the 21-cent stamp totaling 4.20 piasters paid for registered airmail service from Indochina to France in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 16-12 48 NICE RP ARRIVEE ALPES-MMES 21-12 1948

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 16-12 48 registration label

The 22-cent stamp on this Bank of Indochina envelope is perforated with the bank's initials: "BIC." Clerks at the bank handstamped outgoing mail with a notice that bank mail was exempt from censoring.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI-A TONKIN 5-1 40
registration label
REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 5-1 40

HAIPHONG TONKIN 6-1 40

The sender attached five 22-cent Indochinese Culture stamps to an envelope for a mailing from Saigon to India in 1949. Effective 10 March 1948, the supplementary fee for airmail service to French India was set at 50 cents per 5 grams or fraction of 5 grams.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 20-4 49
REVERSE
KARAIKUDI 23 APR. 49

Five 22-cent stamps were affixed to the back of an airmail cover sent from Saigon to India in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 28 4 48 framed REPLY BY TELEGRAM 30 APR. 48 DEVAKOTTAI

REVERSE

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 28 4 48

A block of six 22-cent stamps paid for airmail service to Paris in 1947. From April 1947 until March 1948, the rate for airmail letters to France was 1.20 piasters.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R. P. COCHINCHINE 12-5 47

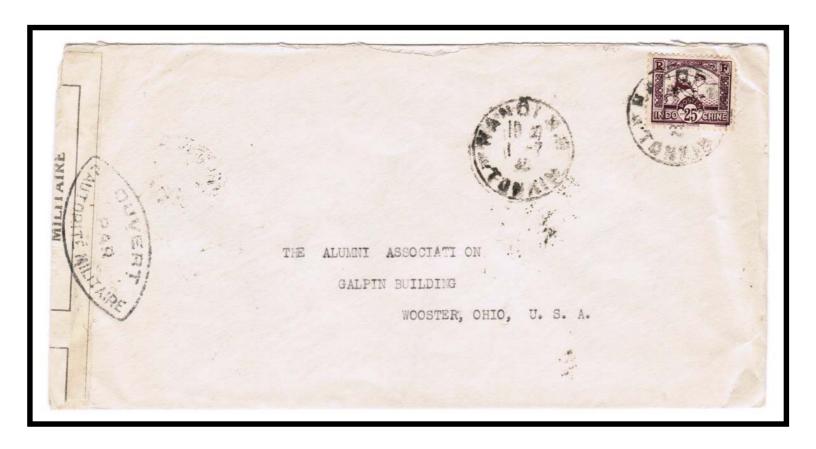
A block of eight 22-cent definitive stamps (totaling 1\$76) paid for airmail service from Savanakhet, Laos to Paris in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS SAVANNAKHET LAOS 14-12 1948

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents violet

A single 25-cent violet Indochinese Culture stamp paid for surface mail service to the United States in 1940. The 25cent foreign rate was established on 1 December 1939. Typical of the wartime period, the letter was opened for examination by censors in Indochina.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R. P. TONKIN 1-7 40 military authority football and censor's resealing tape

REVERSE

HANOI R. P. TONKIN 2-7 40 HANOI R. P. bis TONKIN 2-7 40 censor's signature handstamp HAIPHONG TONKIN 3-7 40

Although partially covered by the resealing tape of a French censor, the "25" denomination of the lower stamp clearly shows the Type III variety. Only very few of these stamps are known to have been used at the start of World War II.





POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 13-9 39
registration label
CONTROLE POSTAL COMMISSION C INDOCHINE
censor's resealing tape with censor's signature handstamp (France)

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents violet

Official mail would normally be transported internally postage-free, but because this mailing was addressed to a foreign destination, it had stamps affixed.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 1-3 40
registration label

REVERSE

HAI-PHONG TONKIN 1-3 40 SAN PEDRO, CALIF. REGISTERED MAR 28 1940 SAN FRANCISCO CALIF. REG. SEC. MAR 29 1940

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents violet

Coupled with a 1-cent stamp on the reverse, a pair of 25-cent violet Indochinese Culture stamps on the front made the total postage for this registered airmail letter to Paris 51 cents in 1935. Postage was determined as follows:

letter rate to France	6 cents
registration fee	15 cents
airmail fee	30 cents
total	51 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 16-1 35 registration label "Saigon-Marseille" routing instruction

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 16-1 35

The Type III variety of the 25 cents violet saw negligible postal use. This example of commercial correspondence from the Cantho branch of the Bank of Indochina bears a pair as part of the postage for a mailing to Paris in 1938.



POSTAL MARKINGS

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 24-12 38

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 24-12 38

REVERSE

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 24-12 38 registration label

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents violet

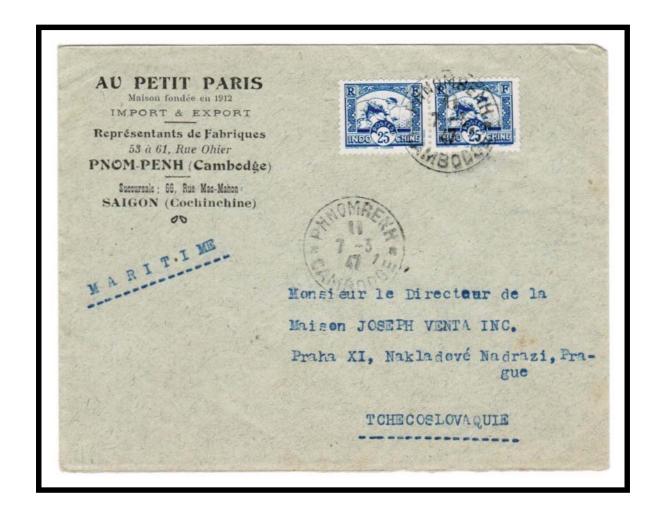
Three 25-cent violet Indochinese Culture stamps satisfied the requisite postage for an airmail letter sent from Saigon to the Netherlands in 1933. Postage was calculated as follows:

foreign letter rate	15 cents
airmail surcharge	60 cents
total	75 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 16-1 33
black "X" applied to airmail imprint

Sent from Cambodia to Czechoslovakia by surface mail in 1947, the sender affixed a pair of 25-cent stamps for postage. To ensure that the letter was not carried by air and cited for insufficient postage, the sender typed "MARITIME" to the left of the address.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 7-3 47

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents blue

Postage rates soared after World War II. Here, 50 cents was paid for an internal letter in 1947. Before the war, the rate was 6 cents, eight times less.



POSTAL MARKINGS
KOMPONGCHAM CAMBODGE 22-12 47

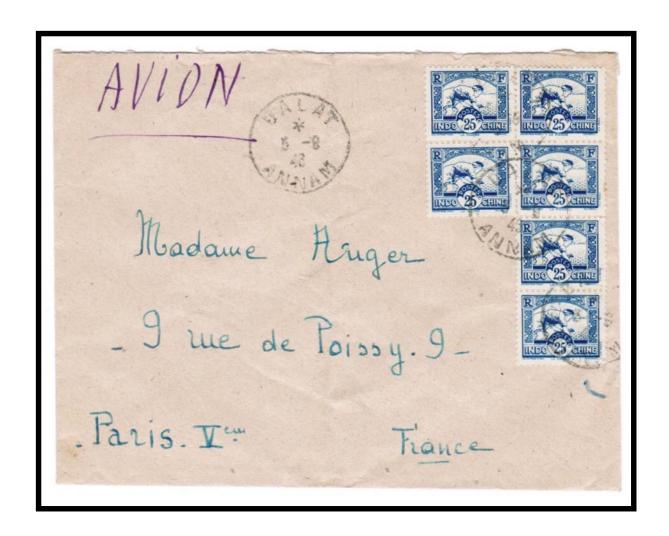
Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents blue

A block of four 25-cent blue definitive stamps paid the postage for a commercial mailing from Saigon to France in 1946. Effective 5 May 1946, the letter rate to France for 300-500 grams was 1 piaster. It is unlikely that this envelope reached that weight.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 21-9 46

Six copies of the 25-cent blue stamp affixed to this envelope paid for airmail service to France in 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS

DALAT ANNAM 3-9 46

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 6-9 46

Eight examples of the 25-cent blue Indochinese Culture definitive stamp paid the airmail letter rate to Paris for a second weight step letter in 1947.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 6-4 47

Indochinese Culture Use of 25 cents blue

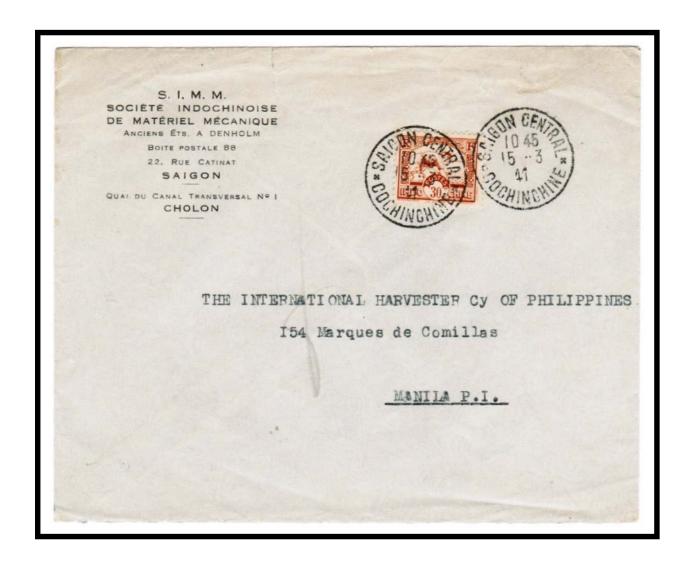
Eight 25-cents blue definitive stamps paid for airmail delivery of a letter to France in 1947. Postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	0\$40
double airmail supplement (5-10 grams)	1\$60
total	2\$00



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI TONKIN 14-9 47

A single 30-cent stamp was affixed to this business correspondence sent by surface mail from Saigon to Manila in the Philippine Islands.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHOINCHINE 15-3 41

A single 30-cent stamp paid the registered foreign letter rate in 1936. Postage was determined as follows:

foreign letter rate	15 cents	
registration fee	15 cents	
total	30 cents	



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG TONKIN 3-3 36
registration label
REVERSE
BERLIN SO 36 5.4.36

A pair of 30-cent definitive stamps paid the surface rate for a letter sent from Saigon to the United States in 1948. To ensure that the letter was not charged postage due for airmail service, it was stamped "VOIE MARITME" ("BY SHIP").



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 20-2 48
REVERSE
HONG KONG 12 29 FE 48

Three 30-cent stamps paid for postage, registration and airmail fees on a letter from the Pasteur Institute of Saigon to France in 1940.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 23-1 40
registration label
REVERSE
PARIS XI DITRIBUTION 2-2 40

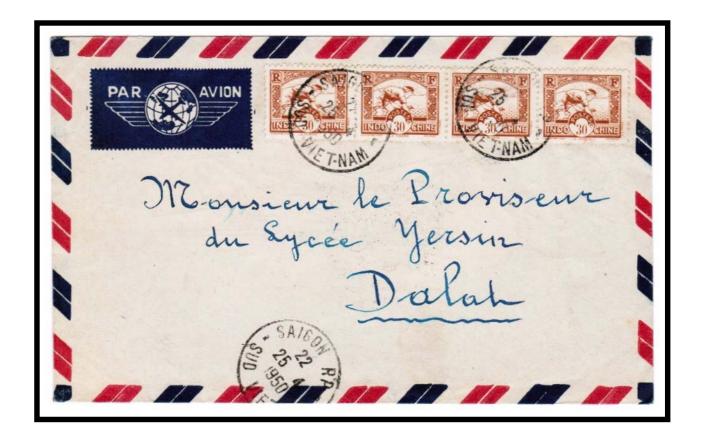
Four 30-cent Indochinese Culture stamps paid for an airmail letter to France in 1947. Postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	40 cents
airmail supplement	80 cents
total	1.20 piaster



POSTAL MARKINGS
CAP SAINT JACQUES COCHINCHINE 5-10 47

Four 30-cent Rice Planter stamps paid the internal rate for a letter from Saigon to Dalat in 1950. The internal letter rate was 1\$20 from April 1949 through October 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 25-4 1950
REVERSE
DALAT PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 26-4 1950

To satisfy the internal postage rate requirement of 1.50 piasters that came into effect in October 1951, the sender affixed a strip of five 30-cent Indochinese Culture stamps to his mailing from Dalat to Pnompenh in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS

DALAT VIETNAM 15-10 1951 slogan handstamp

REVERSE

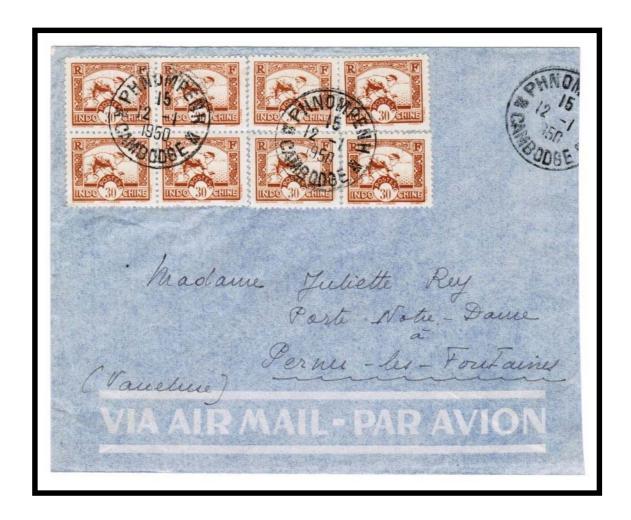
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 17-10 1951

Seven copies of the 30-cent Indochinese Culture definitive stamp paid for delivery of a mailing from Pnompenh, Cambodia to Singapore in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 9-11 1951
REVERSE
SAIGON R.P. SUD VIETNAM 13-11 1951

Airmail postage in the amount of 2\$40 for a mailing from Cambodia to France in 1950 was paid with eight copies of the 30-cent Indochinese Culture stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 12-1 1950

Eight examples of the 30-cent definitive stamp frank an airmail cover mailed from Saigon to Singapore in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 6-11 1951

With nine examples of the 30-cent definitive stamp on the front and another five copies on the reverse, the total postage paid for this internal airmail letter was 4.20 piasters. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	1.20 piasters
airmail surcharge (internal)	0.00 piasters
registration fee	3.00 piasters
total	4.20 piasters



POSTAL MARKINGS

DJIRING PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 14-11 1950 registration label

REVERSE

DJIRING PLATEAUX-INDOCHINOIS 14-11 1950

Ten copies of the 30-cent stamp paid the 3-piaster rate to the United States in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R. P. COCHINCHINE 4-2 48

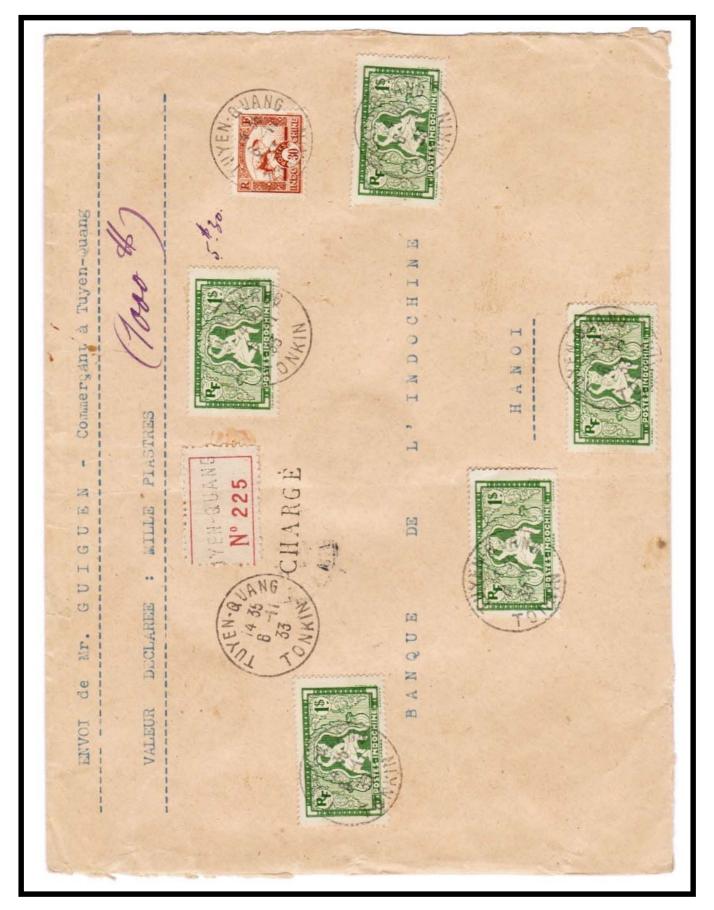
Initially posted in the military postal system, this letter franked with 4.80 piasters worth of postage transited to the civilian postal system for airmail service from Saigon to London in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS

POSTE AUX ARMEES T.O.E. 19-4 1950
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 19-4 1950
airmail label

Indochinese Culture
Use of 30 cents and 1 piaster for Insured Mailing



Indochinese Culture Mixed Usage of 30 cents

Mixed usage with the new stamps of the independent Indochinese countries was allowed before the Indochinese stamps were demonetized in April 1952. This example is a late usage from April 1952.



POSTAL MARKINGS SAIGON R.P. VIET-NAM 9 4 1952

A 30-cent Indochinese Culture stamp was combined with two values from Cambodia's first definitive series to pay the postage for an airmail letter to Paris in 1952.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH R. P. CAMBODGE 11-3 1952

In 1951, a combination of Indochinese and Vietnamese stamps paid for airmail delivery of a picture postcard from Haiphong to Liverpool, England.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAI-PHONG VIET-NAM 30-12 1951

Posted aboard a ship, this 1952 mailing bears postage stamps from Indochina, Vietnam and Denmark. The envelope was handstamped "m/s Jepesen Mærsk." The stamps were postmarked when the letter came ashore at Saigon.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON RP SUD VIET-NAM 24-1 1952

Indochinese stamps were removed from service at the end of March 1952. Posted on 29 April 1952, only the Vietnamese stamp was postmarked on this mailing to Paris. A handwritten note below the stamp, possibly from the clerk who deliberately left the Indochinese stamp uncanceled, explained that the 30-cent stamp had no franking value. The cited postage due amount was 10.20 francs. A 10-franc postage due stamp is present and apparently the 20-centime had fallen off the cover.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HA-NOI VIET-NAM 29-4 1952
plain T with manuscript due amount