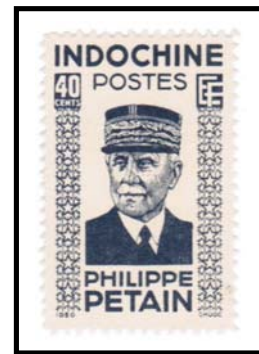
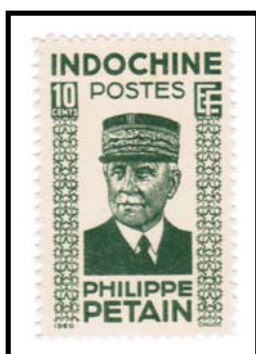
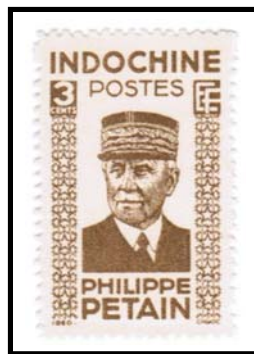
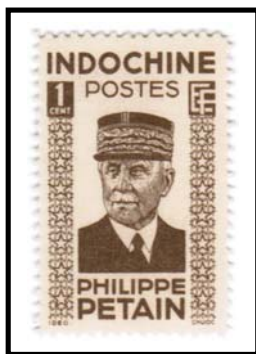


Pétain

Henri Philippe Omer Pétain became a national hero when he commanded the French forces at Verdun that halted the German advance. In 1918, he was promoted to the position of Marshal. After the French defeat during World War II, Pétain took over the French government at the age of 84. The Vichy regime followed a policy of collaboration with the Nazis. After the war, Pétain was tried for treason and sentenced to death in 1945. His sentence was commuted to life in prison and he died there in 1951.

In Indochina, a series of six stamps issued over 1942-44 commemorated Marshal Pétain.



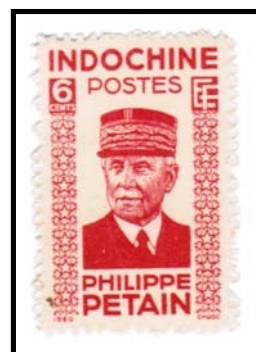
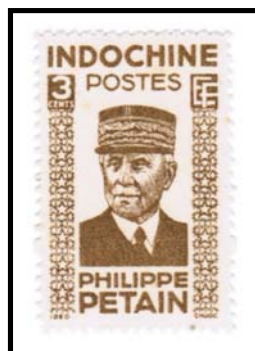
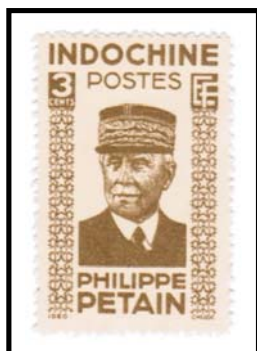
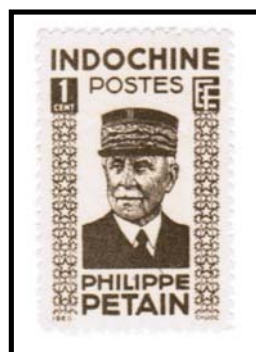
Pétain
Maximum Card

A postal card showing the same portrait of Pétain appeals to the public's patriotism with the message "One leader - Pétain."

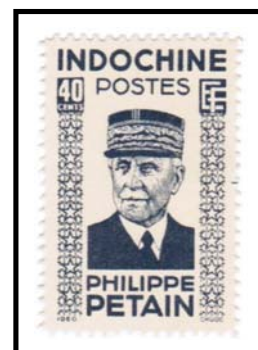
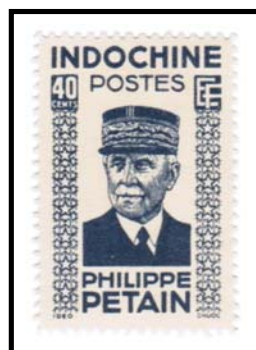
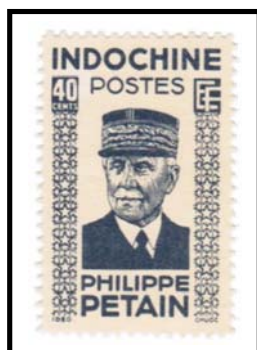
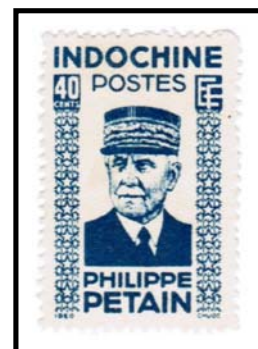
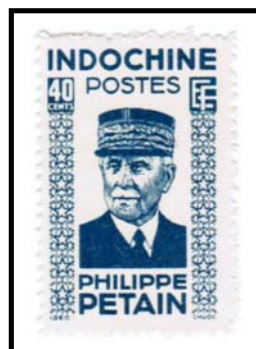
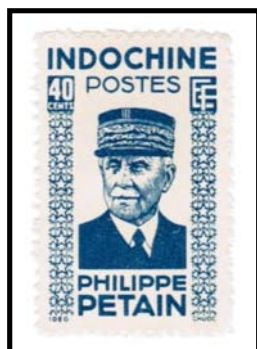
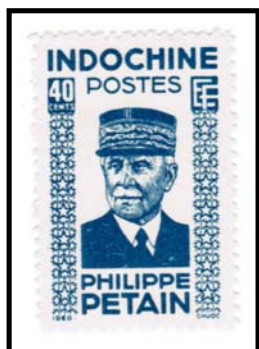
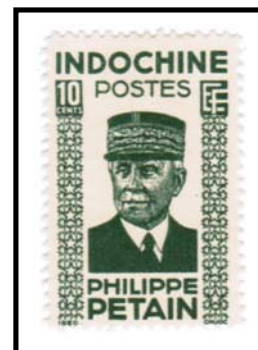
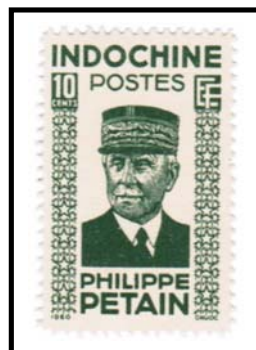
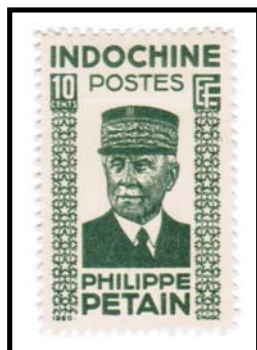
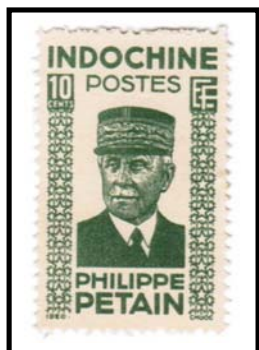


POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 23-7 42
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 23-7 42

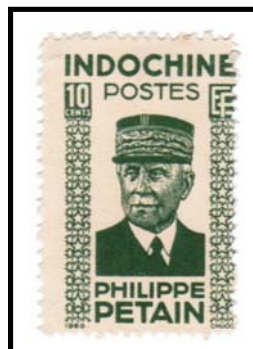
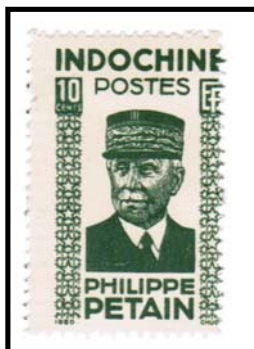
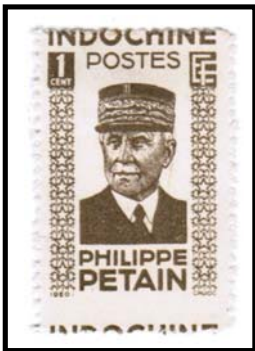
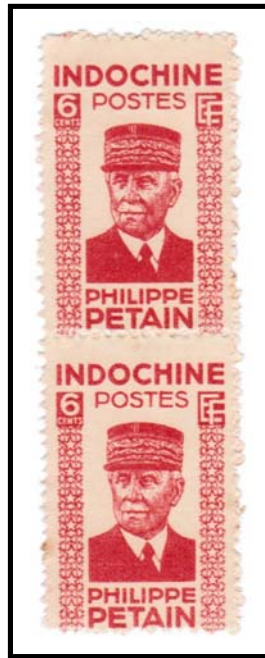
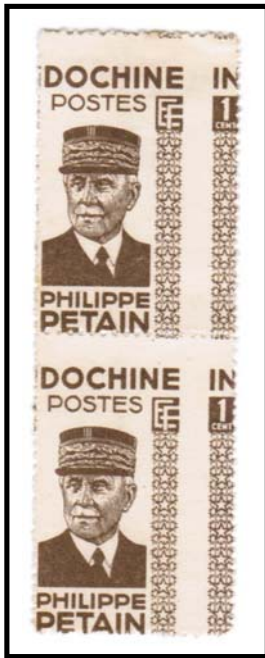
Pétain
Color Shades



Pétain
Color Shades



Petaín Perforation Shifts

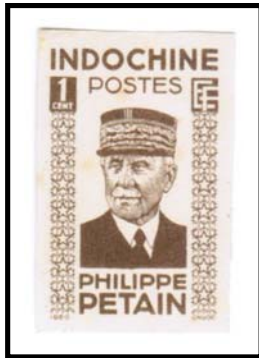


Petaín

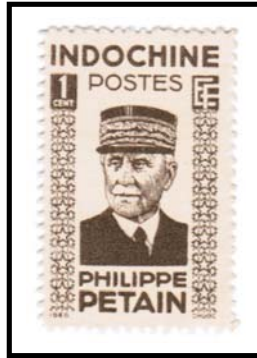
Perforation Shifts



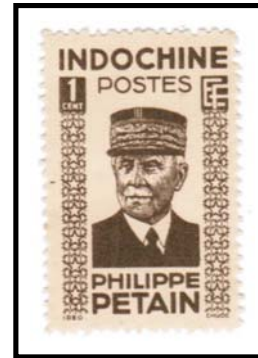
Petaín Varieties of 1 cent



IMPERFORATE



PERF. 12 x 11 1/2



PERF. 11 1/2 x 12



PERFORATED 12 CLEAN

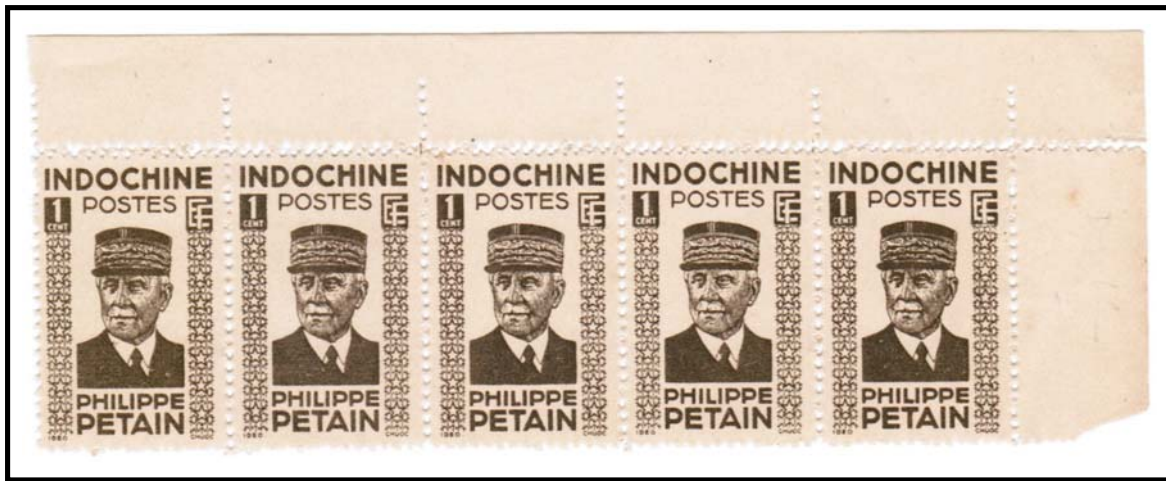


PERFORATED 12 ROUGH

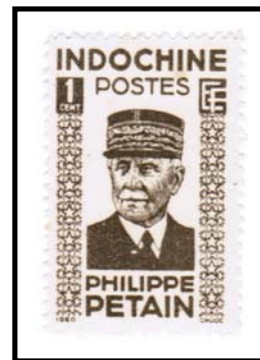
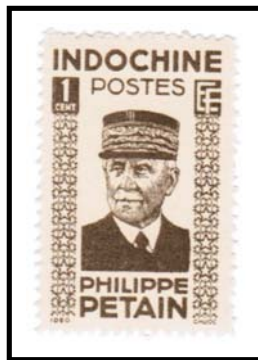
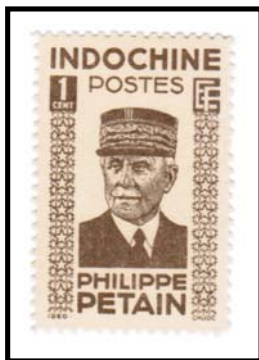


PERFORATED 14

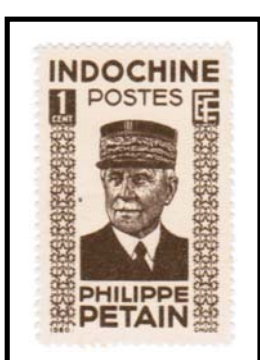
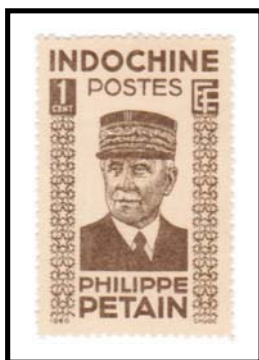
Petaín
Varieties of 1 cent



DOUBLE PERFORATION OF TOP ROW



PERFORATED 12 COLOR SHADES



PERFORATED 14 COLOR SHADES

Petaín
Varieties of 1 cent



two line insignia
on cap

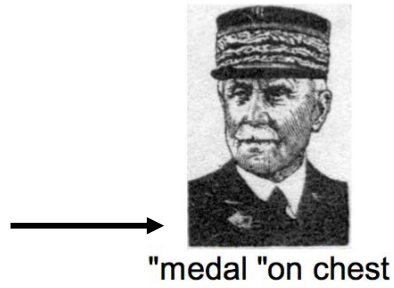


eroded "1"



eroded "1"

Petaín Varieties of 1 cent



eroded "1"



no shirt left of tie

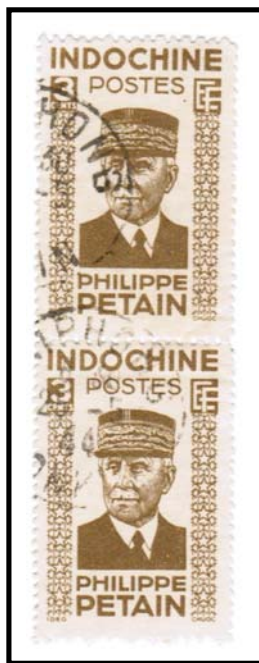
Petaín Varieties of 3 cents



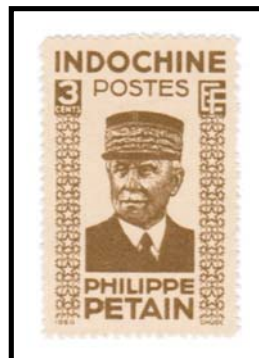
PERFORATED 12 x 14 CLEAN



PERFORATED 12 x 14 ROUGH



PERF. 12 x 14



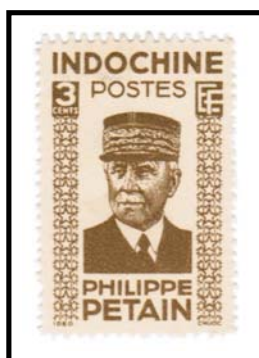
PERFORATED 14



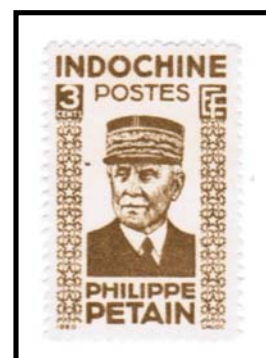
PERF. 14



PERFORATED 12 x 14 COLOR SHADES



PERFORATED 12 COLOR SHADES



Pétain
Varieties of 3 cents



IMPRESSION CLARITY



PIN PERFORATED 12

PERFORATED 14

Petaín Varieties of 3 cents



"medal" on chest



no insignia
lines on cap

Pétain
Perforation Varieties of 6 cents



PERFORATED 12 CLEAN



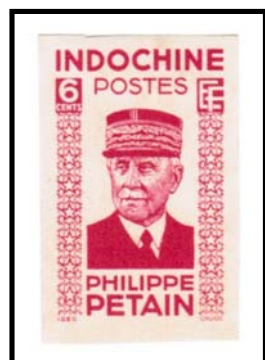
PERFORATED 12 ROUGH



PERFORATED 14



PIN PERFORATED 12



IMPERFORATE

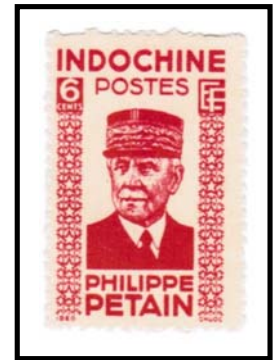
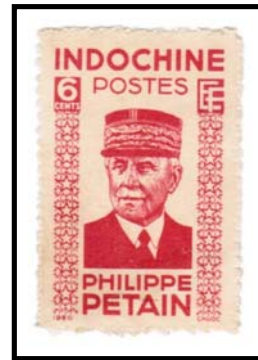
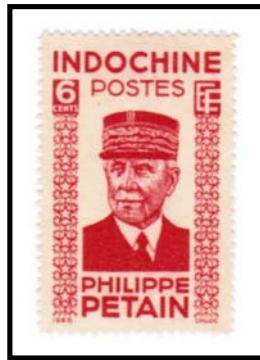


CUT-OUT FROM ENVELOPE

Pétain
Color Shades and Perforation Varieties of 6 cents



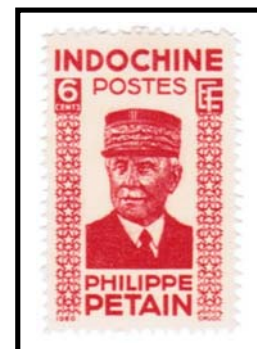
PERFORATED 14 SHADES



PIN PERFORATED 12 SHADES



VERTICALLY IMPERFORATE



PERFORATED 12 SHADES

Pétain
Varieties of 6 cents



OFFSET TRANSFER

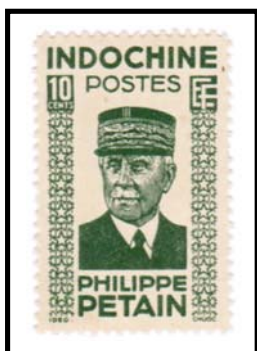


TWO LINE INSIGNIA ON CAP



BLURRED IMAGE

Pétain
Varieties of 40 cents blue



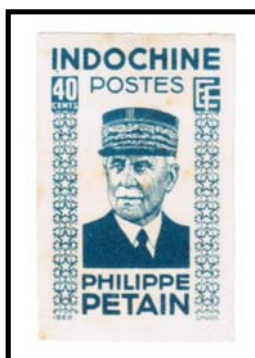
10 CENTS (GREEN)



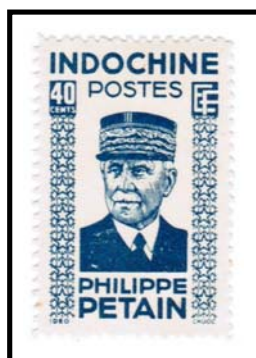
40 CENTS (GREEN)



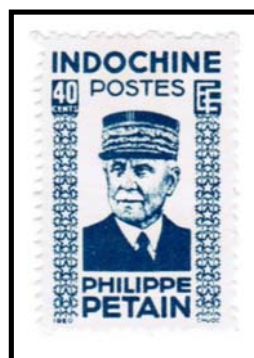
40 CENTS (BLUE)



IMPERFORATE



LIGHT SHADE



DARK SHADE

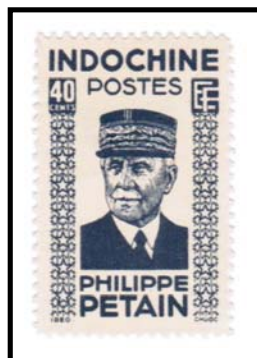
Pétain
Paper Folds on 40 cents blue



Pétain
Varieties of 40 cents slate blue



WEAK IMPRESSION



BOLD IMPRESSION



YELLOW PAPER



BROKEN "4"



Pétain Forgery of 6-cent Value

During World War II, a postal employee sold forged copies of several Pétain values. The perpetrator of the fraud was Nguyen Dang Minh, a former printer who managed the Hanoi-E auxiliary post office. On 11 April 1944, the Sûreté du Tonkin (state police) arrested Minh, the printer and seven accomplices. The police destroyed the printing plates for the three denominations: 6 cents, 10 cents and 40 cents. Five hundred examples of the 6-cent value fabricated and first sold in November 1943.

Forged stamps can be distinguished from genuine stamps by the lettering and ornamentation. The three forgeries share some common characteristics.



Pétain Forgery of 10-cent Value

As postage rates rose higher value forgeries were of more utility especially for packages and heavier mailings. By virtue of its gray-green color, the forged 10-cent value is somewhat easier to recognize when compared to the green original.



Pétain Forgery of 40-cent Value

The fate of the forger, Nguyen Dang Minh, was lost to history, but it is known that he was dying of tuberculosis in a Hanoi prison in December 1944.

Approximately 1,000 examples of the two high values were printed and sold. It is estimated that about 25 examples survived until today.



Pétain
Use of 10 cents and 40 cents slate blue Forgeries

After the forger was apprehended, enterprising philatelists waited a few months and then sent letters to themselves or trusted friends with the few stamps that they had managed to obtain. The July 1944 example shown here is no doubt one of those mailings. The sender did take a chance because he had franked the letter with two examples of each of the high values thereby overpaying the local letter rate by a factor of ten. For the face value, the sender could have sent the cover by registered mail, but surely he did not want to risk confiscation by handing it over to a clerk who might have noticed the notorious stamps!



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 25 7 44

Pétain
Use of 40 cent slate blue Forgery

Although 40 cents would have paid for registered mail, the sender elected to send his letter by regular mail to avoid handing it over to a postal clerk. If the clerk had taken note of the forged stamp, he would have confiscated the letter.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 25-7 44
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 25-7 44

Petaín
Postmarks on 1 cent



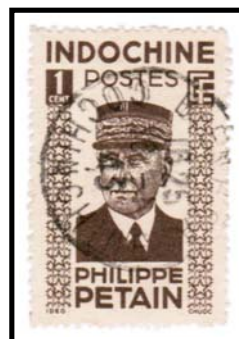
BEN-THUY



CHO-RA



MYTHO



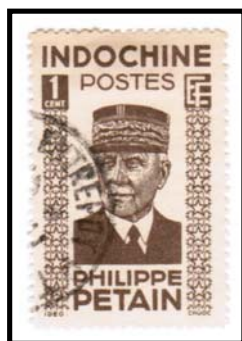
BIENHOA



HA-GIANG



HANOI R.P.



HANOI ENTREPOT P.T.T.



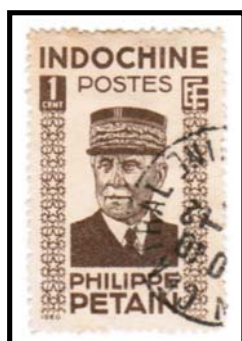
HOA-BINH



NINH-BINH



PHU-THO



SAIGON-CENTRAL



TANCHAU



TAYNINH

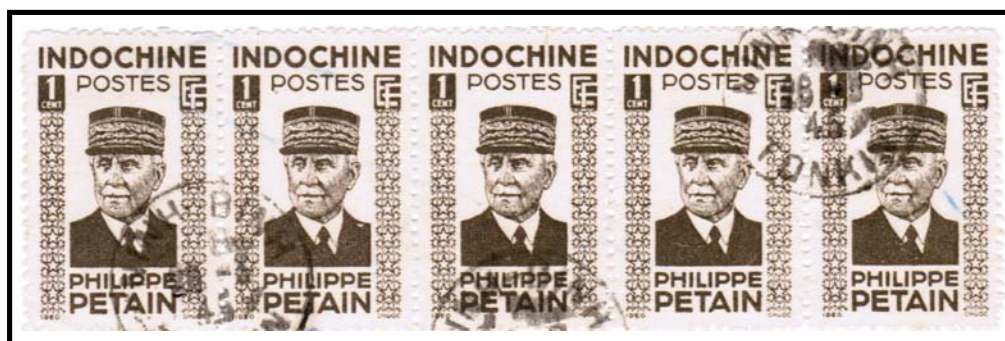
Petaín
Postmarks on 1 cent



VIENTIANE



HUE



NINH-BINH



QUIN-HON A HANOI

Pétain
Postmarks on 1 cent



HANOI R.P.

Pétain
Postmarks on 3 cents



HANOI A



NAM-DINH



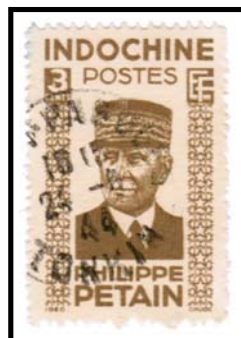
VIENTIANE



BACNINH



HANOI ENTREPOT



SEPT PAGODES



HANOI A

Petaín
Postmarks on 3 cents



HUE



MYTHO



HAIPHONG



BAITHUONG



PHONTIOU



KON-TUM

Pétain
Postmarks on 3 cents



HANOI R.P.

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

ANNAM



BACH-MA



BEN-THUY



BINH-DINH



CUA-LO



DONG-HA



DONG-HOI



FAI-FO



HUE



NHATRANG



PHANTIET



QUINHONE



TOURANE



TUYHOA



THU-XA



VINH

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

ANNAM



BANGHOI



THANH-HOA



DALAT



QUINHONE

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

CAMBODIA



KOKI



PNOMPENH

SLOGANS



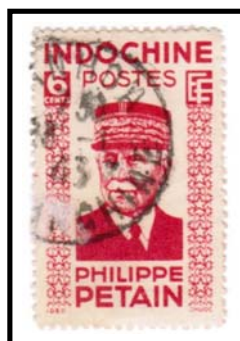
Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

COCHINCHINA



BACLIEU

SAIGON-CENTRAL



BARIA

BIENHOA

CAMAU



CANTHO

CAP ST. JACQUES



CHAUDOC

CHOLON

CHOLON-BINHAY

Petaín
Postmarks on 6 cents

COCHINCHINA



CHOMOI-LONGXUYEN



LONGTHANH



PHONGTHANH



GIADINH



HATIEN



LAITHIEU



PHUOCHAI



RACHGIA



SAIGON
MESSAGERIES MMES

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

COCHINCHINA



SAIGON-PRINCIPAL



SAIGON A



TANAN



TANCHAU



THUDAUMOT



TRANGBANG



TRAON



TRAVINH



VINHLONG



XUANLOC

Petaín
Postmarks on 6 cents

LAOS



BONENG



LUANG-PRA-BANG



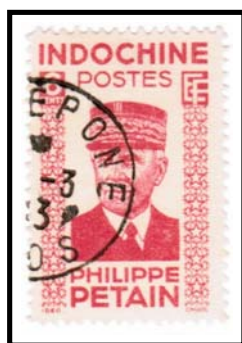
PHONTIOU



SARAVANE



SAVANNAKHET



TCHEPONE



VIENTIANE



XIENG-KHOUANG

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

TONKIN



BAC-KAN



CAMPHA-PORT



CAO-BANG



CHO-BO



DONG-TRIEU



DOSON



HANOI R.P.



HA-DONG



HANOI BLS



HA-GIANG

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

TONKIN



HANOI ENTREPOT P.T.T



HAI-DUONG



HAI-PHONG.



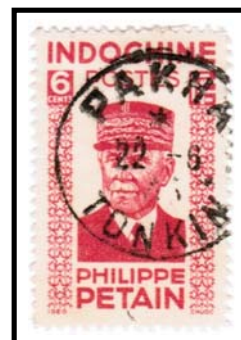
HUNG-YEN



LAO-KAY



NAM-DINH



PAKHA



PHAN-ME



PHAT DIEM



PHONG-THO



PHU-DA-PHUC

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

TONKIN



PHU-DOAN



PHU-LANG-THUONG



PHULY



PHU-THO



QUANG-YEN



SEPT PAGODES



SON-LA



TAM-DAO



TUYEN-QUANG



VINH-YEN



YEN-BAI

Petaín
Postmarks on 6 cents

TONKIN



HANOI R.P.



CAO-BANG

Pétain
Postmarks on 6 cents

RAILROAD



DALAT-TOURCHAM

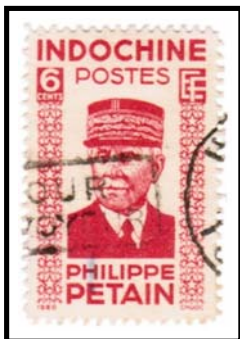
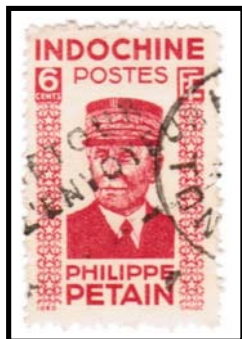


HANOI A HAIPHONG



QUINHON A HANOI

RETURN TO SENDER



RURAL



Pétain
Postmarks on 10 cents



BONENG



HONGAY



CAMAU



CUA-LO



DAP-CAU



GOCONG



THAI-NGUYEN



HAIPHONG

Pétain
Postmarks on 10 cents



HATIEU



LOCNIH



LONGTHANH



PAKSANE



SAIGON PRINCIPAL



SNOUL



TANAN



THANH-HOA



VIENTIANE

Petain
Postmarks on 40 cents blue



CAMAU



DALAT



HANOI A



HANOI R.P.



NAM-DINH



NINH-BINH



PHU-THO



SAIGON PRINCIPAL



TANCHAU



THAI-BINH



TUYHOA



UONG-BI



VIET-TRI

Petaín
Postmarks on 40 cents slate blue



CAO-BANG



DAP-CAU



DONGHOI



DONG-TRIEU



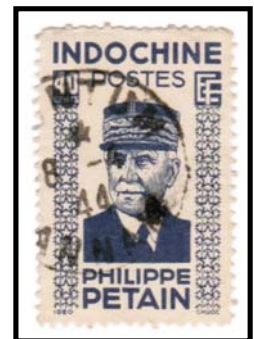
GODAUHA



HANOI R.P.



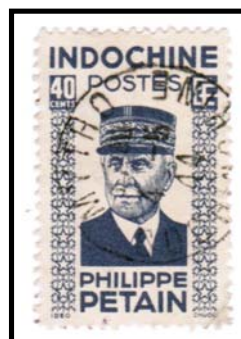
HANOI-D



KONTUM



LANG-SON

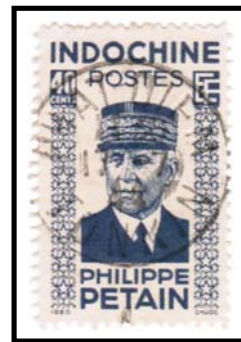


MYTHO

Petaín
Postmarks on 40 cents slate blue



NAM-DINH



PHAT-DIEM



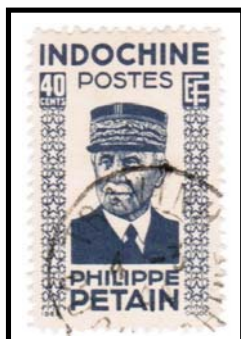
SAIGON A



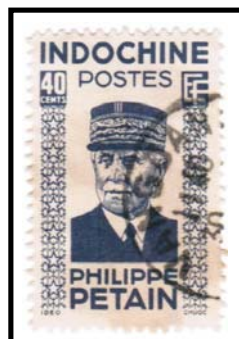
THAKEK



TOURANE



TRAVINH



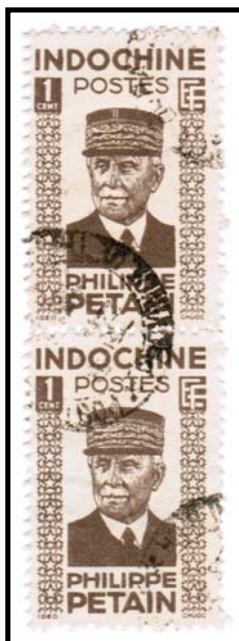
VANGDANH



VIET-TRI

Petaín Postmarks

RURAL POST OFFICES



Pétain
Perfins



Bank of Indochina (Saigon Branch)



Unknown Company

Petaín
BIC Perfin on Cover

A 10-cent Petaín commemorative with a "BIC" Perfin franks a bank windowed envelope from World War II. A handstamp applied in red claimed that bank correspondence was exempt from censorship.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 22-5 44
bank censor exemption handstamp
REVERSE
NAM-DINH TONKIN 24-5 44

Petaín Usage

Three Petaín values were favor cancelled at the Saigon Fair on the last day of use of the special postmark.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-FOIRE-EXPOSITION 21-2 43
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 22-3 43

Pétain Usage

A collection of five different Pétain commemoratives was favor-canceled on stationery of the "Ecole d'Enfants de Troupe" at Dalat in August 1943. Each stamp was affixed with a paper hinge and tied with a Dalat postmark. The motivation for creating this souvenir is unclear.



POSTAL MARKINGS
DALAT ANNAM 17-8 43 (blue)

Pétain
Use of 1 cent

A soldier in the Far East Expeditionary Corps created a souvenir by having a 1-cent Pétain commemorative favor cancelled on an old postcard at Gia-Lam in 1951.



POSTAL MARKINGS
GIA-LAM TONKIN 10-6 1951
REVERSE
GIA-LAM TONKIN 10-6 1951

Pétain
Use of 1 cent

During World War II, for the period of 1 December 1943 through 15 October 1944, the internal letter rate was 10 cents. Here the sender assembled a collection of smaller values to make up the required postage. Among these was a pair of 1-cent Pétain stamps. By itself, the 1-cent value satisfied no real postal purpose.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 4-4 44
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 4-4 44
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 11 AVR 44

Pétain
Use of 1 cent

With another 15 cents worth of postage on the reverse, the low value Pétain stamp paid local mail service from Tam-Bao, Tonkin to Sam-Son, Annam. Note that the sender had struck out "PAR AVION" in the corner imprint to be sure the letter was not charged postage due.



POSTAL MARKINGS

TAM-DAO TONKIN 29-10 41

REVERSE

TAM-DAO TONKIN 29-10 41

HANOI TONKIN R.P. TONKIN 30-10 41

SAM-SON ANNAM 1-11 41

Pétain
First Day of Issue
Second Printing of 1 cent

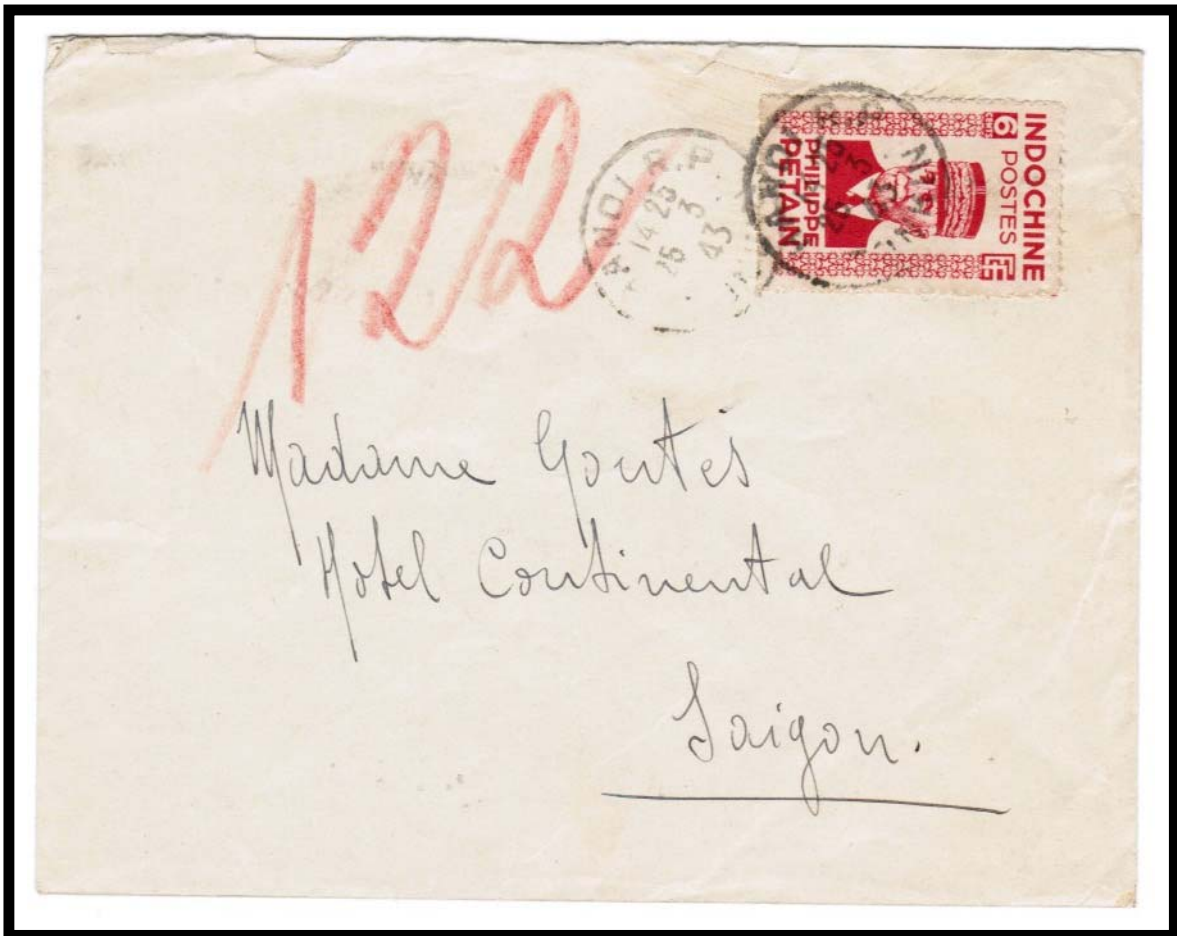
The first day of issue for the second printing (perforated 12) of the 1 cent stamp was 16 November 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-11 43
REVERSE
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-11 43

Pétain
Use of 6 cents

The 6-cent internal letter rate came into effect on 16 June 1939 and remained in effect until 30 November 1943. Here a 6-cent Pétain commemorative paid for a March 1943 mailing from Hanoi to Saigon.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P TONKIN 25-3 43

Pétain
Use of 6 cents

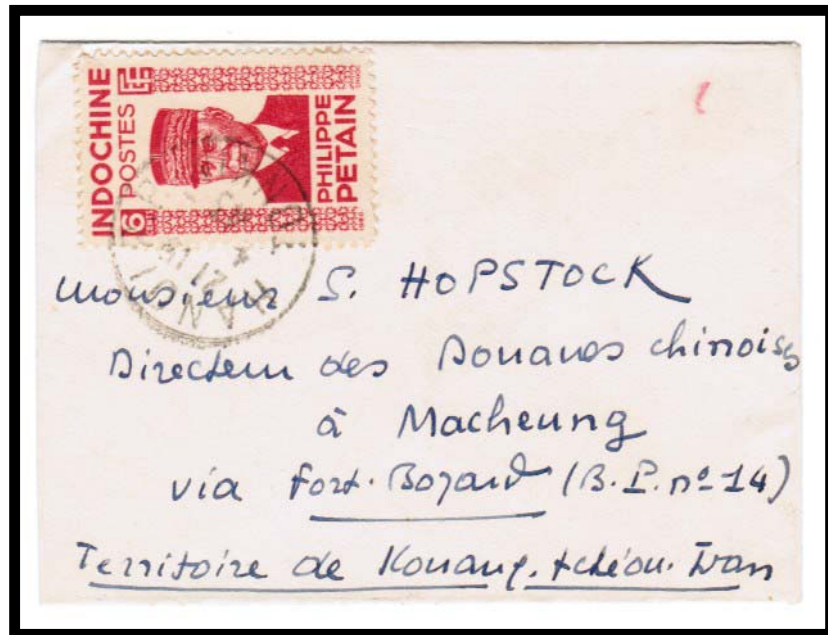
The local letter rate remained at 6 cents until the end of 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS
RACHGIA COCHINCHINE 5-9 43
REVERSE
SAIGON•PRINCIPAL 10 SEPT 43

Pétain
Use of 6 cents

The 6 cent Pétain stamp franked a small envelope mailed in 1943 from Hanoi to the Director of Chinese Customs at Macheung and was directed via a post office box in Fort Bayard in Kouang Cho Wan.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R. P. TONKIN 4-2 43

Pétain
Use of 6 cents

In 1943, the 6-cent Pétain commemorative paid the postage for a local postcard mailed from Tourane to Saigon.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 23-2 43

Petain
Use of 6 cents

The internal postcard rate was 6 cents from 1938 through 1944. Here a 6-cent Petain commemorative stamp paid the postage for a mailing from Saigon to Hanoi. The year was likely 1943 based on the fact that "Saigon-Central" postmarks transitioned to "Saigon-Principal" postmarks in 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 1-6 43

Pétain
Use of 6 cents

With a large number of stamps on the reverse, the postage was overpaid on this registered internal letter. The letter was handstamped with a "Franked by Sender" marking.

AFFRANCHI
PAR
EXPEDITEUR



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAIPHONG TONKIN 14-8 42
registration label

Franked by Sender handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 16-8 42
NHATRANG-CITADELLE ANNAM 19-8 42

Pétain Use of 6 cents

In 1944, an internal, registered letter was franked with six copies of the 6-cent Pétain commemorative stamp. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	10 cents
registration fee	30 cents
total	40 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 4-1 44
registration label and "G7" postal window handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 5-1 44

Pétain
First Day of Issue
Third Printing of 6 cents

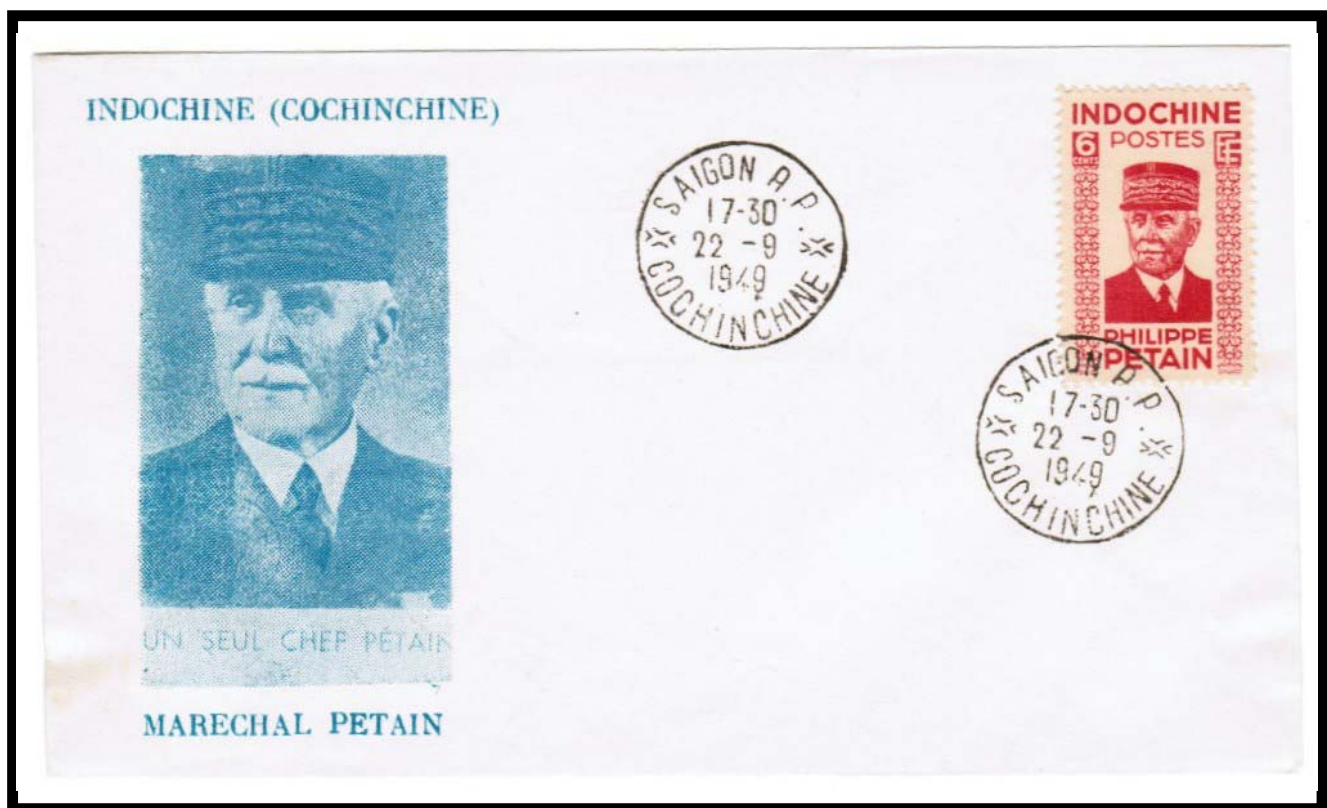
The 6 cent value was so widely used that a third printing was placed in service on 1 November 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 1-11 43
REVERSE
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 1-11 43

Pétain Use of 6 cents on Bogus Cover

Faked covers with genuine stamps were made in the 1960s for sale to stamp collectors.



POSTAL MARKINGS
bogus SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 22-9 1949

Pétain
Use of 10 cents

The internal letter rate rose from 6 cents to 10 cents on 1 December 1943. The rate was in effect for less than a year.



POSTAL MARKINGS
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 20-4 44
REVERSE
CAMAU COCHINCHINE 23-4 44

Pétain
First Day of Issue
Use of 10 cents

The 10-cent value was issued on 1 December 1943, the day that the letter rate was increased.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 1-12 43
REVERSE
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 1-12 43

Pétain
First Day of Issue
Use of 10 cents

Posted on 1 December 1943 by a stamp dealer, this mailing represents a first day of use. The letter is addressed in Chinese to: Mr. Zhang Jun-Zhi, Chong Cheng School, Chaudoc.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 1-12 43

Pétain
Use of 40 cents blue

A single 40-cent blue Pétain stamp paid the local registered letter rate in 1944.
Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate (0-10 grams)	0\$10
registration fee	0\$30
total	0\$40



POSTAL MARKINGS

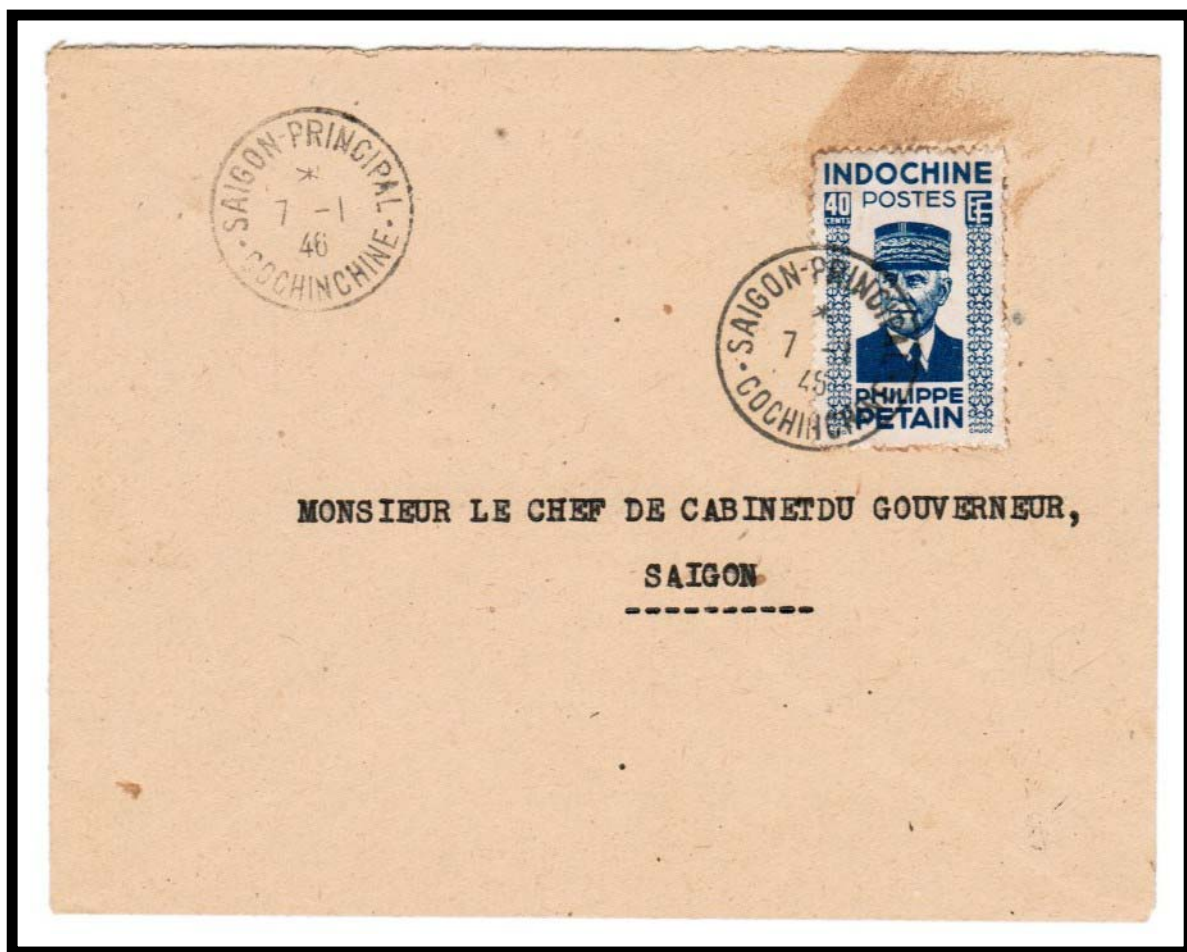
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 12-5 44
registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 13-5 44

Pétain
Use of 40 cents blue

In 1946, a 40-cent stamp franked a local letter to the Governor's Chief of Staff at Saigon.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON•PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 7-1 46
flight cachet

REVERSE

SAIGON•PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 8-1 46

Pétain
Use of 40 cents slate blue

The 40-cent value satisfied the needs of local registered letters. Postage was computed as follows:

local letter rate	10 cents
registration fee	30 cents
total	40 cents



POSTAL MARKINGS
CANTHO COCHINCHINE 8-6 44
registration label
REVERSE
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 9-6 44

Pétain
Use of 40 cents slate blue

On 1 April 1942, the foreign letter rate rose 25 cents per 20 grams to 40 cents per 20 grams. To prevent the outflow of valuables through the mails, the Customs Department would inspect registered letters. Those found without contraband were resealed and marked "VISE PAR LA DOUANE," meaning "examined by Customs."



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 18-3 43
"Examined by Customs" with manuscript date
BANGKOK G.P.O. 23 3 43

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 18-3 43
registration label

Petaín Envelope

The only postal stationery item prepared using a design from the Vichy period was the 6 cent Petaín envelope. Like the Vichy period stamps, the Petaín envelopes were printed in Hanoi.



Petaín Envelope

Colors of the ink for the indicium varied. For this example, the indicium is vermillion while the normal stamp is carmine.



Petaín Envelope Usage

Effective 1 December 1943, the internal letter rate increased from 6 cents to 10 cents. A 4-cent Indochinese Culture stamp was added to a 6-cent Petaín envelope for a mailing from Than-Nguyen to Saigon at the end of 1943.



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAN-NGUYEN TONKIN 29-12 43

REVERSE

HANOI BIS TONKIN 29-12 43

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 3012 43

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 4 JANV 44

Petaín Envelope Usage

The sender affixed 9 cents additional postage to the 6-cent Petaín envelope for an internal mailing from Quang-Yen, Tonkin to Sam-Son Annam in 1944. In October 1944, the internal letter rate rose to 15 cents. This mailing escaped being cited for postage due.



POSTAL MARKINGS
QUANG-YEN TONKIN 17-10 44
REVERSE
SAM-SON ANNAM 20-10 44

Petaín Envelope Usage

A variety of commemorative stamps complemented the 6 cent value of the Petaín envelope. Sent to an inspector with Chinese Customs by registered mail in 1944, the letter did not escape censorship.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAM-SON ANNAM 5-1 44
registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. B^{IS} TONKIN 7-1 44
CHUNGKING 27.2.44

Pétain Envelope
Preprinted for Election Ballot

Five hundred Pétain envelopes were printed for returning 1943 election ballots for the Saigon Sports Club (Cercle Sportif Saigonnais). A space at the lower left allowed for the identification of the voter. In addition, a space for the voter's signature was provided.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 10-5 43

Petaín Envelope Usage

With a Viet Minh stamp depicting Ho Chi Minh attached, this envelope was handstamped with several circular markings that promoted the Viet Minh cause for independence.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH THAU CUC BAC BO 15-12 46
circular propaganda markings