Missionaries

Two missionaries who worked to spread Christianity in Indochina were honored with commemorative stamps during World War II.



Bishop of Adran





de Rhodes

Bishop of Adran

Pigneau de Behaine (1741-1799), a French missionary, helped young Prince Nguyen Anh escape a massacre of the royal family and earned his undying gratitude. As a statesman, de Behaine negotiated an aid agreement with France, which was later cited as the basis for French territorial claims in Indochina.



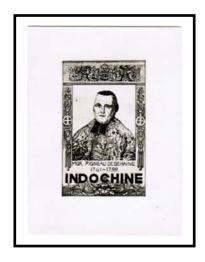


TOMB FOR THE BISHOP OF ADRAN IN SAIGON SUBURBS

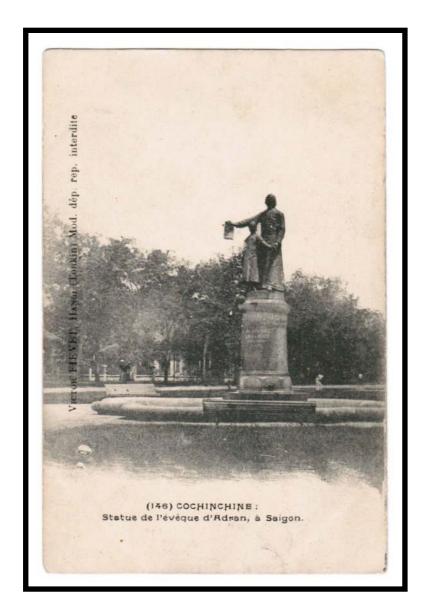
Bishop of Adran

In 1767, Pigneau de Behaine (1741-1719) was sent to the Far East by the Society of Foreign Missionaries. Although he raised an army and negotiated diplomatic agreements, his aim was always spreading Christianity rather than French colonialism.





Photographic reduction of essay for postage stamp.



Statue of the Bishop of Adran in Saigon.

Bishop of Adran Semi-postal Essay

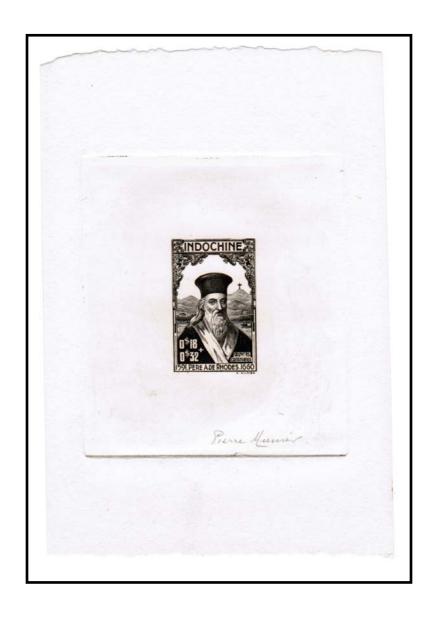
An essay for Pigneau de Behaine with a value of 0\$20 + 0\$40 was struck in greenish-blue ink. Below and to the right, the engraver signed the essay.



de Rhodes Semi-postal Essay

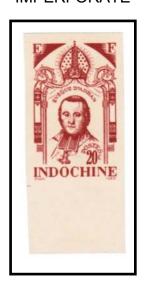
A semi-postal with a face value of 0\$18 + 0\$32 was never issued. The central design is not unlike the commemorative stamps, which were issued.





Bishop of Adran Varieties

IMPERFORATE



COLOR SHADES







de Rhodes Color Shades





















de Rhodes Varieties

Impressions









Papers



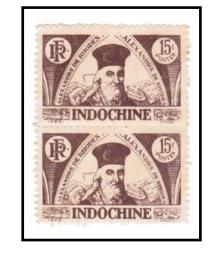






WHITE YELLOW

de Rhodes 15 cents Perforation Varieties





BLIND HORIZONTAL PERFORATIONS

DOUBLY PERFORATED VERTICALLY



DOUBLY PERFORATED HORIZONTALLY

de Rhodes 15 cents Perforation Varieties



PARTIALLY IMPERFORATE HORIZONTALLY



SHIFTED PERFORATIONS



IMPERFORATE VERTICALLY

de Rhodes 30 cents Perforation Varieties



IMPERFORATE



PERFORATED 12



PERFORATED 14



PERFORATED 12 x 13 1/2

Missionaries Postmarks



CHOLON-BINHTAY COCHINCHINE



SAIGON-PRINCIPLE COCHINCHINE



DALAT ANNAM



THAKHEK CAMBODGE



CHOLON COCHINCHINE



DALAT ANNAM

Missionaries Postmarks



HA-NOI TONKIN



HANOI B TONKIN



HAI-DUONG TONKIN



HATINH ANNAM



NINH-BINH TONKIN



NINH-GIANG TONKIN



PHUC-YEN TONKIN



SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE



RURAL POST

Bishop of Adran First Day of Use

The 20-cent Bishop of Adran stamp was released on 10 June 1943. Here an example was favor canceled at Hanoi on the day of release.



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI A. TONKIN 10-6 43

Bishop of Adran Usage

Although the 20-cent Bishop of Adran commemorative was issued in June 1943, the internal letter rate only reached 20 cents in May 1946. A single example of the stamp paid for delivery of bank correspondence from Saigon-Principle to Hanoi in 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 3 5 45

Bishop of Adran Usage

A pair or 20-cent Bishop of Adran commemorative stamps franked a registered mailing within Saigon in 1944. Postage was calculated as:

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



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 28-4 44
registration label
REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 29-4 44

Bishop of Adran Usage

Evidently, the sender had intended to send his mailing via registered mail as he franked the cover with a pair of 20-cent stamps. The cover was handstamped with one of the calls for revolution messages "Down with the Oppressors."

國隸奴為再不死寧 A BAS LES OPPRESSEURS



POSTAL MARKINGS

CHOLON COCHINCHINE 31-8 47 slogan handstamp "Down with the Oppressors" handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 31 AOUT 47

Bishop of Adran Usage

A single copy of the 20-cent Bishop of Adran contributed to the franking for a wartime registered letter sent from Tourane to Hue in 1943. Despite wartime difficulties, registry service remained available to postal patrons.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 15-9 43
registration label
REVERSE
HUE ANNAM 15-9 43

Bishop of Adran Usage

The 20-cent Bishop of Adran denomination did not conform to any common prevailing postal rate in World War II. Consequently, the stamp was most often used as a make-up value for postage on more complex mailings.

In this example, a registered letter was sent to a local Commissioner of Customs in China.



POSTAL MARKINGS SAM-SON ANNAM 17-1 43 registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. B^{IS} TONKIN 18-7 43 HANOI R.P. TONKIN 19-7 43 DONG-DANG TONKIN 21-7 43

Bishop of Adran Usage

With two copies of the 20-cent Bishop of Adran stamp on the reverse along with two copies on the front, this cover was properly franked for the postwar foreign letter rate of 1\$50.

After the cessation of hostilities in September, mail service was quickly restored. Posted on 1 December 1945, this cover is evidence that even foreign mail connections were quickly reestablished.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1-12 45

Bishop of Adran Usage

After World War II, postage rates and airmail surcharges rose rapidly. Here three 20-cent Bishop of Adran commemoratives contributed to the total of 1.70 piasters for an airmail letter from Saigon to Denmark in August 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 21-8 46

de Rhodes First Day of Issue Use of 15 cents

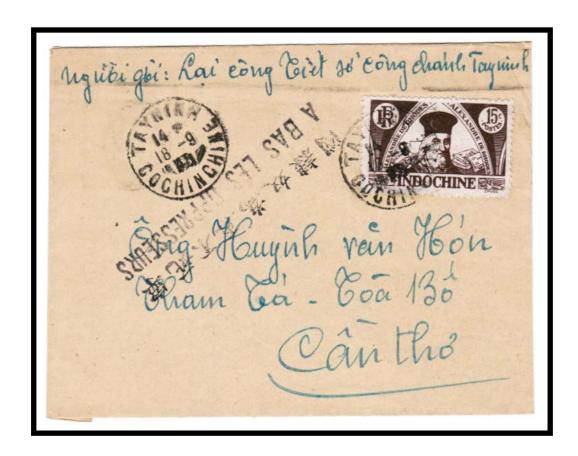
The 15-cent de Rhodes value was the only one of the wartime stamps issued by the Japanese after their takeover of the government on 9 March 1945.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-3 45
REVERSE
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 27-3 45

A single 15 cent de Rhodes stamp paid for delivery of a local letter in September 1945. Revolutionary sentiment is reflected in the bilingual handstamp that reads "DOWN WITH THE OPPRESSORS!" Curiously, the marking is written in Chinese and French but not in Vietnamese.

國隸奴為再不死寧 A BAS LES OPPRESSEURS



POSTAL MARKINGS
TAYNINH COCHINCHINE 18-9 45
slogan handstamp
REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 21 SEPT 45

In May 1946, the 15-cent de Rhodes commemorative franked a letter sent to an employee of the Mines Service. After being forwarded to France, the post office was unable to locate the addressee and the letter was ultimately returned to the sender in Indochina.



POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 6-5 46 multiple redirection instructions RETURN TO SENDER handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON•PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 5-8 46

The letter rate to France had been 15 cents since 16 April 1942, even though postal communication was virtually impossible during the war. The letter rate remained at 15 cents through 4 May 1946. Here, a 15-cent de Rhodes commemorative stamps paid the postage a letter addressed to Paris in March 1946, shortly before the increase in rates.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 13-3 46

Because of paper shortages, the sender constructed an envelope from previously used notepaper by turning the unused side outward. Two 15-cent de Rhodes stamps overpaid the internal letter rate of 15 cents, which was in effect from October 1944 through May 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHU-LANG-THUONG TONKIN 22-2 46

After August 1948, the internal letter rate became 60 cents. Here, one of the 15 cent de Rhodes stamps is tied by a propaganda marking meaning "All patriots must participate in civics education." Coincidentally, the handstamp promoting study was applied to stationery of the Department of Public Education.

HÃYTHAMGÍA DÂN HUẨN VỤ



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI TONKIN 12-10 48
slogan handstamp
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 15-10 48

Five copies on the front and six copies of the 15-cent de Rhodes commemorative on the reverse paid for airmail service to France for a letter posted during the 1948 Saigon Fair.





POSTAL MARKINGS

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 17-4 48 Saigon Fair handstamp

REVERSE

SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 19-4 48

With another four copies on the reverse, a total of twelve 15-cent stamps paid postage computed as follows:

| letter rate to France | 0.60 piasters |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| airmail surcharge | 1.20 piasters |
| total | 1.80 piasters |



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 6-4 48
REVERSE
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 6-4 48

A block consisting of eight copies of the 15-cent de Rhodes commemorative stamp paid 1\$20 postage for airmail service to France in 1948.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 14-1 48
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 17-1 48
REVERSE
HAIPHONG TONKIN 14-1 48

de Rhodes Use of 15 and 30 cents

Effective 16 October 1944, the internal letter rate had become 15 cents and effective 16 April 1942, the registration fee had become 30 cents. The 45 cents postage for an internal, registered letter was paid with two examples of de Rhodes commemorative stamps.

Học Tiếng VIET NAM Bước Đầù TỰ LẬP

"Study Vietnamese to start making it on your own."



POSTAL MARKINGS

CANTHO COCHINCHINE 21-9 45

registration label

slogan handstamp

de Rhodes First Day of Issue Use of 30 cents

The second printing of the 30-cent de Rhodes value was released six months after the first printing.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-12 43
REVERSE
PHNOMPENH CAMBODGE 16-12 43

Effective 16 April 1942, the registration fee for internal letters rose to 30 cents. The 30-cent de Rhodes stamp was issued to satisfy the additional postage requirement for registered letters. Here the 30-cent de Rhodes stamp was used on a registered official mailing in 1944. The envelope consisted of a "turned cover" created from a government form.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PHANRANG ANNAM 23-11 44
registration label and framed AR
REVERSE
PHANRANG ANNAM 23-11 44

The internal airmail surcharge was 15 cents per 20 grams from October 1944 through May 1946. Unless this example of bank correspondence was very heavy, postage for the mailing was significantly overpaid with a strip of three 30-cent de Rhodes stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 16-3 46

A postwar airmail letter to France was franked with four 30-cent de Rhodes stamps. Postage was computed as follows:

| letter rate to France | 40 cents |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| airmail supplement | 80 cents |
| total | 1.20 piasters |

The top two stamps are the lighter shade while the bottom two are the darker shade.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 24-12 46

Four 30-cent de Rhodes stamps were affixed to the reverse of an airmail letter from Rachgia to Paris in 1947.



POSTAL MARKINGS
RACHGIA COCHINCHINE 29-12 47
SAIGON R.P. COCHINCHINE 6-1 48
REVERSE
RACHGIA COCHINCHINE 29-12 47

During World War II, the registry surcharge was 30 cents. The high value de Rhodes stamp exactly paid the registration fee.



POSTAL MARKINGS

NAM-DINH TONKIN 8-7 43

registration label

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 97-43