National Relief

In August 1942, a series of two semi-postal stamps was issued to support the war effort. In March 1944, the low value (6 cents + 2 cents) was overprinted in black with a new denomination, 10 cents + 2 cents.



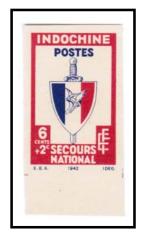




When overprinted, a serial number was applied in the bottom left margin of the sheet.



National Relief Perforation Varieties



IMPERFORATE



IMPERFORATE



IMPERFORATE



IMPERFORATE HORIZONTALLY

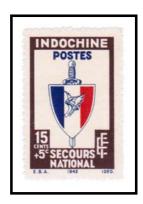
National Relief Paper Varieties



WHITE PAPER



YELLOW PAPER

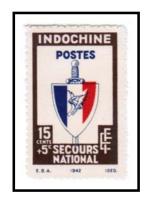


WHITE PAPER



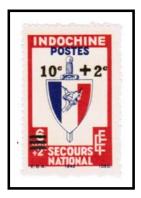
YELLOW PAPER

National Relief Color Misregistrations

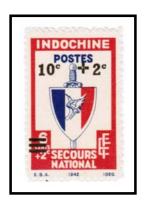


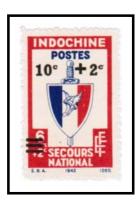






National Relief Overprint Shifts









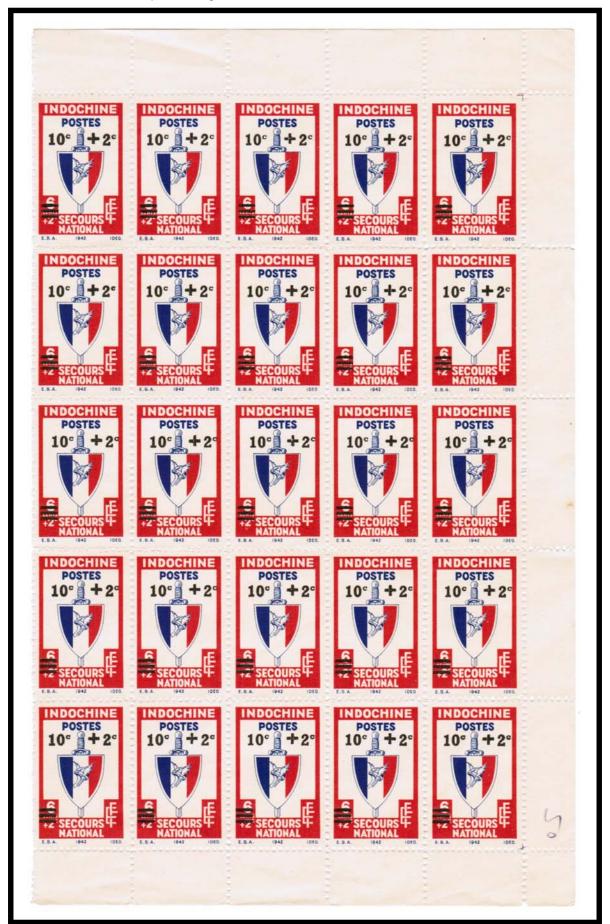
National Relief Overprint Variety

Following each numeral is the abbreviation for "cents" in the form of a solitary "c." The "c" following the "10" at the bottom right is noticeably lighter, thinner and is located such that it touches the "10." The margin note indicates that the "c" was handstamped. Presumably, the "c" would have been missing on many sheets. Perhaps the error was discovered before the printing run was complete allowing some portion of the overprinted sheets to be printed without the error. Certainly, labor was cheap at the time, so it is conceivable that each pane was handstamped. However, in that case, one would expect considerable variation in the location of the tiny "c."





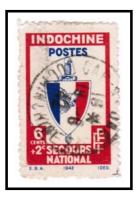
New Value National Relief Overprint height = 23 millimeters on two bottom rows.



National Relief Postmarks



BIENHOA COCHINCHINE



CAP ST JACQUES COCHINCHINE



CULAOGIENG COCHINCHINE



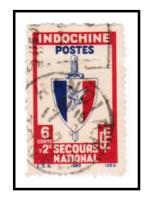
VINHLONG COCHINCHINE



HAI-DUONG COCHINCHINE



HAIPHONG TONKIN

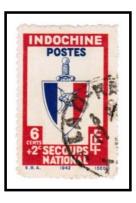


HANOI R.P. COCHINCHINE

National Relief Postmarks



HONGAY COCHINCHINE



LOCNINH TONKIN



LAO-KAY TONKIN



SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE



slogan



TAMKY ANNAM

National Relief Postmarks



SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE



slogan



HANOI R.P. TONKIN



HANOI C. TONKIN



HANOI R.P. TONKIN



HONGAY TONKIN

National Relief First Day of Issue

The two semi-postal stamps were issued on I August 1942 to collect money for the National Relief Fund.



POSTAL MARKINGS

PNOM-PENH CAMBODGE 1-8 42

REVERSE

PNOM-PENH CAMBODGE 1-8 42

National Relief First Day of Issue

Semi-postal stamps while unusual in Indochina were not unknown. Examples of the two National relief semi-postals frank this envelope posted from Saigon on the first day of issue.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1-8 42

National Relief First Day of Issue

Two examples of each of the National Relief semi-postal stamps paid for a local registered letter on the stamp's first day of use.



POSTAL MARKINGS

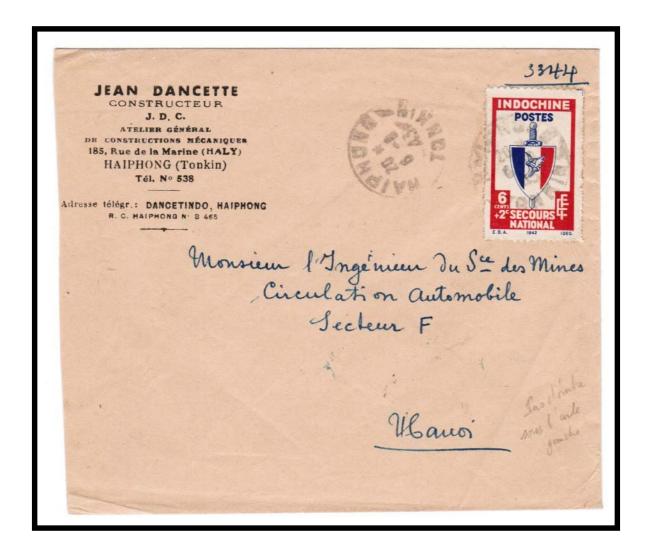
SAIGON-TANDINH COCHINCHINE 1-8 42
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2-8 42

National Relief Use of 6 + 2 cents

The 6c + 2c National Relief semi-postal stamp paid for delivery of an internal letter in August 1943. Effective 1 December 1943, the local letter rate rose from 6 cents to 10 cents.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 6-8 43
REVERSE
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 7-8 43

National Relief Use of 6 + 2 cents

The 6 + 2 cents value of the National Relief set was used on a business letter posted from Honquan to Saigon in the middle of World War II. It is curious that a business, in this case a plantation, would choose to use semi-postal stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HONQUAN COCHINCHINE 25-2 43
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 27-2 43

National Relief Use of 15 + 5 cents

Presumably, the 15c + 5c National Relief semi-postal stamp was issued to satisfy the French Community letter rate. Here the stamp overpaid the postage for an internal letter in October 1942.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TINH-TUC TONKIN 13-10 42
REVERSE
CAO-BANG TONKIN 14-10 42
HANOI BIS TONKIN 16-10 42

National Relief Use of 15 + 5 cents

Postage for a local registered mailing in 1943 would have been 40 cents. The semi-postal stamp only had a postage value of 15 cents making the total postage paid 36 cents. Perhaps, postal officials overlooked the underpayment and made no obvious effort to collect postage due because the letter originated from a government entity.



POSTAL MARKINGS
THUDAUMOT COCHINCHINE 1-7 43
registration label

REVERSE

SAIGON-PRINCIPAL COCHINCHINE 1-7 43

National Relief Use of 6 + 2 cents and 15 + 5 cents

Two of the Vichy semi-postal stamps contributed to the franking of a wartime letter sent from Hanoi to Shanghai in 1942. A partisan slogan complemented the patriotic stamps.

Collaboration FRANCO-INDOCHINOIS Force de la Union

"FRANCO-INDOCHINESE COLLABORATION ... STRENGTH OF THE UNION"



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI R.P. TONKIN 42
slogan handstamp

REVERSE

HANOI R.P. BIS TONKIN 11-11 42



New Value National Relief Use of 10 cents + 2 cents First Day of Issue

The low value semi-postal was overprinted with the new value 10 cents + 2 cents after postal rates increased at the end of 1943. Its first day of issue was 15 March 1944.



POSTAL MARKINGS
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 15-3 44

New Value National Relief Use of 10 cents + 2 cents

The 6c + 2c National Relief commemorative stamp was overprinted after postal rates were increased effective 1 December 1943 making the local letter rate 10 cents. Here a sender used the overprinted stamp for an internal mailing from Hanoi to Pnompenh in September 1944.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI R.P. TONKIN 5-9 44
REVERSE
PNOMPENH CAMBODGE 14-9 44

New Value National Relief Use of 10 cents + 2 cents

The overprinted National Relief semi-postal stamp was combined with three other contemporary overprinted Vichy semi-postal stamps for a philatelic mailing in 1948.



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

New Value National Relief Use of 10 cents + 2 cents Faked Cover

It was unlikely that a printer would have had the time or inclination to prepare a multi-color envelope on the day of a surprise military take-over!



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI B TONKIN 9-3 45 (bogus)

National Relief Faked Cover

This cover with the three different National Relief stamps is an example of the types of items prepared for sale to American servicemen in the 1960s.



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI B TONKIN 2-9 43 (bogus)