

Napoleon Postmarks

The provisional reestablishment of the Republic created confusion in France as the machinery of government slowly turned. Facing a shortage of stamps in the colonies, the Ministry of Colonies proposed to the Ministry of Finance that the colonies be permitted to use French stamps. The Administration of Posts agree provided that some “distinctive sign” be used to distinguish them from France proper. To accomplish this, the Mint decided to issue the stamps imperforate. Thus, the precedent of issuing imperforate variations of regular French was set and the practice was to continue for the next ten years.

1 centime



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



Napoleon
Postmarks

5 centimes



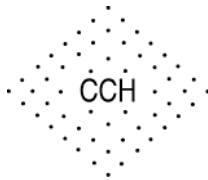
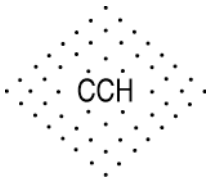
CCH lozenge
COCHINCHINE



SAIGON
COCHINCHINE



CCH lozenge
COCHINCHINE



30 centimes



TONQUIN
HAI-PHONG



SAIGON
COCHINCHINE



TONQUIN
HAI-PHONG



Napoleon Postmarks

30 centimes



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



COCHINCHINE
SAIGON



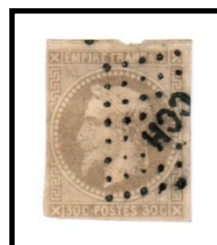
SAIGON
COCHINCHINE



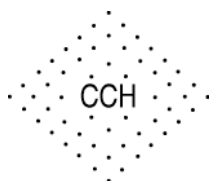
CCH lozenge



CCH lozenge

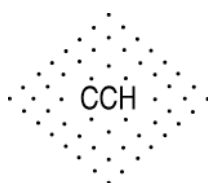


CCH lozenge



Napoleon Lozenge Cancellations

80 centimes



Napoleon Use of 5 centimes

Generally, military personnel serving in colonial posts enjoyed reduced postal rates for letters sent within the French Community. From 1871 until 1878, the letter rate from Indochina to France was 25 centimes (as compared to the civilian rate of 50, then 40, centimes). For this mailing to France in 1873, a 5-centime Napoleon was combined with a 20-centime Eagle to make up the postage for the military letter rate.



POSTAL MARKINGS

CORR. D. ARMEES SAIGON 20 JANV. 73
CCH lozenge
framed PD (red)

Napoleon Use of 30 centimes

With the Universal Postal Union treaty of 1874 coming into effect, the letter rate between France and Colonies became 40 centimes effective 1 July 1876. Here the 40-centime rate for a mailing from Saigon to France in 1877 was paid with a 10-centime Ceres stamp and a 30-centime Napoleon stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS

COCHINCHINE SAIGON 23 AVRIL 77
COL. FR. PAQ. FR. N N° 1 23 AVRIL 77