

Indochina's Viet Minh Overprints 1945-1950

At the close of World War II, the Viet Nam Independence League (Viet Nam Doc Lap Dong Minh Hoi), made up of various nationalistic groups, had political control of all of Tonkin and parts of Annam and Cochinchina. A provisional government in Hanoi with Ho Chi Minh as president gave way to the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on 2 September 1945. The infant government survived largely because the Chinese Nationalist Army occupation force, which was stationed above the 16th parallel to disarm Japanese troops, tolerated it.

The restoration of French military strength (the first soldiers arrived in Saigon on 21 September 1945) signaled French intentions of reclaiming their authority over Indochina. With the withdrawal of the Chinese in March 1946 negotiations with the Vietnamese began in earnest but the positions of mother country and nationalistic colony were irreconcilable. On 8 November 1946, the National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam adopted a constitution that asserted the unity of North, Central and Southern Viet Nam. Guerrilla clashes escalated to open warfare thus signaling the onset of the First Indochinese War.

Large stocks of stamps were available to the Viet Minh, which they overprinted to obliterate the hated French portraits and inscriptions. In all, 52 values of the wartime Hanoi printings and one Paris print were overprinted. The stamps of Indochina were overprinted by the Viet Minh at the Taupin printing house (Imprimerie Taupin) in Hanoi. The name of the printing house was changed after the August Revolution (19 September 1945) from Taupin to Viet Nam An Thu Cuc.

The stamps appeared throughout the 1945-46 era and remained in use for several years in regions controlled the Viet Minh. Although the earliest known genuine cancellations are 21 December 1945, precise dating of the issues is, as yet, impossible. Lacking a chronological basis, the stamps here are grouped by the type of overprint. Different denominations appear in the overprints. Increases in postal surcharges due to inflation caused changes of currency units from piasters to dong to haos (a common subterfuge used by governments to disguise inflation).

Indochinese stamps of the World War II Vichy era were printed under trying conditions resulting in variations in the paper, inks, perforations, etc. The stamps of Indochina were then overprinted by the Viet Minh government using worn machinery in sub-optimal conditions, resulting in a further array of overprint varieties. Examples of both types of varieties are demonstrated in this exhibit.

All the overprints were genuinely used only in areas north of the 16th parallel (the area completely controlled by the Viet-Minh), and in all probability, only in larger cities. The postwar period 1945-1946 was a time of relatively little communication activity. Small amounts of letters were actually mailed. Official mail was sent post-free, and this type of mail constituted most of the written communication.

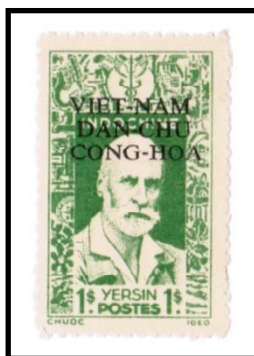
VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA

Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam

Sports and Youth



Alexandre Yersin



Alexandre de Rhodes



Black Overprint



Green Overprint

Sports and Youth Varieties

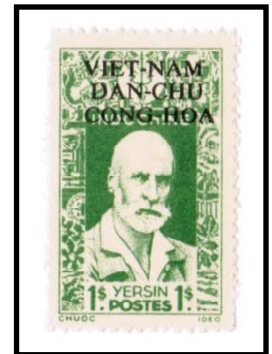
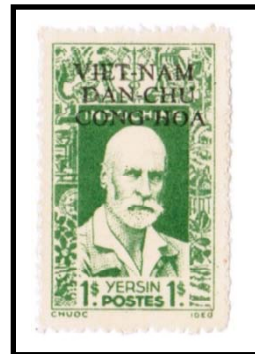
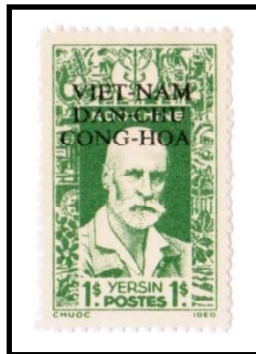


Light Shade

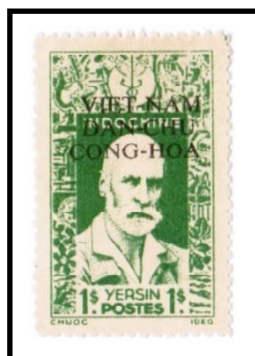


Dark Shade

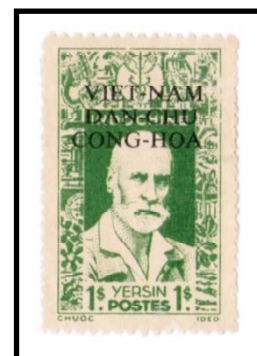
Yersin Varieties



Ascending Overprints



Perforated
12 x 12



Yellow
Paper

Postmarks
Yersin



Sports and Youth



VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA Combination Usage

On the last day of 1945, five different stamps overprinted "VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA" were favor cancelled on this card made from the backside of ledger paper.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 31-12 45

Sports and Youth
Use of 50 cents

The wording in the circular date stamp on this cover translates as "Hanoi Central Clearing Bank."



POSTAL MARKINGS

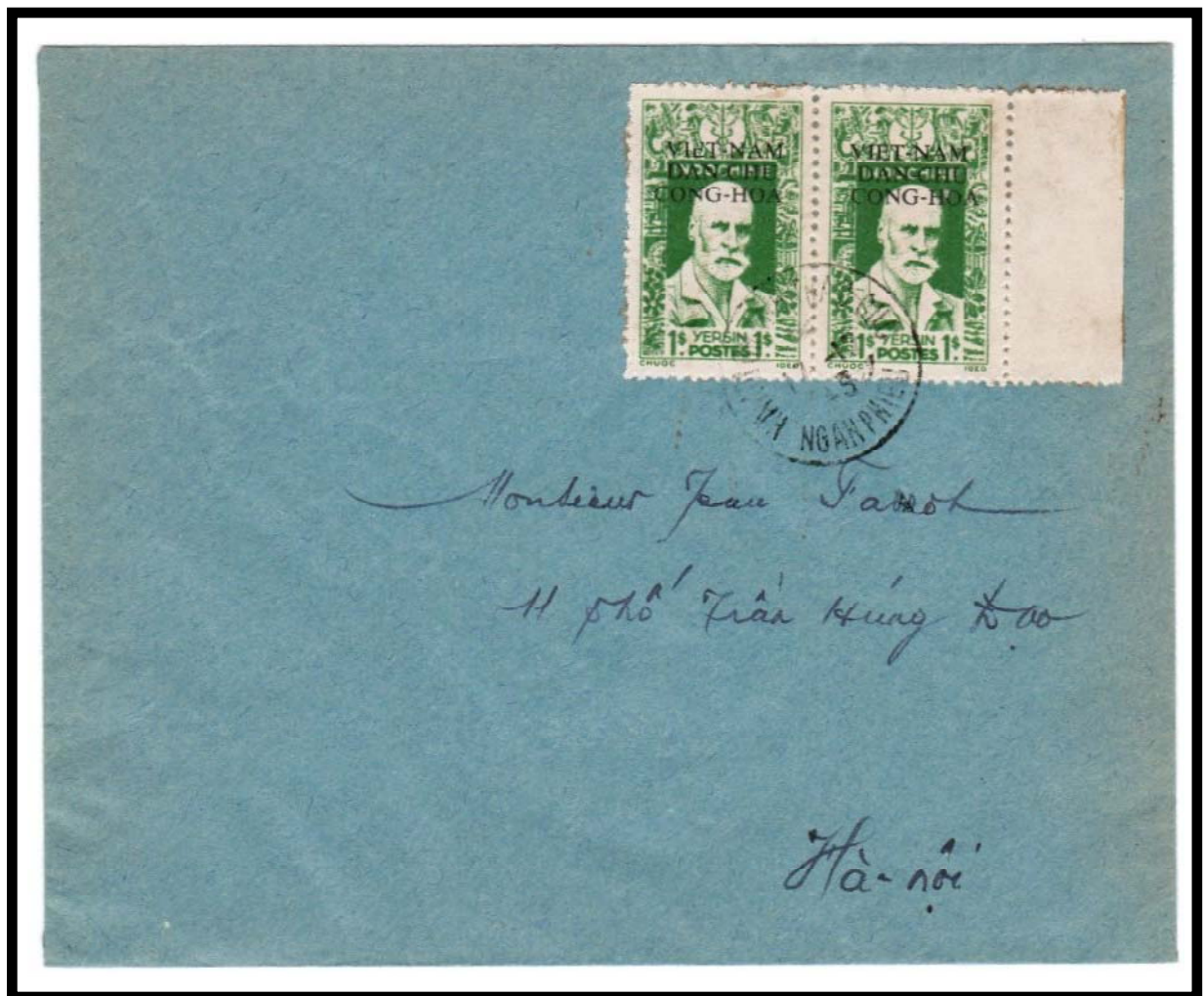
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC NGAN PHIEU 17-12 45

REVERSE

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC NGAN PHIEU 17-12 45

Yersin Varieties and Usage

In alternating columns, the alignment between the three rows of the overprint varies. In one case, the "D" in the second row is directly below the "V." In the next stamp over, the "D" is between the "V" and the "I."



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC NGAN PHIEU 17-12 45

de Rhodes
Varieties of Black Overprint on 15 cents



Light Shade



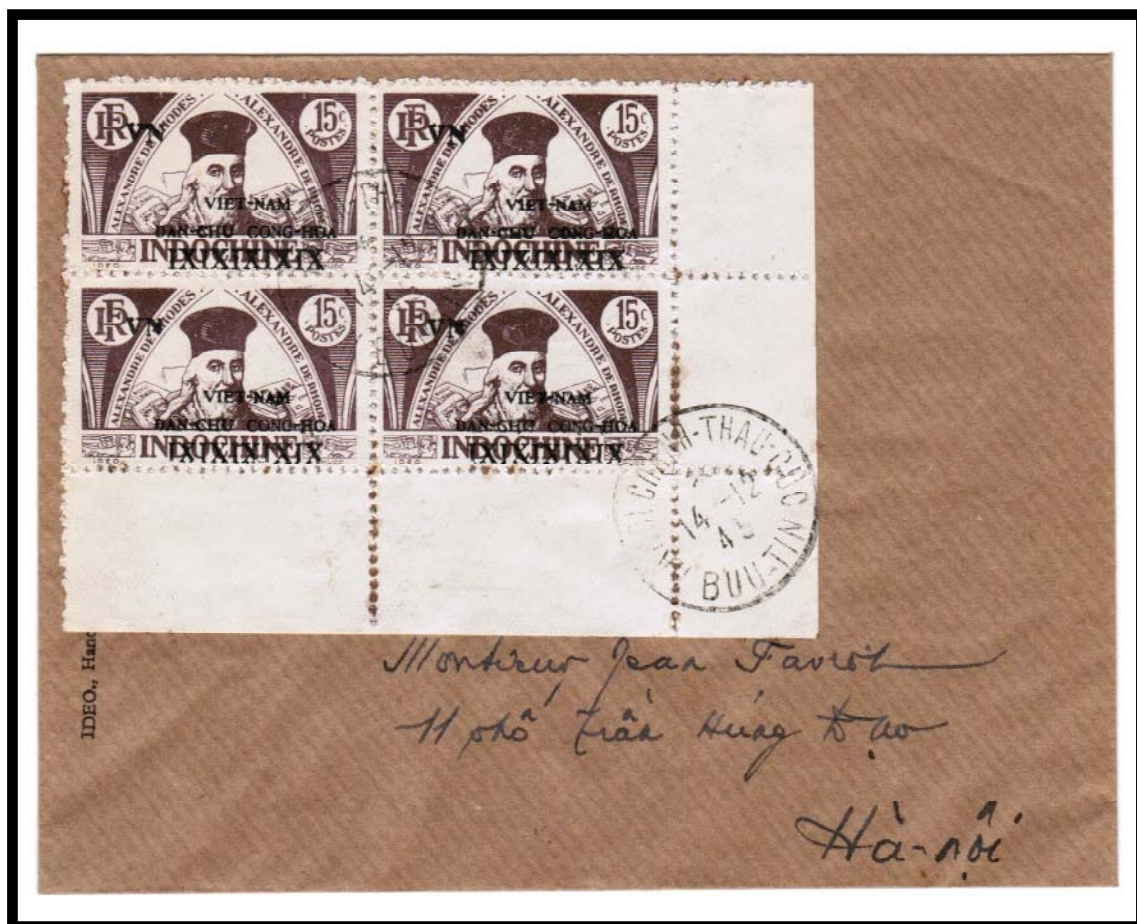
Dark Shade



Yellow Paper



Thin Paper



Overprint Shifted Right

de Rhodes
Varieties of Black Overprint on 15 cents



Overprint Shifted Up



Overprint Shifted Down

de Rhodes
Varieties of Black Overprint on 15 cents



“Black Box” created by overinked “IE” at upper right.



Overprint Shifted Left



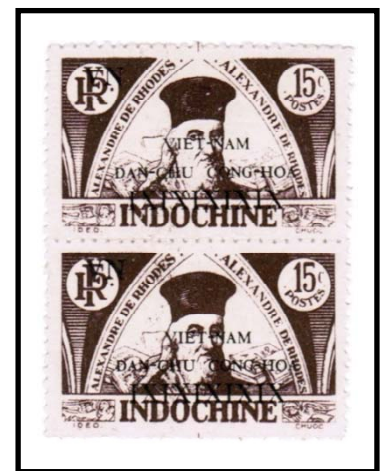
Overprint Shifted Right



Overprint Shifted Down
Light Violet-Brown Shade



Overprint Shifted Up
Light Violet-Brown Shade



Overprint Shifted Up
Dark Violet-Brown Shade

de Rhodes
Varieties of Green Overprint on 15 cents



Perforated 11 1/2 x 11 1/2



Ghost Impression



Light Shade



Medium Shade



Dark Shade



Overprint Shifted Left



Overprint Centered



Overprint Shifted Right



Overprinted Shifted Down



Overprinted Shifted Down



Overprinted Shifted Right

de Rhodes
Varieties of 30 cents



Ochre Shade



Orange-Brown Shade



Ochre Shade
Perforated 13 1/2 x 13 1/2



Ochre Shade
Perforated 12 x 12



Orange-Brown Shade
Perforated 12 x 12



Ochre Shade
Overprint Shifted Left



Orange-Brown Shade
Double Overprint



Orange-Brown Shade
Ghost Overprint



Ochre Shade
Inverted Overprint

de Rhodes
Varieties of 30 cents



Ochre Shade
Overprint Shifted Left



Orange-Brown Shade
Heavy Inking, Clipped Bottom Line

de Rhodes
Postmarks



De Rhodes Usage

Examples of each type of de Rhodes overprint were affixed to this local cover posted on Christmas Day 1946. The overprint on the 30-cent value is shifted noticeably downward.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 25-1 45

de Rhodes
Use of 15 cents

Two examples of both the black and green overprints on the 15-cent value frank
this local mailing in 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 22-1 46

REVERSE

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC GHI-SE12 23-1 46

De Rhodes
Use of 30 cents Variety

The 30-cent value on this cover canceled in 1946 was doubly overprinted.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 8-2 46

REVERSE

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 7-2 46

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
BUU-CHINH
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
postage

Rice Farmer



The 25-cent blue rice farmer was the only Paris-printed stamp that was overprinted by the Viet Minh. Two alternating settings (in alternating columns) were used for the top line of the overprint: 18 millimeters and 20 millimeters.

18 mm

20 mm

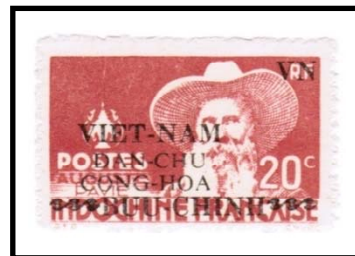


Shifted
Overprint



VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
 BUU-TIN
 Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
 Postage

Auguste Pavie



Marshall Petain



Pavie Varieties



Light Shade



Dark Shade



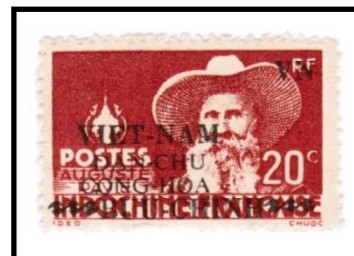
Perforated 11 1/2 x 11 1/2



Perforated 12 x 12



Light Shade



Dark Shade



Light Overprint



Dark Overprint

Pavie Varieties



Missing “c” after “20” at lower right (position 37)

Petaín Varieties



Overprint Shifted Down



Overprint Shifted Right

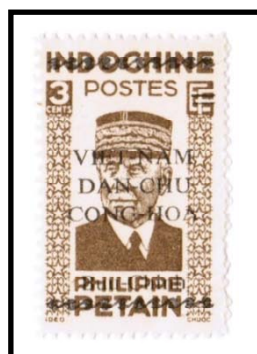
Petain Varieties



Light Shade



Dark Shade



Perforated
11 1/2 x 12



Perforated
12 x 14



Overprint Shifted Left



Overprint Shifted Right



Light Shade



Medium Shade



Dark Shade

Petaín Varieties



White Paper



Yellow Paper



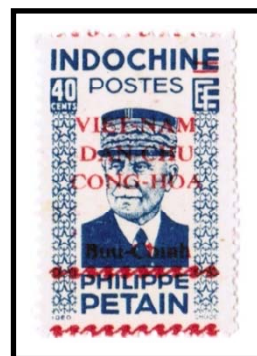
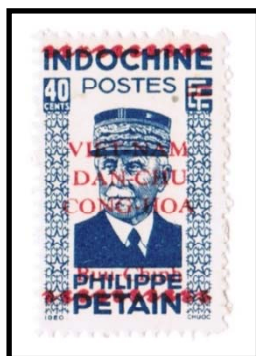
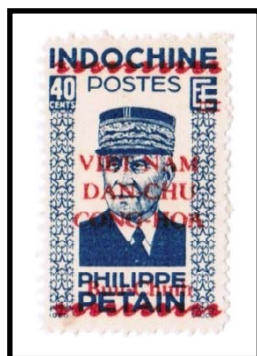
Light Overprint



Medium Overprint



Heavy Overprint
Blocked "C" and "B"



Ascending Overprints

Pavie
Postmarks



Pavie Use of 20 cents

Postage for a mailing from Thai-Binh Province to Gia-Binh in Bac-Ninh Province was paid with an overprinted 20c Pavie stamp and a Garnier stamp revalued to 30 xu. At the origination, the postmark was dated with a handwritten "5 2 49." The 50 xu franking equated to the 5-dong postage rate that was in effect from 1949 through the beginning of 1950. While in route, the mailing received a transit postmark at Hung-Yen.

The cover was created from a form printed in Chinese. A plain piece of paper was pasted on and put to use as a address label.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HUNG-YEN BIEN DIEN CUC ?-2 ??

Pavie
Use of 20 cents

A mixture of contemporary Viet Minh stamps franks this local mailing at Hanoi. Evidence of postwar scarcities is demonstrated by this previously addressed cover which had been turned inside out and readdressed in order to be used again.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 26-2 46

Petaín

Use of 6 cents

Five 6-cent Petaín stamps in combination with two 30-xu Garnier stamps frank a registered mailing within Hanoi in 1946 cover. Given that 1 xu was equivalent to 1 cent, postage was computed as follows:

internal letter rate	30 xu
<u>registration fee</u>	<u>60 xu</u>
total	90 xu

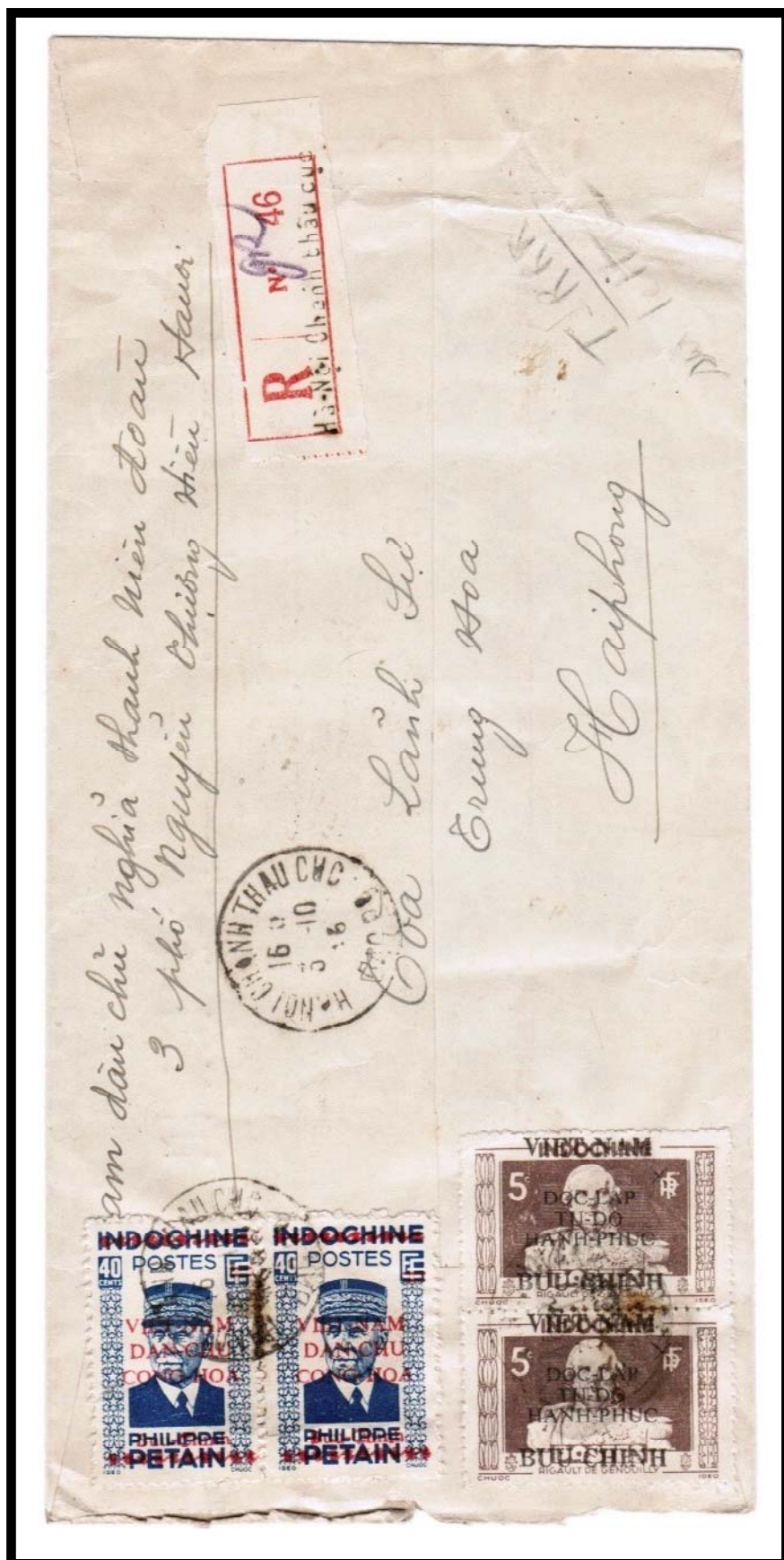


POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH THAU CUC BAC BO 10-10 46

REVERSE

HANOI CHANH THAU CUC BAC BO 10-10 46
registration label



Petaín

Use of 40 cents blue

A pair of 40-cent blue Petaín stamps combined with a pair of 5-cent de Genouilly stamps to pay the postage for a registered mailing from Hanoi to Haiphong in 1946.

Postage for the mailing was determined as follows:

internal letter rate	30 cents
registration fee	60 cents
total	90 cents

POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH THAU CUC BAC-BO

5-10 46

registration label

REVERSE

HAIPHONG BUU DIEN CUC

7-10 46

Petaín Usage

Five different Petaín denominations frank a local 1946 cover. For the 1-cent stamp, the Viet Minh had applied a different overprint from the other Petaín stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HA-NOI TRUNG-UONG BAC-BO 8 11 46

REVERSE

HA-NOI TRUNG-UONG BAC-BO 8 11 46

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
DOC-LAP TU-DO HANH-PHUC BUU-CHINH
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Independence, Freedom, Happiness
Postage

Doudart de Lagree



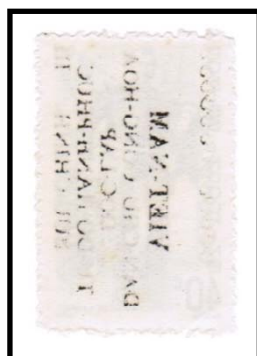
VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
DOC-LAP TU-DO HANH-PHUC
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Independence, Freedom, Happiness

Admiral Andre A. P. Courbet



de Lagree Varieties

Stamp Shades



Transferred Overprint

Partial Overprint at Right

F Overprint Shades



Light Overprint

Dark Overprint

Admiral Courbet Varieties

Stamp Shades



Perforations



Perforated 12

Perforated 11 1/2

de Lagree and Courbet Postmarks

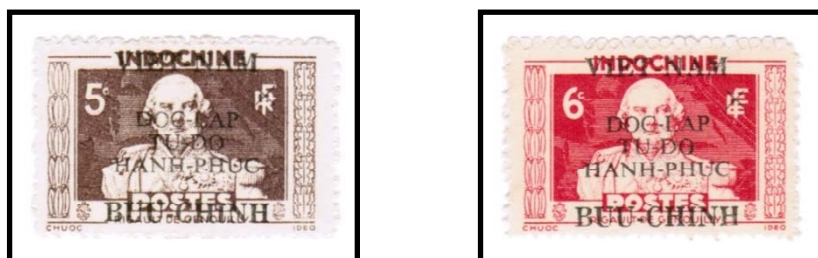


VIET-NAM DOC-LAP TU-DO
HANH-PHUC BUU-CHINH
Viet-Nam Independence, Freedom, Happiness
Postage

Admiral L. V. J. Charner



Admiral Rigault de Genouilly



Governor General Paul Doumer

Marshall Petain



Charner
Varieties



Light Shade



Dark Shade



Overprint Shifted Up

Postmarks



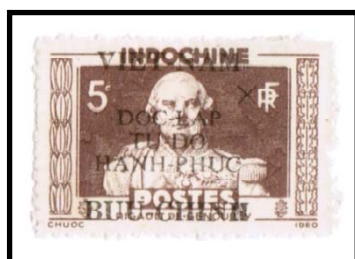
de Genouilly Varieties



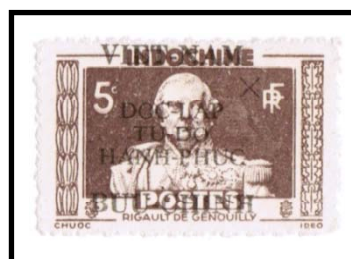
Light Shade



Dark Shade



Overprint Shifted Left



Overprint Shifted Up



Bottom of
"BUU-CHINH" Missing

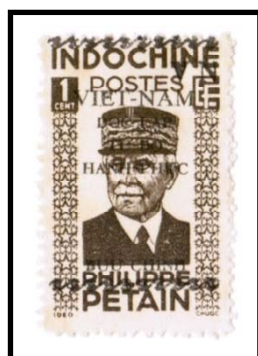


Bottom of
"BUU-CHINH" Missing

Postmarks



Petain Varieties



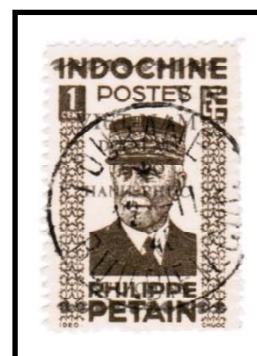
Overprint
Shifted Up



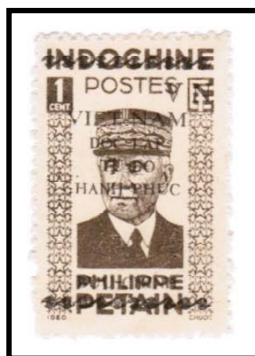
Overprint
Shifted Left



Ghost Impression



Light Shade



Medium Shade



Dark Shade

Doumer Varieties



Light Impression



Perforated
11 ½ x 11 ½



Dark Impression



Overprint Transfer



Perforated
12 x 12



Heavy Inking
Blocked "B" and "H"



Light Shade



Dark Shade



Double
Overprint

Doumer Inverted Line Varieties

In position 48 of each overprinted sheet of fifty Doumer stamps, the fifth line of the overprint, "HANH-PHUC," was inverted. Position 48 is the lower left stamp in these blocks of six.



VIET-NAM
DOC-LAP
TU-DO
CŨNG-HANH

Inverted

VIET-NAM
DOC-LAP
TU-DO
HANH-PHUC

Normal

Doumer
Inverted Line Varieties



Charner Usage

All three denominations of the overprinted Charner stamps were affixed to this registered local cover posted at Hanoi in 1946.



Ci Franco-Americains d'Assurances
8, Rue Borgnis Desbordes
Hanoi

POSTAL MARKINGS
 HANOI R.P. TONKIN 23-1 46
 registration label

Charner Usage

This local cover from December 1946 illustrates the wide variety of propaganda markings used by the Viet Minh.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BAC-BO 18-12 46
various propaganda markings

de Genouilly
Use of 5 cents

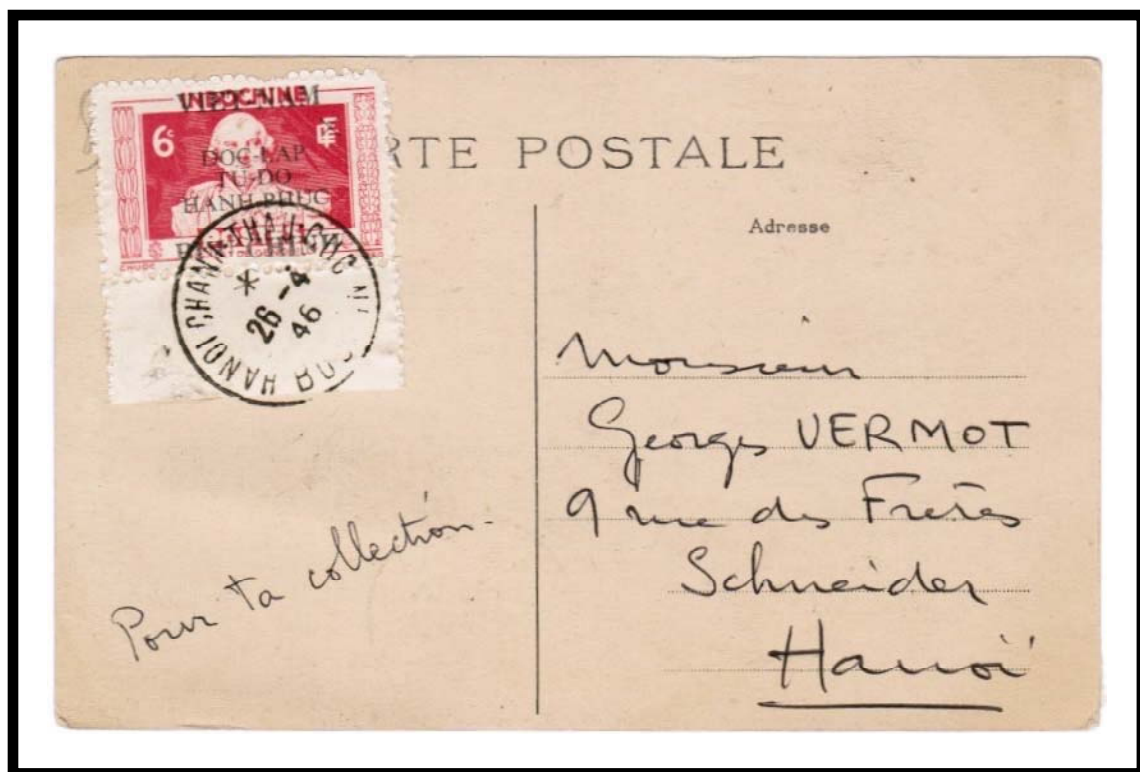
Here a block of four stamps was favor cancelled with the date stamp from Hanoi's central post office.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 29-6 46

de Genouilly
Use of 6 cents

A sender mailed a postcard locally with a handwritten note that translates "For your collection." The postcard was franked with a 6-cent de Genouilly stamp on the address side and a 4-cent Pavie stamp on the picture side.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 26-4 46

REVERSE

HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 26-4 46

de Genouilly
Usage

Both of the overprinted 5 and 6-cent de Genouilly values were used on a 1946 mailing from Hanoi. It is unlikely that the letter ever reached France.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 28-10 46

New value in dongs with “X’s”

Coronation of King Norodom Sihanouk



New value in dongs with wavy lines and bars

King Norodom Sihanouk



Sihanouk Varieties



Broken wavy line



Light Shade



Dark Shade

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
with new value in dong

Festival of Nam Giao



Governor General Pierre Pasquier



Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam Varieties

Nam Giao

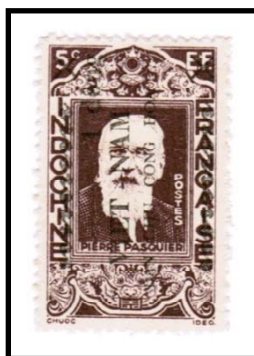


Spot on Blanket



Eye Patch

Pasquier



Perforated 11.5

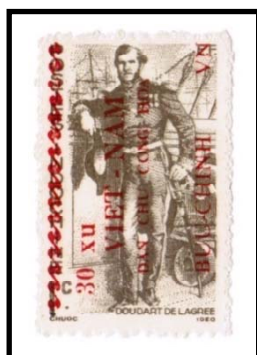


VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
BUU-CHINH
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Postage
with new value in dong

Lieutenant M. J. Francois Garnier



Doudart de Lagree



Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Postage
Varieties

Garnier



Perforated 11.5



Overprint Shifted Down



Light Shade

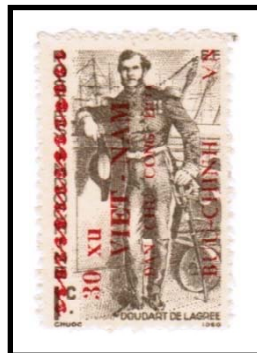


Medium Shade



Dark Shade

de Lagree



Light Shade



Dark Shade

Garnier
Use of 30 xu

A revalued 30-xu Garnier stamp was used for a local mailing from Dong-Ha to Quangnai.



POSTMARK TYPE: VN1
PERIOD OF USE: 1945-46



POSTAL MARKINGS
DONG-HA BUU-DIEN-CUC 19-1 47

Garnier
Use of 30 xu

Three revalued 30-xu Garnier stamps franked a registered mailing from Thai-Binh to Hanoi in October 1946. Postage was calculated as follows:

internal letter rate	30 xu
registration fee	60 xu
total	90 xu



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAI-BINH BUU DIEN CUC 1-10 46
registration label

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
 BUU-CHINH
 Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
 Postage
 with new value in dong

Governor General J. M. A. de l'Anesson



Governor General Joost van Vollenhoven



Admiral Pierre de la Grandiere



Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Postage
Varieties

de l'Anessan



Light Shade



Dark Shade

de la Grandiere



Perforated 13.5 x 12



Paper Fold

La Grandiere Use of 1 dong

A revalued La Grandiere stamp was used on a cover handcrafted from notebook paper. The cover was likely found when a mail courier was captured by the French military in 1950. As intelligence information, it should have been destroyed. Apparently, it was saved as a souvenir.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TAINGUYEN BUU-DIEN-CUC 29-6 50
BAN-GIAO-THONG HAI-PHONG

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
CUU-DOI
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
Famine Relief
with new value in piasters

Cathedral of Orleans

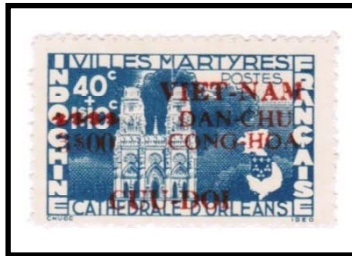


VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
BINH-SI BI-NAN
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
War Casualties
with new value in piasters

Cathedral of Orleans



Cathedral of Orleans Varieties



Light Shade



Ghost Impression



Dark Shade



Overprint Transfer

Cathedral of Orleans Usage

In 1946, both revalued semi-postal stamps were favor canceled on this unaddressed cover.

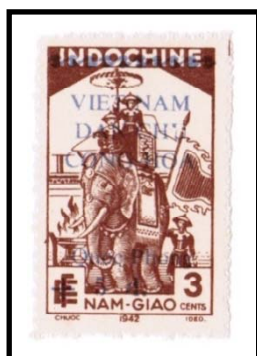


POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN 4-3 46

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
plus various slogans

QUOC-PHONG
National Defense

Festival of Nam Giao



DAN SINH
Mass Help

Empress
Nam Phoung



Emperor
Bao Dai



Bao-Dai and Nam Phuong Varieties



Partial period after “3 d” (bottom row, second stamp from right, position 42)
 No period after “3 d” (bottom row, third stamp from right, position 43)



Last line of overprint with hyphen in “DAN-SINH” (position 50)

DAN-SINH

VIET-NAM DAN-CHU CONG-HOA
Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam
plus various slogans

BINH-SI BI NAN
War Casualties

Bishop of Adran



CHONG NAN MU CHU
Capaign against Illiteracy

Saigon Fair



BAO-ANH
Child Welfare

Alexandre Yersin



DOI SONG MOI
New Life Movement

National Revoltion



Overprint Varieties



Missing hyphen in “VIET NAM” (Left Stamp)

VIET NAM



Dot instead of hyphen in “Bao Anh”
Top Left and Bottom Right

Bao Anh



Missing hyphen in “Bao Anh”
Bottom Right

Bao Anh

Slogan overprint varieties



Rider with wide waistband



Elephant with eye patch (right stamp)



Perforated 12



Perforated 14



Missing period after "3 d"

Postmarks

de Genouilly

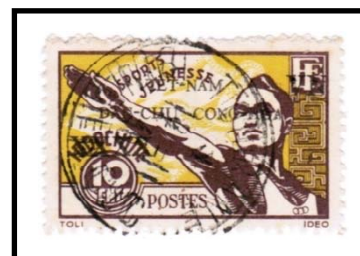


de l'Anessan



TOURANE BUU.DIEN.CUC Favor Cancels

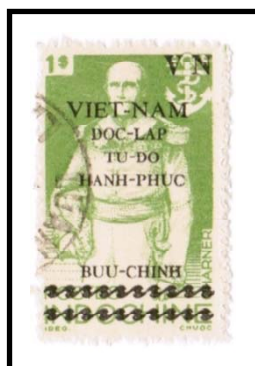
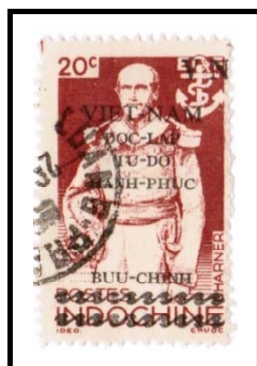
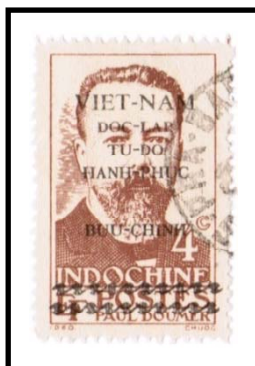
The TOURANE BUU.DIEN.CUC postmark was frequently used to favor cancel Viet-Minh stamps and postal items.



HANOI CHANH-THAU-CUC BUU-TIN
Favor Cancels

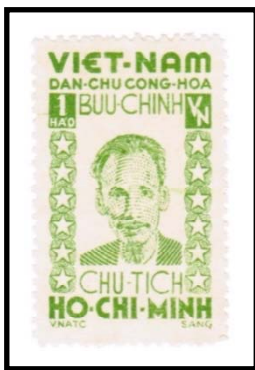


Postmarks
Luang-Prabang, Laos

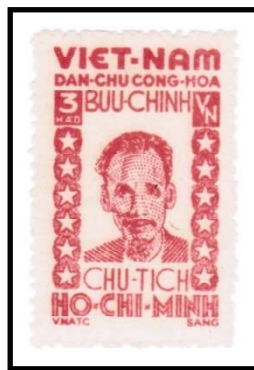


Ho Chi Minh

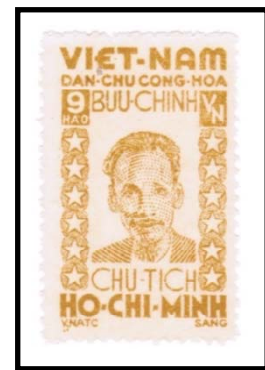
The first new definitive stamps honored Ho Chi Minh, who was proclaimed president of the Democratic republic of Vietnam after the general election of 6 January 1946. The series, issued on 10 May, included two semi-postal stamps for support of the national defense effort.



1 hao



3 hao



9 hao



4 hao + 6 hao

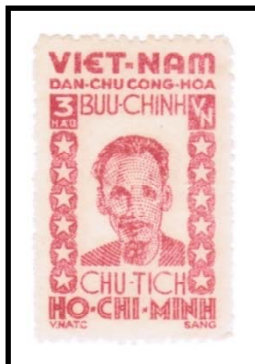


6 hao + 9 hao

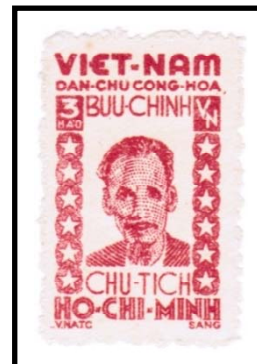
Ho Chi Minh Varieties



Light Shade



Medium Shade



Dark Shade



Light Shade



Dark Shade

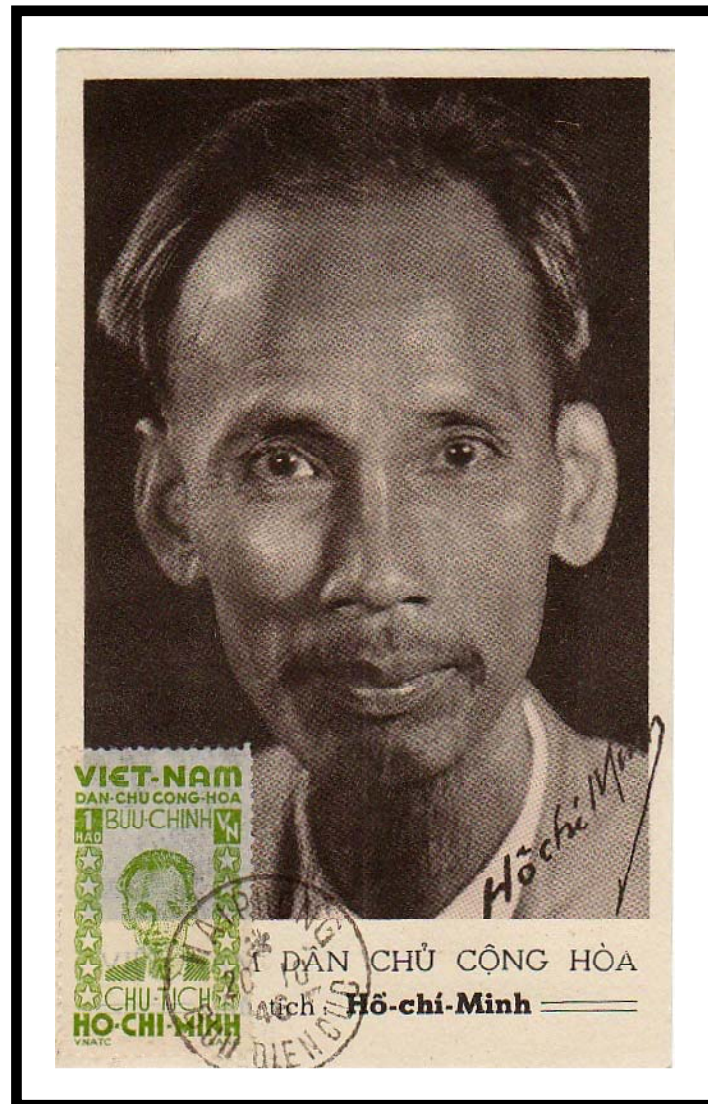


Broken "9"

Ho Chi Minh Use of 1 hao on Maximum Card

The image on this postcard appears to be identical to that on the stamp making the item a “maximum card.” A postmark reading “HAIPHONG BUU DIEN CUC 20 10 46” ties the stamp to the card.

“Ho Chi Minh” is scrawled at the lower right of the card. Ho went by several names during his lifetime. In an case, the signature was a part of the printing on the card.



POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG BUU DIEN CUC 20 10 46

Ho Chi Minh Use of 1 hao and 3 hao

Ho Chi Minh stamps totaling 5 hao frank the reverse of an envelope fashioned by hand from crude paper. Postmarked at Vinh-Yen, the envelope was addressed to Namdinh.



POSTAL MARKINGS
VINH YEN BUU-DIEN-CUC 18-5 46 (?)

Ho Chi Minh
Use of 4 hao + 6 hao

Posted from Thai-Nguyen in 1950, this cover bears the cachet of one of the revolutionary organizations. It translates as follows:

UY-BAN KHANG-CHIEN HANH-CHINH = The Resistance
and Administration Committee
LIEN-KHU VIET- BAC = Viet-Bac Joint Section
TRUONG KHANG CHIEN HANH CHINH = Resistance and
Administration School



POSTAL MARKINGS

THAI-NGUYEN BUU-DIEN-CUC 25-1 50

REVERSE

THAI-NGUYEN BUU-DIEN-CUC 25-1 50

Ho Chi Minh Usage

All five values of the Ho Chi Minh series were used on this local cover in 1946.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE BUU DIEN_CUC 10-11 46

Ho Chi Minh Independence Anniversary Usage

All five Ho Chi Minh stamps were affixed to this commemorative cover marking the first anniversary of Indochina's proclaimed independence on 2 September 1946. A pictorial postmark, struck with red ink, canceled the stamps.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HA-NOI TONKIN 2-9 1946

NAM NGÀY THÀNH LẬP P NUOC VIET-NAM D.C.C.H HA-NOI

REVERSE

HA-NOI TONKIN 2-9 1946

NAM NGÀY THÀNH LẬP P NUOC VIET-NAM D.C.C.H HA-NOI

NGA-KHE Overprints

The postmaster at Nga-Khe misinterpreted instructions about efforts to overprint contemporary stamps and took it upon himself to overprint the Vichy era commemorative stamps. When the central government learned about the overprinted stamps, the postmaster was ordered to cancel them.

In the genuine overprint, the capital “A” appears as a triangle. In the genuine postmark, a hyphen appears in “NGA-KHE.”

VIỆT-NAM
DÂN-CHỦ CỘNG-HÒA



NGA-KHE Overprints Fakes

Both the overprint and the postmark of the Nga-Khe stamps were faked. In the fake overprint, the letter “A” in “DAN” and “HOA” have a crossbar at middle height, which is distinctly different from the genuine overprint. Unlike the genuine postmark, the fake postmark lacks a hyphen in “NGA KHE.”

VIỆT-NAM
DÂN-CHỦ CỘNG-HÒA



Nga-Khe Overprints Use of Fakes

Two of the fake Nga-Khe overprints were employed on this 26 July 1946 cover. It is evident that the stamps, including the 20-cent Pavie stamp, which lacks any overprint, had been favor canceled prior to being affixed to the envelope. The sock-on-the-nose postmarks lack the hyphen in "NGA KHE," which the genuine postmark possesses.



POSTAL MARKINGS

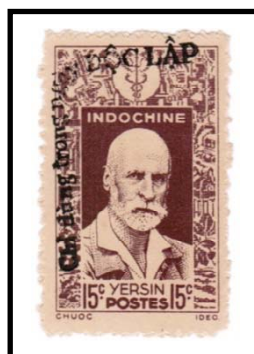
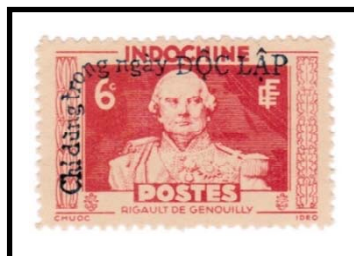
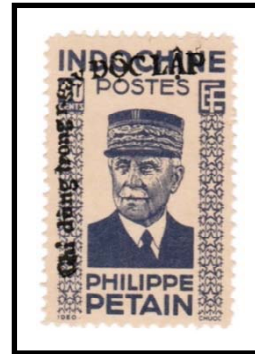
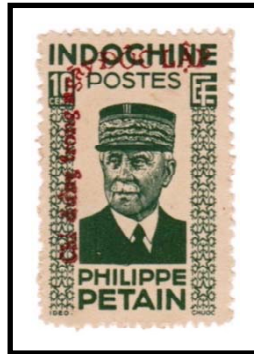
BUU CUC LIEN KHU II NGA KHE 26.7.46

REVERSE

BUU CUC LIEN KHU II NGA KHE 27.7.46

Independence Day Overprints

To celebrate the Proclamation of independence on 2 September 1945, commemorative stamps were overprinted “Chỉ dùng trong ngày ĐỘC LẬP” in red, blue or black. Money raised from the sale of these stamps was designated for hunger relief. Alas, all of this was a scam to separate collectors from their money.



Independence Day Overprints Usage

To celebrate the proclamation of independence on 2 September 1945, commemorative stamps were overprinted “Chỉ dùng trong ngày ĐỘC LẬP” in various colors. Money raised from the sale of these stamps was designated for hunger relief. The inscription on the envelope reads “Greetings to Independence Day.”



POSTAL MARKINGS

HA-NOI TONKIN 2-9 1945
NAM-DINH TONKIN 5-9 1945

REVERSE

HA-NOI TONKIN 3-9 1945
NAM-DINH TONKIN 5-9 1945

Central Vietnam LK 4 Overprints

Regions outside Hanoi were divided into numbered administrative zones. Lien Khu 4 extended roughly from just south of Hanoi as far as Da-Nang. Officials overprinted stamps for their individual areas.



Red Overprint



Red-Brown Overprint



Black Overprint



Original Black Overprint Shifted Down



Blue Overprint



Green Overprint



Blue Overprint

Central Vietnam Fake LK 4 Overprint

With this example, the ink is pink and bled into the paper resulting in a blurry overprint.



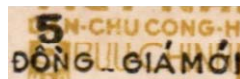
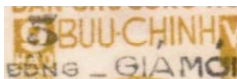
Central Vietnam LK 4 Overprints

Norodom Sihanouk



Hand-Applied Overprint in Red

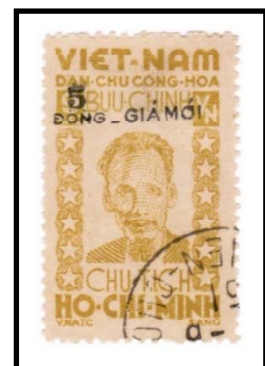
President Ho Chi Minh



Small Text



Plain "5"



Ball on Tail of "5"

Central Vietnam
Zone LK 4 Ho Chi Minh Overprints
Independence Anniversary Usage

Three copies of the Ho Chi Minh stamp overprinted for Zone 4 were employed on this cover that commemorated the second anniversary of Vietnam's independence proclaimed on 2 September 1945.



POSTAL MARKINGS

BU'U ĐIỆN LIÊN KHU 4 2-9 1947
2-9 1945-1947 BU'U ĐIỆN LIÊN KHU 4

REVERSE

BU'U ĐIỆN LIÊN KHU 4 2-9 1947
2-9 1945-1947 BU'U ĐIỆN LIÊN KHU 4

Central Vietnam
Revalued Zone LK 4 Overprints
Usage

Although the stamps on this cover had been overprinted with "LK 4," the letter was posted from Quang-Ngai in Zone 5 as indicated by the "LK V" in the postmark.



POSTAL MARKINGS

BUU CUC LK V QUANG-NGAI 2-10 1951

REVERSE

BUU CUC LK V QUANG-NGAI 2-10 1951

Central Vietnam LK 5 Overprints

Zone LK 5 used overprints of a completely different style. The original denomination was obliterated and a new value was a part of the overprint.



LKV



0K300THDC

