Navigation and Commerce Parcel Post Overprints

A tax of 10 centimes was imposed on packages sent through the mail. Both colors of the 10 centimes Navigation and Commerce stamps were overprinted for use as tax stamps for packages ("colis postaux"). Two different overprint formats were employed.

The one-line overprint was applied in red on the 10-centime black value in 1898. It was followed by the two-line overprint, also in red, in 1899. The 10-centime red received the black, two-line overprint in 1902.



Colis Postaux



TIMBRE COLIS POSTAUX



TIMBRE COLIS POSTAUX

Special Printing for Paris International Exposition of 1900



Navigation and Commerce Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes black Varieties







DOUBLE



SHIFTED LEFT



LIGHT



MEDIUM



DARK



ORANGE



WITH INK SPLOTCH

Navigation and Commerce Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red Varieties







INVERTED



DOUBLE



BLUE INK



SHIFTED UP



SHIFTED DOWN



DARK IMPRESSION



LIGHT IMPRESSION



MISSING BOTTOM OF "POSTAUX"



MISSING "TIMBRE" ON LEFT STAMP

Navigation and Commerce Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red Varieties



PRINTING IN MARGIN



SIDEWAYS OVERPRINT CORNER BLOCK OF FOUR

Navigation and Commerce Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes black Postmarks



BAC-NINH TONKIN



HAIPHONG TONKIN



PHO-LU TONKIN



BAO-LAC TONKIN



CANTON



DAP-CAU TONKIN



DOSON TONKIN



LAOKAY TONKIN



NAM-DINH (blue) TONKIN



NINH-BINH TONKIN



TIEN-YEN TONKIN



VIETTRI TONKIN



VINH-THUY TONKIN

Navigation and Commerce Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red Postmarks



FAIFO ANNAM



HAIPHONG TONKIN



HANOI TONKIN



BAC-NINH TONKIN



CANTON



MONCAY TONKIN



PNOMPENH CAMBODGE



QUANG-YEN TONKIN



TOURANE ANNAM

Navigation and Commerce Revenue Overprints

In 1896, five values from the Navigation and Commerce series were overprinted for revenue use. The word "GREFFE" in the overprint stands for "droits de greffe" (clerk of court fees).

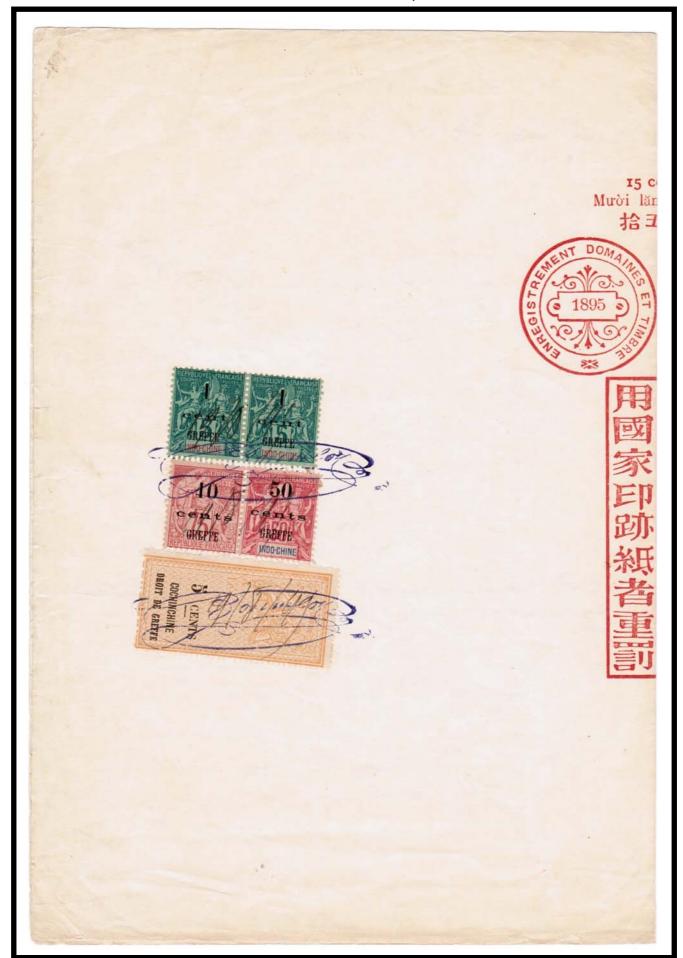












Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints

In 1903, quantities of 15c and 25c stamps were overprinted to meet shortages. The 15c on 25c was issued first in August. Later, in December, after 15c stamps arrived from France, the 5c on 15c was issued.





ULTRAMAR Overprint

The ULTRAMAR overprint was handstamped by the Portuguese government prior to distributing UPU sample stamps to its colonies.





Navigation and Commerce 5-centime Overprint Sheet



Navigation and Commerce 15-centime Overprint Sheet



Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Color Shades

















Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Ascending Overprints



























Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Shifting Overprints





















This example of the 15-centime overprint used on a wrapper exhibits a dramatic shift of the "15" to the far left border of the stamp.





POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI TONKIN 4 SEPT 03

Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Millesimes





The millesime "2" shown in the selvage indicates that the 25-centime stamp had been originally printed in 1902.



POSTAL MARKINGS
TOURANE ANNAM 29 NOV 03
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 DEC 03

Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Postmarks on 5 centimes



HAIPHONG







HANOI



HA-TINH



PNOMPENH



SAIGON-CENTRAL



SAIGON-PORT



THANH-PHU

Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Postmarks on 15 centimes







CHAUDOC CAP ST. JACQUES **HAIPHONG**







HANOI LAO-BAO **HOUEISAI**









LONGXUYEN **PURSAT PNOMPENH** SADEC







SAIGON-CENTRAL SAIGON A SONG-CAU

Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Postmarks on 15 centimes









SONTAY

TANHIEP

TRAI-HUT

TRAVINH







VINHLONG

TIEN-YEN

XIENG-KHOUANG

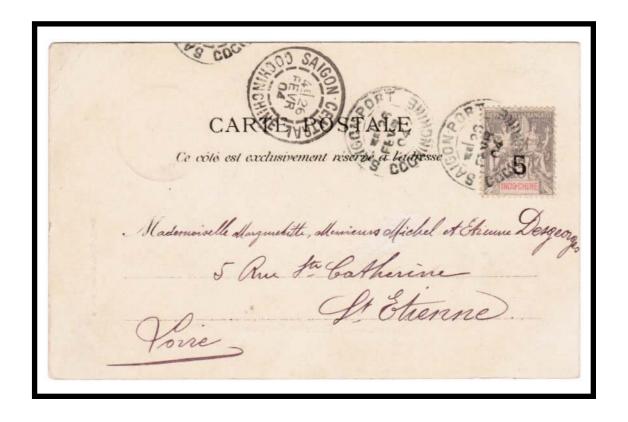


VUNGLIEM



TOURANE

When the message was five words or less, the 5-centime value could be used to mail a postcard. Picture postcards were extremely popular at the turn of the century.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 26 FEVR 04
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 26 FEVR 04
REVERSE
ST ETIENNE LOIRE 22-3 04

Calling cards sent in small, unsealed envelopes could be mailed for only 5 centimes. In this case, the envelope was addressed ton "EV," meaning "en ville" (or "in the town"). Postage was paid with a single overprinted Navigation and Commerce stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 JANV 04

A pair of the 5-centime overprints was affixed to this picture postcard mailed from Saigon to Paris in 1903. In this case, with a message less than 6 words, 5 centimes was the required postage.



POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 17 NOV 03

A strip of three overprinted stamps paid the 15 centimes postage rate for a regular letter to France. Interestingly, each stamp's original value was 15 centimes before overprinting.



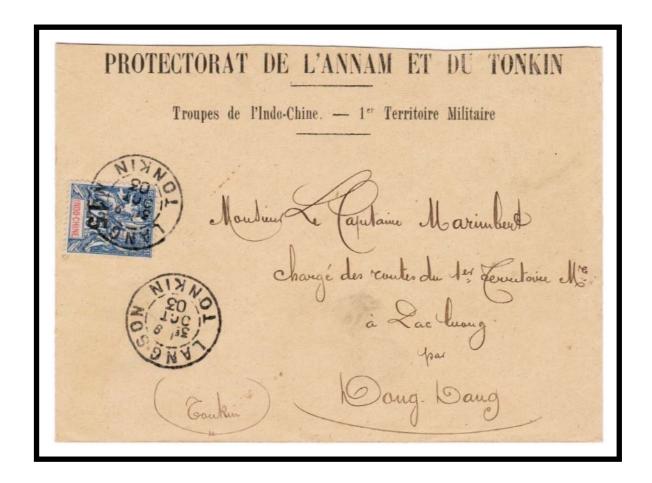
POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 3 FEVR 04
REVERSE
ORGON BCHES DU RHONE 2 MARS 04

Six 5 on 15 centimes gray Navigation and Commerce stamps paid for a double weight (16-30 grams) local letter at Hanoi in 1904. The envelope was official stationery of the Customs Service.



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI TONKIN 11 JANV 04

Here the 15-centime stamp paid the postage for official mail between military posts within Tonkin.



POSTAL MARKINGS
LANG-SON TONKIN 9 OCT 03
REVERSE
DONG-DANG TONKIN 10 OCT 03

The 15-centime stamp overpaid the postcard rate to Germany by 5 centimes.



POSTAL MARKINGS

GIADINH COCHINCHINE 1 SEPT 03 SAIGON•CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1 SEPT 03 DRESDEN ALTST. 14 3.10.03

A wrapper, sent locally from the court in Hanoi, was franked with the 15-centime value overprint on the 25-centime blue Navigation and Commerce stamp.



POSTAL MARKINGS HANOI TONKIN 5 DEC 03

This cover posted on 21 August 1903 represents early use of the 15-centime value. First day of use for the 15-centime stamp was 6 August 1903.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAIPHONG TONKIN 21 AOUT 03 framed R with manuscript registration number

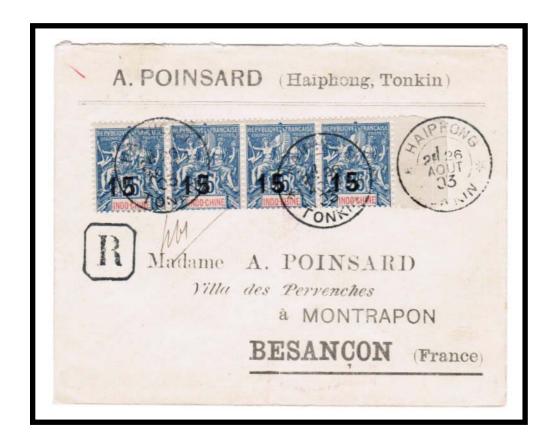
REVERSE

ARRIVEE MARSEILLE 22-9 03 ALGER ALGER 24-9 03

Four 15-cent overprints paid the postage for a registered letter to France in 1903. Postage was calculated as follows:

letter rate to France	15 centimes
registration fee	25 centimes
total	40 centimes

Hence the letter was overpaid by 20 centimes.



POSTAL MARKINGS

HAIPHONG TONKIN 26 AOUT 03 framed R with manuscript registration number

REVERSE

BESANCON DOUBS 2-10 03

Navigation and Commerce Value Overprints Usage

Foreign letters required 25 centimes postage. Here both of the overprints were used to make up the foreign letter rate for a mailing to British India in 1909.



POSTAL MARKINGS
THUDAUMOT COCHINCHINE 1 MAI 09
REVERSE

SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 MAI 09 SINGAPORE MY 7 1909 BANGALORE 17 MY 09