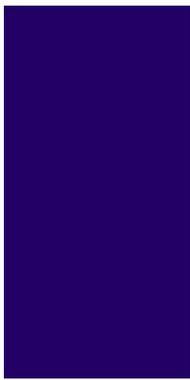


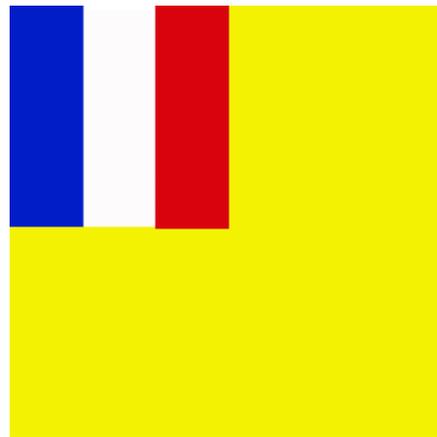
# SECTION 1

## FRENCH INDO-CHINA

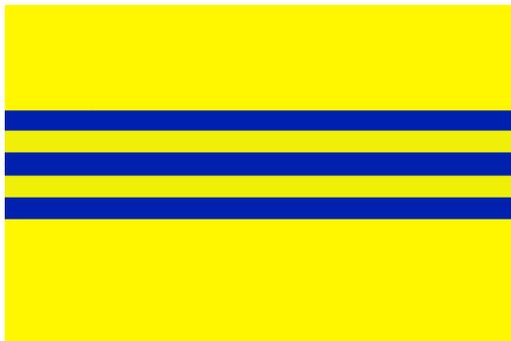
1862 – 1948



Republic of France



Protectorate of Annam



Republic of Cochin-China



Royal Standard for Annam and Tonkin

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# INTRODUCTION TO SECTION 1

The French control and government (many would say conquest) of the several regions of Indo-China proceeded in various stages – the first being the conquest of the lower provinces of what is now Viet-Nam, and the subsequent transfer to France. This region became the French colony of Cochin China. The other portions of Viet-Nam – Annam and Tonkin, were protectorates. The Kingdoms of Laos, and Cambodia followed into the Indo-China general government at later times.

This Section covers from the early periods of French Indo-China, until the individual countries obtained self-government, in stages starting in 1948, through 1950. Other sections of this catalog continue the listings of the independent countries.

I freely solicit comments, of whatever nature, to add in the revision of this Section, and for application to future Sections.

**Commemorative events** during this period were, in the very large majority, memorialized by means of commemorative handstamps applied to covers with standard circular date stamps (CDS). The practice of applying ‘cachets’ to covers did not start until the early 1930’s.

Many of the early commemorative events used specially made circular date stamps, especially the various expositions and fairs that were predominate early Indo-China philatelic history. With the advent of aviation, special event handstamps and first flight markings were applied in abundance on all mail carried on the flight.

**Commemorative cancellations** are illustrated separately when possible, based on the original cover and the quality of the impression.

I also list items that are dated during World War II, during the French Vichy administration of Indo-China. Many of these items are very suspect and some are outright fantasies.

## Reference Material and Publications

1. Jacques Desrousseau, Postes & Courriers Français en Extreme-Orient, 1984, unpublished manuscript.
2. Franck Muller, Catalog des Aérograms du Monde Entire, Editions Bertrand Sinas, 1991, reprint of original 1950 edition (courtesy of Ron Bentley)