

Indochina Update – June 2012

Collecting the Group Type Era

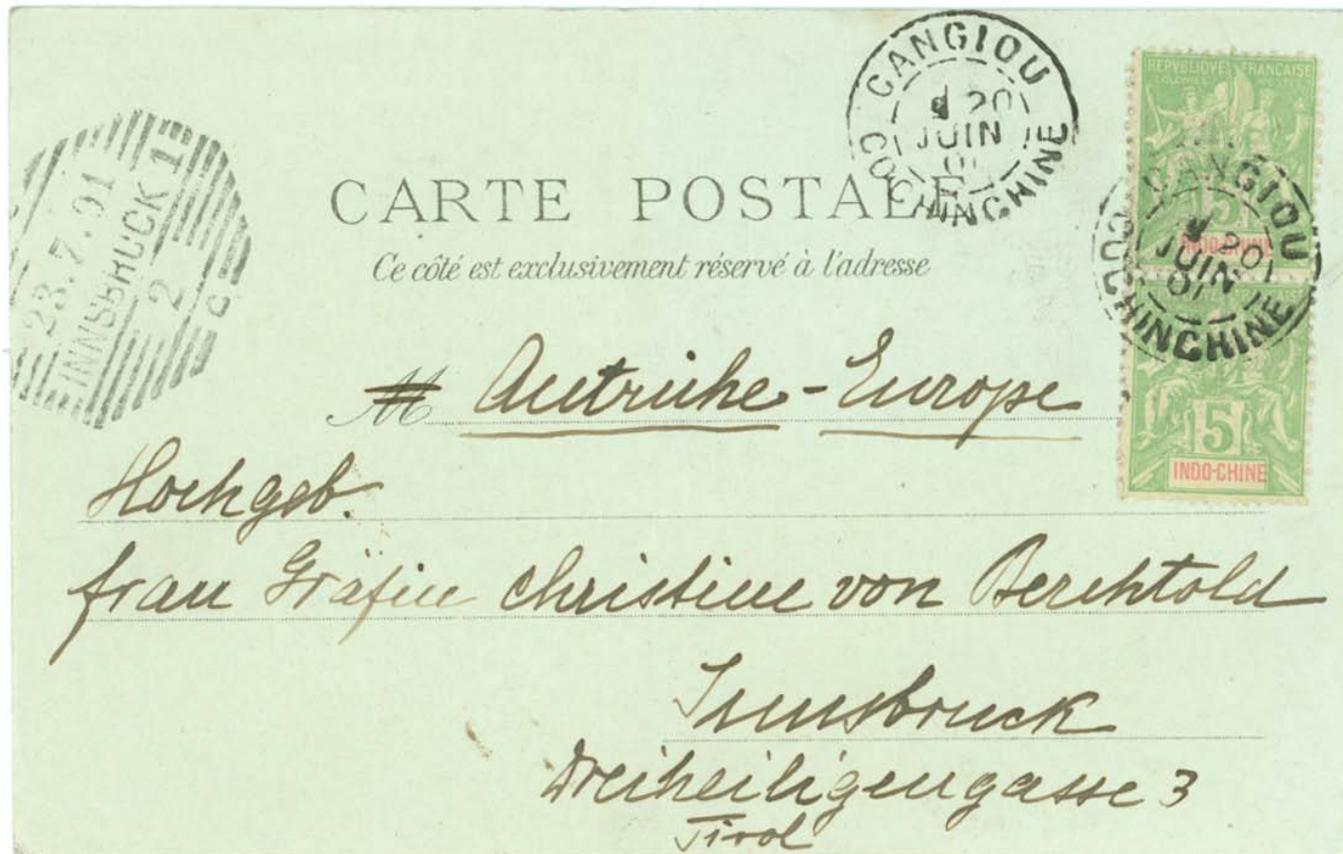
Ed Grabowski

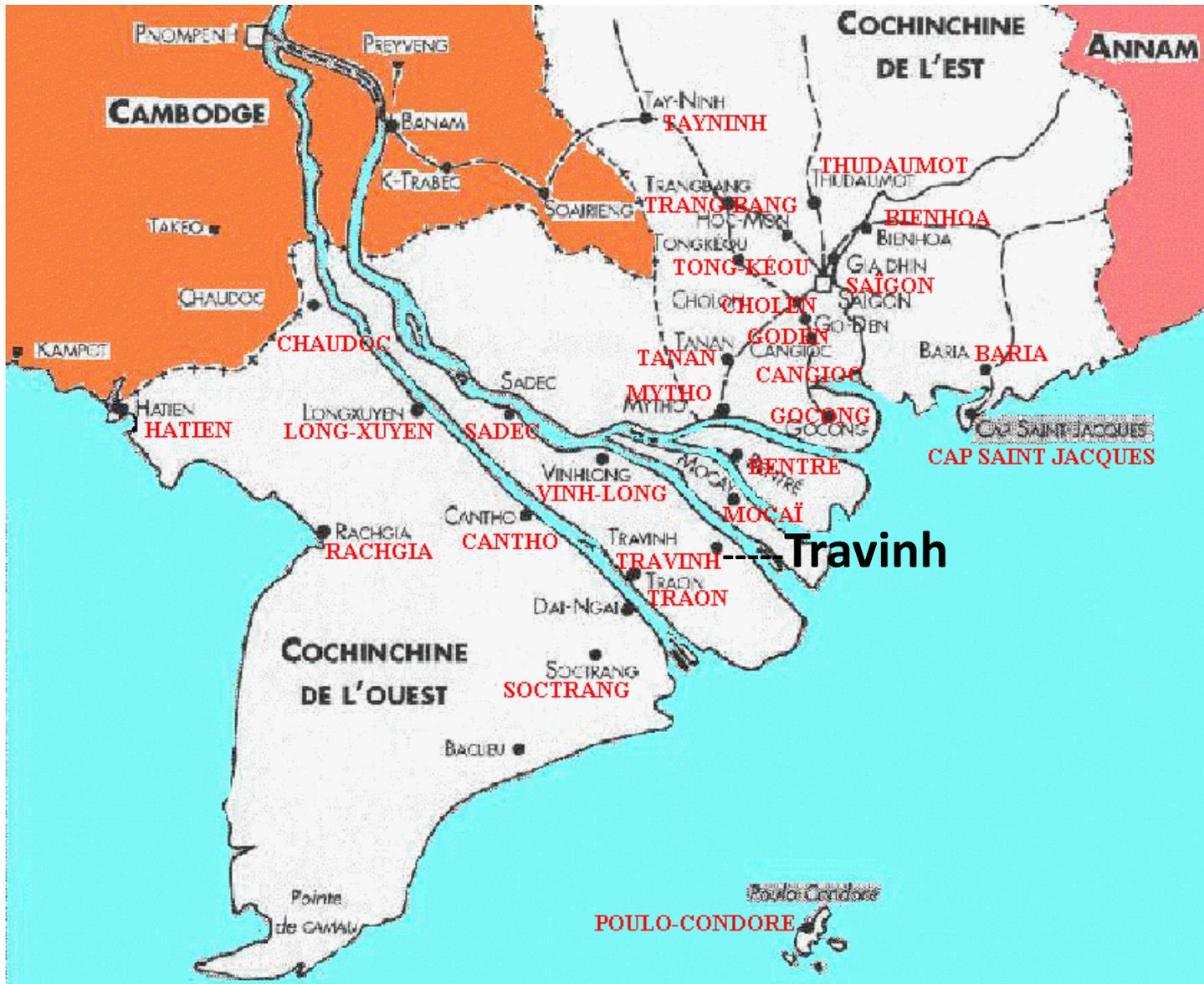
Double Weight Letter From the Small Village Office at Giadinh – 2 x 25c to Philippeville, Algeria





Cangiou, Cochinchine to Innsbruck, Austria





Imprimés
Contenant 6 cartes



375 (Six)

256



Monsieur Manuel N. Sardenata

Arp # 25

Campico Camps
Mexique

43066

America



Small Village of Lam, Tonkin

- Quadruple weight (4 x 25c) registered letter (25c) at 1F25c rate
- From the small village of Lam in 1905
- To Dresden
- Use of the 50c brown on bluish issue of 1900



Allemagne

Recommandée

179

R



Monsieur
Gustave Petzold
Maître Tailleur

Rue large N° 3 III
L'annuaire de 3 III
2270 Royaume de Saxe

Printed Matter wrapper to Manilla forwarded to Pontiac, Michigan advertising the Hanoi Exposition

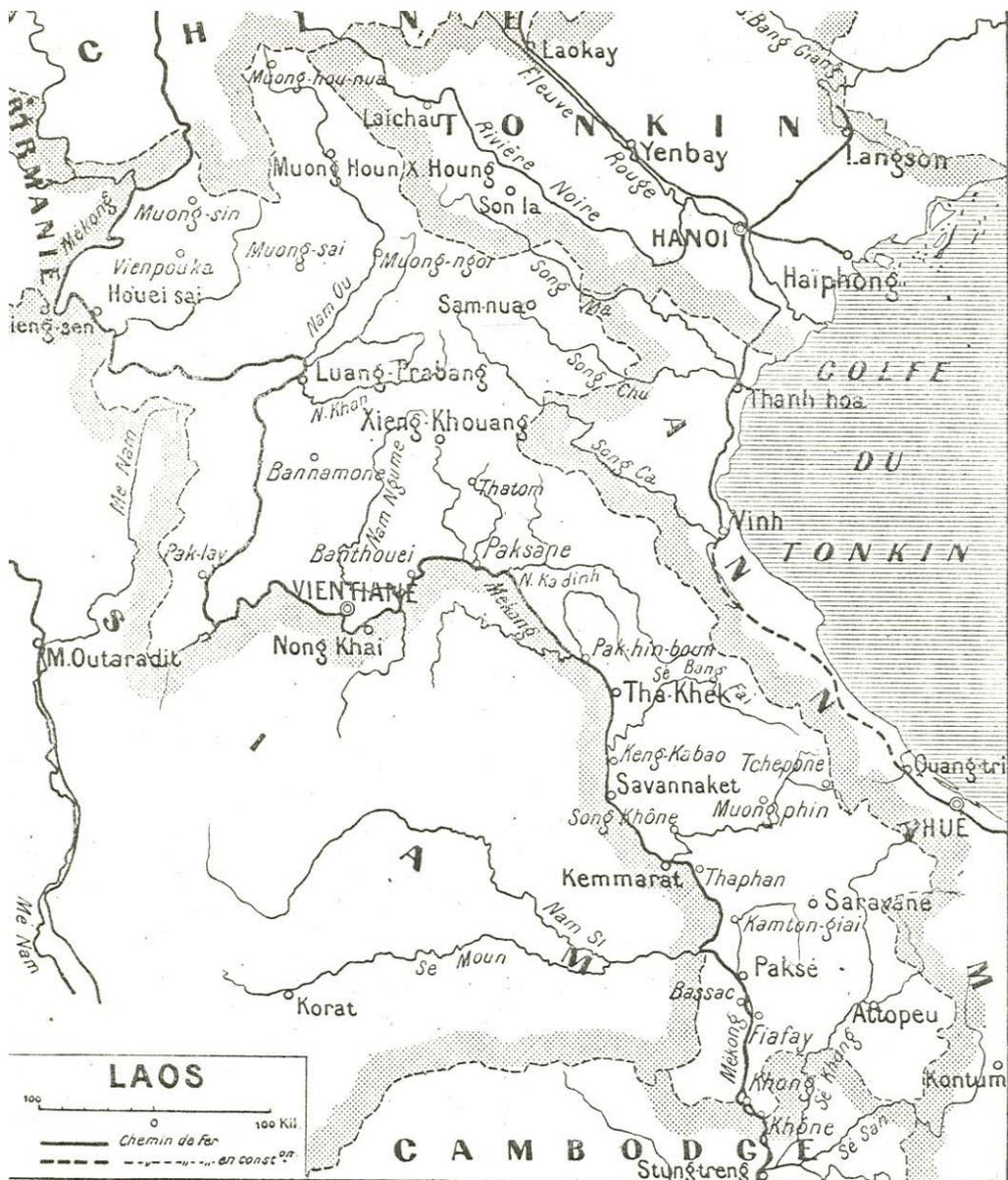


INDO-CHINE FRANÇAISE

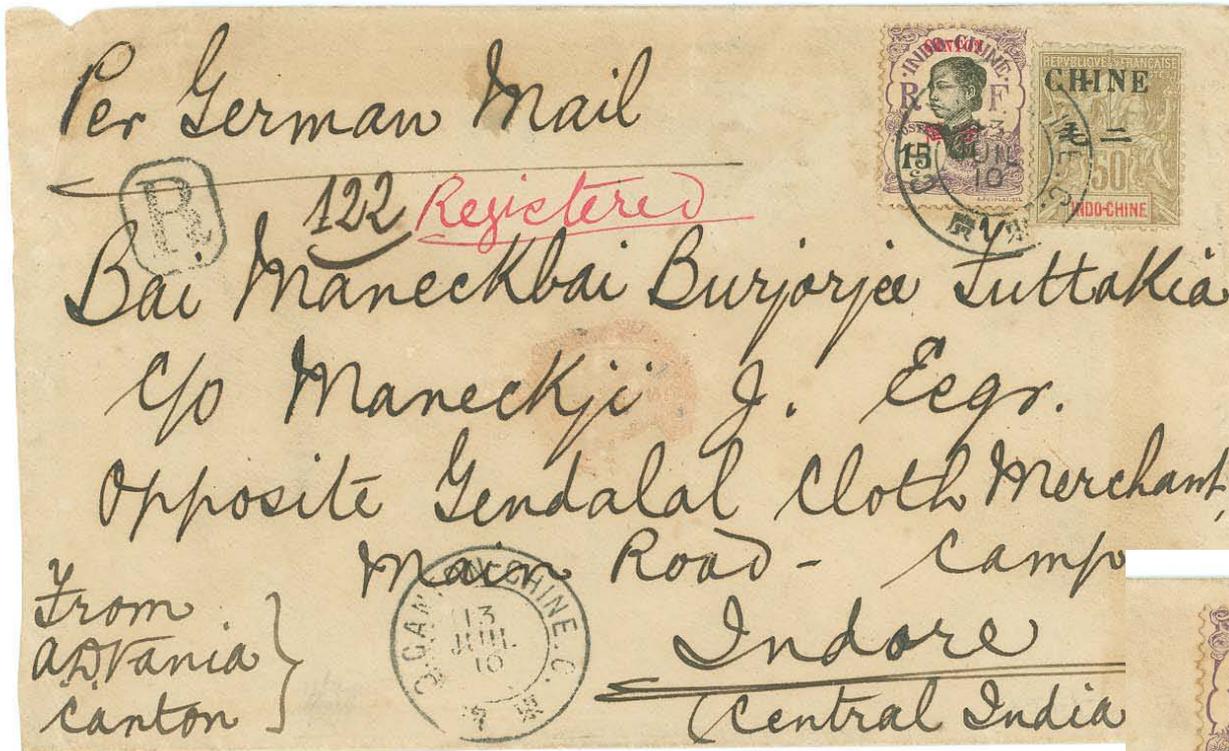
1902



Roy



C CANTON C Datestamp



Explain These Covers

What is going on here?

Use of 15c Group Type from Paris



Tourane, Annam - 1903

- French Community rate letter franked at 15c
- Franked with 5c yellow-green Group Type stamp and 10c cutout from the Group Type post card
- Cutout **X**'d out
- Charged 10c due on arrival in Paris – why not 20c which is double the deficiency?



BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE
AGENCE DE TOURANE



Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris

- a Paris

Saint Louis, Reunion



What is the Law Governing These Covers?

- Specifically, I do not know
- But it appears that if you made an effort to prepay the postage on an item with a legitimate French Community stamp or postal stationery cutout, the addressee did not have to pay double the postage, as on a typical due letter, but only the actual postage

Langson, Tonkin - 1905

- *Franchise militaire* letter from Langson in 1905
- Franked with two 15c *franchise militaire* stamps
- Struck with T in triangle for postage due
- Charged 30c due on arrival in France
- Why?



Possible Explanations

- Letter reached the third weight level (30-45g)
- Charged 30c due on arrival which is double the deficiency of 15c
- Letter reached the second weight level (15-30g)
- Only one **F.M.** stamp was allowed per letter
- Additional weight levels had to be prepaid with regular stamps
- Second **F.M.** stamp invalid
- Second weight level charged as postage due – double the regular 15c postage



de

Corps d'occupation au Tonkin



Mademoiselle Marie Chanterie

Château de Roche

Chaurac

Lot-et-Garonne

France

FRANCE



Monsieur de Carrère
6, Rue St André, 6

Beauvais

(Vise.)

Bassac, Laos 1896

- Mailed from Bassac in February 1896
- Manuscript endorsement: ***Mission du Laos*** suggesting that this was a military franchise letter (free postage)
- T in triangle applied in Bassac for postage due
- Charged 50c due on arrival in France
- Why?





Mission du Laos



Monsieur Ludovic Barthe
Notaire
à Realmont



France



(Larn)

Christoph Gaertner May 2012

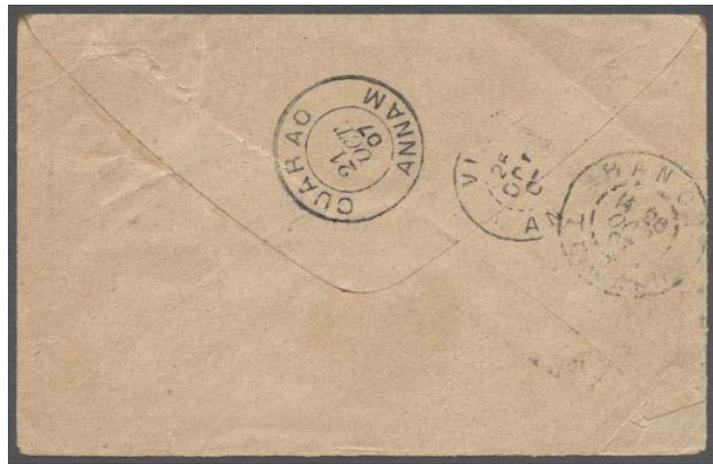
- Posted THADO LAOS 18 OCT 1907 to Hanoi
- Printed matter Indochina envelope uprated to 10c French Community rate
- Various transits on reverse
- Only recorded example from this office
- Depart: 3000 euros;
Realized: 4800 euros



Envoi de M. Coa
Chargé du Bureau
des P & C, à
Thado
Laos



Madame V. Demange
à la rue Colon à
Hanoi



The Dealer Bertrand Sinais

- Paris dealer – has 3 sales each year with about 10,000 lots in each sale
 - Each lot gets a two line description – very little information on which to bid
 - Only about 400 lots are pictured
- There are always a large number of lots that arrived late for the sale and are crammed into the last 5 or so pages in the sale

The Tale of a Late Lot

- It is a registered military concession rate (15c postage + 25c registration) franked with Group Type stamps pre - 1899
- Processed through the office of Saigon with the octagonal military cancel: **CORR D'ARMEES SAIGON**
- The manuscript endorsement reads: ***Troupes du Siam***
- The manuscript validation reads: ***Le médecin chef de l'ambulance Chantaboun***
- The blue military cachet clearly shows: **SIAM**



This was a late lot with a two line description, and no mention of Chantaboun or SIAM in the description

France

Groupes du Siam

recommandé

486



Monsieur Chamuel

Routeur & Rue de Savoie

Le médecin chef de l'ambulance
Chantabour
Siam

Paris

The Tale of the Late Lot

- This lot was in the late hour section of the catalog in the 9000's
- There was NO picture of it
- I never saw it
- The starting price was about \$150. It sold for about \$1200 – the price one would pay for a military concession letter from a small village such as Scotrang, Bentré, Vinlong, etc. at this time
- I subsequently heard from the dealer David Wrigley that the **only known military concession rate from Chantaboun, Siam** was buried in the back of the Sinais catalog and sold for \$1200.
- About six months later it was offered to me for a modest \$13,000 with a color xerox (previous slide) for enticement.
- The price of \$13,000 was about 3X what I thought it to be worth.
- I have never seen nor heard anything of it since.

