

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
SEVENTH TRIENNIAL VIETNAM SYMPOSIUM  
March 10 – 12, 2011

“Postage Stamps as Political Statements in Indochina 1888 – Present”



Nat Ward

Executive Director  
Mekong Education Fnd. Inc.



## **Brief History Timeline**

**1889-1946: INDOCHINA: FRENCH POSSESSION ON THE CAMBODIAN PENINSULA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BORDERING ON THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF SIAM. WAS A FRENCH COLONY AND PROTECTORATE. CAPITAL HANOI**

**1940-45: JAPANESE OCCUPATION BUT FRENCH ALLOWED TO RUN COUNTRY**

**1945: EMPEROR BAO DAI PROCLAIMED INDEPENDENCE WHICH INCLUDED PROPECTORATES OF TONKIN, ANNAM AND COCHIN-CHINA. HE ABDICATED TO VIET MINH**

**1946-46: VIET MINH OVERPRINTS OF FRENCH INDOCHINA STAMPS. COMMUNIST PARTISANS FIGHTING THE JAPANESE IN WWII AND FRENCH 1945-54. DIRECTED BY HO CHI MINH FROM JUNGLES**

**1947-49: FRENCH & HO GOVERNMENT**

**1949: ASSOCIATED STATE FRENCH UNION**

**1951-54: BOA DAI EMPEROR UNDER FRENCH CONTROL**

**1954: COMMUNIST VIET MINH TOOK CONTROL OF NORTH VIETNAM WITH CAPITAL IN HANOI. FRENCH ARE DEFEATED AT DIEN BIEN PHU**

**1955: REPUBLIC SOUTH VIETNAM ESTABLISHED PRES. NGO DINH DIEM WITH CAPITOL IN SAIGON**

**1958-75: NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT AKA VIET CONG**

**1975: SOUTH & NORTH UNIFIED WITH CAPITAL IN HANOI**

# Postage Stamps as Political Statements in Indochina 1888 - Present



**Nat Ward**

**Executive Director  
Mekong Education Fnd. Inc.**

## Brief History Timeline

**1889-1946: INDOCHINA: FRENCH POSSESSION ON THE CAMBODIAN PENINSULA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BORDERING ON THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF SIAM. WAS A FRENCH COLONY AND PROTECTORATE. CAPITAL HANOI**

**1940-45: JAPANESE OCCUPATION BUT FRENCH ALLOWED TO RUN COUNTRY**

**1945: EMPEROR BAO DAI PROCLAIMED INDEPENDENCE WHICH INCLUDED PROPECTORATES OF TONKIN, ANNAM AND COCHIN-CHINA. HE ABDICATED TO VIET MINH**

**1946-46: VIET MINH OVERPRINTS OF FRENCH INDOCHINA STAMPS. COMMUNIST PARTISANS FIGHTING THE JAPANESE IN WWII AND FRENCH 1945-54. DIRECTED BY HO CHI MINH FROM JUNGLES**

**1947-49: FRENCH & HO GOVERNMENT**

**1949: ASSOCIATED STATE FRENCH UNION**

**1951-54: BOA DAI EMPEROR UNDER FRENCH CONTROL**

**1954: COMMUNIST VIET MINH TOOK CONTROL OF NORTH VIETNAM WITH CAPITAL IN HANOI. FRENCH ARE DEFEATED AT DIEN BIEN PHU**

**1955: REPUBLIC SOUTH VIETNAM ESTABLISHED PRES. NGO DINH DIEM WITH CAPITOL IN SAIGON**

**1958-75: NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT AKA VIET CONG**

**1975: SOUTH & NORTH UNIFIED WITH CAPITAL IN HANOI**

# Indochina 1892 - 1936

1892



Possessions Cambodian Peninsula (Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia)

1927



Founding of Saigon 1696

1936



Emperor Bao-Dai. Head of state 1954 deposed

1936



King Monivong - Cambodia

## Indochina 1937 -

1937



Gov. Gen. Doumer. Indochina 1897 - 1902

1939



New York World's Fair

1943



Alexander Yersin (Bubonic plague)



# Viet Minh 1945

1945



Bao Dai Defaced (Ok Japan)

1945



Marshall Petain (French head of state – 1940)

1945



De Lagree (Head Mekong Expedition – 1866)

1946



Empress Phuong – Married to King Annam 1934

# Viet Minh 1946

1946



National Defense

1946



de Behaine - Missionary (1741 – 1799)

1946



Ho Chi Min – President NVN



# National Liberation Front 1963 (Vietnamese communist)

1963



Shooting down US helicopter

1963



Attacking strategic village

1965



Bien Hoa Airfield

1967



VC on US tank

# National Liberation Front 1968

1968



Guerrilla – Struggle for freedom

1968



Bazooka attack

1970



10<sup>th</sup> anniversary NLF

1971



Defending a village

Stamps continue until 1976

# South Vietnam 1951

1951



Emperor Bao - Dai

1955



Refugees raft

1957



Constitution 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary

1959



Agrarian Reform

## South Vietnam 1959

1959



Map of North and South Vietnam

1959



Boy Scouts Jamboree

1960



Refugee family

1960



5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Republic

# South Vietnam 1961

1961



President Diem (1<sup>st</sup> President SVN)

1962



Strategic village defense

1963



Common defense

1964



10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Div. North and South Vietnam

## South Vietnam 1966

1966



Refugees

1967



National Day elections

1968



SEATO UN Allies

1969



Pacification Campaign



## South Vietnam 1970

1970



Tet offensive aid

1971



Armed Forces Day

1972



Wounded Soldier

1973



Quang Tri victory

## South Vietnam 1973

1973



Pres. Thieu - Agrarian Reform

1974



SEATO 7 Nations

1974



Tourism

1969



M - 3 battle and refugees

# South Vietnam unissued

1967



Buddhist Youth Movement

1967



Preparation for invasion of North Vietnam

1967



# North Vietnam 1951

1961



Ho Chi Minh

1954



Malenkov/Ho/Mao

1954



Dien Bien Phu

1956



Mac Thi Bui (Guerrilla leader)

# North Vietnam 1958

1958



Resistance movement in SVN

1959



Phu Loi massacre

1960



Vladimir Lenin

1961



Yuri Gagarin

# North Vietnam 1961

1961



15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary National resistance

1962



War for reunification

1973



Female guerrilla – National defense

1973



Fidel Castro



# North Vietnam 1965

1965



NLF 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in SVN

1966



Female guerrilla and POW

1967



Captured US pilots

1968



Cuban guerrillas

# North Vietnam 65-72 shutdown

500



2,500



4,181



# North Vietnam 1969

1969



Guerrilla scenes

1969



Guerrilla scenes

1970



Viet Cong flag

1970



Indo Chinese People's Summit

## North Vietnam 1973

1973



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

1974



Solidarity with Chilean Pres. Salvador Allende

1975



People's Republic of Poland

1976



Ho Chi Minh - Unification of Vietnam

# Vietnam 1976 unified

1976



Liberating Saigon

1979



VN Peoples' Army

1980



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Communist Party

1984



VN – Laos – Cambodia Friendship

# Southeast Asia 1967

