

A.E.F. (FRENCH EQUATORIAL AFRICA)

Revenue
Connaissance
Dimension
Douanes
Effets
Enregistrement
Passeports
Pécule

Tentative French expeditions were made along the Atlantic coast north of the Congo river in the mid-1800s, and treaties were made with African chiefs to allow trading bases. In 1886 two colonies (French Congo, and Ubangui) were formally established.

French colonial ambitions led to military expeditions under Gentil, Lamy and others northwards towards central Africa and the Sudan, territory not yet controlled or claimed by other European powers. The French methods copied those of local rulers: a blitz of brutal force and fear, massacre of local villages who resisted, enslavement of local populations as forced labour or as military recruits. Military success was guaranteed by being even more extreme than the locals, and enslaving even more porters and supplies for their expeditions. By 1900 they had reached the boundary of Libya, and controlled 2½ million square km of territory (four times that of France), of which only one quarter was suitable for crop cultivation. Gabon, French Cameroon, and Chad were formed as colonies alongside French Congo and Ubangui-Shari (Upper Congo).

French colonial administration was based on the background of military control, in this case the umbrella of "French Equatorial Africa", an umbrella administration based in Brazzaville. From Paris, leases were granted to 14 companies to extract produce over this vast area, although no effective network of roads, railways or river transport was in place. Produce was therefore extracted by any means possible, using forced labour and native porters.

During the 1920s and 1930s administrators juggled with programmes of centralisation or decentralisation, and joint or separate finances, with little success - hardly surprising, in view of the scale of the territory and lack of infrastructure. This is reflected in the revenue stamps of the period, with revenue stamps of France being overprinted for colonial use without a colony name specified,

or revenues of the individual colonies then overprinted A.E.F. for use in theory beyond the original colony. In this catalogue, we have listed those bearing an individual colony name (e.g. Gabon, Congo Français) under the colony concerned. Provisionals of France overprinted for use in equatorial Africa but without a colony name are listed in this A.E.F. chapter, as are those stamps inscribed solely "A.E.F."

In 1934 the A.E.F. umbrella organisation was ratified in more detail, and use of A.E.F. stamps throughout the territory became more standard.

In WWII Free French forces with Félix Eboué as Lt-Governor captured Gabon and persuaded the other areas to rally to the Gaullist side. In the postwar era, there was an inevitable but at times reluctant move towards granting independence. The federation was broken up into its former colonial territories again, from 1958 as the semi-autonomous republics of Cameroun, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo-Brazzaville, and Gabon, all within the French Community; these in turn becoming totally independent by 1960. The currency used in these republics, the CFA France (Equatorial), remained a useful financial vestige of the former A.E.F. administration.

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A.E.F. REVENUE

General Duty, inscribed TIMBRE FISCAL.



1930. Daussy key type (lined background), ovpt "A.E.F." in red. No wmk.

1. 10c bistre, brown & blue	2.00
2. 20c bistre, brown & blue	2.00
3. 25c bistre, brown & blue	2.00
4. 50c bistre, brown & blue	2.00
5. 1F yellow-green, green & red	2.00
6. 2F yellow-green, green & red	5.00
7. 3F yellow-green, green & red	5.00
8. 4F yellow-green, green & red	7.50
9. 5F yellow-green, green & red	3.50
10. 10F pale blue, blue & red	5.00
11. 15F pale blue, blue & red	10.00
12. 20F pale blue, blue & red	7.50
13. 30F pale blue, blue & red	7.50
14. 40F pale blue, blue & red	10.00
15. 50F pale blue, blue & red	7.50
16. 100F violet, purple & red	20.00
17. 200F violet, purple & red	35.00
18. 500F violet, purple & red	35.00
19. 1000F rose, lilac & orange	50.00



1930. Daussy key type (diamonds background), ovpt "A.E.F." in red. No wmk.

20. 2c violet, purple & red	10.00
21. 10c violet, purple & red	3.50
22. 20c violet, purple & red	3.50
23. 25c violet, purple & red	3.50
24. 50c violet, purple & red	3.50
25. 1F rose, lilac & blue	2.00
26. 2F rose, lilac & blue	3.50
27. 3F rose, lilac & blue	5.00
28. 4F rose, lilac & blue	5.00
29. 5F rose, lilac & blue	3.50
30. 10F pale blue, blue & red	7.50
31. 20F pale blue, blue & red	15.00



1934. Enregistrement stamp, surcharged and with three bars through previous value and ENREGISTREMENT, in red (R), for use as general revenue (especially for receipts).

32. 0FR.25 on 1F blue & black (R) 25.00
 32a. error "F" for "FR." 75.00
 32b. round "O" in surcharge 35.00



1938. Daussy key type (lined background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in red. With wmk.

33. 15c bistre, brown & blue 2.00
 34. 60c bistre, brown & blue 10.00
 35. 1F50 yellow-green, green & red 7.50
 36. 2F yellow-green, green & red 7.50
 37. 20F yellow-green, green & red 15.00



1938. Daussy key type (diamonds background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in red. No wmk.

38. 50c violet, purple & red 7.50
 39. 75c violet, purple & red 7.50



1938. Daussy key type (diamonds background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in red. Now with wmk.

40. 25c violet, purple & red 3.50
 41. 30c violet, purple & red 3.50
 42. 40c violet, purple & red 3.50
 43. 45c violet, purple & red 7.50
 44. 50c violet, purple & red 3.50
 45. 75c violet, purple & red 7.50
 46. 1F rose, brown & blue 3.50

47. 50F blue, dark blue & red 10.00
 48. 100F blue, dark blue & red 15.00
 49. 1000F green, dark green & black . 100.00

x

1938. Daussy key type (lined background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in blue-black.

50. 15c bistre, brown & blue 10.00
 51. 30c bistre, brown & blue 35.00
 52. 45c bistre, brown & blue 35.00



1938. Daussy key type (diamonds background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in blue-black, with serifs.

53. 1F rose, brown & blue 3.50
 54. 1F50 rose, brown & blue 5.00
 55. 2F rose, brown & blue 3.50
 56. 3F rose, brown & blue 3.50
 57. 4F rose, brown & blue 5.00
 58. 5F rose, brown & blue 3.50

For similar stamps but sans-serif ovpt, see issue of 1949.



1939. Surcharges, three bars through previous value. Country name in last colour stated.

59. 0fr50 on 25c violet, lilac & red 7.50
 60. 0fr75 on 30c bistre, brown & blue . 10.00
 61. 1fr50 on 40c violet, lilac & red 10.00
 62. 2fr on 2c violet, lilac & red 10.00
 63. 3fr on 45c bistre, brown & blue 15.00
 64. 4fr on 15c bistre, brown & blue 20.00
 65. 5fr on 1F rose, brown & blue 20.00



⊕A ⊕B



A

1941 etc. Surcharges on postage stamps. Type A: "fr." thin but bold font. Type B: "fr." normal, wider font. Postage stamp types are : 1c to 3c Logging; 10c to 29c Chad family; 50c Savorgnan de Brazzaville.

- 70A. 0F50 in 1c brown & buff A 5.00
 70B. 0F50 in 1c brown & buff B 10.00
 70AB. type A+B se tenant 150.00
 70c. error "0 fr. 0" ("5" missing) 150.00
 71. 0F50 on 15c blue & buff B 7.50
 72. 0F50 on 50c brown & buff B 7.50
 73. 0F75 on 1c brown & buff A 7.50
 74. 0F75 on 2c violet & green B 10.00
 75. 0F75 on 15c blue & buff B 15.00
 76. 1F50 on 1c brown & buff A 15.00
 76a. double ovpt *200.00
 77. 1F50 on 3c blue & buff B 20.00
 78. 1F50 on 15c blue & buff B 25.00
 79. 1F50 on 50c brown & buff B 25.00
 80. 2F on 1c brown & buff A 25.00
 81. 3F on 1c brown & buff A 35.00
 82. 3F on 10c magenta & pale blue B .. 35.00
 83. 3F on 15c blue & buff B 35.00
 84. 4F on 1c brown & buff A 35.00
 85. 4F on 15c blue & buff B 35.00
 85a. ovpt misplaced, slating *50.00
 86. 5F on 1c brown & buff A 35.00
 87. 5F on 15c blue & buff B 35.00
 88. 5F on 50c brown & buff B 35.00
 89. 10F on 1c brown & buff A 50.00
 90A. 10F on 20c brown & buff A 100.00
 90B. 10F on 20c brown & buff B 50.00
 91. 10F on 50c brown & buff B 75.00
 92. 50F on 1c brown & buff A 75.00
 93. 50F on 20c brown & buff B 75.00

The 0F50 on 1c was printed in sheets all of Type A, and then a second printing made with one Type A and all the rest type B (thus providing the se tenant pair #70AB).

All other ovpts on the 1c were Type A. The 10F on 20c comes in both types. All the rest are apparently type B.



1945. Marianne de Dulac. Printed in London. Perf 11 3/4 x 12.

95. 50c green & red	3.50
96. 75c green & red	3.50
97. 1F green & red	3.50
98. 1F50 green & red	10.00
99. 2F green & red	10.00
100. 3F green & red	15.00
101. 4F green & red	20.00
102. 5F green & red	15.00
103. 10F rose & black	20.00
104. 20F rose & black	25.00
105. 50F blue & red	25.00
106. 500F blue & red	100.00



1949 etc. Daussy key type (diamonds background), ovpt "AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE" in sans-serif font, in last colour stated.

107. 75c violet, purple & red	2.00
108. 1F50 rose, brown & blue	5.00
109. 2F rose, brown & blue	5.00
110. 3F rose, brown & blue	5.00
111. 4F rose, brown & blue	7.50
112. 5F rose, brown & blue	5.00
113. 10F pale blue, blue & red	5.00
114. 20F pale blue, blue & red	5.00
115. 30F pale blue, blue & red	7.50
116. 40F pale blue, blue & red	10.00
117. 50F pale blue, blue & red	25.00
118. 60F pale blue, blue & red	15.00
119. 100F pale blue, blue & red	15.00
120. 200F orange & blue	20.00
121. 400F orange & blue	100.00
122. 500F orabf=ge & blue	25.00

A.E.F. CONNAISSEMENTS

For bills of lading, where duplicate copies required a control stamp to be affixed, even though no extra duty was payable for the extra copy. Price column A is for the original Connaissements stamp, and price column B is for the duplicate Control stamps.



1930. Key type, with small A.E.F. in red (R). Control stamps inscribed ESTAMPILLE / DE / CONTROLE.

	A	B
1. 50c & 2/10 blue & black (R)	100.00	15.00
2. 1F & 2/10 purple & black (R)	20.00	50.00
3. 2F & 2/10 rose & black (R) ..	15.00	15.00



1930. Key type, with larger A.E.F. in red (R). Control stamps inscribed ESTAMPILLE / DE / CONTROLE.

	A	B
4. 50c & 2/10 blue & black (R)	50.00	15.00
5. 1F & 2/10 purple & black (R)	25.00	15.00
6. 2F & 2/10 rose & black (R) ..	20.00	15.00



1936. Similar, but values expressed in simpler form, and ESTAMPILLE / DE CONTROLE only in two lines.

	A	B
7. 1F20 bright purple & black (R)	25.00	15.00
8. 2F40 rose & black (R)	20.00	15.00
8a. smaller inscription	-	15.00



1936. Daussy key type, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in red. No wmk.

	A	B
9. 1F20 lilac, black & red	20.00	10.00
10. 2F40 rose, black & red	20.00	10.00

1939. Same Daussy key type, new values, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in red. With wmk.

	A	B
11. 90c blue, black & red	35.00	10.00
12. 1F80 lilac, black & red	35.00	10.00
13. 3F60 rose, black & red	35.00	10.00



1942. Same Daussy key type, but AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in black. No wmk.

	A	B
14. 90c blue & black	20.00	10.00
15. 1F80 lilac & black	20.00	10.00
16. 3F60 red & black	10.00	5.00



1943. Surcharged, with four bars through old value.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|---|
| | A | B |
| 17. 3F60 on 2F40 red & black .. | 35.00 | - |
- Control stamps were not surcharged.

1946. Previous Daussy key type, AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in black. Now with wmk.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | A | B |
| 18. 1F80 lilac & black | 10.00 | 5.00 |
| 19. 2F40 rose & black | 25.00 | 10.00 |
| 20. 3F60 red & black | 10.00 | 5.00 |



1945. Marianne de Dulac. Perf 11¾x12.
- 21. (-) Control, blue & red-brown 20.00
 - 22. 1F80 green & red 20.00
 - 23. 3F60 green & brown 20.00

A.E.F. COPIES

The stamp listed by Duston for COPIES under A.E.F. is listed by us under Gabon.

A.E.F. DIMENSION



1930. Dimension stamp of France, surcharged "2fr." or "4fr.", and two bars through previous value.

- 1. 2F on 3F lilac 20.00
- 2. 4F on 3F lilac 35.00

X

1930. Dimension stamp of France, surcharged "2FR", and three bars through previous value.

- 3. 2F on 6F rose 50.00



1930. Dimension stamp of France, ovpt A.E.F. in red (R).

- 4. 2F blue & black (R) 5.00
- 5. 3F violet & black (R) 7.50
- 6. 4F green & black (R) 10.00



1936. Daussy key type, with A.E.F. in last colour stated.

- 7. 2F blue, black & red 5.00
- 8. 4F green, black & red 5.00
- 9. 6F brown, black & red (?) 10.00



1937. Daussy key type, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in red. No wmk.

- 10. 3F blue, black & red 5.00
- 11. 4F50 red, black & red 10.00
- 12. 6F green, black & red 15.00

1939. Daussy key type, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in black.

- 13. 3F blue, black & black 100.00

For further Daussy types, see issue of 1949.



1940. Issue of 1937 surcharged "5 francs" and 5 bars through previous value in black.

- 14. 5F on 4F green, black & red 20.00
- 15. 7F on 4F50 on red, black & red ... 100.00
- 16. 10F on 6F green, black & red 35.00



1940. Issue of 1939 surcharged "5 / FRANCS" and 5 bars through previous value, in red (R).

- 17. 5F on 3F blue, black & black (R) ... 20.00



A **25^c** **25^c** B

1941 etc. Postage stamps ovpt DIMENSION. The 25c postage stamp used for the 5F surcharge comes in two types A) wide figures and "5" with open ball at foot; B) narrower figures and "5" with closed ball at foot.

- 18. 5F on 1c brown & buff 20.00
- 19. 5F on 15c blue & buff 20.00
- 20. 5F on 25c red & pale blue A 20.00
- 20a. type B 25.00
- 21. 10F on 1c brown & buff 35.00



1945. Marianne de Dulac. Printed in London. Perf 11¾x12.

- 25. 5F green & red 5.00
- 26. 7F50 lilac & black 7.50
- 27. 10F lilac & black 10.00



1949. Daussy key type, new values, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in last colour stated.

- 28. 5F bistre (shades), black & blue 5.00
- 29. 7F50 blue, black & red 7.50
- 30. 10F bistre, black & blue 5.00
- 31. 15F blue, black & black 7.50



1951 etc. Daussy key type, with AFRIQUE / EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE in sans-serif letters in black (100F and 200F are in red (R)). With wmk.

- 32. 20F deep yellow & black 5.00
- 32a. bistre & black 5.00
- 33. 30F blue & black 5.00
- 34. 40F deep yellow & black 5.00
- 34a. bistre & black 5.00
- 35. 60F green & black 7.50
- 36. 80F deep yellow & black 20.00
- 37. 100F deep yellow & red (R) 15.00
- 38. 120F blue & black 35.00
- 39. 200F blue & red (R) 35.00

A.E.F. DOUANES

Customs clearance fee.



1a

1943. Postage stamp, ovpt "DOUANES / Paquets-poste/Familiaux".

- 1. 5F on 50c brown & buff 10.00
- 1a. "5" omitted 100.00
- 1b. ovpt double *100.00
- 1c. ovpt inverted *100.00



1945. Native head. Underprint in second colour. Perf 13x13½.

- 2. 5F brown & pale buff *10.00

A.E.F. EFFETS



1934. Effets stamps of France, surcharged in red (R). The thick and thin ovpts exist in the same sheet (alternate rows?).

- 1. 25c on 35c brown & black, thick (R) 20.00
- 1a. thin ovpt (R) 20.00
- 1b. se tenant pair *75.00
- 2. 50c on 35c brown & black, thick (R) 20.00
- 2a. thin ovpt (R) 20.00
- 1b. se tenant pair *75.00

A.E.F. ENREGISTREMENT



1920. Dimension stamp of France, ovpt "Enregistrement", surcharged and five bars through previous value.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. 1F on 3F violet & black | 20.00 |
| 2. 5F on 3F violet & black | 20.00 |
| 3. 10F on 8F blue & red | 35.00 |
| 4. 100F on 8F blue & red | 75.00 |



1930. Key type.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| 5. 50c ultramarine & black | 10.00 |
| 6. 1F bright blue & black | 10.00 |
| 7. 2F bistre & black | 15.00 |
| 8. 3F yellow-green & black | 15.00 |
| 9. 4F blue & black | 15.00 |
| 10. 5F violet & black | 15.00 |
| 11. 10F bistre & black | 20.00 |
| 12. 100F pale red & black | 50.00 |
| 13. 500F violet-rose & black | 75.00 |



1939. Surcharged in italic, two bars through previous value.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 14. 0F50 on 4F blue & black | 20.00 |
| 15. 0F75 on 5F violet & black | 20.00 |
| 16. 1F50 on 10F bistre & black | 20.00 |
| 17. 10F on 100F pale red & black | 50.00 |



c1940. Surcharged (upright figures), three bars through previous value.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 18. 0F50 on 5F violet & black | 20.00 |
| 19. 0F75 on 10F bistre & black | 20.00 |
| 20. 5F on 4F blue & black | 35.00 |
| 21. 10F on 100F pale red & black | 50.00 |

A.E.F. PASSEPORTS



1951 etc. Daussy key type, with AFRIQUE /EQUATORIALE/FRANCAISE in sans-serif letters in blue. With wmk.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1. 100F red & blue | 10.00 |
| 2. 200F red & blue | 10.00 |
| 3. 500F red & blue | 35.00 |
| 4. 600F red & blue | 50.00 |
| 5. 1000F red & blue | 75.00 |

A.E.F. PECULE

Initially, stamps of France were locally overprinted PÉCULE. These were mainly used in Gabon, but also in the French Congo. For this reason we treat them as A.E.F. issues (some were listed by Duston under Gabon) and give them "F" numbers. Three types are found :



Type F1) Large PECULE (no accent), at any angle, handstruck, often with part of inked surround also appearing.



1931. General Duty (Timbre Fiscal) Daussy keytype stamp of France of 1925 (lined background).

- F1. 1F yellow-green, green & red 20.00
- F2. 2F yellow-green, green & red 20.00
- F3. 5F yellow-green, green & red 10.00
- F4. 10F blue, dark blue & red 10.00
- F5. 20F blue, dark blue & red 15.00
- F6. 50F blue, dark blue & red 20.00
- F7. 100F violet, lilac & red 35.00



1931. Effets stamp of France of 1900 (A/L / 1..." in top left corner).

- F9. 1F grey & blue 35.00
- F2. 2F grey & blue 35.00



1931. Effet stamp of France of 1921 (without date).

- F10. 25c bistre & black 15.00
- F11. 50c bistre & black 15.00
- F11a. pair, one without ovpt 150.00
- F12. 1F grey-brown & red 15.00



1931. Quittances stamp of France of 1920.

- F13. 1F lilac & black 15.00
- F13a. ovpt double 35.00

PÉCULE

Type F2) typeset PÉCULE but still individually handstamped, often at a slight angle.



1931. General Duty (Timbre Fiscal) Daussy keytype stamp of France of 1925 (lined background).

- F20. 10F blue & red 10.00
- F20a. double ovpt 20.00



1931. Dimension stamp of France of 1918.

- F21. 6F rose & red 25.00

PÉCULE

Type F3) smaller typeset PÉCULE (underlined) but now printed from a printing press, so evenly printed and always straight.



1931. Effets stamp of France of 1921.
F25. 25c bistre & black 15.00



1931. Quittances stamp of France of 1920 (Daussy lined keytype).

- F26. 1F blue & red 15.00
- F27. 50c green & red 15.00

Similar overprints on A.E.F. stamps :
Type F1) Large PECULE (no accent), at any angle, handstruck, often with part of inked surround also appearing.



1931. A.E.F. Dimension stamps, ovpt normally reading up..

- 1. 2F blue & red 15.00
- 1a. double ovpt 35.00
- 1b. triple ovpt 50.00
- 2. 4F green & red 15.00



1931. A.E.F. Enregistrement stamps similarly ovpt.

- 3. 10F grey & black 20.00

Type F2) typeset PÉCULE but still individually handstamped, often at a slight angle..



1931. A.E.F. Dimension stamps, ovpt normally reading up..

- 10. 3F lilac & red 20.00
- 11. 4F green & red 15.00
- 11a. ovpt double 35.00

Large typeset PÉCULE (underlined), even typoprinting.



1931. A.E.F. Enregistrement stamps, ovpt PÉCULE.

- 12. 1F blue & black 15.00
- 13. 2F bistre & black 20.00
- 14. 5F violet & black 25.00
- 14a. ovpt double 50.00
- 15. 10F grey-brown & black 15.00
- 15a. ovpt double 50.00

Later A.E.F. stamps ovpt PÉCULE etc:



1939. Stamps of Gabon with bars and ovpt AFRIQUE EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE, further ovpt PÉCULE (4mm high) and surcharged, in red (R).

- 20. 2F on 2c black on pink (R) 150.00
- 21. 5F on 5c greenish-blue (R) 150.00

x

1939. Similar Gabon stamps, but smaller PÉCULE ovpt (2½mm high) and surcharged, in red (R).

- 22. 2F on 2c black on pink (R) 150.00
- 23. 5F on 5c greenish-blue (R) 150.00



A



B

1939. Stamps of Middle Congo (stamp designs : A) Pasteur Institute, Brazzaville, B) Mindouli Railway Viaduct) with bars and ovpt AFRIQUE EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE, further ovpt PÉCULE (4mm high) and surcharged, in red (R).

- 24. 5c on 50c dark purple-brown (R) A . 150.00
- 25. 10F on 1c brown (R) B 150.00
- 26. 20F on 2c greenish-blue (R) B 200.00

1939. Similar stamps of Middle Congo as above with bars and ovpt AFRIQUE EQUATORIALE / FRANCAISE, but smaller ovpt PÉCULE (2½mm high) and surcharged, in red (R).

- (27. 5c on 50c dark purple-brown (R) A)
- 28. 10F on 1c brown (R) B 150.00
- 29. 20F on 2c greenish-blue (R) B 200.00



A



1942. A.,E.F. postage stamps, ovpt TIMBRE PÉCULE, surcharged, and three bars through previous value.

- 30. 5F on 1c brown & buff A 20.00
- 31. 10F on 2c violet & green A 35.00
- 31a. smaller "fr" B 35.00
- 32. 25F on 3c blue & yellow A 50.00
- 33. 50F on 15c blue & buff B 150.00
- 34. 100F on 25c red & pale blue A 150.00



c1945. Ornamental frame. Locally printed. Imperf.

- 35. 5F green 15.00
- 36. 20F grey 100.00
- 37. 25F brown 100.00
- 38. 50F rey 100.00