

Chronology of events in Indo-China (1945-1956)

Caption: On 6 March 1946, France recognised the Democratic Republic of Vietnam as a free state within the French Union. The deterioration of relations between the President of Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh, and France led to the start of the Indo-China War. On 7 May 1954, the fall of the fortified camp of Dien Bien Phu signified the end of the war. On 21 July 1954, the Peace Accords were signed in Geneva.

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09.03.1945	Japanese forces attack French garrisons in Indochina.
11.03.1945	Proclamation of Vietnam's independence by Emperor Bao Dai.
15.08.1945	Vietnam uprising. Admiral d'Argenlieu is appointed High Commissioner for Indochina.
02.09.1945	Ho Chi Minh proclaims the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.
05.10.1945	General Leclerc disembarks from Saigon.
06.03.1946	Agreement between Ho Chi Minh and the French Government. France recognises the Democratic Republic of Vietnam as a free state within the French Union with Ho Chi Minh as its president.
06.07.1946	Fontainebleau conference.
19.12.1946	Viet Minh uprising in Hanoi marking the start of the Indochina war. Ho Chi Minh goes into hiding.
05.03.1947	Emile Bollaert replaces Admiral d'Argenlieu as High Commissioner for Indochina.
23.12.1947	Cambodia and Laos join the French Union.
05.06.1948	Along Bay accords between Emile Bollaert and the Emperor Bao Dai. France recognises the independence of Vietnam as an associated state.
20.10.1948	Léon Pignon replaces Emile Bollaert as High Commissioner for Indochina.
08.03.1949	France proclaims the independence of Indochina with Bao Dai as Head of State.
19.01.1950	The People's Republic of China recognises the Ho Chi Minh government.
31.01.1950	The Soviet Union recognises the Ho Chi Minh government.
07.02.1950	The United States recognises the Bao Dai government.
25.06.1950	Beginning of the Korean War.
08.10.1950	French defeat at Cao Bang.
18.10.1950	Evacuation of Lang Son.
06.12.1950	General de Lattre replaces Léon Pignon as High Commissioner for Indochina.
10.09.1951	General de Lattre's journey to the United States, which grants financial aid to France.
01.04.1952	Jean Letourneau succeeds General de Lattre, deceased 11 January, as High Commissioner for Indochina.
04.09.1952	Entry to the UN is denied to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.
14.04.1953	The Viet Minh invade northern Laos. Evacuation of Sam Neua.
03.07.1953	The Laniel government declares itself ready to accept the independence of the associated states.
25.07.1953	End of the Korean War.
09.09.1953	The United States grants further financial aid to France.
13.03.1954	The Viet Minh launch their first attacks on Dien Bien Phu.
26.04.1954	Beginning of the Geneva Conference on Korea and Indochina.
07.05.1954	Fall of Dien Bien Phu.
04.06.1954	Franco-Vietnamese accords. Signing of the independence treaty for Vietnam.
21.07.1954	Signing of the Indochina peace accords in Geneva.
09.10.1954	French troops evacuate Hanoi.
30.12.1954	Accords between France, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.
04.05.1955	The last French troops leave North Vietnam.
26.10.1955	Ngo Dinh Diem proclaims the Republic of South Vietnam.
28.04.1956	Dissolution of the French high command in Indochina.