



Different in many ways, this silk flag measures 26.5"x32.5" (66.0cm by 82.0cm.) It contains place names written across the front including: Tokyo, Kyoto, Seoul, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Hawaii, U.S.A., and others. More interestingly is the fact that it has a small silk China Republic national flag sewn to the upper left hand corner. This flag is quite similar in appearance to the Manchurian flag.

The China Republic national flag was recognized between the years 1912-1929. In 1912, the Chinese were represented by two different governments. While the country was organized as a singular republic, Northern China was governed from Beijing by General Yuan Shih-k' Ai. Southern China was ruled by Sun Yat-Sen and Kuo-min-tang. The five color flag was adopted because it was the only example that was used by all sections of the country at one time or another. In the past, the color Red represented the Manchurians, Yellow stood for the Han Chinese, Blue represented the Mongolians, White was for the Muslims, and Black stood for the Tibetans.

Sometime in the 1930s the Japanese Government reinstated the China Republic flag. It remained in use until 1945. A period repair to the fly end of this vintage flag is evident. It is possible that since there are so many well known and different place names listed on the flag that it might have belonged to someone who went on a naval world tour or possibly a pleasure trip.