### UNITED NATIONS







## SECURITY

Distr. GENERAL

A/34/541 S/13565 19 October 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fourth session
Agenda item 11
REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

SECURITY COUNCIL Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 1 October 1979 from the Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of the White Book entitled Viet Nam's Sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes made public on 27 September 1979 by the Information and Press Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and kindly request you to have this letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 11, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) HA VAN LAU

Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

# VIETNAM'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES

INFORMATION AND PRESS DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
HANOI - 1979

# VIETNAM'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES

INFORMATION AND PRESS DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
HANOI - 1979

#### **CONTENTS**

- I. Foreword
- II. Some documents proving Viet Nam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes.
- III. Significant Events relating to Vietnamese sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes.
- 1V. Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on August 7, 1979, on the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes.

## THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES PART OF VIET NAM'S TERRITORY

Hoang Sa and Truong Sa are two archipelagoes consisting mainly of coral islands and submerged floors east of Viet Nam. The archipelagoes were once called by a common name of Hoang Sa or Dai Truong Sa or Van Ly Truong Sa. They comprise islands which, though small in size, are of great strategic value and economic importance.

The Hoang Sa archipelago lies off the Gulf of Bac Bo (Tonkin), about 120 nautical miles from Da Nang.

Westerners call it Paracels.

The Truong Sa archipelago lies scattered in the South of the Eastern Sea, 250 nautical miles from Cam Ranh Bay.

Westerners call it Spratly.

Both Hoang Sa and Truong Sa have, from time immemorial, been part of Viet Nam's territory. The Vietnamese feudal state was the first in history to occupy, claim ownership of, exercise sovereignty over and exploit, in the name of the State, these two archipelagoes which had never before come under the administration of any country. This ownership is effective and in conformity with international law and practice. Successive administrations have organized these islands into administrative units belonging to mainland provinces of Viet Nam.

Viet Nam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes is indisputable. The Vietnamese people have enough evidence and historical documents to prove their sovereignty. Several western navigators, geographers and missionaries in the past centuries have confirmed this fact.

In spite of this, the Peking authorities have brazenly claimed that these two archipelagoes, which they call Xisha and Nanshe,

belong to the Chinese People's Republic. On January 19, 1974, using a large naval and air force, and with U.S. acquiescence, they seized the Hoang Sa archipelago then under the administration of the Nguyen Van Thieu regime.

This is a fragrant act of aggression of the Peking authorities, crudely violating the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Viet Nam and trampling upon the U.N. Charter principles, international law and practice. This act is part of Peking's scheme to gradually establish its control over the Eastern Sea, weaken and subjugate Viet Nam, Laos, and Kampuchea so as to secure a spring-board for expansion to South-East Asia. To whitewash their act of aggression, the Peking authorities have been fabricating and distorting facts in an attempt to justify their claim on the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes.

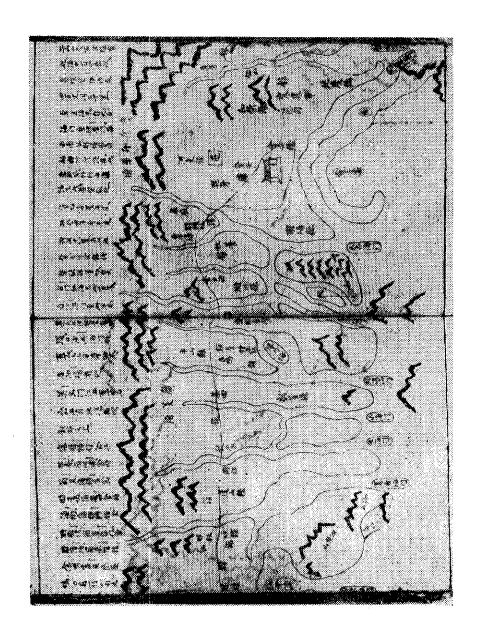
With the materials presented in this booklet, we are convinced that the peace-and-justice loving people in the world will know the truth: the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes are part of the territory of Viet Nam.

No deceptive manœuvres of the Peking expansionists can cover up or distort this truth, or justify their acts of aggression and betrayal against the Vietnamese people in the Eastern Sea.

# SOME DOCUMENTS PROVING VIET NAM'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES

#### DOCUMENT № 1

#### A 17th-CENTURY MAP OF VIET NAM



This is a map of the Quang Ngai region from a collection-of maps of Viet Nam compiled in the 17th century by Do Ba. In the footnote, the exploitation of Bai Cat Vang(1) by the Nguyen princes (2) is clearly mentioned in the following terms:

"... An elongated sandbank, called Bai Cat Vang, 400 dam long and 20 dam wide, lies in the middle of the sea facing the coastline between the Dai Chiem port (3) to Sa Vinh port (4). Every time the South-Western wind arose, foreign trade ships sailing near the coast were flown off course and ran aground on this sandbank so were those sailing on the high sea from the North when there was a North-Eastern wind. Men on board the ships all starved to death and goods were amassed there. Every year, in the last month of winter, the Nguyen princes sent 18 ships there to recuperate the goods consisting mostly of gold, silver, currencies, arms and ammunition. It takes one day and a half, from the Dai Chiem port to go there; and only a day if one embarks at Sa Ky... »

<sup>(1)</sup> Bai Cat Vang: Golden Sandbank.

<sup>(2)</sup> Nguyen princes (1558 - 1775), of a noble family ruling the region (later called Cochinchina) which is the Southern part of Viet Nam.

<sup>(3)</sup> Dai Chiem port is now Cua Dai port of Quang  $\operatorname{Nam}$  — Da  $\operatorname{Nang}$  province.

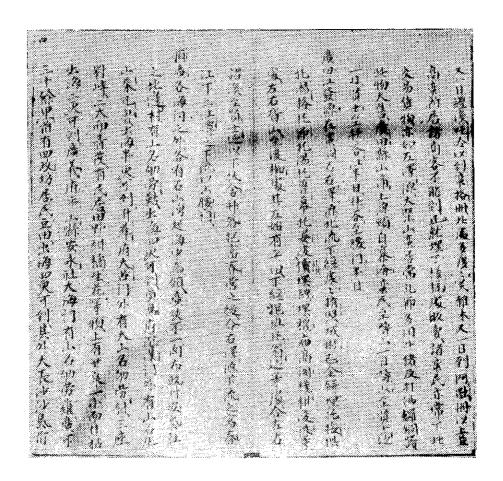
<sup>(4)</sup> Sa Vinh port is now Sa Huynh port, in Nghia Binh province.

#### **DOCUMENT** No 2

#### ACCORDING TO "PHU BIEN TAP LUC"

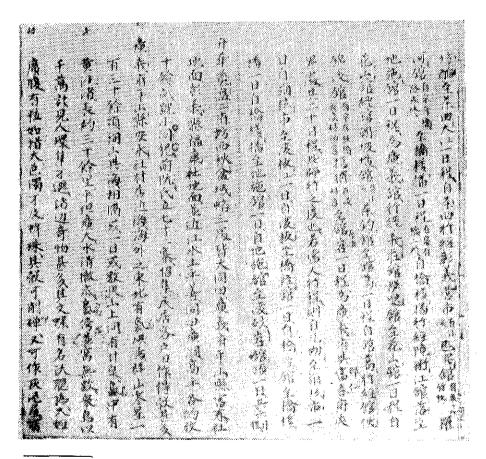
(Miscellaneous Records on the Pacification of the Frontiers) This book was written by Le Quy Don (1726 - 1784), a great scholar. Le Quy Don described in details the topography, natural

resources of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes and their exploitation by the Nguyen princes.



In the book, Le Quy Don wrote:

"... In Quang Ngai district, off the coast of An Vinh village, Binh Son sub-district there is a mountain called Cu Lao Re stretching over 30 dam. The Tu Chinh settlement, as it is called, has been established here and the people there grow beans. It takes half a day to go there by boat. Further still, there is the Dai Trylong Sa (1) island, with many sea products and wrecked cargoes which are collected by the Hoang Sa (1) detachment. It takes three days and nights to go there by boat. The island is near the area called Bac Hai.



<sup>(1)</sup> During that time, the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes were referred to by a common name as Hoang Sa or Dai Truong Sa or Van ly Truong Sa.

In Binh Son sub-district, Quang Ngai district, there is the An Vinh village on the sea. Off the coast of this village, in the North-East lie over 130 islands. The distance between two islands is covered by a voyage of one day or sometimes of only a few hours. There are fresh water springs on some islands. On an island there is a vast and flat golden sandbank, 30 dam long, where the spring water is crystal clear. The island swarms with swallows and thousands of other species of birds, which are not frightened by the sight of men. Strange animals abound on the shore. Among them are giant snails, the shells of which can be baked into lime for house building or used as ornaments. Several other species of snails and other molluses big and small, can be used for food or for ornamental purposes. There are giant tortoises and smaller varieties of turtles, and also sea-slugs abounding near the shore. They are to be treated with lime, and after a clean scrubbing, cooked with pork and shrimp.

Foreign ships hit by storms often take shelter on these islands. Formerly, the Nguyen formed a 70-strong Hoang Sa detachment made up of An Vinh villagers. It is sent on duty in the third month every year, taking along enough food for six months, in 5 small fishing boats and making a three-day-and-night voyage to the islands. There, the men are free to collect things as they like. They find shipwrecked things such as gold, silver, brass valuables, currency, tin, lead, arms, ivory, wax, crockery... and pick up beautiful shells and holothurians. In August, they return to Phu Xuan citadel where they hand over all the recuperated goods, keeping the shells and holothurians for themselves. The quantities of goods picked up vary from year to year. There have been times when the men returned emptyhanded. The notebook of an officer in charge reads: In Nham Ngo year, we collected 30 ingots of silver; in Giap Than year, 5,100 kan of tin; in At Dau year, 126 ingots of silver; in each of the five years from Ky Suu to Quy Ty, merely a few tortoise shells, and in other years, a quantity of tin, some ceramic bowls and two bronze cannons.

The Nguyen also formed Bac Hai team made up of people from Tu Chinh, Binh Thuan province, or Canh Duong village. These people were all volunteers exempted from some taxes and travel expenses by the State. They were sent, under the command of the Hoang Sa detachment commander on small fishing boats to the Northern sea, Con Lon (Poulo Condor) island and the Ha Tien isles to find shipwrecked valuables, tortoise shells, sea-slugs. They got chiefly sea products. Very few gold and silver valuables were found".

## ACCORDING TO "DAI NAM THUC LUC CHINH BIEN" (Official Chronicles of Dai Nam)

南朝必救因併及之釋兩憾矣佛王不可日首造釁南朝故也攻顧	怨匿頑其二王謀於佛王日匿禛敢侮我侍 。
----------------------------	------------------------

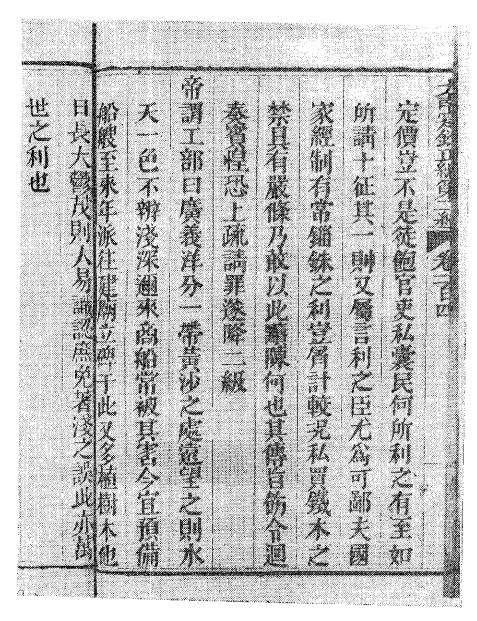
(Chapter 52)

Compiled by the National Institute of History of the Nguyen Imperial Court, the "Official Chronicles of Dai Nam" is a history of the Nguyen kings. The chapters of the "official chronicles" on the reigns of Kings Gia Long, Minh Menh and Thieu Tri, record the occupation by King Gia Long of the Hoang Sa islands in 1816, King Minh Menh's decision to build a temple, to install sovereignty markers and to plant trees on these islands, to survey and to draw maps of these islands.

Hereunder are excerpts from those chapters:

#### Chapter 52:

"In the year Binh Ty, the 15th year of the Gia Long reign (1816)... on the King's order, naval units and the Hoang Sa detachment travelled in boats to Hoang Sa to survey sea-routes".



(Chapter 104)

之可是敬与品言。 四四三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三三	<b>丈三尺</b> 與 接珊瑚石	波平四字首名佛寺山	有井西	建廣義黃沙神祠黃沙在廣義海分有	光卿陞署定安總督	以定安總督鄧文添為河寧總督河	成法永絕弊根	言人臣能有我見別項情樂五色奉養
	尺뀈	<b>計山東西南岸</b> 周圍一千七十	非	<b>奥義海分有一處白</b>		一總督河內巡撫鄉		"自奉發作了景題

(Chapter 154)

(Chapter -154)

#### Chapter 104:

"In the eighth month of the year Quy Ty, the 14th year of the Minh Menh reign (1833)... the King instructed his Minister of Public Works in these terms:

"In the territorial waters at Quang Ngai province, there lies the Hoang Sa archipelago.

But how can one know, from afar, whatever lies there in the vast expanse of the sea? This is why recently, merchant boats often ran aground on sandbanks. Preparations should be made for a team to go there next year to build a temple, to install markers and to plant trees. Trees will grow up into a luxuriant vegetation that would allow navigators to mark the areas and avoid shipwrecks. This will be for the benefit of thousands of generations to come".

#### Chapter 154:

"The sixth month of the year At Mui, the 16th years of the Minh Menh reign (1835).

A temple has been built on Hoang Sa (Quang Ngai province). Among the Hoang Sa islands located in the territorial waters of Quang Ngai province, there exists the islet of Bach Sa (white sand) where the vegetation is luxuriant. In the middle of the islet there is a well and in its South-Western corner, an old temple with a signboard bearing the inscription: "Van Ly Ba Binh" (Quiet waves over thousands of dam). The perimetre of the islet is 1,070 truong. The islet used to be known as Phat Tu Son. To the east, the west and the south of the islet are coral stretches. To the north of this islet is another one formed of corals with a perimetre measuring 340 truong and an altitude of 1 truong 3 thuoc. It is as high as the Bach Sa islet and called Ban Than Thach. Last year, the King intended to build there a temple and a stele, but the project was called off because of unfavourable winds and waves. This year, the King ordered Navy Commander Pham Van Nguyen to head a Royal Guard detachment and a group of boatmen recruited from the provinces of Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh to transport materials for the building of a temple on that islet. This temple is 7 truong distance from the old one and has a stone mark to its left and a brick screen in front. Upon completion of the project which took 10 days, they returned home".

(Chapter 165)

と同名を外に同名に同名と言語と立	所歷水程計算約得幾里又於其處望八海	行日由何海口出洋望何方向駛到此處據	險易形勢如何詳加相度描取圖本再照	高廣周圍及四近海水淺深有無暗沙一	不拘何島嶼沙洲凡駛到者即照此處長續	定二省屋撥民船四艘向引駛往黃沙的處	<b>乘烏船一般以二月上旬抵廣義據廣義平</b>	以後每屆正月下旬遊派水軍弁兵及監城
	<b>处望八海</b>	<b>刘此炭據</b>	华再照起	明沙石碛	龙處長橋	少的成	<b>%</b> 廣義不	大及監城
-		41/4.	handrag and service of the	To de tra sense de la company	PAN .	1/2	(Chapte	

į.

<b>水京旣至八見</b> <b>必京旣至八見</b>	命往黄沙相度至此雷誌等字中水軍正隊長率隊范有日奉	長五尺陽五寸厚率兵船往準帶隨	進	方向約略隔岸幾里一一點說明白遞回呈	岸正對是何省轄何方向斜對是何省轄何	プトが大金工物を二米の名「エブニュ
--------------------------------	--------------------------	----------------	---	-------------------	-------------------	-------------------

(Chapter 165)

#### Chapter 165:

"In the year Binh Than, the 17th year of the Minh Menh reign (1836), on the 1st day of the first month... the Minister of Public Works reported:

"In our territorial waters, Hoang Sa occupies a strategically important position. In the past we undertook to draw its map but, due to its far-off location, we had only completed part of the project, and it was not detailed enough. It is suggested that we should carry out surveying work every year so as to be able to chart the routes definitively. From now on, in the second half of the 1st month yearly, we should detail some naval units and men of the Royal Guard for a boat trip to Quang Ngai. They will have to reach Quang Ngai by the first half of the 2nd month, and they wil! ask the administrators of the provinces of Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh to hire pilots and four boats to take them to Hoang Sa. Whatever place they reach be it an island, an islet or a sandbank. they have to examine the length, the width, the height, the perimetre and the depth of the surrounding waters, ascertain whether there are underwater rocks and reefs and whether the terrain is difficult or not, and they will have to note all these data on their maps. They will have to record the date, the point of departure, the direction they take and the distance they cover. On arrival, they will have to look back to the mainland and try to determine the locations of the provinces they are facing or those which are on their right and left, note down the direction of their view and the estimated distance to the mainland. Upon completion of their tasks, they will have to submit a detailed report".

The King approved these measures and ordered navy Commander Pham Huu Nhat to head a survey team who was given 10 wood boards, each 5 thuoc in length, 5 tac in width, 1 tac in thickness, to be used as markers. On each board the following is inscribed: "In the year Binh Than, 17th year of the reign of Minh Menh, Navy Commander Pham Huu Nhat sent by the King to conduct surveying for map drawing in Hoang Sa has planted this marker so as to perpetuate the memory of the event".

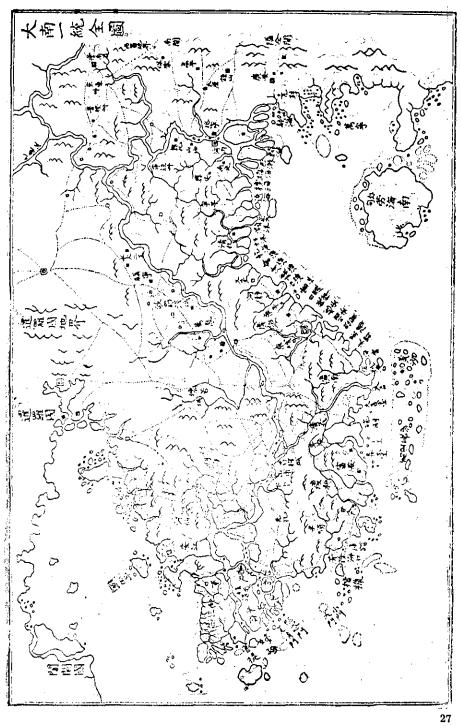
#### DOCUMENT № 4

#### A MAP OF VIET NAM

(From "Dai Nam Nhat Thong Toan Do"

Detailed Map of Dai Nam, early 19th century)

This is a map of Viet Nam drawn under the Nguyen dynasty, in 1838, presenting Hoang Sa or Van Ly Truong Sa as part of Vietnamese territory.



#### DOCUMENT № 5

### ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHICAL BOOK OF "DAI NAM NHAT THONG CHI"

(Dai Nam Comprehensive Encyclopaedia)

"Dai Nam Nhat Thong Chi" is the official geographical book compiled by the National Institute of History under the Nguyen dynasty from 1865 to 1910. Volume VIII, on Quang Ngai province, mentions the status of the Hoang Sa archipelago as belonging to this province and relates that the exploitation of these islands was continuing. The management was strengthened under the reigns of Gia Long and Minh Menh.



Following is an excerpt from the chapter of the book about the Hoang Sa archipelago:

"To the East of Quang Ngai there were sand islands (the Hoang Sa)... In its South-Western moutain region Quang Ngai has a strong bulwark. It borders on Binh Dinh province in the South where Ben Da Pass stands, and on Quang Nam province in the North where the Sa Tho Reef separates the two provinces. In the early years of the reign of King Gia Long, the formation of a Hoang Sa detachment was planned, but the project was later dropped. King Minh Menh, at the beginning of his reign, often sent people to Hoang Sa inboats to explore sea routes. Once a white sand islet was found whose circumference was about 1,070 "truong". There, vegetation was luxuriant. In the middle of the islet there was a well. At its South-West corner there was an old temple whose date of construction was not given, but on a stele nearby were inscribed four words "Van Ly Ba Binh". The sandbank was known as Phat Tu Son: Next to the coral stretch in the North-West was another islet whose circumference was about 340 "truong" and whose height 1.2 "truong". This islet was called "Ban Than Thach". In the 16th year of his reign. Minh Menh sent boats carrying bricks and pebble for the building of a temple and a stele in the East of the islet. He also ordered the sowing of seeds on three sides - the left, the right and the back — of the temple:

In laying the foundation of the temple, the recruits found bronze and iron plates and dug out 2,000 "Kan" of them.

#### TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGO, PART OF BA RIA PROVINCE (1933)

```
80 4702-041.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           in factaciones de La Cochtaghilla
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           College de la péglon d'Asanson,
                                                                                                                                 The colorest du 30 percent 1/11

In the colorest du 30 percent répresentation du

Conseil colorest du 30 percent répresentation du

Conseil colorest de 18 territories et les textes sobréquents;

In 1'eve public paré le comment efficiel de 18 temper

biogn française de 70 Juillet 1', par le Ministère des éffe

ces éffequères, rejutif à l'estration de servainse lles per

des mités niveles françaisse.

The les lettres h's sur, et 21. An les 22 Août et la Sep-

ribre 19, il sourcember conseil, relatives à l'accession des

lus s'ilots de françaisse prévil, relatives à l'accession des

lus s'ilots de françaisse de conseil colorial en deta du 22 cetters ly:
                                                                                                                                                                                           le consett privé enterau.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        and the control of the companies of the termination of the cave-
                                                                                                                                      d'Arbeira, l'es-Abr, comme de Bous-l'es, Loste et Tois-Tu qui
                                                                                                                                      on as contact, estade game is par on inche pont criticación à la
                                                                                                                                   son de la province de son de la province de son de la conservante de la conservante de la conservante de la conserva de la con
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   Seigno, in 31 Micombre 1933
                                                                         Cortafié conterne à l'original
                                                                                                acycle and eccured and appropriate and appropr
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Signé : J. KrauTakiasi.
                                                                                                                                              aune : Altite :
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       BÖN SAO
```

Cochinchina Governor's Ordinance of December 21, 1933 annexing the Hoang Sa archipelago to Ba Ria province:

"Article 1: The island called Spratly and the small dependent islands Caye d'Amboine, Itu Aba, Hai Dao Loai To and Thi Tu, in the Eastern Sea are to be annexed to Ba Ria province".

#### DOCUMENT Nº 7

#### HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO, PART OF THUA THIEN PROVINCE (1938)

a navers Langus Mesonste BARGAREU OUDLAGU MAN 1958 - 2 Cuna lue DD ex to eggy 20 thans 2 sino Båo-Baithe IS (30 Nova 1975) Chica che cae Salae Hears e Parespel de les les est d'Audit Mode ve enfoques en mor Salae de Salae d'Alae d to pay thing our except to be only to the second **Code de plus ser sión de p**romptimo de production de la conserva de la filosofia. E**stagnamenta de la comptanta de la comptan** To place the best of the second of the secon n in **big rection** cases who thing an invited the engine is an ideal of the Theories in the stage of the contract of Du : Barragan - Propinsi dan dan barra da ba is a **B**eauty contagning of the first field on the 1990 dish Khitekhin sa placa dan basi datik, sa Kor

las agrabaçõe de se que en quan dans dans dans dans de s

Kind Be

King Bao Dai's Decree № 10 of the 29th of the Second month of the 13th year of his reign (March 30, 1938) severing the Hoang Sa islands from Nam Ngai province and annexing them to the territory of Thua Thien province. The Decree said: "...Considering that the Hoang Sa Islands (Paracels archipelago) have long been under Viet Nam's sovereignty, and under the previous dynasties the said islands were part of Nam Ngai province; under the reign of the founder of our dynasty, no change was made to that order as communications with these islands were still assured through the ports of Nam Ngai province.

Owing to progress made in sea navigation, communications have been improved. Besides, the representative of the Viet Nam Royal Government, after an inspection of the island, has joined the representative of the Protectorate Government in proposing that the Hoang Sa islands be annexed to Thua Thien province.

We have decided: The Hoang Sa islands (Paracels Archipelago) shall be annexed to Thua Thien province and put under the administration of the authorities of the said province.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO INTO AN ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT (1938)

#### Le Couverneur Général de l'Indochine

N 1983 6 Commandeur de la Legion d'Honneur

Vu les decreis du 20 Delebre 1941, portaul fixation des pouvoirs du Gouverneur Général et organisation financière et administrative de Fludochine:

Vu le decrei de 8 Acol 1986,

Va farrête du 25 désémbre 1984 portant réglement sur les indemnites et presentions en nature et en dermiers.

Sur la proposition du Résident Supérieur en Augant La Commission du Conscil du Gouvernament antandre,

#### 857

#### ARMITE

Article premier. — l'inc délégation administrative est créée aux lles l'aracels dépendant du la province de Thua-thiên (Annum) sous le nom de Délégation des Paracels. Son ressert s'étendre sur tous les groupes d'iles et ilots compris sous la dénomination d'îles l'aracels.

Le fonctionnaire place à la tête de celle eleconscription en qualité de Délègue du Résident de France à Thua-thiên residera à l'île-Pattle.

Art. 2. ... Il aura deput en cette qualité, pour feats de representation et de tournées, à l'indemnité annuelle de quatre cents plastres (400\$00) présure à l'arrête du 28 décembre 1934. Lette indemnité est imputable au Budget local de l'Annum, chapitre 12, article 6, paragraphe 3.

Art. 3. — Le Résident Supérieur en Annam et chargé de l'exécution du présent arrêsé.

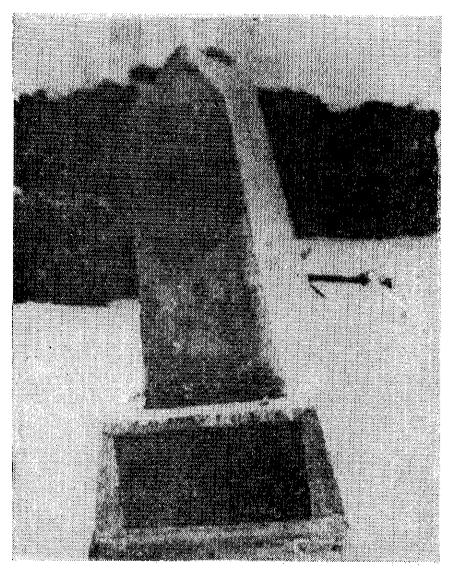
> Delat, a C. Aga **19**04. Com a faights

Indochinese Governor General's Ordinance of June 15, 1938 instituting an administrative unit on the Hoang Sa archipelago annexed to Thua Thien province (Published in "Bulletin administratif de l'Annam" № 12 dated August 9, 1938).

DOCUMENT № 9

VIET NAM SOVEREIGNTY MARKER

ON HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO (1938)



Sovereignty marker posted by the French in 1938. The inscription reads: "French Republic, the Kingdom of Annam Paracels Archipelago, 1816—Pattle Island—1938" (1816 is the year when King Gia Long began to exercise his sovereignty over the archipelago; 1938, the year when the marker was erected.

#### DOCUMENT № 10

#### DIVISION OF HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO INTO TWO ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS (1939)

Le Couverneur Géneral de l'Indochine N 1828 Count Cofficier Se la Logion d'Assesses Value decreas on 20 Herone 1911, until having the provide documents as the large of pageonal of lightholes of assume trans-til lighthouse Vir Ir agent do 5 kant 1996 (a) 1. April 30 (a. Anti 1986). Ya farras du 28 derembre 1984 parant il generali die les più demantes et presidente en reliefe et en denorme. Ya Ferrite N. (18-6), de 16 duju 1942 periogi describe et al farras dependente de Distance de Touristate (a. Armanestate) que 181 Parante depondent de Distance de Touristate (a. Armanestate) que 181 Parante de Computer de Armanestate (a. Armanestate). Sur la proprocuos da Residual de District de Armanestate de Residual de District de Armanestate. AHRETE \* Afficie presser — Larrèré N 1965C du 15 join 1932 est modulié alors qu'il vuit Africa premier. Deux desembre sonneutritus ett erste aus lie Paraccis dépendant de la province de Thus usen l'Annade sons les caux de Delegation du sire stant et lispendance et de la familiar de l'Amphyrica et le pendances. Le Raite autre de l'actiment tous est fact pair et traje du 113 de fidien, sait en la priverse du roct l'actors qui est totalement eschée par la despairant du Crouseine « Art. ) — Les constituentes places : la tre de ces lleiègatures se qualité de l'atéries du Réadent de França à Bouestines résidement respectivement is the Pattings at the house.  $\epsilon$  \$r: S=0 its surger disself charges, on model quality, poor frees derepresentation of the fourners, a institution in the fallow, your firm de representation of the fourners, a institution in a causalty of Quater crass planting (#90300) promise a jurielie of 28 throughte 1934. Cette in formula on importation as the fourners of importation as the fourners of importation as the fourners of the fourners Art. 2. Le Secrétage Sontral du Convernement Contral de Plasochim et le ficultée superier en Année superier chaque et ce que le concerne le l'experier de présent erreis Hanor Jr 5 Mar 1939 Space 1 BRAYIS

Indochinese Governor General's Ordinance of May 5, 1939 constituting two administrative units on the Hoang Sa Archipelago (Published in "Bulletin administratif de l'Annam № 9, 1939. (1)

<sup>(1)</sup> There is an error in Article 1 of that Ordinance. The mention of 'No. 156-SC, June 15, 1932' should be read 'No. 156-3-6, June 15, 1938').

#### OPPOINTMENT OF A NEW COMMANDER OF THE DETACHMENT ON ITU ABA ISLAND (1940)

```
haven to see this
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   e - company
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          h Pasqlenga 18 for fruit - m / List es const

La fallant - m intent intent for fine

18 fallant - m intent intention

18 fallant - m intention in the manage

18 fallant - m intention in the management of the management in the ma
                                                                                                                                                                                              The ne reserve; or year'l ourset, it was never estable to wonder him Thire temberches then is ray one vana tractical to equilibrity sets of the equilibrity of the eq
                                                                                                                                                                                                                            -distribution in the second of the second of
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     e four field remains befolk engine of the obstant of the field of the contract of the contract
                                                                                                                                                                                                                     ing indiana propared a collection of a second control of the collection of the colle
                                                                                                                                                                                                           -45 at a to the constituent entered an Aboret of $4/75/$the.
                                                                                                                 outlines and the second of the
                                                                                                              The second state of solutions and solutions are proportional from the property of the solution of the solution
```

```
Le tenne condict le condict denotionatre i Italia de content de via des décits a saintim et l'époné ani, information et l'époné ani, information de l'époné des certire de l'époné des non certire d'all su présent des jetuines pour consign on le doit quair eur ses équiperes des jetuines pour consign on le doit quair eur ses équiperes des jetuines pour consign on le doit quair eur ses équiperes des jetuines pour seur jetuines pour le doit quair eur ses équiperes des jetuines pour seur les pour le doit quair eur ses équiperes des la consideration de la considerati
                                 dependent on considering the first of a second of a least of the constant of t
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   le des tras anti-
le des tras anti-
se service de l'15-3 ents.
Se service de l'15-3 ents.
Se de l'15-3 ents.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               The second secon
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       Services locateles to resident les configurations described experts and the configuration of the configurations of the configurations of the configuration o
                                                                                                                                                                     en a la company de la comp
engeneral and the second of th
        tivo etti organizatione si se pertegnizioni se con secondizione.
```

Indochinese Governor General's decision of August 22, 1940 on the appointment of a new commander of the detachment on Itu Aba island (Truong Sa Archipelago) in replacement of M. Burollaud, who had completed his term.

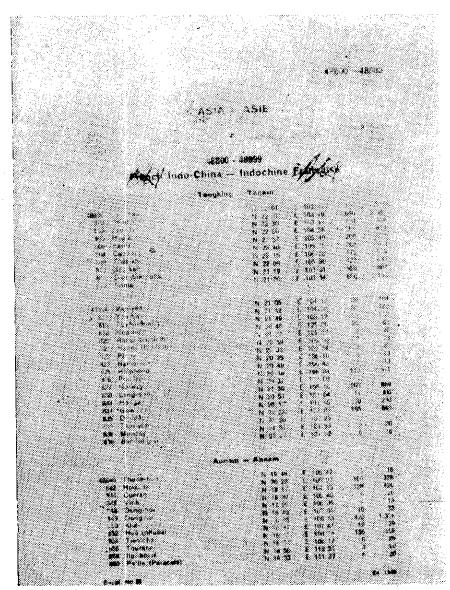
### APPOINTMENT OF THE HOANG SA ADMINISTRATOR (1941)

<b>P. All</b> 1.5 marme	(f all rations as we a
C ev.3188	de la Ugica d'Ammen.
VI	***************************************
	PAGTA:
THE HE IN THE STATE OF THE	Markettennië de cheis den groei Incent milital part con lit some les France i To Militale foneties
· ·	ed for discres,
Life the second	THE SECOND STATES OF THE SECOND SECON
epter 100 100 de la companyante de	
<u> 1.1. L'écorator</u> C'éc <b>ies</b>	Communication of the Management of Communication of the Communication of
	Control of the contro
West in 2.7, 10 0/1/42 prices	Mejje II. oče jog stpakovadjale <b>e</b>
Tour est la chos. Le Goef de la la partieur de Causan	Principle of the Princi
atgr≢e II Cam √Z	Money Lillery
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	71111

Annam Governor's Ordinance of August 12, 1941 appointing Mahamebhay Mohsine in place of Vuillame as administrator of the Amphitrite Islands (Hoang Sa Archipelago).

#### DOCUMENT № 13

### TWO METEOROLOGICAL STATIONS ON HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO IN THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION NETWORK, 1949



Phu Lam station, registration number 48859. Hoang Sa station, registration number 48860. (WMO documents, 1949)

#### DOCUMENT No 14

### METEOROLOGICAL STATION OF ITU ABA (HOANG SA ARCHIPELAGO) IN THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION NETWORK, 1949

	- ASIE			
	Latitude	1.00kg (u. 1	90	A
Pro Programs	9 (6/2)	f the a		
Anny (1997) Anny (1997) Barry Garry Tagary Tagary	N 15-04 N 10-00	A to a	193	10 17% 18% 18%
Ann	N 14 59 N 12 57	4.4	200	3.4
A (19)  SE DOS (1)  SE DOS (1)  SE DOS (2)  SE DOS (2)  SE DOS (2)  SE SE SE DOS (2)  ENGLISHED	4 14 2 4 13 4	9.01	И.	96
general Pagament	Maria Notation	196. ju 196. ju	198°	
ere e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	9 12	1 156 ye	66	97 789
esta la distributa de la companya de	8.12 m.	£ 'w a'	ur.	1913
(17) Northern (18) (18) Hamilia (phant) (hymosod) (18) San agus (Cole 18)(1) (18) (18)	4 12 13		148	100
689 (L.)	1		11.0	1.50
	v : *	1 19 00	9.02	2
the seep takes as	N 11	0.00	8.0	
to the spinor of	9.6	1 (8)		
allows on decoupe	10 To 10	1 10	,	
Contin Ohio	a – Cochachie	u.		
** Lancing Baggiorit  * Lancing gut  ***	Notes	# 1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1		<b>80</b>
	N 18 17	6 10 30		19 10
TOTAL CAN ST. Leaves on the Property of the Contract of the Co	1.70.00	F 7 W		67
	N 10 th N 14 th	£ 105 0s	4	3H
e de la companya de l	N 10 42 N 10 (s	F 105 F	H	20
Sur Crowd Suring Suring State (Suring Suring	N 69 58 N 09 38	f left i	2	4
915 Perio Ligare	* 09 10 1 09 41	34 2 34 2		
The Concess	V OF	i wa	325	1,000

Itu Aba station, registration number 48919. (WMO documents, 1949)

### STATEMENT OF THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION AT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE (1951)

#### CHAPPERENCE HE BANCHANCISCO.

g e acceptice, pour l'extinction d'une creonce, par monnae qui n'u pus L'auta son puys

None serous ainsi amenes à demander, que d'autres tormoles de pairment expresses such étodices et spré, notamme et nons puissione compter, en au distribuséens procisiones, sur nue indemnisation normale le jour, que accesposais proché, on l'économic restaurée du Japon le niettra en mesure sanc race à ser obligations.

Le Vull Nam servit deselé qu'on impute ses demandes à tout autre sament qu'à celui de la nécessité pour notre pays de se telever économiament, comme de réaliser pour notre peuple d'importantes améliorations assiste. Ce dernice objectel sue pourrait être atteint que par la mise en peutagociantes ressources que sont à l'heure actuelle consocrées en grande ains à la sanveyarde de nos libertés et au service de la Paix.

Ainsi nous apparaît soubaitable, en ce qui concerne notre zone, un queme de sécurite vollective qui completerat nos efforts.

Je ville henreux, a ce suiet, de constater que mes préoccupations requipost celles que l'eminent Réprésentant de la France a exposees hier à cetttime tribune.

Un traite d'assistance mutuelle, pour la défente de tous les pars exputraise mêmes dangers, crait de nature à assurer une paix stable dans cettuntie du monde.

L. Viet Nam, aire enthomissime, sonscrit a l'arabe, a cette centre di

El somme il faut franchement profiter de fontes occasions pour étouffer 15 germes de discorde, nous affirmons nos droits sur les îles Spratls et 1500es que de font temps ons fait partie du Viêt-Nam.

Sous le bénétice de ce suit étent l'être exposé, nous aimons à récon-

On September 7, 1951 at the San Francisco Conference, Tran Van Huu, Prime Minister of the Bao Dai Government reaffirmed Vietnamese sovereignty over the Hoang Sa archipelago and the Truong Sa archipelago: "As we must frankly profit from all the opportunities offered to us to stifle the germs of discord, we affirm our right to the Spratly and Paracel islands, which always belonged to Viet Nam".

(The statement was published in the "France-Asie" magazine № 66 — 67, November, December, 1951).

### DOCUMENT No 16

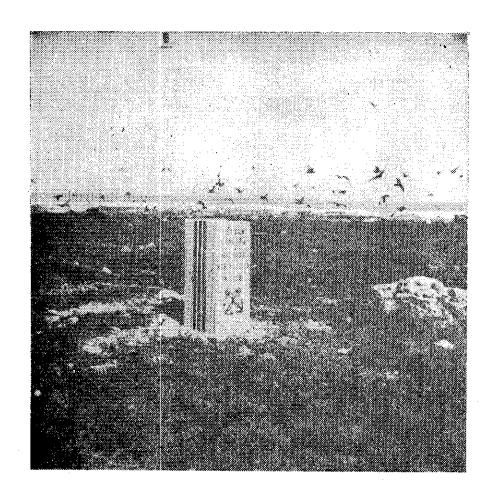
### VIETNAMESE STAFF OF THE METEOROLOGICAL STATION ON HOANG SA ISLAND

(Pattle) in 1952

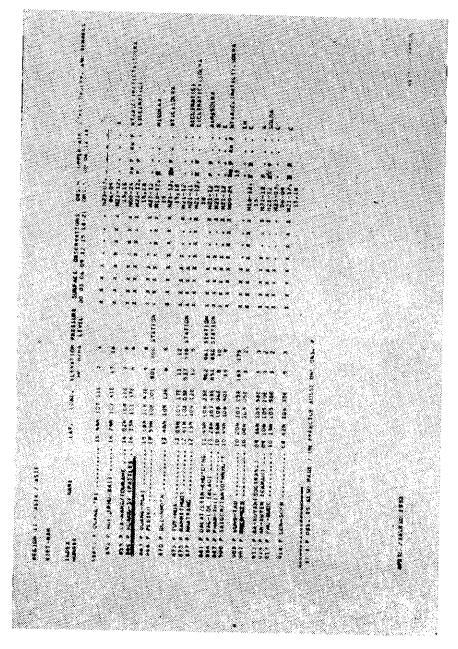
Actors a respect	entre de la companya	de President (902
	**********	
	Bereit in Cortic, a surviya	40 49 FFFFEE 1931
Made No. of Contrasts	FORCETORS CRASS	Pagario Program
THEFT LIVE CO.	Charge Cas is per	CSF16 uses - e./se
BOUTER-CHARLES		
<b>TG-TAX TAGA</b> . TGAGG-8101-040.	Observateur - a Lagratin Observateur - portuitie	
Maria Chape,		
	Pality's Paliting in 90 in Thomps to District	
	<b>81894</b> - 30. 3	
on programme	(Spit ) at	
1 142		
La Salet		

### DOCUMENT № 17

### SOVEREIGNTY MARKER ERECTED IN 1961 ON TRUONG SA ISLAND (TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGO)



DOCUMENT № 18
HOANG SA METEOROLOGICAL STATION IN THE WORLD
METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION NETWORK (APRIL 1973)



(WMO documents, 1973)

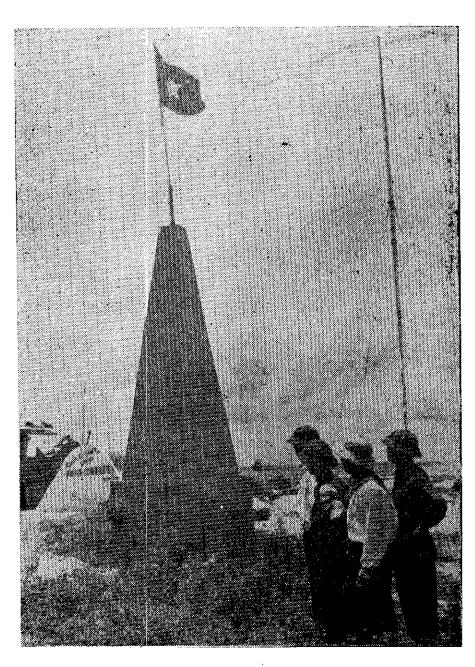
#### DOCUMENT № 19

### TROOPS OF THE VIET NAM PEOPLE'S ARMY ON THE TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGO



46





## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS RELATING TO VIETNAMESE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES

- 17th Century: Do Ba, a Vietnamese geographer, compiled a book of maps of Viet Nam. In volume I, the author mentioned "Bai Cat Vang" (the Golden Sandbank).
- 1701: In letters of a Western missionary aboard S/s Amphitrite from France to China, the Hoang Sa archipelago was referred to as belonging to the Kingdom of Annam.
- 1776: In his book "Phu Bien Tap Luc", Vietnamese scholar Le Qui Don wrote about the organization by the Nguyen Princes of Hoang Sa and Bac Hai detachments for the exploitation of Hoang Sa, Truong Sa archipelagoes and other islands.
- 1816: On King Gia Long's order, Vietnamese naval units and the Hoang Sa detachment carried out the measurement of sea-routes from the mainland to the islands in the Hoang Sa.
- 1820: Jean Baptiste Chaigneau, a Frenchman who was king Gia Gia Long's adviser, wrote a "Report on Cochinchina" in 1820. In this report, Chaigneau notes that King Gia Long had officially established sovereignty over the Hoang Sa archipelago in 1816.
- 1821: In his work "History of Dynasties", Vietnamese historian Phan Huy Chu wrote about the Hoang Sa and its exploitation by the Nguyen Princes.
- 1833: King Minh Menh instructed his Ministry of Public Works to get facilities and materials ready for carrying out projects of stele installation, temple construction and tree-planting in the following year on the Hoang Sa.
- 1835: Navy Commander Pham Van Nguyen led naval units with building materials to Hoang Sa to install a stele and build a temple.
- 1836; Navy Commander Pham Huu Nhat led a detachment to by King Minh Menh when they left for home.
- 1836 In December, a British ship sank off Hoang Sa. 90 sailors were brought to Binh Dinh province and were given foodstuff by King Minh Menh when they lest for home.
- 1838: Archbishop J.L. Taberd published his Latino-Annamiticum Dictionary to which a map of Annam was annexed. In This map the Hoang Sa archipelago was marked with its traditional name of "The Golden Sandbank" along with its international appellation of Paracel.

- 1849: In his article "Geography of the Cochinchinese Empire", Dr. Gutlafz, an Englishman, wrote about the taking possession by the King of Cochinchina of the Hoang Sa archipelago and about the formation of merchant fleets and of military squads to help in levying tax on foreign fishermen and defending local ones.
- 1862—1884: France established colonial rule over Viet Nam. (from the time when the French occupied three Eastern Nam Bo provinces to the time when the Patenotre Treaty was signed).
- 1910: The National Institute of History under the Nguyen dynasty completed the official geographical book "National Geography". In this book, Hoang Sa was once again referred to as part of Viet Nam's territory.
- 1925: Than Trong Hue, Minister for Military Affairs of the Hue Imperial Court, in face of a Chinese claim of Hoang Sa, reaffirmed that the archepelago had constantly been part of Viet Nam.
- 1927: A. Krempt, Director of the Indochinese Oceanographical Institute conducted a scientific survey in the Hoang Sa archipelago.
- 1933: The French Foreign Ministry issued a communiqué published on the Official Journal of the French Republic on the taking possession of the islands in the Truong Sa archipelago (7-1933); Cochinchina Governor Krautheimer issued an ordinance annexing the archipelago to Ba Ria province (Ordinance No 4762-CP of December 21, 1933); France built a meteorological station and a radio transmission station on Itu Aba in the Truong Sa archipelago.
- 1937: Chief civil engineer Gauthier arrived in Hoang Sa to find places where a lighthouse and a port for amphibian aircraft could be built and to study the possibility of settlement in Hoang Sa.
- 1938: By Decree of March 30, 1938, King Bao Dai severed the Hoang Sa archipelago from Nam Ngai province and annexed it to Thua Thien province; by Ordinance of June 15, 1938, the Governor General of Indochina J. Brévié made the archipelago an administrative unit; the French colonial administration installed sovereignty markers, built a lighthouse, a meteorological station and a radio-transmission station on Pattle

- Island (Hoang Sa Archipelago) and a meteorological station on Itu Aba (Truong Sa Archipelago).
- 1939: By Ordinance of May 5, 1939, the Indochinese Governor General J. Brévié divided the administrative unit of Hoang Sa Archipelago into two smaller units.
- 1946: The French re-occupied the Hoang Sa Archipelago. In this operation, they used the ship "Savorgnan de Brazza" (During World War II, Japan occupied the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagos.
- 1950: France handed over to the Bao Dai Government the administration of the Hoang Sa archipelago.
- 1951: At the San Francisco Conference, Tran Van Huu, Prime Minister of the Bao Dai Government made a statement reaffirming Vietnamese sovereignty over the archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa. The statement did not arouse any protest.
- 1955: Under the Saigon administration a marine company was garrisoned in Hoang Sa in replacement of French troops who were withdrawn from Indochina and a hydrological team arrived in Hoang Sa to conduct researches. The Saigon administration later allowed a Vietnamese industrialist to exploit phosphate on this archipelago.
- 1956: The Saigon administration sent warships to Truong Sa to effect control over this archipelago and decreed the annexation of Truong Sa to Phuoc Tuy province.
- 1961: By decree, the Saigon administration made the Hoang Sa archipelago a village, gave it the name of Dinh Hai and placed it under the administration of Hoa Vang district, Quang Nam province and installed sovereignty markers on the Truong Sa Archipelago.
- 1969: By decree, the Saigon administration annexed Dinh Hai village (Hoang Sa Archipelago) to Hoa Long village, Hoa Vang district, Quang Nam province.
- 1971: Tran Van Lam, Foreign Minister of the Saigon administration, at the ASPAC Conference in Manila, on July 13, reaffirmed Vietnamese sovereignty over the two archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa.

1973: By decree of September 6, 1973, the Saigon administration annexed the Truong Sa Archipelago to Phuong Hai village, Dat Do district, Phuoc Tuy province.

#### 1974:

- January 12, 1974: the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Saigon administration protested the Chinese statement of January 11, 1974 claiming Chinese sovereignty over the two archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa.
- January 16, 1974: In a statement, the Foreign Ministry of the Saigon administration reaffirmed Vietnamese sovereignty over the Hoang Sa archipelago and sent the President of the U. N. Security Council a message requesting him to take action to cope with the situation.
- January 19, 1974: China occupied the Hoang Sa archipelago.

   January 20, 1974: The Foreign Minister of the Saigon administration sent an urgent message to the President of the U. N. Security Council requesting him to call an emergency meeting to consider the occupation by the People's Republic of China of the Vietnamese archipelago of Hoang Sa.
- January 26, 1974: the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam made public its position on the occupation of the Hoang Sa archipelago by China as follows:
- a) Sovereignty and territorial integrity are questions sacred to every nation.
- b) As regards territorial border questions, there often exist between neighbouring countries disputes left by history which may be extremely complicated and should be thoroughly studied.
  c) The countries concerned should consider this question in the spirit of equality, mutual respect, friendship and good neighbourliness and settle it by negotiations.
- June 28, 1974, At the U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea, held in Caracas, the Saigon delegation reaffirmed: "The archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa are part of Vietnamesse territory" and "Vietnam has indisputable and inalienable right to sovereignty over these archipelagoes despite unjust claims or illegal occupation of certain islands among the "by neighbouring countries".

- 1975: In May, the armed forces of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam liberated a number of islands in the Truong Sa archipelago.
  - On September 24, 1975: at the talks with the Vietnamese Party and Government delegation on a visit to China, Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiao-ping admitted that there were disputes between the two sides on the problem of the paracels and spratly archipelagoes and that the two sides should later discuss with each other to settle the problem.
- 1978: In a statement on December 30, 1978, the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam refuted the allegations made in the statement on December 29, 1978 of the spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the question of Truong Sa archipelago, reaffirming Vietnamese sovereignty over the two archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa and reiterating Viet Nam's position which advocated the settlement of all disputes or disagreements through peaceful means.
- 1979: In its statement of August 7, 1979, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam refuted the distortions made by China in publishing a number of Vietnamese documents concerning the archipelagoes of Hoang Sa and Truong Sa, reaffirmed Vietnamese sovereignty over them and reiterated Viet Nam's position on the settlement of the dispute between the two countries over these two archipelagoes through peaceful means.

# STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ON THE HOANG SA AND TRUONG SA ARCHIPELAGOES

(AUGUST 7, 1979)

On July 30, 1979, China made public in Peking some documents in an attempt to justify its claim of sovereignty over the Paracels and Spratly archipelagoes.

As regards this issue, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam declares:

- 1. The Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes are part of Victnamese territory. The Vietnamese feudal states were the first in history to occupy, organize, control and exploit these archipelagoes in their capacities as Statees. This ownership is effective and in conformity with international law. We have sufficient historical and legal documents proving Viet Nam's indisputable sovereignty over these two archipelagoes.
- 2. The Chinese interpretation of the September 14, 1958 note by the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam as recognition of China's ownership over the archipelagoes is a gross distortion since the spirit and letter of the note only mean the recognition of a 12—mile limit for Chinese territorial waters.
- 3. In 1965, the United States intensified its war of aggression in South Viet Nam and launched a war of destruction by air and naval forces against North Viet Nam. It declared that the combat zone of the U.S. armed forces included Viet Nam and an adjacent zone of about 100 nautical miles from Viet Nam's coast line. At that time, in their anti—U.S. struggle for national salvation the Vietnamese people had to carry out their fight in all forms to defend their territorial integrity. Moreover, Viet Nam and China then maintained friendly relations. The May 9, 1965 Statement by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam had its raison d'être only with this historical background.
- 4. Since 1972, following the Shanghai Joint Communiqué, the Chinese rulers have colluded with the U.S. aggressors and betrayed the Vietnamese people, causing more and more obstacles to the war of resistance of Viet Nam. Early in January 1974, just before the Vietnamese people won complete victory in Spring 1975, China occupied by armed forces the Hoang Sa archipelago then administered by the Saigon administration.

The Republic of South Viet Nam then clearly stated its position as follows:

— Sovereignty and territorial integrity are questions sacred to every nation.

- As regards territorial border questions, there often exist between neighbouring countries disputes left by history, which may be extremely complicated and should be thoroughly studied.
- The countries concerned should consider this question in the spirit of equality, mutual respect, friendship and good neighbour-liness and settle it by negotiations.
- 5. At the talks held on September 24, 1975 with the Vietnamese Party and Government Delegation on a visit to China, Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping admitted that there were disputes beween the two sides on the problem of the Paracels and Spratly archipelagoes and that the two sides should later discuss with each other to settle the problem.
- 6. By illegally occupping the Hoang Sa archipelago by military force, China has encroached upon the territorial integrity of Viet Nam and trampled underfoot the principles of the United Nations Charter which calls for settlement of all disputes by peaceful negotiations. After launching a large-scale war of aggression against Viet Nam, the Chinese side again raised the question of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes while creating an increasingly tense situation along the Vietnamese border and refusing to discuss urgent measures to ensure peace and stability in border areas of the two countries. It is clear that the Chinese rulers have not given up their attempt to attack Viet Nam once again Their actions pose a serious threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia and expose more clearly their expansionist ambitions, big-nation hegemonism, bellicose nature, their volte-face and their traitorous character.

Ha Noi, August 7, 1979.