

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЕ НАЦИИ



ГЕНЕРАЛЬНАЯ
АССАМБЛЕЯ



СОВЕТ
БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ

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Тридцать четвертая сессия
Пункт 11 повестки дня
ДОКЛАД СОВЕТА БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ

СОВЕТ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ
Тридцать четвертый год

Письмо Постоянного представителя Вьетнама при Организации
Объединенных Наций от 1 октября 1979 года на имя
Генерального секретаря

Имею честь настоящим препроводить для Вашего сведения копию Белой книги, озаглавленной "Суверенитет Вьетнама над архипелагами Хоанг Са и Труонг Са", которая 27 сентября 1979 года была опубликована отделом информации и печати министерства иностранных дел Социалистической Республики Вьетнам, и прошу распространить настоящее письмо и приложение к нему в качестве документа Генеральной Ассамблеи по пункту 11 повестки дня и документа Совета Безопасности.

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Чрезвычайный и полномочный посол
Постоянный представитель при
Организации Объединенных Наций

**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**

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1

**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 Nansha,

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.

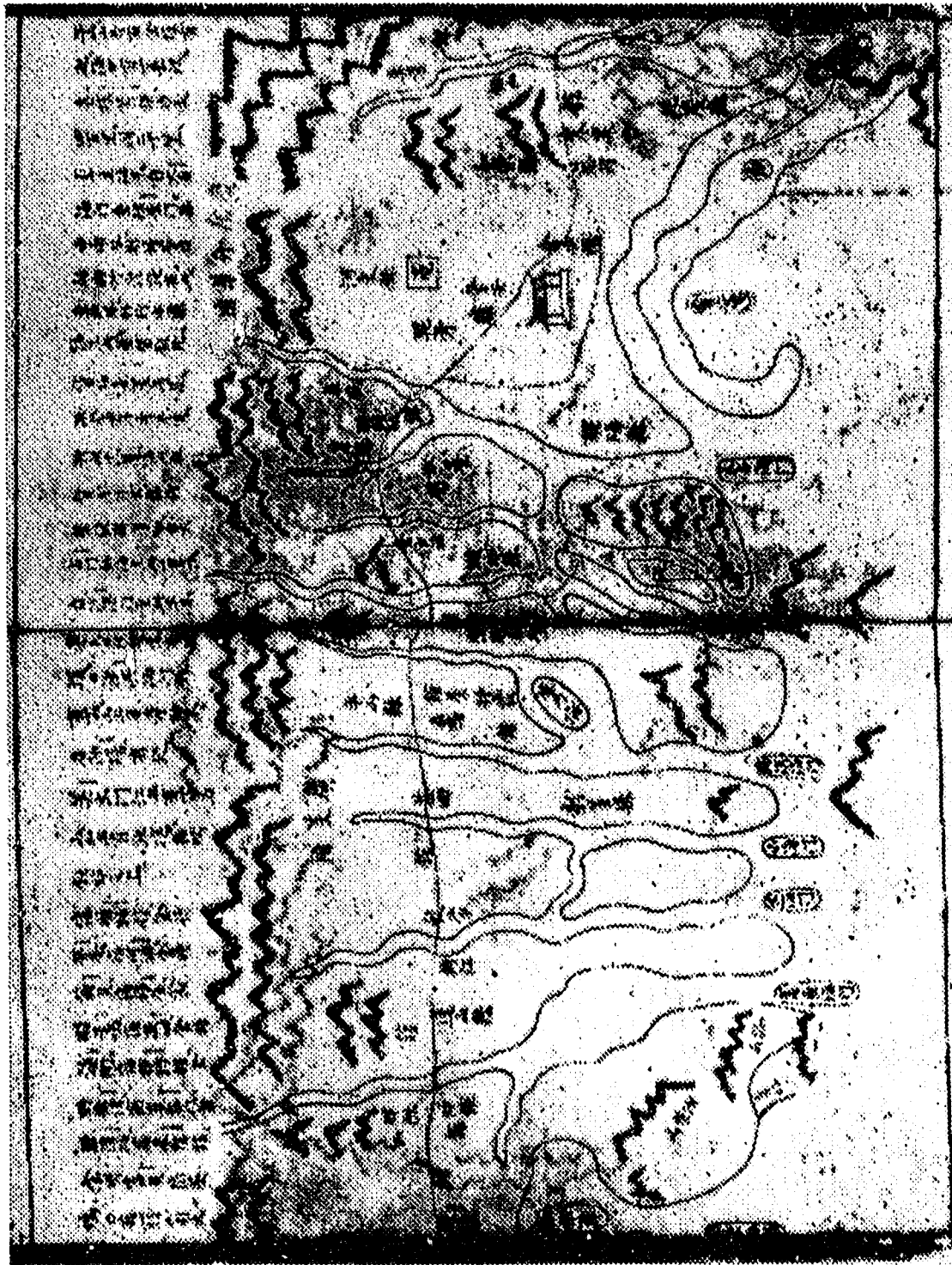
With the materials presented in this booklet, we are convinced that the peace-and-justice loving people in the world will know the truth: the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes are part of the territory of Viet Nam.

No deceptive manoeuvres 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.

II

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

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 blown 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... »

(1) Bai Cat Vang: Golden Sandbank.

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

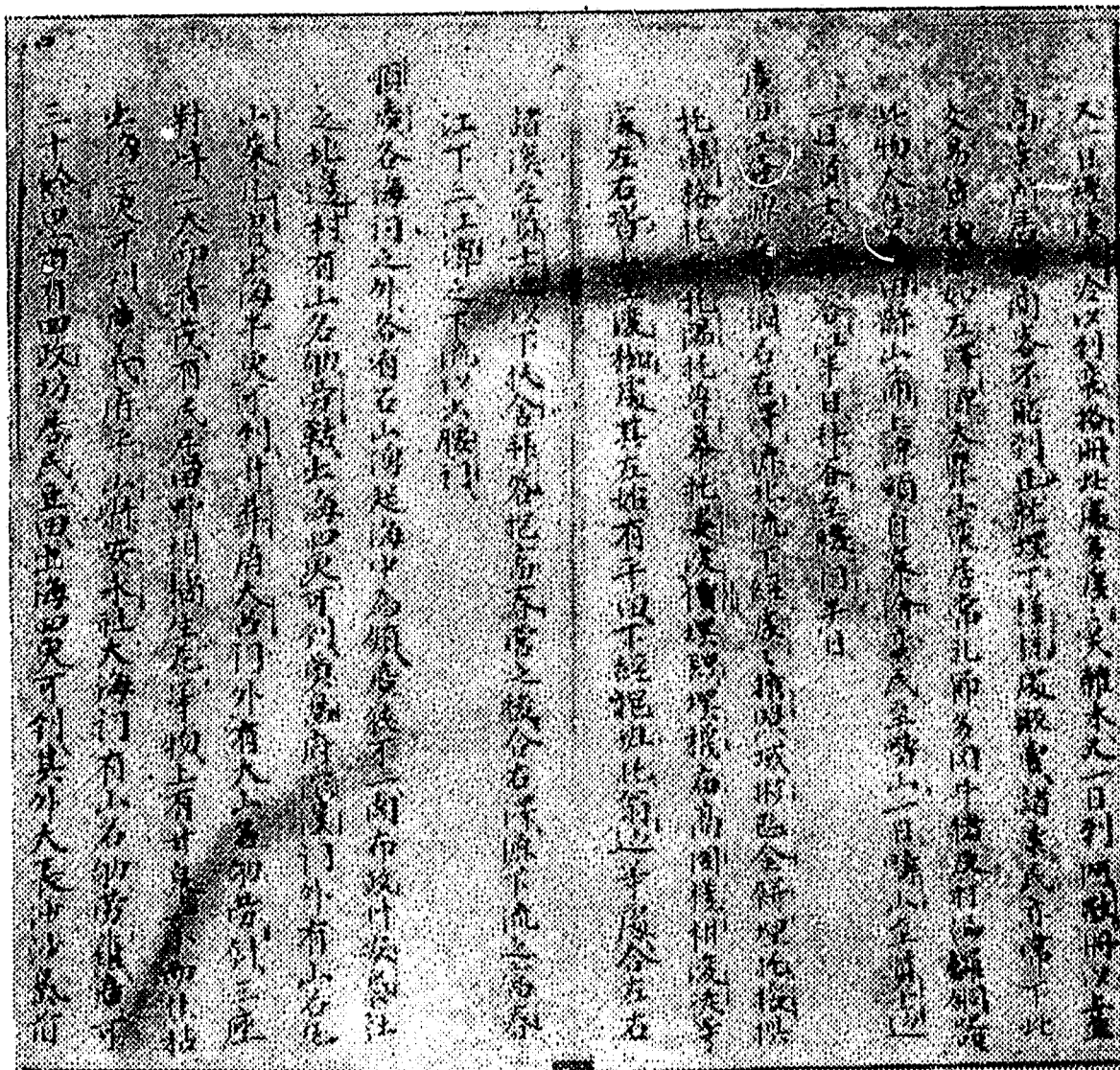
(3) Dai Chiem port is now Cua Dai port of Quang Nam — Da Nang province.

(4) Sa Vinh port is now Sa Huynh port, in Nghia Binh province.

ACCORDING TO "PHU BIEN TAP LUC"

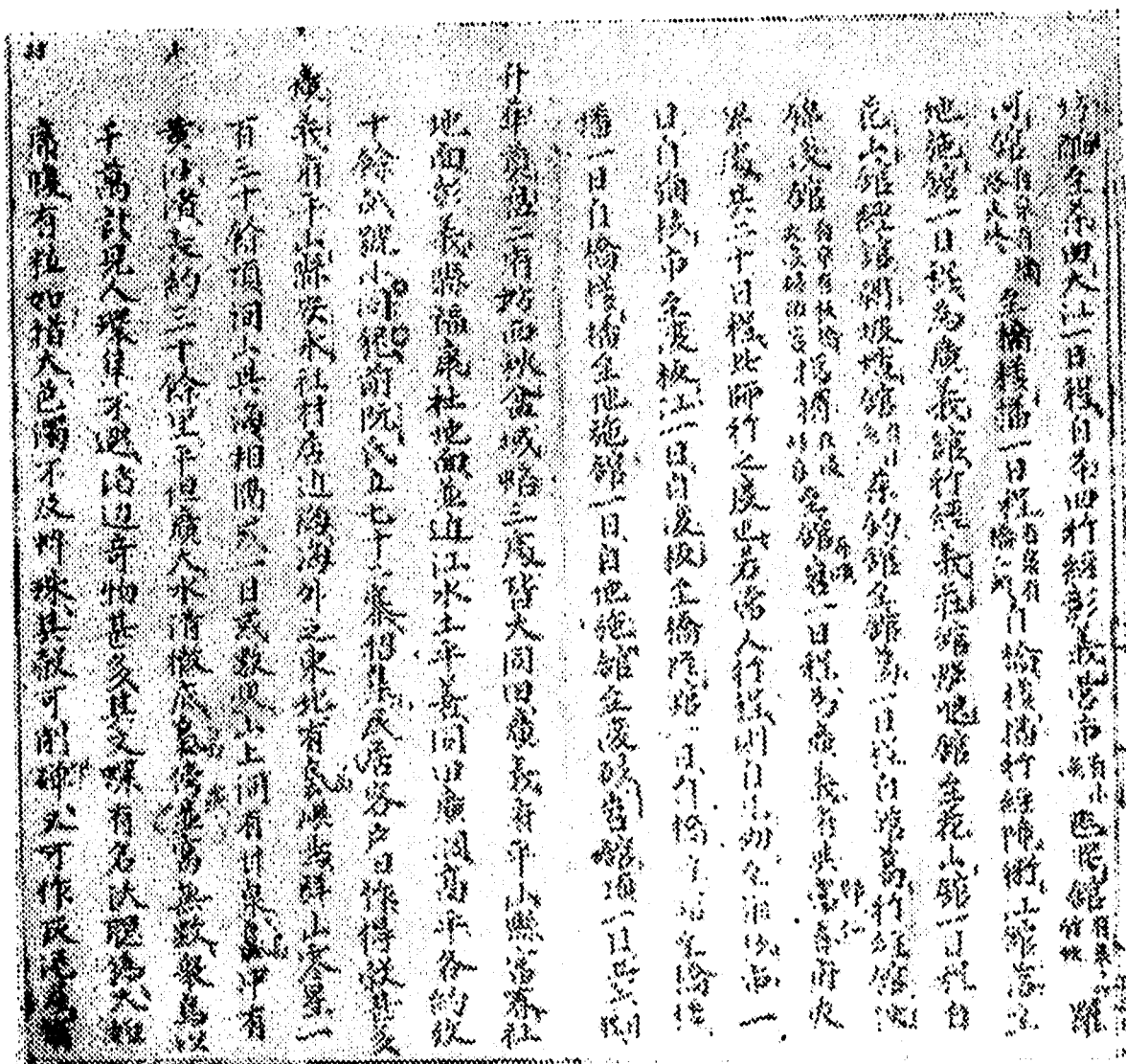
(Miscellaneous Records on the Pacification of the Frontiers)

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 Truong 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.



(1) 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.

名號碑渠可飲器物有者香... 俗曰性慈似戒指而... 俗曰笑... 擬指內亦... 安水人充... 隻大洋... 銀花... 條... 找細... 貨多... 三十... 已五... 又... 村... 料... 沙... 14

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 molluscs 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)

十之二身稅減十之四

命水軍及黃沙隊乘船往黃沙探度水程

裴德緝阮金追等還自暹初暹人以撫粟故

怨匿禎其二王謀於佛王曰匿禎敢侮我恃

有

南朝故也攻禎

南朝必救因併及之釋兩憾矣佛王不可曰首造孽

端非福也必爲此謀請以國遜二王遂止後

大南寔錄正編第一紀
卷五十二

十五

(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".

定價豈不是從飽官更私囊民何所利之有至如
所請十征其一則又屬言利之臣尤爲可鄙夫國
家經制有常錙銖之利豈屑計較况私買鐵木之
禁具有嚴條乃敢以此贖陳何也其傳旨飭令迴
奏竊惶恐上疏請罪遂降二級

帝謂工部曰廣義洋分一帶黃沙之處遠望之則水
天一色不辨淺深邇來商船常被其害今宜預備
船艗至來年派往建甯立碑于此又多植樹其他
日長大鬱茂則人易識認庶免著淺之誤此亦萬
世之利也

言大臣嚴有茂見別項情弊立自舉發傳旨凍道

成法永絕弊根

以定安總督鄧文添為河寧總督河內巡撫鄭

光卿陞署定安總督

建廣義黃沙神祠黃沙在廣義海分有一處白

沙堆樹木森茂堆之中有井西南有古廟牌

刻萬里波平四字

白沙堆周圍一千七十丈
舊名佛寺山東西南岸皆

珊瑚石斜遠水面北接珊瑚石突立一堆周
圍三百四十丈高一丈三尺與沙堆齊名磐

灘石 去年

帝將於此處建廟立碑適因風濤弗果至是乃遣水

軍該隊范文原率監城兵匠與廣義平定二

省夫船運往材料建立廟宇

隔古廟七丈

廟之左

豎石碑前設屏障旬日工竣而還

廣平省臣奏言省轄夏禾歉收試粟輕浮多不

成粒諭準本年租粟一半聽民折納一半緩

徵又安亦以歲歉米貴報準本年正供並上

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”.

屯堡土目土兵等名色不一請凡土司土豪
給以省憑試差從九品百戶手下土民改爲
堡兵仍舊管率駐守何堡寧帖及緝犯有功
其百戶量與獎賞再諸轄有屯札者亦照此
例行許之

工部奏言本國海疆黃沙處最是險要前者曾
派描繪圖本而形勢廣邈僅得一處亦未明
晰所應年常派往遍探以熟海程請自本年

以後每屆正月下旬遴派水軍弁兵及監城
乘烏船一艘以二月上旬抵廣義據廣義平
定二省雇撥民船四艘向引駛往黃沙的處
不拘何島嶼沙洲凡駛到者卽照此處長橫
高廣周圍及四近海水淺深有無暗沙石磧
險易形勢如何詳加相度描取圖本再照起
行日由何海口出洋望何方向駛到此處據
所歷水程計算約得幾里又於其處望入海

岸正對是何省轄何方向斜對是何省轄何
方向約略隔岸幾里一一貼說明白遞回呈
進

帝允其奏遣水軍率隊范有日率兵船往準帶隨木

牌十到處豎立為誌

牌長五尺闊五寸厚一寸面刻明命十七年丙

申水軍正隊長率隊范有日奉命往黃沙相度至此畱誌等字

召掌奇充河內領兵段文改南定領兵梁文柳

來京既至入見

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 will 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 perimeter 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".

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.

大南一統全圖



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.



黃沙島

在香山外里山島之東，日沙灣海岸，水深頗深，三日即可至，其島嶼山
石多，不知幾十里，平地廣火，極其多，其長門外，水深清，亦有甘井，海濱樹木，
故以所多交標為名，賦稱靈壑，及諸般凡情，無復物，惟繁於此。

國初置黃沙島，以安民，元之歲，以三月，以洋海，島嶼，自七，是時，海之，
以海，島嶼，黃沙島，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
自，其，黃沙島，海濱，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
七十丈，樹木，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
各，嶼，山東，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
入，黃沙島，堆，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
碑，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，
其，碑，亦為，海濱，諸島，最，其，島，嶼，自，七，是時，海之，

茶曲江

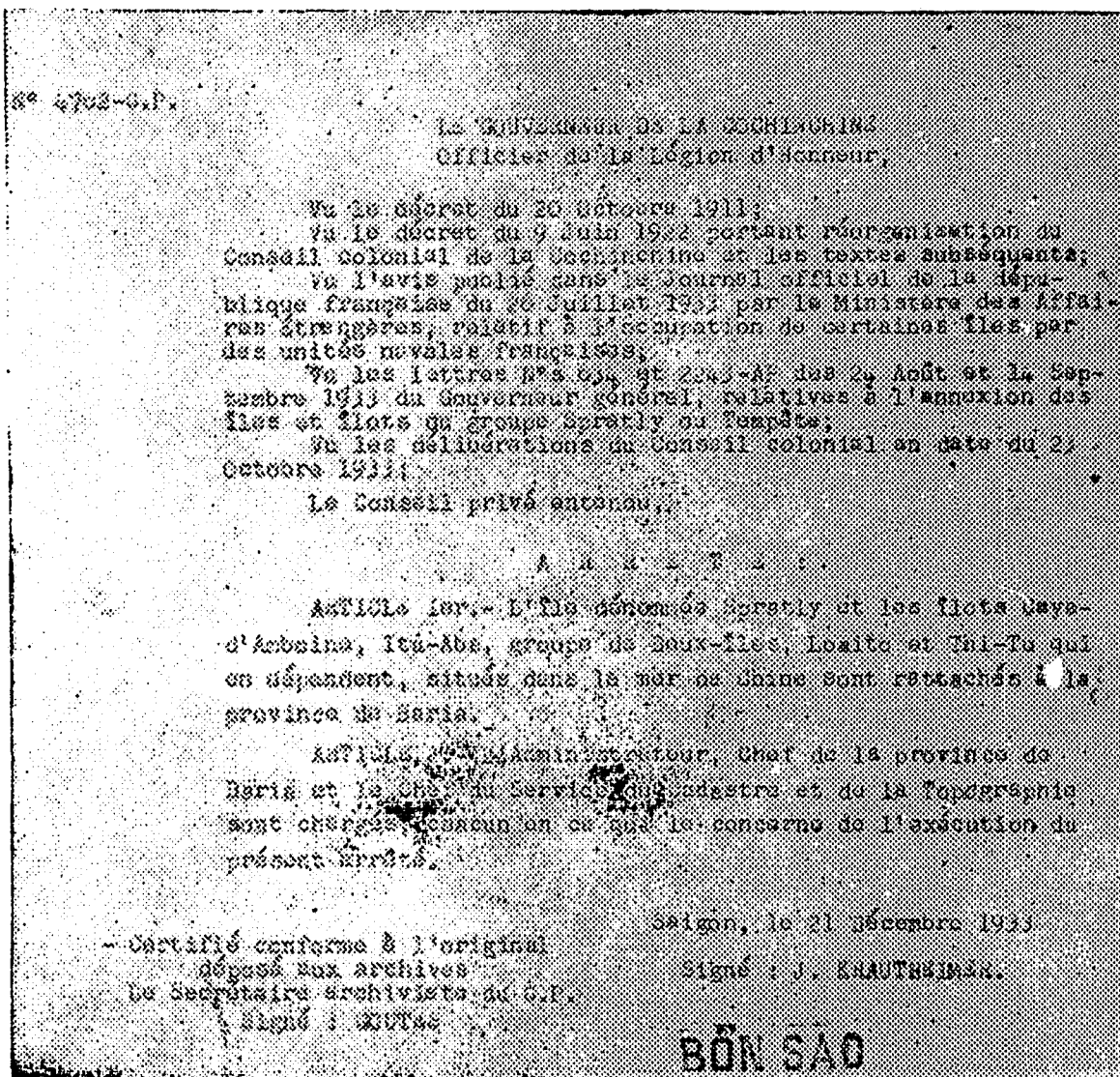
在香山外里山島之東，日沙灣海岸，水深頗深，三日即可至，其島嶼山
石多，不知幾十里，平地廣火，極其多，其長門外，水深清，亦有甘井，海濱樹木，
故以所多交標為名，賦稱靈壑，及諸般凡情，無復物，惟繁於此。

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 mountain 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 in boats 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)



*Cochinchina Governor's Ordinance of December 21, 1933 annex-
ing 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, Loi To and Thi Tu, in
the Eastern Sea are to be annexed to Ba Ria province".

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

PROFESSORAT DE L'ANNAO BULLETIN OFFICIEL SOUTSÉCRÉTARIAT ANNAMITE
Langue Annamite

南朝國語公報
NAM-TRIEU QUOC-NGU CÔNG BÁO

NAM 1938 — 88 2

Cung luc DU số 10 ngày 20 tháng 3 năm
Báo-Đại thứ 12 (20 Mars 1938)

Quốc chủ các Cô-lao Hoàng-sa (Archipel des Iles Paracel) thuộc về chủ quyền nước Nam đã lâu đời và dưới các triều vua Lê-Lao Hoàng Đế vẫn là vị quyền trong sự giao thông với các Cô-lao Ấp đều do các cửa bể tỉnh Nam Định.

Quốc chủ như sự tiến bộ trong việc hàng hải nên việc giao thông ngày nay có thay đổi và lợi việc Đại diện Quốc phủ Nam-tiến ủy phải ra lệnh ly các Cô-lao Ấp cùng quần Đại diện Cảnh phủ Bắc-hà rõ ràng nên tháp các Cô-lao Hoàng-sa vào địa hạt Bắc-tiến thời được thuận tiện hơn.

Dụ :

Độc khoản — Trước khi lập nhập các Cô-lao Hoàng-sa Archipel des Iles Paracel vào địa hạt Thừa-tiến về phương diện hành chính, các Cô-lao Ấp thuộc địa quyền quản Tỉnh Bắc-tiến ủy.

Khâm thư.

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 Gouverneur Général de l'Indochine

N^o 15030 *Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur*

Vu les décrets du 20 Octobre 1911, portant fixation des pouvoirs du Gouverneur Général et organisation financière et administrative de l'Indochine;

Vu le décret du 8 Août 1936;

Vu l'arrêté du 28 décembre 1934 portant règlement sur les indemnités et prestations en nature et en deniers;

Sur la proposition du Résident Supérieur en Annam;

La Commission du Conseil du Gouvernement entendue;

— 357 —

ARRÊTÉ :

Article premier. — Une délégation administrative est créée aux Iles Paracels dépendant de la province de Thua-thiên (Annam) sous le nom de Délégation des Paracels. Son ressort s'étendra sur tous les groupes d'îles et îlots compris sous la dénomination d'Iles Paracels.

Le fonctionnaire placé à la tête de cette circonscription en qualité de Délégué du Résident de France à Thua-thiên résidera à l'île Pattie.

Art. 2. — Il aura droit en cette qualité, pour frais de représentation et de tournées, à l'indemnité annuelle de quatre cents piastres (40000) prévue à l'arrêté du 28 décembre 1934. Cette indemnité est imputable au Budget local de l'Annam, chapitre 12, article 6, paragraphe 3.

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

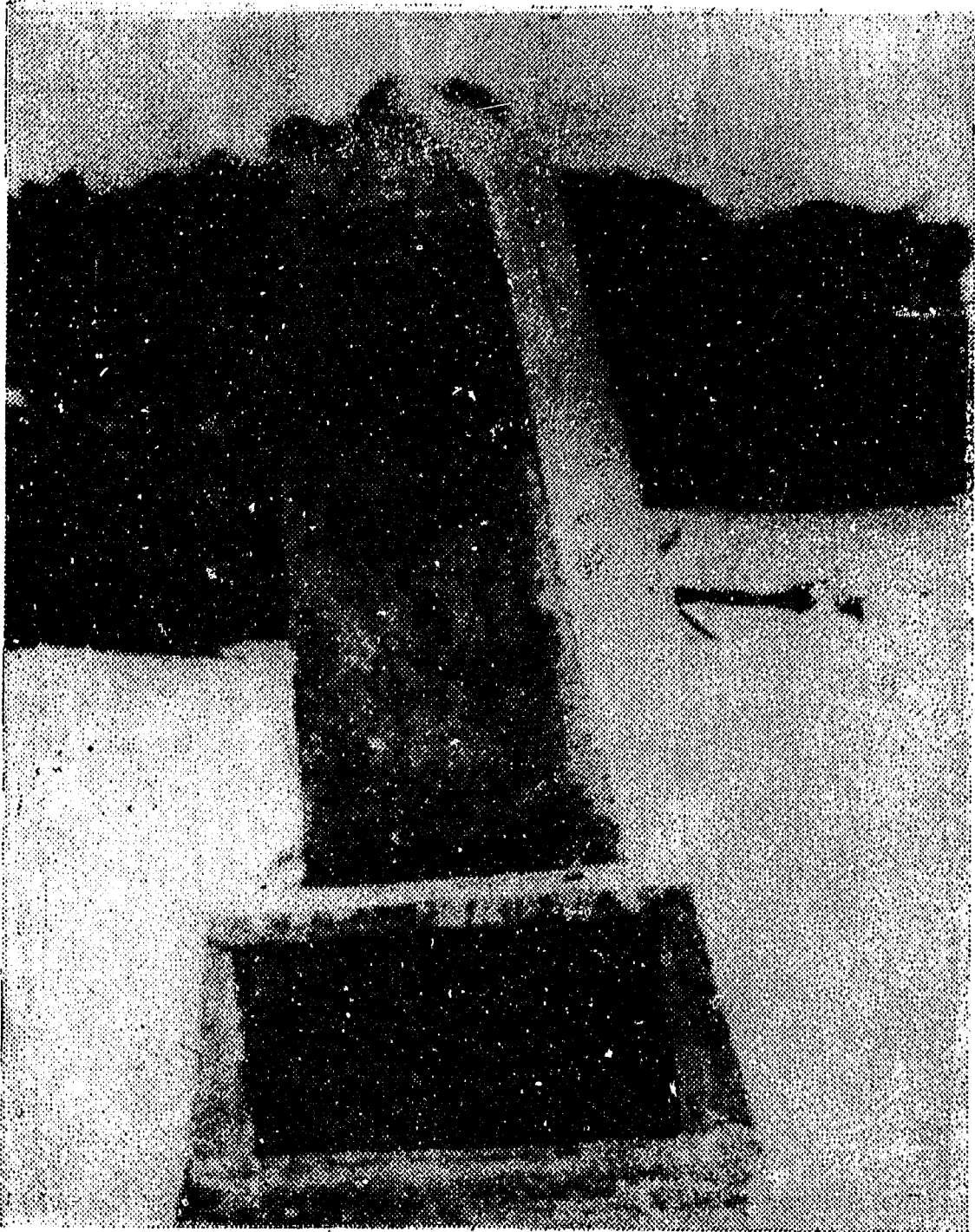
Daté, le 15 Juin 1938

Signé : J. BRÉVIE

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" N^o 12 dated August 9, 1938).

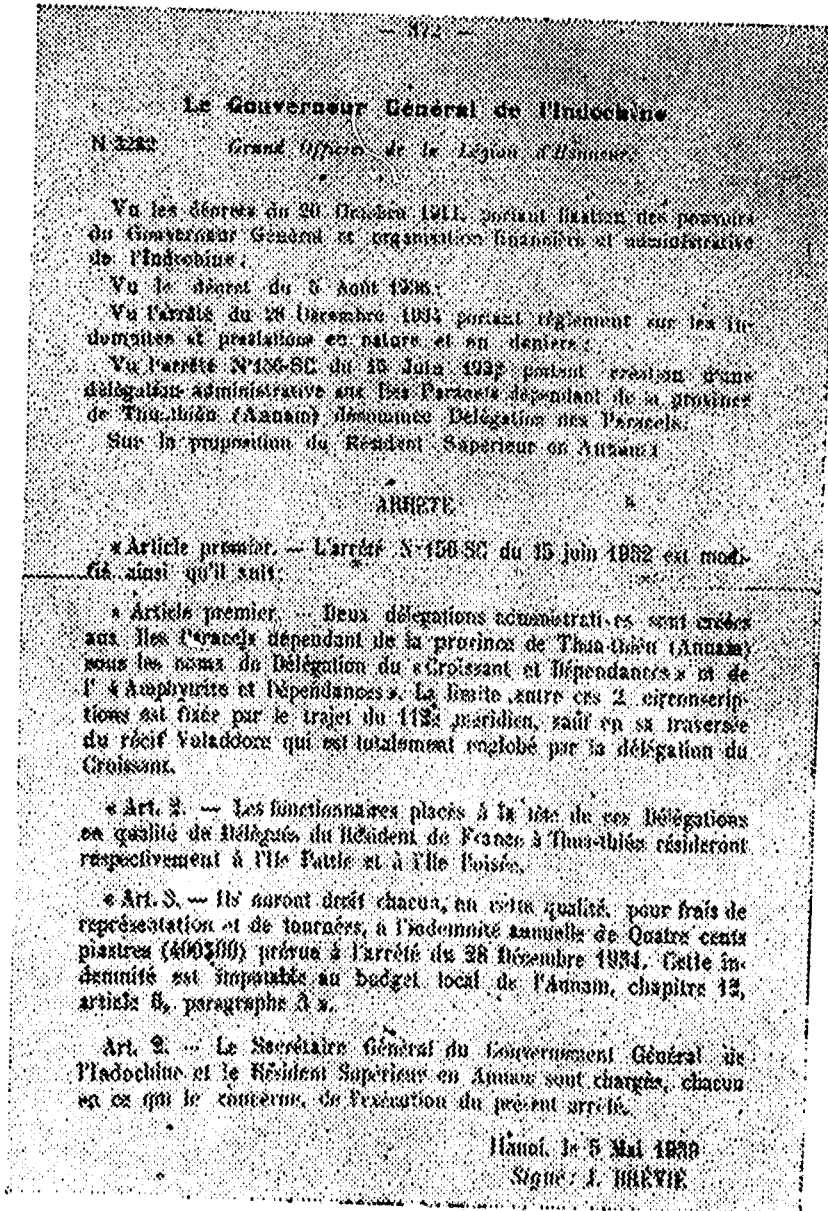
DOCUMENT № 9

**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).

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



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 N^o 9, 1939. (1)

(1) 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'.

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

1940-0/72
 SECRET ET RESERVE
 15/10/1940

LE GOUVERNEUR GENERAL DE L'INDOCHINE

à Messieurs le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Capitaine en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef
 le Lieutenant-Colonel en chef

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que M. BÉLÉZARD, ancien
 Capitaine de la Marine marchande, recruté comme officier contractuel
 depuis 1938 pour remplir les fonctions de chef de notre détachement
 à Ito Awa (Iles Spratly) vient de donner son mariage à l'expiration
 de son contrat.

En vue de pourvoir à son remplacement, je vous serais obligé de
 vouloir bien faire rechercher dans le pays une personne capable de
 candidat européen, fonctionnaire, agent de l'administration en parti-
 culier, capable de remplir la mission à Ito Awa. Il doit à cet effet
 remplir les conditions suivantes :

- être jeune, intelligent, énergique et de caractère solide
- posséder une large connaissance des choses de la mer et de
 la navigation.

Le candidat à recruter serait engagé par un contrat - indéfini-
 tité qui interviendrait immédiatement.

Si le candidat est fonctionnaire, il sera recruté
 dans les conditions applicables à celles précédemment mentionnées à
 M. BÉLÉZARD, savoir :

- salaire à 5000 par mois,
- durée du contrat un an renouvelable
- engagement au point de vue général des déplacements, il sera
 tenu
- soumis à toutes les conditions prévues au décret du 14/10/1934.

Si le candidat est contractuel, il sera placé dans la
 catégorie de chef de poste par un décret sur le grade.
 Il aura droit à l'indemnité de chef de poste de 1ère classe et
 à l'indemnité de chef de poste de 2ème classe de cette indemnité pour
 la durée de son contrat, les autres avantages continueront à lui être
 attribués.

Les conditions de contrat à intervenir pour ce chef de poste
 seront déterminées par un décret sur le grade. Le contrat sera
 conclu pour une durée de six mois renouvelable. Le salaire
 mensuel sera de 5000 francs comprenant, au point de vue de la
 paye, les avantages prévus au décret du 14/10/1934 et de plus
 les avantages prévus par le fonctionnaire.

Il est à noter que le candidat sera tenu de fournir un officier de
 liaison avec les commandants des navires de notre détachement
 de Ito Awa par les soins de l'administration indochinoise.

Le Gouverneur Général

Le même point par le candidat fonctionnaire à l'Etat sera
au point de vue des droits à pension et à l'ancienneté, ainsi qu'
la présence effective de l'intéressé pour son service disciplinaire,
réservé des réserves pour l'avenir qu'il doit subir sur son service.

Il est demandé de faire le relevé des noms des candidats
présentés, ainsi que leurs notes personnelles sur leur
leur des candidats.

Pour approbation
Le Gouverneur Général
du Gouvernement Général de l'Indochine
Signé: DUBOIS

Pour exécution
Le Chef du Bureau des Archives
Signé: LILLIEN

Le Chef du Bureau des Archives - Signé: LILLIEN. Cette copie conforme transmise à
les Ministres et Secrétaires d'Etat, les Chefs de
Bureau, les Secrétaires, les Secrétaires des Services
Général, les Conseillers auprès des Ministres
du Gouvernement Général et les Chefs de Bureau
de la Résidence Supérieure, pour recherche de
signatures éventuelles.

Daté, le 22 août 1940
Le Président Supérieur et P.O.
L'Administrateur, Chef de Cabinet,
Signé: ABILLON

Cette copie conforme transmise à Messieurs les Ministres de l'Intérieur
et de l'Indochine, ainsi qu'à Messieurs les Chefs de Bureau des
Bureaux des Archives, pour recherche de signatures éventuelles.

Daté, le 22 août 1940
Le Président Supérieur et P.O.
L'Administrateur, Chef de Cabinet,

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)

N° 2431

LE RESIDENT GOUVERNEUR DE ANNAM
Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur,

VU.....

A R R E T E

Art. 1er. - M. MOHSEINE MAHAMEBHAY, *Indigène* principal conseiller
chef de la réserve indigène, est nommé par son titre sous les
ordres du Résident de France à l'Annam, aux fonctions de
Délégué administratif à l'Amphitrite et de l'Amphitrite et
Dépendances avec résidence à l'île Soïda, en remplacement
de M. V. ILLIEN, inspecteur hors classe de la Réserve In-
dienne, appelé à d'autres fonctions.

Art. 2. - M. MOHSEINE MAHAMEBHAY aura droit, en cette qua-
lité et à compter du jour de sa prise effective de service
à l'indemnité annuelle pour frais de représentation et de
voyages de quatre cents piastres (400.000) prévues à l'ar-
rêté du 28 Décembre 1934 annexé et inséré au budget lo-
cal de l'exercice 1941.

Art. 3. - L'administrateur Chef de Cabinet de la Résidence
Supérieure en Annam et le Résident de France à l'Annam
sont chargés, chacun en ce qui le concerne de l'exécution
du présent arrêté.

Fait au C.F. le 12/8/41 N° 2431

Fait, le 12 août 1941
Signé: GONCHIS

Pour ampliation,
Le Chef de la 1^{re} Section du Cabinet
Signé: ILLIEN

N° 2431 Pour copie conforme
Fait, le 12 août 1941
Le Chef de Bureau du Personnel
Signé: ILLIEN



Handwritten signature

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 No 13

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

48860 - 48860

ASIA - ASIE

48800 - 48899

~~French Indo-China~~ - ~~Indochine Française~~

Toungking - Tonkin

Station No.	Name	Lat	Long	Reg. No.	Reg. No.
48860	Hoang Sa	N 12 11	E 103 54	48860	48860
48861	Phu Lam	N 22 30	E 103 51	48861	48861
48862	Phu Lam	N 22 30	E 104 38	48862	48862
48863	Phu Lam	N 21 57	E 103 49	48863	48863
48864	Phu Lam	N 22 40	E 103 51	48864	48864
48865	Phu Lam	N 22 18	E 103 51	48865	48865
48866	Phu Lam	N 22 03	E 103 50	48866	48866
48867	Phu Lam	N 21 48	E 103 51	48867	48867
48868	Phu Lam	N 21 00	E 103 51	48868	48868

48869	Phu Lam	N 21 08	E 104 47	48869	48869
48870	Phu Lam	N 21 43	E 103 51	48870	48870
48871	Phu Lam	N 21 48	E 103 49	48871	48871
48872	Phu Lam	N 20 43	E 103 50	48872	48872
48873	Phu Lam	N 21 53	E 103 51	48873	48873
48874	Phu Lam	N 20 50	E 103 51	48874	48874
48875	Phu Lam	N 20 33	E 103 51	48875	48875
48876	Phu Lam	N 20 28	E 103 51	48876	48876
48877	Phu Lam	N 20 40	E 103 51	48877	48877
48878	Phu Lam	N 20 38	E 103 51	48878	48878
48879	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48879	48879
48880	Phu Lam	N 20 30	E 103 51	48880	48880
48881	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48881	48881
48882	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48882	48882
48883	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48883	48883
48884	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48884	48884
48885	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48885	48885
48886	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48886	48886
48887	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48887	48887
48888	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48888	48888
48889	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48889	48889
48890	Phu Lam	N 20 31	E 103 51	48890	48890

ANNAM - ANNAM

48891	Phu Lam	N 18 44	E 103 47	48891	48891
48892	Phu Lam	N 20 28	E 103 51	48892	48892
48893	Phu Lam	N 18 17	E 103 49	48893	48893
48894	Phu Lam	N 18 38	E 103 49	48894	48894
48895	Phu Lam	N 17 33	E 103 49	48895	48895
48896	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48896	48896
48897	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48897	48897
48898	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48898	48898
48899	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48899	48899
48900	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48900	48900
48901	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48901	48901
48902	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48902	48902
48903	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48903	48903
48904	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48904	48904
48905	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48905	48905
48906	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48906	48906
48907	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48907	48907
48908	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48908	48908
48909	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48909	48909
48910	Phu Lam	N 17 28	E 103 49	48910	48910

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

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

48962 - 48928

ASIA - ASIE

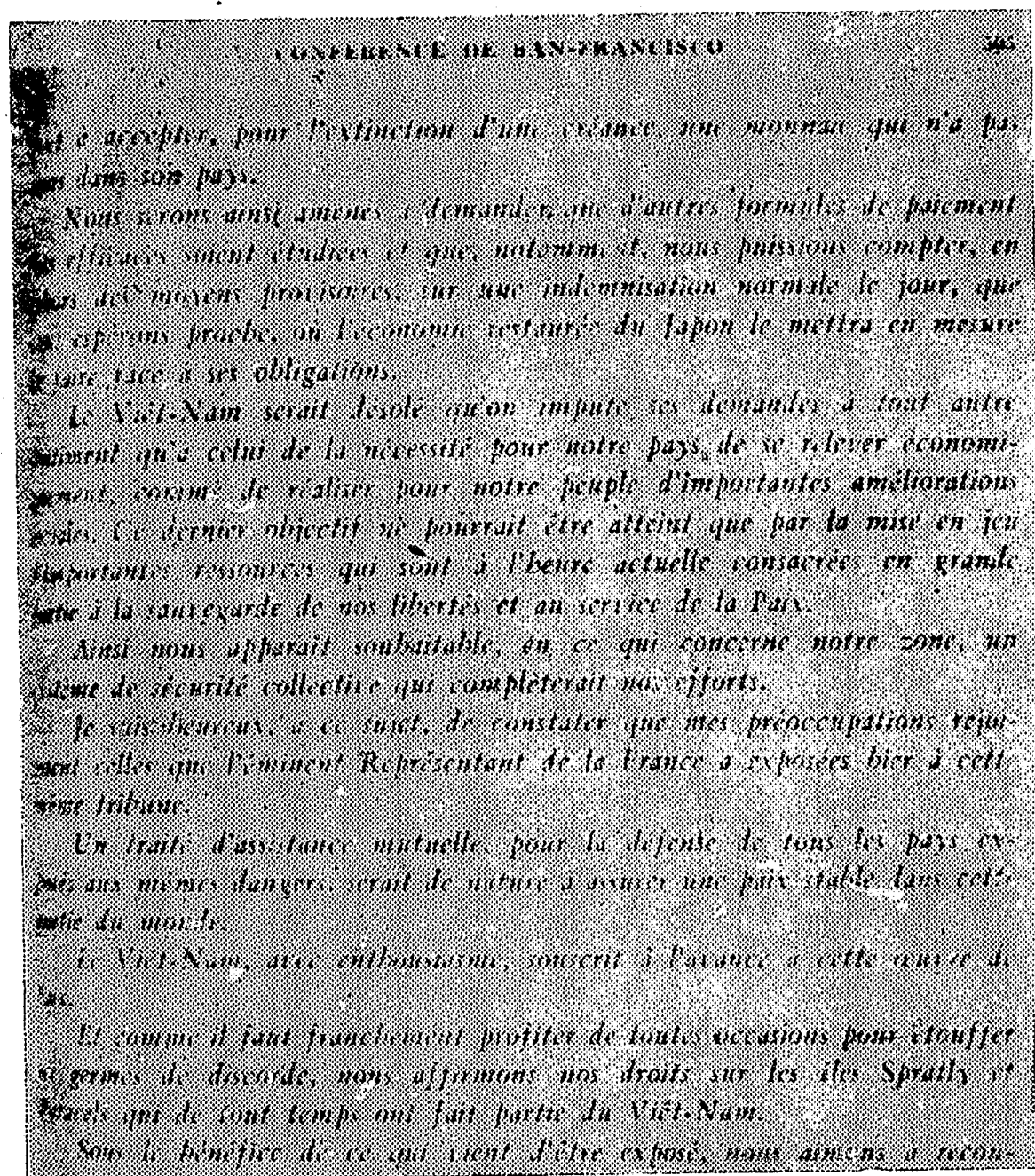
Station No.	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude (m)	Year of Installation
48962	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48963	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48964	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48965	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48966	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48967	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48968	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48969	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48970	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48971	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48972	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48973	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48974	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48975	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48976	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48977	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48978	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48979	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48980	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48981	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48982	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48983	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48984	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48985	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48986	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48987	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48988	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48989	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48990	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930

ASIA - ASIE

Station No.	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Altitude (m)	Year of Installation
48991	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48992	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48993	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48994	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48995	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48996	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48997	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48998	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
48999	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49000	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49001	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49002	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49003	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49004	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49005	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49006	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49007	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49008	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49009	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930
49010	Phnom Penh	N 10° 29'	E 104° 02'		1930

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

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



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 N° 66 — 67, November, December, 1951).

**VIETNAMESE STAFF OF THE METEOROLOGICAL
STATION ON HOANG SA ISLAND
(Pattle) in 1952**

LISTE DU PERSONNEL DE SERVICE A PATTLE SA FEVERIER 1952

PERSONNEL

LISTE DU PERSONNEL DE SERVICE A PATTLE SA FEVERIER 1952

NOM ET NOMS	FONCTIONS	GRANDE	SITUATION DE FAMILLE
TRAN-VAN-LINH,	Chargé station	Officier de 1 ^{er} grade	Marié avec 2 enfants.
PHUOC-HUYEN-THUNG,	Radiotélégraphiste	Officier de 1 ^{er} grade	Marié avec 2 enfants.
PHU-VAN-THAN,	Observateur	Officier de 1 ^{er} grade	Marié avec 2 enfants.
CHAU-HIEP-DUC,	Superviseur	Journalier	Célibataire
PHUOC-VAN-SON,	Radiotélégraphiste	Journalier	Célibataire

Fait à Pattle, le 20 février 1952
Le Chargé de Station Radio-Station.

NOM - TRAN-VAN-LINH
(cachet)

RECEVEUR
LE 20 FÉVRIER 1952
A PATTLE

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)

STATION NUMBER	NAME	LAT.	LONG.	ELEVATION M	PRESSURE MMHg	SURFACE OBSERVATIONS	METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS	WMO NO.	OPERATION DATE	STATUS
84671	Quang Binh	16 54N	107 11E	7		X	X		1959-10	X
84672	Phu Ninh-Hai	16 20N	107 41E	17		X	X		1959-10	X
84673	Da Nang	16 07N	108 11E	7		X	X		1959-10	X
84674	Da Nang	16 16N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84675	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84676	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84677	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84678	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84679	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84680	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84681	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84682	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84683	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84684	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84685	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84686	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84687	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84688	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84689	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84690	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84691	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84692	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84693	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84694	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84695	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84696	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84697	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84698	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84699	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84700	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84701	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84702	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84703	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84704	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84705	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84706	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84707	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84708	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84709	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84710	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84711	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84712	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84713	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84714	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84715	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84716	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84717	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84718	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84719	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84720	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84721	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84722	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84723	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84724	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84725	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84726	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84727	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84728	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84729	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84730	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84731	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84732	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84733	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84734	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84735	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84736	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84737	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84738	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84739	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84740	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84741	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84742	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84743	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84744	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84745	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84746	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84747	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84748	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84749	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X
84750	Da Nang	16 20N	108 11E	4		X	X		1959-10	X

DOCUMENT № 19

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







III

**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 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 left 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 archipelago 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.

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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 Vietnamese 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".

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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.

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IV

**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)

IV

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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 Vietnamese territory. The Vietnamese feudal states were the first in history to occupy, organize, control and exploit these archipelagoes in their capacities as States. 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.

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6. By illegally occupying 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.