

Article

Not peer-reviewed version

The War of the French and Spain Alliance in Viet Nam in the Year 1858 – 1860

[Thao Phuong Hoang](#) *

Posted Date: 23 March 2022

doi: 10.20944/preprints202203.0315.v1

Keywords: France; Spain; Da Nang; Gia Dinh; invasion; alliance



Preprints.org is a free multidiscipline platform providing preprint service that is dedicated to making early versions of research outputs permanently available and citable. Preprints posted at Preprints.org appear in Web of Science, Crossref, Google Scholar, Scilit, Europe PMC.

Copyright: This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Article

The War of the French and Spain Alliance in Viet Nam in the Year 1858–1860

Phuong Thao Hoang ^{1,2,*}

1 Faculty of Philosophy and History – University of Lodz – Poland.

2 Hanoi National University of Education – Vietnam

* Correspondence: thaohp@hnue.edu.vn; jolanta.daszyska@uni.lodz.pl; piotr.robak@uni.lodz.pl

Abstract: This article analyzes the Franco-Spanish invasion of Vietnam from 1858 to 1860. Research is based on documents such as correspondence, reports, archives and diplomatic treaties as well as monographs from the time France intended to invade Vietnam through missionary activities until the end of the Franco-Spanish invasion. The article focuses on three basic issues that are the causes of the alliance, the evolution of the French and Spanish coalition invasion in Vietnam and its impact on stakeholders. The research results on the Franco-Spanish invasion of Vietnam indicated that the invasion carried out by this alliance was more special than that of the other French coalitions before. The invasion was based on an alliance without any commitment to the interests and responsibilities of the parties. The goals of France and Spain in this invasion were different. That led to conflict between France and Spain during the invasion and the fall of the alliance. France achieved its goal through an invasion that turned Vietnam into a colony, while Spain had barely achieved its desire to have commercial and missionary interests in the area.

Keywords: France; Spain; Da Nang; Gia Dinh; invasion; alliance

1. Introduction

Lying in the flow of the history of Asian countries in general, Vietnamese history in the nineteenth century was a turbulent period with Western expeditionary exploration, watchfulness and aggression. To satisfy the market demand for raw materials, Western capitalist countries massively moved to the East. Conspiracy to invade the Western capitalist countries has put Eastern feudal states, including Vietnam, to great challenges. One of them was the struggle against the war of the Franco-Spanish alliance in the years 1858 - 1860.

2. Content

2.1. The formation of the French-Spanish alliance

In the fifteenth - sixteenth century, thanks to the results of geographical discoveries, Westerners found a way around the world, to develop trade and conquer colonies. Spain and Portugal pioneered, waged war to invade and become the first colonial empires in the world. In the first half of the sixteenth century, Spain was one of the most powerful empires in Europe, the sixteenth century was the golden age of Spain in all aspects, economically, politically and militarily. West Europe. However, the economic might and growth of the Spanish Empire was only a brief period in the history of Western Europe in the sixteenth century.

At the end of the sixteenth century and early seventeenth century, Spain was exhausted and fell into war to maintain its empire. As a result, Spain weakened, losing its territory and commercial monopoly to another empire. During its heyday, Spain had a presence in Southeast Asia but had not had much contact with Dai Viet.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, capitalist countries were born. Britain, France, the Netherlands, surpassed Portugal and Spain to dominate important markets, especially East Asia. France is a power in Europe and France began to appear in Vietnam, combining mission and trade. Compared to other empires, France was the last country to arrive in Dai Viet. In the early years of the eighteenth century and the first half of the eighteenth century, the relationship between the French and the Vietnamese had not been closely linked, the French still had not built up a significant position in Vietnam. Although there were French merchants and clergy who came to Vietnam, they had a contradictory attitude, disregarding Vietnamese law. In 1763, France lost its war with Britain and had to sign the Treaty

of Paris to cede the French colony in India to the British. The colonial war between Britain and France cut off trade with Vietnam.

When Nguyen Anh ascended the throne (1802), the issue of prohibition of religion was carried out quite throughout, from forbidden to martyrdom, against Christianity. In essence, this policy stems from the need for self-defense and awareness of the ruling feudal class in the matter of protecting national independence and unifying traditional culture. This created a great deal of frustration for Western countries, creating a difficulty in the relationship between France and Vietnam.

In July 1857, King Tu Duc again issued another prohibition of religion, opening a new period of massacre, creating more reasons for foreign capitals to have a pretext for invading Vietnam. In fact, as early as 1855, French public opinion almost confirmed that French intervention in Vietnam was inevitable. After the Crimean War ended (1856), the issue of invading Vietnam entered the final decisive period.

However, the French did not want to be alone in the war of invading Vietnam. In that context, France wanted to find a partner to build into an alliance against Vietnam. Right at this moment, the Archbishop of Tonkin, Fray José Maria Diaz Sanjurjo - a Spaniard executed by the Hue court - The French colonialists exaggerated the incident, turning religious issues into an excuse for aggression and also an excuse to form the French-Spanish military alliance.

At that time, the Queen of France (the wife of Emperor Napoleon III) was Engenié de Montijo was a famous influential man of the French king, born in Girona (Spain), in the maiden period, Engenié de Montijo knew him item Diaz. When she learned of Diaz's execution, she declared, "Must avenge my martyrs. We are the first to think of Indochina and we intend to annex it"[1]. The idea of alliances with Spain to intervene in Vietnam became a reality at the end of 1857. On December 1, 1857, the French government gave the state of Spain a secret note, demanding the Madrid's imperial court combat cooperation to "avenge Diaz". With Spain, the Nguyen dynasty's mistreatment of Spanish missionaries made Spain very frustrating. The attitude of the Spanish Government made people think that they just wanted to join the war in Vietnam as a demonstration of the pro-Christian force, against the "forbidden" and "murderous" policies of the Nguyen dynasty. However, in fact the Spaniards had ambitions for Tonkin, before that they also repeatedly looked at the Do Son and Quang Yen regions in the North of Vietnam, so the Queen of Spain - Isabel II was ready to join ally with France in this war for profit. On 12/12/1857, the Spanish Government officially responded in writing, affirming the political alliance between the two countries. On December 25, 1857, the Spanish Minister of War ordered the commander in the Philippines to prepare a 1000-man infantry battalion, two 300-man cavalry teams and a 100-army artillery platoon ready for combat. This command was carried out and the above troops were placed under the command of Colonel De Lanzarote, operating on two steam-powered warships: El Cano and Dordogne. After this there is a third ship Durance.

2.2. Invasion of the French-Spanish alliance

2.2.1. Fighting in Da Nang in 1858

The reason why the French chose Da Nang as the first target of attack "Quickly win quickly" for many reasons, first of all due to the decision of Napoleon III [Vu Huy Phuc 1993], based on the opinion of the Vietnam Research Commission and the missionaries. This is also the site that was surveyed more carefully by the French colonialists. Genouilly himself had sent ships to bombard Da Nang nine years before the Thieu Tri period, so he had a thorough understanding of the Da Nang Bay area and the Nguyen army defense locations on the Son Tra peninsula. Under the reign of Ly, Tran and Le So, Da Nang port was the place where the wind and wind of the Fatherland were coming, and the place where two Vietnamese - Cham cultures were met. In the Nguyen Dynasty, Da Nang port was the front port of Hoi An town port. And by the Nguyen Dynasty, the port of Da Nang became the largest port in our country. It not only acted as a major international trading port, a gateway to welcome diplomatic missions, but also a mighty port of the Nguyen Dynasty. This place becomes the military base, the center of exchange, trade and diplomatic relations of our country; and more importantly, the "chauffeur" to protect the Hue city, located 100 kilometers southeast of Hue, is a port with the rich rear of Nam Ngai. Large ships cannot enter Thuan An in Hue but can easily enter Da Nang. During the Nguyen-Tay Son war before, Da Nang was once a powerful naval base. It is at this strategic position that both France and the US choose Da Nang port as the first landing point when invading our country. In addition, Da Nang was also the place where the French colonialists built up Christians who hoped to gain support from them.

On the afternoon of August 31, 1858, Major General Rigault de Genouilly commanded the French Far East Fleet and Colonel Palanca commanded the Spanish army with more than 2,000 troops, deployed on 14 battleships in front of the sea in Da Nang. Later, the number of troops increased to 3,000 people because there were a number of Chinese transporters and some great fathers who were fluent in geography, Confucian, Vietnamese, specialized in communication with reconnaissance groups. has been arranged in the inland [Collection of French History to invade Vietnam 1847 – 1887 2019].

The French plan was to quickly seize Da Nang, from Da Nang to go straight into the interior of Quang Nam, the rear of the Hue court, then cross the Hai Van pass to attack the capital Hue, quickly forcing the first court row.

In 1857, in the face of provocations by French capitalists, a Governor-General sent a proposal to the king to pay attention to strengthening the defenses of Da Nang:

"The risk is staying at the Da Nang wharf; Da Nang wharf is wide, ships from West to easily; Surrounded by mountains, no waves and winds, easy to anchor ships. Westerners often go in there, pass for a long time, not counting the court law. Moreover, Da Nang is close to a national highway, close to a village, and a capital city. Da Nang is the key to our country, so Westerners want to take over" [Tran Van Giau 2001 p68].

Recognizing the importance of Da Nang, right from 1857, after the Catina was provoked, defensive work here has been strengthened. Many fortresses on the coast were built and restored, more artillery placed, more trenches dug. In the North of Da Nang Bay, at the beginning of Hai Van pass, there is Chan Sang fortress. On the pass, many rocks and cast-iron bullets are loaded so that when needed, they roll down to block the enemy and protect the road to the capital. There are also a lot of guns, ammunition and explosives purchased from the UK, the Netherlands, Italy and France. In Da Nang, there were always 2,000 imperial troops guarding them. When the French occupied Son Tra peninsula, there were 2,000 more troops coming from the capital.

On the morning of September 1, 1858, the French sent an ultimatum to Tran Hoang, Da Nang goalkeeper Tran Hoang, within 2 hours to reply. Because he had to wait for court orders, Tran Hoang kept moving. Less than 2 hours of appointment, the French opened fire and bombarded targets on the shore, then landed on Son Tra peninsula.

Our troops fired back, but because the weapons were outdated, they did not cause the enemy's losses. The enemy concentrated fire and bombarded posts on Son Tra peninsula and on the mouth of Da Nang river (Nai Hien Dong and Dien Hai). On September 1, the East post was broken, the next day the West post was attacked. The French-Spanish coalition landed to occupy the posts of An Hai and Dien Hai on September 1, 1858. The imperial army force withdrew to the back line, set up a front line in Hoa Vang district town to prevent the enemy from entering the interior.

Knowing that he had lost Son Tra peninsula, Tu Duc ordered his rightist army commander Le Dinh Li and the Chief of Staff of Pham Khac Than to bring 2,000 support troops. On the other hand, dismissing Tran Hoang. Chief of Staff Nguyen Duy was appointed commander of the second army of Quang Nam province.

The French-Spanish coalition stormed inland. Our troops stopped them in My Thi commune, the two sides fought in Cam Le commune. Nguyen Tri Phuong (who is working on the Southern Archangelist) was transferred to the position of President of Quang Nam's second army, urgently reorganized his army and unified command against the enemy. Nguyen Tri Phuong implemented the plan with two main points: The first was to organize the people to retreat deeply into the inland to make gardens without empty houses, completely uncooperative with the enemy. The second is the thorough defense, trying to dig trenches to push the enemy stronghold, not to let the enemy hit spread.

Nguyen Tri Phuong's tactic was somewhat effective. A French officer lamented in a letter sent to his mother: "The land that we took, the people all left, except for a few fishermen's cottages. I have never seen a chicken" [Tran Van Giau 2001 p71].

On September 17, 1858, in Rigault de Genouilly's report, "Since I got here, I have tried to find nothing from Vietnamese prisoners (about 100) including 3 officers. about the flow on the river in Hue. On the other hand, despite the promises of Archbishop Penlerin, not a single lamb came to us" [Tran Van Giau 2001 p 71].

Until January 1859, the French army had a dilemma. Several times they used boats along the Nai Hien river to enter and were repelled by the imperial army. The landing could not be done and was not able to use a small boat. The French tried to go around the outside to land on Nam Tho, but also failed. In the coastal area of Hai Chau, three small enemy boats were sunk by Ho Uy's troops. In the following days, the battle fiercely fought in the area of Phuc Ninh station. Both sides suffered heavy losses, Chu Phuc Minh was demoted and summoned.

Gunfire from Da Nang echoed throughout the country, people in the enemy areas immediately gardened without an empty house, quickly evacuated to the inland, not allowing the enemy to arrest soldiers, take salaries, take roads ... The French had to confess: "The land we took over was completely vacant, except for a few fishermen's cottages" [Extracted from the History of Vietnam 1985]. Quang Nam army and people used bamboo baskets, wooden crates containing rocks and soil to cover the Vinh Dien river to prevent enemy ships.

In addition to the initial losses caused by the heroic resistance of the Vietnamese people was the extreme weather and seawater that made the French army very sick. From June 1 to 20, 1859, cholera alone killed 200 French soldiers; a battalion of the 3rd regiment arrived in Da Nang on April 29 when it had lost 1/3 of its number by 8/7. Sick soldiers were sent back to France, treated aboard warships or sent to hospitals in Macau.

After 5 months of invading, the French only captured Son Tra peninsula. Their plan to hit quickly, quickly win was initially bankrupt. However, the army of Nguyen Tri Phuong, due to the application of passive defense tactics, could not destroy all the enemies, but also could not drive them out of Da Nang.

Having failed in his plan of fast-winning, Genouilly had to choose one of two options; Either hit the North or send troops to the South. The North was still in turmoil at this time, although some people still missed the Le dynasty, had little sympathy for the Nguyen, but there was no guarantee that they would rise up to support the French. Another reason is that during the monsoon season, the weather is not convenient, going to the North is really too adventurous. Fighting against the South obviously has many advantages because Gia Dinh is a place of many people. If you can capture Gia Dinh, it will achieve many purposes: cutting the sugar of Hue; assisting the Cambodians to rebel out of the Vietnamese circle; put the French protectorate on the land of Chua Thap; quickly occupied Vung Tau, an important commercial place that the British were watching. Moreover, coming to Gia Dinh is monsoon season, so the operation is easier and faster.

After careful calculation, February 2, 1859. Genouilly let a company guard two posts of Nai Hien Dong and Dien Hai, a few warships with full weapons and food under the command of Colonel Toyon to hold the Hue imperial army, and myself the leader of the great army pulled into Gia Dinh.

Conspiracy to occupy the mainland of Cochinchina, the French hoped to hastily blockade South Vietnam, and at the same time they also considered a further future: exploring the Mekong river to find a way to penetrate the south-western Chinese market - A large market, densely populated, rich in minerals, abundant purchasing power. Entering southwestern China this way would prevent the French from having to encounter the British on the Chinese coast, especially from a gunfight with the naval forces dominating their oceans.

As a result, the French - Spanish coalition was held back for 5 months (from the end of August 1858 to the beginning of February 1859) on Son Tra peninsula. After about 10,000 troops under the command of Nguyen Tri Phuong arrived in Da Nang to confront the French and Spanish coalition, they could no longer exert their power. Meanwhile, they have cholera, so they have to find ways to move to another place.

The resistance war also initially failed the French plan of "quick victory and quick victory".

2.2.2. The French-Spanish alliance invaded Gia Dinh citadel to continue the war of invading Vietnam (from February to November 1859)

War in Gia Dinh

French conspiracy: economic encirclement of the court and set up a basis for expanding the war. Gia Dinh is Vietnam's rice granary, with an important strategic position, so the French decided to capture Gia Dinh to cut off the Nguyen dynasty's supply path.

On 2/2/1858, Genouilly led the French - Spanish expeditionary army to leave Da Nang, leaving only a part of the army and a few ships for the commanding officer of Navy Colonel Phocong. Gionuiy force consisted of 9 French warships, 1 Spanish warship and 4 merchant ships (a total of 14 ships), with a number of 2176 men, aiming towards Gia Dinh. On the way, Gionuiy stopped at Tu Du (Khanh Hoa province, with documents stating that this was Cam Ranh Bay) and the Khanh Hoa military officer reported that 14 Atlantic ships were parked there. On February 9, 1859, the French army gathered in Vung Tau, Dong Nai estuary consisting of 20 ships, including 4 ships carrying food, more numerous than the first in Da Nang. On February 10, the coalition attacked Phuc Thang fortress at Lai Son mountain (in Bien Hoa province). After that, the French ship entered the Can Gio river, both advanced and bombarded fortresses on the two banks of the river, such as the posts Huu Dinh, Tam Ky, Binh Khanh, Phu My, Huu Binh ... all of Gia Dinh province, built curved sections of the river. From Can Gio to Gia Dinh citadel, the enemy ships went very slowly, taking 6 days, because of the quite fierce resistance of the imperial army at the posts on the shore and had to overcome many obstacles built between Riverbed. From February 12 to 15, the enemy entered the Dong Nai River and continuously attacked dozens of defensive posts of our army. On the morning of the 16th, the enemy landed and occupied two fortresses directly defending Gia Dinh citadel and allowed ships upstream of Ben Nghe River to park in front of the city.

On the morning of February 17, 1859, enemy ships and ships focused their fire on Gia Dinh citadel. At noon of the same day, the French-Spanish coalition landed and focused their firepower on the southeast corner, where our army had many cannons and was closest to the river. The battle took place fiercely throughout the morning of February 17, but under the strength of the enemy, Gia Dinh defender Vu Duy Ninh ordered a retreat. After Gia Dinh's fall, Vu Duy Ninh was a governor who fled to Phuc Loc district, then hanged himself in Phuc Ly village, opening a chain of suicide of helpless servants.

While the Nguyen army continuously failed and had to withdraw their troops, the French colonialists fell back into the heavens of the people's war in the South. They had to spread out their forces to deal with the many militia groups that had sprung up everywhere. The people of the lands occupied by the French were self-destructed, left or automatically organized into a contingent to fight the enemy. "Where there used to be 40 villages in 1859, now there is only one village called Cho Quan, located between Gia Dinh citadel and Cholon" [Cultru (P) 1910].

Seeing that he could not keep the citadel, on March 8, 1859, Genouilly ordered to put 32 loaves of gunpowder, broke the wall of Gia Dinh citadel, and then burned all the treasures in the city, and the rice burned for many months.

After destroying Gia Dinh citadel, the enemy army was surrounded and ambushed more and more. Everywhere, people stood up to serve as a soldier. The situation forced the enemy general to order their soldiers to withdraw to the warships parked downstream at Huu Binh dock and to use Huu Binh dock as a ground base.

In the middle of that time, the remaining French troops in Da Nang were also in a critical situation, their numbers became much less sick, their supplies were erratic, unable to hold out for long. The French-Spanish alliance had to urgently bring troops (3,000 troops, including 1,000 Spanish troops) from Gia Dinh to aid. Just arrived in Da Nang, to strengthen the morale of soldiers, on 8/5/1859. Genouilly decided to launch an attack on Dien Hai, Phuc Ninh, Thach Gian, hoping to regain initiative, but failed. Nearly 100 French and Spanish troops perished.

As of May 8, 1859, after 9 months of war, the Franco-Spanish alliance only captured Son Tra peninsula and Dong Fort in Da Nang, while in Gia Dinh they also had to imprison themselves after Huu Binh. on the banks of the Ben Nghe River. At this moment in Europe, the war between France and Austria broke out in Italy, while in Asia, the Anglo-French alliance was defeated by China quite painfully on the Bach Ha River, forcing France to pour more troops into it, it is difficult to reinforce Genouilly. The French were in a dilemma, the war in Europe was more and more intense. On the Asian side, there are rumors about Britain and France going to war again. The French in Da Nang could be destroyed by the British at any time ... However, the Hue court, ignorant of it, tried to dig trenches to build a rampart, never attacked the enemy.

In an urgent situation, the French government had to order Genouilly to bring a peace protocol to the Hue court. To put pressure on the court, in parallel with bringing the peace conference, Genouilly sent troops to raid coastal areas in the provinces of Binh Dinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri ... The actions of France caused a heated discussion. floating in the Royal Institute of Hue. The table "war", the table "tie", countless contradictory opinions, no agreement.

Neither was a fight nor a tie, Genouilly both failed and sickly summoned back to France. Admiral Page over replaced. In order to reassure the soldiers' morale, having just arrived in Vietnam, Page immediately organized an attack to the north of Da Nang Bay, attempting to take control of the Hai Van pass, on November 18, 1859, but was pushed back. died and injured up to 300 people.

In February 1860, Page withdrew his troops into Gia Dinh, but still kept the fortresses of An Hai, Dien Hai, Tra Son, Dinh Hai and Chan Sang. After withdrawing from Chan Sang, Dinh Hai, on March 22, 1860, all of Da Nang was withdrawn. After 19 months of siege, now liberated [Georges Taboulet 1955].

At Gia Dinh, Page handed Ton That Thuyet a letter of 11 items (The main items in the 11 items were: 1 - The French - the South had a long relationship; France had a national capital from Da Nang to the capital city of Hue. 2 - Free to pardon those who have collaborated with the French 3 - No pursuit of believers, release of clergy 4 - Free trade, free preaching, establishment of consulates and shops at the dock [Nguyen Ngoc Co 2012], at the same time he goes out Da Nang by road to Hue capital submits the national letter of the French Government. The content of the National Letter is similar to the 11 paragraphs letter. Finally, due to the conservative and persistent attitude of the great mandarins, the negotiation was cut off on November 7, 1860.

When the negotiation was not finished, the British-French coalition declared war with China. The French fleet had to move to Hoang Hai. The French left only a few troops to occupy Gia Dinh and hold out with our troops, and even turned to the North China battlefield.

Before withdrawing, the French expanded its occupation around Gia Dinh citadel, occupied Cho Lon - Commercial Center of the Southern continent at that time, set up a peripheral defense from Khai Tuong pagoda near Truong Thi to Mai Son pagoda, passing through Hien Trung pagoda (Duoi market) and Cho Ray pagoda, and then they forced thousands of villagers to build strongholds connecting the above-mentioned pagodas into a line to prevent our army from attacking.

After the news that the French expanded the occupation, the court ordered Nguyen Tri Phuong and Ton That Cap to directly take charge of the Gia Dinh front; Re-energize the mandarins and provinces from Quang Ngai to come back to take care of recruiting militia, training soldiers to provide support.

Although there was only a small force of less than 1000 troops, but thanks to the "defense to draw" (entrenched and negotiated) tactic of the Nguyen court, the French still leisurely moved around, up and down the lines. River, go to the tank, trade for a profit, both to feed the army and to bribe some people to trade with them, to know our domestic situation, to lure some people to be henchmen, to create more conditions for expansion of invasion.

The mistake in the passive defense strategy and the failed ideology made Nguyen Tri Phuong not only unable to chase away more than 1,000 enemy soldiers stationed on the lines of 10km long pagodas, where the enemy was less than 500m apart. in contrast, the invisible Dai Don had turned into a 3-square-kilometer basket holding thousands of soldiers, preparing to be prey for French cannon bullets.

2.3. *The disintegration of the French-Spanish alliance and its impact on the hostilities in Vietnam.*

During the war, the two sides France and Spain had many conflicts. The French-Spanish alliance inherently had a rift in practical interests during the war of invasion of Vietnam. When joining the coalition against Vietnam, the Spanish government still thought that the French waged this war in order to punish Nguyen's Anti-Catholic policies, not knowing the greater intentions of the Government. France is trying to annex Vietnam. Therefore, in the process of joining the war, the two sides had many conflicts, the French side repeatedly changed the commander and organized major military campaigns without prior consultation with the Government of Spain. The Spanish forces themselves engaged in the war were quite small compared to the French, so all work was decided by the French side, without consulting the Spanish. This made the Spanish forces in the war in Vietnam dissatisfied. Thus, in depth, the French-Spanish alliance inherently had a rift in practical interests in the war of invasion of Vietnam. That coalition commitment did not have a formal document in the form of mutual treaty. Since then, the French are too wise in this matter. In fact, Spain had more ambitions for the North America than Cochinchina, so when Rigault de Genouilly decided to move to fight Gia Dinh (2/1859) and then the whole of Cochinchina, the Spanish forces showed no heat. love. What happened on the battlefield made Spain feel that it was difficult for Spain to get the rights he wanted alliances with France. The French themselves also realize this. In his letter to the Minister of the French Navy, Rigault de Genouilly also advocated fighting Cochinchina, because "fighting North America would benefit Spain" [Georges Taboulet 1955]. Even the Hue court in negotiations with the coalition, did not see the real relationship between France and Spain. Western researchers make different assessments of Spanish French relations in the mid-nineteenth century, especially the process of the alliance against Vietnam in the second half of the 19th century. Basically, there are clear differences in the two countries' policies towards Vietnam: France wants a colony in Vietnam, while Spain just wants to protect its own people and can lay a path. for future commercial relationships with Hue. Thus, Spain to join alliances with France attacked Vietnam because of the need to protect the national honor and the fate of the Spanish missionaries, while not paying attention to the competition. won colonies like France. The number of 6,000 French soldiers compared with only 1,400 from Manila clearly shows the indifference of the Spanish towards the colony in Vietnam. Meanwhile, French diplomatic records show more clearly that Napoleon III intended to develop a colony in Vietnam [Dai Nam of Luc Chinh Bien 1962] Consequently, France used the reason of national honor and protected lives and property as a means of expanding colonialism, while Spain quickly ended its war after achieving some desired results.

The Franco-Spanish Alliance is an uncertain alliance, marked by mutual distrust. The diplomats tried to conceal each other's core goals, while the commanders often clashed individually.

Regarding the results, both France and Spain received satisfaction with what was achieved in Cochinchina. The French won their place in Southeast Asia. Spain protected its missionaries, received compensation and opened commercial relations with the Hue court. More importantly, Spain avoided clashing with France in all Asian affairs after that.

During March 1860, Spanish officials had difficulty defining the target of the ongoing expedition in Vietnam. On the one hand, the French mentioned sending troops back to China and sending the Spanish back to the Philippines. On the other hand, the French authorities complained about military obstacles and about the lack of progress in peace negotiations with the Hue court. The lack of goodwill in the cooperation process, especially the identification of exact targets for the military and diplomatic phases of the Franco-Spanish alliance left the Madrid government feeling frustrated and insecure. In fact, France and Spain made no progress in peace negotiations with Hue for the remainder of 1860. During this period, France and Spain continued to doubt each other's motives for the war in Vietnam. After occupying three provinces in the Southeast and Vinh Long province (March 1862), the French-Spanish coalition fell into a passive position to deal with the resistance movement of the people of Cochinchina. However, the Nguyen dynasty advocated negotiations with the French-Spanish coalition to sign a peace treaty. On June 5, 1862, the Hue imperial delegation signed with the representatives of the French-Spanish coalition of peace and compromise (Treaty of Nham Tuat). On August 4, 1863, the two governments of France and Spain signed the treaty. Under this treaty, Spain received half of the compensation from the Hue court through the French government. Thus, the Spanish expedition in Vietnam officially ended, the French-Spanish alliance disintegrated.

The impact of the war in Vietnam between France and Spain

When the French-Spanish coalition attacked the sea gate of Da Nang, the Nguyen court and its people had to fight at the same time with two powerful European empires. The authoritarian regime of the Nguyen dynasty was based on a social foundation of landlords, powerful bureaucrats, and hatred by the people. The Nguyen kings used harsh law, large army, reactionary Confucianism as a tool to clamp the people in all aspects of the order of the extreme tyranny, so social conflict had inherent roots. From the very beginning, it was revealed increasingly deeply and

drastically. In the country itself, there were also revolts of peasants, the court had to deal with hard-handed repression, drowned in the sea of blood, causing resentment, division, and national unity bloc rift, creating favorable conditions for enemies from outside to invade. When the coalition army attacked Da Nang Vietnam, it was time to push the feudal Vietnamese state to face a huge challenge, facing the war of Western capitalism, creating a crisis in all fields of social life.

The concentration and mobilization of human strength among the people of the Nguyen Dynasty for the war against the Franco-Spanish coalition also made the lives of the Vietnamese people even more poor, dealing a heavy blow to Vietnam's economy at that time. Vietnamese farmers became stagnant, exhausted, and difficulties were accumulating. This was also the period when Hue's court faced a series of tough challenges. During the years of fighting against foreign invaders of the French - Spanish army, despite certain victories, especially in the battle of Da Nang, soldiers lost their soldiers, increasingly fell into a weak position. The enemy was becoming more and more cunning, cunning, fighting in front and behind, combining military and diplomacy, cornering the Hue court. While dealing with coalition forces in the South, the Hue court still had to deal with many troubles and the risk of overthrow in the Central and North. Thus, the war between France and Spain 1858 - 1860 made the court very confused and had to deal with it very hard.

However, the war of the Franco-Spanish alliance also strengthened and promoted the solidarity against foreign invaders of the people of Da Nang and Southern provinces. Participating in the fight were numerous classes of people. They beat with every weapon in their hand: with guns, with swords, with clubs, with pistols. They even beat the enemy with pen and poetry. A lot of folk poems have appeared, many versions against the enemy were composed and circulated among the people, making an important contribution to encouraging the masses to stand up against the invasion. Against the French - Spanish coalition, against the feudalists who surrendered to the country was one of the important contents of patriotic poetry, it reflected the struggle of the Vietnamese people and brought forward ideas. At that time, paving the way for the nation's liberation and later struggle.

3. Conclusions:

History is a series of opportunities that only a nation that can grasp in time can seize the next opportunity. In the 1850s, the French colonialists quickly seized the opportunity to exaggerate the case of turning religious issues into an excuse to form an alliance to invade Vietnam. The French-Spanish alliance in the Vietnam expedition was quite loose, stemming from the difference in goals to join the war. However, each party involved in the coalition has basically accomplished its purpose. Particularly with the Nguyen Dynasty and the feudal state of Vietnam at that time, it inadvertently gave France the next chance to invade Vietnam.

For many Eastern countries, the patriotic spirit, the power of solidarity, synthesis and implementation of military doctrines are still emphasized and upheld, even though in many times, the spirit of courage, not enough to defeat the enemy's modern and advanced means and techniques. In the mid-nineteenth century, the Vietnamese army faced a great challenge when it first faced the Western all-out army (coalition). But in the modern history of Vietnam, there was a battle that the Vietnamese people wrote on the heroic history page, that was the victory of Da Nang from 1858 to 1860. During the war in 1858 - 1860, the Vietnamese army and people had him. bravely crushed the French colonialist's campaign to invade Da Nang, bankrupt the strategy of dominating the entire Southeast Asian region of the French empire at that time. They had come loudly and slyly, and then they had to retreat quietly and sadly. The Vietnamese militiamen had done something no Asian military could do was to bust the French strategic scheme and destroy the career of the eminent expeditionary commander, Rigault de Genouilly. French history had to confess: "The war in Da Nang ended because political failure is greater than military failure" [Georges Taboulet 1955]. Unfortunately, the Hue court did not fully grasp the world at that time, so there was no timely decision, missed the good opportunity to expel the invaders from the brink, continue for the Historical series struggled with the French colonial war.

Funding: This research received no external funding

References

1. Albert Septans (1887), *Les Commencements de l'Indo - Chine française, d'après les archives du Ministère de la Marine et des Colonies, les mémoires ou relations du temps*, Challamel Aîné, Paris.
2. Alain Forest - Georges Condominas (1998), *Les missionnaires français au Tonkin et au Siam, XVIIe - XVIIIe siècles: Histoires du Siam*, L'Harmattan, Paris.
3. A. Thomazi (1931), *Histoire militaire de l'Indochine française*, Hanoi.
4. Benoist de La Grandiere (1869), *Les Ports de l'Extrême - Orient: débuts de l'occupation française en Cochinchine*, Le Chevalier, Libraire Éditeur, Paris.

5. Colonel Henri de Ponchalon (1896), *Indo - Chine, souvenirs de voyage et de campagne, 1858 - 1860*, Maison A. Mame et Fils à Tours, Paris.
6. Colonel Henri de Poyen (1894), *Notice sur l'Artillerie de la Marine en Cochinchine*, Berger - Levrault et Cie, Éditeurs, Paris.
7. Cao Huy Thuan (2016), translated by Nguyen Thuan, *Missionary and French colonial policy in Vietnam (1857 - 1914)*, Hong Duc Publishing House.
8. Cultru (P), *Histoire de la Cochichine française des origines à 1883*, Paris, 1910.
9. Dao Thi Dien (Editor), Nguyen Minh Son, Vu Van Thuyen, *Indochina War through the voice of French soldiers (La guerre D'Indochine à travers la voix des soldats du corps expéditionnaire Française)*, Army Publishing House People, 2004.
10. Dong Hao, Truong Sy Hung, Han Khanh (Translated), *Historical collection of French invaders in Vietnam 1847 - 1887 (Complete translation of the oceanic waves)*, Social Science Publishing House, 2018.
11. E. Vo Duc Hanh (1969), *La Place du Catholicisme dans les Relations Entre la France et le Viet - Nam, 1851 - 1870*, Tome I, E. J. Brill, Leiden.
12. Faque (1910), *L'Indo - Chine française, Cochinchine - Cambodge - Annam - Tonkin*, Félix Alcan, Éditeur, Paris.
13. Georges Taboulet (1955), *La Geste française en Indochine*, Tome 1-18.
14. Nguyen Ngoc Co (Editor), *Vietnamese History from 1858 to 1918*, Publisher of Pedagogical University, 2012.
15. Nguyen Phan Quang (1999), *Vietnam nineteenth century: 1802 - 1884*, Ho Chi Minh City Publishing House, pp.367-368.
16. Nguyen Xuan Tho (2016), *The prelude to the establishment of the French colonial system in Vietnam (1858 - 1897)*, Hong Duc Publishing House, Hanoi, p.47.
17. Proceedings of the workshop: *"Da Nang against the French-Spanish coalition (1858 - 1860): Past and present"*, 2018.
18. Le Baron de Bazancourt (1861), *Les Expéditions de Chine et de Cochinchine d'après les documents officiels, Première Partie (1857 - 1858)*, Amyot Éditeur, Paris. 3. Julien Delauney (1889), Albert Guittard: *Historique de l'artillerie de la marine*, Impr. D. Dumoulin et Cie, Paris.
19. Luu Anh Ro (2019), *Da Nang initially attacked the French (1858 - 1860)*, Da Nang Publishing House.
20. Memoirs of Colonel Henri De Ponchalon (1896), *Indochina - Trips and battles (1858 - 1860)*, Alfred Mame and Fils Publishing House (M DCCC XCVI).
21. Philippe Héduy (1998), *Histoire de l'Indochine: La perle de l'Empire (1624 - 1954)*, Vol. 1, Editions Albin Michel, Paris.
22. The National History of the Nguyen Dynasty (1962), *Dai Nam Thuc Luc Bien*, Social Science Publishing House, vol.
23. Tran Nam Tien (2006), *Diplomacy between Vietnam and Western countries under the Nguyen Dynasty (1802 - 1858)*, National University Publishing House of Ho Chi Minh City.
24. Tran Van Giau (2001), *Anti-invasion*, Youth Publishing House, Ho Chi Minh City.
25. *"Report of the officer in charge of the Nemesis ship, in Da Nang Bay, September 3, 1858"*, Document bearing the symbol AB XIX 3970, Archives Center of the French Ministry of Defense.
26. Vu Huy Phuc (editor), *Vietnamese History 1858 - 1896*, Social Science Publishing House, 1993.