

ON GEOGRAPHICAL PUBLICATIONS IN GERMANY IN THE 19th CENTURY ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE STATE OF VIETNAM'S OWNING OF THE PARACEL ISLANDS IN 1816

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Received 20th February 2022; Accepted 24th March 2022; Published online 15th April 2022

Abstract

In order to contribute to enriching historical documents with international legal value to prove Vietnam's legal sovereignty over geographical features in the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes, in this article we select and provide readers with content and accompanying illustrations of publications in Germany in the nineteenth century referring to the state's official possession of the Paracels and Spratlys in 1816 of the king of Vietnam and has been recognized by the international community. Publications on this subject are divided into three types: translations from works outside Germany; Geography edition of German scholars and German encyclopedia edition.

Keywords: Publication, geography, recognition, sovereignty, Hoang Sa.

INTRODUCTION

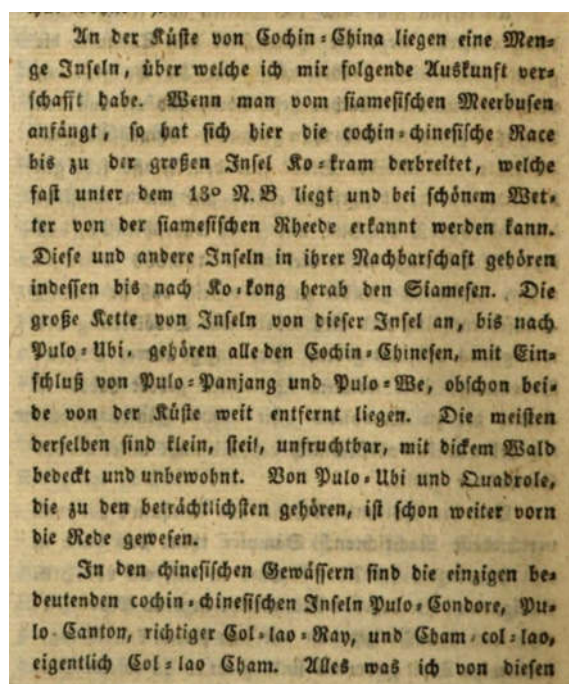
Publication translated from work outside the German territory that recognized the Vietnamese king's legal possession of the Hoang Sa - Cat Vang archipelago in 1816

One of the geographical publications from abroad translated and published in Germany soon recognized the fact that the Vietnamese king took possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816 without any international disputes as public. John Crawford's famous work² was translated from English³ into German under a more concise title than the original: *Tagebuch der Gesandtschaft an die Höfe von Siam und Cochinchina*⁴ [Diary of Ambassadors to the Siamese Courts and Cochinchina/Vietnam], published in the city of Weimar [in modern-day Thuringia, Central Germany] 5 in 1831.

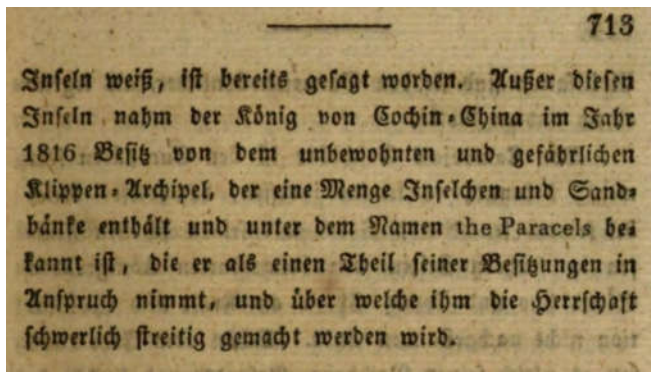
In "Sechzehntes Capitel" [Chapter 16]: "Geographie von Cochinchina. -Gränzen. -Flüsse und Küsten. - Civilabtheilungen. - Kamboja. -Champaoder Loi. -Ausländer, welche in Cochinchina wohnen. -Clima. -Mineralische und vegetabilische Erzeugnisse. -Thiere" [Geography of Cochinchina/Vietnam, limits, rivers and coasts, administrative regions, Cambodia, Champa or Loi, foreigners in Cochinchina, climate, minerals and vegetation, animals], from pages 700 to 738, King Gia Long's possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816 is shown in the book:

"There are many islands on the coast of Cochinchina [Cochin China] that I have gathered information on. If started in the Gulf of Siam, the Cochinchinese race had spread to the great island of Ko-kram, which is near 130 north latitude and can be recognized from Siamese roads in good weather. However, this island and other islands in the vicinity belonged to Siam, including Ko-kong [now in Cambodia]. The large chain of islands from this island to Pulo-Ubi [Hòn Khoai] all belong to the Cochinchinese [inner Cochinchina], including Pulo-Panjang [Tho Chau island/Tho Chu] and Pulo-We [in the Gulf of Siam], although both are far from shore.

The islands are mostly small, steep, barren, covered with jungle and uninhabited. Pulo-Ubi and Quadrole [the name of PhuQuoc island used on some ancient maps] are the largest islands mentioned in the previous section. On the chinesischen Gewässern [Chinese sea/East Sea], the most important islands of the cochinchinesischen [Cochin China] are Pulo-Condore [Con Lon/Con Dao], Pulo-Canton [Ly Son island], rather Col-lao-Ray [Cu Lao Ray/Ré], and Cham-col-Lao, are actually Col-lao-Cham [Cu Lao Cham]. Everything I know about them has been mentioned. In addition to these islands, in 1816, König von Cochinchina [king of Cochinchina/Vietnam] took possession [sic: Besitz] of the craggy and uninhabited archipelago, consisting of countless a number of small islands and sandbars, known as the Paracels [Paracels, including the Spratlys], which the king claimed as his sovereignty and which are unlikely to be contested"⁶.



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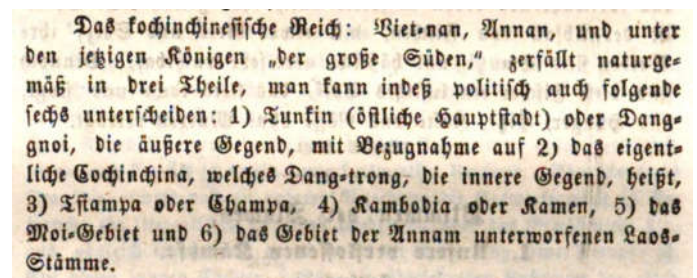


Excerpt from recognition of the fact that the Vietnamese king took possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816 without international dispute, in a German book published in Weimar in 1831: *Crawford (John), Tagebuch der Gesandtschaft an die Höfe von Siam und Cochinchina, Aus dem Englischen, Weimar: Im Verlage des Großh. Sächs. priv. Landes-Industrie-Comptoirs, 1831, Seite 712-713.*

A rather famous publication of the Johann Georg Cotta Book Publishing Company [J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung] is the journal *Das Ausland* [Overseas], published from 1828 to 1893 in the cities of Stuttgart, Munich, Augsburg and Tübingen, also publishing geographical works translated from the country in relation to Vietnam and the Paracel Islands. In the period 1828-1852, this magazine was titled: *Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland* [Overseas. Daily newspaper on the intellectual and moral life of the peoples, with special attention to the phenomena related to Germany], a daily issue consisting of 4 pages, numbered and consecutively numbered. At the end of the month, it is published in monthly volumes, and then between the months until the end of the year, it is published in annual volumes. From 1853 to 1864, the magazine adjusted the subtitles to: *Das Ausland. Ein Wochenschrift für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland* [Overseas. Weekly newspaper on the intellectual and moral life of the peoples, with special attention to phenomena related to Germany], published every week a 24-page issue, also numbered and consecutively for to the end of the month and then to the end of the year, and published in volumes month by month and year by year as before. Since 1865, the journal continued to adjust the subtitles to: *Das Ausland. Ueberschau der neuesten Forschungen auf dem Gebiete der Natur-, Erd- und Völkerkunde* [Overseas. Survey of the latest research in the fields of nature, geography and ethnography]. Weekly issues and monthly and yearly volumes will continue. In Issues 90, 15 April 1850; 91, 16 April 1850; 100, 26 April 1850; 101, 27 April 1850 in April Volume, Year 23 - 1850, by Dr. Ed. Widenmann is in charge of editing, *Das Ausland* in turn publishes a research paper titled "Geographie von Cochinchina" [Geography of Cochinchina/Vietnam] by Dr. Güzlaff, which is partially translated based on the publication. Author's publication in *The Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London*, Volume 19, London: John Murray, 1849.

Before referring to the Hoang Sa archipelago, at No. 90, April 15, 1850, the research paper described the overall zoning of the territorial parts of the Vietnamese Empire under the Nguyen Dynasty and the accompanying national titles for readers to read. easy to grasp as follows:

"Das kochinchinesische Reich [Empire of Cochinchina/Vietnam]: Viet-nan, Annan [national name Vietnam, Annam], and under the reigns of contemporary kings "der grozse Süden" [national name Dai Nam]7, is naturally divided into three parts, but politically one can also distinguish the following six parts: 1) Tunkin8 (the eastern capital) or Dang-gnoi [Dong Kinh or Tonkin, from north of the Gianh River to out], the outer region, related to 2) the old Cochinchina, called Dang-trong [In Dang Trong, from the south of Song Gianh to KhanhHoa], the inner region, 3) Tsiampa or Champa [Champa, Ninh Thuan region-BinhThuan], 4) Cambodia or Kamen [Cambodia or Cambodia, from Dong Nai to Ca Mau-Ha Tien], 5) Moi-Gebiet region [Moi/Upper region, only Central Highlands] and 6) Laos-Stämme region [Lao tribes] submit to Annam"9.



Excerpt from a general description of the regions of the Cochin China Empire/Vietnam in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland, N° 90, 15 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, Seite 357.*

At No. 100, April 26, 1850, starting in the "Küsten und Inseln" [Coast and Islands] section of the study is the sea from PhuQuoc island to Hon Khoai, with specific descriptions:

"If sailing along the very low-lying coast of Gosatran (Pursat in Cambodian) [present-day Pursat province in Cambodia, bordering Thailand] from the Siamese island of Kokong, where only mangroves marked the coast, the end With you, you will come to the big island of Kothrol (Phukok [PhuQuoc] in Cochinchinesen [In Cochinchina]), 7 meilen [miles long, 1 meile = 1,609m] and 2 meilen wide, with dense trees, especially agarwood trees. smell. Sea cucumber fishing is practiced along the coast, but the natives here, as elsewhere, do not wade into the sea to catch the animals with their hands, but use spears to stab them. This sea cucumber fishery extends to the important Nhieu-Kulao archipelago [Vietnamese pronunciation: many islands], these islands are overgrown but uninhabited. In addition to sea cucumbers, several types of seaweed (Agar-agar) [jellies] are collected here, which are delicious Chinese dishes by boiling them to form jelly. The coast here is still lower, extends to the west and is frequently flooded. 6 leguas [sea miles, 1 legua = 4,829m], before reaching the southernmost tip of Cambodia [Cape Ca Mau], is PuloUbi False [Banana Island], and 5 sea miles south of the outcrop is Pulo Island Ubi, also known as Hon Kwae [Hon Khoai]. Both get the name Ubi from the huge 40 to 100 pfund yams [pounds, 1 pfund = 0.45359237 kg] that grow wild here; however, both islands have very different soils, as PuloUbi False has dense forests, while PuloUbi has only sparse vegetation"10.

Wenn man von der flammischen Insel Kokong aus der sehr niedrigen Küste von Sotarra (im Cambod. Pursat) entlang fährt, wo nur Mangrove-Bäume das Ufer bezeichnen, kommt man endlich an die große Insel Kotbol (Phukol bei den Cochinchinesen) 7 Meilen lang und 2 Meilen breit, und wohl bewaldet, namentlich mit Adlerholz-Bäumen; an der ganzen Küste wird die Tripangfischerei getrieben, aber die Eingebornen waten hier nicht, wie an andern Orten, ins Meer, um die Thiere mit den Händen zu fangen, sondern durchstossen solche mit Speeren. Diese Tripangfischerei zieht sich bis zu dem bedeutenden Archipel der Nheu-Kulao hin, welche Inseln mit Bäumen überwachsen, aber unbewohnt sind; außer dem Tripang wird hier eine gewisse Art Seetang (Agar-agar) gesammelt, ein Leckerbissen bei den Chinesen, die denselben zu einer Gallerte zusammenkochen. Die Küste ist hier noch niedriger, als weiter gegen Westen und häufigen Ueberschwemmungen ausgesetzt. Sechs Leguas, ehe man an das südlichste Vorgebirge von Cambodien kommt, liegt die Insel Pulo Ubi False, und 5 Leguas südlich von dem Vorgebirge die Insel Pulo Ubi, auch Hon Kwae genannt. Den Namen Ubi haben beide von den ungeheuren 40 bis 100 Pf. schwer werdenden Wurzeln, die hier wild wachsen; dennoch müssen beide Inseln sehr verschiedenen Boden haben, denn Pulo Ubi False ist stark bewaldet, während Pulo Ubi nur eine spärliche Vegetation hat.

eifersüchtigen Buginesen, von denen sich einige im Golde der Engländer befanden, vertiehet sie, die meisten Engländer wurden ermordet, und die Niederlassung mußte aufgegeben werden. Im Osten von Konnon Kondore ragen zwei Felseninseln hervor, welche darum bemerkenswerth sind, weil sie die äußerste Westgränze der in den Chinesischen Meeren so furchtbaren Typhons bezeichnen.

Excerpt describing the sea from Phu Quoc island to Hon Khoai in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland, N° 100, 26 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, Seite 397.*

Next is the description of the sea under Ca Mau cape, from Tho Chu island to Con Dao, that:

"Lying off the southern tip of Cambodia [Ca Mau Cape], about a degree north of Pulo Ubi, is Pulo Panjang [Tho Chu/Tho Chau island], surrounded by very small islands. It was inhabited only occasionally when pirates from Sulu-Inseln [Sulu Islands in the southwest of the Philippines] or Chinese ships came to collect the aforementioned seaweed. The cochinchinesische [Cochin China] government claimed to govern the archipelago, but did nothing to get rid of the pirates that roamed the archipelago and often sabotaged all trade along the Cambodian coast. Further in the sea south of Pulo Panjang is the island of Konnon Kondore [Con Lon/Con Dao] whose high peaks were used as landmarks for ships sailing to China. The island produces a variety of plants and tree species that are rare in other areas, such as the forest cashew [nutrition]. The island that the Cochinchines held so dear was so well located that the British established a colony here at the turn of the last century [1702-1705] and built a fortress; however, it did not last long because of the opposition of British-paid Buginesen mercenaries envious of European trade, most of the British were murdered and the settlement was left unfinished. To the east of Con Dao jut out two rocky islands, which are remarkable because they mark the westernmost extreme of storms, so terrible over the chinesisches [China/East Sea]"¹¹.

Schon jenseits des Südcaps von Cambodien, fast um einen Grad weiter gegen Norden als Pulo Ubi, liegt Pulo Panjang, von sehr kleinen Inseln umgeben. Sie ist nur gelegentlich bewohnt, wenn die Seeräuber von den Sulu-Inseln oder wenn Chinesische Schiffer kommen, welche den oben erwähnten Seetang sammeln. Die cochinchinesische Regierung spricht die Herrschaft über die Inseln an, thut aber nichts um die Seeräuber zu entfernen, welche den Archipel durchstreifen, und oft den ganzen Handel längs der Küste von Cambodien vernichten. Weiter ins Meer hinaus und südlicher als Panjang liegt die Insel Konnon Kondore, deren hohe Gipfel den Chinesischen Schiffen als Landmark dienen. Diese Insel erzeugt eine große Mannichfaltigkeit von Pflanzen und Bäumen, die man in andern Gegenden selten sieht, so z. B. den Milch- und Pechbaum. Diese Insel, auf welche die Cochinchinesen einen großen Werth legen, liegt so günstig, daß die Engländer im Anfang des vorigen Jahrhunderts eine Colonie hier anlegten und ein Fort bauten, was aber nicht lange bestand, denn die auf den europäischen Handel stets

Excerpt describing the sea from Tho Chu island to Con Dao in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland, N° 100, 26 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, Seite 397.*

Regarding geographical features in the East Sea, the study describes the waters of the Paracel Islands with the Vietnamese name transliterated from Cat Vang, demonstrating Vietnam's recognition of the subject's role in these features. This geography. Not only that, the study also recognized that the Vietnamese Government took control there, maintaining the operation of the state-owned tax-collecting boats and having a crew to protect the fishing grounds and fishermen of the country. The author wrote:

"Much further to the northeast (15–20 leguas from the coast of Annam [sea miles, 1 legua = 4,829m], between 13° and 17° north latitude) are Paracels (Katvang) [Hoang Sa] (Golden Sand)], the archipelago, for unknown reasons, grew larger and higher every year, so that some of the islands were permanently inhabited, although a few years ago the waves attacked them fiercely. The islands would be worth nothing if fishing did not produce extraordinary yields, which is why so many sailing ships have long come here from Hainan; and although more than a tenth of them fail every year, the catches are so plentiful that all losses are made up. The Cochinchinesische Regierung [Government of Cochinchina/Vietnam] did not ignore this fact either, [claimed possession since 1816] and maintained tax-collecting boats and a small crew here to protect the fishermen. Their. As a result, a considerable amount of traffic has gradually formed here, as the numerous fish species that come here to spawn are likely to increase further"¹².

Schon viel weiter gegen Nordosten (15—20 Leguas von der Annamküste, 13—17° N.) liegen die Paracels (Katvang), welche Inseln, man weiß nicht aus welchem Grunde, sich mit jedem Jahr mehr erheben, so daß mehrere bereits dauernd bewohnt sind, obgleich noch vor wenigen Jahren die Wellen mit Macht darüber hinschlugen. Die Inseln wären von keinem Werth, wenn die Fischereien nicht einen außerordentlichen Ertrag lieferten, darum kommen auch seit undenklichen Zeiten zahlreiche Dschunken aus Hai-nan, und obwohl mehr als der zehnte Theil jährlich scheitert, so ist doch der Fischfang so reichlich, daß aller Verlust ausgeglichen wird; die cochinchinesische Regierung ließ auch diesen Umstand nicht aus den Augen, und unterhält hier Zollschiffe und eine kleine Besatzung, um ihre eigenen Fischer zu schützen. So hat sich hier allmählich ein bedeutender Verkehr gebildet, der wegen der Unzahl Fische, die hieher zum Laichen kommen, wahrscheinlich noch viel höher steigt.

Excerpt describing the waters of Hoang Sa-Cat Vang archipelago and the management and collection of taxes by the Vietnamese Government in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland, N° 100, 26 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, Seite 397.*

Regarding the coastal waters adjacent to the Hoang Sa archipelago, which are Da Nang Bay and Hoi An port town, the study described in issues 101, 27-4-1850 as follows:

“A little further north, the coast turns northwest for 15 lieues [sea miles, 1 lieu = 4,829m] to the Gulf of Turan [Da Nang], the most famous port on the entire coast, which is connected With Faifo [Hoi An] by a brackish river running parallel to the coast [Co Co River], the largest port of the Chinese and formerly a center of Japanese commerce on this coast, it is still It was a prosperous commercial center. Hon-san-schaisland [Son Tra Island], the estuary of Turan port, has coordinates below 16° 11' north latitude and 108° 15' east longitude. If approaching the harbor from the south, the marble massifs (Dolomites) appear to have a peculiar appearance, contrasting with the rest of the landscape and almost like an island, for the sand around it is very short. The harbor is surrounded by mountains, and only the south side in the direction of Faifo is flat; it is about 8 meilens [mile, 1 meile = 1,609m], but the portion surrounded by mountains at the northeastern and southern corners is very small; even when the weather is nice, big waves hit the shore, endangering the landing”¹³.

Etwas weiter gegen Norden wendet sich die Küste 15 Lieues lang gegen NW nach der Turan-Bay, dem bekanntesten Hafen an der ganzen Küste, welcher durch einen der Küste parallelaufenden Salzwasserfluß mit dem Hafen Faifo verbunden ist, dem größten Emporium für den Chinesischen und ehemals auch für den japanischen Handel an dieser Küste; noch jetzt ist es ein blühender Handelsort. Das östlichste Ende der Insel Hon-san-scha, welches den Hafen von Turan schließt, liegt unter 16° 11' N. B., und 108° 15' O. L. von G. Nähert man sich dem Hafen von Süden her, so erscheinen Massen von Marmorfelsen (Dolomit) von groteskem Aussehen, abstechend von der übrigen Landschaft und fast inselartig, da die Sandstrecke umher sehr niedrig liegt. Der Hafen ist amphitheatralisch von Bergen umgeben, und nur die Südseite in der Richtung von Faifo zeigt ebenen Boden; er ist etwa 8 Meilen breit, aber der von Bergen umschlossene Theil in der NO und S Ecke ist von geringer Ausdehnung; selbst bei schönem Wetter brechen sich schwere Wellen, am Ufer und machen die Landung gefährvoll.

Excerpt describing Da Nang Bay adjacent to the waters of the Paracel Islands in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland*, N° 101, 27 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, seite 404.

In particular, when continuing to describe the waters of Tonkin, the author has made very unique comparisons to affirm that the Vietnamese state attaches great importance to the survey and mapping of the Paracels-Spratlys in the South China Sea. Winter. The author wrote:

“The portion of the coast described so far has been accurately documented, but reports of its further condition are scant, so much of Tunkin Bay [Tien Ngoai] is still considered a coastal area. The sea is not well known. This is all the more astonishing, as the neighboring seas are all more carefully explored, and the annamesische Regierung [Government of Annam] spared no expense and effort to draw accurate maps of the poles. east [map of Hoang Sa-Spratly under Minh Mang Dynasty]. This oblivion was certainly the result of a desire to bury Tunkin in oblivion to protect it from European scrutiny. Therefore, we have very little to say about the last part of the

coast. The last coastal town in Cochinchina [Cochinchina] was Kwan-Binh [QuangBinh]”¹⁴.

Der bisher beschriebene Theil der Küste ist genau aufgenommen, über den weitern Verlauf derselben sind aber die Berichte sehr spärlich, so daß der Golf von Tunkin noch größtentheils als ein unbekanntes Meer zu betrachten ist. Dieß muß um so mehr verwundern, da die benachbarten Meere um so genauer erforscht worden sind, und die annamesische Regierung selbst weder Kosten, noch Mühe gespart hat, genaue Karten davon entwerfen zu lassen. Diese Vernachlässigung entsprang ohne Zweifel aus dem Wunsche, Tunkin in Vergessenheit zu begraben, und es vor der spürsamem Neugier der Europäer zu schützen. Darum haben wir über den letzten Theil der Küste wenig zu sagen. Die letzte Seestadt in Cochinchina ist Kwan-Binh.

Excerpts affirming that the Vietnamese state attaches great importance to mapping the easternmost Paracel-Spratly seas in a German publication published in 1850: *J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland*, N° 101, 27 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850, seite 404.

The German geographical publication recognized the Vietnamese king's legal possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816

Following the 1831 edition in Weimar city, which was translated from the English publication of John Crawfurd mentioned above, the works of German geographers also quickly voiced their recognition of the fact that the Hoang Sa archipelago was occupied by Vietnam. King of Vietnam in 1816 as the new geographical knowledge of the world. The most significant of these is the series of works "Die Erdkunde" [Geography] consisting of many parts, volumes and volumes by the famous geographer Carl Ritter, published in the city of Berlin for a long time from 1817 until 1859. The fact that the Vietnamese king took possession of the Hoang Sa archipelago in 1816 has not been shown in the Asian part in the series of works "Die Erdkunde" by Carl Ritter in the first edition since 1817/15; but in reprints from 1832 onwards, Carl Ritter actively increased the number of additions and revisions in many places, including that content. In the 1834 reprint, the title of the first cover read: Die Erdkunde von Asien- Band III. Der Süd-Osten von Hoch-Asien, dessen Wassersysteme und Gliederung gegen Osten und Süden [Geography of Asia-Volume III. Mainland Southeast Asia, its water systems and structures in the east and south]; and the title on the second cover is: Die Erdkunde im Verhältniß zur Natur und zur Geschichte des Menschen, oder allgemeine vergleichende Geographie, als sichere Grundlage des Studiums und Unterrichts in physikalischen und historischen Wissenschaften. Asien, Band III [Geography in relation to nature and human history, or, General comparative geography, as a safe basis for the study and teaching of the natural and historical sciences- Part fourth, Second volume. Asia, Volume III]¹⁶.

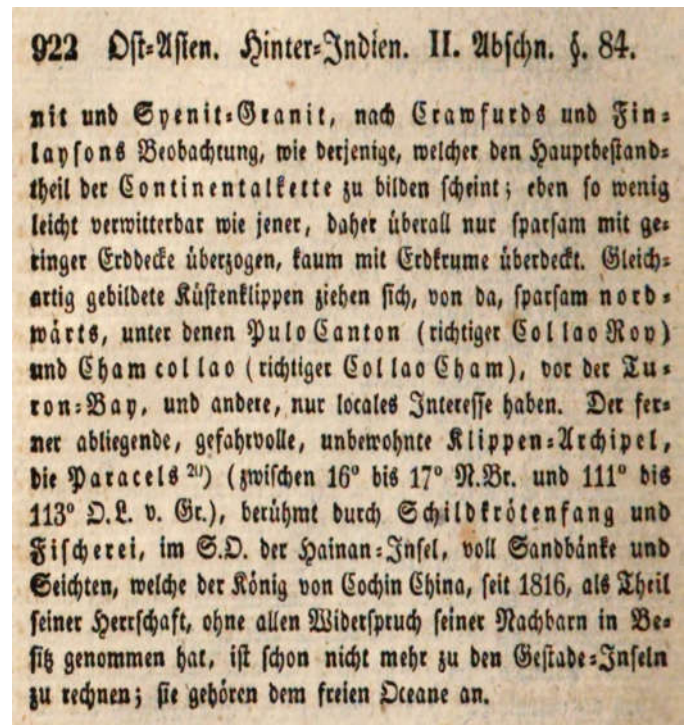
In the contents of Volume III, reprinted 1834, at "Zweite Abtheilung: Die Uebergangsformen des östlichen Hoch-Asiens zum Tieflande, oder dessen Wassersysteme und Stufenländer, im Osten und Süden" [Second Part: Transitional Forms from Continent" East Asia to the lowlands, or the water system and its terraces to the east and south]; in "Zweiter Abschnitt: Die Uebergangsformen des östlichen

Hoch-Asiens zum Tieflande, oder dessen Wassersysteme, Stufenländer und Gliederungen zum Süden in Hinter-Indien" [Second entry: Transitional forms from mainland East Asia to the lowlands, or water its system, steps and structures south of India]; in "\$. 84. Erstes Kapitel: Das Ostgestadeland Hinter-Indiens, Tongking, Cochin China, Cambodja. Uebersicht des gegenwärtigen Cochin Chinesischen Reiches" [\$ 84. Chapter One: The country across the East Indies, Tonkin, Cochin China, Cambodia. Overview of the current Cochin China/Vietnam Empire], from page 911 to page 1063; in subsection "4. Die Gestade - Inseln" [4. Coast - Islands], the book describes in detail the coast of Cochinchine/Vietnam with islands near the shore and mentions the event that the Vietnamese king/Gia Long claimed possession of the Hoang Sa archipelago in the ocean in 1816 without There are international disputes as follows:

"This coastal area has many islands, but only the small coastal islands to the northeast of Hainan big island have changed. It appears that the depths of the Sunda Sea, apparently from points south of Malacca, Sumatra and Java, in the mighty island belt around the Chinesische See [Chinese sea/South China Sea] to Manillas, Luçon [in the Philippines], Formosa [...] Taiwan], at a greater distance from the coast, crosses the most islands; The energy on the islands has been exhausted to push many insignificant pieces of old cliffs off this stretch of coast in the South China Sea, close to the mainland. They only come near the coastal edge.

Some islands located at the innermost corner of the Gulf of Siam, such as KoKran Island (below 13° North latitude), are still inhabited by the Cochin Chinese [Cochinchine/Vietnamese] settlers, but belong to Siam like other islands southeast of Ko Kong (see above, page 912)¹⁷. Larger island groups from there run to the southeast of Pulo Ubi [Hòn Khoai] opposite Kambodja-Spitze [Cape of Cambodia/ Cape Ca Mau], where it is named Hastings-Archipelagus [Ha Tien Archipelago], including the islands of Pulo Panjang [Tho Chau island/Tho Chu] and Pulo We [in the Gulf of Siam], located in waters wholly belonging to Cochin China [Cochin China]. Most of the islands are small, steep, deserted, densely wooded, and uninhabited. The island of Pulo Condore [Con Lon/Con Dao] is very interesting, where there are dozens of smaller cliffs, the mountainous nature of Cochin Chinas [Dang Trong/Vietnam] also begins with the island formation process; as it is the first steep island with high mountains of primary rock and favorable harbor formation, which characterizes the entire steep coastline of Cochin Chinesische [Cochin China]; and as observed by Crawford and Finlayson¹⁸, the mountain type of the island is gray granite and syenite-granite [a coarse-grained intrusive magmatic rock with a composition close to that of granite], as that seems to form the main component of the rock. continental chain; they are less weathered, so there is only a thin layer of soil spread everywhere, almost no soil layer is covered. The coastal cliffs were formed in a similar fashion, shifting from there to the north, including Pulo Canton (or rather Col lao Roy) [Ly Son island, or Cu Lao Ray/Ré] and Cham col lao (or rather Col lao Cham) [Cu Lao Cham], in front of Turon Bay [Da Nang], and other places that are purely local. The remote, dangerous, uninhabited cliff archipelago is the Paracels [Paracel Islands] (between 16° and 17° North latitude and 111° to 113° East longitude), famous for turtle fishing. and fish, located southeast of Hainan Island, consisting of small sandy islets and shoals claimed by König von Cochin China [king of

Cochinchina/Vietnam], since 1816, to be his possession. without any objections from neighboring countries; they are not coastal islands, but in the middle of a vast ocean."¹⁹



Excerpts describing the coast of Cochinchina and recognizing the Vietnamese king's possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816 without international dispute, in a German publication republished in 1834:

Ritter (Carl), *Die Erdkunde von Asien- Band III. Der Süd-Osten von Hoch-Asien, dessen Wassersysteme und Gliederungen gegen Osten und Süden (Die Erdkunde im Verhältniß zur Natur und zur Geschichte des Menschen, oder allgemeinvergleichende Geographie, als sichere Grundlage des Studiums und Unterrichts in physikalischen und historischen Wissenschaften- Viertes Theil, Zweites Buch. Asien, Band III)*, Zweite stark vermehrte und umgearbeitete Ausgabe, Berlin: Gedruckt und verlegt bei Georg Reimer, 1834, Seite 921-922.

The encyclopedia of Germany recognized the Vietnamese king's legal possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816

The recognition of the official occupation of the Paracel Islands by the Vietnamese state in 1816 was also included in the massive German encyclopedia entitled: *Encyclopädie der Erd-, Völker- und Staatenkunde. Encyclopedia of the Earth, People and State Institutions*, edited by Dr. Wilhelm Hoffmann, published in Leipzig between 1862 and 1869, divided into 3 volumes:

Volume I: "A" to "I", published in 1862.

Volume II: from "K" to "Radruz", published in 1866.

Volume III: from "Radsberg" to "Z", published in 1869.

In Volume I: Hoffmann (Wilhelm), *Encyclopädie der Erd-, Völker- und Staatenkunde, eine geographisch-statistische Darstellung der Erdtheile, Länder, Meere, Inseln, Gebirge, Berge, Vorgebirge, Buchten, Häfen, Flüsse, Seen, Städte, Flecken, Dörfer, Bäder, Berg- und Hüttenwerke, Leuchttürme, Kanäle, Eisenbahnen, usw., nebst den geographisch-astronomischen Bestimmungen der Lage der Orte* [Encyclopedia of the Earth, Peoples and State Institutions, description, description statistics-geography of parts of the earth, countries, seas, islands, mountain ranges, mountains, outcrops, bays, ports, rivers, lakes, peoples, states, cities,

places, villages, mineral springs, iron mines, lighthouses, canals, railways, etc., together with the geo-astronomical positions of the sites], Erster Band, A bis I, Leipzig: ArnoldischeBuchhandlung, 1862, entry: "An-nam, Ai-Nam, En-Nam" [An Nam/Vietnam], from page 87 to page 88, overview of the coast and islands of the empire and the possession of the Paracel Islands by the Vietnamese king Male in 1816 was c he received the following:

"On the coast there are many different large and small islands; In particular, the southwestern coast of the Gulf of Siam has a dense island chain stretching along the coast of Siam (see Horsburgh's charts) 20. The largest island is Koh-Dud or Fuh-Koh [PhuQuoc] (10o 40' North latitude, 103o 13' East longitude). It is located at the northernmost point of Hastings Islands [Ha Tien], and the southernmost point is Cape Cambodja [Cambodia, ie Cape Ca Mau], Pulo-Obi [Hon Khoai] in the southeast-southeast direction from the south of PhuQuoc Island ; the coast has Poulo-Babi island [Hon Tai?]; The southwest corner includes a group of seven small islands, Hong-co-Throng [Cu Tron/Cò Tre, presumably Nam Du archipelago], to the southeast of Koh-Kong [in the Gulf of Siam, now part of Cambodia]; the west-southwest corner is Poulo-Panjang [Tho Chau island/Tho Chu, now part of KienGiang]; southeast is False-Oby [Banana Island]; south-southeast is Puolo-Oby [Hon Khoai]. Facing the southeast coast is Pulo-Condore [Con Lon/Con Dao] with several surrounding small islands. The island consists of gray granite and syenite-granite [coarse-grained intrusive magmatic rock with a composition close to that of granite] forming a high sloping mountain range, but with a fine harbor. The northeast direction between less than 10o North latitude and 108o 58' East longitude is Pulo-Sapota island [Hon Hai/Hon Kham, 65km south of PhuQuy island in BinhThuan]; to the northwest is Catwick Island [Large Island and Small Island, 60 km southeast and south of PhuQuy Island]; To the north is Ceicer de Mer [PhuQuy Island, or Cu Lao Thu in BinhThuan], and closer to the coast is Ceicer de Terre [Cu Lao Cau/Cau in BinhThuan], in the middle of the Legan cape [Long Son] /Mui Ne] and Padaran [MuiDinh/Mui Ca Na, 40 km south of Phan Rang]; to the north near the coast is Bamboo Island [Hon Tre, in KhanhHoa]; N. vom Cap Varela; near the northern coast of Cape Varela [Mui Dai Lanh/MuiDien/Mui Nay/Mui Kite in Phu Yen] is the island of Pulo-Cambir [Green Isle, in BinhDinh]; continuing to the north are the islands of Turtle, Collao-Eiland (15o 12' North latitude, 108o 58' East longitude) [Cu Lao Re/Ray, ie Ly Son island in Quang Ngai]; to the northwest is False-Callao, Cham-Callao [Cu Lao Cham, in Quang Nam]. Off the east coast of the China Sea [Chinese Sea/East Sea] is a group of dangerous uninhabited cliffs named Paracel-Inseln [Paracel Islands] (from 15o 45' to 17o north latitude and 111o 13' to 112o 43' East longitude), possessed since 1816 by Könige von Cochinchina [King of Cochinchina] and quite effective for catching turtles and fish. The most remote part of this archipelago to the southwest is Triton Island [Tri Ton]; to the northeast is the island of Passo-Keak [Bach Quy]; north-northwest is the island group of Drummond [DuyMong]; to the west is Money Island [Light]; the easternmost is Lincoln Island [Linh Con]; Woody Island [Phu Lam] is located in the northwest; north-northwest and the northernmost is the Amphitrite group of islands [An Vinh group of islands]. Next, near the east-northeast coast is Cape Lay, Tiger Island; to the northwest are the islands of Sovel, Frakaki...etc. [coastal islands in the Gulf of Tonkin]21.

An der Küste liegen größere und kleinere Inseln; besonders ist die S. = Westküste im Meerbusen von Siam mit einer mehrfachen dichten Reihe besetzt, die an der Küste von Siam hin sich erstreckt (s. Horsburgh's Chart). Die größere ist Koh=Dud oder Fuh=Koh (10° 40' N. 103° 13' O. Grw.). Sie ist die nördlichste des Hastings=Archipels, und die südlichste, S. vom Cap Cambodja, Pulo=Obi, DSD. von der Südspitze von Koh=Dud; an der Küste, das Giland Pulo=Babi; SW. davon die Gruppe von sieben Gilanden, Hong=co=Throng; SD. dabei Koh=Kong; SSW. Poulo=Panjang; SD. Falso=Dby; SED. Puolo=Dby. Der SDKüste gegenüber liegt Pulo=Con=dore mit mehreren nahen Gilanden. Sie besteht aus grauem und Syenit=Granit, der ein steiles Hochgebirge bildet, hat aber gute Häfen. ND. davon, unter 10° N. 108° 58' O. Grw., liegt das Giland Pulo=Sapota, NW. dabei Catwick; N. Ceicer de Mer; N., der Küste nahe Ceicer de Terre, zwischen den Vorgebirgen Legan u. Badaran; nördlicher, an der Küste, die Tre=Insel; N. vom Cap Varela, an der Küste, das Giland Pulo=Cambir; nördlicher das Giland Turtle; nördlicher Collao=Giland (15° 12' N. 108° 58' O. Grw.); NW. Falso=Callao; NW. Cham=Callao; D. davon, der Küste fern im Meer von China, der unbewohnte und der Schifffahrt gefährliche Klippen=Archipel, die Paracel=Inseln (zwischen 15° 45' u. 17° u. 111° 13' u. 112° 43' O. Grw.), der seit 1816 vom Könige von Cochinchina in Besitz genommen und ergiebig für Schildkrötensfang und Fischerei ist. Das südwestlichste ist das Triton=Giland; ND. davon Passo=Keak; NW. Drummond's Giland; W. Money's Giland; die östlichste Lincoln=Giland; NW. Woody=Giland; NW., u. die nördlichsten, die Amphitrite=Gilande. Der Küste nahe, DSD. vom Cap Lay, Tiger=Giland; NW. Sovel=Giland; NW. Frakaki; N. Vouan und die

Excerpts describing the coast of Annam and recognizing the Vietnamese king's possession of the Paracel Islands in 1816 in the German encyclopedia 1862:Hoffmann (Wilhelm), *Encyclopädie der Erd-, Völker- und Staatenkunde, Erster Band, A bis I, Leipzig: ArnoldischeBuchhandlung, 1862, seite 87.*

Conclusion

There are quite a few publications published in countries around the world before 1909 mentioning and recognizing the official possession of the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa archipelagoes by the Vietnamese state since 1816, including Germany, which we have controlled. we are talking about. From the publications published in Germany before the 20th century cited above, it can be affirmed that they are objective international historical data affirming Vietnam's indisputable sovereignty over the two Hoang Sa and Truong Sa, meeting the search, gathering and use needs of a large number of world marine and island researchers.

Note

1. The author has invested a lot of effort to complete the research paper.
2. John Crawford, originally from Scotland, was sent by Governor General Hastings of Great Britain in India as an ambassador from Singapore to Siam and Vietnam. During nearly two and a half months in Vietnam [17.8 - 31.10.1822], Crawford had the opportunity to visit Ca Mau, Hon Khoai, PhuQuoc, Con Dao, Can Gio, Saigon, Da Nang, Hue, Da Nang and Hoi. An, Da Nang for field survey for many days. More details about John Crawford can be found at: Nguyen QuangTrung Tien, "Appraisal of the first international edition to recognize the unified state of Vietnam under King Gia Long's official possession of the Paracel-Spratly Islands in 1816", Da Nang Socio-Economic Development, ISSN 1859-3437, No. 145, 01.2022, p. 40-49.
3. ³Crawford (John), *Journal of an Embassy from the Governor-General of India to the Courts of Siam and Cochinchina; exhibiting a view of the actual state of those kingdoms*, (London: Henry Colburn, New Burlington Street, 1828).
4. Before 1834, the nouns Cochinchina, Cochinchinesen, kochinchinesische cited in this article were used internationally in the old sense as the land of

- Cochinchina/Nam Ha. In many specific contexts, it is also used by European and American countries as a synonym for the Annam empire or Vietnam [the national title of King Gia Long and Minh Mang in the period 1804-1838]. Since 1834, when King Minh Mang divided the administrative area of Cochinchina from Bien Hoa province back, this name still refers to the land of Dang Trong. After the two treaties of Harmand and Patenôtre in 1883 and 1884, that name changed completely to the meaning of Cochinchina, but in some contexts it can still be used in the sense of Cochinchina.
5. In the text, the words in parentheses (...) are from the original cited text; and the words in brackets [...] are ours to use for direct explanation to help readers follow along. In cases where longer explanations or illustrations are required, we number the footnotes.
 6. ⁶ Crawford (John), *Tagebuch der Gesandtschaft an die Höfe von Siam und Cochinchina*, Aus dem Englischen, (Weimar: Im Verlage des Großh. Sächs. priv. Landes-Industrie-Comptoirs, 1831), 712-713.
 7. The national name of Kings Gia Long and Minh Mang in the period 1804-1838 was Vietnam, from 1838 King Minh Mang changed it to Dai Nam.
 8. Before 1834, the noun Tonkin cited in this article also had the old meaning of the land of Dang Ngoai/Bac Ha. Only after 1834, when King Minh Mang of the Nguyen Dynasty divided the administrative area of Tonkin from NinhBinh province onwards, did that name begin to associate with the meaning of Tonkin, but there are still many documents that continue to be used according to the meaning of Tonkin. the meaning of Tonkin, depending on the context.
 9. ⁹ J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, *Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland*, N^o 90, 15 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, (Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850), 357.
 10. ^{10, 11, 12} J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, *Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland*, N^o 100, 26 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, (Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850), 397.
 11. ^{13, 14} J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, *Das Ausland. Ein Tagblatt für Kunde des geistigen und sittlichen Lebens der Völker, mit besonderer Rücksicht auf verwandte Erscheinungen in Deutschland*, N^o 101, 27 April 1850, Dreiundzwanzigster Jahrgang - 1850, April, (Stuttgart und Tübingen: Verlag der J. G. Cotta'schen Buchhandlung, 1850), 404.
 12. ¹⁵ Ritter (Carl), *Die Erdkunde im Verhältnis zur Natur und zur Geschichte des Menschen, oder allgemeine, vergleichende Geographie, als sichere Grundlage des Studiums und Unterrichts in physikalischen und historischen Wissenschaften*, Erster Theil, (Berlin: Bei G. Reimer, 1817).
 13. ¹⁶ Ritter (Carl), *Die Erdkunde von Asien- Band III. Der Süd-Osten von Hoch-Asien, dessen Wassersysteme und Gliederung gegen Osten und Süden (Die Erdkunde im Verhältnis zur Natur und zur Geschichte des Menschen, oder allgemeine, vergleichende Geographie, als sichere Grundlage des Studiums und Unterrichts in physikalischen und historischen Wissenschaften, Viertes Theil, Zweites Buch. Asien, Band III), Zweite stark vermehrte und umgearbeitete Ausgabe*, (Berlin: Gedruckt und verlegt bei Georg Reimer, 1834).
 14. Footnotes in parentheses are from Carl Ritter in the original.
 15. Explorers and geographers with published work.
 16. Ritter (Carl), *Die Erdkunde von Asien- Band III* (op. cit., 1834), 921-922.
 17. Footnotes in parentheses are from Wilhelm Hoffmann in the original.
 18. Hoffmann (Wilhelm), *Encyklopädie der Erd-, Völker- und Staatenkunde*, Erster Band, A bis I, (Leipzig: Arnoldische Buchhandlung, 1862), 87.

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