

出國報告（出國類別：移地研究）

季風亞洲與多元文化

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Abstract 摘要：

The report describes the Purpose, Procedure, and obtained Results of a mission to Bangkok (Thailand) undertaken on July 16-18, 2009. The main goal of the mission was to inspect the fire arms located in the Museum of Weaponry of the Ministry of Defense in order to identify the cannons produced by Joao da Cruz (1610?-1682), a half-Portuguese founder employed by the King of Cochinchina (Central Vietnam) and to take pictures of the inscriptions made by Joao on the cannons. When this part of the mission was accomplished, the investigator visited three more exhibitions of old weaponry located in Bangkok and discovered, in the National Museum, two more cannons most likely made by Joao in 1651 during his stay in Cambodia (identified by the Museum staff as “cannons of Spanish origin”). The results of the mission will be used in a forthcoming paper on the transfer of Western technological expertise into Vietnam in the late 17th- early 18th centuries.

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一、Purpose 目的：

The objectives of the mission were as follows:

- to perform a preliminary inspection of the old cannons exposed at the Ministry of Defense of Thailand; to identify the cannons made in the 17th century by Joao da Crus (ca. 1610?-1682), a half-Portugues founder active at the Royal Court of Hue (Cochinchina, currently Vietnam) and, if possible, to photograph the inscriptions on these cannons;
- to investigate the cannons in the exposition of the Museum of the Royal Palace (Bangkok);
- to investigate the pieces of weaponry exposed at the National Museum of Thailand.

The investigation of the above-mentioned cannons made by Joao da Crus was necessary for the completion of my paper on the activity of Jesuits in Cochinchina (Central Vietnam) in the late 17th - early 18th century. The investigation of other museums and exhibitions was conducted in order to check whether other pieces of weaponry made in Vietnam in the same period are presented in the museums.

二、Procedure 過程：

The inspection included four visits: (1) to the exposition of the old weapons of the Ministry of Defense; (2) exposition of fire-arms in the Royal Palace; (3) exposition of the National Museum of Thailand, and (4) exposition of old fire-arms at the Thammasat University (Bangkok). When visiting each exhibition, I took pictures of the pieces of weaponry related to the aims of the visit, and took notes.

三、心得及建議：

The investigation was completed in one day (July 17, 2009). All the projected activities were accomplished. The results are as follows:

- the collection of cannons exposed at the Ministry of Defense indeed includes two cannons made by Joao (the posters next to the cannons erroneously call him “Loao da Cruz” and mention that he was a half-Portuguese Jesuit, which is wrong – Joao was not a Jesuit). I was able to take the pictures of the cannons, and these pictures will be used in my future publication (with the credits to the “Monsoon Asia project” for the financial support);
- the collection of cannons exposed outside of the Museum of the Royal Palace was investigated and numerous photographs were taken;
- the visit to National Museum was highly successful: two cannons most likely founded by Joao in Cambodia in 1651 were found in the collection (their descriptions suggested by the Museum erroneously identify them as cannons of Spanish origin);
- two large cannons near the Museum were inspected and their pictures, taken;
- a collection of the cannons next to the main building of the Thammasat University was inspected, and the pictures of the cannons were taken.

To conclude, the mission to Bangkok was very successful: all the projected objectives were achieved, and new results were obtained.



Fig. 1. A cannon at the Ministry of Defense of Thailand



Fig. 2. A cannon exposed outside of the Thai History Pavilion of the National Museum.



Fig. 3. Cannons exposed at the entrance of the Thammasat University.