

THE VIETNAM MILITARY HISTORY MUSEUM



The main entrance

The Vietnam Military History Museum is one of the six national museums and is the head one in the Military Museum system. It currently stores and displays more than 15,000 documents and artifacts, including many unique collections and 4 National Treasures, which are: MiG-21 aircraft No.4324; MiG-21 aircraft No. 5121, Map "Determination of the Ho Chi Minh Campaign" and T-54B tank No. 843.

The museum's display system introduces thousands of artifacts, images, auxiliary scientific materials, documentaries and sand-models that reflect Vietnam's military history over thousands of years of national construction and defence. The display is introduced according to the historical process from the Hung Kings era to the Ho Chi Minh era with two great wars of resistance against the French and the Americans; the museum has 4 special exhibition rooms and an outdoor display. Especially, there is a flag tower - a national historical monument in Hanoi with unique architecture.



The Flag Tower of Hanoi is situated within the museum complex

THE MUSEUM'S DISPLAY SYSTEM

The Era of Hung Kings, King An Duong Vuong to pre - 1930

The Vietnamese military history since the formation of the first state (Van Lang State) until the country gained independence (in 938 AD); the process of fighting against invading enemies of feudal dynasties to the beginning of the twentieth century.

The Vietnamese military history from 1930 to 1953

The Communist Party of Vietnam was born and the formation of Vietnamese revolutionary armed organizations in the struggle movement of the masses under the leadership of the Communist Party, especially the Vietnam Propaganda Liberation Army Team smashing the yoke of foreign invaders and feudal regime, seizing power to establish the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (period 1930 - 1945). The process of developing guerrilla warfare and building forces during the resistance war against the French (period 1946 - 1953).

The Winter - Spring Strategic Strike 1953 - 1954 and the Dien Bien Phu Campaign

The combat process in the period of Winter – Spring of 1953 - 1954, the fighting determination of the Vietnamese people and army to gain victory in Dien Bien Phu Campaign in 1954, forcing the French to sign the Geneva Peace Agreement to end the war and restore peace in Indochina.

The Vietnamese military history from 1954 to 1968

The Vietnamese people built an army which was strong enough to meet the demand for reinforcement of the southern revolution against the Americans; the neo-American colonialism was defeated by the revolutionary movements in South Vietnam. The "special war" and "local war" strategies met with the same fate, culminating in the General Offensive and Uprising of the Spring 1968 (or the Tet Offensive).

The Vietnamese military history from 1969 to 1974

The Vietnamese people and army collaborated with the people of Laos and Cambodia to defeat the "Vietnamization of war" and "Indochinaization of war" strategies conducted by the Americans. In the North, the Vietnamese people and army defeated the second destructive air war, culminating in the victory of "the Dien Bien Phu in the Air" in 1972, forcing the U.S to sign the Paris Peace Agreement, withdrawing U.S troops from South Vietnam. In the South, the people and the army maintained liberated regions, creating an opportunity to liberate the whole of South Vietnam.

The General Offensive and Uprising in 1975

The General Offensive and Uprising in 1975 with the Tay Nguyen Highland Campaign, the Hue - Da Nang Campaign and the culmination being the historic Ho Chi Minh Campaign marked a victorious end to the resistance war against the Americans.



Special display

- Homemade weapons: Introducing the collection of Vietnamese rudimentary and hand-made weapons used to fight the enemy throughout 30 years of the liberation war (1945 - 1975).



- The Ho Chi Minh Trail: The symbol of the will to unify the land of the Vietnamese people.
- The world support to Vietnam during the war: Reflecting the assistance from countries around the world for the righteous resistance war of the Vietnamese people.
- The “Vietnamese heroic mothers”: Reflecting the role of the Vietnamese women in the resistance wars for independence.

Outdoor display

The outdoor display shows weapons and war equipment of the Vietnamese people and army in the resistance war against the French and the Americans and the cannons of the Nguyen Dynasty.



NATIONAL TREASURES

MiG-21 Aircraft, No. 4324

MiG-21 aircraft, No. 4324, delivered by the Soviet Union to Vietnam in 1967, used by Regiment 921, Division 371. From January 1967 to May 1969, nine pilots in turn used this aircraft to shoot down 14 U.S. aircraft. Eight of these pilots were awarded the title of “Hero of the Armed Forces”.



MiG-21 Aircraft, No. 5121

MiG-21 aircraft, No. 5121, delivered by the Soviet Union to Vietnam in 1972, used by Regiment 921, Division 371. This MiG shot down 5 U.S. aircraft, including a B-52 strategic bomber which was shot down by pilot Pham Tuan on the night of December 27, 1972. This is the first and the only MiG aircraft manned by the Vietnamese Air Force that shot down a B-52 Flying Fortress.



The Map of "Determination of the Ho Chi Minh Campaign"

This map was used from 15 to 21 April 1975, at the Headquarters of the Ho Chi Minh Campaign (Loc Ninh, Tay Ninh, now in Binh Phuoc province). The map was completed after many adjustments, additions and consultations of the Operation Command, the Central Military Commission and the Politburo on the operational plan of the Ho Chi Minh Campaign. This is a rectangular map, with 12 pieces, having the title on it "Determination of the Ho Chi Minh Campaign".



T-54B Tank No. 843

T-54B tank, No. 843, delivered by the Soviet Union, used by Company 4, Battalion 1, Brigade 203, Army Corps 2. During the 1975 General Offensive, tank No. 843 participated in the liberation of Hue and Da Nang, then continued its operation to liberate the coastal provinces in the Central region. From April 26-29, 1975, tank No. 843 participated in the battle at Nuoc Trong base (Long Thanh, Dong Nai), a "gateway" to Saigon. At noon on April 30, 1975, T-54B tank No. 843 entered the Independence Palace in Sai Gon, enabling the liberation forces to control the Independence Palace, ending the Ho Chi Minh Campaign.

