MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
HANOI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION

DINH NGOC RUAN

PROCESS OF FIGHT AGAINST THE "SPECIAL WAR" STRATEGY OF THE USA IN LAOS (1959-1968)

Specialization: World History
Code: 62.22.03.11

SUMMARY OF PHD THESIS IN HISTORY

HANOI – 2017

THE WORK IS COMPLETED AT:

HANOI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION

***Science instructors*: 1. Assoc. Prof. PhD Do Thanh Binh**

2. Assoc. Prof. PhD Nguyen Thi Hanh

***Reviewer 1*: Assoc. Prof. PhD Vo Kim Cuong**

Historical Studies

***Reviewer 2*: Assoc. Prof. PhD Nguyen Cong Khanh**

Vinh University

***Reviewer 3*: Assoc. Prof. PhD Van Ngoc Thanh**

Hanoi National University of Education

The thesis will be protected bin front of the Thesis Review Board: HNUE

Meeting in: Hanoi National University of Education

At ..... hour .....minute, date ..... month ..... year 2017

The thesis can be found at the library:

- National Library of Viet Nam
- Library of Hanoi National University of Education

LIST OF THE WORKS OF THE AUTHOR RELATED TO THESIS

1. Dinh Ngoc Ruan (2015), *Divide the alliance between neutral forces and revolutionary forces - a trick of the United States during the implementation of the "special war" strategy in Laos*, Tay Bac University, No. 3, ISSN 2354-1091, p. 90 - p. 95
2. Dinh Ngoc Ruan (2016), *Looking back on the policy of enlistment and alliance with the patriotic neutral forces of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party during the resistance war against America* (*1955-1975)*, Southeast Asia Studies Journal, No. 5 (194), May 2016, ISSN 0868-2739, p.64 - p.70
3. Dinh Ngoc Ruan (2016), *Lao People's Party with flexible application of forms of fight in the fight against US special war strategy (1959-1968)*, Indian And Asia Studies Journal, No. 11 (48), November 2016, ISSN 0866-7314, p. 28 - p. 33.
4. Dinh Ngoc Ruan (2016), *The Process of Deploying the "US Special War in Laos and its Defeat (1959-1968)*, University level topic.
5. Dinh Ngoc Ruan (2017), *The policy of the Lao People's Party in the struggle movement against the US Special Warfare Strategy in Laos (1959-1968)*, Southeast Asian Studies Journal, No. 5 (206), May 2017, ISSN 0868-2739, p.65 - p.71.

PREFACE

1. Rational

After the French colonialists invaded Laos, from 1959 onwards, the United States conducted a "Special War" strategy for the Lao people. This is a form of war of neo-colonialism, which was conducted from 1959 to 1968. At the same time, the fight against this war strategy of the people of Laos was very strong, intense, on the political, diplomatic and military fight aspects in the years (1959-1962), and subsequently expanded in the economic, cultural, social, seducing the bandit, against "Psychological warfare", the enemy's propaganda in the years (1962-1968). This topic, therefore, has been the interest of many Laotian and international scholars. However, the classification of the "Special War" into two periods in order to understand the development, the similarities, and the differences between the previous period with the latter and the war against the "Special War" and Vietnamese people's "Civil War" has not been researched appropriately. Moreover, identifying the "Special War"'s achievements, limitations, and its impacts on the Laotian people and Vietnamese revolution has been under-researched. In addition, there is a dearth of studies focusing the lessons learned from the "Special War" for the current revolution for Laotian and Vietnamese people. There is a need to address the above essential issues.

In addition, as we know, in the historical process against US in order to save Laos nation, Laotian people, Laotian People's Party, and Patriotic Laos Front played a critically important role. In practice, there have been research into the above issues by Laotian and international scholars. However, the focus of these studies was on the description of the leadership, while the information about Laotian People's Party and Laotian Patriotic Front has not been paid attention. Thus, the present study aimed to clarify the Laotian People's Party and Laotian Patriotic Front's positions and their roles in leading and gathering Laotian people to gain victory in Amerian "Sepcial War" in Laos. The study also investigated the support of international friends for Laotian Revolution when conducting research into the process of the Laotian People's fight against the "Special War" from 1959-1968.

Together with the Laotian People's Party and Patriotic Front, during the years against the "Special War", the neutral forces in Laos played a prominent role. This is not only an important feature of the Laotian people's fight against the "Special War" that the alliance of neutral forces with revolutionary forces has become an important contributor to victory of the Laotian revolution in 1959-1968. For that reason, clarifying the role of neutral forces is a very necessary issue, an important reason that the author identifies in the process of the thesis. By studying and analyzing the role of patriotic neutral forces, it will show the ability and limitations of this force to be exploited during the next revolutionary period in Laos as well as to have reference value for gathering, using the "third force" of the Vietnamese revolution.

It should be noted that pervious studies into the wars against the "Special War" empahsised on America's plot, quackery, and implimentaion in Laos, while the research into differences and similarities between the "Special War"

in Vietnam and Laos are scant. This is a gap that the present study aimed to address in order to clarify the process of Laotian People's fight against the "Special War".

On the other hand, a factor contributing to the victory of the war gainst the "Special War" of Laotian People is the solidarity between Laos and Vietnam. Therefore, the study is significant by providing a catalyst for scholars in the field of Laos-Vietnam relationship to analyse the foundation and development of this relationship between two countries in each period of history. The study also raises awareness of two Parties, people of two countries, and two States in respecting and mainting their solidarity and friendship, particularly in reinforcing the collaboration between two countries in buiding and developing their countires.

The above review indicates a need to conduct the study "**The process of the war against the American "Special War" in Laos *(1959-1968)"***.

2. The purposes and task of the thesis

2.1. The purposes of the thesis

The purpose of this thesis is to further explore the process of Laotian people's war against the US "Special War". On that basis, the thesis clarifies the results, limitations, impacts, and draws on valuable lessons to fulfill the gaps such as a comparison between the US "Special War" strategy in Laos and that in Vietnam, clarifying the role of the Laotian People's Party and Patriotic Front, highlighting the prominent role of patriotic neutral forces, etc.

2.2. Thesis tasks

To achieve the above purposes, the thesis will focus on:

- Analyzing factors influencing the process of fighting the "Special War" of the Laotian people through the two phases of 1959-1962 and 1962-1968

- Clarifying the policy, guidelines and process of the fight of the Laotian People's Party and Laotian people against the "Special War" of the United States through the stages.

- Evaluating the process of the war against the "Special War"andits results and impacts, drawing on the lessons learned in order to apply to Laos' process of developing and protecting the nation, and providing the reference for Vietnamses Revolution.

3. Object and scope of the thesis

3.1. Object

The research object of the thesis is the Laotian people's fight against the "Special War" strategy from 1959 to 1968.

3.2. Study scope of the thesis

Space: The fight of the Laotian people nationwide

Time: The thesis marks the beginning of 1959, beginning with the first resolution of the Laotian People's Party against the "Special War" (6/1959). The ending point is in 1968, with the victory of the Nam Bac campaign (1/1968) - a victory that forced the United States to scale down the war and move to a "Special War Strengthened" strategy.

About the content: The fight against the "Special War" strategy of the Lao people in the fields of politics, diplomacy, military, economics, culture and

social aspects, fight against " Psychological warfare, seducing the bandit, the enemy's propaganda …. was through two phases (1959-1962 and 1962-1968). The reason why it was divided into two phases is because the level of conduct of the "Special War" strategy of the United States in Laos in 1962-1968 was fiercer and stronger than in 1959-1962, and the fight of the Lao people in the years 1962-1968 was also expanded over the previous period. If the period 1959-1962 focused only on political fight, diplomacy and military fight, then in the period 1962-1968, the fight was extended to other areas such as economic fight, culture, against the "Psychological war" ...

4. Documentation sources and research methods

4.1. Resources

The sources used in the thesis include:

- Original document:

+ Documents of the Laotian People's Party and Patriotic Front.

+ Speeches, articles on the revolutionary situation of Laotian leaders that are kept in archives in Vietnam and Laos; Documentary review of the fight of the Laotian people on the fronts.

+ In addition, life stories of Laotian leaders who directly participated in the war against "Special War" are regarded as original materials. The thesis has used Laotian leaders's life stories such as Cayxỏn Phômvihản, Khămtày Xiphănđon and Phumi Vôngvitchit, etc.,

+ General report of the Operations Bureau, the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army on the Laotian people's fight against the "Special War".

- References:

+ Monographs related to the Laotian people's fight against the "Special War" strategy of the United States.

+ Scientific articles related to the topic published in domestic and foreign magazines.

+ Dissertations related to the thesis.

4.2. Methodology and research methods

The views of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Laotian People Revolutionary Party about wars and people about the fight against the "Special War" of Vietnam, of Laos, the special relations of Laos - Vietnam, Vietnam - Laos ... is considered methodology to carry out the research topic.

Moreover, with the characteristics of historical science as well as the requirements of researching the topic, in the process of dissertation, the main method we use is the historical and logical method. Use these methods to review the implementation of the fight against the "Special War" strategy of Lao tian people in the chronological order and logic of the events taking place.

In addition, we also use the method of analysis, synthesis, generalization, comparison, reference ... to solve the problems posed….

5. Contributions of the thesis

- *About the content:*

+ It is a comprehensive and systematic study of the fight of Laotian people against the "Special War" strategy of the US from 1959-1968 from the perspective of Vietnamese researcher.

+ By researching into the implementation process and the result of the fight, the thesis will indentify the characteristics of the Laotian People's fight against the "Special War", evaluate its achievements, limitations, its impact, and draw on meaningful lessons for not only Laos, but also Vietnam in the current period.

+ This is the first study comparing the "Special War" strategy of the United States in Laos and that in Vietnam tso clarify the similarities and differences when America "Special War" happened in each country and the process of fighting against it of two countries.

+ The thesis is a reference for researching, teaching history of Laos, Southeast Asia, and history of modern world.

- *About the documentation:*

The thesis gathered and systematically synthesized a wide range of materials in Vietnamese, Laotian and English, related to the Laotian people's fight against the US "Special War" strategy in the years 1959-1968.

6. The structure of the thesis

Apart from the introduction, conclusion, reference and annex, the thesis is divided into five chapters:

Chapter 1. Overview of research situation

Chapter 2. Factors influencing the Fight Against the "Special War" Strategy of the United States in Laos (1959-1968).

Chapter 3. The first step in the struggle against the "Special War" strategy of the United States in Laos (6 / 1959 - 7 / 1962)

Chapter 4. Speeding up the struggle against the "Special War" strategy of the United States in Laos (7/ 1962 - 1/ 1968)

Chapter 5. Comments and lessons learned.

CHAPTER 1: LITERATURE REVIEW

1.1. Previous studies

1.1.1. Previous studies by Vietnamese scholars

Studying the resistance war against the USA to save the nation in general, the process of combating the "Special War" strategy in Laos in particular, by Vietnamese scholars is quite plentiful.

The Work "The People's Democratic Republic of Laos", Truth Publishing House, Hanoi, 1983.

Luong Ninh (Editor) with the book "Laos History", published by Hanoi National University of Education in 1991.

Huai Nguyen with the book "Laos – Country and People", Thuan Hoa Publishing House (1997)

National Center for Social Sciences and Humanities, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies published "Laos History", Social Sciences Publishing House, Hanoi, 1997.

Nguyen Hung Phi - Dr. Busi Chalonssir wrote "Modern Lao History", Volume 2, National Target Library, Hanoi, 2006.

The book "Laos Patriotic Front and Laos Peaceful Road" by Le Long, Truth Publishing House, Hanoi, 1960.

The book "The coup of August 9, 1960 and the anti-American movement of the Lao people" by Tan Phuong, Truth Publisher, Hanoi, 1960.

Author Phan Gia Ben's article, "A Few Facts about the American Imperialist Involvement in Laos and Its Defeat," Journal of Historical Research, No. 28, 1961.

The book "Preventing American Empire and minions is seriously undermining the Geneva Agreement of 1962 on Laos," Truth Publishing House, Hanoi (1963).

Huynh Lua with the article "Aspects of US Imperialist Involvement in the Far East and Southeast Asia," Journal of Historical Research, No. 70, 1965.

Cao Thanh's book "Special War" by the US imperialists in Laos was unsuccessful, the People's Army Publishing House, Hanoi (1971).

The article "The Great Victory of the Lao Revolution (1962-1975)" was published in the Journal of Historical Research, No. 165, 1975, by Dang Bich Ha.

The article "The situation of Laos after the 1954 Geneva Agreement and the path of peace, neutrality, neo-convergence" by Nguyen Thi Que, Journal of Historical Studies, Issue 1, 1993.

Nguyen Thi Que, with the theme "The Government of National Unions in the Lao National Liberation Revolution of 1954-1975", successfully defended the Ph.D. thesis in History Science, Hanoi in 1995.

Author Le Dinh Chinh with the article "Some characteristics of the special Vietnam-Laos relationship in the national liberation revolution of 1954-1975," Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, Issue 1, 2001.

Le Dinh Chinh with the theme "Vietnam-Laos relations in the period 1954-1975" successfully defended the PhD thesis History, Hanoi, 2001.

Huaiyuan has published the article "The Prison Breaks of Prince Xuphanuvong and the Pathogene Leaders of Laos" in Journal of Historical Studies, Issue 6, 2004.

Ministry of Defense, Vietnam Military History Institute launches readers of "History of Vietnamese Volunteer Force and Military Specialists Performing International Tasks in Laos (1954-1975)", People's Democratic Press, Hanoi , 2005.

Ministry of Defense, Vietnam Military History Institute published "History of the South-East Asian Armed Forces", People's Army Publishing House, Hanoi, 2006.

General Department of Politics announces the book "Party of Vietnamese Volunteer Force Officers and International Military Specialists (1930-1975)", People's Procuracy, Hanoi, 2008.

The Central Commission for Propaganda and Training has compiled articles in the book "Historical Events of Lao PDR in the Special Vietnam-Laos Relations", Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference, Quang Tri, 2009.

Le Van Phong with the article "Lao People's Revolutionary Party - Road to 55 years of construction, fighting and growth," Journal of Communist, No. 3, 2010.

The Ministry of Defense, the Military History Institute of Vietnam, the Volunteer Liaison Team and the Vietnamese military experts help Laos launch your readership read "Volunteers and Vietnamese military experts help Laos - Symbol of love Special solidarity, the Vietnam-Laos alliance, "People's Army Publishing House, Hanoi, 2010.

Lao People's Revolutionary Party - Communist Party of Vietnam jointly launched the book "History of special relations between Vietnam - Laos, Laos - Vietnam (1930-2007)", Nxb CTQG, Hanoi, 2011.

Lao People's Revolutionary Party - Communist Party of Viet Nam for publication "History of special relations between Vietnam - Laos, Laos - Vietnam (1930-2007) - Chronicle of Events", Volume 1, Volume 2, CTQG, Hanoi, 2011.

Lao People's Revolutionary Party - Communist Party of Vietnam (Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dam Duc Vuong, Vietnam Editor) (2012), History of special relations between Vietnam and Laos, Laos-Vietnam (1930-2007) Documentary, Volume III (1956-1975), NXb CTQG, Hanoi.

1.1.2. Previous studies by Lao scholars

Authors Cayxon Phomvihan with "Building a peaceful, independent and socialist Laos", Truth Publishing House, Hanoi, 1978.

This booklet is for the publication of "Military Selective Lessons", People's Procuracy, Hanoi, 1986,

Phumi Vongvichit published a memoir "Remembering my life in the history of Laos", Nxb CTQG, Hanoi, 1993..

“ກະຊວງປ້ອງກັປະເທດ, ກົມ ວິທະຍາສາດ - ປະຫວັດສາດການທະຫານ: ປະຫວັດສາດກອງທັບປະຊາຊົນລາວ, ວຽງຈັ. 1996.” (Ministry of Defense, Department of Military History Science, History of the Lao People's Army, Vientiane (1996)

Theoretical and practical research steering committee of the Central Committee of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party Launches the History of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party, National Target Program, Hanoi, 2005

The book "The development of the Laos situation through some of the main documents of the Lao Patriotic Front", Truth Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962.

Under the title "Twelve Years of US Invasion and Invasion of Laos," published by Lao Neo Lao Neo Publishing House, translated into Vietnamese by Truth Publishing House, Hanoi, 1966.

Neo Lao Haksat with the book "Twenty Years of American Interventions and Aggression in Laos", published in 1966, saved the Military Library of Vietnam.

"ຄະນະສະຫລຸບການສົງຄາມຂໍ້ກັບກະຊວງການເມືອງພັກປະຊາຊົນປະຕິວັດລາວ: ສະຫລຸບການຕໍ່ສູ້ຕ້ານກັບພວກລ່າເມືອງຂຶ້ຝຣັ່ງ, ຈັກກະພັດເອເມ ລິການຸກຮານພາຍໃຕ້ການຊີ້ນຳຂອງພັກປະຊາຊົນປະຕິວັດລາວ (1945 - 1975), ວຽງຈັ. 2003)." (The Committee for War Review of the Politburo of the Lao People's Revolutionary People's Party, "Summing up the resistance war against French colonialists and American imperialists under the leadership of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party (1945-1975) ", Vientiane, 2003).

"ກະຊວງປ້ອງກັປະເທດ, ກົມ ວິທະຍາສາດ - ປະຫວັດສາດການທະຫານ: ປະຫວັດສາດການຕໍ່ສູ້ຂອງກຳລັງປະກອບອາວຸດ ແລະ ປະຊາຊົບັດການເຜົ່າແຂວງພາກໃຕ້ລາວຕ້ານກັບລ່າເມືອງຂຶ້ຝຣັ່ງ ແລະ ຈັກກະພັດອາເມລິການຸກ (1945 - 1975), ວຽງຈັ.2005."(Department of Defense, Department of Military History Science, History of Resistance Against French Colonialism and American Invasion of the Armed Forces and People of Lower Laos (1945-1975), Vientiane, 2005).

"ກະຊວງປ້ອງກັປະເທດ, ກົມວິທະຍາສາດ - ປະຫວັດສາດການທະຫານ: ປະຫວັດສາດການຕໍ່ສູ້ຂອງກຳລັງປະກອບອາວຸດ ແລະ ປະຊາຊົດການເຜົ່າແຂວງພາກເໜືອລາວຕ້ານກັບລ່າເມືອງຂຶ້ຝຣັ່ງ ແລະ ຈັກກະພັດອາເມລິການຸກຮານ (1945 - 1975), ວຽງຈັ.2008."(Department of Defense, Department of Military History Science, History of Resistance Against French Colonialism and American Invasion of Armed Forces and People of Upper Laos (1945-1975), Vientiane, 2008).

"ກະຊວງປ້ອງກັປະເທດ, ກົມ ວິທະຍາສາດ - ປະຫວັດສາດການທະຫານ: ປະຫວັດສາດຄວາມສຳພັໄມຕີພິເສດລະຫว่างກອງທັບປະຊາຊົລາວ ແລະ ກອງທັບປະຊາຊົ ຫວຽດນາມ(1945 - 1975), ວຽງຈັ.2011". (Ministry of Defense, Department of Military History Science, History of Special Combat Alliance between the Lao People's Army and the People's Army of Vietnam (1945-1975), Vientiane, 2011).

The synthesis of some battles of Laos' army during 30 years of liberation war, Viengchan.

"ກະຊວງປ້ອງກັນປະເທດ, ກົມ ວິທະຍາສາດ - ປະຫວັດສາດການທະຫານ: ປະຫວັດສາດການຕໍ່ສູ້ຂອງກຳລັງປະກອບອາວຸດ ແລະ ປະຊາຊົນ ດາເຜົ່າແຂວງພາກກາງລາວຕ້ານກັບລ່າເມືອງຂຶ້ນຝຣັ່ງ ແລະ ຈັກກະພັດອາເມລິການຸກ (1945 - 1975), ວຽງຈັ.2012."(Department of Defense, Department of Military History Science, History of Resistance Against French Colonialism and American Invasion of Armed Forces and People of Central Laos (1945-1975), Vientiane, 2012). The synthesis of activities conducted in plateau Boloven during the war against America, Viengchan.

1.1.3. Previous studies foreign scholars

The Manifesto of the national political union between the Neo Lao Haksat and the patriotic neutralist forces, 1965, save the letter of the National League for Political Co-operation between Haksat Neo Lao and neutral patriotic forces. Military Institute, numbered / A44.

Marvin and Susan Gettleman and Lawrence and Carol Kaplan publish Conflict in Indo - China: A Reader on the Widening War in Laos and Cambodia, A Random Book on the Open War in Laos and Cambodia. House, New York, 1970.

Chinnery P.D. Introduce you to read The secret war in Laos 1967- 1968, published in 1994, save the Military Science Information Center of the Ministry of Defense of Vietnam

Jane Hamilton-Merritt with Tragic Mountains: The Hmong, the Americans, and the Secret Wars for Laos, 1942-1992 (Tragic Mountains: Hmong, Americans, and Secret Wars to Laos, 1942). -1992), Indiana University Press, 1994

Martin Stuart-Fox with A History of Laos, Cambridge University Press, 1998

Stanley I. Kutler of the University of Wisconsin-Madison publishes the Encyclopedia of the Vietnam war (1995), which is housed in the Institute of Military History of Vietnam

Robert S.McNamara, James G.Blight, Robert Brigham, Thomas Biersteker and Col.Herbert Schandler published the publication Argument without end - in the search for answers to the Vietnam tragedy. Words for tragedy in Vietnam), New York, 1999, saved Institute of Military History of Vietnam.

In addition, news agencies, newspapers, and magazines have also regularly featured articles, comments and comments on US interference and aggression against Laos as well as the fight. Anti-American invasion of the Lao people. Typically: U.S, News and World Report 5/9/1960; New York Times 25/9/1960; New York Herald Tribune, 19/2/1962; The Reporter, 13/11/1958; Wall Street Journal, 9/4/1958; New York Herald Tribune, 28/2/1955 ...

1.2. Gaps in the literature review

The fight against the "Special War" strategy of the Laotian people in 1959-1968 was a hallmark of the people's democratic revolution in Laos. Because of this, this is a topic that has attracted the attention of many Laotian and foreign scholars from different perspectives. Basically, those studies have the following contributions:

In terms of documentation, studies have exploited many valuable precious materials. Particularly in this area, the contributions of foreign researchers are more prominent than those of Laotian scholars. These documents not only contribute to the clarification of many historical issues, especially to clarify some of the contents related to the process of fighting the "Special War" of the Laotian people in 1959- 1968; At the same time, it has the effect of eliciting the next generations of research on this significant subject.

Regrading methodology, the study uses traditional methods and historical logic, when studying the American fight against the United States of America, many studies have adopted new methods and approaches of political science (emerging The special relationship history project between Vietnam - Laos, Laos - Vietnam (1930-2007), CTNP, Hanoi 2011). It is one of the outstanding achievements that previous studies have made.

On historical awareness, in general, Laotian and foreign scholars have clarified the great features of the anti-American resistance of the Laotian people such as historical background, evolution, the results of resistance as well as the support and assistance. Of the international friends of the Laotian people, especially the solidarity between the Indochinese people.

In short, research on the process of fighting the "Special War" strategy of the Lao people has achieved many important achievements in terms of materials, methods of study and historical awareness. However, up to now, there has been no systematic and comprehensive study of the process of combating the US "Special War" strategy in Laos as well as the systematic presentation, Details some issues such as: Background of the "Special War" strategy; American conspiracy and tricks during the implementation of the "Special War" strategy; factors affecting the fight of Laotian people; the policy and guidelines of the Laotian People's Party and Patriotic Front for leading the fight; The persistence and brave fight of the Laotian people on the military, political, diplomatic and other fighting sides; Especially, there is no work to clarify the results of the fight, showing the characteristics, impacts and lessons learned from the fight of the Lao people to overcome each step to overcome the victory. The whole "Special War" strategy of the United States. However, the results of the studies mentioned above are very important, that is, both the source of the data and the suggestions for the research students in the process of this thesis.

1.3. Thesis invesitaging issues

With the purpose, tasks and scope of research have determined, the thesis aimed to:

- Clarify the factors that affect the process of fighting the "Special War" strategy of the Lao people.
- Study the policy and guidelines of the Lao People's Party and the Lao Patriotic Front in the Lao people's fight through two phases: 1959-1962 and 1962-1968.
- Reinvigorate the fight against the "Special War" of the Laotian people in the fields of politics, foreign affairs, military and other fights.
- Indicate the results that the Lao people have achieved as well as the limitations that exist in the fight. In addition, the thesis initially clarify the

similarities and differences in the “Special War” between Laos and Vietnam and the differences between two periods of the fight, and the impact of the fight against the Lao revolutionary process and the fight against the "Special War" and "Civil War". On this basis, a number of valuable lessons have been applied to build and protect Laos and become a valuable reference for the Vietnam’s process of building and protecting its nation.

CHAPTER 2: FACTORS AFFECTING THE PROCESS OFTHE FIGHT AGAINST AMERICAN SPECIAL WAR STRATEGY IN LAOS (1959-1968)

2.1. International and regional factors

2.1.1. International factors

The leading factor in international relations was the Cold War between the Soviet Union and the East and West. The Soviet Union, the United States, and China expanded their influence in Asia, including Indochina and Laos. The fight for influence of the USSR, the United States ... have a positive and negative impact on the fight of the Lao people ...

Another important content of national relations after the Second World War influenced the movement of the Lao people, namely, the rapid development of the national liberation movement..

2.1.2. Regional factors

After the Geneva Agreement of 1954 on Indochina, Laos became a link in the deployment of US global military strategies, including the "Special War" type. The United States established SEATO, which involved many countries in the region as their allies in carrying out war strategies in Laos (Philippines, Thailand, and Saigon). This is an unfavorable factor in the fight against the "Special War" strategy of the Lao people

In general, the fight for national liberation in Laos in 1959-1968 would have positive and negative effects on both sides: Firstly, the positive impact of the Soviet Union, the social countries Democratic peace and democratic forces; The second is the negative impact of the United States and its allies - the American policy of turning Indochina into a new colony and the support of its close allies. However, when entering into each specific aspect, the confrontation between the two Soviet states and two East-West blocks of international relations at this time had unfavorable effects on the national liberation movement. In general, including Laos.

2.2. Vietnammese factors

After the Geneva Agreement of 1954 on Indochina, Vietnam temporarily divided into two regions with two different social and political regimes. The North completely liberated, embarked on healing the wounds of war, restoring the economy, improving relations of production and progressing towards socialism.

At the same time, in the South of Vietnam, the United States took the foot of France, erected the Ngo Dinh Diem government, plotted a long division of Vietnam. The South became new colonies and US military bases in Indochina and Southeast Asia. The people of South Vietnam, in the light of Resolution 15 (1/1959) of the Party Central Committee, revolted in 1959-1960. Next, from 1961 to 1968, the Vietnamese people in turn defeated the "Special War"

strategy and the US "Local War" strategy, thereby positively impacting the fight of the Laotian people.

On the military side, the victories of the South Vietnamese soldiers through various campaigns, many battles on the battlefields in the "Special War" and "Partial War" strategies forced the US to disperse its forces. In the midst of the battlefields of the two countries, the Lao people's army was focused on opening campaigns, the great battles to destroy the enemy, and the revolution of the two countries. In terms of politics, diplomacy, Vietnam and Laos not only support each other in international forums (typically the Association of Indochinese Indochinese People in 1965), but the victory of the political fight of the Vietnamese people. Nam actively encouraged political movements in Laos to achieve the common goal of the fight.

2.3. Historical factors

2.3.1. Laos' situation

After the Geneva Agreement, two different governmental regions were formed in Laos. In the liberation zone of the two provinces of Huffian and Phongsala, the Laos resistance force on gathering in accordance with regulations. Later, the Lao resistance fighters tried to build up forces in all aspects for a strong gathering area. The remaining ten provinces are governed by France. In the name of the Kingdom of Laos, France established a pro-French government led by Prince Xuvănna Phuma as Prime Minister. To step by step replace France in Laos, the United States established the Department of Aid Evaluation (P.E.O) in Vientiane to assume command and build pro-American forces..

2.3.2. The Movement Against US Intervention in Laos (1954-1959)

After the Geneva Agreement (1954), the United States advocated more intensive intervention in Laos through such actions as: finding ways to bring the United States into power; Military assault on the Hu Phrok and Phongxal; Undermining the path of peace, neutrality and the abolition of the First Coalition Government (August 1958); The culmination of the siege was the destruction of the 1st Battalion, Laos Pa Paet (5/1959), and publicly declared civil war, declaring the use of force to annihilate the Lao Pa Paetian forces.

Meeting the demands of the revolution in the new period, on March 22, 1955, the Congress established the Lao People's Party held in Hua Phong. Then, on January 6, 1956, the First Congress of the Lao ttxala Front was convened in Samoa. The Congress decided to rename the Neo Lao Laos Neil Lao Neo Lao Black Flag (Patriotic Lao Patriot) in order to gather a large number of forces, unite the strength of the whole nation against the United States.

Under the leadership of the Laotian Patriotic Party and Patriotic Front, the road to a peaceful, neutral, unified Laos has achieved the following results: the Vientiane Agreement was signed (November 2, 1957)); The Government of the First Nation (November 19, 1957); Especially the victory in the general election on May 4, 1958 of the patriotic nationalist and neutral Laos.

When the pro-US forces in Vientiane launched a coup overthrowing the First National Coalition Government, the Laotian People's Party and Patriotic Front stood firmly against their actions and called for their support. The domestic and international public for the fight of the Laotian people. Before the siege,

attack to destroy Laotian armed forces (5/1959), the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion and part of the 1st Battalion took the initiative to try to break the siege back to safe bases. .

The deeper involvement of the United States in the Lao situation at this stage has caused many difficulties for the Laotian revolution in the immediate and long term. However, it is the American involvement of objective that stimulates the spirit of fight of the Laotian people.

2.4. America Special War strategy in Laos (1959-1968)

2.4.1. Content of the US "Special War" strategy in Laos

The "Special War" strategy of the United States in Laos was a violent form of neo-colonialism, conducted from 1959 to 1968, with the American formula playing the role of commander through the advisory apparatus. And the supply of money, arms and armaments to Laos took the lead, along with the special forces of Vang Pao and Thai soldiers to counter Laos revolution in different periods. together.

The level of conduct of the "Special War" of the United States has increased steadily over time, with a view to combating the entire Lao revolution from political, military, diplomatic to economic, cultural, of these, two main measures maintained by the United States were political and military. The “Special War” also aimed to prevent the impacts of socialism which had been expanded in Asian region and close the strategic road that transferred the support from the North to the South Vietnam and the strategic road in the West of Truong Son that belonged to Laos.

2.4.2. Implementation of the US "Special War" strategy in Laos

This process is divided into phases: 1959-1962 and 1962-1968.

In the period (1959-1962), the United States sought to bring its people into power in Laos; Increased military aid; Try to undermine the path of peace, national neutrality and harmony in Laos; Accelerate the military activities of the military militia against the Phuma government and the Laotian Patriotic Front; Against the Geneva Conference of 1962 on Laos. However, American actions and pro-American forces were successively defeated by the Lao, which featured the Nam Tha military victory. This victory led to the formation of the Second Coalition Government (6/1962) and the Geneva Accord on Laos (7/1962).

During the period 1962-1968, the United States continued to deploy “Special war” in Laos through actions such as: Finding ways to embroil Phuma; using the forces to conduct the coup in Vientiane (19/4/1964), to abolish the National Union Government for the second time; Finding ways to weaken and break the Alliance between the Lao Patriotic Front with the patriotic neutral forces; reinforcing the economic and military aid, consolidating the force of the military of the right, focusing on building "special forces" and military adviser; using "psychological warfare" to sabotage the Lao revolution. Based on the above support, Pro-American forces strengthen military operations through many campaigns such as: attacking to encroach strategic areas – the Chum - Xiengkhuang field (from April 1963 to March 1964); the attacks in the years 1964, 1965, 1966, focusing mainly on such important sites as North Vientiane, Chum - Xiengkhuang Field, NamBak, Nakay, the Ninth Road ... and using

"special forces" to harass, partition the liberation zone. Supporting for operations, from April 1964 the United States directly uses Air Force in combination with Air Force of the right to raid the liberated zone and from April 1967, they also used the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress from Thailand to attack the South Lao Liberation zone.

The promotion of the "Special War" of the United States during this period set the Lao revolution higher duties and new requirements in the fight against the "Special War." It should be emphasized, however, that the promotion of the "Special War" of the United States has affected the patriotism, the National spirit of the Laotian people, encouraged and motivated the Laotian people to stand up and fight for the "Special War".

CHAPTER 3: THE FIRST STEP IN STRUGGLE AGAINST THE "SPECIAL WAR" STRATEGY OF THE UNITED STATES IN LAOS (JUNE 1959 – JULY 1962)

3.1. The policy of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Lao Patriotic Front

Because of the antagonism of the United States and Pro-American forces, the Lao People's Party (3/6/1959) holds a meeting to issue the first resolution on *"Situation, duties and work in the short term of the Lao revolution."* The resolution emphasized the shift from a form of the public legal struggle to the armed struggle, combined with other forms of the political struggle. The above redirection of the Lao People's Party has opened a new strategic turning point to bring the Lao Revolution to grow forward.

In this period, based on each specific circumstance, Central Committee of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front still continue to lead the fight against "special war" through a series of Resolutions and Instructions such as: Resolutions (II – 10/09/1959…, VIII – 22/11/1961); Instructions “"On the organization and promotion of the operation of independent companies" (06/11/1959) ...

Thus, since the United States launched the "Special War" strategy, the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front has set out many policies, the right guidelines to gather unite the whole Laotian people, especially the solidarity between the Pathet Lao and the patriotic neutral forces into an anti-American block. The policies and guidelines of the Lao revolution are not only reflected in the important instructions and resolutions, but also reflected in the statements of the Front, the Party, especially actions in reality. This guideline has been received and applied creatively by the Laotian people in the process of fighting the "Special War" in the period 1959-1962.

3.2. The struggle against the "Special War" strategy of the Lao people on the fronts

3.2.1. On the political - diplomatic front

Implementing the Resolutions of the Laotian People's Party, the struggle movement on the political - diplomatic front to develop. First of all, the movement to fight for the release of Prince Xuphanuvong and the leaders of the

Laotian Patriotic Front. Next, in order to strengthen the national solidarity bloc in the struggle against the "Special War" strategy, the Laotian Patriotic Front conducted the III National Congress of Delegates. Realizing the progress of the coup d'état conducted by the 2nd Parachute Battalion (09/08/1960), the Lao People's Party and the Lao Patriotic Front called on people to support and then cooperated actively with the new Government - the legitimate government led by Prince Xuvanna Phuma - Prime Minister by negotiating with "Commission for Peace, Neutrality, National Harmony and National Unity" to put the country to follow the path of peace, true neutral.

Thanks to the policy and the right guidelines, the struggle in the field of politics, diplomacy in this period achieved important advances as on 16/05/1961, the International Conference on Laos met in Geneva (Switzerland), with 14 participating countries, and with that is the three-party talks which (by Prince Xuphanuvong, Prince Xuvanna Phuma and Prince Bunum) met in Zurich (Switzerland) to discuss the establishment of the third -Party Coalition Government. On that basis, the National Coalition Government established (June, 1962) and on July 23rd 1962, the Geneva Agreement on Laos was signed.

3.2.2. On the military front

Implementing the policy of redirect the struggle under the First Central Resolution (June 1959) was supplemented the second time (September 1959), the Lao Supreme Headquarters decided to open the operation in the rainy season in 1959; reorganized immediately the 2nd Battalion and a part of the 1st Battalion just broke through, organized into 3 battalions: the 1st Battalion, the 2nd Battalion and the 4th Battalion.

Overcoming the difficult period, the revolutionary armed forces continuously achieved great successes such as: attacking and being owner of Salaphukhun (December, 1960); liberation of the Chum - Xiengkhuang Field (1961); expanding the liberated zone, which accounts for two thirds of the land, one third of the population of the whole country; especially with the victory of Namtha (4-5/1962) forced the United States to sign the Geneva Agreement 1962 on Laos.

CHAPTER 4: SPEEDING UP THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE "SPECIAL WAR" STRATEGY OF THE UNITED STATES IN LAOS (JULY 1962 – JANUARY 1968)

4.1. The appearance of the new factors

During this period, US and Russia relationship became tensed and the relationship beteween Russia and China also became worse.

Asian region's situation developed complicatedly including: the conflict between Indochina and 5 ASEAN countries, the competition of Amreica, Russis, and China in expanding their impacts on the region. In addition, US has changed the "Special War" to "Civil War", while Laos' position and power were strengthened. However, US and its allies tried to destroy Laos' power that promoted the war to invade Laos in the "Special War" to a new period.

This situation required the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front to have appropriate stratgies to gather Laotian people to fight against the US “Special War”.

4.2. The policy of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Lao Patriotic Front

In this period, sticking to the specific situation, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and Lao Patriotic Front organized many conferences or congresses to timely lead the struggle movement of the Lao people such as: the 10th Conference (October 1962), the 11th Conference (February 1963) ..., the 15th Conference (September 1967) and the 2nd Congress of the Laotian Patriotic Front (April 1964) ...

Thus, when the US pushed the "Special War" strategy, the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front continued to demonstrate its role in setting the right policy and guidelines to lead the Lao people to fight. From the policy against the enemy's sweeping operations, the policy on the construction of liberating zones like a nation then the guidelines, the policy to unite revolutionary forces with neutral forces ... are core issues, particular significance. Victories on political, diplomatic, military, economic, cultural, social fronts and against the "psychological war" of Laotian people proved the right guidelines and policy of the Party and the Laotian Patriotic Front during this important historical period.

4.3. The practice of the fronts

4.3.1. On the political - diplomatic front

After establishing the Third- Party Coalition Government (June 1962) , Laotian revolution changed from the armed struggle to the main political struggle. When the United States and Phumi Noxavan conducted the coup to overthrow the Coalition Government for the second time (19/04/1964), the Party Central Committee and the Laotian Patriotic Front condemned this action through political and diplomatic channels. Typically, the Indochina People's Conference in Phnom Penh from the 1st to 09th of March, 1965. The Conference agreed to put forward a resolution on Laos. Subsequently, from the 2nd to 13rd of October, 1965, the Political Consultative Conference between the Laotian Patriotic Front and the patriotic neutral forces held in Huaphan. The biggest success of the conference was to make a statement which pointed out the 12-point position and the five-point solution on Laos, at the same time set out the common tasks, short-term and long-term tasks of the patriotic forces and the entire Laotian people.

Thus, in the years 1962-1968, the struggle on the political and diplomatic fronts of Laotian revolution achieved many important victories, thereby effectively supporting the struggle on the armed front, to achieve the ultimate goal of defeating the "Special War" for national independence.

4.3.2. On the military front

After the signing of the Geneva Agreement on Laos, Laotian people continue to promote armed struggle against the new plot and quackery of America and the right in the "Special War" strategy. Especially, after Johnson replaced Kennedy after Kennedy’s assassination and bringing the "special war" to a new level, Pathet Lao armed forces cooperated closely with the patriotic

neutral forces to keep the initiative, repel the attack and encroachment of the enemy, protect the liberated zone and develop forces in all aspects.

Along with repelling the attack and encroachment of the enemy, the Pathet Lao army is coordinated by Vietnam Volunteer Army also actively attacked the enemy and achieved the typical victories such as: the campaign scanned the enemy out the Chum Field (5-6/1964); the PhuCut victory (7-10 / 1964) ... With the Chum Field victory, the liberated zone of Laos was connected from Central Laos to Samnua and it is important, thanks to the campaign, to build a coalition of revolutionary forces and neutral forces.

After the 13th Conference (May 1965), the Lao people continued to achieved such victories as: Smashing the enemy's attacks, firmly defending the Central, Lower Laos and the Chum - XiengKhuang Field; especially the Nambac victory (January 1968). With many important meanings, the Nambac victory pushed the United States "special war" strategy at risk of bankruptcy completely.

4.3.3. On some other fields

In the period (1962-1968), because the United States conducted a "special war" against the Lao revolution, which was quite comprehensive, therefore, the Laotian people also expanded the fronts of struggle: Promoting to seducing the bandits, against the enemy's propaganda, against the "psychological war"; along with that is to promote to develop the economy, facilities, culture and social and achieved some victories such as: the Laotian People's Army actively carry out the campaign of the seducing the bandits launched by the Central Committee to consume the vitality of the Vang Pao special forces and from there extending to Central Laos; fighting against economic and cultural conspiracies and against the "psychological war" of the enemy; efforts to build the strong liberation zone in all aspects.

CHAPTER V. SOME COMMENTS AND LESSON LEARNED

5.1. COMMENTS

5.1.1. The victories of the fight

Since the United States started the "Special War" strategy, the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and the Laotian Patriotic Front step by step set out guidelines, policies to fight with enemies on many fronts, prominently political, diplomatic and military fronts.

In the years 1959-1962, the victory of the Namtha Campaign in 1962 led to signing the Geneva Agreement in 1962 on Laos. This Agreement marked the initial victory of the Lao people against the "Special War", which is reflected in the following main contents: protected and expanded the liberation zone of two thirds of the land country with nearly half of the national population, in which had the area near the socialist countries including 4 provinces of Upper Laos; the Patriotic armed forces developed and grew very quickly; the National United Front of the Lao people increasingly expanded; the international status of the Lao revolution grown a step further.

During the period 1962-1968, the United States promoted the "Special War" in Laos on several fronts. Under the leadership of the Party and the

Laotian Patriotic Front, with the help of the socialist brother countries, especially Vietnam, Laotian revolution achieved great victories on the political, diplomacy, military front as well as other forms of struggle. Generally, from 1962 to 1968, the Lao troops removed from fighting around 50,000 enemy soldiers, shot down 800 US aircraft; the liberation zone of the Lao revolution was strengthened, expanded and built on a national scale; the Lao revolutionary armed forces were built and had been much progress in terms of politics, military, and increasingly matured in combat.

America's failure in the "Special War" strategy of 1959-1968, objectively it has confirmed the great results of the Lao people in the struggle, which is reflected in the following aspects: Scheming to overthrow the National Coalition Government to set up a strong pro-American component to serve the US "Special War" strategy in Laos, but the results are not as expected; the Alliance Block between the Laotian Patriotic Front and the neutral forces strengthened; The role of the Laotian Patriotic Front is constantly improving in the international arena.

Failure to implement the "Special War" strategy of 1959-1968 forced the United States to move to implement the “Intensified Special War" strategy in Laos from 1969 - That is the expression of the failure of America.

5.1.2. Limitations of the fight

In addition to the results achieved, in the period 1959-1962, Laotian revolution had many difficulties such as: National power is not strong enough to completely defeat the enemy's plot and war plan; neutral forces until the coup of the 2nd Battalion of Coongle (August 1960) was truly a part of the Laotian revolution; economic conditions were difficult, the level of education in many regions was still low, which made the propaganda and advocacy of the revolution limited. In the years 1962-1968, despite many accomplishments in political, diplomatic and military struggles, the results were not reall solid. Consultations or agreements between the Lao revolution and America as well as the right on many issues of the Laotian political situation were often not maintained thoroughly, damaged suddenly or not carried out by the enemy.

In the military struggle, the victories achieved were only temporary; many areas are still taking place rivalries between Laotian people and its enemy; in the construction, development of armed forces against the "Special War" was still limited, which affects the fighting power of Laotian armed forces as well as the coordination between the forces was not really high ...

Although the Lao Liberation Zone was built on a national scale, people's life in the liberated zone was still difficult; the mobilization of talents, material resources for the resistance was limited...

5.1.3. The similarities and differences between the two stages of struggle

The process of fighting America's "Special War" strategy in Laos has gone through two stages (6/1959- 7/1962 and 7/1962 - 1/1968).

The similarities of these two stages are: The close alliance between revolutionary forces and patriotic neutral forces, firmly put Laos on the path of peace, neutrality, unity; both under the leadership of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front; always received the support of international friends, the people of Indochina, especially Vietnamese people.

In two stages of the process of fighting against United States “Special War” in Laos had also basic differences. If in the period 1959-1962, the struggle on the military front was conducted narrowly, in the period 1962-1968 it was conducted more widely. The Lao revolutionary armed forces also developed stronger... The political diplomatic struggle of the Laotian revolution in the period 1962-1968 was also promoted more than the period 1959-1962.

If in the period 1959-1962, the Laotian people fought against the "Special War" strategy mainly in two areas: political - diplomatic and military, in the period 1962-1968, the struggle was extended to other areas (Economy, culture, the budget for works, the work on the enemy, against the "psychological war"; However, the focus was still on political, diplomatic struggle, then military struggle to achieve the decisive victory.

5.1.4. The roles of the Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Frontin gathering the revoulution force

Since the United States deployed the "Special War" strategy to invade Laos, Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front properly appreciated the comparison on forces between the Lao revolutionary and the enemy invasion, recognized the main enemy, it also derived from all aspects of Laos as well as the related characteristics of Indochina, Southeast Asia and the world to set out the right revolutionary guidelines, method, prescribe revolutionary guidelines appropriately, incorporate closely between the task of national revolution with democratic revolution, between the interests of the Laotian revolution and the Indochinese people with the interests of the world peace, properly apply the attacking strategy and apply flexibly the stratagem, exploit and deepen the internal contradictions of enemies, focus the enemy's demolition forces at each stage of the "Special War".

In the years 1962-1968, the tian the signed agreements between the three parties and restore the National Coalition Government. Especially, Laotain People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front led the people to hit when needed and also negotiated when having the conditions for negotiating with the enemy, closely combined between political, diplomatic and military struggles with other forms of struggle.

5.1.5. Outstanding role of intermediate forces

A main feature of the Laotian revolution in the period 1959-1968 was the prominent role of intermediate forces - neutral forces. The patriotic neutral forces formed from the period of political crisis of 1954-1956, until August 1960 when the Coongle coup erupted in Vientiane the neutral forces were really "full - fledged". After the coup of 1960, the patriotic neutral forces were not only a great political force, but also a more organized and important armed force, this force stood on the part of the people and became a part of the war against America.

After the Geneva Agreement of 1962, especially with the successful organization of the national coalition political conference between neutral forces and revolutionary forces (10/1965), demonstrated the important role of neutral forces in the fight against the United States’ "special war" strategy in Laos.

During the fight, some people were of the neutral faction because of their precarious stance, because personal interests therefore they gradually followed the United States and the right, left the neutral faction, all true patriotic neutrals still maintained their stand. For example, the patriotic neutral forces in Khangkhay (Xiengkhoang), resolutely resisted the manipulation and domination of the United States and reactionary forces, firmly hold and consolidate the forces, together with the Laotian Patriotic Front, they expelled the enemy out of the Chum Field. With the Laotian Patriotic Front, patriotic neutral forces were increasingly consolidated in the fight against the "Special War." The growing influence and prestige contributed to the growing political forces in Laos.

If the release and development of patriotic neutral forces as well as the alliance of this force with the revolutionary forces against American were the special characteristic of Laotian revolution, in South Vietnam, although the "third force" appeared later than in Laos, it also promoted its role in the final stage of the fight against America.

5.1.6. The international factors in the struggle

During the fight against the "Special War," Laotiaon revolution has the fundamental advantages, which are the active support of the revolutionary, democratic forces and the world peace, especially the socialist countries. ...

Since the mid-1964, when the United States used air force attacked on the Lao liberated zone, the people of the Indochinese countries tightened their solidarity against the common enemy. The most visible manifestation was that, in March 1965, the delegations of the three countries Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia representing more than 50 million people in the three countries met at the Indochina People's Conference in Phnom Penh.

With the Vietnamese people, because of the common enemy of aggression, Vietnam and Laos always identified Indochina as a unified battlefield to promote the strength of the solidarity and special fighting alliance, therefore step by step defeated the war strategies that the United States deployed on the battlefield of the two countries.

5.1.7. The similarities and differences between the US "Special War"strategies in Laos and in Vietnam

Compared to the "Special War" strategy in South Vietnam, in terms of time, the "Special War" in Laos proceeded earlier but ended later (1959-1968), while in Vietnam it was from 1961-1965. In terms of location, the US "Special War" strategy in Laos is nationwide, while in Vietnam only in South Vietnam.

The common characteristic of the "Special War" in Laos and South Vietnam was that the United States exploited the full strength of the military of the right and the army of the Republic of Vietnam as well as strengthened the military advisory system, military and economic aid,... actively implement pacification of the countryside through the construction of the "Strategic Hamlet" system in South Vietnam or the " Renaissance area", "Solidarity" in Laos.

The fundamental difference in the "Special War" strategy in Laos and the "Special War" strategy in South Vietnam is that the United States built the Sam Thong - Loong Cheng (XiengKhuang) area to become the capital of the "special

forces" and this force played the leading role in many operations against the Lao revolution; in Vietnam, during the deployment of "Special War", the United States did not build any type of site like Sam Thong - Loong Cheng (Although the United States built Fulro forces in the Central Highlands, this force is smaller than in Laos and Fulro's role is not as clear as Vang Pao's "special forces".

The specific character of the deployment of the US "Special War" in Laos is using "bandits", "rangers", "scouts" comprehensively and in all three regions of Upper, Central and Lower Laos to fight the revolution. In South Vietnam, the commandos were used mainly to fight North Vietnam, at the same time, it was to carry out blockade of the border and waters to prevent the North's aid to the South.

Although Laos was not the foci of the competition between two forces and its international value is not as much as the “Special War” in Vietnam, the direct participation of Laotian army in the battles was stronger than that in Vietnam.

Unlike Vietnam, in Laos, due to many different reasons when the US launched the "Special War" strategy, the struggle of the Lao people on the political and diplomatic front developed very strongly, the armed forces in Laos are not strong enough to launch battles and the big campaign always needs to coordinate with the armed forces of Vietnam.

On the other hand, although Laos was not the strategic foci in the Indochina War, the “special force” Vang Pao which was developed powerfully by US could be on behalf of the US to continue the US war in Laos. With the characteristics, when failed in the "Special War" strategy, the United States did not send troops to Laos to conduct the "Local War" strategy as in Vietnam but only conducted an "Intensified Special war "strategy against Laotian revolution in later years.

5.1. 8. The impacts of the fight’s victory

**** With the process of the Lao revolutionary***

The policies, guidelines as well as forms and measures to fight in the period against the "Special War" (1959-1968) were the important basis for Laotian people to apply to fight against the enemy in the period against the “Intensified Special War" (1969-1973) and the struggle for power in the years 1973-1975.

**** With the fight against “special war” strategy and “local war” of the Vietnamese people***

The Invasion War of America in Laos had a huge impact on Vietnam and vice versa. The struggle against the "special war" of the Lao people as soon as it took place had a positive impact on the struggle against the "special war" and "local war" of the Vietnamese people. This is reflected in the coordination between the two battlefields about the political, diplomatic and military fronts...

**** Promoting the solidarity between Vietnam - Laos, Laos – Vietnam***

Due to the many similarities in geography, economics, politics, culture and society, especially many times shared history, from very early, people of two countries Vietnam - Laos united together to fight against common enemies, formed special fighting solidarity. That solidarity was increasingly consolidated,

developed and promoted during the years of the Laotian people against "Special War". The triumph of the Lao-Viet coalition on the Lao battlefield made an important contribution to the signing of the Geneva Agreement of 1962 on Laos, the establishment of the National Coalition Government for the second time and finally the bankruptcy of the "Special War" strategy in Laos and the "Local War" strategy in South Vietnam in early 1968.

5.2. Some lessons learned

5.2.1. Always hold the peaceful, neutral, independent, democratic, peaceful united banner as the ultimate goal of the struggle.

Throughout the years 1959-1968, the Lao revolutionary has never loosened a peaceful, neutral, independent, democratic, peaceful united banner. This is reflected in the resolutions of Laotian People's Revolutionary Party and Laotian Patriotic Front and resulted in the birth of the National Coalition Government for the second time and the Geneva Agreement of 1962 on Laos.

With that banner, in the years 1962-1965, the Laotian revolution continued to attack the enemy politically, constantly exposed the poisonous conspiracy of America and the right held the justice, so isolated enemies moreover took advantage of the support of public opinion and support widely in and outside the country. Ministers, Deputy Ministers of the Lao Patriotic Front and true neutral forces resolutely continued their functions and duties as regulated by the Zurich Agreement and the Chum Field, the protection and enforcement of the political program of the Coalition Government.

5.2.2. Building the strong armed forces and liberation zones as a basis for the war of the people to defeat the "Special War"strategy.

The Laotian Revolutionary Armed Forces are revolutionary armies which composed of three armies, under comprehensive, direct and absolute leadership of the Party. Starting from the right opinion, human beings were the decisive factor in the war, while the building of the armed forces and the development of the three armies, the Lao revolutionary strongly attached great importance to the work of educating the patriotic spirit for the revolutionary army.

During the fight against the "Special War," many Laotian revolutionary armed forces joined the Lao people, coordinated with Vietnamese volunteers to break many of the enemy's encroachment attacks, resulting in defeating many campaigns, large operations, holding many strategic areas across the Upper, Middle and Lower Laos.

Accompanying with the armed forces, the liberation area of Laos formed from revolutionary bases during the resistance against the French and during the years against the "Special War" were gradually strengthened and expanded..

5.2.3. Applying flexibly forms of fighting with those on political, diplomatic and military aspects being primary to deal with the "Special Warfare" strategy.

Since the United States launched the "Special War" strategy, Laotian revolution motivated the people's fight in all forms of abundance and flexibility, combining political fight, diplomacy and military fight and with other forms of fight. However, the Lao revolution still considered forms of military fight, political and diplomacy fight as the basic forms, in which armed fight is the most important

form to win. Accordingly, Laotian revolution, while interested in building the armed forces, carried out military fights, has always consistently combined with the fight with political and diplomatic fight to mobilize the public to join the movement to break the grip of the enemy and take the ownership, thereby gradually educating and enlightening the public, building the basis, enabling the revolution to develop in a broaden and comprehensive way to victory.

5.2.4. Enlist the support of international friends, strengthen the coordination between the three Indochinese countries revolution, especially the solidarity with Vietnam

In general, in the fight against "Special War", Laotian revolution always received the great support and assistance of international friends, especially of the people of socialist countries, first and foremost is the Soviet Union, China, the progressive people, the world peace-loving people, including the progressive American people. This was reflected in the spirit of the four-party Congress: Laos, the Soviet Union, China and Vietnam discussing aid for Laos opening in Hanoi on 22 September 1961. The delegations, after listening to the report by comrade Nuhac Phumxavan on the Laos situation, fight directions and requested aid for both forces (the Patriotic Laotian Front and neutral force), agreed with the above report and willingness to meet the requirements of Laotian People's Party.

After the support of international friends, it has to mention the mutual assistance of the Indochinese people.

With the revolution of Vietnam, both countries Vietnam and Laos are two close neighbors, mountainous next to mountains, rivers next to rivers, there are many similarities and are closely linked in the fight against mutual enemy with the point “Indochina is a battlefield ", due to the consensus on the strategic direction and the effective cooperation, the two countries' revolution gradually defeated the war of aggression of the enemy throughout the Indochina battlefield. Every victory in the Vietnam battlefield, affect the Laos battlefield and vice versa.

CONCLUSION

1. Laos is an important country in Indochina and Southeast Asia, so that Laos has been invaded by foreign powers very early. After the signing of the Geneva Accord in 1954, the United States stepped in to invade Laos. From 1959 onward, the United States began the "Special War" strategy for the Lao revolution. Since then, the Lao people have been fighting the "Special War". However, the fight of the Lao people has been impacted by many factors, including the positive and negative effects of the international and regional situation; The positive impact of the spirit of support and strong support of the Vietnamese revolution; In particular, the development of the Lao revolution of 1954-1959 as well as the implementation of the "Special War" strategy of the United States in the following years also had a multi-dimensional impact on the fight, The fight against "Special War" of the Lao people has certain advantages and disadvantages.

2. In the years 1959-1968, by conspiracies and tricks such as destroying the armed forces of Laos; Imprison the leaders of the Lao Patriotic Front; Sabotage the second Laotian National Coalition Government, Undermining the alliance between revolutionary forces and patriotic neutral forces; Through aid, consultant team to enhance the right side; Build, develop special forces of Vang Pao; Accelerating the fight in liberation zone combined with economic, cultural and psychological warfare , etc., the US "Special War" strategy pushing the fight against the invasion of Laotian people are facing many difficulties and challenges, so the process of fighting the "Special War" has been going on for a long time, going through many stages and suffering enormous losses.

3. Inheriting the tradition of fighting against foreign invaders, the fight against the "Special War" in 1959-1968 was defined by the Laotian People's Party and the Laotian Patriotic Front as a long fight, suffering and definitely to win. Accordingly, since the United States launched its war strategy, the Laotian People's Party and the Laotian Patriotic Front, by means of directives and resolutions, set out several guidelines for conducting resistance war, build the armed forces, the alliance between the revolutionary forces and the neutral forces, the building and consolidation of the liberation zone as the size of a nation as the backbone of the long-term resistance, The support of the people of the world and the solidarity between the people of the Indochinese countries, especially the people of Vietnam, focus on the fight for national liberation of Laos, etc. These are the guidelines, the important line, in line with the characteristics, practical conditions and traditional fights of the Lao people, thereby early gathering the public in the fight against the "Special War," focused on the ultimate goal of the revolution that was to defeat the enemy invasion, defend national independence.

4. In the years that the "Special War" was in place, Laotian people used radically forms of fight, focusing on political, diplomatic and military fights. Especially, in the process of fight, Lao revolution has been closely linked with patriotic neutral forces forming a solid block. Although there are individuals betraying national interests from time to time, but the progressive patriots,

patriots who are dedicated to the career of revolution are a solid premise for the people of Laos to keep up the fighting spirit.

By the spirit of uncompromising fight, with great victory on the battlefields, until 1968, Laos revolution has a continuous liberation from north to south, could firmly base on the Vietnam and China revolution, linking the great rear and the socialist side, increasingly consolidated and built in all aspects, as an independent state. It was not only the backbone of the resistance but also the revolutionary base of the country against American aggression. Along with that, armed forces, armed revolutionaries under the leadership of the Laotian People's Party are growing up, there is a civil war movement as backup, step by step win the whole "Special War" strategy of the US, protecting the liberated area, protecting revolutionary achievements. The solidarity block is held, the alliance between the Patriotic Laotian Front and neutral forces increasingly strengthened. The prestige and influence of the Patriotic Lao Front has been increasingly raised and promoted widely at home and abroad.

5. The process of fight against the "Special War" of the USA in Laos has achieved great results and has certain drawbacks; It has many unique characteristics and has a strong impact not only on the Lao people's fight against the "Special War Strengthened" and the fight for full victory in the people's democratic national revolution. In the years that followed, it also had a direct impact on the fight against the "Special War" and "Local War" of the Vietnamese people, contributing to the solidarity and unity to fight of Laos - Vietnam to a new height. At the same time, the process of fighting the "Special War" of the Lao people also left some precious experience. It is a lesson that always holds the banner of peace, neutrality, independence, democracy and unity as the ultimate goal of the fight; lessons on the construction of revolutionary armed forces and strong liberation zones as the basis for the war of the people to win the "Special War"; the lesson of flexible use of forms of fight in which political, diplomatic and military fights are fought primarily against "Special War", and, finally, international friends, strengthening the coordination between the three Indochinese countries revolutionary, especially the solidarity with Vietnam to fight against the American invasion.

6. In the new revolutionary phase, the international and regional situation is complicated, unpredictable, world war might not occur but ethnic conflict, religion, local war, terrorism was and has been very intense and has had a great impact on Laos' career of building and developing the country, especially the way that the Lao revolution chooses to build a peaceful, independent, unified and prosperous Laos nation. Therefore, the results, limitations and lessons learned from the fight against the "Special War" are hot issues that need to be further manipulated and promoted into the construction of the country of Laos in the new period and having reference value to the revolution of Vietnam**./.**