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Interrupted Game of England and French Huguenots on the Chessboard

Juego interrumpido de Inglaterra y los hugonotes franceses en el tablero de ajedrez

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ABSTRACT

The investigation is about the christianization of Florida in 16th-17th centuries. A chain of events took place in different parts of the world: Spanish Florida, west-India, England, France, Spain, and Italy. We analyzed the actions of France, and England during the Religion Wars in Europe, and their preparation which were connected with wishes of Frenchmen and English to reach Spanish Florida and close the path of the Spanish ships route. Also, we show the intelligence activities of England to identify routes for further capture of parts of modern North America and establish its protectorate.

Keywords: Game, chessboard, France, Spanish Florida, England, Huguenots.

RESUMEN

La investigación trata sobre la cristianización de Florida en los siglos XVI-XVII. Una cadena de eventos tuvo lugar en diferentes partes del mundo: La Florida española, oeste de India, Inglaterra, Francia, España, e Italia. Analizamos las acciones de Francia, e Inglaterra durante las Guerras de Religión en Europa, y su preparación, las cuales estaban conectadas con los deseos de franceses e ingleses de llegar a la Florida española y cerrar los caminos de la ruta de los barcos españoles. Además, mostramos las actividades de inteligencia de Inglaterra para identificar rutas para una mayor captura de partes de la moderna América del Norte y establecer su protectorado.

Palabras clave: Juego, tablero de ajedrez, Francia, Florida española, Inglaterra, hugonotes.

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INTRODUCTION

The subject of this study is the policy of England and France at sea and their actions in attempting to establish settlements on the territory of Spanish Florida and their behavior towards each other in connection with the religious wars in Europe.

Object:

The object was to study the links in the events in the sixteenth century that led to the displacement of France from the territory of Spanish Florida and the widespread piracy and pirate wars in the Atlantic Ocean on the trade routes of fleets and ships of Spain by France and England.

Study Target:

The purpose of the study is to understand the cause-and-effect relationships and highlight the events of "behind-the-scenes" actions that took place in world history by England, France, and Spain in the sixteenth century and led to a strategic change in the forces in world history.

METHODS

We followed the path of researching data and sources scattered in different countries: England, France, Spain, analyzed the originals of both old and modern books, translated Spanish sources in English, was studied books and maps at the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa and Sankt Petersburg (USFSP), the University of Florida in Gainesville (UF), University of West Florida (UWF), the University of San Leo in Florida and using www.brittanica.com.

RESULTS

The main part

1492 AD. Before our consideration game England against France, we need to understand that there was the Treaty of Tordesillas on June 7, 1494, which divided the World in half between Portugal and Spain and it was confirmed by Spanish-born Pope Alexander VI who issued bull setting up a line of demarcation from pole to pole 100 leagues (about 320 miles) west of the Cape Verde Islands (Treaty of Tordesillas: 1494).

The Protestant movement, which began in 1517 (Martin et al.: 2019), led to religious wars between Catholics and Protestants in Europe and soon made new demands for the terms of the division of the world by France, England, and other European Protestant countries.

1513 AD. The expedition of Ponce de Leon announced that new land Pascua de Florida (Peck: 1993) (Peck: 2007), went to direct legal management of Spain's crown it means that the management was under the King Ferdinand II of Aragon from the "House of Trastámara" (House of Trastámara: 2020) without jurisdiction of "House of Columbus".

What was the concept of "Spanish Florida" in the 1520s?

We can say that Spanish Florida was the territory from modern New Mexico to the Atlantic Ocean and from the modern Mexican Gulf to the Arctic Ocean according to the sources (Gorman: 1965, pp.52).

1556-1559. The Treaty in Vaucelles was signed that France could not trade, explore, or sail the West Indies without permission from the Spanish crown. The breaking this agreement would allow France to be considered an enemy of Spain and France did it because of the Pope's demanded France to break the agreement of 1556 after the war in Sicily between the Pope and Spain, but this led in 1559 to defeat in Italian wars and another Treaty in Le Cateau-Cambrésis (France) (Peace of Cateau-Cambrésis: 2020). France again agreed to preserve Spain's right to the West Indies and to punish pirates and privateers (Privateer: 2020) as public enemies.

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1559. The French side.

Why this game was beginning?

France demanded a renegotiation of the terms of the rule in the New World because they believed that they had a reason to do it due to expedition Florentine Giovanni da Verrazzano (Verrazano) (Giovanni Da Verrazzano: 2020) under the flag France in 1524. This expedition Verrazano reached the Cape Fear, which was on the land of the Indian group of Guale in Spanish Florida. Verrazano made a landing there and turn to the North from there along the coast of America. And although he made the wrong map (Verrazano map: 1529), this particular expedition was the main point of France's claim and the argument for the decision to start the game (Merás & Arbesú, 2017; Magsumov, 2019, Magsumov et al., 2020).

France did not have any idea to have the game with England. They believed that they will be the game with Spain on the "chessboard of Spanish Florida" and they wanted to force Spain to take part in an unnecessary game (Saifullova et al.: 2018, pp.97-108; Akim et al.: 2019, pp.1408-1428; Saenko et al., 2020; Tsvetkova et al.: 2019, pp.598-612).

French chess pieces. Who was who?

There were interesting "chess figures" from the France side.

French admiral and Huguenot leader Gaspard II de Coligny, seigneur de Châtillon (Gaspard II De Coligny: 2020), who was the main player from the side of France.

There was the main figure of Jean Ribot (Ribot or Ribot), who was a French naval officer, Explorer and colonizer.

There was one more interesting figure in France – Huguenot René de Goulaine de Laudonnière, who was an explorer and was an associate of Jean Ribault and he was the founder of Fort Carolina in 1564.

Where did Jean Ribault get his knowledge of the New World?

The biography of Jean Ribaut is very interesting and provides a clue to the mystery of the deep knowledge of the French and English about the routes of Spanish ships from the New World (Jean Ribaut: 2020). Ribault immigrated to England in 1540 as Huguenot from Catholic France. In 1546 Jean Ribault got the title of Captain under protection England Lord Lisle (McGrath: 2002, pp.63-76).

He began to work in the English Admiralty and in 1548 he assisted for famous explorer Sebastian Cabot (Sebastian Cabot: 2018) (who was involved in Moscow Trade Company) who was the son of a great cartographer and explorer John Cabot (McGrath: 2002, pp.69). John Cabot sailed under the English flag of England to North America 40 years before in 1497 (he reached modern land New Scotland or Newfoundland). Sebastian Cabot was a member of the Council of India in Spain in 1512-1516, and in 1522-1525 commanded a Fleet of Spain and was a Captain-General in Spain and made many discoveries under the Spanish flag in the expedition from 1526 to 1530. He knew full information about Spanish shipping because he prepared maps and cadres for the entire Spanish fleet. It was only in 1547 that he left for England as a senior pilot of Spain. This was the man who shared all the knowledge of the New World with his French-Huguenot assistant Jean Ribault! So, in England Jean Ribault acquired necessary knowledge and experience.

When the Catholic Mary Tudor came to power in England, the Protestant Jean Ribault left in 1555 back to France, in Normandy. He becomes an associate of the French Admiral Coligny. Admiral Coligny became the Huguenot in 1560 (before it, he was a Catholic).

1559-1560 Coligny and Jean Ribault prepared a plan to intervene and restore Mary Stewart to the Throne as Queen of Scotland. This action brought them closer together. In this time Coligny concluded agreements with privateers, and they began to explore routes in New World and rob Spanish' and Portuguese' ships.

March 1560 AD.

Admiral Coligny wanted to find the settlement of Huguenots in New World where all Huguenots can live in peace and without persecution by Catholics. In 1551 Coligny sent to Brazil first Huguenots from France with missions to find where Huguenots can find the place for settlement outside of Europe. The expedition in the head of the Guillaume Le Testu landed successfully and founded the fort. But this Fort was occupied by Portugal on 15 March 1560.

And Coligny decided to prepare an expedition in Spanish Florida (McGrath: 2002, pp.71). and he used a map of Giovanni da Verrazano which was made after his expedition 1524. The interesting fact that Verrazano must be landed in the 1528 year in Florida (and maybe visited Florida) but during the stay of the ships in Guadeloupe, he was eaten by aborigines-cannibals.

1560 AD. England replaces Spain.

Suddenly Englishmen appeared on the other side game with France instead of Spain, i.e. England decided to play its own game with France on the chessboard of "Spanish World".

Figures of the English side.

Queen of England Elisabeth I

John Hawkins (Hawkins) who was founded of Fleet of English Privateers (Sir John Hawkins: 2020; Pautov: 2020, pp.164-68);

Francis Drake – the young relative of John Hawkins;

The strange figure was Thomas Stukeley (Stukley or Stucley) who devised a plan for a colony in "Terra Florida".

1560 AD.

John Hawkins suggested that the Queen of England send him with the expedition to Africa and from there to the West Indies. He was supported and financed by the son of Lord Mayor of London Thomas Lodge and the Navy Treasurer, Benjamin Gonson who was the father-in-law of Hawkins, Sir Winter, and Lionel Duckett who was the inspector of England Fleet and head of Moscow Trade Company.

The game is beginning.

Change Spain to England was a very suddenly turning of events for France, but they decided to play.

1562 AD. The first move of the French on the chessboard.

February 18, 1562, the expedition departed from France and soon reached the beach of Florida with 150 soldiers by two ships. The expedition chose an irregular very short way and reached Florida in 10 weeks because the map of France Navigator Guillaume Le Testu of Le Havre, which "the true and short course that hereafter must be kept." (McGrath: 2002, pp.71-72).

When the French arrived at the place of the modern city of St. Augustine, Jean Ribault led 200 miles at the North and claimed the rights of France on this territory, examined the coastline, and carefully mapped the rivers and the entire coastline on the map (McGrath: 2002, pp.73).

On the ship of Jean Ribault was René de Goulaine de Laudonnière and cartographe-illustrateur Le Moyne de Morgue.

They decided to establish a colony at the mouth of the La Riviere D'albemarle River, near present-day Jacksonville (30 degrees latitude), on the land Saturiwa who was the local chief of the Indians.

The settlement was also named Charlesfort in honor of the French king Charles IX.

Jean Ribault befriended with the local cacique (leader) Saturiwa and other leaders of aborigine's tribes. The French and Indians jointly erected a border stone column with the coat of arms of France and the message that this is the border of French Florida ("La Floride Française"). Soon, Jean Ribault left the garrison about 30

people and one Huguenot priest in the settlement and back to France for help. It was surprised for Admiral Coligny.

The Spaniards watched for the game.

The Spanish ambassador Chantone sent a message for the king of Spain Philippe about the names of France who gave the money for the expedition in Florida. These were the Queen-Mother Catherine de'Medici who was regent of Charles IX, Antoine de Bourbon, Prince Condé, Madame de Court. There was important information that there were one Englishman and Portuguese as navigator (Gorman: 1965, pp.54).

July 20, 1562.

There was Religion War between the Huguenots and Catholics in France when Jean Ribault arrived in France. Jean Ribault took part in negotiation very actively (Gorman: 1965, pp.53).

October 1562. The move of the English side. The exploration of routes to the New World.

In October 1562 John Hawkins had three ships: "Solomon", "Swallow", "lone". This small fleet had departed England and sail to West Africa. Then fleet arrived near Guinea, where they captured 5 slave ships of Portugal with 910 negroes. He sailed to Hispaniola and sold part of slavers and goods. Then they visited several ports in West-Indies and bought some goods for example sugar, pearls, skins e t c and filled the holds of the ships. The small fleet back to England in 1562. England had known the routes in West-Indies.

October 1562.

Catholic win in Normandy and occupied the Dieppe (France) and Jean Ribault was forced to leave for England (Gorman: 1965, pp.53-54).

January 1563. Pause the game. Attempt to replace "a chess piece".

Jean Ribault translated his account of the expedition to Florida in English language while he stays in the England in 1563. And immediately after it, he wrote to Elizabeth's Secretary to request about the audience. So, in January in 1563, Jean Ribault was invited to the Queen of England and he told her about the forgotten settlement Charlesfort of Huguenots in Florida and asked about help. Elizabeth offers him a house, pension, and half of the treasure which he can get. Also, the Queen offered him the command of a fleet that would go to French Florida, and she gave him Catholic Thomas Stukeley as a partner (Bennett: 1968, pp.131). Stukeley was under protection of Robert Dudley (Quinn:1990, pp.1500-1625) who was the Queen's childhood friend.

Elizabeth thought that Jean Ribault should be grateful and indebted to his position as a captain, received in England, and therefore Jean Ribault should be happy to be able to lead ships to French Florida, without any doubt. And Queen returned him his ship which he gave for England during evacuation English soldiers from Normandie in 1562.

From January to March 1563 Stukeley who was the companion of Jean Ribault collected 5 ships and 300 soldiers in London for the expedition to Terra Florida and then sailed to Bristol (Bennett:1968, pp.131; Quinn:1990, pp.1500-1625).

Winter of 1562-1563. Charlesfort, Florida.

During this time in French Charlesfort in Florida began usual problems for settlement: cold and starvation, diseases, and deterioration of relations with the aboriginal; French settlers needed everything. They did not have any information and help from France. Everybody requested to leave Charlesfort and back to France. The rebellion began. The commander of Charlesfort was killed and rebels built two makeshift vessels from wood and caulked moss, prepare sails from shirts and sheets, and had a departure from Florida. Their voyage across the ocean was awful. The France sailors ate each other i.e. they resorted to cannibalism during the voyage (Bennett: 1968). One of the makeshift vessels was picked up by an English ship in 1563 and sent to England. Queen Elizabeth was the first who know about failures the Charlesfort in Florida (Gorman: 1965, pp.54).

The pause was continued.

March 1563.

There was the Edict of Amboise which was signed March 19, 1563. This document consolidated Huguenots and Catholics in France. England soldiers left France. The English began to consider all the French

as enemies and traitors (Quinn:1990, pp.1500-1625). Also, Jean Ribault lost the trust of the English establishment: he was very angry that the process prepares expedition in Florida was very slow, especially when he received information about the tragic end of Charlesfort to Florida and about the survivors of the sailors which was saved by English in the ocean. Jean Ribault changed his mind about to head the English fleet to Florida.

The fourth move. France. The Admiral Coligny.

After peaceful time admiral Coligny decided to continue efforts to find the France settlers in Florida. He published the report of Jean Ribault "The whole and true discover ye of "Terra Florida" and spread inside of France society.

The fifth move. England June 1563. Queen Elizabeth I. the blocking of the main figure.

In June 1563 Jean Ribault tried to back in France on his ship from England. He was captured and imprisoned in Tower of London (Gorman: 1965, pp.62) by order of English Queen Elizabeth I. He was blocked and stayed in prison (Bennett: 1968) from June 1563 to spring 1564. While the French Jean Ribault was in the tower Elizabeth believed that the fleet of Stukelye or fleet of Hawkins may reach "Terra Florida".

The sixth move. June 1563. The Admiral Coligny.

When the information about the failure of Charlesfort and blocked Jean Ribault in Tower reached Paris Admiral Coligny began to prepare a new expedition to Florida with Reny de Laudonnière who was with Jean Ribault in the first expedition when was founded Charlesfort in Florida (Gorman: 1965, pp.54-62).

The Spaniards watched for the game.

Again, embassy in London and Chantone, the Spanish ambassador to France (although the French Queen denied it for Chantone) received and sent in Spain all information that France known all about the colony of Admiral Coligny in Florida (Gorman: 1965, pp.54; Bennett: 1968, pp.131-33).

The seventh move. England.

June-July 1563. Stukeley left London and took 5 ships announced that he sailed to Terra Florida Instead, he takes the route to Plymouth (Bennett: 1968, pp.133) and later sailed to the west shore of Europe (Quinn:1990, pp.1500-1625) to rob the ships of Portugal and France. Stukeley was a Catholic and received the advice of the ambassador of Spain in England that he should stay away from Spanish Florida, for this reason he began to rob the ships in the Biscay Gulf in Europe. So, the mission of England was the usual rob France and Portugal ships with goods from New World instead of the expedition to Florida (Bennett: 1968, pp.137). These actions and his attack were very successful, and Queen Elizabeth forced to blame officially Stukeley. Interesting that the ship of Jean Ribault (Gorman: 1965, pp.62) was confiscated by England after his traitor and later captured by Spain. Stukeley constantly had connection with the Ambassador of Spain in London and said that he wanted to serve the king of Spain because he was a Catholic (Bennett: 1968, pp.134-137) and even he wanted to sink the ship of Ribaut (Bennett: 1968).

The eighth course. France. Fort Carolina.

Admiral Coligny did not waste time and preparing a new expedition that sailed in April 1564 and in July 1564 the ships reached Florida. René de Goulaine de Laudonnière decided to build a new fort instead Charlesfort which was on the south from new place and again this land was the land of Indian cacique Saturiwa. He decided to give the name Fort Carolina for new Fort. Rene built the stone column as a "Border Post" for showing the edge of France's Florida (Bennett: 1968, pp.22).

July 1564. Elizabeth released Jean Ribault because she didn't need it in his help.

The ninth move. England. Queen Elizabeth I.

Elizabeth decided to change the figure and preferred Hawkins-Drake due to the ships of Stukeley were captured and he rob ships only near Europe in Biscayne Gulf. She was disappointed with Stukeley.

October 1564. The Queen gave for Hawkins her ship which was the old 700-tonne ship "Jesus of Lyubek". Also, in the expedition, John Hawkins took place the ship Tiger, Swallow. Hawkins captured 400 slaves near Africa and cross the Atlantic Ocean and then he reached Venezuela and later sailed to Borgurate

and Rio de la Ache. John Hawkins traded by different ways: trickery, threats, and deception. But in the results, he changed all black slaves on gold, silver, pearls, gems and, etc.

The fleet of Hawkins sailed from the shores of South America to Cuba and then headed to Florida where Howling and-Drake visited Fort Carolina (Gorman: 1965, pp.54-56).

May 5-7, 1565. The expedition of Hawkins reached French settlement Fort Carolina (La Carolina). The reason for the visit was the freshwater replenishment but the aim was the order of Elizabeth to find and check the land and place where France built the settlement (Quinn:1990, pp.1500-1625) (Lhoumeau: 2020, pp.1562-1568). There was a difficult situation in La Carolina in this time and Hawkins offered to take all Frenchmen to England (Gorman: 1965, pp.56). But Laudonnière refused, because he did not know what relations were at that time between England and France, but Rene bought 15 barrels of flour and one ship from Hawkins Fleet (Bennett: 1968, pp.139-40). Now England known about the route and about the land of France colony. There were not all people in France know about this settlement where all settlers were France's Huguenots (Gorman: 1965, pp.56).

The tenth move. France. May 24, 1565. The lost time or the fatal hesitation

As soon as Jean Ribault was released from Tower by order of Elizabeth I as an unnecessary and unreliable person he arrived in France and very quick to prepare a new expedition followed for Laudonnière. Jean Ribault accepted the position of Viceroy and Captain-General of French Florida. Ribault crossed the ocean with 3 ships, 600 soldiers and artisans, 70 women and he brought the documents that were accused Laudonnière to the wrong management of the colony and need to take his command.

14 August 1565. The Fleet of Jean Ribault reached the land of Florida in the area of modern Cape Canaveral.

1565 AD. The game is over suddenly: Spain turns over the board chess.

There were only 100 miles from the Cape of Canaveral to Fort Carolina (McGrath: 2002, pp.73). But the Jean Ribault 14 days sailed to this point. He explored the coastline: rivers, Islands, bays, etc., and very carefully mapped them (McGrath: 2002, pp.73).

There was information about the fleet of Spain which sailed to Florida and Jean Ribault had the order from Admiral Coligny to defend the position in Florida and don't allow Spaniards to harm to France settlement (Milanich: 1998). So, it was the announced war although there was peace agreement of Le Cateau-Cambrésis 1559 where was the point that France did not claim the overseas territories of Spain.

France decided to break the agreement. Before leaving, the French said these words: "I drink to the heads of Pedro Menéndez and his men, who are Spanish pigs! We shall punish them by hanging them from the yards of their ships and our own, and they shall not come back to look for us in this, our land!".

Although Jean Ribault knew about the Fleet from Spain, he was sure very strong that Spaniards didn't visit Florida before the spring of next year (1566). Jean Ribault had information that the fleet of Menendez will stop in West-India for resupply of food and recreation and so, must stay there before next spring.

Why Jean Ribault trusted this information and didn't worry that he could late to Carolina? Before departure Adelantado of Florida Menendez discussed his plan with King Philippe II in Santa María de Nieva in April 1565 and later he told about his plan for all members in the Royal Council of State and War. No doubt that this information was forwarded to spies and agents of France and therefore Jean Ribault trust in it and didn't hurry up.

This was the fatal mistake of Frenchmen.

Perhaps the game for dividing Spanish Florida between England and France would have continued further, but the Governor of Spanish Florida-Menendez changed his plan and very unexpectedly for everyone, and he persuaded all the captains of his fleet to follow his new plan and go to Florida. It's funny that he convinced all his people by an original method when he locked them inside his ship for a long time and gave them the advice to think about their offer. He gave them the opportunity to agree with each other because he knew that most of them were loyal to him and could convince the other part of the people of the correctness of his new idea.

So, Menendez turned the chessboard of Spanish Florida, where England and France played, changed the course of world history.

The followed after this event sad fate of French Florida and Fort Caroline is well known. When the Spaniards landed near present-day St. Augustine, they would soon suddenly appear near Fort Caroline and immediately return. The French soldiers decided to attack the Spaniards, collected all the ships and soldiers, and went to sea. At this time, Menendez suddenly attacked Fort Carolina from land and broke into the Fort after a chain of random events. The Spaniards killed all the defenders and kept the lives of only children and women inside the Fort.

While he was occupying Fort Caroline, a violent storm broke out at sea, and all the ships of Jean Ribault's French fleet were scattered and sunk. According to information received from the Indians, Menendez found scattered groups of enemies on the island, forced them to surrender, and killed them all, although he saved lives only for Catholics. Later, the Indians informed Menendez of the second group of Frenchmen with Jean Ribault at their head. And the Spaniards again killed all the French who had surrendered, including Jean Ribault. A little later, the third group of Frenchmen was found when they tried to build a fort south of the fort Carolina. Information about this group was again brought by the Indians, and Menendez attacked the last French soldiers and destroyed the new Fort. In all, he killed about 500 French soldiers on the coast of Florida.

Thus, inglorious and terrible ended the existence of French Florida in 1565. Thus, Menendez's actions prevented not only the French but also the English from settling on the land called Spanish Florida.

DISCUSSION

Afterword to the game

The French returned in 1567 with a mission of the revenge. It was the expedition Dominique de Gourgues (Bennett: 1968, pp.183-200). They, along with chief Saturiwa Indians and their allies, made a surprise attack on Fort San Mateo, where Fort Carolina had stood, and on two other forts in the vicinity. The French and Indians killed all the Spaniards and hanged the prisoners by writing tablets on them:

"I do this not with Spaniards or sailors, but as traitors, robbers, and murderers. ("Je ne le fais pas comme les Espagnols, ni comme les Marins, mais ; comme traîtres, voleurs & assassins") (Laudonnière: 2020). This was in retaliation for an inscription by Menendez, who, when hanging the French in 1565, wrote: "Hice esto, no Como franceses, sino como luteranos" ("This is not for the French, but the Lutherans"). After promising to help the French army for 20 moons, Dominique de Gourgues left on May 3, 1568. After 17 days, he traveled 1,100 miles and arrived in La Rochelle (France).

This was the last flash of the vanished French presence on the Atlantic coast of Spanish Florida. It was done by the captain and national hero-avenger: captain Dominique de Gourgues who had a personal dislike for the Spaniards throughout his life and was able to implement it in this way, even though he was a Catholic.

Myths and reality. The secret mission of the French

Many authors in France and England wrote that the settlers had no other purpose than to find a new place for a peaceful Huguenot settlement. First, there is a description of how the Huguenots immediately rushed to plunder the Spanish West Indies (Milanich: 1998) and were 70 of them caught in Jamaica and hanged (Bennett: 1968, pp.136). And the Spaniards found evidence of other plans. After that, when the Spaniards occupied Fort Carolina, they found in the house of Jean Ribault a small box with an order from Coligny who was the Admiral of France which had the sign of him. The order said that when general Jean Ribault must arrive in Florida he must strengthen the Fort and within a month of when the Adelantado arrived there, the French decided to go from Florida with the fleet to all the parts of the Indies to free the black people, who would rise in rebellion and take the land, killing their masters. The French would then establish their fortresses and their governing bodies, letting the black people, mulattoes, and mestizos live in their Lutheran

freedom and not be slaves, and conducting trade, contracts, agreements, and business deals with them. This plan was seen and read by many people when the Adelantado took the fort called Fort of France.

CONCLUSION

We are dealing with a "backstage game " between France and England, who tried to establish colonies and settlements on the territory of Spanish Florida, to cut off the path of Spanish ships and fleets carrying cargos of gold, silver, pearls and other goods, etc. from the New World to Spain. This game took place in 1560. We discovered the connection between how and where the French got their information and Jean Ribault's connection to England and Sebastian Cabot. We have traced the chain between the appearance of information about French settlements in Florida and its distribution in England and Spain. They explained why the Spanish surprised the French in Florida in 1565.

This game was a very interesting moment in world history. Menendez interrupted this game and, figuratively said, "Turned the chessboard" in this game. As a result, France and England were forced to "collect scattered chess pieces", and it took many years. However, this story could have ended differently the loss of all of Florida to Spain.

It is interesting that England and France during this game well-studied ship routes for the delivery of goods from the New World and back, and organized a powerful smuggling trade in the New World, and then were able to create conditions for regular raids by individual pirates, privateers, buccaneers and Drake's fleet to carry out robberies of Florida and other overseas possessions of Spain.

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