

File RP-personal

24 Round Hill Road
North Haven (Hamden 18)
Connecticut

Code 203 Chestnut 8-3771
2 September 1962

Mr Rufus C. Phillips 3rd
Aeroways Engineering Corp.
1212 18th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ruf:

It was indeed most pleasant to see you the other day in your office. I hope that we will have an opportunity of meeting soon elsewhere and pursue further matters of mutual concern and interest.

Enclosed is the promised biographical data sheet on M. Mai Tho Truyen who will visit me at Yale 13-17 September.

With regard to the Vietnamese Army major and Buddhist lay leader whom I met in Danang during 2-3 August 1960, he is Thiếu tá Nguyễn-chi-Kiêm. If not at the Army headquarters he might be found at or in care of the Chùa Giáo Hội Phật Giáo Tourane (which is the Danang/Tourane headquarters of the Hội Phật Giáo Việt-Nam [General Buddhist Association of Việt-Nam]) located at the Chùa Tịnh Hội, No. 33, Ông Ích Kênh, Danang [which was very hospitable to me during my visit].

With all best wishes for the future,

Sincerely yours,

Rich
Richard A. Gard

COMMITTEE ON LEADERS AND SPECIALISTS
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA ON: Mr. MAI Tho Truyen,
Vice President, General Buddhist Association of Viet-Nam
Saigon, Viet -Nam

Participant in the Foreign Leaders Program of the Bureau of Educational and
Cultural Affairs, U. S. Department of State: L-402-62

Visiting the United States: July 14 - Sept. 22, 1962

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: Ben Tre, south Viet-Nam, April 1, 1905 MARITAL STATUS: Married, three
children; 8 grandchildren
NATIONALITY: Vietnamese
HOME ADDRESS: 85 Cu Xa Kien Thiet, Ngo Dinh Khoi, Saigon, Viet-Nam.
ACADEMIC TRAINING: French lycee in Saigon. Course in general administration given by French
colonial government in Saigon.

POSITIONS HELD: Inspector of Administrative and Financial Affairs, Cabinet of the President
of Viet-Nam, 1955-60; Deputy Director of Cabinet of Prime Minister, 1954-55;
Director of Cabinet of Governor of South Viet-Nam, 1950-54; Chief of Cabinet
of Central Provisional Government of Viet-Nam 1948-50; Associate chief of
administration, Province of Sadec, 1946-47; Administrative official for
French colonial government, 1920-45.

PRESENT POSITION: Vice President, General Buddhist Association of Viet-Nam and President of
Association for Buddhist Studies(member organization for South Viet-Nam of
the federated General Buddhist Association). Editor-in-chief and General
Manager of Tu Quang (Light of Compassion), the monthly magazine of the
General Buddhist Association, with circulation of 3000.

ORGANIZATIONS: Vice President, World Fellowship of Buddhists.

PUBLICATIONS: Le Bouddhisme au Vietnam, Saigon 1962; several books in Vietnamese on the
teachings of Chinese Buddhist masters, (including Huan Tsang, Hu-Yuan, and
Hoan-Pu).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Buddhism is the principal religion of Viet-nam, comprising over 65% of the
population.

TRAVELS ABROAD: Attended Buddhist conferences in India (1956), Japan (1958) and Cambodia
(1961). France, 1953.

KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH: Limited; very fluent in French. He will be accompanied by an interpreter,
Mr. Clifford Grayson.

INTERESTS: Mr. Mai would like to visit Buddhist communities to confer with their leaders
and to observe the status of Buddhism in the United States. He would like
to visit universities and libraries specializing in oriental philosophy and
religion in general and in Buddhism in particular and to confer with scholars
in these fields. He also would be interested in observing the organization
of the social welfare and cultural activity of religious bodies in the
United States and in exchanging ideas with American religious leaders. He
has been a practicing Buddhist since 1946.