

A PARTICIPANT'S DAY AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Oral E. Parks

Mr. Pham Van Ngu, 284/13 Co Bac, Saigon, Vietnam, is a participant in the MSU Technical Assistance ^{Participant} Program which arranges for Vietnamese government officials to visit the United States on training and study programs. These programs, directed from the MSUG Saigon office by Mr. Howard L. Waltman, make it possible for selected government officials to study and observe methods and operations of government agencies at the national, state and local level in the United States. In addition, the participants (as the officials are called) attend classes as special ~~graduate~~ students at Michigan State and other American universities, visit seminars and conferences in their areas of interest, tour industrial plants and factories (a favorite has been the Oldsmobile auto plant in Lansing), and visit business and commercial establishments. Each program is planned carefully for the participant to give him the opportunity of developing his interests and to learn techniques and methods which will be valuable to him in his job.

Mr. Ngu, for example, is the Chief of Secretariat in the Office of the Inspector General of Administrative and Financial Affairs. In this capacity he supervises personnel in accounting, typing, research, documentation and correspondence. At Michigan State his program of studies and training are designed to make him more proficient in office management and personnel relations. His courses therefore include a course in Organization and Methods of Office Management, Personnel Administration and Public Administration.

He visits government agencies in Lansing, the capitol city of Michigan, Washington, D. C., and Chicago, Illinois, to observe organization and procedures. He attends conferences dealing with personnel relations, public administration, and management.

There are other phases of Mr. Ngu's program which are not directly concerned with formal course work and observation. ~~One of these~~ The photographs in this article deal with one such phase - the everyday activities of living on an American university campus. Here, in picture form, is the story of a day in the life of a participant at MSU.

1()

(1) The MSU campus is large and attractive, but it can be confusing to anyone not familiar with it. Here Mr. Ngu (seated) and his roommate, Mr. Huynh Than Hung, check classroom buildings on the campus map before starting to class.

(2) Meals in the dormitory are served cafeteria-style, so Mr. Ngu goes through the serving line selecting food for his breakfast.

(3) Mr. Ngu visits Miss Elsie Cunningham, Participant Advisor for Vietnamese students on campus under the ICA program. Miss Cunningham assists the students in selecting courses, arranges visits to local businesses and government agencies, plans trips to out-of-town places of interest, and handles all the details in planning programs which will enable the participant to see and learn as much as possible during his stay at MSU.

(4) While walking to class Mr. Ngu stops to talk with Mr. , a regular ~~xxxx~~ graduate student at MSU from Saigon. Mr. provides valuable assistance to the participants by acting as guide, interpreter, and source of information about MSU and the U. S. With Mr. Ngu are four participants: Mr. Pham Phan Con (upper left); Mr. Hung (upper right); Mr. Huynh van Dao (behind Mr. Ngu); and Mr. Tran van Kien (left front).

(5) After lunch, Mr. Ngu relaxes in the dormitory lounge while reading the MSU newspaper. A dormitory similar to the one Mr. Ngu lives in may be seen in the background.

(6) Mr. Ngu talks with Mr. Stanley K. Sheinbaum, Coordinator of the Vietnam Project at MSU. Mr. Sheinbaum maintains frequent contact with the participants in order to know what they are doing and to offer suggestions for further activities; to help plan general programs, and to aid them in solving any problems that may arise.

(7) Miss Betty Ostrander, Project secretary (standing), and Miss Alice Green, student secretary, show Mr. Ngu how to operate the Ediphone dictating machine.

(8) Mr. Ngu carries a full load of courses, so much of his time is spent studying. Here he uses the facilities of MSU's large modern library to prepare for a class.

(9) Mr. Ngu and Mr. Hung leave the library and walk back to the dormitory for the evening meal. ~~THXXXXXXXX~~

(10) Dinner in the dormitory dining hall, eaten in an informal atmosphere, is a chance to relax from a long day of classes and study.

(11) Mr. Ngu shares a joke with the photographer, Oral Parks, during a ~~picture-taking~~ visit to his room.

(12) Classes are not always finished at the end of the day. Mr. Ngu and Mr. Hung attend a night class in Organization and Methods ~~taught~~ ~~by~~ ~~Mr.~~ ~~Clayton~~ ~~Millington~~ in Office Management taught by Mr. Clayton Millington