

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

February 9, 1960

Guy Fox, Chief, Public Administration Division

Meeting with Rector Thong and Chief Advisor, February 4, 1960

1. Mr. Thuyet. Dr. Musolf called Mr. Thong's attention to the fact that Mr. Thuyet's tickets to the United States had to be cancelled because Thuyet had failed to complete the simple obligations and processes necessary for his trip. Now it is too late for him to arrive in North Carolina at the time set by Duke University. Thuyet cannot possibly arrive now until February 13 and could not attend classes until the 15th. Duke University has said that he must report between February 3 and 8. If Thuyet was a particularly good student and had made a real effort to complete the processes for his trip, we would want to take every possible step to send him to the U.S. now. But he appears to be a marginal student. He has done poor work for Taylor and has only attended 20% of Child's classes; he was rejected for admission to the Graduate School by four American universities, and failed his doctorate examination at the University of Saigon.

Three possible courses are open: (1) for him to arrive late, provided we can obtain permission from Duke University; (2) to have him go later, perhaps after he has demonstrated his fitness by passing the doctorate examination; (3) to reject him from our consideration as a participant.

Rector Thong agreed that it appears Mr. Thuyet has been negligent and that he has not given adequate evidence of scholarship. He will talk with Thuyet, obtain his side of the story and notify him of his decision.

2. Participants. (a) Mr. Musolf said that as soon as he can find out from East Lansing the number of man months available for participants, he would like to discuss the participant program with Mr. Thong. (b) Six participants, who went to the U.S. in 1958, need an extension of their stay. Word has been received from East Lansing that their situation is o.k., but Mr. Thong will see officials in Foreign Affairs who, in turn, will probably see the U.S. Ambassador about the matter. The arrete regarding the six participants provides only for a six month's extension of their stay in the States whereas they plan to be there nine months. We may have to get an extension for an additional three months.

3. Announcement of arrivals by Musolf. (a) Mr. Xuan was supposed to arrive Wednesday night but apparently did not come. A message indicates he may arrive Thursday. Mr. Thong will be informed as soon as Mr. Xuan arrives and he will be brought to the NIA immediately. (b) Mr. Donahue will arrive February 27. His main job will be (1) to advise on the sociology curriculum, (2) assist in the development of research in the field of Sociology, and (3) do his own research. (c) Mr. Ruben Austin will arrive Monday, February 8.

4. Case Study. Mr. Thong said that Mr. Finkle and Mr. Dinh have planned a case study on the provincial level. Originally Tay Ninh had been selected for the study but because of the recent disturbances they may have to choose another place.

5. Hue trip. Mr. Musolf announced that he, Mr. Finkle, and a member of the NIA would be making a trip to Hue in the latter part of the month. The purpose of the trip is to acquaint interested faculty members there with the case study method. It is hoped some faculty member of the NIA who is interested in case study will also accompany the group. Because of the interest expressed by the University at Hue to Mr. Keefer of the Education Division at USOM in exploring possibilities of establishing a Business Administration School, Mr. Austin may accompany the group. Mr. Musolf emphasized, however, that Mr. Austin's main efforts would be here in Saigon to study the situation regarding the Business Administration School.

6. Public Administration Advisors Conference. Mr. Thong said that Mr. Dienes had invited him to give an address to the Conference of public administration advisors on Wednesday, February 17. The topic will be, "Role of the NIA in Training Supervisory Officials."

7. Mr. Bui Quang Khanh, now a participant at Michigan State University, wishes, according to Mr. Thong, to get his Masters degree before obtaining his Ph.D. Mr. Musolf said we should receive an explanation of Mr. Khanh's motives. Mr. Musolf requested that Mr. Thong please hold up his letter to Mr. Khanh until he had received a clarification of Mr. Khanh's intentions from East Lansing.