

August 14, 1958

To: Howard Waltman  
From: Coordinator  
Subject: Participant Advances

I have become a little concerned with the mechanics of these advances. Our present practice, as you know, is to issue \$100 checks for each participant, but in John Griffin's name. The rationale for this has been that the participants would want their dollars in cash before departing Saigon. Practice has been that most of them do not cash their checks until they arrive in the U.S. Because the check is not made out to the participant's name there is usually some problem in getting it cashed. Would you think about this one and send us a recommendation.

Mr. Ton that Trach's check proved particularly awkward, given his status and prestige. A check had been sent in Mr. Stoutenberg's name who indorsed it over to Mr. Griffin who then indorsed it over to Mr. Waltman who then indorsed it over to Mr. Trach. Upon his arrival in the U.S. Mr. Trach was unable to cash the check until he objected to the procedure to Al Rosenfeld. Al, of course, immediately cashed it for him.

Although Mr. Trach's experience is an extreme example of the problem, we have been aware that something might not be proper about the present system. We await your reaction.

SKS:op

cc: John Griffin  
Elsie Cunningham



*Elsie*

The Coordinator

August 23, 1958

Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director

No. 11 Re your memo on Participant Advances

I have discussed this problem with John Griffin. He proposed two possible solutions, both of which would represent an improvement over present procedures.

- 1) Increase Griffin's dollar petty cash account by an amount that would permit him to write the checks himself.
- 2) Send blank, signed checks that could be completed here.

The first solution appears to be the better of the two, if it could be implemented. Not only would it save correspondence and time, but it would also eliminate checks being written and not used.

I urge you to make a prompt decision in view of the anticipated September traffic. Let's make your response to this memo the definitive procedure.

HLW: ntmt

cc : Mr. Griffin

The Coordinator

August 23, 1958

Howard L. Waltman

No. 13 - Visa List Public Administration Participants

The bio-data forms on all Public Administration Participants were sent to ICA/W on July 17th, requesting a September Visa Listing.

USOM has already sent a cable to ICA/W asking them to expedite clearances on the 8 scheduled to leave in September, but there has been no response. Please keep youreye on this situation along with the 11 Police Participants scheduled to leave in September (Reference Memo No. 12).

HLW: ntmt

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

MAILING ADDRESS: MSU-USOM  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
SAIGON - VIETNAM

CABLE ADDRESS: MICHGOVBUR

GENERAL OFFICE:  
137, DUONG PASTEUR

TELEPH. NUMBER: 22.022-21.528  
SAIGON: 383-384

August 27, 1958

TO: The Coordinator  
FROM: Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director  
SUBJECT: No. 14 - Re: Your Memo on Le Van Kim of Aug 20

Mr. Le Van Kim is the Technical Assistant to Mr. Vu Van Thai. In conjunction with USOM, we have planned a two-month trip for Mr. Kim which will enable him to study matters relating to budget, governmental auditing, accounting and mechanical tabulation.

Mr. Kim will be travelling on MSU funds but his program will be arranged by ICA/W. A program proposal, stating his departure date as September 15, has already been sent to ICA/W. It has been requested that Mr. Kim be scheduled for two weeks in East Lansing. ICA/W has been requested to contact you on the exact dates of this two-week visit and on any other matters of coordination on Mr. Kim's program. We hope that we will be able to dovetail a portion of Kim's program with that of Thai's, specifically, that portion devoted to the inspection of electronic equipment.

HLW:mrw  
cc: Dr. John T. Dorsey, Jr.

The Coordinator

September 2, 1958

Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director

No. 13 - Program of Participant Lê-Dinh-Chân

We have reworked the program recommendations originally made to East Lansing for Professor Chăn. Because of his position at the NIA, it is felt that it would be undesirable for him to be enrolled in any regular courses as a participating student. His work should be entirely of an observation and study nature. He should, however, be permitted to audit one or two graduate seminars if he expresses an interest.

Professor Chăn has recently been reappointed by the National Institute Council as Head of the Research Section. Chăn, quite frankly, does not have any great interest in this activity. He is primarily interested in his specialty of money and banking. We have emphasized to him that he will spend at least a third of his time studying in areas that relate to his duties in research. He has agreed, somewhat reluctantly, to this. Anything you can do to stimulate his interest in research would be helpful. He should, most definitely, visit the Brookings Institute and research organizations in 1313. He might also visit the Institute for Social Research at Ann Arbor, and/or comparable institutions. In addition to this he should be permitted some time in a Federal Reserve Bank and a large commercial banking institution.

Professor Chăn is somewhat temperamental and should be handled carefully. I urge you to watch him closely and to try to ensure his performing in a manner which will result in the training being of maximum benefit to him.

HLM:ntmt

September 16, 1958

TO: The Coordinator  
FROM: Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director  
SUBJECT: No. 21 - Participants, Vinh Tho and Le Dinh Chan

Professor Chan has requested a one-week delay in his scheduled departure date of September 18. The reasons for the delay, as stated by Mr. Chan, are financial difficulties and personal problems. We will reschedule his departure for September 25. Inasmuch as he was not scheduled to enroll in any classes, it should not result in any serious program difficulties.

Mr. Vinh Tho has been ordered by the Presidency to make a two-week stop in Tokyo enroute to the United States. We have carefully weighed the advisability of this and have granted permission for Mr. Tho to make this stop. I realize that this will bring Tho to East Lansing after the beginning of classes, however there is no alternative at this point. I suggest that you register Mr. Tho in the classes which you have selected for him and advise the instructors that he will be in East Lansing on or about October 6. Tho's English is somewhat behind the rest of the participant group, however he should experience no serious difficulties from his delay in making the necessary adjustments.

HLW:mrw

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September 16, 1958

*Handwritten initials*

TO: The Coordinator  
FROM: Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director  
SUBJECT: No. 22 - Departure Dates for Police and  
Public Administration Participants

Seven public administration participants are scheduled to depart Saigon on September 18. Their estimated time of arrival in the United States is September 23. Six police participants are scheduled for a September 19 departure from Saigon with an estimated time of arrival of September 24. As soon as the itineraries are confirmed and the ETA is definite, I will cable this information to you. Professor Chan will probably leave Saigon on September 25 and arrive in East Lansing on October 1.

HLW:mrw

September 20, 1958

TO: The Coordinator  
FROM: Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director  
SUBJECT: No. 27 - Le Van Kim

Mr. Le Van Kim's departure is being held up pending a visa listing from Washington. We are hopeful that Mr. Kim will be able to leave Saigon on or about October 1. USOM is beginning to feel acute embarrassment regarding Kim's departure. They have been putting as much pressure as possible on ICA/W for the visa listing.

We have not yet received a program outline for Kim from ICA/W. Have you received any information from them on his program? One important consideration is that Mr. Kim would like to spend his two weeks in East Lansing at the same time that Marv Murphy will be there. This, and the fact that Kim would like a portion of his training to dovetail with Thai's for the purpose of inspecting electronic equipment, are two program conditions that you should keep in mind.

I will keep you posted by cable from this point on the status of Kim's trip.

HLW:mrw

September 23, 1958

TO : The Coordinator  
FROM : Howard L. Waltman, Participant Director  
SUBJECT: No. 28 - Third Country Training, Miss Tang Thi Ti

Arrangements have almost been finalized for Miss Ti's training in the Philippines. However, I am not quite certain how to handle the administrative arrangements for the payment of subsistence and tuition to Miss Ti. USOM, in handling its third country participants, uses the local USOM for these purposes. This, of course, is not available to us. Would it be possible for East Lansing to pay Miss Ti's per diem and tuition by check, sending it directly to her address in the Philippines? Please give me your thinking on this matter at the earliest possible time.

Enclosed is an ICA pamphlet that states their policy in handling third country participants.

HLW : hvl

Attachment

cc: Mr. Richard Gardner