

STATEMENT

My present position as a Government servant in the Direction of Economic Affairs permits me to study the development of the co-operative movement in Vietnam under the local legislation.

If the request by which I solicit to participate the course on Co-operation organised by the Michigan State University, is accepted and approved by my President NGO-DINH-DIEM, the program related to my studies and future plans is set-up in the following manner:

I shall study the policy adopted by the Government of U.S.A. towards the co-operative movement, the methods of adapting or of modifying this policy in order to adjust to new problems of co-operation in Vietnam.

Means and machinery for Co-operative development will be studied in detail. I shall pay attention:

1. to the agencies concerned such as federal co-operative agencies, non-official agencies, Government services;

2. to the duties generally carried out by the Government, by Official agencies and non-official organization (registration, dissolution, audit, public education, etc...)

Methods of Co-operative Education, training of responsible staff, inspection, supervision and audit will be also an active part of my program in order to coordinate and synchronise all my future activities in the organization of different types of co-operative societies in Vietnam.

The problems and methods in the U.S.A. would be examined in comparison with those of my country. Co-operative institutions and national economic organization would be the object of my study tours. The probable adaptation of those precedent lines would not be forgotten in view to find out the proper methods for my country, to develop and to coordinate all the co-operative activities in Vietnam.

In conclusion, my first desire after the training course on Co-operation in the U.S.A. is to organise:

1. a marketing society for cash crops and for granting short-term credit;

2. a credit society for supplying productive loans and for supplying farm requisites.

If I have got another chance to participate the training course organised by the Michigan State University, I should like to make serious studies on Customs.

December 24, 1955

Professor Orion Ulrey  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
148A Agricultural Hall  
M.S.U.  
East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Professor Ulrey,

I thought that the enclosed statement of purpose which Mr. Duong Nguyen drew up in applying for acceptance in the Vietnam Project could be useful to you in helping to plan his work here. In addition we have the following biographical data which might also be useful:

Born: 21 October 1919 at My Xuyen (Soctrang) South Vietnam  
Education: 2 years at Lycee Petrus Ky. Did not complete Baccalaureate, although grades were well above average. (His average was 14 on a scale ranging from 0 to 20 with 8 as passing.) Went to Bandung, Indonesia, during August-September 1955 to attend ILO-FAO sponsored Regional Training Course on Cooperatives.

Work: Secretary 1st Class in Administration of South Vietnam, Direction des Affaires Economiques. Work involved distribution of controlled products and raw materials, and research and documentation on different types of cooperatives.

I think I should add that Mr. Nguyen seems to be about the most, if not the most, earnest and eager of the Vietnamese participants. This is why I am so anxious to give him the kind of specialized direction that I've asked you for.

I am leaving here tomorrow for New York and will return on the 2nd. Therefore I will be unable to be with you if you have a chance to meet with him this coming week. As I explained on the phone he is leaving here with the Vietnamese group on the 31st and will not return until January 7th. This creates an unfortunate situation inasmuch as he will have to register on the same day, the 7th. That is why I would appreciate your aid in getting his Winter Quarter program laid out before he leaves on the 31st.

He will be registered as a fully matriculated student, and he will remain here until the end of the Summer Quarter. There are some funds available for field trips that you might think necessary and beneficial.

Again, let me thank you for taking an interest in this. I will contact you the first week in January. And it being Christmas eve let me wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.