

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

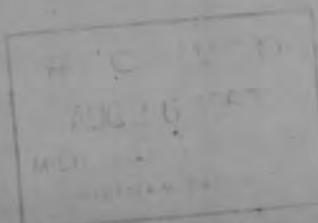
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor      DATE: August 20, 1960  
FROM: Guy H. Fox  
SUBJECT: Ruben's letter about participants

The letters which Ruben sent us from the participants stating their present status and future plans were quite informative and interesting. If the letters can be taken at face value, much of our concern (that participants might not return to Vietnam, or, if they do return, not to the NIA) appears groundless. None of the participants gave any indication that he or she would not come to Vietnam after receiving the doctorate; and only Ky indicated he might not join the NIA. Following your suggestion, I shall at the next meeting with Mr. Dang, take up Ky's case to see if we cannot get some assurance that he will be assigned to the Institute faculty upon completion of his degree. A conference with the Department of Foreign Affairs will probably be necessary. I agree with you that there is no particular reason to be disturbed over Than's expression of preference for the "private sector;" he is committed by contract to work for the government and can be claimed by the NIA.

In spite of Mrs. Bach Lan's expression of intentions to return to Vietnam and work for the NIA, I have some misgivings over her real intentions. Mrs. Bach Lan's friends in New York repeatedly have written their friends here to the effect that she never intends to return to Vietnam. Moreover, according to one report her husband is an American citizen; even if he is not a citizen, the information we receive about him indicates he plans to remain in the United States. Admittedly, it is difficult to question or contradict a person's stated future intentions, and I am not sure whether a check on the reports from her New York friends who say she won't return here would be of any value. But if it is feasible for Ruben or someone from his office to make some discreet inquiries, I agree entirely with you that they might possibly be worthwhile. Two persons whom it might be well to see in New York are Nguyen Ngoc Bich and Miss Vu thi Yen, both students at Columbia University. Nguyen Ngoc Linh (brother of Mr. Dich mentioned in the last sentence) was in New York this month; he says that all the Vietnamese students at Columbia University know Mrs. Bach Lan but that she is universally disliked and has no real friends among the other Vietnamese students.



MSU-V3

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

*Key*

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

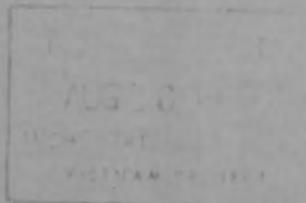
TO: Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator      DATE: August 22, 1960

FROM: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor

SUBJECT: Attached Memorandum from Guy Fox

The attached memorandum will give you some idea of the results of our continued attempt to get at the true intentions of our Ph.D. participants, and also some notion of our reactions to reports already received. I think all of us recognize that this is a question that will continue to plague us. I suppose that one caution is that we will have to be careful not to overdo the harrassment of our participants.

LDM/dw



Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator

August 26, 1960

Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor

Ph.D. Participants

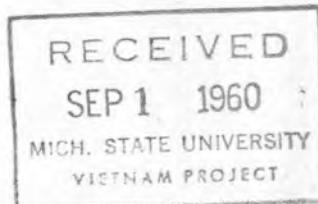
Mr. Luong Nhi Ky

The statement in Elsie's termination report that the Foreign Affairs Office had already made several offers to Ky naturally concerned us. Last Monday Guy Fox discussed this question with Mr. Dang of the NIA. Dang stated that there was very little the NIA could do if Ky expressed a preference for the Foreign Affairs Office. He also doubted the advisability of trying to force the Department to give up Ky. He claimed that action by NIA would cause unfavorable repercussions with the agency, whose good will was needed. Finally, Dang argued Ky would not make a good NIA staff member if he came to NIA unwillingly. Dang did agree that some correspondence with Ky was in order and that an effort should be made to persuade him to come to the NIA. He did not agree to a stronger approach even though Guy pressed him-- especially on the point that Foreign Affairs be approached.

In the case of Mr. Ky, as I mentioned before, the situation has developed because of an inadequate understanding by all parties concerned of the obligations of returned participants. Apparently Foreign Affairs never understood that Ky was not returning to the Department and Foreign Affairs even now says, according to Elsie, that the Department does not care whether he gets his Ph.D. or not. Aside from the question of a clear understanding, another difficulty ensues from the NIA's insistence that it does not want to commit itself before the departure of Ph.D. participants on their working at the NIA upon return. Possibly some arrangement whereby a department would agree to take a participant, provided that the NIA did not want him, would satisfy us but might not satisfy the government department. In the case of Mr. Ky, then, I suspect that a lot of "moral suasion," as the saying goes, will be necessary if he is to be saved for NIA.

Mrs. Le Thi Bach-Lan

A copy of Mrs. Bach-Lan's letter to you indicated that she felt she could not start her dissertation until January, 1962. Recognizing her difficulty at Columbia, I have still been wondering whether this



is not a late date to start a dissertation, considering her arrival date in the States. Should this be just one more factor leading to concern about Bach-Lan? If Columbia does not allow her to continue and she is reluctant to leave the New York area, would NYU be a possibility? NYU does have more in the way of public administration training, incidentally. Her emphasis on traveling to various conferences may again be an indication of her lack of serious purpose. This you would be able to judge better than we.

IDM/dw



SEPTEMBER 2, 1960

TO: DR. LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM: RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT: PH. D. PARTICIPANTS (#2)

I HAVE READ THE MEMO FROM GUY FOX AND YOUR AUGUST 22 NOTE ON PARTICIPANTS. CERTAINLY, I AGREE WITH YOU THAT WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO DESTROY OUR RAPPORT WITH THE PARTICIPANTS AS A RESULT OF OUR CONCERN WITH INDIVIDUAL CASES. GUY'S MEMO IS GRATIFYING CONCERNING THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT MAY BE MADE FOR KY.

OF COURSE, I AM CONCERNED OVER MRS. BACH-LAN'S ALLEGED INTENTIONS. I AM NOT RELUCTANT TO SEE MR. BICH AND/OR MISS YEN AT COLUMBIA TO FIND OUT DISCREETLY WHAT THEY KNOW OTHER THAN HEARSAY CONCERNING MRS. BACH-LAN. IF YOU FEEL IT IS PRUDENT, I SHALL GO A STEP FURTHER AND ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT FROM THE VIETNAM EMBASSY AND/OR THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION WHETHER HER HUSBAND IS OR INTENDS TO BECOME AN AMERICAN CITIZEN.

PERHAPS THIS IS OF NO SERIOUS CONCERN, BUT OUR RECORDS DO NOT FURNISH US WITH ANY CORRESPONDENCE THAT INDICATES MRS. BACH-LAN'S MARRIED NAME.

A FEW DAYS AGO WES FISHEL ATTEMPTED TO INTERVIEW VARIOUS PEOPLE CONCERNING MRS. BACH-LAN'S INTENTIONS, BUT, FOR SEVERAL REASONS, RAN AGAINST A "BLANK WALL." THUS, AT THIS TIME, WE ARE NOT YET CERTAIN OF WHAT ACADEMIC PROGRESS SHE MADE THIS SUMMER TO FULFILL SOME OF THE REQUIREMENTS WHICH PROFESSOR TRUMAN HAD SPECIFIED.

OF COURSE, WE WILL HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT HAVING HER TERMINATE AS A PARTICIPANT. HOWEVER, I AM SURE YOU AND I WOULD BE IN A DIFFICULT POSITION TO EXPLAIN TO ICA WHY WE HAVE KEPT HER THIS LONG, AND, WITH THE LIMITED HEARSAY INFORMATION WE HAVE, THEY MAY ASK WHY WE WOULD TERMINATE HER NOW. IT APPEARS TO ME THAT THE ORDER FOR TERMINATION MUST, NATURALLY, COME FROM THE NIA OR SOME AGENCY OF THE PRESIDENCY. THIS WOULD RELIEVE THEN THE CHIEF ADVISOR AND OUR OFFICE FROM MANY INSTITUTIONAL REPERCUSSIONS. WE SOLICIT YOUR ADVICE ON THIS TICKLISH PROBLEM.

OUR LATEST LETTER FROM MRS. BACH-LAN IN NO WAY INFORMS US AS TO THE PROGRESS SHE MIGHT HAVE MADE. THE TRIP WHICH SHE TOOK TO TVA WAS APPROVED BY OUR OFFICE, SINCE SHE HAD PERHAPS CAJOLED HER MAJOR PROFESSORS TO WRITE US REQUESTING APPROVAL FOR THE TRIP.

RVA:JR

SEPTEMBER 3, 1960

TO: LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM: RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT: PLANNING GROUP MINUTES OF AUGUST 9 RE KY

WE SHALL APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AS TO THE OUTCOME OF THE SUGGESTION THAT THE NIA SHOULD TALK OVER KY'S SITUATION WITH THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, ETC. IN REREADING YOUR AUGUST 9 MEMO CONCERNING PH.D. CANDIDATES, YOU MENTION THAT "IF MR. KY, FOR EXAMPLE, STATES THAT HE IS RETURNING TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THIS IS STILL CONSISTENT WITH THE ACTUAL PLEDGE, ETC., WHICH HE MADE."

SHOULD WE COMMUNICATE THIS TO MR. KY AND RELIEVE HIS ANXIETY OVER THIS SITUATION, OR PERHAPS IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE IF THE NIA FORWARDED SOME DOCUMENTATION THROUGH WHICH WE MIGHT BE INFORMED ON THIS PARTICIPANT.

RVA:JR

SEPTEMBER 6, 1960

TO: LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM: RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT: Ph.D. PARTICIPANTS - YOUR AUGUST 26 MEMO

CERTAINLY THE DIFFERENT MEMOS ON PARTICIPANTS ARE INDICATIVE OF THE EXTREME CARE WHICH WE SHOULD EXERCISE IN SUPERVISING THEIR PROGRESS. AGAIN, WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE CASE OF MR. KY, AND PERHAPS PRIOR NOTES TO YOU CONCERNING MR. KY MAY BE DISREGARDED. IT IS WELL, HOWEVER, IF SOME CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE NIA COULD BE SENT TO MR. KY IN ORDER TO CLARIFY THIS MATTER. PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW THIS CASE DEVELOPS AND WHETHER THERE IS SOMETHING WE MIGHT DO.

I SHALL CONFER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH MRS. BACH-LAN'S DEPARTMENT AND OBTAIN IN WRITING, IF POSSIBLE, A DECISION ON THEIR PART AS TO WHETHER SHE WILL FINISH A DISSERTATION WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD AFTER JANUARY, 1962. ALSO, WE SHALL INQUIRE INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, ALTHOUGH THE RECOLLECTION I HAVE ON THIS CASE IS THAT NYU WOULD NOT ACCEPT HER DURING A PERIOD OF TIME PRIOR TO HER ENROLLMENT AT COLUMBIA.

RVA:JR

Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator

October 7, 1960

Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor

Iuong Nhi Ky

Referring to Ralph Smuckler's memorandum of September 8 on the above subject, I am a little at a loss to understand Ralph's accusations of passivity. As soon as we learned from the NIA that Ky was still affiliated with the Department of Foreign Affairs and there was an expectation on the part of both Ky and the Department that he would return there, we went into action. We explained to the NIA the vital necessity of Ky's returning to the NIA, and requested the NIA to approach both Ky and the Department to obtain Ky's release. The reiterated attitude of the NIA was that 1) it did not wish to apply strong pressure on Foreign Affairs for fear of disturbing the relationship; and 2) in case Ky did not get the Ph.D. the NIA did not want to be in the position of having to take him, as they have had to take Buu Dich. There was no intention on our part to let the situation rest and not to find other ways of bringing pressure to bear.

The memorandum to you, copy of which went to Ralph, merely was designed to draw attention to the obvious fact that neither MSU nor NIA had taken the necessary steps with respect to Ky at the time he was selected. We have searched the correspondence, as Ralph suggested, and this shows that Ralph suggested sending Ky if the Rector approved of him as a potential faculty member. The Rector replied in the affirmative and stated that Ky "must pledge to work for the NIA as is the rule." Actually, as previously noted, the pledge was only to work for the GVN; but the crucial fact is that the Department of Foreign Affairs was not approached, so far as we know, as to whether Ky would be released to work at the NIA upon his return. So much for the purpose of our memorandum of August 9.

Let me report on what we have done and are doing with respect to the situation involving Ky. In the current processing of applicants for Ph.D. positions, we and the NIA have eliminated one candidate because his agency stated that he would not be released upon return from Ph.D. training. As to Ky, himself, we are working on Vice Rector Dang to



speak informally to the Department of Foreign Affairs. I have also spoken to high officials in the Department about Ky, but as yet have made little progress in getting our views across. I am also writing to Thong, pointing out that since the NIA is dropping part-time people Mr. Ky is in the position of having to become a full-time member or nothing at all (except perhaps to teach a course and be paid on an hourly basis). I am pointing out that Ky must clearly understand his primary allegiance is to the NIA, not the Department of Foreign Affairs, and that Thong should make this clear in a letter to Ky. Finally, I would suggest that your office get in touch with Ky and make clear that the elimination of half-time faculty at the NIA means that Ky cannot follow the plan outlined in his letter to you. That plan was to teach part time at the NIA and work part time at the Department of Foreign Affairs. Under the new set-up, Ky must have a full-time job and it is our position that because of the moral (not legal) commitment made at the time he undertook Ph.D. training he should return to the NIA.

EDM/dw



cc: Dr. Austin✓  
Guy Fox  
John Dognoghue

October 11, 1960

Mr. Vu Quoc Thong, Rector  
National Institute of Administration  
4 Alexandre de Rhodes  
Saigon, Vietnam

Dear Rector Thong:

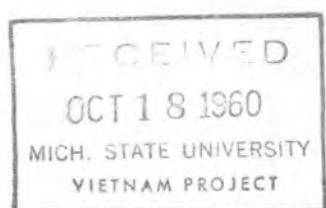
Both the NIA and MSUG have, of course, been concerned whether Mr. Luong Nhi Ky will join the NIA upon completion of his training. My predecessor, Dr. Smuckler, has written that "Mr. Ky knew full well that the Ph.D. program in which he has participated required a commitment from him morally, if not in writing, to serve at the Institute upon his return." You also, in your letter of August 6, 1958, to Dr. Smuckler, stated that Mr. Ky "must pledge to work for the NIA as is the rule."

I have asked Dean Austin to remind Mr. Ky of his moral obligation to teach at the NIA upon his return. Would you also write to Mr. Ky to remind him of this commitment? I note that, in a letter to Dean Austin, Mr. Ky contemplated part time work at the Department and part time teaching at the NIA. In view of the dropping of the half time faculty members, I wonder if you might suggest to Mr. Ky that he should now decide on a full time commitment to the NIA.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Lloyd D. Musolf  
Chief Advisor



October 14, 1960

TO: Lloyd D. Musolf

FROM: Huben V. Austin

SUBJECT: Luong Nhí Ky

Certainly we, in our office, understand the circumstances surrounding Mr. Ky's situation involving the NIA and Foreign Affairs Office.

We are most anxious to find out if Rector Thong has written to Ky.

We shall communicate with Ky concerning the elimination of half-time faculty, as such. We will tell him that it is our view at this time that he must have a full-time job and that this, because of the moral commitment made at the time he undertook his Ph.D. training, means that he should, everything else being equal, return to the NIA.

RVA:sf  
Attachment

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## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

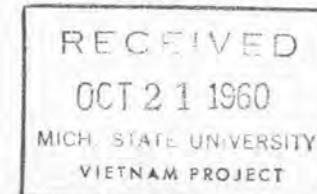
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE : October 14, 1960  
FROM : Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *LDM*  
SUBJECT : Luong Nhi Ky

Ralph is right in saying that Ky's preferences about returning to Foreign Affairs are only one item in the situation. The chief element in the situation is one that Ralph has still not mentioned: The Department of Foreign Affairs' strings on Ky. As to his renewed remarks about passivity, I have already dealt with them in an earlier memorandum.

LDM/dw



## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE: October 17, 1960

FROM: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *JPM*

SUBJECT: Ph.D. Participant Renewals

Attached you will find a translation of an arrêté extending the stay in the United States of Luong Nhi Ky and Tran Ngoc Phat. Referring to your memorandum of October 7 on the same subject, it has been our impression, too, that Ph.D. participant renewals cannot be grouped because the date of entry and issuance of the original arrêté are all at different times. Our memorandum on this subject resulted from an inquiry by the NIA, which should be well aware of this problem of staggered dates. At any rate, Guy Fox is discussing your memorandum with Vice Rector Dang today, and we hope to have further comment for you in the next letter.

LDM/dw

cc: Guy Fox  
att

October 19, 1960

TO: Lloyd D. Musolf  
FROM: Ruben V. Austin  
SUBJECT: Ky

Thank you for the copies of the letter to Rector Thong concerning whether Mr. Ky will join the NIA upon completion of his training. It is our hope that Rector Thong will communicate with Ky.

RVA:sf

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP  
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator      DATE : October 25, 1960  
FROM : Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *DDM*  
SUBJECT : Luong Nhi Ky

Attached you will find a translation of Rector Thong's letter to Ky. This is in response to my request to Thong. Let me say, also, that I thought your letter to Ky was good and should be of assistance. Hopefully, he will now impress upon the Department of Foreign Affairs that he is expected to teach full time at the NIA, and hopefully also the Department of Foreign Affairs will give consideration to releasing him.

LDL/dw

att



TRANSLATION

Saigon, October 21, 1960

TO: Mr. Lương Nhị Kỳ  
FROM: The Rector of the NIA

Dear Mr. Kỳ:

The Ph.D. participant program in the United States you are following, as known to you, has the purpose to train the academic instruction staff for the NIA. Therefore, each participant should pledge to work full time at the NIA, if needed by this agency, after completing his training. Would you please therefore send to us your commitment in writing in order to complete your dossier.

In addition, recalling letter No 2355-HVHC/TN dated August 6, 1959, the NIA requests that you keep us informed regularly of the progress of your studies.

Please accept my best wishes for your success.

/S/ VU QUOC THONG

cc: Dr. Musolf, Chief Advisor,  
MSUG

OCTOBER 26, 1960

TO            LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM        RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT     LUONG NHI KY

WE APPRECIATE THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE GIVEN TO US IN YOUR MEMO, AS WELL AS PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE, OF OCTOBER 14 CONCERNING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KY AND THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT. I HAVE NOT HEARD FROM KY, BUT I AM SURE HE WILL BE WRITING TO US SOON, AND WE SHALL INFORM YOU OF HIS REACTIONS TO OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

RVA:JR

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OCTOBER 26, 1960

MR. TRUONG BUU KHANH  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER  
EMBASSY OF VIET-NAM  
2251 R STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

DEAR MR. KHANH:

WE SHOULD LIKE TO NOTIFY YOU OF THE ARRETE FOR THE EXTENSION GIVEN TO MESSRS. LUONG NHI KY AND TRAN NGOC PHAT. WE SHALL APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU AS TO THIS MATTER.

WE HIGHLY ENDORSE THIS EXTENSION AND, SHOULD THERE BE ANYTHING THAT OUR OFFICE MUST FURNISH, PLEASE LET US KNOW. YOU ALREADY HAVE MR. PHAT'S PASSPORT, WHICH HE REQUESTED BE RENEWED FOR SIX MONTHS BEYOND THE EXTENSION PERIOD, NAMELY, TO JUNE 30, 1962.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR  
ENCLOSURES 2

November 4, 1960

TO: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf  
FROM: Ruben V. Austin  
SUBJECT: Participants

Ky: Thank you for your comments on my letter to Ky. I appreciate receiving the copies of the translation of the letter sent by Rector Thong to him.

Phat: I thought you might be interested in Mr. Phat's letter which we are attaching. I shall inform him that you have made the arrangements for securing some of the materials he desires. Through the memo from Guy Fox of October 25, we appreciate Dang's assistance in obtaining materials for Mr. Phat.

Chung: We should appreciate any information that may be available concerning the expected time when USOM and the appropriate agencies will forward the material to ICA/Washington in order that we can begin the supervision, through the Project, of Chung's training at Pennsylvania.

RVA:nf

P.S. If the materials that Phat requested can be sent APO to our office, we will forward them to Phat, as long as they are labeled in a way that we can identify them for him.

RVA

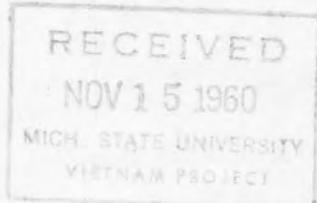
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP  
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE : November 8, 1960  
FROM : Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *JDM*  
SUBJECT : Ky

You suggested that Ky might appreciate receiving an original arrêté signed by Rector Thong. Actually, I believe that the matter of arrêtés has been one strictly among the Director General of Plan, the Presidency, and the Vietnamese Embassy in Washington. At any rate, Vice Rector Dang has informed Guy that the NIA never sees the arrêtés.

LDW/dw

cc: Guy Fox



NOVEMBER 16, 1960

TO            LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM        RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT     KY - ARRETES AND EXPIRATION DATES

WE APPRECIATE KNOWING THAT THE ARRETES ARE HANDLED DIRECTLY THROUGH THE AGENCIES, AS YOU MENTION IN YOUR NOVEMBER 8 MEMO.  THUS, KY SHOULD KNOW OF THE PROCEDURE.

THROUGH THE MEMO WHICH YOU SENT US FROM GUY FOX, WE ARE INFORMED OF THE EXPIRATION DATES OF THE ARRETES FOR PH.D. PARTICIPANTS.

WE AGREE THAT MRS. BACH-LAN'S ARRETE SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED BEYOND THE JANUARY 31 (OR FEBRUARY 1), 1961, DATE CONTEMPLATED.

WE SHALL NOTIFY THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE EXPIRATION DATES OF THEIR ARRETES.

RVA:JR

DECEMBER 2, 1960

TO            LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM        RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
SUBJECT     LUONG NHU KY

LET ME EXPRESS FIRST MY GRATIFICATION IN MEETING MR. KY LAST TUESDAY IN ANN ARBOR. HE CERTAINLY IS A BRILLIANT PERSON WITH A CHARMING PERSONALITY--DISCREET AND YET SHREWD IN HIS CURRENT ANALYSIS OF THE TENSIONS IN VIETNAM. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT HIS ACADEMIC WORK IS PROGRESSING VERY SATISFACTORILY. HE IS GETTING READY TO TAKE HIS PRELIMINARY PH.D. EXAMINATIONS THE FIRST PART OF JANUARY.

WE REVIEWED THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS A PARTICIPANT. I ASKED HIM TO OUTLINE WHAT HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS AND IS CONCERNING HIS COMMITMENTS. HE EXPLAINED THAT, WHEN HE WAS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXAMINATION AS A POSSIBLE APPLICANT OR CANDIDATE, IT WAS REALLY AT THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF HIS AGENCY, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. AT THE TIME, HE INDICATED THAT THE MINISTRY WANTED HIM TO CONSIDER THIS OPPORTUNITY WITH THE IDEA THAT, UPON HIS RETURN, HE COULD POSSIBLY TEACH A CLASS OR SO ON A PART-TIME BASIS AT THE MIA.

BECAUSE OF THIS PART-TIME UNDERSTANDING, HE INFORMS ME, INSTEAD OF BEING GIVEN A PRIORITY RATING ALONG WITH BACH-LAN, PHAT, ET AL, HE WAS PLACED FIFTH ON THE LIST, WHEN ONLY FOUR WERE TO BE SELECTED. UPON THE CANCELLATION OF ONE OF THE FOUR, HE WAS THEN ASKED TO ACCEPT. AGAIN, HIS ACCEPTANCE WAS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

HE INFORMS ME THAT HE CONTINUES TO RECEIVE HIS MONTHLY DIFFERENTIAL CHECK (DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PER DIEM PAID BY ICA AND HIS REGULAR SALARY) FROM THE MFA AND THAT HE RECEIVES OFFICIAL NOTICES OF HIS PROMOTION POINTS OR STATUS.

FURTHERMORE, KY INDICATED THAT, AT THE TIME OF HIS SELECTION FOR PH.D. TRAINING, HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF GOING TO THE EMBASSY IN PARIS OR WASHINGTON, BUT WAS URGED TO ACCEPT THE PROGRAM AT ANN ARBOR. THUS, HE FEELS THAT HE CANNOT PROPERLY ANSWER RECTOR THONG'S LETTER NOR MAKE A COMMITMENT BEYOND THAT WHICH HE BELIEVES IS THE ONE ALREADY MADE TO CONTINUE AS A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE STAFF OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE NEVER DISPLAYED ANY PETULANCE, HAUGHTINESS, OR OBSTINACY, BUT SINCERELY BELIEVES THAT HE SHOULD ABIDE BY THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY THE MFA.

THIS MEMO IS WRITTEN SIMPLY FOR THE RECORD; PERHAPS THERE ARE ITEMS OF INFORMATION WHICH MAY CLARIFY HIS POSITION. KY'S FILE DOES NOT INDICATE ANY OF THIS BACKGROUND--IT MAY BE THAT THE FILE COMPILED BY MR. WALTHER OR HIM MAY VERIFY SOME OF THESE FACTS.

RVA:JR

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

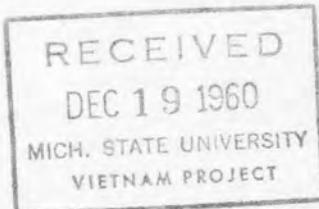
TO : Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator DATE : December 15, 1960  
FROM : Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *PM*  
SUBJECT : Luong Nhi Ky

After receiving your memorandum of December 2 on the above participant, I asked Guy Fox to again search the files in order to try to discover any consensus on Ky's future after completing training in the United States. We have been unable to locate anything further.

I would suggest that, if you have not already done so, you tell Ralph Smuckler the substance of what Ky reported to you as his understanding of the arrangement as to his future, on completion of training. It might well be that a meeting between Ralph, you and Ky would be advisable. You will recall that Ralph is quite strongly of the opinion that Ky should be under no misapprehension about his obligations to the NIA. Ralph also seems to believe that we have not done enough to persuade Ky of his obligations to the NIA. Under these circumstances it would seem to me that Ralph might be able to present the most persuasive case to Ky at this late date.

LDM/dw

cc: Guy Fox



*relevant  
copies  
to someone*

✓?

DECEMBER 21, 1960

TO            LLOYD D. MUSOLF  
FROM        JUDITH RATHBUN  
SUBJECT     LUONG NHÌ KY

Dr. AUSTIN WILL, I AM SURE, MEET WITH DR. SMUCKLER IN THE NEAR FUTURE REGARDING KY AND HIS FUTURE PLANS. IN THE MEANTIME, I AM FORWARDING A COPY OF OUR DECEMBER 2 MEMO TO YOU AND A COPY OF YOUR DECEMBER 15 REPLY TO DR. SMUCKLER FOR HIS PERUSAL AND CONSIDERATION.

JR