

New York July 15, 1959

Dear Elsie,

I've just returned from Canada. Although I hadn't the opportunity to see Queen Elizabeth II, I enjoyed the trip very much in many respects.

The Canadian bankers gave me a red-carpet treatment in Toronto. They invited me to have lunch, tea and dinner, and lent me their car to see the town; but, being afraid not ~~I~~ could not return their kindness I just accepted to have lunch with them, and ^{simply} took the street cars to see the town. I have been at the summit of the Canadian Bank of Commerce Building in Toronto accompanied by its agents who ~~showed~~ me all the points of interest. This building is the highest premise in Toronto with 32 stories. So, Elsie, with the colors and Union Jacks still flown in Toronto, I had the impression to be King there!

My visit at 3 commercial banks in Toronto gave me a pretty clear idea of the Canadian banking system. I was impressed by the small size of their International Departments, about $\frac{1}{10}$ of that of in the U.S. My view was later confirmed by a newsman in Montreal admitting that so far the Canadians don't care much about foreign trade. I further noticed that the atmosphere of work was not so attractive in Canada as in the U.S.

In addition, I did some business ~~with~~ for my bank in Saigon. You know, under Regulation Q of the Federal Reserve Bank in New York, banks are not permitted to allow any interest on our one-month deposit and now, the Canadian Bankers have offered $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ on such deposit to be made in New York!

I was also introduced to the Bank of Canada, (central bank), Toronto Office and had the occasion to see the mechanism of the allotment of the bids on Treasury bills. This office has a ^{new} beautiful building made mostly of Italian marble.

The Toronto Stock Exchange was similar to the NYSE. It is very active and will move ^{resembling to the Exchange} to a new building. I'll send a report to you next week.

Montreal is a half French half American city, but Quebec is a French city with many historic monuments and French cuisine restaurants.

According to Nancy's letter, I would pick up the reservation of my return ticket in Quebec, ~~but~~ I checked at the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Offices both in Quebec and Montreal, but in vain. Being concerned about not having enough money for my visit in Boston, I had to take a tiring to night trip from Montreal to Albany ^{by coach}. I spent two hours visiting the New York State capital and ad-

view ^{best} of the State Education building with its Greek style.

As the Railroad office in Albany could not convert my ticket (from Albany to NYC) into Albany-Boston or Boston-NYC, I had to buy a new ticket Albany-Boston-New York City. I enjoyed very much my sightseeing in Boston especially monuments concerning Paul Revere and Longfellow, and educational monuments.

All in all, the Canadian trip was extremely beneficial for me. My only regret is that I didn't have much time to make an exhaustive study of the Canadian banking and financial system and to explore other aspects of Canada.

I am enclosing my unused ticket and appreciate very much your making arrangement for refund in my favor.

I'll write to Mr. Liang, IMF, ~~to~~ asking him to make arrangement for my training in the IMF from September 15 to the end of the IMF and IBRD Meeting.

Sincerely yours,
Pham

July 22, 1959

Mr. Pham Quang Pham
154 Hicks Street
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Pham:

Please find enclosed your per diem check for the period from August 1st through the 15th. Also enclosed is a general newsletter to all participants.

I understand that you and Thoi had a brief meeting in New York City. I know that you will have a lot to discuss if you have the opportunity to spend more time together.

Bob sent me a card while he was on his vacation and said how much they had enjoyed your cooking. With so many excellent cooks around me (Kim Chau now lives in the same house and the boys who are living off campus come in and cook about once or twice a week), I should be taking a few lessons.

We are looking forward to your report on your Canadian trip.

I have checked with College Travel about the reservations that were supposed to be in Quebec. However, as you can imagine, it is difficult to ascertain who is responsible for the slip-up. I shall process your ticket for refund.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant

EMC:nn

New York July 28, 1959

Miss Sloane Cunningham

Viet Nam Project

MSU, East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Sloane,

Please find enclosed my third report on the Bond Administration and Bond Cage Department, and the New York Stock Exchange and Toronto Stock Exchange.

I am sorry not having much time to write on the Toronto Exchange, having concentrated mostly on my training in New York.

I met Thoi about a couple of weeks ago and we enjoyed very much our talk.

I was invited by Mrs. Waltman's family for dinner last night and we had a very pleasant time together. I am the first Vietnamese to visit their home. Mr. Ole Banoff complained that all other Vietnamese just spoke with him on the phone and said good bye! and he is so anxious to know about the country where their children are working.

Sincerely yours
Pham

July 31, 1959

Mr. Pham Quang Pham
154 Hicks Street
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Pham:

Thank you for your letter and report which we received this morning. When the report has been typed I shall send you a copy.

I just spoke to the Foreign Student Advisor regarding the extension of your visa. If your passport is not valid to at least June 1960, it will be necessary to extend your passport first before completing the request for visa extension. Will you please check this and send your passport to Mr. Truong Buu Khanh at the Vietnam Embassy if you need an extension.

It does seem strange that no other participants have visited Mrs. Waltman's family. However, knowing the difficulties of telephone communication for some Vietnamese, you can realize how this might happen.

If you see Thoi on this trip to New York, you might tell him that I expect Kim Sa to be here the same week as he.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant

EMC:nm

August 6, 1959

Mr. Pham Quang Pham
154 Hicks Street
Brooklyn,
New York

Dear Pham:

Please find enclosed your per diem check for the period from August 16th through the 31st.

I trust that you have had time to enjoy Thoi's visit to New York and steer him away from the most expensive restaurants.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Administrative Assistant

EMC:nm

New York Aug. 18-1959

Miss Sloie Cunningham
Viet Nam Project
MSU, East Lansing, Mich.

Dear Sloie,

Early this month I wrote to Mr. Ching Chun Liang, Advisor at the I.M.F. and obtained his letter confirming the arrangement he had made for me to visit the Funds. I will be at the Fund from September 16 to October 2.

If possible, I would appreciate very much your arrangement for me to visit the TVA in Tennessee for a week (Oct. 3 - Oct. 9). This trip will enable me not only to observe the physical installations of the dam but also to study its financial aspect, i.e. the financing of its construction, its present financial administration and the projects for future financing of its expansion. I know that the National Bank of Viet Nam will participate in an hydroelectric project similar to that of TVA although in a much smaller scale.

I also wish to sightsee Williamsburg, Virginia for two days (Oct 10 - Oct 11) if it is permissible.

I would like to take the train for all these trips.

While no approval of the extension of my training has been yet issued, do you think it is the moment to ask the Governor of the National Bank to send a letter of introduction in my favor to receive training at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from October 3 to around Nov. 27?

I already sent my passport to the Embassy of VN for extension. Thanks for your reminder.

I discouraged Thor about his project to live in the Waldorf Astoria and I was very glad that he lived near me. Despite the fact that I had often reminded to save money to buy some presents for his family, he was in the red of \$ 100 when leaving New York this morning. As far as the weather is concerned, Thor will report to you his personal experience in NY city.

Thor and I visited your parents in East Rutherford Monday evening. We were very impressed by their kindness and warm hospitality. Your father has a charming manner to conduct conversation which makes him very attractive.

Now I feel sorry not to see him before. I thought he was not in good health and preferred not to disturb him. I'll try to see them a few more times before I go home.

Sincerely yours
Pham

August 20, 1959

Mr. Pham Quang Pham
154 Hicks Street
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Pham:

Your letter of the 18th arrived just in time as I had already sent an authorization letter to College Travel Office asking for tickets to Washington. They had already secured round-trip rail tickets from New York to Washington and return.

I discussed with them the possibility of traveling by train to Knoxville from Washington and to Williamsburg. The service, as in many other areas, between Washington and Knoxville, is very poor and they suggested that you plan to fly between these points. They also suggested that you plan to go from Washington to Williamsburg by bus rather than from Knoxville to Williamsburg. My own experience traveling by train through that portion of the south would indicate that this is a wise suggestion unless you are going directly to one of the major cities such as Miami, Richmond or Raleigh.

If this is agreeable to you, please let me know and they will obtain the necessary tickets.

We returned Saigon's cable on June 10th signifying our agreement to your three month's extension. I believe it would be very wise for you to ask for a letter from the National Bank to the Federal Reserve Bank for your training from October 3rd to November 27th.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Participant Program Director

EMC:rm

New York August 24, 1959

Miss Elsie Cunningham
Participant Program Director
MSU
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Elsie,

First I wish to express my congratulation for your new position of Participant Program Director which you deserve since a long time.

Please find enclosed my report #4 on the Credit Department. I am sorry to keep Nancy busy again.

Thank so much for having made arrangements for me to visit the FMI, TVA and Williamsburg. As I would like to see and know the country and its people I think the train and bus is an ideal means of transportation for me. However I am willing to go by plane if you deem convenient to me. And I don't care much to go to Williamsburg from Washington or from Knoxville.

A couple of weeks ago, Bob, another friend, and I went up to the

Catskills during the weekend. We visited Kingston, Margaretville, Oneonta, Delhi, Roxbury, Cooperstown, etc.

It's a just beautiful country. Each of us spent \$20 but it's worthwhile.

Bob intends to return there with his family on Columbus Day when the colors of the trees are most gorgeous. Last Sunday I went to Bob's church in Bellrose and in the afternoon we drove in different nice places in Long Island. I envy Bob's fate. He is probably the happiest man in the world. He is a very fine Christian, his parents although old (his father 69 and is still working) are in good health and love him very much. I think I share his happiness every time I am with him or with his family.

Sincerely yours,
Phan

August 26, 1959

Mr. Pham Quang Pham
154 Hicks Street
Brooklyn,
New York

Dear Pham:

Please find enclosed your per diem check for the period from September 1st through the 15th.

I have requested surface transportation for your trip to Knoxville but feel that it may take you longer than one day from Washington to Knoxville. You should be aware of this fact that this could happen. In any case, it probably would, as you suggested, give you a much better opportunity to see the country.

Enclosed are copies of my letters to Mr. Shafer at TVA and to College Travel concerning your trip.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham
Participant Program Director

EMC:nm