

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

(HHS)

MAILING ADDRESS: MSU - USOM  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
SAIGON - VIETNAM

CABLE ADDRESS: MICHGOVSUR

GENERAL OFFICE:  
137, DUONG PASTEUR

TELEPH. NUMBER: 22.022-21.928  
SAIGON: 383-384

March 2, 1959

To: Miss Elsie Cunningham  
From: Mr. Howard Waltman *sw*  
Subject: No 99 Participant, Kim-Sa



We have reviewed the facts concerning Miss Kim Sa's extension and have decided upon the following course of action:

1. She should return to Viet-Nam upon completion of her one year of training in the United States.
2. She should be permitted to continue academic work at Western Reserve University from now until her departure, permitting her to gain as many credits as possible.
3. She will probably return to work at the library of the National Institute of Administration as a replacement for Miss Ti, who is being permitted to remain in the Philippines for an additional year to complete her degree.

While the NIA has not made a definite commitment, there is every reason to believe that they will utilize her, in some capacity in the Institute Library, or in connection with EROPA.

A year or so in a working situation will help us to decide upon the investment of additional time and money. If she demonstrates the capacity and interest for assuming increased responsibility in library work we will certainly consider the possibility of her being given a grant to complete her degree in the Philippines. At this time, however, it would be unwise to invest an additional year in Miss Kim-Sa, even in the light of her excellent academic work this past semester.

Attached is a copy of my letter to Kim-Sa and all correspondence pertaining to the decision. When explaining the situation to her, I would be careful to avoid giving any firm commitment in the name of the National Institution of Administration, because while their intention is to utilize her, there is no way to be absolutely certain.

Miss Ti will definitely be remaining in the Philippines for another year, at the end of which time she should have her degree. She will not return to Viet-Nam until May of 1960.

Attachments

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
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TELEPH. NUMBER : 22.022-21.528  
 SAIGON : 383-984

March 2, 1959

*PLW*

TO : Elsie Cunningham  
 FROM : Howard Waltman  
 SUBJECT: No. 100 - Library Participants-reference  
 your memo No. 107

It certainly was good to read about Miss Kim Sa's excellent academic record during the past semester. Your reports on Miss Loc, however, have been discouraging.

From your correspondence ~~received~~ it seems that she has not made an effort commensurate with the responsibility she assumed in accepting a grant. Not knowing all the problems makes me hesitant to form a judgement, however, it <sup>does</sup> seem to me that a good slap on the wrist is in order. If it would improve your position with her I would be glad to try it from here. Please advise.



March 16, 1959

TO: Howard Waltman  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
SUBJECT: Kim Sa's Extension #136

Please find enclosed a copy of Miss Hunt's letter to me. I wrote to her as soon as I had received your letter and this is her reply.

I am in agreement with your decision - based primarily upon the fact that even though Kim Sa's performance to date has been outstanding (especially comparatively to that of the other library participants), I'm still very much inclined to think that she is an "operator" who would not hesitate to change tactics whenever she felt it useful. Perhaps I am becoming too much of a cynic due to the experiences with various participants. My one observation about an event that happened while she and Loc were still together is that she completely put one over on Loc.

I have been tempted to write Gardner who might be able to give Miss Hunt and the other members of the faculty a better picture of why we think it advisable to take Kim-Sa home, but thought he would appreciate being omitted from the conversations especially as he seems to have had some reservations about Kim Sa to begin with.

On my query to Dick Chapin the other day regarding Loc's work in the MSU Library - I received a typical Chapin reply "If things were not working out as well as could be expected, I would hear from him."

cc: J. Heyman

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*PLS*

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

March 28, 1959



TO : Elsie Cunningham  
 FROM : Howard L. Waltman <sup>W</sup>  
 SUBJECT: Memo No. 118 - Miss Kim-Sa

We are presently reconsidering our decision on Miss Kim-Sa. There are several considerations relevant to re-examining our decision. They are the actual number of credits needed to complete the degree in the Philippines, the position of the NIA on the proposed extension, and the possibility of finding appropriate field training to bridge the gap between theory and practice should we decide not to permit her to complete the degree, because of the time required, or the position of the NIA.

I have become confused by the question of the number of additional credits required by the University of the Philippines for Kim-Sa to earn her degree. I have written to the Registrar (see attached) asking him to contact the person you have been in contact with (the Acting Librarian) and to reconsider all the information that you and I have sent, and to give us a final decision.

John Dorsey is going to re-open the question of an extension with the NIA. We would want a pretty strong expression of interest before granting an extension.

If we decided that an extension to complete the degree is not feasible or desirable than we will consider a additional period of on-the-job training for Miss Kim-Sa. Should this be decided as the best course of action, it would become the responsibility of East Lansing to arrange a 3-6 month internship. Would this present any special problems? If so, would you please discuss them in your next memo.

I realize that re-opening this question and not making an immediate decision may create ~~a~~ moral problems with Kim-Sa. We will try to resolve a course of action as soon as possible. You can tell Kim-Sa that we are re-considering

and will advise her shortly of our decision.

cc: Dorsey  
Scigliano  
Hyman

HLW:ttb

Enclosure -

March 28, 1959

Mr. A. M. Guerrero  
Office of the Registrar  
University of the Philippines  
Quezon City, Philippines

Dear Mr. Guerrero:

I have your letter of February 2nd in which you state the number of credits required for Miss Kim-Sa to earn her degree at the University of the Philippines.

I see however, that Miss Elsie Cunningham an Administrative Assistant with the Viet-Nam project in East Lansing, has been contact with Mr. Verzosa, the Acting Librarian at the University of the Philippines on the same matter. I have become somewhat confused through the exchange of correspondence between East Lansing and Mr. Verzosa, East Lansing and myself, and you and I. It appears that Miss Cunningham might have sent additional information to Mr. Verzosa concerning Miss Kim-Sa's present program as well as her plans for the summer session.

Would it be possible for you to review the entire situation with Mr. Verzosa and to send me your decision as to the number of credits needed by Kim-Sa and the time needed to complete them.

I realize that we have caused you a great deal of difficulty in this matter. I am truly sorry for this, and can only apologize and thank you again for your assistance.

I am anxiously awaiting your answer because our decision concerning Miss Kim-Sa will be made on the basis of the time required for her to complete the degree.

Very sincerely yours,

Howard L. Waltman  
Director of Participant Training

April 6, 1959

TO: Howard Waltman - Participant Program Director  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham - Administrative Assistant  
SUBJECT: Reference your memo #118 on Kim Sa (#147)

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter which I received just before my departure, from Ti in the Philippines. I hope that we have not confused the issue by writing to, too many, different persons at the University.

I had hoped for some assistance from Julie Heymann on placing Kim Sa during the summer. In addition I have not resolved the question of what Loc would do during the summer months. She is presently enrolled in one English course, in addition to her work at the library. I believe that she is presently happier here and is possibly gaining some real benefit from her library experience. Kim Chau has been much more helpful to her here in East Lansing than Kim Sa ever was in Cleveland.

If Julie has any suggestions for Loc's summer training I would appreciate these. I intend to send her to the ALA Conference as well as Kim Sa.

EC:ms  
Enc: Ti ltr copy  
cc: J. Heymann

April 20, 1959

TO : Elsie Cunningham  
FROM : Howard L. Waltman  
SUBJECT: No. 121 - Participant Kim-Sa (Reference your memo No. 147)

We have not received an answer to the letter I wrote to the University of the Philippines (Copy attached to memo No. 118) asking for a definitive statement of credits required for Kim-Sa's earning a degree.

In addition John Dorsey re-opened the question of Kim-Sa with the NIA only to find that they will not make their final decision until they have decided on another possible addition to their library staff that they are presently negotiating.

It will be impossible to make a final decision until we receive an answer to both of these questions. Because of the uncertainty it will be necessary to delay planning the rest of Kim-Sa's program until decisions are reached. Julie Hyman has assured me that she is ready to assist in finding suitable on-the-job training for Kim-Sa during the summer, should this be decided as being preferable to additional academic work. As soon as a decision is made we will take the necessary steps.

cc: Dorsey  
Hyman



April 30, 1959

TO: Howard Waltman - Participant Program Director  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham - Administrative Assistant  
SUBJECT: Miss Kim Sa (#155)  
REFERENCE: Your Memo (#121)

Miss Hunt suggests that the following courses might be suitable for Kim Sa next fall:

Library and the Community	- 1 credit
Current Administration of Libraries	- 2 credits
Periodicals and Serials	- 2 credits
Books and Readers	- 2 credits

During my visit to Western Reserve yesterday, Miss Hunt revealed the fact that both Kim Sa and Nguyet indicated that they would prefer to go to a different school next year if they were to remain in the United States. I later indicated to Kim Sa that if the extension was granted it would be on the basis of her remaining at Western Reserve and under no circumstances would it be an extension for her to attend a different library school.

Part of the reason for this decision to change schools evidently stemmed from the fact that most of the American students would have completed their work and new students would be arriving although this was clothed in the idea of having all of their friends leave. When Miss Hunt finally got to the bottom of it, she decided and I suspect rightly so that it was more a question of face than anything.

We discussed, in general terms Kim Sa's program after the Columbia Workshop and there is common agreement that this should be spent in field work. Miss Hunt is going to discuss this matter with some of the other staff members and send me her suggestions for suitable libraries.

Kim Sa has evidently been slightly under the weather but is now feeling better following a complete checkup, the usual vitamins and sun lamp treatments. Needless to say the sooner we can settle the matter of an extension or no extension the better it will be.

EC:ms

May 18, 1959



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

Dear Mr. Rector:

I am writing in connection with a request which we recently received from Miss Tran Thi Kim-Sa, who is presently in the United States on a one-year grant to study library science. This grant was awarded to Miss Kim-Sa on the basis of the interest expressed by the National Institute of Administration in employing her upon the completion of her training.

Miss Kim-Sa has requested that she be permitted an additional year's study in library science, to be undertaken at the University of the Philippines, in order that she might obtain the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Before accepting her present grant, Miss Kim-Sa had studied one and one-half years at the University of the Philippines, and she would be able to transfer the academic credits she has gained in the United States to the Philippines university should permission be granted her to undertake the additional year of study.

The possibility of Miss Kim-Sa's completing her work towards the Bachelor's degree at the University of the Philippines was discussed with the Deputy Rector of the National Institute of Administration before Miss Kim-Sa left for the United States. It was agreed at that time that an extension of the period of Miss Kim-Sa's training would be considered on the basis of her performance in the United States, the needs of the NIA, and the views of MSUG.

The reports which MSUG has received concerning Miss Kim-Sa's academic work have been very favorable. She obtained very high grades in her courses for the first academic semester at

Western Reserve University, and she has displayed a strong and continuous professional interest in the field of library science, impressing both her teachers and advisors as being a serious, mature person.

On the basis of her performance thus far and the added value which the Bachelor's degree would lend to her future work with the NIA library, MSUG would be pleased to extend the period of Miss Kim-Sa's training if the NIA so desires. Would you please advise me whether the Institute prefers to have Miss Kim-Sa return to Vietnam at the end of the present academic year or to have her transfer for a second year of work at the University of the Philippines?

Sincerely yours,

Robert G. Scigliano,  
Acting Chief Advisor.

Copy:

Dr. Dorsey  
Miss Heyman  
Mr. Waltman  
Mr. Sheinbaum

wq

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137, DUONG PASTEUR  
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SAIGON: 383-384

May 23, 1959

TO : Elsie Cunningham  
FROM : Howard L. Waltman *ph*  
SUBJECT: No. 132 - Participant Kim-Sa



I am sorry for the delay in giving you a final decision on Kim-Sa. We are presently waiting for the Institute's decision and the answer from the Philippines.

I have received several letters from Kim-Sa during the past several weeks that I have delayed answering because of the uncertainty as to what course of action we would decide. I am afraid that my silence has caused Kim-Sa a little anxiety. My feeling at this time is that things look as if we will grant the extension. On this basis, I wish that you would discuss the entire question with her and offer her encouragement to continue working hard.

I think it would be wise to have her take additional course work this summer that could be applied to the degree.

As soon as a decision is reached I will write Kim-Sa and copy East Lansing.

cc: Dorsey  
Hyman

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