

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING • MICHIGAN • U S A

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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC SERVICE  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

OCTOBER 18, 1961

MR. JACK DALTON, DEAN  
SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SERVICE  
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
516 BUTLER LIBRARY  
NEW YORK 27, NEW YORK

DEAR DEAN DALTON:

ATTACHED PLEASE FIND THE REFERENCE FORMS FOR MISS TRAN THI KIM SA, WHO IS APPLYING FOR ENTRANCE AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE MASTER'S DEGREE IN YOUR SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SERVICE. AS YOU WILL NOTE, I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO COMPLETE ALL OF THE SPECIFIC ITEMS INCLUDED IN YOUR STANDARD REFERENCE FORM AND THEREFORE WISH TO EXPLAIN THIS OMISSION AS WELL AS TO ADD WHATEVER I CAN TO SUPPORT MISS KIM SA'S APPLICATION.

MISS KIM SA IS A SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER UNDER A JOINT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION IN SAIGON AND MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY. ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF OUR PROGRAM IN SAIGON AT THE NIA IS TO DEVELOP A LIBRARY IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE NOT ONLY TO THE STUDENTS OF THE NIA BUT ALSO TO THE AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM FOR THEIR REFERENCE AND RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS. MISS KIM SA HAS HAD SOME PRIOR EXPERIENCE IN LIBRARY WORK AND HAS BEEN SENT TO THE UNITED STATES TO ACQUIRE FURTHER TRAINING SO SHE MAY RETURN TO SAIGON AS ONE OF TWO LIBRARIANS TO CARRY ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE NIA LIBRARY, WHICH IS CURRENTLY THE BEST LIBRARY OF ITS KIND IN ALL OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. MSU IS THUS INTERESTED IN SEEING THAT SHE OBTAIN THE BEST POSSIBLE TRAINING HERE IN THE STATES TO INSURE THAT THE GOOD START ON THE NIA LIBRARY CAN BE MAINTAINED AFTER THE MSU PROJECT HAS WITHDRAWN.

THIS EXPLAINS OUR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING MISS KIM SA'S APPLICATION. UNFORTUNATELY, I AM NEW IN THIS POSITION AND DO NOT HAVE A COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE OF HER ACTUAL CAPACITIES. I CAN ONLY STATE THAT SHE HAS BEEN SELECTED THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NIA AND THE MSU GROUP IN SAIGON AND THEREFORE REPRESENTS THE BEST TALENT THEY COULD DISCOVER FOR THIS PARTICULAR ASSIGNMENT. HER WORK AT THE UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA, WHERE SHE IS CURRENTLY COMPLETING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE, HAS BEEN SATISFACTORY, BUT I WOULD PREFER TO LEAVE THE EVALUATION OF HER WORK THERE TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED. MISS KIM SA INFORMS ME SHE IS HAVING LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM HER PROFESSORS FORWARDED DIRECTLY TO YOU.

MR. JACK DALTON  
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I BELIEVE MISS KIM SA HAS A GOOD COMMAND OF ENGLISH, AND I KNOW SHE IS VERY ANXIOUS TO COMPLETE HER MASTER'S DEGREE BEFORE RETURNING TO VIETNAM. I WOULD THEREFORE EXPECT SHE WOULD BE CONSCIENTIOUS IN HER STUDIES AND WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO OBTAIN A GOOD RECORD. SHE HAS ALSO MENTIONED TO ME HER PARTICULAR INTEREST IN GOING TO COLUMBIA BECAUSE OF THE ASIAN AND FAR EASTERN MATERIALS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE IN THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES, MUCH OF WHICH WOULD BE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE KINDS OF MATERIALS SHE WOULD BE DEVELOPING ON HER RETURN TO SAIGON.

I REALIZE THIS IS NOT VERY HELPFUL IN MEETING YOUR NEEDS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION, BUT I AM AFRAID THAT MY CHIEF CONTRIBUTION IS THE ATTEMPT TO GIVE YOU SOME BACKGROUND ON THE ROLE WHICH MISS KIM SA WILL FILL AT THE NIA LIBRARY AND OUR ESTIMATE OF THE NEED TO OBTAIN FOR HER THE TYPE OF TRAINING WHICH WILL BE MOST USEFUL TO HER.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JAMES B. HENDRY  
ASSISTANT DEAN

JBH:JR

CC MR. RICHARD CHAPIN, MSU LIBRARY DIRECTOR

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Columbia University in the City of New York | New York 27, N.Y.

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

November 14, 1961

Mr. James B. Hendry  
Assistant Dean  
College of Business and Public Service  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Mr. Hendry:

We appreciate very much your letter about Miss Tran Thi Kim-Sa; it will be very helpful to us in evaluating her work in this country.

Cordially yours,



Jack Dalton  
Dean

JD:HF