

TO: Howard Waltman  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: September 9, 1959  
SUBJECT: Huynh Xuan Tho (#281)

Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho is leaving for Washington today. There he will attend the American Language Center for three or four weeks.

This morning we worked out a tentative itinerary to cover most of his stay in the United States. However, if he receives permission to return home via the United Kingdom, there would be some changes dictated by the fact that he would be leaving from the east coast rather than the west coast. If the possibility of his returning via Europe has not already been explored, I would appreciate your doing so and letting us know as soon as possible what the chances of permission being granted for this are.

Wes Fishel is accompanying Mr. Tho to Washington and will also meet with our political science graduate students who are currently attending the American Political Science Association annual conference.

Mr. Tho has already met with Dr. Cline and also briefly with Dr. Hildreth. They have both offered to cooperate fully and Dr. Hildreth has indicated that he will inform all of his staff of Mr. Tho's mission and request their cooperation.

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

for

Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho

9/9/59

East Lansing, Michigan	August 28 - September 9
Washington, D.C.	September 9 - October 9
New York City	October 10 - 16
Albany, New York	October 18 - 23
Boston, Massachusetts	October 24 - 28
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	October 29 - November 18
East Lansing, Michigan	November 19 - December 3
Chicago, Illinois	December 4 - 11
Nashville, Tennessee	December 12 - 20
Miami -- Puerto Rico	December 21 - January 6
Chicago, Illinois	January 7 - 8
Madison, Wisconsin	January 8 - 17
Minneapolis, Minnesota	January 18 - 27
East Lansing, Michigan	January 28 - 31
Sacramento, California	February 1 - 12
San Francisco, California	
Honolulu	
Tokyo	
Hong Kong	
Saigon	

9/9/59

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

for

Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho

*6 lines -  
Please send out separate  
files in folders for  
my department.*

<u>City</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>
East Lansing, Michigan	Aug. 28 - Sept. 9	
Washington, D.C.	Sept. 9 - October 9	Messrs. Marius Fariolette and David Crockett at Internal Revenue Service
		Mr. Ricard Goode at International Monetary Fund
		Mr. Sherwood Fine, Chief of the Vietnam-Cambodian-Laos desk at ICA Washington
New York City	October 10-16	Mr. Lyle Fitch, Deputy City Administrator for City of New York.
		Fiscal Division of U.N.
Albany, New York	October 18-23	Mr. Chester Pond, Director of Research and Statistics - State of New York
		Mr. Ellis Riker, Director of Planning - State of New York
Boston, Massachusetts	October 24-28	Assoc. Professor Oliver Oldman, Assistant Director of Taxation, Harvard Law School, Cambridge.
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	October 29 - Nov. 18	
East Lansing, Michigan	November 19 - Dec. 3	
Chicago, Illinois	December 4-11	Mr. Pope, Executive Director of Public Administration Service
Nashville, Tennessee	December 12-20	Mr. David C. Cole, Assistant Director of Economic Development Program, Vanderbilt University
Miami -- Puerto Rico	December 21 - Jan. 6	Puerto Rico Dept. of Treasury: Justo Nieves, Undersecretary of the Treasury; Falipe Viscasillas, Director of Research; Ramon Velez, Director of Income Tax Bureau.
		Puerto Rico: Ted Moscoso, Administrator of Economic Development Administration.

<u>City</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Chicago, Illinois	January 7-8	
Madison, Wisconsin	January 8-17	Professor Harold M. Groves, Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin
		Messrs. Harry Harder, Commissioner of Taxation; John Gronouski, Director of Research; and Howard Lynch in the Madison income tax office - all of the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.
		Mr. Krueger, property tax assessor in Madison - City of Madison.
Minneapolis, Minnesota	January 18-27	Professor Walter Heller, Head of Dept. of Economics, University of Minnesota.
		Mr. Joseph Robertson, Commissioner of Taxation
East Lansing, Michigan	January 28-31	
Sacramento, California	February 1-12	Mr. Ronald Welch, tax administration.
San Francisco, California		
Honolulu		
Tokyo		
Hong Kong		
Saigon		

TO: John Griffin  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: September 9, 1959  
SUBJECT: Jet Travel (#282)

This morning when I asked Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho for his original Pan American ticket so that we could issue his Washington ticket in conjunction with tickets for international travel, I noted the attached surcharge coupon. Since there is a distinct possibility that such charges will be disallowed on a future ~~order~~, I am enclosing the ICA memo which explicitly states that payment cannot be made with a surcharge involved in jet travel.

*audit.*

cc; Howard Waltman

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

MAILING ADDRESS: MSU-USOM  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
SAIGON — VIETNAM  
CABLE ADDRESS: MICHGOVBUR

GENERAL OFFICE:  
137, DUONG PASTEUR  
TELEPH. NUMBER: 22.022 - 21.528  
SAIGON: 3 8 3 - 3 8 4

September 11, 1959

Miss Elsie Cunningham,  
Viet-Nam Project  
Wells A  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Elsie,

I have your letter of September 3, 1959, and must frankly admit that I am disappointed that Mr. Tho is being sent off to Washington for English training. I am of the opinion that his English was adequate, if not good. The essential problem is that Mr. Tho has a very cramped schedule with respect to all that he should see in Canada, the United States, and Puerto Rico, and the more time he spends in learning English, the less tax exposure he will get. I hope that the English course will be brief.

Please send a tentative itinerary so that I can contact Mr. Tho and also others who he will be meeting. Also, I would be appreciative for his Washington address.

All best regards,



MILTON C. TAYLOR

cc. Mr. Smuckler  
Mr. Musolf

*Tentative itinerary - in its way*

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

VIETNAM PROJECT • OFFICE OF COORDINATOR

September 16, 1959

To: Milt Taylor  
Through: Chief Advisor  
From: Stanley T. Gabis  
Subject: Huynh Xuân Tho's Program

Elsie gave me your letter to her of September 11, 1959 concerning Mr. Tho's itinerary. Here is the situation: One of the first things that Mr. Tho said to me when I met him at the airport was that he wanted to stay in East Lansing for six weeks brushing up on his English and studying the elements of American taxation. He felt that he would be in a much better position to benefit from his experience than if he went out after a brief stay in East Lansing. I might add that he was quite adamant in this position, and I felt that I could not refuse a request of this nature from a person at his level. He spent approximately one week exhausting the English tapes we have in our language library here and devoted a good part of his time to reading Grove and Poole on taxation. He also spent a good part of one morning with Professor Cline going over his prospective itinerary.

At the conclusion of this first week it became clear that we could not satisfy his language needs here. The logical thing to do in view of his insistence on this matter was to send him to American University.

I am sure that he will use his time to good advantage both in the language and tax spheres. Besides, at the tail-end of his stay in Washington, we hope that we can arrange visits to the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the International Monetary Fund which will eliminate the need to return to Washington at a future date.

I was very anxious to get him started, but I hope that you will appreciate the importance of the initial adjustment which must be made in the United States. I felt that the investment of additional preparatory time was well worthwhile in view of the very great contribution which Mr. Tho will make upon his return. We have gone to unusual lengths here to accommodate Mr. Tho, and I did not want to jeopardize our relationship by requiring him to do something against his will. I am attaching a copy of Mr. Tho's itinerary.

STG/ap

cc: Cunningham

PS: I have read your tax studies with great interest.

1264

September 23, 1959

Mr. Simon Weinger  
Training Branch  
Public Administration Division  
International Cooperation Administration  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Si:

After thinking over the part of our conversation that dealt with Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho's trip to Puerto Rico, I had some misgivings on sending him there in October. Namely, the problems of coping with English spoken with a Spanish accent when you are just beginning to manage English per se without this added complication.

Instead I would like to suggest that he go to Puerto Rico approximately January 23. I realize this still puts him there during the month of January but I trust that this does not conflict with any other holidays.

I certainly appreciate your informing me concerning the long holiday before Christmas and after the 1st of the year.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham  
Participant Director

*cc: Milt Taylor*



TO: Milt Taylor  
THROUGH: R. Smuckler  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: September 24, 1959  
SUBJECT: Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho's Puerto Rico Trip (#299)

In discussing the program for Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho in Puerto Rico with Mr. Simon Weinger of ICA yesterday, he indicated that we had chosen what was possibly the worst time of the year from the standpoint of holidays. According to him, the whole week preceding Christmas and the week after the first of January are big holiday periods in which you could not expect to accomplish any significant amount of work. With this in mind, I have now tentatively suggested that Mr. Tho's Puerto Rico trip begin on January 23rd.

I had originally thought that we might send him to Puerto Rico directly from Washington, but concern for the possibility that he might have to cope with English spoken with a Spanish accent when he is just achieving a minimum degree of fluency in English, plus the fact that it might be well if he had the opportunity to learn more of the American tax setup before he went to Puerto Rico, made me shift this visit to a later date.

Mr. Le Quang Huynh arrived very exhausted after a tiresome trip from San Francisco to Chicago, but now seems to be completely revived. Jim Hendry has signed him up for Economics 406 and 320, and Insurance, Law and Real Estate 360. He indicates that one of his major responsibilities on his return to Vietnam will be the reforms in property tax. I feel confident that he will be able to follow these three courses with no difficulty. His English is excellent and better than that of most participants newly arrived in this country.



Elsie

Stanley Gabis  
Chief Advisor  
Milt. Taylor

1 October 1959

Huynh Xuân Tho's Program

I must admit that my mild complaining about Mr. Tho's English training in Washington was impetuous and that more English training is probably advisable. At any rate, I must admit that you know more about this than I do.

Referring to a Memorandum of September 9, 1959 from Elsie Cunningham to Howard Waltman, the question of Mr. Tho's return via Europe has been explored. I am very anxious for him to travel through Europe and Mr. Tho would also like to do this, but he was reluctant to raise the issue before leaving Viet-Nam. Ralph Smuckler is of the opinion that we could help to obtain permission for the trip at this end. I am going to contact Mr. Tho to find out if he would like us to intercede.

Regarding Mr. Tho's itinerary, I have the following reactions: (1) After he leaves Washington, he is going to be on the road for successive trips to New York, Albany, Boston, and Ottawa. This may prove to be too tiring, so it may be best to bring him back to East Lansing for a rest before he goes to Ottawa. (2) Is one week in Chicago necessary? (3) If Mr. Tho travels home via the Pacific, I suggest the possibility of a stop in Oregon to view tax administration there as well as to see Dick Lindholm. (4) Please consider four or five-day stopovers in Japan and Taiwan.

In personal letters from Mr. Tho, he expresses enthusiasm for his welcome at MSU, for which you and Elsie are to be congratulated.

October 2, 1959

Mr. Simon Weinger  
Training Branch  
Public Administration Division  
International Cooperation Administration  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Si:

I'm presently trying to get space for Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho on the Pan Am flight 213 out of Baltimore for the night of the twelfth. As soon as this is confirmed, I shall wire Puerto Rico.

I spoke to Mr. Tho this afternoon, and he did not seem to be in the least shaken by the turn of events. Frankly I would appreciate a note from you giving the exact dates I told you over the phone - this was strictly off the top of my head and is not down on paper anywhere.

Sincerely yours,

Elsie Cunningham  
Participant Director

TO: Milton Taylor  
THROUGH: Chief Advisor  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: October 2, 1959  
SUBJECT: Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho (#310)

Mr. Simon Weinger of ICA called me the other afternoon to indicate that they had made arrangements for Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho to visit Puerto Rico immediately after leaving Washington. The cable had already gone to Puerto Rico before they had received my request not to program him into Puerto Rico until after he had completed at least a part of his United States itinerary. I hope that this will not cause any difficulties for Mr. Tho -- particularly from the language standpoint.

October 5, 1959

Mr. Jose Colon  
Department of State  
54 Fortalizo Street  
San Juan,  
Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Colon:

This is to inform you that Mr. Huynh Xuan Tho, Director General of Taxation in Vietnam, will be arriving in Puerto Rico on Pan American Flight 213 at 5:15 a.m. on October 12th. Reservations have been requested at the Palace Hotel for Mr. Tho.

We would appreciate your arranging for Mr. Tho to be met upon his arrival. I understand that his visit has been cleared through your office by International Cooperation Administration, Washington.

Please find enclosed, for your information, a brief biographical data sheet on Mr. Tho's background and interests.

Sincerely yours,

Stanley T. Gabis  
Acting Coordinator

STG:nm