

Tokyo , le 12 Octobre 1955

Cher Monsieur FISHEL ,

Je n'avais pas pu vous écrire plus tôt ayant perdu votre adresse. Je tiens à vous remercier de votre lettre si encourageante et si amicale.

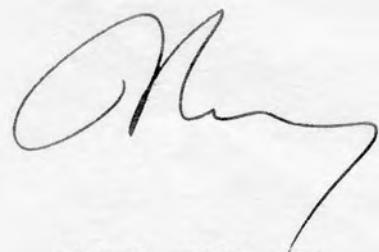
Je crois que je rentrerai au Sud Viet Nam à la fin de ce mois. J'aurais voulu le faire plus tôt mais ma jambe n'est pas encore solide.

Comme vous le savez sans doute, le 23 Octobre de ce mois aura lieu le référendum ^{diplé} par Le Président NGO DINH DIEM pour mettre fin au régime de Bao Dai et pour consolider son Gouvernement en vue des tâches futures. Je crois qu'il y arrivera mais ce ne sera pas sans difficulté, ^{ce qu'il y a de plus encore} l'opposition sourde des Français (du moins de quelques éléments attardés) des Caodaïstes et des partisans des Hoa Hao aujourd'hui éparpillés et tenus en suspicion, sans compter l'agitation Viet Minh dans l'intérieur maintenant que démasqués à Saïgon, les cadres se réfugient à la campagne. J'espère que les cercles officiels de Washington demeurent comme par le passé suffisamment éclairés et continus dans leur support pour aider le Président à franchir le dernier cap. Un changement d'attelage et de direction, comme certaines rumeurs intéressées semblent le faire accroire, ne pourrait que perturber gravement une situation déjà suffisamment délicate et compliquée et en voie de progressive réduction par la ténacité du Président lui-même. Je souhaiterai vivement que vous nous serez d'un réel et efficient secours dans cette circonstance. Je vous en remercie bien vivement par avance.

Je voudrais profiter de cette occasion pour vous demander de me rendre le service suivant, si c'est dans votre "corde". J'ai actuellement au Japon un étudiant vietnamien qui a déjà son baccalauréat ex-

français complet (sciences expérimentales). Mal conseillé, il est venu au Japon faire ses études comme boursier du Gouvernement de ce pays. On l'a obligé à faire un an d'apprentissage de langue japonaise mais on n'est pas disposé à admettre l'équivalence de son diplôme pour lui permettre de continuer ses études de sciences physiques (nucléaires). Il m'a demandé de voir s'il y a une possibilité pour lui d'aller aux Etats Unis aux mèms fins. Aussi, vous demanderai-je de voir si l'Université de Michigan serait disposée à lui accorder une bourse ou un financement quelconque propre à lui donner une suite finale à ses études. C'est un garçon qui parle bien l'Anglais, bien éduqué et résolument anti-communiste. S'il était bien conseillé au début, certainement il serait allé trouver le Service culturel américain pour faire part de ses desiderata. Je serai très heureux si vous pouviez faire quelque chose pour lui, le plus tôt possible, ce serait le mieux. Je vous prie d'agréer mes sincères remerciements.

En attendant de vous lire bientôt, je vous prie de vouloir transmettre mes hommages respectueux à Madame FISHEL et croire à mes sentiments cordialement dévoués. /.



NGUYEN NGOC THO

Saigon, May 4th 1955.

Dr. F^rishel
M.S.C.
East Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Dr. F^rishel:

I had hoped that we would hear from each other earlier, but I am sure it was not possible for you as well as for me to keep our correspondence up to date.

As you probably know, I had the opportunity of going with the Delegation of Vietnam to Bandung. A very interesting experience, but a most tiring trip, because of the exhausting work ** I was for the whole week the official interpreter and private secretary of THOAI, the chief delegate, thus being a two way receiver and broadcasting radio during all sessions and discussions ** and also because of the uneasy "coexistence" we had to live with the VietMinh and other pro-communist delegations during the conference. All ended well, because the Communists did not succeed in having the Geneva Agreements approved by the Conference as they had planned.

The more alarming developments these recent days ^{here} made me think that you would be of extreme value here. The President has been difficult to ^{reach} see recently and we see again the same group of people we saw at the very beginning of the game : NHU (of course!), TRAN CHANH THANH, TON THAT TRACH etc... Even Do vang Ly has been called to help out! I think essential however that during these difficult times the President should be most receptive to all voices provided they come from sources^s other than Communist. On the contrary, it looks like the President is being isolated from influences which are not controllable by Mr. Nhu, for instance such men^s as THOAI who has resigned recently because precisely of the isolation of the President behind a small group of people, thus following a policy which disregards popular opinion and risking to lead him to failure.

The President remains the same, a person endowed with certain invaluable qualities, and in these troubled times, he has gained the ~~the~~ respect and admiration of many people. The Army and the People are standing firmly behind him and that ~~mixx~~'s all he needs ~~to~~ to succeed. Besides, the recent events though unfortunate, have the good result of proving to the world that South VN does not like any more Bao Dai than the French, and that now is a good time for gaining, in a decisive and well calculated step, what we could not achieve ~~inx~~ since 1945.

There are many things which can only be seen and said from me to you ^{here} if you are, but could not be written on paper. I don't know what are your plans, but if you can come back to VN, it will be very good for the President to have around him the advices of somebody who wants to help him and may be more "objective and cool headed" than himself during these difficult times.

In the next few weeks or days, the~~s~~ future of Vietnam may be decided. If there is any way you could help, please investigate. It is essential for Vietnam not to be forsaken by her friends; it is primordial for President Diem to be well advised and follow a right course of policy now, a policy of national union and responsability, not a policy of family or group responsibility.

Let me wish you the best success for your work. My regards to Mrs. Fishel and to all our friends. Mai joins me in expressing these wishes.

Cordially,

Nguyen Thai

Apartment no. 13
Building Frederic Drouhet
(Free Place Khai Dinh) Saigon.

P.S. Please give the enclosed letters which I forgot to mail to Dr. Hanan. Thanks.

BIO-DATA SHEET

Full Name (Mr.) Trần Long

Present Address . . . International Cooperation Administration
1624 H Street, N.W., Room 104-H
Washington 25, D.C.

Place of Birth . . . Số 58 Phố Phuvinh, Phatdiem
Ninhbinh, Vietnam

Date of Birth . . . June 8, 1928

Parents' Names . . . Trần xuân Nhât & Nguyễn thi Láng (both living)

Parents' Address . . . Số 36 Đường Làng 21
Giadinh, Vietnam

Primary Education . . . Phatdiem Parish School, run by Christian Brothers, from
1934 to 1940, with "Certificat d'Etudes Primaires."

Secondary Education . . . St. Paul's Minor Seminary, Phucnhac, 1940-1944 and College
Louis Pasteur, Hanoi, 1944-1945. In 1945, when I was in
"Classe de Premiere" at College Louis Pasteur, the war broke
out and I lost school from that time until early in 1950
when I came to Paris, France.

University Education University of Portland from 1950 to 1954 with a B.S. in
Industrial Administration Magna cum Laude in May 1954.

Syracuse University from 1954 to 1955 with a M.A. in
Economics-Public Administration in June 1955.

Received a three-month program of training and observation
in Budget Administration under the sponsorship of the
International Cooperation Administration.

Governmental Work . . . At the present, I am considered as an employee of the
Ministry of Finance and Economics' Affairs (in the Bureau of
the Budget), Saigon, Vietnam.

Other Experience . . . President, 1953-54, 1954-55, Vietnamese Catholic Students'
Association in America. Member, Delta Epsilon Sigma, a
National Scholastic Honor Society. Member, Alpha Kappa Psi,
National Business Administration Society. Member, American
Economic Association.

Trần Long

Trần Long
Washington 25, D.C.
September 15, 1955

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

VIETNAM PROJECT • OFFICE OF COORDINATOR

TRANSLATION

Washington 17-10-56

Dear brother Thien,

I have just arrived from our country, and learnt from brother Tai that you have just come to Michigan from France, and so I hurried to write to you to ask after your health,

My name is TU BO CHUONG; I am sure you remember me: you met me in France and in London.

May I ask you to inquire whether there is in Michigan a school which has ~~excepted~~ acceded to the Vietnam's Government request for training cadres in the field of police and Security. How long would the training last, and how are living conditions there. Must one apply for a scholarship here or at home. I understand that you know Professor Fishel quite well; so please give me help with regard to the foregoing questions.

This is a true statement of my position. When I was in France, I studied at the "Ecole Superieure de Police in Paris" for two years. Then I went to London for training for a few months, then I went back to work in North Vietnam. I moved to the South. In March I was chosen and sent to Singapere to study Counterespionage. At present I have been sent here to study Police and Security. I am in the "International Association of Chiefs of Police", comprising 10 countries and 18 representatives. I am following courses at the International Police Service, shall stay here 4 weeks, then I shall go to Lafayette for about two months. The full training program extends over 6 months. I want to get prepared so that after this course I shall be able to go to Michigan for further study for there are few opportunities and I do not want to miss them.

Having learnt that you are there, so may I ask you about cost of living there. I am paid 8 dollars a day at present, and my salary at home goes to the keeping of my family.

I understand that 6 people will come to Michigan to study Police and Security, is that correct? When I left, they were getting ready.

Many good wishes and many wishes for luck. My next letter will be longer.

TU BO CHUONG c/o Pham Dang Tai, Embassy of VietNam
2251 R.S/ Washington DC

"IT IS FOR US THE LIVING . . . TO BE DEDICATED ~~HAD~~ TO THE UNFINISHED WORK . . ."

LINCOLN





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2, INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 20, 1955

Dr. Wesley Fishel
Michigan State College
Governmental Research Bureau
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Wesley:

I want to thank you for your very prompt, courteous answer just received a few minutes ago, and I am delighted that you were willing to take the trouble on my behalf as your answer indicated. I feel that I could be of considerable use to the program, and I am very definitely interested in pursuing the possibilities to a logical conclusion.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of hastily gotten together personal data which probably will serve as an indication of my background. If you feel that this is inadequate or in need of better presentation, please don't hesitate to advise me as I must admit that as far as job hunting is concerned, I am a neophyte.

In reading over the data sheet I note that there is no specific reference to my language qualifications which, incidentally, now are not as outstanding as they were some years ago. However, I do handle with a fair degree of fluency Danish, Swedish and Norwegian languages, and to a lesser degree German and Japanese. My French is of the reading variety and I lack confidence in its oral employment. The former five languages, however, after a short period of reindoctrination, I should be able to handle satisfactorily, except possibly on the highest plenary level.

Thanking you once more for your very welcome letter and sending you very best regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,



1 Encl
Biog Sketch

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Vietnam Technical Assistance Project

TO: Edward W. Weidner

October 20, 1955

FROM: Walter W. Mode

SUBJECT: Personnel Needs of the Field Administration Project

This memorandum is in response to our recent discussion on the personnel needs of the Field Administration Project. As I discussed with you, three additional persons are desperately needed. Briefly, we need the following:

1. A consultant for three months, from approximately January 15 to April 15. This person should have the following qualifications:

- a. A top-level regional field person in the Federal government of the U.S., preferably a regional director with broad practical experience in any one of the following programs: regional director of the Civil Service Commission, regional director of General Services Administration, regional director of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, or regional director of the Department of Labor.
- b. A detailed knowledge of the U.S. grant-in-aid system.
- c. Preferably a person who had held a political office or who had run for political office as well as a career civil servant.
- d. At least ten years of practical field work dealing in administrative reviews, budget recommendations under the grant-in-aid system, and/or informed on the U.S. fiscal procedures and policies.
- e. Administrative responsibility for a large administrative staff of 300 or more.

I would want this person to be available for consultation on the following matters:

- a. To review the material which we have already completed and comment on the same.
- b. To meet the Ministers with whom we have been working and discuss the administrative political areas.
- c. To observe and discuss the work plans and advise technical and administrative ways for over-all presentation.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Richard W. Mode

- d. To advise and consult with us on simplified procedures, especially on fiscal, budgetary, and administrative.
- e. To consult and advise on relations of central government, regional government, provincial government, and local government.

2. A long-experienced field man, a person who has had a variety of experiences in the field and field work, both as to program and as to variety of duties. He should be a person who has traveled extensively on regional field work, and whose training and experience have been in public administration, social work, business administration, or a combination of any of these. Preferably he should have at least a master's degree and hopefully a Federal government employee who has worked with the central office in Washington as well as the state and local governmental units in the states. His main duties would be to give balance to our staff of practical knowledge on field administration problems. He should be engaged for no less than two years.

1. This person should have the following qualifications:

- 3. Organization and methods examiner. This person should have O and M experience, with special knowledge on procedural development. For instance, he should know work processes, development of flow charts, policy and procedures on specific unit basis, probably some cost accounting. If possible, someone who has had administrative assistant's experience in a large governmental office. If possible, someone who has been an expeditor during the War or who would have worked on surveys and management planning. His specific duties would be that of policy and procedures analyst, who would be able to work with the various Ministries to determine the flow of work. He should be in a position to give specific recommendations on work procedures and would hopefully work into the implementation phase of the field administration project.

2. At least ten years of practical field work dealing in administrative reviews, budget recommendations under the grant-in-aid system, and/or informed on the U.S. procedures and policies.

3. Administrative responsibility for a large administrative staff of 300 or more.

I would want this person to be available for consultation on the following matters:

- a. To review the material which we have already completed and comment on the same.
- b. To meet the Ministers with whom we have been working and discuss the administrative political aspects.
- c. To observe and discuss the work plans and advise technical and administrative ways for over-all presentation.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Vietnam Advisory Team

October 29, 1955

Office of Chief Advisor

To: Dr. Charles C. Killingsworth, Coordinator
From: Dr. Edward W. Weidner, Chief Advisor
Subject: Staff Additions

In re-reading my memorandum of October 24 entitled additional economist I think that some of my ideas on adding staff were not as clear as they could be. Therefore I am restating the ideas so that no question will arise.

1. Replace Weidner with Wes.
2. Replace Smuckler with another political scientist (I will handle this when I get back to East Lansing).
3. Replace Bell with an accountant or economist.
4. Thirty-first person to be either an accountant or economist (the idea being that one accountant and one economist will be added but it can be flexible as to whether one or the other is the thirty-first or the replacement for Bell).
5. Three additional people for field administration project.
6. A six month consultant for the presidency project (not in our quota of 31).
7. A six month consultant for the field administration project (not in our quota of 31).
8. Mrs. McKeen and Mrs. Cole to be secretaries, preferably on the local payroll.
9. Ryan would be in the additional quota of 12 police specialists.
10. McKeen to work in the executive office with Sanderson taking over as executive officer.
11. Higbee to be a general number two man on the arrival of McKeen.
12. Two secretaries-administrative assistants as part of the additional police quota group.
13. Snyder to be transferred to economic projects on arrival of three additional field administration people.

I do hope you can send all these people to us very quickly since we are badly in need of them. We are working on the housing and other things and by the time you can give us names and additional ETA's we will have it licked even without a permanent disbursing solution.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY VIETNAM PROJECT
SPECIMEN SCHEDULE (SUMMARY)

The three-week program, which is required of all personnel being sent by MSU to Vietnam, includes 98 hours of intensive language instruction, of which 69 hours are compulsory class sessions and 29 hours voluntary evening refresher sessions. Instruction is on a six-day-per-week basis.

Broken down further, the program includes 32 1/2 hours of lecture and discussion concerning Vietnam and the position of the MSU Project member there, 7 hours of films about Vietnam or otherwise pertinent to the Project, and 5 1/2 hours of administrative briefing and formal trip preparation.

A library of nearly 100 volumes dealing with Indochina is set aside at each briefing program for the use of the group. Also available to them are a file of clippings from the New York Times, and current files of the Journal d'Extreme Orient, Bulletin du Viet Nam, Vietnam Embassy Bulletin, Times of Vietnam, FBIS Daily Reports, and other useful literature, official and unofficial, relating to Vietnam, US Foreign Policy, US Technical Assistance Programs, etc. A packet of such literature is distributed at the start of the three-week program to each member of the group.

Dr. Wesley R. Fishel, November 9, 1955, page 2

Minister of Interior, is just about ready to be fired any day simply because Diem can't stand the competition. Since this intimately affects both our field administration and police program we are pretty sick about it. They may really have an Army run country with Diem permitting no opposition. I am not saying they will I am saying it is possible and we must fight now and very hard to see if we can prevent this from happening. Among other things Diem is considering transferring the Civil Guard from the Ministry of Interior to the Army which would be a very terrible blow. Unless we get our aid program for the Civil Guard through immediately we won't have much opportunity to combat the pot of gold which Diem sees in MAAG.

I know it's a minor item, but some of these students seem a bit fidgety and suspicious of Do Vang Ly. For what you may consider it worth, the following is what I have learned of him -- and I might add that when I was with Diem in Washington last year Ly scoffed at my advice to Diem from time to time, assured him he was very realistic in his views, would make a damn fine Premier, etc. All this in what I felt was rather slippery opportunist style. But Diem seemed to be taken in. Ergo the following note - which you may throw away if you think it baseless or picayune:

1. He was closely associated for a long while with the "Vietnam American Friendship Assn.", whose bulletin was edited by Pham Duy Am in Washington. This Assn. received much of its news (if not all) from the Vietminh Info. Office at Bangkok. Ly's participation in this activity the students consider to have passed mere passive support; they consider him to have been at that time at least a "Vietminh agent."
2. Vietnamese in New York considered him for a while to be representing Ho Chi Minh's government there.
3. Students who have been in Washington recently say Ly has been preaching a Vietminh line to them, mixing it with a nationalist line.
4. Ly now tells students in Washington Diem has entrusted him with the task of organizing them to return to Vietnam. All indications are that he is self-appointed.

① dual contracts : a) helping RVN
b) financed by ICS (US Govt)

② post-advice & training
- Doc Sci inst at NIA
Police Recog advice & training

③ NIA
advice to govt dep'ts (Field Surveys)
" police services incl The ~~ARVN~~ Civil Guard,
which ~~is~~ a 2nd semi-mil police force, & The
muni police of Saigon & other cities, etc.

④ "Exch of persons" - participant program -
all Else for total these since ST
mug leaders - + 21 here at
this moment (?)

⑤ HSO group consists of 53 + families, totaling
15 or more persons in HSO
Community in Saigon.

⑥ Learn whole new way of life - no longer
on campus - now live as part of small
foreign dipl colony - requires different
customs, conduct, etc.

Social
"help" (Watson, Lathe, etc.)
bandages, etc.

Food

Clothing

"When I use a word," Humpty Dumpty said, in rather a scornful tone," it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less."

"The question is," said Alice, "whether you can make words mean so many different things."

"The question is," said Humpty Dumpty, "which is to be master - that's all."

from Lewis Carroll, Through the Looking-Glass, p. 247.

The New Procrustean Semantics
