

DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF FOREIGN AID AND
BUDGET

BIOGRAPHY
of
VU-SUOC-THONG
VAN-THAI

Former Minister of Social Action and Public Health, Director of the National Institute of Administration, and Vice-President of the National Legislative Assembly of Vietnam.

Born in 1916, at Nam Dinh (North Vietnam).

Studied at Hanoi and in France.

Laureate of the Faculty of Law at Hanoi.

Doctor of Law (Public Law), Diploma in Indochinese Juridical Studies.

Diploma of higher studies in Political Economy.

Entered the Judiciary, 1940.

Counselor of the Court of Appeals at Hanoi, 1950.

Left the Judiciary to become Professor of the Faculty of Law at Hanoi in 1951 and Professor at the School of Administration of North Vietnam.

After the Geneva Agreement, in 1954, named Professor of the Faculty of Law at the University of Saigon.

In 1955 named President of the Council of State of Vietnam, the Supreme Administrative Jurisdiction of Vietnam.

Became a member of the Cabinet of Ngo-Dinh-Diem, established October 5, 1955, as Minister of Social Action and of Public Health.

In addition to these governmental functions, was made Director of the National Institute of Administration, and institution created in July, 1955.

After the establishment of the Republic and the ministerial reorganization of October 1955, was retained in the first Cabinet of the Republic at the head of the Department of Social Action and Public Health.

Elected Deputy to the Constituent Assembly in March 1956, then Vice-President of the Committee of the same Assembly to prepare the draft constitution. After the promulgation of the Constitution, in October 1956, resigned his governmental positions in order to devote himself to the legislative tasks of the First National Legislative Assembly of Vietnam.

Elected Vice-President of the National Legislative Assembly in December 1956, member of the Constitutional Court of Vietnam, and Counselor of the High Court of Justice of Vietnam. Elected President of the Codification Committee of the Legislative Assembly in April 1957.

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Mr. Thong at present continues to hold simultaneously the position of Vice-President of the National Legislative Assembly and that of Director of the National Institute of Administration and of Professor of Public Law and Political Science at the Faculty of Law at the University of Saigon.

Political, Social, and Cultural Activities

Charter member of the political party "Phong-Trao Tranh Thu Tu-Do" (Movement for the Conquest and Defense of Freedom).

Jaycee Senator of Vietnam. Formerly Editor-in-chief of the legal journal "Phap-Ly Tap-san" and the cultural review "Pho-Thong".

Director and Editor-in-chief of the journal "Administrative Studies". Represented the University of Hanoi at the Conference of South East Asian Universities, organized by Johns Hopkins Institute in Washington in 1952.

Member of the delegation from Vietnam to the Afro-Asian Conference at Bandung (Indonesia) in April 1955.

PUBLICATIONS

Published Works

Administrative Decentralization in Vietnam (Paris: 1952, 2nd edition, 420 pp.)

"What is Social Democracy?", Paris, 1953.

"The Reserved Powers of States," Paris 1953.

"How We Conceive the Future National Assembly of Vietnam," Hanoi, 1951.

"Control of Administrative Legality in Vietnam," Saigon, 1955.

"The Draft Constitution of July 2, 1956 of Vietnam," Saigon, 1957.

"Some Comments on the Constitutional Court of Vietnam," Saigon, 1957.

Several Journal Articles, particularly:

"What is National Sovereignty?" (in The Ky, Hanoi, 1956).

"Our Opinion on the Draft Constitution of 1946" (in Xay Dung, Hanoi, 1956).

"The Problem of Reunification of Legislation" (in Phap-Ly Tap-San, 1945).

"History of the Evolution of the Judicial System of Vietnam" (in Pho-Thong, Hanoi: 1951-1952).

"The Use of Vietnamese before the Franco-Vietnamese Mixed Jurisdictions" 1951-1952 (in Pho-Thong).

"The Role of Civic Education in the Teaching Program" (in Pho-Thong, Hanoi, 1954).

"Some Thoughts on the Economy of Vietnam of Tomorrow" (in English) Washington, 1952.

"The Problem of Training of Cadres of Administration (In Vietnam and in India) (in Times of Vietnam - Special issue - May, 1957).