

RECEIVED
OCT 11 1960

MICH. STATE UNIVERSITY
VIETNAM PROJECT

Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge 38, Mass.
October 8, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Austin:

Please find enclosed a copy of my letter to Dr. Guy H. Fox in Saigon. Although the substance of what in there has already been known to you, I think it appropriate, for purposes of unified communication, to submit this copy to you for the files at our Project.

Please disregard the personal nature of the concluding part of the letter.

With my best regards,

Sincerely,



Tran Ngoc Phat



Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge 38, Mass.
October 8, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Austin:

I have well received the \$35.10 check in re-imbursement for my expenditures in connection with my recent attendance at the American Political Science Association (returned signed voucher enclosed).

I would like to express my appreciation to your Office and the Office of the Dean of International Programs, for their helpful expeditiousness in this matter as well as in many other in the past.

Sincerely,



Tran Ngoc Phat

OCTOBER 10, 1960

C

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
BOSTON 63, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

IT WAS A PLEASURE VISITING WITH YOU RECENTLY. I ENJOY YOUR ENTHUSIASTIC
AND SINCERE CONVERSATIONAL DISCUSSIONS.

P

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

Y

BVA + IR

OCTOBER 11, 1960

MR. TRUONG BUU KHANH
CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER
EMBASSY OF VIET-NAM
2251 R STREET, NW
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

DEAR MR. KHANH:

WE HAVE RECEIVED MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT'S PASSPORT WITH THE REQUEST THAT THIS BE RENEWED UNTIL JULY 1, 1962.

WE HAVE FORWARDED HIS REQUEST TO PROFESSOR MUSOLF OF MSU GROUP IN SAIGON TO PROCESS HIS EXTENSION AS A PARTICIPANT IN THIS COUNTRY UNDER HIS COMMITMENT TO THE NIA. PHAT HAS INDICATED HE SHOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE HIS RENEWED PASSPORT BEFORE DECEMBER SO THAT HE CAN APPLY FOR THE EXTENSION OF HIS AMERICAN VISA.

LAST WEEK, PROFESSOR MUSOLF INDICATED THAT THE NIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OUR OFFICE BECOME THE CENTER FOR HANDLING THE ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF RENEWALS OF PASSPORTS AND VISAS, EXTENSIONS, AND THE LIKE. BEING COMPLETELY UNFAMILIAR WITH THE PROCEDURES NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS TASK, WE ASK FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND COOPERATION IN INFORMING US AS TO THE VARIOUS DOCUMENTS THAT WE SHOULD REQUEST FOR SUBMISSION TO YOUR OFFICE.

SINCERELY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

ENCLOSURE (PHAT PASSPORT)

OCTOBER 13, 1960

C MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
BOSTON 63, MASSACHUSETTS

O DEAR MR. PHAT:

P THANK YOU FOR YOUR NOTE AND THE COPY OF YOUR LETTER TO MR. FOX. WE ARE
HAPPY THAT YOU RECEIVED YOUR CHECK IN CONNECTION WITH THE POLITICAL SCI-
ENCE MEETINGS.

P WE SHALL TRY TO EXPEDITE YOUR REQUEST FOR MATERIALS INDICATED IN YOUR
LETTER; BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED SUPPLY, THESE WILL HAVE TO BE SENT TO
YOU ON LOAN. THE PROGRESS REPORTS LIMIT THEMSELVES TO INTERNAL ADMIN-
ISTRATIVE PROBLEMS AND THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT BETWEEN MSU AND
ICA/USOM RATHER THAN DEPICTING THE SUBSTANTIVE PROGRAM OF PUBLIC AD-
MINISTRATION AS SUCH. THEREFORE, WE DO NOT THINK THESE WILL BE OF ANY
HELP TO YOU, BUT, SHOULD YOU VISIT EAST LANSING, WE CAN DETERMINE THIS
FURTHER.

Y CERTAINLY, WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO A TRIP TO EAST LANSING TO
LOOK INTO THE VIET-NAM PROJECT'S LIBRARY. THE LIBRARY WOULD BE MADE
AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH YOU AND I CAN WORK OUT.
I HAVE A KEY AND COULD SEE TO IT THAT THE BUILDING AND LIBRARY IS OPENED
TO YOU.

CORDIALLY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge, Mass.
October 18, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Austin,

Thank you for your recent letter and also the per diem check for the second period of this month. I appreciated your having agreed to loan certain material helpful for a paper I am writing as requested.

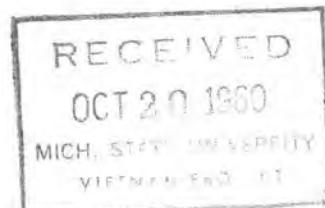
Pursuant to your favorable opinion on a suggested trip for me to come back to East Lansing for academic purposes, I would like to submit the present request for such a trip which will allow me to go back for a visit there from Dec. 22-Jan. 1 (1960-61). I am applying for participation in the "Christmas Adventure" meeting held, during the same period, at Michigan State University.

My work here is progressing normally.

Sincerely,



Tran Ngoc Phat



OCTOBER 27, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
61 PERKINS HALL
HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

WE ARE PROCESSING YOUR TRIP TO EAST LANSING REQUEST FOR DECEMBER, 1960. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT DATES WE SHOULD MAKE AIR RESERVATIONS FOR SO THAT WE CAN MAKE THESE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND FORWARD THE TICKETS TO YOU. WE SHALL STATE IN OUR REQUEST THAT THIS TRIP IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DOING RESEARCH RELATIVE TO YOUR DISSERTATION.

WE HAVE RECEIVED A TRANSLATION (COPY ENCLOSED HEREWITH) OF AN ARRETE DATED IN SAIGON OCTOBER 7, 1960, ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENCY, EXTENDING YOUR STAY IN THE UNITED STATES FOR ANOTHER YEAR FROM JANUARY 1, 1961, TO DECEMBER 31, 1961.

MY BEST PERSONAL REGARDS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR
ENCLOSURE

OCTOBER 28, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

AS OF NOVEMBER, 1960, PER DIEM WILL BE PAID ONE FULL MONTH IN ADVANCE. ENCLOSED HEREWITH IS YOUR CHECK FOR \$240 COVERING THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 1960.

THE ADDITIONAL \$4 PER DAY, PAID WHILE IN TRAVEL STATUS, WILL BE PAID TO YOU SEPARATELY AND NOT COMBINED WITH THE REGULAR \$8 PER DAY SUBSISTENCE CHECKS. ALSO, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE EXTRA PER DIEM, LIMOUSINE AND TAXI FARES IN CONNECTION WITH OFF-CAMPUS TRAVEL CANNOT BE PAID UNTIL THE CANCELED RECEIPTS AND/OR TICKET STUBS ARE RECEIVED IN THIS OFFICE. IN OTHER WORDS, THE ADDITIONAL PER DIEM AND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES CANNOT BE PAID UNTIL AFTER SUCH A TRIP IS MADE. IF, HOWEVER, TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE THROUGH THIS OFFICE, THE TRAIN OR PLANE FARE WILL BE PAID BY THIS OFFICE IN ADVANCE OF YOUR TRIP, AND TICKETS WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU AS HAS BEEN THE PAST PRACTICE.

THE \$120 BOOK ALLOWANCE WILL BE PAID \$60 AT A TIME ONLY AFTER WE RECEIVE FROM YOU RECEIPTS TOTALING THAT AMOUNT. BOOK ALLOWANCES CANNOT BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

ONE MORE ITEM IS THE MATTER OF REPORTING. ATTACHED IS A SAMPLE REPORT WHICH WE WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO FOLLOW AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE. WE REALIZE SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR COURSE WORK, IN WHICH CASES A GENERAL REPORT IN PARAGRAPH FORM WILL BE IN ORDER. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING SUCH A REPORT EVERY THREE MONTHS, THE FIRST ONE BEING DUE DECEMBER 31, 1960.

ANY FIELD TRIPS TAKEN SHOULD BE WRITTEN UP AS A SEPARATE REPORT AS SOON AFTER A TRIP IS TAKEN AS IS PRACTICABLE.

DO NOT HESITATE TO WRITE THIS OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING ANY OF THE ABOVE PROCEDURES.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR
ENCLOSURES 2

Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge 38, Mass.
October 31, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Austin:

I have well received your two letters dated October 27 and 28, 1960, as well as the Quarterly Report form and the check for the November monthly allowance. I thank you also for having sent me the English copy of the Presidential arrêté concerning my extension.

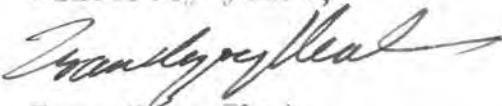
I particularly appreciated your arrangements in connection with my planned research trip to East Lansing during the later part of December, 1960. Please be kind enough to make air reservations to the effect that I shall be able to leave Cambridge on the 21st of December and to return from East Lansing on January 2, 1961.

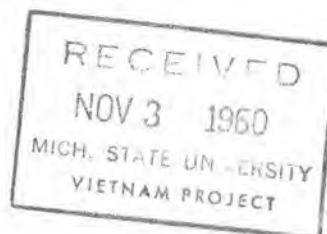
I found your re-statement of and changes in administrative procedures quite helpful. Receipts of books purchases will be forwarded to your office for necessary financial adjustments. With respect to the Quarterly Report, there is only one point which ought to be brought to your attention: Insofar as I know, the course work requirement at Harvard is not measured in terms of credits but rather in terms of the number courses completed to satisfy the residence requirements and the grades for the courses cannot be obtained until the end of the semester, i.e. by the middle of February, 1961 for the current term. In other words, unless otherwise guided, the first report due December 31, 1960, will of necessity consist of the general progress in the courses I am currently taking.

I am sure you understand my anxiously expecting the arrival of the material on Viet-Nam which was requested three weeks or so ago. Please also be advised that, in addition to a renewed passport, I shall need a DSP-66 form from M.S.U. in order to get an extension for my visa.

For all the good news I have got through your last communication with me, I am much obliged to you.

Sincerely yours,


Tran Ngoc Phat



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

NOVEMBER 10, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

WE APPRECIATE THE DIFFERENCES IN REPORTING WHICH WILL BE NECESSARY IN YOUR CASE DUE TO THE TYPE OF WORK SPECIFIED BY HARVARD AND ALSO DUE TO THE FACT THAT HARVARD IS ON A SEMESTER BASIS RATHER THAN A QUARTERLY BASIS.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT PROFESSOR FOX MET WITH VICE RECTOR DANG AND ASKED THAT HE MAKE THE MATERIALS YOU REQUESTED AVAILABLE TO YOU.

WE HAVE CONTACTED THE FOREIGN STUDENT ADVISOR HERE ON CAMPUS REGARDING THE DSP-66 FORM; YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING IT VERY SOON. SHOULD THERE BE ANYTHING ELSE WE CAN EXPEDITE FOR YOU, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO INFORM US.

SINCERELY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

NOVEMBER 16, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE RECENT EXTENSION OF YOUR ARRETE MEANS THAT THE NEW EXPIRATION DATE IS JANUARY 1, 1962. PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS DATE SO THAT, IF AN EXTENSION REQUEST IS APPROPRIATE AT THAT TIME, YOU CAN MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE EMBASSY OF VIETNAM.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

BCC LDM

Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts
November 18, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
(Viet-Nam Project)
East Lansing, Michigan



Dear Dr. Austin:

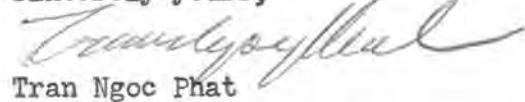
Thank you for your recent letters. Please forgive me for having been somewhat long in answering them, being involved in the mid-semester workload.

I have all received what Saigon has sent to me in connection with my request for research material. I have also received the Presidential arrete extending my mission for one year, as well as the DSP-66 form through your helpful intervention. I am sending my passport -- which has already come back too -- to the Immigration for extension of my visa.

In your last letter, there has been a well-intended reminder to me concerning the procedure to be followed should another extension request become necessary after January 1, 1962. Although remote according to my present plans expectations, this could remain a possible course of events. I will note the date, as you suggested, and will remember to bring up the matter to your consideration in due course of time for further confirmation of your procedural position in any event. My strong hope, however, is still to finish my work here within next year, in the regular line of anticipation.

As presently scheduled, I should be looking forward to seeing you soon on the 21st or 22nd of December in East Lansing.

Sincerely yours,


Tran Ngoc Phat

NOVEMBER 30, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

MRS. CARPENTER HAS ASKED US TO PAY THE \$150 FEE FOR THE "ADVENTURES IN WORLD UNDERSTANDING" FESTIVAL.

SINCE ICA AUDITS THE REASONS FOR TRAVELING WITH GREAT SCRUTINY, WE CANNOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR TRIP TO EAST LANSING BY HAVING A DUAL PURPOSE--NAMELY, WORKING IN THE LIBRARY AND ATTENDING THESE MEETINGS WHICH ENTAIL SUCH AN EXPENDITURE--ICA WOULD NOT SANCTION ATTENDANCE FOR THAT TYPE OF MEETING.

WE ARE SORRY THIS CANNOT BE DONE, BUT I TRUST YOU WILL UNDERSTAND OUR COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR YOU.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

Perkins Hall 64
Cambridge 38, Mass.
November 30, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan



Dear Dr. Austin:

It is always the case for me to stop sometime in the course of the academic flow and find myself in a rather embarrassing financial situation. I hope you will forgive me for bringing this problem to you with a spirit of urgency; but such is the case, unfortunately.

I am enclosing the receipts of the books I have purchased so far in the hope that you will be willing to get re-imbursement for that amount as exceeding the \$60 already advanced to me as early as it will be feasible.

I am also requesting you to give me in advance the \$4-differentials for my scheduled trip to East Lansing for the period from Dec. 21, 1960 to January 2, 1961. Having just received a quarterly rent bill from Harvard housing office, I realized, to my dismay, that without such a cash advance I will be financially unable to make that much longed for trip. In such an event, I will have to send the tickets back to Judy.

To let you know, if you would not mind, about the whole situation: I had to pay, recently, two dollars and thirty-five cents for "poll tax." Could I get re-imbursement for that? And would there be any statement on your part whereby I would not have to be disturbed in my studies by tax collectors? I know that Elsie could have done something about it, but I do not know how and what really in my present case. As you may realize, I need wholesome concentration and I appreciate anything you can do to help me in this direction. Actually, I am so involved with the work-load (papers and preparations for final exams in courses) of this term that I have had to decline, gradually, all my social activities -- including the ones, though very occasional, with the Vietnamese Students' Association, which I am going to drop for good.

Another matter was concerning the extension for my visa. So far I sent my passport to the Boston Immigration Office for renewal of visa and there was no complication. This time, following an instruction kindly extended to me from M.S.U.'s Foreign Students' Adviser Office, I have sent it to the Detroit Office and the latter has returned it to me asking for an explanation of my presence at Harvard. I have complied with their demand and sent a note explaining our program to them. I do not think that there will be any difficulty at all. This is just another minor inconvenience added to the above. Please forgive me for having to impose upon you with such details, but I felt the need to ask for your comprehension and support in all the related instances or similar ones in the future.

I would be grateful if you could act favorably on the requests contained in the present. My work is progressing regularly.

Appreciatively,
Tran N. Phat
Tran N. Phat

DECEMBER 6, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

FIRST OF ALL, REGARDING YOUR BOOK ALLOWANCE, I SHALL BE HAPPY TO FORWARD TO YOU THE REMAINING \$60 OF YOUR YEARLY ALLOWANCE (PLEASE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT, IF I DO SEND YOU THIS SECOND \$60, YOU WILL HAVE RECEIVED A TOTAL OF \$120 AND WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY MORE MONEY FOR BOOKS UNTIL SEPTEMBER OF 1961) AS SOON AS YOU PROVIDE ME WITH A STATEMENT SIGNED BY YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR OR MAIN PROFESSOR THAT THE BOOKS YOU HAVE PURCHASED ARE RELATED TO YOUR FIELD OF STUDY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE RECEIPTS YOU HAVE SUBMITTED ARE BEING RETURNED TO YOU HEREWITH.

SINCE YOU HAVE NOW RECEIVED YOUR SUBSISTENCE PER DIEM FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, TOTALING \$248, WE CANNOT JUSTIFY PAYMENT OF YOUR TRAVEL PER DIEM IN ADVANCE OF YOUR TRIP. TRAVEL RECEIPTS MUST ACCOMPANY OUR REQUEST FOR THE EXTRA PER DIEM.

ENCLOSED IS A STATEMENT DESCRIBING YOUR STATUS AS A STUDENT; WE CANNOT REIMBURSE YOU FOR THE POLL TAX, BUT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET IT REFUNDED BY SHOWING THIS STATEMENT TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES. THIS STATEMENT ALSO CAN BE USED IN THE FUTURE WHEN YOU ARE APPROACHED ABOUT PAYING TAXES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU LATER THIS MONTH. HAVE YOU MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A PLACE TO STAY WHILE YOU ARE IN EAST LANSING? IF NOT AND WE CAN BE OF HELP, DO NOT HESITATE TO LET US KNOW.

SINCERELY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

JR
ENCLOSURE

DECEMBER 7, 1960

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
64 PERKINS HALL
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR MR. PHAT:

WE HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF YOUR LETTER ASKING THE DEPARTMENT TO
CHANGE YOUR SPECIAL FIELD FROM PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION TO NATIONAL-
ISM. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO FURTHER
YOUR WORK.

CORDIALLY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

64 Perkins Hall
Harvard University Campus
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts



December 10, 1960

Dr. Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean, College of
Business and Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Austin:

I would like to thank you for many of the nicely thoughtful things that you have done for me lately. Please kindly forgive me for not having been specific enough in my recent communications with you, during a rather concentrated period of research work for me here. But I am looking forward to having the privilege and pleasure to report more in detail to you about my work and plans, in the course of my next research trip to East Lansing.

As a good contributing resident of Cambridge, I was happy to have paid the poll tax anyway. But I appreciated your certifying statements which will help me to keep the whole (reduced) amount of per-diem for my own subsistence and some of the other necessary working expenditures not covered by my present scholarship.

The passport has been returned with the one-year extension of stay grant, as requested. I am glad to let you know this good news too.

With Christmas time in the offing, I cannot help to exhibit here my gratefulness to all who have so generously supported me in my studies even in the most difficult hours of adjustment. Studying for a higher degree in Political Science, as you are aware, requires the most both extensive and intensive involving in many disciplines and branches of life in many places. Without your sustained support and help as well as the ones from many other friendly and cooperative sources, my academic pursuit could not have progressed as relatively effectively as it did. In the coming year, I am looking forward to an even more effective and useful period of accomplishments.

.../...

In reply to your most recent letter, dated December, I would like to re-state, somewhat briefly awaiting a further opportunity to discuss things of the following nature with you soon, some explanations concerning my fields of study at Harvard. As you may know, the Government Department here is a subdivision of Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. The Government Department is entitled to govern the work and grant degrees in various fields (I should say, super-fields) of social sciences. For the degree of Ph. D., for example, it offers, among others, degrees in History, Economics or Political Science. In order to get a Ph. D. degree in Political Science, which is a degree in Arts and Sciences (as opposed to specialized degrees such as the Master of Public Administration or Ph. D. in Economics and Public Administration, etc., offered by more specialized Schools or degree-granting commissions), a candidate must submit—at the end of his first year of graduate study under the Department of Government—an application for candidacy for the degree of Ph. D. in political science (which I had done) stating the six fields of study he wishes to offer at the General Examinations (the equivalent of the Prelims. at M.S.U.), among which is a special field (meaning that on which he will be asked more in detail at the General Written and Oral Examinations). In preparation for these examinations, the courses do not officially be an integrated part; the candidate must prepare for these fields, in addition to the course work, by extra readings and research work on his own so as to be ready for these examinations. Among the six fields, there can be two "write-off" fields meaning that you may not present them at the Generals if you take two courses in each and satisfy the appropriate requirements for these two fields in the course work. The fact that I did ask to change my special field from Public Administration to Nationalism (an inter-disciplinary concentrated field in International Relations at Harvard, and a would-be originality of this University's curriculum) was much more a technical change in the original application for candidacy than a change in field of study in the sense of another University's context. I intend to present for this field two areas of concentration, which will be the former Indochina and perhaps India areas of concentration. In practice, governmental problems in general or in comparatively-applied forms will include public administration, among other fields of government and law. As a student in Arts and Law*, and as someone

*And Sciences.

interested in governmental aspects and developments of transitional societies such as Viet-Nam (in which every problem of law and government must be, by a finding in socio-historical research in the evolution of these societies, put in the general framework of emerging nationalisms for understanding as well as for an eventual comprehensive solution thereof), I firmly think as I thought and accordingly carried out my studies so far, that Nationalism as an impact-field of knowledge (and transfer of knowledge) of a national, supra-national and international nature most useful for a smooth and orderly process of generational integration in societies such as Viet-Nam. But the overall field of my degree is still Political Science as previously explained. As a Professor in Political Science at the National Institute of Administration, I shall be teaching Public Administration, Nationalism, American Constitutional Law, Political Thought, or any matter-subject I shall be called upon to teach and for which I had been trained and am going to be trained, with the advices and research sources from M.S.U. or Harvard or any other institutions of learning and foundations of research with which and whom I have and will have maintained a continuing flow of contacts in the backlog; and, above all, with your support and help in getting recognition for my fields of study and teaching at the National Institute of Administration or any other higher institutions of Viet-Nam should the needs of the country (in conformity with the U.S. interests) so require,-- which support and help among many precious others I would most wholeheartedly and gratefully request and appreciate.

Finally, in connection with my forthcoming trip back to M.S.U. (my American cradle-University), and at the risk of abusing, once more, your express kindness, may I submit two specific requests. The first one concerns my housing problem overthere. I know from past experience, that it will be difficult for me to find a place of dwelling at a rate I can afford in that so conspicuously attractive city. Could you intervene so as to get for me a room in M.S.U.'s dormitory for a week or so? And also, I should greatly appreciate your letting me know at your earliest convenience if I shall be able to use a typewriter which could be made available to me in Viet-Nam Project's offices even during the nights and weekends? Such a providential help would save me from overloading my luggage with a portable typewriter.

Anxiously waiting to hearing from you and the pleasure of meeting you soon, I am

Gratefully,
Tran Ngoc Phat
Tran Ngoc Phat.

December 16, 1960

Mr. Tran Ngoc Phat
64 Perkins Hall
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Phat:

Thank you so very much for your very interesting letter. I know we will look forward to the opportunity of discussing further your work.

Specifically, we have made some preliminary arrangements for housing which will be most reasonable. The dormitories are all closed, but arrangements have been made in a private home, subject to your concurrence, of course.

We will have a typewriter available for you, including my own portable to take home. It may not be possible for the offices to be open throughout the weekends, but during the regular office hours and perhaps on Saturday mornings, it may be possible to be here. We simply have to follow university regulations concerning hours when the building must be locked.

Sincerely,

Ruben V. Austin
Assistant Dean

RVA:sf