

I am using this
Hawthorne Hotel #305 } address until
2134 G Street, NW } the end of
Washington 7, D.C. } June 1961
(Tel. # RE 7-4027)

JUN. 11 1961

Washington D.C.
June 12, 1961

Dear Jady,

It was nice seeing you again in E. LaBrog.
I hope you enjoyed the baseball game!

I was a bit disappointed for not having
been able to bring Mr. Ky along with me
to Washington D.C.: He told me he has
many things to do at Ann Arbor for the
moment. He is expecting your forthcoming
visit to the U of M campus.

Shortly after my arrival here
yesterday, I saw Mr. Dang and Kim
Sa at dinner. Mr. Dang is looking forward
to having the company of Mr. Thong who
will be arriving tonight; and Kim Sa
is very anxious to get back to her studies
(and Elsie) in Indiana.

For my part, I am also waiting to
hear from Mr. Thong (since Mr. Dang
has returned to me the same certificate of
my success at the Generals at Harvard, which
he had demanded for the decision on my
plans as approved by Dean Austin and
Dr. Hendry), as well as from Saigon

about the status of my plans for research and writing for my dissertation. - As you might have been already aware, these plans are still in an undecided stage: Either they will be approved, and I shall be leaving for Europe and Viet Nam in October for a 7-month period of research, before coming back to the States to finish my dissertation; or, else, I shall have to work out, again, another set of plans and pick up another topic which will not require my visit to Viet Nam. In the latter case, I shall have to submit an application for extension of stay until completion of my dissertation, which was, at one time, my original plan. - I have been asked by the Registrar of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard to let them know (on a form sent to me) if I expect to come back to the GSAS next Fall: Since my present plans are still undecided by both U.S. and U.N. sides, and since Dean Austin has mentioned to me the eventuality of the necessity to pick up another topic which will not involve my visit to Viet Nam, I have

thought it appropriate to answer "Yes." In the one case, I shall be working at Harvard during July - August - September, and part of October. In the other, I shall register for thesis writing for the whole academic year 1961-62. — Please bring these facts to the knowledge of Dean Austin and Dr. Hendry.

In the meanwhile, I plan to work at the Library of Congress (Washington D.C.) and the Brittinger Library (New York City) mainly -- whenever possible, I shall also interview accessible people who may help me in furthering my research for my dissertation.

The Tran Q. THAN's have invited me for dinner at their house this evening, at which will also be present Mr. Dang & Kim Sa. — So far, I have found some very needed rest from the pre-exams tensions, in the course of my trip. Thank you for your most appreciated welcome in S. Lansing and I would enjoy hearing from you. Best wishes to you and my kindest regards to DEAN AUSTIN and Dr. Hendry.

Sincerely, J. Phas

7/11-1967

Dear Judy.

I am finally back to Cambridge and am preparing to meet my advisors at Harvard to discuss about my plan for writing the dissertation. I shall have to register for writing the dissertation in the fall semester. It has been recently brought to my knowledge that I shall still have to register for a course in history in order to satisfy the "write-off" requirement in the field of history.

Please find enclosed the backs of the airplanes tickets used during my last trip. Upon receipt, I'd appreciate your sending me the re-imbursement for taxi fares, ^{at that time} if possible (since I was unable to get receipt for my expenditure for taxi -- the only means of communication between Detroit airport and Ann Arbor), the \$8.00 I had spent in connection with my visit with Dy. I hope you did enjoy your visit with him as I had expected. I also hope that Dy could come to Cambridge to do a bit of research here sometime next fall.

I would be thankful if you could check if I was entitled to a raise of \$3.00 in travel per-diem (from \$12.00 to \$15.00) effective June 15, and if so, make any readjustment as necessary for me, as against the last travel per-diem check that I got before my departure from Michigan.

I am, otherwise, in the process of moving to a new address which is as follows:

70 KIRKLAND Street
Cambridge 38, Mass.

(Tel. # ELIOT 4-8648).

At the same time, I am trying to gather some useful books (useful for Viet-Nam now, that is) for a first shipping to Viet-Nam, since my present load of books available to be sent back there, by far exceeds the shipping weight allowed by I.C.A..

Thanks for the July per. dice checks. Thanh did forward it to me while I was in New York City.

Although deferred, my trip back to Viet-Nam is still remembered as including some firm commitments to my friends here. Under present circumstances, I guess I shall have to work even harder than expected in my former plan, in order to achieve my mission as soon as possible. During my trip, I had an opportunity to collect references at the Library of Congress and the Butterfield library on political studies, and had talked to helpful specialists in the field of Asian government and politics such as Prof. Laneberger at John Hopkins, Prof. Bernard Fall at Harvard University. I now expect to see Prof. Emerson on July 13 and, in two weeks (when he'll be back from his vacation), Prof. Jainsad. I have also met Prof. Elliott who is very helpful and encouraging to me. - Please accept my best thanks and wishes. Sincerely, J. Pham

*Just
file*

JULY 13, 1961

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
70 KIRKLAND AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR PHAT:

WE APPRECIATED RECEIVING YOUR LETTER AND ALL OF US HOPE THAT THINGS
WORK OUT SATISFACTORILY FOR YOU WITH REGARD TO YOUR DISSERTATION WORK.

I HAVE PROCESSED A VOUCHER FOR YOU TODAY, WHICH WILL PROBABLY REACH
YOU WITHIN TEN DAYS OR TWO WEEKS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$121.50. THIS
INCLUDES THE PER DIEM ADJUSTMENT YOU MENTION IN YOUR LETTER.

KY IS CHARMING, AND I DID SO ENJOY MEETING HIM A FEW WEEKS AGO. TIME
WAS SHORT, BUT I HOPE TO GET DOWN AGAIN IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE
ON A PERSONAL TRIP AND PLAN TO GIVE HIM ANOTHER CALL.

BEST WISHES,

JUDITH RATHBUN
SECRETARY TO DEAN AUSTIN

JR

70 Kirkland St.
Cambridge 38, Mass.
August 8, 1961

Dear Judy,

Please forgive me for having been late in answering your last letter. I have been involved with all sorts of planning!

I appreciated very much your help in getting the travel adjustment check for me, in connection with my last trip. I, too, many times, have thought that the evening we spent together in E. Lansing was just wonderful. I wrote Ed, recently, and told him your impression of him: He must have been very pleased.

Summer in Cambridge is rather warm and wet. Guess E. Lansing can still have the benefit of the breeze from the Great Lakes. I have been trying to take time (out of my planning) to read and take notes at the library here as much as possible, everyday. I expect to travel once again to Washington D.C. to visit Professor Fall's library there. - If you do plan some travelling yourself, I would suggest the best time to visit Boston-Cambridge (as you may remember) will be September's Fall time: Of course, you need to see each of us and learn, perhaps, of our administrative needs and, also, the standard of living!!

Please find enclosed 2 kits of books I have sent out yesterday to N.Y.C., thru Railway Express.

Sincerely,
J. O. Hart

Miss Judith Rathbun/Cambridge
Secretary to Dean August 21, 1961.
Hendry, GSBA
MSU, E.Lansing, Mich.

Dear Judy,

Please find enclosed a letter from the American Political Science Association, together with a form for my membership renewal with the Association.

I would be grateful if it would be possible for you to send directly to the said Association, a check of \$US6, in payment of my membership due for year 1961-62. The deadline for remittance is September 1, 1961; and, for the moment, I do not have enough account available to pay it in advance of re-imbursement.

Likewise, I have received a membership due bill for the same year from the American Society for Public Administration. But I will have to get a signature on the form from my advisor here, before I can request payment by the Project. I also expect to receive a similar form from the American Academy of Social and Political Science. Besides, if it be all right with you, I would also appreciate receiving the partial books allowance for the coming Fall.

Inasmuch as I wish to be able to remain member of these organizations, and have such expected financial needs for my studies, I most anxiously hope that the above request meet with the Project's supporting agreement.

Sincerely,

Tran Ngoc Phat.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1961

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
70 KIRKLAND STREET
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR PHAT:

WITH REGARD TO AN EXTENSION OF YOUR ARRETE, YOU SHOULD WRITE DIRECTLY TO RECTOR VU QUOC THONG AT THE NIA REQUESTING SAME. BE SURE THAT A COPY OF YOUR LETTER TO RECTOR THONG IS SENT TO THE AMBASSADOR FROM VIETNAM IN WASHINGTON, D. C. IF YOU PREFER, YOU MAY WRITE THE AMBASSADOR OF YOUR INTENTION TO EXTEND TO APRIL 30, 1962. IN ORDER THAT OUR FILES MAY BE KEPT UP TO DATE, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD SEND THIS OFFICE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER ALSO.

DR. HENDRY IS STILL IN VIETNAM, AS I BELIEVE YOU KNOW, AND WILL NOT RETURN TO CAMPUS UNTIL LATE SEPTEMBER. LARRY, JO, AND I ARE KEEPING BUSY, EVEN WITH THE "BOSS" AWAY. HOW ARE YOU DOING THESE DAYS?

BEST WISHES,

JUDITH RATHBUN, SECRETARY TO
JAMES B. HENDRY, ASSISTANT DEAN

JR

BCC MSUG/SAIGON

Cambridge

14 Sept., 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Secretary to Dean Hendry
College of Business and Public
Service - M.S.U.
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judy:

Yesterday I received some news from MSUG in Saigon, and learned of Dr. Hendry's presence there by now.

On my part, I have been continuing my research work at Widener Library for my thesis. On the 23rd of this month I will register for one course in history and for my dissertation work.

Please receive my sincere thanks for having had the reimbursement checks sent to me so quickly. They have been quite helpful.

Please also be notified of my new address (actually my old one when I first got here) which is as follows:

53 Trowbridge Street
Cambridge 38, Mass..

This is the only thing left in the neighborhood, which has a convenient location and cooking facilities. If you do visit Cambridge sometime, I will appreciate your dropping by at the above address (apt.#4).

My immediate plan (after having settled the housing problem), will be to see my advisors sometime this or next week, just before registration.

On the remaining, Fall seems to have at last arrived and I can imagine how must be beautiful your campus overthere in a week or two. (Ky was here over the Labor Day holidays and seemed to have enjoyed his visit).

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Sincerely,


Tran Ngoc Phat

Cambridge, September 12, 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Secretary to Dean Hendry
College of Business and
Public Service -M.S.U.
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judith:

Thanks for your letter of September 11, 1961. I am sending herewith three copies of a letter to Dr. Thong (together with two copies of my certificate of success at the General Exam.), as you have so kindly suggested to me to do.

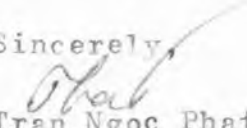
I would appreciate it if you would send the main copy of the letter to Rector Thong and a copy of the certificate of success to him at the N.I.A. in Saigon, as well as a copy of the same letter to the VN Ambassador in Washington. The other copies of the letter and the certificate are being submitted for my record at the Project. Please put my name and address at the Project as sender for forwarding purposes.

Fall has finally come here, and the weather is much more nicely stimulating. It might as well be since registration day is only a week or so ahead. The accelerating academic demand may only benefit from it. And I am sure, the weather must be much finer overthere.

Please say hello to Jo and Larry for me. As time draws to its close, I have come to appreciate more and more the value of friendship.

Once again, thanks for everything, Judith. I am looking forward to the next pleasant opportunity of hearing from you, as well as from Dr. Hendry at his return from Viet Nam (probably with some late news from there). Contemplate the Fall leaves at M.S.U. for me also, will you?

Sincerely,


Tran Ngoc Phat
53 Trowbridge Street
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Enc.

*can belong to one professional
society only - belongs to Poli Sci*

Phat

September 22, 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Office of the Dean
College of Business and
Public Service - MSU
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judith:

Registration is over just now. Classes will start Monday. The regular grinding will begin again. I expect to be able to put down on paper some outlined concentrated thoughts for my dissertation, based on my Summer research--to be submitted sometime at the end of this month to my advisors. Outside the thesis, I think I will do as little auditing as possible, allowing time for a course in American history. On the remaining, I will do as much writing as possible, everyday.

Please find also enclosed a form for renewal of my membership in the ASPA. I would appreciate it if you could forward it with a check for the dues (\$7.50) to the society. Membership in societies of this kind, gives me some sense of identity in the abstract world of "social sciences." The contacts made through them are also quite precious for my academic career.

After having made, somewhat tolerantly, her presence felt in the neighborhood of Boston, lady Esther (the hurricane, of course) has left us here. It was quite windy last night. But today all is clear and fine again.

By the way, after last May's General Examination, I was entitled to apply for an A.M.. Believe it or not, chances are that next year I will have to wear two different clothes for two degrees: A.M. and Ph. D. (this, in all modesty, naturally). Right now, however, I see only more and more work ahead. This means that social and "diplomatic" activities will have to be sharply cut to a necessary minimum.

Thank you for having forwarded the NIA's mail to me. The last communication was an inquiry about my field of interest in teaching and some news concerning my application for a position in the teaching staff at N.I.A.. Please write when you have time. Thinking of you all at the Project.

Sincerely,

Phat
Tran Ngoc Phat

NOVEMBER 3, 1961

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
53 TROWBRIDGE STREET
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR PHAT:

THANK YOU FOR SENDING THE OUTLINE OF YOUR THESIS SO PROMPTLY!
DR. HENDRY IS CURRENTLY IN BRAZIL AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL
EARLY DECEMBER.

SNOW IS PREDICTED IN LANSING TONIGHT SO GUESS OLD MAN WINTER
IS RIGHT ON TIME. HOPE ALL IS GOING WELL FOR YOU.

SINCERELY,

JUDITH RATHBUN
SECRETARY TO DEAN HENDRY

JR

53 Trowbridge Street
Cambridge 38, Mass.
November 18, 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Secretary to Dean Hendry
College of Business and
Public Service
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judy,

It was nice talking to you on the phone the other day. I think that Winter has finally hit this corner of the country. Old Man Winter has his charm any way. To tell you the truth, I miss the snow of East Lansing.



I thought that, perhaps, it will be somehow possible for me to get arrangement to go back there to see you at the Office for the Christmas vacation? And, maybe, on the way back from there I can stop by Washington D.C., to pay a visit of courtesy to the VN Ambassador? If this plan can work out, then I will be planning to leave here for East Lansing (via New York, possibly?) early in the morning of Dec.26, and arrive in E.Lansing sometime in the night and spend a couple of days there, and, then, fly back

to Boston, via Washington-D.C., on the 29th of Dec.. I feel that I must submit to you, along with this plan, the fact that my present American visa will expire on Dec. 29, 1961; and that, I shall have to get a decree from Viet-Nam, in order to renew it through the VN Embassy, and through the Immigration Office.

Also, I would like to report to the Project the fact that, in order to fix my ideas about my writing a thesis on Viet-Nam while in America (partial reason) I have thought it useful to accept an offer from ITEK Corporation (in the communications business), to introduce some of their members to Viet-Nam and its language, who are scheduled to, eventually, go there on a professional exploratory trip. I did believe this would be among the wonderful works of international cooperation, which would substantially benefit the development of Viet-Nam. This corporation may eventually get a contract from the U.S. Government for its project. I am hoping that, perhaps, they will be able to get me a round ticket to and from Viet-Nam, for a visit to my long forgotten and neglected family, for a few weeks, and possibly by Tet time. And, then, I will be back early next year to continue my work for the thesis, to be able to finish it and undergo the "special exam." by April or June, depending on how quickly the development of my dissertation will proceed. Right now, the beginning of it is going steadily, but I am hopeful that it will get even greater speed as it embarks upon its course.

Thinking of you at the Office, and thankfully, *that*

P.S. The above are but plans, of course; and I am grateful to receive any instructions concerning them, as the Project may have for me. Yours, (Tran Ngoc) Phat

NOVEMBER 30, 1961

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
53 TROWBRIDGE STREET
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR PHAT:

AS I EXPLAINED TO YOU ON THE TELEPHONE THE OTHER DAY, YOU HAVE ONLY \$15 LEFT IN YOUR TRAVEL ALLOWANCE. THUS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION FOR YOU FOR ANY FIELD TRIPS AT THIS TIME. DEAN HENDRY MAY BE IN BOSTON AROUND DECEMBER 4 OR 5, AT WHICH TIME YOU MAY DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH HIM. THE ONLY SUGGESTION I CAN MAKE IS THAT WE WOULD STILL BE ABLE TO PAY YOU THE \$15 PER DIEM WHILE YOU ARE IN TRAVEL STATUS AND, IF YOU FEEL THIS WOULD PROVIDE YOU WITH ENOUGH FUNDS TO COVER COST OF TRANSPORTATION, ETC., I SEE NO REASON WHY YOU CANNOT PLAN TO VISIT WASHINGTON, D. C., IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

ENCLOSED HEREWITH IS A NEWLY FILLED-OUT DSP-66, WHICH YOU SHOULD FORWARD TO THE EMBASSY OF VIETNAM TOGETHER WITH YOUR PASSPORT FOR RENEWAL.

I THINK IT WOULD BE WONDERFUL IF THE POSSIBLE PLANS WITH ITEK WERE TO BE FINALIZED. OFFHAND, I CAN SEE NO REASON WHY YOU WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THROUGH; HOWEVER, I CANNOT SAY AT THIS POINT JUST WHAT TECHNICALITIES WOULD BE INVOLVED IN OBTAINING APPROVAL FROM THE VARIOUS AGENCIES INVOLVED FOR YOU TO TAKE SUCH A "LEAVE" FROM YOUR WORK. THIS ALSO YOU SHOULD DISCUSS WITH DEAN HENDRY WHEN HE IS IN BOSTON.

MOST SINCERELY,

JUDITH RATHBUN
SECRETARY TO DEAN HENDRY

JR
ENCLOSURE

file

53 Trowbridge
Camb., 38, Mass.
December 6, 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Secretary to Dean Hendry
College of B&PS--MSU
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judith:

I would like to thank you for having sent me the DSP66 and accompanying papers. I will forward it, together with my passport, to the VN Embassy. Please convey my sincere thanks to Mrs. E. Van Meter for her very precious advices concerning the procedure for extending my passport.

May I take this opportunity to express, once again, my deepest appreciation of your friendly comprehension and help in the past, especially during the difficult periods of transitions in my academic and research program. I called the Office yesterday and had a chance to learn, through Jo, that Dr. Hendry has not been back yet. Since I am writing this letter in the afternoon of today, and there is no news of his coming here yet, I presume that there has been some change in his travel plans.

I planned to make a trip to Washington, but finally decided not to, because of my fear that my travel allowance has run out for this year. If I do get a ride I will go there for one or two days, just the time necessary for carrying out administrative matters. But I might as well send my passport through the mail, and will not consequently need a trip for the moment. I do plan, however, to go to New Haven (Conn.) for one or two days sometime during this month to interview Prof. Paul Mus at Yale. If I can get an appointment

from him, I will let you know, and will request some cash advance for my travel per diem to strengthen my purse. My advisor, Professor R. Emerson, has agreed to this plan. I will ring you some day about this. About the ITEK plan, since I have not yet got any new words from them, I assume that, perhaps, their contract has not been pushed through as of today. I think ICA will be able to do something about working out a procedure for a "leave," eventually, but I really cannot tell about what could be done in this connection. The plan seemed at first--and I am grateful that you so took it--attractive. But now, I guess I'd better concentrate on my academic and research work and get it done with. I found out, unfortunately not for the first time, that plans may not work out the way you would want them to or, at least, not as quickly as you would hope. Guess somewhere along the line--as you may be among the first persons to notice--I have become more philosophical and Wiser (yes, that's it!) and, thus, got adjusted to new circumstances and new times. But I feel happy about the whole thing, to tell you the truth. Things have changed for the better, as new developments are evolving themselves.

I feel much more at home now. The landlord (Mr. Ben Miele) has been quite good to me: We have even formed a "53 Trowbridge Club" whose activities include watching-TV and "a-cup-of-coffee" sessions, among other innocent friendly programs. Professor Emerson has helped me a lot, too, and not only academically. The people around are fine. They all call me "John"! Well, so long. Better stop here. Guess the fault lies with "poor" X-Mas wood (too bad I cannot make, it, West, this time).

Again, thank you for everything.

Sincerely,

P.S. Just got word from the bank that the check will be ^{forthcoming}. T.K.

John

DECEMBER 20, 1961

MR. TRAN NGOC PHAT
53 TROWBRIDGE STREET
CAMBRIDGE 38, MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR PHAT:

I AM A LITTLE LATE ANSWERING YOUR DECEMBER SIXTH LETTER, BUT IT HAS BEEN RATHER HECTIC HERE IN THE OFFICE, AS IT ALWAYS IS WHEN DR. HENDRY FIRST RETURNS FROM A LONG TRIP. IT WAS UNFORTUNATE HE WAS UNABLE TO MAKE THE TRIP TO BOSTON AS HE HAD PLANNED, BUT GUESS PROBABLY IT WAS NOT SO IMPORTANT THAT HE SEE YOU, SINCE THE ITEK PLAN APPARENTLY WILL NOT MATERIALIZE AFTER ALL.

[IT WAS GOOD TO READ THAT YOU ARE FEELING MORE AT HOME AND SOMEWHAT RELAXED--] AM SURE THAT, FEELING THAT WAY, YOU WILL ENJOY THE TASK OF WRITING YOUR DISSERTATION BECAUSE IT IS ALWAYS EASIER TO WORK IN A PLEASANT FRAME OF MIND.

PLEASE CONFIRM RECEIPT OF YOUR DECEMBER AND JANUARY PER DIEM CHECKS, BOTH OF WHICH WERE MAILED TO HARVARD TRUST CO. FOR DEPOSIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT.

DR. HENDRY AND WE IN THE OFFICE APPRECIATED YOUR CHRISTMAS GREETINGS-- THANK YOU FOR THINKING OF US.

IF YOU MAKE THE TRIP TO NEW HAVEN, PLEASE HAVE PROFESSOR EMERSON WRITE US A BRIEF LETTER OUTLINING THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TRIP; REIMBURSEMENT FOR SAME WILL DEplete YOUR TRAVEL ALLOWANCE ENTIRELY, PHAT, UNLESS YOU STAY BEYOND MARCH OF 1962, IN WHICH CASE WE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A LITTLE ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR TRAVEL.

BEST WISHES,

JUDITH RATHBUN
SECRETARY TO DEAN HENDRY

JR

53 Trowbridge St.
Cambridge 38, Mass.
December 23, 1961

Miss Judith Rathbun
Secretary to Dean Hendry
College of B&PS--MSU
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Judith:

Thank you for your nice letter. The bank here did notify me of the two deposits that you had so thoughtfully made for me. I appreciated very much your helpful gesture in anticipation of my increased personal expenditures at Christmas and New Year's time.

On the remaining, I am still trying day and night to hammer out of my poor little head, some worthwhile thoughts to be submitted to the guillotine of my advisor's pen. I have some trouble in competing with the boys here for the books in my course in American History, although I have been learning quite a lot from this course.

As to my plan to go to New Haven, so far I have not succeeded yet in getting an interview. I certainly will have to get a "perm." from Prof. Emerson beforehand (just in case...), if I do go. Thank you for your kind suggestion.

Christmas suddenly falls all over Cambridge. At the house the other night, there was a Crash party (the twist was improvised by some "avant-guarde" egg-heads and starry-eyed female books readers) which was fun. People are organizing parties here and there, but I am afraid I will have to confine myself to the typewriter and books shelves.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Sincerely

Chas