

TO: Lloyd Musolf  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: January 5, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #391

Yesterday I called ICA/W (Weinger's office) trying to discover whether or not they had received the completed bio data forms for Mr. Le Canh Xuyen. Mr. Weinger was not in his office and so I was unable to ascertain immediately what the status of these forms was.

Is there anything we could do to further expedite Mr. Xuyen's processing? The spring semester will be upon us by the end of the month and considering that Mr. Xuyen's candidacy has been under consideration for over a year, we should certainly try to complete the processing by spring semester registration. We cannot expect him to register for a full course load unless we are in a position to defray his tuition and book expenses and start his per diem.

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

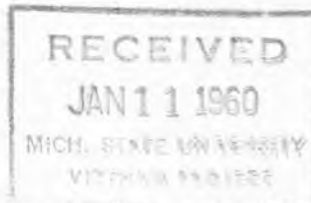
TO : Elsie Cunningham  
FROM : Frank C. Child *FC*  
SUBJECT : Le Canh Xuyen

DATE : January 5, 1969

We have been asked the NIA to provide them with information which will permit the completion of their paper work on Mr. Xuyen. Apparently their files (and ours) are incomplete.

Can you provide us with the following:

- (1) a copy of Xuyen's original application to MSU for assistance under the Participant program;
- (2) a copy of any letters referring to his desire or willingness to serve on the NIA faculty;
- (3) a copy of his past academic record;
- (4) any letters or statements regarding his proposed program of study, in general terms or, if you have it, in detail.



TO: Frank Childs  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: January 11, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #395

Please find attached thermofax copies of all the letters Mr. Le Canh Xuyen has written to this office. Also please find attached a copy of the letter Dr. Fishel wrote to Professor Goodrich and the night letter in which Professor Goodrich replied to Dr. Fishel's question regarding Mr. Xuyen's potentialities

The original inquiry came to me during a conversation with Mr. Tran Qui Than, who was at that time studying at Columbia University Graduate School of Business and living in the same apartment house as Mr. Xuyen. His letters would seem to indicate that he has communicated directly with Rector Thong specifying his willingness to serve on the M.I.A. faculty.

Copies of Mr. Xuyen's academic record up until the time he entered Columbia were sent on December 16th, 1958. Also, on May 29th, 1959 we sent you a thermofax of a letter from Columbia indicating his grades through the first semester. I am requesting the official transcript of the record for his first year at Columbia.

TO: Lloyd Musolf  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: February 9, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #430

Please find enclosed a thermofax copy of a letter from Mr. Le Canh Xuyen. Needless to say, we have again missed the deadline date for spring term enrollment at Columbia. Are there any further developments that could be communicated to Mr. Xuyen? I am sorry to see this issue unresolved before I leave on my vacation.

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

## OFFICE MEMORANDUM



TO : Elsie Cunningham                      DATE: February 27, 1960

FROM : Dr. Guy Fox. *[Signature]*                      *[Initials]*

SUBJECT: Candidates for the Ph.D. Participant Program

We have been urging the NIA to join us in making an early selection of candidates for the remaining positions in the Ph.D. participant program. It now appears that such decisions may be made within the next three or four months. Candidates who will be considered include, of course, those Vietnamese nationals currently studying in the United States who have contacted your office. We anticipate that at least one of the future participants will come from the group whose names you have sent to us. Parenthetically, let me add that there is at present a predisposition in favor of candidates who will study, in order of preference, sociology and public administration.

It must be noted that candidates now residing in Vietnam will be considered along with those currently studying in the States. In order that stateside candidates will receive complete consideration, we must have fullest possible information. We would appreciate it if you would contact each of the candidates you have suggested to insure that we receive at the earliest possible date the following:

1. Complete transcript of credits.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A letter addressed to Rector Vu Quoc Thong expressing the applicants' interest in the NIA and a commitment to teach at the NIA upon their return to Vietnam.

We are aware that one or more of these items has been submitted by several of the candidates. However, few of their dossiers are complete. These things are absolutely necessary if there is to be serious consideration given to any stateside applicant.

It seems reasonable to believe that, other things being equal, Vietnamese students who have demonstrated their ability to do college work in the United States would have somewhat better chances of success in a Ph.D. program than would participants now located in Vietnam. Evaluation of these people however, is more difficult unless we have complete records and information on their performance. We will urge very serious consideration of stateside candidates but we must have supporting documents. Please urge all candidates to send the requested items promptly.

With respect to the application of Le Canh Xuyen, we are sorry for the long delay. Apparently there has been a mix-up in the transmission of papers between the applicant and the NIA. For example in Mr. Xuyen's letter to you of January 14, he states that his transcripts and photostats of degrees were sent to your office. I assume that these papers were forwarded to Saigon. We are however, unable to locate them. In the absence of these papers no final decision can be rendered. Unpleasant as it may be we must request additional copies of these papers.

In the same letter from Mr. Xuyen he states that he has written to Rector Thong committing himself to return to Vietnam and teach at the NIA upon completion of his Ph.D. studies if financed by MSUG. According to our latest information this letter has never been received by Rector Thong. Again no final decision can be made with respect to Mr. Xuyen until such a letter is received here. Perhaps you should ask Xuyen to submit to you a copy of the letter he sends to Thong.

# 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

February 29, 1960

To: James B. Hendry  
From: Ruben V. Austin *RVA*  
Subject: Le Canh Xuyen (Also refer to Memo from Dr. Fox to Elsie Cunningham dated February 27, 1960)



Dr. Musolf has informed me that several documents have not been received here. Would you please see that the following are compiled and sent to Dr. Musolf so that he can present them to Rector Thong.

Specifically, we need (1) transcript of credits, (2) photostatic copies of his degrees, (3) a letter from him addressed to Rector Thong in which he accepts his commitment to the service of NIA and agrees to continue in his work in Economics with a minor in Public Administration. -----

2. Dr. Fox's memo asks that MSUG be furnished:

1. Complete Transcript of Credits
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A letter addressed to Rector Vu Quoc Thong expressing the applicants' interest in the NIA and a commitment to teach at the NIA upon their return to Vietnam.

RVS:je

3. It is also recommended <sup>now</sup> that we make every effort to interview the candidate in the U.S., after the information requested has been obtained. Then the East Lansing office can also include its evaluation of the candidate. An academician in the area of work the candidate is interested to pursue, should interview the prospective Ph.D. participant who is seeking NIA sponsorship.

RVA *RVA*

*Memo to Elsie*

*cc went to Elsie*

TO: Dr. Guy Fox

FROM: Nancy Maddalozzo, Secretary to Elsie Cunningham

DATE: March 4, 1960

SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #445 Ref: Your Memo of February 27, 1960

According to a letter received from Mr. Le Canh Xuyen on January 29th, he had requested Columbia University at that time to send his transcript by air mail to M.S.U.G. Today I have written to Mr. Xuyen asking him to have a copy of his transcript sent again - as the first one seems to have gotten lost somehow. I have also asked him to get three letters of recommendation and have them sent to you, and to write another letter to Rector Vu Quoc Thong expressing his desire and interest in the NIA with a commitment to teach there upon his return to Vietnam.



# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

## VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

MAILING ADDRESS: MSU-USOM  
AMERICAN EMBASSY  
SAIGON — VIETNAM  
CABLE ADDRESS: MICHGOVBUR  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADVISOR

GENERAL OFFICE:  
137, DUONG PASTEUR  
TELEPH. NUMBER: 22.022 - 21.528  
21.891 - 21.991

April 5, 1960

206

TO: Dr. Ruben V. Austin, Coordinator  
FROM: Dr. Lloyd D. Musolf, Chief Advisor *LDm*  
SUBJECT: Le Canh Xuyen

The supplementary papers associated with the application of Le Canh Xuyen for a Ph.D. participant scholarship have now arrived. The NIA appears very willing to sponsor him. In order to expedite his processing, they are proposing that he be suggested as a replacement for Le Thu Hung, a candidate who passed his examination with NIA and MSU but was later rejected because of an inadequate background. If Xuyen can be substituted in this manner, it will not be necessary to advertise this participant opening for local candidates. As soon as we can learn whether the NIA has secured GVN agreement on this point and <sup>GVN</sup> is willing to issue an arrete, we will cable.

IDM/dcm

cc: Dr. Fox  
Dr. Child

*cc line*



*206*

TO: Lloyd Musolf  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: April 11, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #480

After trying for several days I finally succeeded in contacting Mr. Le Canh Xuyen this morning. The only course he took for credit during the fall semester was Monetary Economics in which he received a "B." He is taking 12 credits this semester and hopes to finish the certification in Statistics required at Columbia. If he does not have to work in order to support himself, he hopes to be ready to take his exams next spring.

Considering the long delay, it does not seem too much to ask for a definite decision by cable within the next two weeks. I presume that your memo of April 5th refers to the transcript that Xuyen requested that Columbia send you at the end of the first semester, as well as the letters to Rector Thong. If you are interested in a more recent faculty evaluation of Mr. Xuyen's work, please cable immediately requesting this.

April 12, 1960

To: Lloyd D. Musolf  
From: Ruben V. Austin  
Subject: Le Canh Xuyen

By now you should have received our cable on Xuyen. Some of his grades were not of a "B" status, but these were occasioned by illness and by the pressure of his work which he has had to undertake in order to support himself.

RVA/ap

cc: Cunningham

TO: Lloyd Musolf  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: April 15, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #485 Ref: Cable No. S-85

After receiving your cable No. S-85, I contacted the foreign student advisor at Columbia and asked that she try and secure some additional information concerning Mr. Le Canh Xuyen's health and his grades. Unfortunately, this week is spring vacation at Columbia and she was unable to contact any of the faculty members who might be able to provide some additional information. She has promised to call me back on Monday with this information.

If you will refer to the thermofaxes enclosed with our Memo No. 452 on "Potential Ph.D.'s," you will note that Professor Goodrich specifically suggests that the reason Mr. Xuyen did not do well and suffered from ill health during his first year at Columbia could be attributed to the work he had to do in order to support himself.

Following is a complete listing of Mr. Xuyen's grades to date at Columbia which you should already have if the transcript has arrived.

1958-59

Economic History	--	B-	
Economic Development-	B		(possibility of upgrading with revision of term paper)
Economic Analysis 105-	D		

1959-60

Monetary Economics	--	B	
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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LANSING

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COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC SERVICE  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN

April 28, 1960

To: Lloyd D. Musolf  
From: James B. Hendry  
Subject: Xuyen

I will be out of town for the next couple of days, but before I leave I wanted to write a follow-up letter to our cable, EL-30 on Xuyen. I called Professor A. R. Burns at Columbia, whose name was given as the person who has had the most recent contact with Xuyen in class. He told me that he had been uncertain about Xuyen's performance, and had held off making any statement until he had had an opportunity to observe his work in presenting a paper to his seminar. Professor Burns stated that he found the paper substantial, well presented, and one that stimulated a good deal of class discussion. On the basis of this paper he would rate Xuyen's present performance at the B or B+ level, and he felt that Xuyen would be a good calculated risk to successfully complete the Ph. D. in economics. He made the further comment that his impression of Vietnamese students who have taken graduate courses at Columbia was not very high, and that Xuyen seemed a cut above these other Vietnamese students. On this recommendation, which seemed to me moderately strong, I think Xuyen's application should be given favorable consideration.

While I had the chance I also asked him if he knew anything of Toan's performance and prospects for successful completion of the degree. He said he did not know Toan and had not had him in any of his classes, so I can offer nothing further at this time. However, I will write to the head of the Department after I return to East Lansing and ask him for some evaluation of Toan's work, and will forward this on to you when I receive it.

JBH/ap

cc: Cunningham ✓

TO: Lloyd Musolf  
FROM: Elsie Cunningham  
DATE: April 29, 1960  
SUBJECT: Mr. Le Canh Xuyen #492

Now that Mr. Le Canh Xuyen is in process again, I would appreciate a cabled notification of the earliest date on which we can bring him on the program.