

JANUARY 3, 1961

MR. LE CANH XUYEN  
30 GARIBALDI AVENUE  
NEWARK 12, NEW JERSEY

DEAR MR. XUYEN:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER. I HOPE TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING YOU SOMETIME BEFORE THE END OF THIS MONTH IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. I SHALL BE LEAVING FOR BRAZIL SOMETIME IN THE LATTER PART OF JANUARY, HENCE I AM ALSO ANXIOUS TO HAVE A MEETING WITH YOU.

CORDIALLY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:sf

*Thermos to LADs*

Le Canh Xuyen  
30 Garibaldi Ave  
Newark 12, N.J.

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

Dear Mr. Austin:

Thank you very much for your letter and telegram informing me about the scholarship. I am very glad that after a long period of waiting (nearly two years), favorable action has finally been taken.

I am very anxious to see you and discuss with you a few additional matters. Please let me know when it will be convenient for you to do so.

Thank you and the MSUG at Saigon for making efforts to change the date of the arrete.

I am looking forward to meeting you. Meanwhile, I wish you a Happy New Year.

Respectfully yours,

Le Canh Xuyen

trans to LDM

*JPH  
File*

JANUARY 20, 1961

MR. LE CANH XUYEN  
30 GARIBALDI AVENUE  
NEWARK 12, NEW JERSEY

DEAR MR. XUYEN:

OUR MEETING LAST SUNDAY, I AM SURE, WILL PROVE VERY HELPFUL IN CLARIFYING MANY OF THE QUESTIONS YOU HAVE POSED. FOR THE RECORD, I SHOULD LIKE TO REVIEW SOME OF YOUR QUERIES AND MY "REACTIONS" AND POSSIBLE ANSWERS. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT WHATEVER ANSWERS I GAVE WERE SIMPLY EXPLORATORY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS FINAL AND/OR OFFICIAL.

1. YOU INQUIRED CONCERNING THE REQUEST OR REQUIREMENT THAT YOU FINISH A MINOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, WHICH YOU SAID HAD BEEN SUGGESTED IN SOME OF THE PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS OVER TWO YEARS AGO. MY ANSWER WAS THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE, IF POSSIBLE, FOR YOU TO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN A MINOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT--THIS SUGGESTION IS MADE IN LIGHT OF THE LENGTH OF TIME THAT HAS ELAPSED SINCE YOUR FIRST APPLICATION (1958?) AND IN VIEW OF THE STATE OF PROGRESS OF YOUR WORK IN ECONOMICS. I AM SURE YOU CONSIDER THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF YOUR DEGREE AN IMPORTANT ITEM AT THIS POINT, AND, IF THERE IS ANY LEEWAY IN YOUR PROGRAM, NATURALLY, STRENGTHENING THIS FUNDAMENTAL AREA SHOULD ALSO BE IMPORTANT. YOU INFORMED ME YOU HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE WORK NOW IN PUBLIC FINANCE AND ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT. IT IS MY OPINION THAT THESE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE MINOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OR ITS EQUIVALENT. YOU ALSO STATED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AT COLUMBIA DOES NOT HAVE MAJORS AND MINORS, BUT RATHER REQUIRES FIVE OR SIX AREAS. THIS BEING THE CASE, PERHAPS ONE OF YOUR AREAS OUTSIDE ECONOMICS MIGHT INCLUDE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION COURSES.
2. YOU STATED YOUR CONCERN OVER THE NEED AT THE PRESENT TIME TO CERTIFY IN STATISTICS IN ORDER TO FULFILL ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PH.D. AND ALSO HOW YOU COULD BEST DEVOTE YOUR TIME IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS OR MONTHS. YOU MAY RECALL I STATED THAT THE REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE MET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND THAT, GIVEN ANY FLEXIBILITY IN YOUR PROGRAM, YOU SHOULD MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO GET THIS HURDLE OUT OF THE WAY.
3. ON THE QUESTION REGARDING BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY ICA, WE ARE ENCLOSING A BLANK FOR YOU TO FILL OUT AND RETURN TO THIS OFFICE.

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- (4) YOU INQUIRED HOW LONG YOUR PERIOD OF TRAINING UNDER THE PH.D. PARTICIPANT PROGRAM WOULD BE. FRANKLY, THIS IS A POINT THAT DOES NEED CLARIFICATION; I ASSUME THAT, SINCE YOU STILL HAVE REQUIREMENTS TO MEET ON YOUR COURSE WORK--AS WELL AS PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS, ETC.--THIS MAY TAKE A YEAR, PLUS THE NECESSARY TIME FOR WRITING A DISSERTATION. A POINT WE ALSO WILL CLARIFY IS WHETHER PAYMENT OF PER DIEM BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER OF 1960 OR AS OF THE DATE WE RECEIVED THE ARRETE.
- (5) YOU HAVE INDICATED THAT YOUR COURSE WORK AT COLUMBIA WAS INTERRUPTED FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER, BUT THAT, UPON ENROLLING AT THE END OF THIS MONTH, YOU FIND THAT THE SUBJECTS NECESSARY TO YOUR PROGRAM ARE CONTINUATION OR SECOND-SEMESTER COURSES FOR WHICH YOU NEED THE PREREQUISITE OR FIRST-SEMESTER COURSE WHICH YOU MISSED AS A RESULT OF NOT ENROLLING. MY SUGGESTION, YOU WILL RECALL, WAS THAT YOU TAKE THOSE COURSES WHICH CAN BE FIT INTO YOUR SCHEDULE, IF OFFERED AND WHICH YOUR ADVISOR (PROFESSOR GOODRICH) MIGHT WISH TO REARRANGE IN YOUR PROGRAM. ALSO, I HAVE INDICATED THAT PROFESSOR JAMES B. HENDRY OF OUR STAFF WILL BE INTERESTED IN REVIEWING YOUR SITUATION AND, IF NECESSARY, ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION LINES WITH PROFESSOR GOODRICH.
- (6) YOU RAISED A FURTHER QUESTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRECEDING ONE-- NAMELY, IF NO COURSES WERE AVAILABLE IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMICS, WOULD IT BE BETTER (IN KEEPING THE THE OBJECTIVES OF YOUR PROGRAM) TO TAKE ADDITIONAL WORK IN MATHEMATICS AND TO SATISFY YOUR LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS BY CONCENTRATING ON CHINESE, WHICH IS ONE OF YOUR DECLARED LANGUAGES FOR THE DEGREE. AGAIN, I ADVISED YOU THAT THIS IS A MATTER WHICH YOU MAY WELL DISCUSS WITH YOUR ADVISOR. IT APPEARS TO ME, HOWEVER, THAT, SINCE MATHEMATICS IS BASIC TO THE NEWER APPROACHES IN ECONOMICS, SUCH AS IN THE AREA OF MODEL-BUILDING WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO ESTABLISHING A THEORY OF GROWTH, THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN HAVING SUCH COURSE-WORK APPROVED. CERTAINLY, TIME SPENT IN PREPARING FOR YOUR LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS--BE IT CHINESE OR ANY OTHER--SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON FAVORABLY. MAY I SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THESE ARE MY REACTIONS, AND ONLY YOUR ADVISOR CAN MAKE THE OFFICIAL CHANGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN KEEPING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSTITUTION IN WHICH YOU ARE ENROLLED. PROFESSOR HENDRY WILL BE GLAD TO ASSIST IN FURTHER CONSULTATION.
- (7) YOU INDICATED THAT SOME OF YOUR ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS WITH SAIGON AND THE INSTITUTE HAD CONTAINED A REQUEST WHICH YOU ASSUME HAS BEEN APPROVED AS A RESULT OF THE GRANTING OF THE ARRETE--NAMELY, THAT YOU BE ALLOWED TO SPEND SIX ADDITIONAL MONTHS IN THE UNITED STATES AFTER COMPLETION OF YOUR PH.D. FOR A POST-PH.D. PROGRAM IN TEACHING METHODOLOGY AND THE LIKE. I SHALL REFER THIS TO SAIGON, BUT IT APPEARS TO ME THAT, WITHIN YOUR PH.D. PROGRAM, SOME CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE GIVEN TO THE INCLUSION OF ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES OR COURSES WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR FUTURE PEDAGOGICAL WORK.

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- (8) A QUESTION CAME UP CONCERNING YOUR VISA. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT A PARTICIPANT HAS A DIFFERENT TYPE OF VISA FROM THAT WHICH YOU NOW POSSESS. I WOULD ASSUME THAT, IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT VISA WHICH CAN BE RENEVED, THERE SHOULD BE NO NEED TO OBTAIN A DIFFERENT TYPE. SHOULD THERE BE ANY QUESTION ON THIS, CERTAINLY THE EMBASSY OF VIETNAM CAN INFORM YOU. IN AN EMERGENCY, HOWEVER, NOTIFY US, AND WE CAN MAKE THE PROPER INQUIRIES.

CORDIALLY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR  
ENCLOSURE

CC PROFESSORS MUSOFL  
HENRY

MARCH 27, 1961

MR. LE CANH XUYEN  
30 GARIBALDI AVENUE  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DEAR MR. XUYEN:

IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE--PERHAPS IN THE NEXT MONTH OR SO--I TRUST IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO REVIEW WITH YOU YOUR PROJECTED PH.D. WORK. CERTAINLY, EVERYTHING ELSE BEING EQUAL, WE WILL HAVE YOU UNDER A PERMANENT PER DIEM ARRANGEMENT BY THEN.

AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE ADVANCED YOUR PERDIEM PENDING RECEIPT OF ALL YOUR CREDENTIALS, AS WE INDICATED BEFORE. WE SHOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT THERE ARE VERY STRICT REGULATIONS PRECLUDING YOUR BEING EMPLOYED FOR PAY UNLESS THIS IS CLEARED THROUGH OFFICIAL SOURCES. I AM SURE THAT WE CAN DISCUSS SUCH MATTERS IN A MORE SATISFACTORY FASHION WHEN WE SEE EACH OTHER.

THE REASON FOR MY BRINGING THIS UP NOW IS, NOT ONLY THE LEGAL REQUIREMENT OF ICA BUT WE ALSO ARE CONCERNED WITH REGARD TO YOUR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A CREDIT COURSE IN ECONOMIC HISTORY AND THE TAKING OF CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS IN THE TWO REQUIRED FIELDS OF ECONOMIC HISTORY AND STATISTICS.

WE ARE ALSO AWARE THAT COLUMBIA'S DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS DOES NOT, AT THE PRESENT TIME AND IN PRINCIPLE, SEE ANY REASON WHY YOU SHOULD NOT PRESENT AN APPROPRIATE SEQUENCE OF COURSES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN ONE OF THE SIX FIELDS IN WHICH YOU WILL BE EXAMINED.

WE ARE GRATIFIED TO KNOW THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR PROPOSAL TO MAKE A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE ECONOMIES OF NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM. MY CONFERENCE WITH YOU WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO WAIT RECEIPT OF THE PROPER CLEARANCE, ETC., FROM VIETNAM IN ORDER THAT WE BE ASSURED THAT OUR PER DIEM PAYMENTS TO YOU ARE LEGAL AND THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO RECOVER THESE ADVANCES FROM YOU.

SINCERELY,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

BCC PROFESSOR CARTER GOODRICH

APRIL 5, 1961

MAR

MR. LE CANH XUYEN  
30 GARIBALDI AVENUE  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DEAR MR. XUYEN:

FIRST OF ALL, WE ARE STILL AWAITING RECEIPT OF THE FORMS TO BE COMPLETED BY YOU, WHICH DR. HENDRY SENT YOU ON JANUARY 31, 1961. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THESE BE RETURNED TO THIS OFFICE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FOR FORWARDING TO SAIGON IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY BE OFFICIALLY PLACED ON THE PROJECT.

DEAN AUSTIN WILL BE IN NEW YORK CITY ON APRIL 14 (FRIDAY) AND HAS ASKED ME TO WRITE YOU REGARDING AN APPOINTMENT. PLEASE BE IN PROFESSOR GOODRICH'S OFFICE AT 11 A.M. ON FRIDAY, APRIL 14. DEAN AUSTIN WILL PLAN TO HAVE LUNCHEON WITH YOU AND DISCUSS YOUR FUTURE ACADEMIC PLANS.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JUDITH RATHBUN, SECRETARY TO  
RUBEN V. AUSTIN, ASSISTANT DEAN

JR

APRIL 17, 1961

MR. LE CANH XUYEN  
30 GARIBALDI AVENUE  
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

DEAR MR. XUYEN:

I SHOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM OUR CONVERSATIONS OF LAST FRIDAY AND PARTICULARLY URGE YOU TO SEND US THE DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE SENT TO YOU ON JANUARY 31 BY PROFESSOR HENDRY. WITHOUT THESE, AS WE HAVE INFORMED YOU, IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO CONTINUE PAYING PER DIEM NOR HONOR THE AMOUNT ADVANCED. THESE FORMS ARE NEEDED IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY BE PROCESSED FOR VISA CLEARANCE VIA THE EMBASSY OF VIETNAM AND NAME CLEARANCE THROUGH ICA.

MAY I ALSO INDICATE THAT PROFESSOR GOODRICH IS WELL-DISPOSED IN FURTHERING YOUR ACADEMIC PURSUIT, BUT IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU CONCENTRATE BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE TO BRING ABOUT THE GREATEST TANGIBLE EVIDENCE OF EARNESTNESS IN WORKING TOWARD THE PH.D. DEGREE.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

RUBEN V. AUSTIN  
ASSISTANT DEAN

RVA:JR

CC CULTURAL AFFAIRS OFFICER, EMBASSY OF VIETNAM  
PROFESSOR CARTER GOODRICH, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY  
CHIEF ADVISOR, MSUG/SAIGON

Le Canh Xuyen  
30 Garibaldi Ave  
Newark 12, N.J.  
22 April 1961

Dr. Ruben Austin  
Vietnam Project  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Dr. Austin:

Enclosed please find the biographical data forms for the ICA. I hope nothing was left out.

The Medical form will follow as soon as my physician completes it.

I am very sorry for the long delay. But I am sure that you understand my situation. I am very grateful to know Professor Goodrich's opinion on my program.

Please let me have the pleasure to see you when you return to New York in June.

Respectfully yours

*Le Canh Xuyen*