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April 23, 1959

Mr. Vu Quoc Thong
Rector
National Institute of Administration

Dear Rector Thong:

We have recently received several interesting letters and reports on the 8 PhD participants now in the United States. I would like to take this opportunity to review developments and discuss the present status of the PhD participants studying under the joint auspices of the National Institute of Administration and the Michigan State University Group.

Mr. NGUYEN DUU XUAN received the following marks for the fall semester at Vanderbilt University:

International Economics	-	A-
Agricultural Markets and Prices	-	B+
Advanced Monetary Theory	-	B+
American Agricultural Policy	-	B+
Advanced Economic Theory	-	B+

He has registered for the following courses during the Spring Semester:

Foreign Trade Policies
Foreign Trade Theory
Monetary and Fiscal Policies
Advanced Economic Theory
History of Economic Thought (Auditor status)

Mr. Xuan appears to be doing good work and is still planning on taking his preliminary examination in October.

Mr. TRAN QUI THAN has transferred from Cornell to Columbia University. He made a "B+" and a "C" in the 2 examinations that he took at the end of the 1st semester. He is presently enrolled in the following courses:

Managerial Economics
Finance
International Business
Cost Accounting Marketing

Mr. CAO TOAN received a "B" in "Economic Analysis", the only examination that he was required to take at the end of the 1st semester. He is presently taking 5 courses, all of which are continuations of the ones he took during the 1st semester. The examinations that he will take in May will cover the entire year. His present program includes courses in the following subjects:

Economic Analysis
Measurement of Income and Wealth
International Trade and Finance
Economic History of the United States
Comparative Economic Organization

Mr. TRAN NGOC PHAT received "A's" in his two courses: "Problems of Public Administration" and "Administrative Organization and Behavior". He is registered in the following courses for the Spring quarter:

Seminar in Foreign Political Systems
Readings in Administrative Organization and Behavior
Seminar in Political Thought

Mr. BUI QUANG KHANH made "B's" in the same two courses as Mr. Phat. Mr. Khanh is enrolled in the following courses for the Spring quarter:

The American Executive Process
Introduction to Investigative Techniques
Seminar in International Affairs

Mr. BUU DICH made a "B" and "C" in his 2 courses in "Problems in Public Administration" and "Development of Political Thought." He is presently taking 2 courses: one in "The American Executive Process" and the other in "Readings in Administrative Organization and Behavior". It is unlikely that Mr. Dich will be considered as a candidate for a degree.

Mr. LUONG NHI KY's records have been re-evaluated and the University of Michigan has admitted him to their PhD program. The University of Michigan is on a semester, rather than quarter basis, so that I am not able to report any marks for Mr. Ky. At the present time, however, he is taking courses in the following subjects:

Foreign Policy of the American People
International Relations in the Middle East
Seminar in Methods of Political Science

The Spring Semester at the University of Michigan will end in June at which time I will be able to inform you of Mr. Ky's progress.

Mrs. LE THI BACH LAN has settled in New York and is now taking the following courses:

Managerial Aspects of Public Administration
International Politics in the Far East
European Political Institutions
British History since 1689
History of Modern China

Columbia, as the University of Michigan, is on a semester schedule which means that marks will not be available for Mrs. Bach-Lan until May or June.

On the non-academic side, I might report that Messrs. Than, Phat, Khanh, and Mrs. Bach-Lan attended the annual conference of the American Society for Public Administration, which was held in Washington D.C. this year. Also, those at MSU visited the Tennessee Valley Authority between the Winter and Spring Quarter.

It appears from both the official and personal correspondence, that the PhD participants are all working hard and making a good effort. While it is still too early to make any judgements, I feel quite encouraged by their academic results, and feel that their performance will improve as their capacity in English develops.

The major problem that I can foresee, is the possibility of the participants becoming discouraged and home-sick because of the long period of time that they must anticipate being away from home. In addition there is always a degree of uncertainty as to the future. Both of these might have a negative effect on their academic work if serious enough. I mention these in passing, so that if you have the occasion to write to the participants, that you might offer some encouragement.

I would welcome hearing any comments or suggestions that you might have on the PhD program as it is developing. I would be pleased to discuss any aspect of the program with you, or any member of your staff.

Very Sincerely Yours,

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c.c. Coordinator

H. Waitman