

May 19, 1959

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
SUBJECT: Extension for Graduate Students #177

Cao Toan and Tran Qui Than will require an extension of their stay at the end of June. I shall fill the necessary formalities on this end. If any authorization is needed from the government before they can extend their passport, etc., it would be wise to begin work on these.

Xuan's extension will come up for renewal at the end of August.

EC:kc

June 5, 1959



TO : Elsie Cunningham
FROM : Howard L. Waltman
SUBJECT: No. 138 - Your memo No. 177

The Presidential Decrees authorizing Messrs. Than, Toan and Xuan's graduate study were written for 3 years. They will not need extensions in June, since Xuan's was issued in May of 1958, and Than and Toan's in June.

Our other graduate students will need extensions next December since their decree was issued for only 1 year. I will put this in motion before leaving Saigon in September.

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: June 23, 1959
SUBJECT: Participants' Grades (#212)

Please find listed below the grades received by our participants:

<u>Participant</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Buu Dich	Political Science	510	C
		325	A
Bui Quang Khanh	Political Science	325	A - 3
		560	A - 6
Tran Ngoc Phat	Political Science	573	B - 5
		554	B -
		510	A -
Vu Quang Van	Economics	506-C	A
		325	B
		318	C
Buu Vien	Economics	506-C	B
		325	B
		318	A

A word of explanation: Phat was carrying 13 graduate credits, all but one course (510) in fields where he had little or no prior preparation and I feel that his grades are a real tribute to the amount of work and to his ability.

In the case of Buu Dich, things are still very much in a questionable state. Even given strong support, I am rather doubtful that the department will accept him on a degree level. It seems that Frank Cliffe, whose 500 level course Mr. Dich was in, would have real doubts as to his ability to carry on a graduate program. Particularly, if it were a full load as we anticipate everyone will take in the future.

In the case of Van, I know that he received the second highest grade in the final exam in 506-C. Vien's papers are presently in the dean's or department's office and it has not been decided on definitely yet as to his acceptance. Had he not misinterpreted one question, he too would have received an A in 506-C.

Luong Nhi Ky sent me his grades but with no indication of the courses that these grades were for. My guess is that one of the two A's he received was in English and the B and the C respectively in political science courses. I have asked him to clarify this and hope to be able to give you this information very soon.

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: June 25, 1959
SUBJECT: Courses (#215)

Our degree people are taking the following courses during the summer session:

<u>Participant</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Credits</u>
Bui Quang Khanh	Political Science 401 Political Science 563	3 5
✓ Vu Quang Van	Economics 506A Economics 427 Economics 502 Economics 452	3 3 3 3
✓ Buu Vien	Economics 506A Economics 427 Economics 502 Economics 452	3 3 3 3
Tran Ngoc Phat	418A	6
Buu Dich	331	3
Luong Nhi Ky	2663 - Pro-Seminar in International Relations W1833 - Recent Political Thought	2 2
Cao Toan	S-109 - S-110 - Statistical Methods 521A - Analytical Geometry and Differential Calculus	6 3
Le Thi Bach-Lan	S-151 - Government - European Political Institutions	3

Tran Qui Than is not attending courses but is at Columbia. However, the business school has made available to him their theses and he is doing the reading suggested by his advisor at Cornell. He is also trying to rough draft his thesis topic.

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VIETNAM ADVISORY GROUP

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July 1, 1959



TO : Elsie Cunningham
FROM : Howard L. Waltman *HW*
SUBJECT: No. 150 - Ph.D. Participants

Decisions on Mr. Xuyen and Mrs. Hue are still pending. Dr. Smuckler is going to review the entire Ph.D. program with Mr. Thong and a decision will, I hope, be made on these two people at that time. I shall inform you when it is made. You can assure both applicants that their requests are receiving complete attention.

117

RHS

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July 7, 1959

TO : Elsie Cunningham
FROM : Howard L. Waltman *HW*
SUBJECT: No. 151 - Ph.D. Participants



I was very pleased by the performance of the Ph.D.'s reported in memo No. 212. It was encouraging to see them doing so well.

There are several questions that occurred to me in looking over memo No. 215.

(1) Why isn't Bach-Lan taking a heavier work-load? With her competence in English, she should be able to take more than 3 credits during a summer session.

(2) Don't you think that Cao Toan is in a little heavy with Statistical Methods, and Analytical Geometry and Differential Calculus after his difficulty this past semester.

(3) Why is Tran Qui Than reading, and working at the suggestion of his Cornell advisor when he is taking his degree at Columbia?

678

TO: Howard Waltman
FROM: Elsie Cunningham
DATE: July 13, 1959
SUBJECT: Future Ph.D. Participants (#223)

You have given no indication of what fields the two potential Ph.D. participants would be studying in and what universities they intend to apply for admission. I do not think it would be wise to send any additional Ph.D. participants to M.S.U. If Messrs. Pham Van Thuyet and Du Phuoc Long do not have additional degrees beyond the M.I.A., there will be considerable difficulty in their admissions on the graduate level. Perhaps the key to the past refusals on the part of the University of California and Harvard University lies in the application directly for admission to the Ph.D. program rather than applying for admission to the M.A. program.

cc: Stanley Gabis