

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
VIETNAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT
SAIGON, VIETNAM

September 28, 1955

Professor Charles C. Killingsworth
Office of the Coordinator
Vietnam Project
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear Professor Killingsworth:

This is to provide you with information on the progress of our recruitment of scholarship students to send to East Lansing.

In spite of two months of negotiation with the Government of Vietnam, we are not yet able to provide a definitive list of the people who will be sent. Our procedure was to request the Government to nominate candidates, which they did. When it became apparent that the selection would take too long to permit the students to arrive in East Lansing for the Fall Quarter, thereby making available additional man-months for scholarships during the first contract year, we proposed additional names to the government. Also, five of the government's original fifteen nominees dropped out for one reason or another (health or family situation in most cases) and had to be replaced. We are therefore now able to list only seven who have been definitely accepted, four accepted provisionally on condition that they improve their speaking and comprehension of English by the first of October, five accepted in principle by the Government (the President's office) but not yet released by their agencies, and four more whom we want to send but who are not yet accepted by the Government--and may not be. There will therefore be a maximum of twenty who will arrive in East Lansing, we hope toward the end of November.

This will give the group at least a month before the opening of the Winter Quarter. We hope that an intensive English conversation course can be set up for them during that period. Some of them are already sufficiently fluent in English, but we found that if we insisted on present fluency we would cut the field of recruitment to an impossibly small size. Most of them have had enough English (from one to six years) to read and write without great difficulty, so we feel that it is reasonable to hope that they can improve their speaking ability sufficiently by January to follow courses. Most of them are already studying intensively.

Also, their adjustment would be immensely facilitated if they could be given a few lectures in December on American university organization, curricula, teaching methods, and requirements and standards in the fields of political science and public administration, economics and finance, and police administration. This might be supplemented with general introductory discussions of American government and politics, business and economic structure, and police functions, with perhaps a field trip or two to local agencies and establishments. Most of the group are civil servants who have been out of school for a few years, and may be expected to experience some initial difficulty in making the double transition from administrative to academic life and from Vietnamese to American culture. I think, however, that their eagerness to succeed will offset at least a part of the difficulty.

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It has proved impossible to bring together a group all of whom would be eligible, in terms of their academic qualifications, for admission to the Graduate School. When one finds a person with the quadruple qualifications of relative youth, academic qualification, potential for development, and English proficiency, he is ordinarily a person whom the Government can ill afford to spare at a crucial time. Some of them--particularly those in police administration--will probably have to be admitted as special students. The Government wishes the police students to stay for only six months, anyway. They will presumably return at the end of the Spring Quarter. The remainder, however, are being sent for nine months, so that they will be able to attend the Summer Session. Since a few of them already have the degree of Licence en Droit, it may be possible for some of the group to finish an MA during the nine months, if the University will accept any of their previous work on a transfer basis as credit toward the MA.

The attached pages provide a list, with pertinent data, of the maximum group which will be sent. Although we now have twenty possibles, I think it likely that the ultimate group will be composed of about sixteen or seventeen. We will of course let you know as soon as the number is settled definitely. If you need further information on any or all of them, please let us know.

Sincerely,

John T. Dorsey, Jr.

JET:jb

cc: Dr. E. W. Weidner, Chief Advisor, MSU
Dr. Joseph R. Starr, Public Administration Chief, USOM

VIETNAMESE CANDIDATES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS TO MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

A. Political Science and Public Administration: 9 month scholarships

1. Truong Ngoc Giau. Definitely accepted.

Born 22 August 1920, at Saigon.

Education: Licence en Droit. Etudes Supérieures de Droit Public.

Work: Bureau Chief in the General Inspectorate of Administrative and Financial Services. Prepared projects for approval of Inspectorate General.

Study interests: Will become professor at National Institute of Administration upon return. Wants political science and public administration courses; no specialization indicated. Suggest that he be given special attention by faculty adviser to ensure that he acquired some grasp of the American orientation in political and social science.

English: Weak when interviewed in early September. Reads and writes without too much difficulty, however. Has studied it 2 years, now studying intensively. Seems unsure of himself and tense, but very eager. Probably needs encouragement.

2. Hoang The HUAN. Not yet accepted by Government--only a possible.

Born: 11 April 1933 at Hanoi.

Education: Baccalaureate, Nguyen-Trai Lyce, Hanoi, 1954. (Major subjects: Languages.)

Work: Field Assistant, USOM. Makes field trips to refugee camps with USOM Field Representative. Interprets. Translates field reports, correspondence, etc. Deals with Vietnamese Government authorities on refugee questions. Formerly taught French, English and Vietnamese at Nguyen Tri Phuong School in Hanoi.

Study interests: Public administration in general. Seems highly motivated to work for Vietnamese government on return, although not at present a civil servant. A very promising young man.

English: Very good.

3. (Miss) Truong-Hoang LEM. Definitely accepted.

Born: 4 November 1933 at Ben Tre (South Vietnam)

Education: Baccalaureate (French), Lycée Marie Curie, Saigon.

Work: Executive Secretary of the Personnel Director of South Vietnam.

Registers incoming and outgoing mail, reads papers for items interesting Directorate, receives visitors in absence of Director. Has some office management and accounting duties. Serves as general assistant to Director. One year in the job.

Study interests: Public administration in general. In spite of what seems to be a fairly responsible job, she seems rather unsophisticated; will need careful guidance in courses. Suggest personnel administration, administrative organization, office management, secretarial skills.

English: Fair--will probably be adequate after refresher course. Had 4 years English at Lycée.

4. *in* Tran Van MINH. Accepted conditionally, because of English.
 Born: 4 February 1928 at Hanoi.
 Education: Licence en Droit. Etudes supérieures de droit privé et public.
 Work: Lawyer, practicing in Saigon courts. Also an editor for Vietnam Presse. Writes "Juridical Chronicle" and articles on legal questions. Writes articles on Vietnam's foreign policy.
 Study interests: Will become professor at National Institute of Administration upon return. Wants general political science and public administration courses. (See comment about courses for Mr. Giau, no. 1 on list). Appears to be a very well qualified person except for English; if that improves, he may be a possibility for an MA.
 English: Weak. Studied it 2 years, 10 years ago. Studying intensively at present (Mrs. Howard Hout coaching him). Accepted provisionally, pending demonstration of improvement by October 1.
5. *in* Bui NGHI. Accepted in principle by Presidency; not yet confirmed.
 Born in 1927 at Dalat.
 Education: Baccalaureate. Participated in NSA-sponsored Information Study Tour to Philippines, Malaya, and Thailand in March 1954.
 Work: Presently Director of Radio-Dalat, the Government station for Pays Montagnard du Sud. Has had eight years in governmental administration.
 Study interests: Public administration in general.
 English: Very good.
6. *out* Tran Quang NHI. Accepted in principle by Presidency; not yet confirmed.
 Born: 5 September 1923, at Baria, South Vietnam.
 Education: Diploma, National School of Administration, 1955. 1st certif., Licence en Droit, Saigon Law Faculty, 1949. Baccalaureate, Lycée Chasseloup-Laubat, Saigon, 1955.
 Work: Since graduation from NSA in August, assigned to District Administration in Central Vietnam. From 1947 to 1952 was assistant chief clerk in Finance Division of South Vietnam. Job involved supervision of work of 12 employees.
 Study interests: Public administration in general.
 English: Adequate.
7. (Mrs.) Than Thi THANH. Not yet accepted by Government--only a possible.
 Born: 22 April 1931 at Thanh Hoa.
 Education: Certificate of Math, Physics, and Chemistry, Faculty of Sciences, Hanoi, 1952. General Math studies, same school, 1953. Baccalaureate, Lycée Versin, Dalat, 1951.
 Work: Administrative Assistant, USOM Field Service, since February 1955. Office work, dealing with Vietnamese Government on refugee affairs. From April 1954 to February 1955 was Accounting Clerk and Translator for USOM Field Representative at Huế.
 Study interests: Public administration and office management.
 English: Very good.
 Note: Niece of Mrs. Tran Van Chuong, wife of Ambassador to U.S. Husband now in U.S. as student.

8. (Miss) Vu Thi TIN: Not yet accepted by Government---only a possible.
 Born: 19 January 1926 at Bac-Ninh, North Vietnam.
 Education: Cambridge (England) technical school, 1953-54 (languages and secretary). Licence en Droit, University of Paris, 1953. Baccalaureate, Lycée A. Sarraute, 1944.
 Work: At present is assistant to W. Mode, MSU Group. Was Executive Director of Popular Cultural Center at Saigon (August 1955). Set up a library. From January to August 1955 was personal secretary to Msgr. Harnett, Catholic Relief Services, Saigon.
 Study interests: Office management and secretarial studies.
 English: Very good.
 Note: Miss Tin is a cousin of Miss Yen at MSU.
9. Do Lenh TUAN. Not yet accepted by Government-only a possible.
 Born: 7 July 1930 at Thuong-Dinh (Hanoi).
 Education: Licence en Droit, Hanoi, 1954. Baccalaureate: Lycée Chu Van An, Hanoi, 1950.
 Work: Translator and interpreter, USOM Public Health Division, since February 1955. Came south as refugee.
 Study Interests: Wants to study political science in general, international affairs in particular. Would like to work for Ministry of Foreign Affairs upon return. Seems to be a very intelligent and highly motivated young man, with a good deal of idealism left after what appears to have been a fairly rough time.
 English: Good.

D. Economics and Finance: 9 month scholarships

10. Le Giap DK. Definitely accepted.
 Born: 6 June 1924 at Hanam (North Vietnam)
 Education: Licence en Droit.
 Work: Reporting member, Comité d'Etudes du Plan et Action Sociale (organ of Ministry of Planning and Reconstruction).
 Study interests: Economics, particularly banking or international trade. Lists banking organization and operations and monetary stabilization policy as subjects he wishes to study.
 English: Good. Studied it 3 years in secondary school, plus 6 months with an American employee in Saigon.
11. Nguyen DIEN. Accepted in principle by Presidency; not yet confirmed.
 Born: 2 June 1922 at Huế. Brother of Nguyen Thai, former MSU student.
 Education: Diploma, National School of Administration, 1955. 1st certif. de Droit, Faculty of Law, Saigon, Baccalaureate, 1945.
 Work: Assigned to regional administration in Huế after graduation from NSA in August 1955. No details on present work. Previous work includes one year as secretary in civil service and 2 1/2 years as clerk of the tribunal at Dalat.
 Study interests: Interested in international exchange, customs, and harbor management.
 English: Good. Studied a few months in Singapore.

12. Nguyen Thanh DO. Definitely accepted.

Born: 1 January 1927 at Danang (Central Vietnam).

Education: Presently enrolled at Faculty of Law, Saigon. 1st certif. Licence en Droit, University of Paris. 1st certif. Licence es Sciences.

Work: Chargé de Mission, Ministry of the Plan and Reconstruction. Confidential (non-civil service) assistant to Minister. Handles confidential correspondence, liaison with other ministries. Sometimes represents Minister in conferences. Has had job since 1954.

Study interests: Economics, particularly investment for economic development.

English: Speaking proficiency only fair; reads and writes without too much difficulty. Studied it 6 years in secondary school. Studied a short while in England.

13. Cao Huu HUAN. Accepted in principle by Presidency; not yet confirmed.

Born: 8 December 1928 at Thai Trach (Huê).

Education: Baccalaureate, Khai Dinh School, 1945. Diploma, National School of Administration, 1955.

Out Work: Since graduation in August 1955, assigned to Economic Office, Administration of Central Vietnam. Does "paper work" controlling rice market in Central Vietnam, supervising activity of local weavers, etc. From 1948 to 1952 was secretary of tax office in Quang Tri.

Study interests: Says it is dull doing paper work; wants to circulate and become a specialist in some branch of economics--probably not yet sure which. Seems to be a very bright fellow; has published two novels, a play, and a book to assist Vietnamese in learning English. Two other works in preparation.

14. Nguyen Quoc LAN. Definitely accepted.

Born: 20 August 1927, Hanoi.

Education: Licence en Droit, University of Hanoi, 1954.

Work: Inspector in customs service since April 1954. Works at airport and harbor, checking and figuring duties on imports and exports. For a year (1951-1952) was secretary in National Police and Security Service at Hanoi.

Study interests: Wants to study economics and finance. H⁰pes to be transferred to National Bank or Exchange Office on return.

English: Fair. Will probably be adequate after refresher course.

NOTE: Plans to bring along wife and two babies at own expense.

15. Duong NGUYEN. Accepted in principle by Presidency; not yet confirmed.

Born: 21 October 1919 at My Xuyen (Soctrang) South Vietnam.

Education: 2 years at Lycée Petrus Ky. Didn't complete Baccalaureate, although grades were well above average (his average was 14 on scale of 0 - 20; 8 was passing grade). Went to Bandung, Indonesia, during August-September 1955 to attend ILO-FAO sponsored Regional Training Course on Cooperation.

Work: Secretary 1st Class in Administration of South Vietnam, Direction des Affaires Economiques. Work involves distribution of controlled products and raw materials, and research and documentation on different types of cooperatives.

Study interests: (1) Organization and management of cooperatives; (2) Customs administration. On return, wants to organize a marketing society for cash crops and short-term farm credit, and a society for "supplying productive loans and for supplying farm requisites. English: Moderately good--seems adequate, particularly in reading and writing. He did some work a few years back helping two other people prepare an English-Vietnamese dictionary.

16. Nguyen si TU. Definitely accepted.

Born: 15 September 1918 at Huế.

Education: Baccalaureate, Ecole Pellerin, Huế 1936.

Work: Secretary in Personnel Bureau, Administration of Central Vietnam. Drafts correspondence, types, files. From 1950 to 1952 was office clerk with the Rotterdam Trading Co. in Bangkok. Coded and decoded cables, filed and typed correspondence in English, handled shipping documents and insurance claim documents. Was war refugee in Thailand from 1946 to 1952.

Study interests: Was nominated by Government to study public administration but says he wants to study "banking, accounting, exchange, etc." Since it will not be a question of a degree, suggest he be allowed to take such economics courses as he would seem prepared or eligible for and fill in with public administration courses.

English: Adequate.

C. Police Administration: 6 month scholarships

(Note: This group is the least well prepared of the three groups. They are nominees of the Government, which had more difficulty finding qualified police officials who could be spared than officials in other fields. Suggest that this group be given as much field-trip and observation experience as possible.)

17. Tran Van HUONG. Accepted conditionally, because of English.

Born: 9 December 1920 at Thua-Thien, Central Vietnam.

Education: First part of Baccalaureate.

Work: Bureau chief, Rédacteur de 1^{re} classe. 10 years as civil servant.

Supervises the work of 30 people in the personnel bureau of the General Directorate of Police and Security, at Huế.

Study interests: He lists the following as subjects he would like to study: scientific criminal investigation, police science laboratory, criminal law, personnel investigation, and traffic.

English: Spoken English poor. Has studied one year, is now studying intensively--reads and writes some. Accepted provisional because of this.

18. Nguyen van NO. Definitely accepted.

Born: 9 October 1918 at Co-công South Vietnam.

Education: Diploma d'Etudes Primaires Supérieures. Went to Lycée but failed. No Baccalaureate.

Work: Assistant Police Commissioner in the Bureau of Judiciary Police of the Saigon-Cholon Prefectoral Police. Makes inquiries and hears witnesses concerning arrested persons. Writes reports on such cases, on basis of which decision is made to accuse to trial. Handles "quarrels, robberies, and swindles." 15 years experience.

Study interests: Police administration in general.

English: Limited, but can speak and understand a little. Has had 5 years of English, is now studying intensively. Seems likely that improvement will be rapid.

19. Tran Phuoc THANH. Accepted conditionally, because of English.

Born: 1 March 1925 at Thua-Thien, Central Vietnam.

Education: Diplôme d'Etudes Primaires Supérieures.

Work: Has been in Vietnamese National Army 5 3/4 years: presently lieutenant. Assigned to Police and Sûreté in Saigon as Bureau Chief. Work consists mostly of coding and decoding official communications.

Study interests: Police administration--"particularly police information and communication."

English: Limited, but can read and write some. Has had 2 years of English. Studying intensively; accepted conditionally because of this.

20. Tran VUNG. Accepted conditionally, because of English.

Born: 12 January 1924, at An Long, Quang Tri, Central Vietnam.

Education: First part of Baccalaureate.

Work: Bureau Chief, Regional Directorate of the Services of Police and Security, Huê. Eight years experience.

Study interests: Police administration in general. Has never had formal police training.

English: Spoken English poor. Has studied one year, is now studying intensively--reads and writes some. Accepted conditionally because of this.