cc: Dean G. L. Taggart'
Dr. W. R. Fishel

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE . EAST LANSING

April 12, 1957



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT . JOHN A. HANNAH

My dear Mr. President:

I was happy to learn from Professor Wesley Fishel that you plan to visit the United States in the near future. I am sure your visit will do a great deal to improve the fine relations already existing between the people of Vietnam and the American people.

Michigan State University would be greatly honored if you would consent to visit the campus as a guest of the University sometime in the course of your stay in the United States, and to remain as long as your schedule will allow.

You would find many changes here since your last visit. Not the least of them is the substantial number of our faculty who have had the privilege of visiting and serving in Vietnam, and a consequent growing appreciation of the remarkable progress being made in your country under your able leadership.

It would give me great pleasure personally to have you here as a guest, and the opportunity to repay in some small pleasure the gracious hospitality you have extended to me and other representatives of Michigan State University. I can assure you that your reception would be most cordial, because of both the great interest on the part of our faculty and students in the work of the Michigan State University group in your country, and of the high esteem in which you are held by our people.

Sincerely,

President

His Excellency The President of Vietnam Saigon, Vietnam

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Draft of suggested letter:

President Ngo định Diem Saigon, Viet Nam

Dear President Diem:

It is with great pleasure and honor that we look forward to your visit to Michigan State University.

The governing board of the University and its faculty have decided, in recognition of your outstanding leadership and contribution to the cause of freedom, to honor you with the degree Doctor of Laws Degree.

This degree will be awarded at a ceremony to be held in our Auditorium May 15 at 3.30 pm. We hope you will accord us the honor of accepting this degree.

Sincerely,

President

cc: Dean G. L. Taggart Dr. W. R. Fishel

## MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE . EAST LANSING

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT . JOHN A. HANNAH

April 12, 1957



My dear Mr. Ambassador:

I have been informed by Professor Wesley Fishel that President Mgo Dinh Diem will visit the United States next month. I was gratified to hear of this decision because I am confident that his visit will strengthen the bonds of friendship between your people and the people of the United States.

I have just written to President Diem inviting him and his party to visit Michigan State University as our guests for as long a period as possible within the limits of his schedule. We would be greatly honored to have him on the campus, and I hope sincerely that it will be possible for him to accept.

It would be of great assistance in our planning for President Diem's reception and entertainment if we could have his acceptance of the invitation well in advance of the time of his arrival. These next few weeks are among the busiest of the year on any American university campus, and we would like to reserve as much time as the President feels he can spend with us.

Permit me to take this occasion to express my appreciation for the confidence in Michigan State University demonstrated by your Government in the renewal of our agreement. We welcome this extended opportunity to be of service to the Government of Vietnam, and hope that our relations will continue to be mutually satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

His Excellency, the Ambassador of Vietnam Embassy of Vietnam Washington, D. C.

Draft of suggested letter:

Mr. Tran van Chuong Vietnam Embassy Washington, DC

Dear Ambassador:

Thank you for your wire of April 21. Michigan State University is pleased and honored by the forthcoming visit of President Ngo dinh Diem and his party.

On the occasion of this visit and in recognition of his outstanding leadership and contribution to freedom, the University governing body and its faculty have decided to honor President Diem with a Doctor of Laws Degree.

This degree will be awarded at a ceremony May 15 at 3.30 pm in the Michigan State University Auditorium.

Sincerely,

President