

MINISTER OF STATE

(Concurrently Minister of Open Arms)

Dr. PHAN QUANG DAN

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Doctor of Medicine - Professor of Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Saigon University

Date and place of birth: 1918, Vinh, Nghe An province, Central Vietnam.

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1945 Medical Doctor degree, Hanoi University
- 1954 Ph.D. in Public Health, Harvard University, USA

Marital status: Married, 4 sons

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1945 Editor, Binh Minh newspaper.
- 1945 Advisor for Youth Affairs in the Tran Trong Kim Government.
- 1945 Publisher of Thiet Thuc newspaper.
- 1946-1947 Physician in, the Shanghai Fourth City Hospital, China.
- 1947-1948 Political advisor to Emperor Bao Dai, concurrently Minister of Information in the Nguyen Van Xuan Government.
- 1949-1962 Private practitioner directing a private practice in Saigon.
- 1963-1964 Lecturer in Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Saigon University.
- 1965 Chairman, Gia Dinh City Council.
- 1966 Chairman, National Political Congress.
- 1966 (Sept) Member, Constituent Assembly
- 1967-1968 Private practice in Saigon.

C. OTHER DATA

Political activities:

- 1939 Prime Cuong De's Phuc Quoc Party.
- 1940 Dai Viet Dan Chinh Party.
- 1945 Founder of Giapbat camp to feed 5,000 beggars and Bao Nong Doan (Country Protection Group) to popularize national language and hygiene.
- 1945-1946 Leader of anti-Communist and anti-Colonialist movements.
- 1946-1948 Fled to China, participated in negotiations with the French.
- 1948 Organized the Vietnam Press Agency and Dan Huan Vu (People's Education Affairs).
- 1949-1951 Organizer of the Vietnam Republican Party in France.
- 1952-1954 Contacted American labor Unions and Afro-Asian leaders in the United States.
- 1954-1955 Made trips to Africa, Middle East and Asia to establish the anti-Colonialist Front.
- 1955-1956 Returned to Vietnam, collaborated with Dai Viet, Vietnam Quoc Dan Dang, Phuc Quoc Hoi and Cao Dai Lien Minh Parties of the opposition and was arrested.
- 1957-1958 Organized the Democratic Group.
- 1959 Elected Deputy in District II, Saigon, but was prosecuted on trumped up charges.
- 1960-1963 After an attempted coup d'etat, was deported and held on Con Son island.

Special remarks:

- An ardent nationalist.
- Phan Khac Suu's running mate in the 1967 presidential election.
- Took a leading role in the deliberation which resulted in the drafting of the new Constitution.
- Fluent English.

MINISTER OF STATE

(Concurrently Head of the Inspectorate Institute)

Mr. MAI THO TRUYEN

A. PERSONAL DATA

Pseudonym: Chanh Tri

Profession: Career Government Employee (retired)

Date and place of birth: April 1, 1905, Ben Tre, Kien Hoa province, South Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1925 Diploma, Chasseloup Laubat High School, Saigon

Marital status: Married, 3 sons

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1924-1930 Administrative Assistant.
- 1931-1939 Field Administrator.
- 1940-1954 Chief of Cabinet or Director of Cabinet of various government departments.
- 1955-1960 Chief Inspector for Administrative & Financial Affairs, GVN.
- 1964 Member, Council of Notables.
- 1964 Member, National High Council.
- 1955-1968 President, South Vietnam Association for Buddhist Studies.

C. OTHER DATA

Religious activities:

- 1959-1963 Vice President, Vietnam General Buddhist Association.
- 1961-1964 Deputy Chairman, World Fellowship of Buddhists.
- 1966 Advisor to the Association of Inter-School Alumni.
- 1967 President, Kien Hoa Mutual Aid Association.

**Decoration:**

- 1954 National Order of Vietnam, 5th class.

**Principal works:**

- Since 1954 Editor and Publisher of a Buddhist Monthly Review (Tu-Quang) and various books in Vietnamese and French on Buddhism.

**Special remarks:**

- Running mate of Prime Minister Huong in 1967 presidential election.
- Has the traditional Vietnamese leadership virtues - age and experience, integrity, and unselfishness.
- Little capability in English.



MINISTER OF STATE

Dr. VU QUOC THUC

A. PERSONAL DATA

Pen Name: Khue Trai

Profession: Professor of Economy at the Dalat and Saigon Universities

Date and place of birth: August 5, 1920 in Nam Dinh, North Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1942 Licentiate of Law, Hanoi
- 1952 Agrege (Ph.D.) in Economics, Faculty of Law, Paris University, France

Marital status: Married, 6 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1951-1953 Assistant Dean, Faculty of Law, Hanoi University.
- 1953-1954 Minister of Education.
- 1955-1956 Governor, National Bank.
- 1957-1963 Dean, Faculty of Law, Saigon University.
- 1961-1963 Vice-President, National Economic Council.
- 1963-1967 Writer and Professor.

Other current positions:

- Head of the Post-War Planning Study Group, in collaboration with Dr. David Lillienthal since February 7, 1967.
- Chairman, Vietnam Lawyers Association.
- Chairman, Duy Linh (By the Spirit) Cultural Association.
- Member, National Planning Council.

C. OTHER DATA

Principal works:

- 1951 The Communalist Economy of Vietnam, Hanoi.
- 1952 An Introduction to Economics, Hanoi.
- 1962 Lectures on Economics, Saigon.

- 1955 Problems Resulting From The Dissolution of the Indochinese Monetary Union, Saigon.
- Various essays in Vietnamese, French, and English published in Saigon newspapers.

**Special remarks:**

- Works very well with Americans (Thuc/Lilienthal Group).
- Participated in international economic conferences (IMF, UNESCO).
- He and brother, Vu Quoc Thong, were unsuccessful Senatorial candidates in 1967.
- Fluent English.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Mr. TRAN CHANH THANH

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Lawyer and University Professor

Date and place of birth: July 9, 1917, Qui Nhon, Binh Dinh province, Central Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1942 Licentiate of Law, Hanoi University

Marital status: Married, 5 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1945 Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Justice.
- 1945-1948 Director of Justice, Democratic Republic of Vietnam.
- 1949-1952 Resigned as Director of Justice and fled to South Vietnam.
- 1953-1954 Lawyer in Saigon.
- 1954-1956 Secretary of State at the Prime Minister's Office.
- 1957-1960 Minister of Information and Youth.
- 1961 Journalist.
- 1962 Chief of the VN Delegation to Geneva.
- 1962-1963 Ambassador to Tunisia.
- 1963 Ambassador to U.S.
- 1964 Special envoy to Cambodia; Liberia (1965)
- 1965-1967 Professor of Political Science at the Dalat University.
- 1967 (Sept) Senator: - Chairman, Senate Information & Foreign Affairs Committee.

C. OTHER DATA

Principal Works:

- Critical studies in law, politics and information.
- Contributor to several Vietnamese and French newspapers.

Special Remarks:

- Was a close friend of Ngo Dinh Diem.
- Intelligent, energetic administrator.
- Authoritarian in attitude.
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER OF INTERIOR

General TRAN THIEN KHIEM

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Military officer and diplomat

Date and place of birth: December 15, 1925, Saigon

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1947 Aspirant (graduate) Dalat Military academy

Marital status: Married, 3 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1954 Obtained Rank of Major.
- 1957 Acting Chief, ARVN General Staff.
- 1957(March) Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics.
- 1958 (Feb) Commander of the 4th Field Division.
- 1960 (Sept) Commander of the 5th Field Division.
- 1961 (May) Commander of the 21st Division.
- 1962 (Dec) Chief of Joint Staff.
- 1963 Rank of Major General.
- 1964 (Feb) Minister of Defense, concurrently Commander in Chief of RVN Armed Forces.
- 1964 Rank of General.
- 1964 (Oct) Ambassador to the U.S.
- 1965 (Nov) Ambassador to the Republic of China.

C. OTHER DATA

Decorations:

- Four Gallantry Crosses with silver stars.
- Seven Gallantry Crosses with palm.
- National Order of Vietnam, from 5th to 2nd class.
- Vietnam Campaign Medals 49, 54, 60.
- Staff Service Honor Medal, First Class.
- Army Distinguished Service Order, First Class.
- Armed Forces Honor Medal, First Class.
- Armed Forces Service Medal, Second Class.



- Air Force Distinguished Service Order, First Class.
- Air Gallantry Medal, Golden Wing.
- Chuong My Medal, First Class.
- Civic Actions Honor Medal, First Class.
- Hazardous Service Medal.

Special remarks:

- Out of Vietnam since 1964.
- Fluent English.

MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND WAR VETERANS

Lt. General NGUYEN VAN VY

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Military Officer

Date and place of birth: January 16, 1916 at Hanoi

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1938 Baccalaureate, II Part, Hanoi
- 1940 Studies of Economy and Social Welfare, Hanoi University
- 1940 Graduated from Tong Officers School, Son Tay, North VN
- 1951 Graduated, General Staff School, Paris

Marital status: Married, 6 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1952 Chief of Military Cabinet for Chief of State Bao Dai.
- 1953 Commander of Coastal Regions.
- 1953 Concurrently General Inspector of Military Expenses and Chief of the General Joint Staff, ARVN.
- 1954-1955 General Inspector of the RVN Armed Forces.
- 1956-1963 Political exile in France.
- 1964 Deputy Chief, General Staff AF RVN.
- 1965 Chief of Quang Trung Training Center.
- 1966 Chief of the Central Training Center.
- 1966 Chief of General Joint Staff ARVN.
- 1967-1968 Ministry of Defense in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

C. OTHER DATA

Decorations:

- Grand officer of the National Order of Vietnam.
- Army Distinguished Service Order, 1st class.
- Air Force Distinguished Service Order, 1st class.
- Training Service Honor Medal, 1st class.
- Staff Service Honor Medal, 1st class.
- Various Gallantry Crosses.

Special remarks:

- Holdover from Loc Cabinet.
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER OF JUSTICE

Lawyer LE VAN THU

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Lawyer, Journalist, Civil Servant

Date and place of birth: August 15, 1915, Saigon

Religion: Buddhist with ancestor worship beliefs

Education:

- Licentiate of Law, Hanoi University, 1938
- Advanced studies in Economics & Social Sciences, Saigon University.

Marital status: Married, 3 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1939-1943 Offices in the French Infantry.
- 1943-1945 Customs Controller.
- 1945 Commander of South Vietnam Civil Guards.
- 1945-1951 Organized resistance against the French.
- 1950-1955 Owner and publisher of weekly "Tien Thu".
- 1950-1955 Co-Editor of "Le Song".
- 1952-1968 Lawyer, Saigon.
- 1964 President, High National Council.
- 1964 Council of Notables
- 1964-1967 Legal Advisor for the Chairman, National Leadership Committee.

C. OTHER DATA

Political activities:

- 1945 Founder of the VN Independence Party (with Ngo Van Lam & Ho Van Nga).
- 1945 Founder of VN Democratic Socialist Party.

Special remarks:

- Classmate of General Duong Van Minh ("Big") Minh and old friend of Prime Minister Huong.
- On Council of Notables after Diem's overthrow.
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER OF CULTURE, EDUCATION & YOUTH

Dr. NGUYEN VAN THO

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Dentist, Teacher

Date and place of birth: June 2, 1924, in Kien Hoa, South Vietnam

Religion: Catholic

Education:

- 1951 Doctor of Dental Medicine, Northwestern University, USA
- 1955 Master of Public Health, Yale University, USA

Marital status: Married, 4 children

His wife, PHAN THI MINH NGUYET is a  
Senator in the National Assembly.

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1946-1947 Recording officer, Saigon Court of First Instance.
- 1948-1951 Student at Northwestern University.
- 1952-1961 Private practitioner directing a private practice on Tu Do, Saigon.
- 1955-1956 Deputy Dean of School of Medical Assistants.
- 1961-1963 Deputy Secretary, Department of Health.
- 1966-1967 Minister of Education.
- 1963-1968 Professor, Saigon Faculties of Medicine & Dental Medicine.

Other current positions:

- Member of Vietnam anti-Tuberculosis League.
- Vietnam Boy Scout Association.
- Vietnam Dental Association.
- American Society of Oral Surgery.

C. OTHER DATA

Special remarks:

- Gets along well with Americans and with Vietnamese military.
- Fluent English.



MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SOCIAL  
WELFARE, AND RELIEF

Dr. TRAN LU Y

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Doctor of Medicine

Date and place of birth: April 4, 1926, Sadec, South Vietnam

Religion: Catholic

Education:

- 1946 Local Baccalaureate, Saigon
- 1946-1951 Non-Residence Doctor of Hospitals
- Hospital Clinic at Saigon Hospital
- 1952-1954 Lt. Medicine, 1st Battalion of Parachutists of Vietnam
- Training at the Faculty of Medicine of Paris
- Medical Resident in Paris Hospitals
- Graduate in Hematology, Paris

Marital status: Married, 2 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1956-1960 Chief of Medical Clinic Service, Saigon.
- 1960-1963 Assistant to the Saigon Faculty of Medicine.
- 1963-1966 Lecturer, Saigon Faculty of Medicine.
- 1966-1967 Commissioner for Health, in the Nguyen Cao Ky Government.
- 1967-1968 Minister of Health in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

C. OTHER DATA

Decorations:

- Knight of the National Order of Vietnam.
- Gallantry Cross with Gold Star.
- Chuong My Medal, First Class.

Special remarks:

- Continued from Ky and Loc Governments.
- Raises tropical fish.
- New Ministry combines health, social welfare, and relief.
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER OF ECONOMY

Mr. AU NGOC HO

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Economic Advisor

Date and place of birth: March 21, 1930, Hue, Central Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- 1956 M.S. in Geological Engineering, Montana School of Mines, USA

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1957 Director Founder of the "Vietnam Automotive Battery Manufacturing Company" in Bien Hoa.
- 1958-1961 University Professor, Hue & Saigon Universities.
- 1962-1964 Secretary General, Hue University, Central Vietnam.
- 1964-1966 Assistant in charge of Craft & Industry, Ministry of Economy.
- 1966-1968 Deputy Chairman, Board of Administrators, Foremost Company.

C. OTHER DATA

Associations:

- Member, American Mining & Metallurgical Engineer Association.

Decorations:

- First prize in eloquence, Rotary Club in Montana, USA.
- Bronze Medal in lecturing, Seven Western States, USA.

Works:

- Industrial Development of Vietnam.

Special remarks:

- Articulate, aggressive and somewhat critical in the past of the GVN.
- Fluent English.

MINISTER OF FINANCE

Mr. LUU VAN TINH

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Public Administrator

Date and place of birth: April 14, 1915, Go Cong, South Vietnam

Religion: Confucian

Education:

- 1934 High School Diploma, My Tho, South Vietnam
- 1935-1936 Two years undergraduate work at Petrus Ky, Saigon

Marital status: Married, 2 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1936-1945 Customs Clerk
- 1945-1948 Senior Clerk, Residence of France in Cambodia.
- 1948-1961 Assistant Administrator, Government of Vietnam, Saigon.
- 1961-1963 Administrator, Super Class - Director General for Budget and Foreign Aid.
- 1963-1964 Commissioner of Finance.
- 1965-1967 Director General of Budget and Foreign Aid.
- 1967-1968 Minister of Finance, in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

C. OTHER DATA

Special remarks:

- Serves concurrently as Director General of Budget and Foreign Aid, in which capacity he reports directly to the President.
- Little capability in English.

MINISTER OF INFORMATION

Dr. TON THAT THIEN

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Economist, Journalist

Date and place of birth: September 22, 1924, Thua Thien Province,  
Central Vietnam

Religion: Confucianist

Education:

- Baccalaureate in Philosophy, Hanoi
- B.S. in Economics, London School of Economics, England
- 1962 Ph.D. in Political Sciences, Geneva, Switzerland

Marital status: Married, 1 child

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1960-1962 Press Secretary at the Presidency.
- 1963-1964 Director General of Vietnam Press.
- 1964-1965 Director of Cabinet of People's Claims.
- 1965-1968 Writer for several foreign magazines, and the English language Saigon Daily News.  
Editor of the Vietnam Guardian.  
Deputy Dean of Sociology and Professor of Political Sciences at the Van Hanh University, Saigon.

C. OTHER DATA

Special remarks:

- Has been critical of US and GVN.
- His paper was suppressed in 1966 (The Vietnamese Guardian).
- Well-informed, bold critic with ability, energy, and patriotism.
- Fluent English.



MINISTER OF LAND REFORM & AGRICULTURE

Engineer TRUONG THAI TON

**A. PERSONAL DATA**

Profession: Agronomist

Date and place of birth: November 30, 1925, Saigon

Education:

- 1956 Degree - Agronomy Engineer, Toulouse, France

Religion: Buddhist

Marital status: Married, 2 children

**B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA**

Former positions:

- 1956-1959 Specialist at the Directorate General of Planning.
- 1959 Specialist at the Directorate General for Budget and Foreign Aid.
- 1959-1961 Technical Director, Sugar Companies of Binh Duong, Tuy Hoa, Quang Ngai.
- 1962-1963 Director of Program, Directorate General of Budget and Foreign Aid.
- 1964 Assistant to the Minister of Finance, concurrently, Chairman Sugar Companies Binh Duong, Tuy Hoa, Quang Ngai.
- 1965 Commissioner General of Economy and Finance.
- 1966 Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister.
- 1967-1968 Minister of Economy in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

Other current positions:

- President, Association of Agricultural Engineers & Experts.
- Member, Inter-School Association.
- Member, Association of Vietnamese Engineers & Experts.

**C. OTHER DATA**

Special remarks:

- Fluent English.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
COMMUNICATION, AND TRANSPORTATION

Engineer LUONG THE SIEU

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Civil Engineer

Date and place of birth: March 3, 1934, Ben Tre, Kien Hoa  
province, South Vietnam

Religion: Confucian

Education:

- 1960 Government Civil Engineer (Ingenieur des Ponts-et-Chaussees), Paris.
- 1962 Advanced Studies in Economics, Harvard University, USA.

Marital status: Single

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1962-1963 Chief of Technical Studies.
- 1963-1966 Engineer, An Hoa - Nong Son Industrial Complex.
- 1966-1967 Technical Director, An Hoa - Nong Son Industrial Complex.
- 1967-1968 Minister of Communication & Transportation in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

Other current positions:

- President, Vietnamese Association of Engineers & Technicians.
- Chairman, Committee for Economic Self-sufficiency.
- Member, American Economic Association.

C. OTHER DATA

Special remarks:

- Presently 34 years old
- Holdover from Loc Cabinet who has retained services of previous Public Works Minister (Engineer BUU DON).
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER OF LABOR

Mr. DAM SY HIEN

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Attorney, Economist, Sociologist, Civil Servant

Date and place of birth: October 15, 1914, Co Nong, Nam Truc District, Nam Dinh province, North VN

Religion: Confucian Buddhist

Education:

- 1934 Bachelor of Philosophy
- 1938 Licentiate of Law, Hanoi

Marital status: Married, 6 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1945 District Chief of Kim Anh, Phuc Yen province, North Vietnam.
- 1957 Lawyer at the Saigon Court of Appeal.
- 1964 Minister of Labor in the Nguyen Khanh Government
- 1964-1965 Minister of Social Welfare in the 1st Trap Van Huong Government.

Other current positions:

- Advisor to Labor Unions.
- Chairman, Federation of Asian Labor Unions.
- President, Social Research Center, Saigon.

C. OTHER DATA

Principal Works:

- Books on Economy and Labor.

Special remarks:

- Has participated in many international labor conferences.
- Regards Prime Minister Huong as an inspiring leader with a sound program.
- Is good friend of CVT's Tran Quoc Buu.
- Some capability in English.

MINISTER FOR ETHNIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. PAUL NUR

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Teacher

Date and place of birth: July 7, 1925, Kontum, Central Vietnam

Religion: Catholic

Education:

- High School Diploma, 1945

Marital status: Married, 10 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1943-1948 School teacher.
- 1948-1963 Director of the Elementary School of Kontum.
- 1963-1965 Deputy Province Chief, Kontum.
- 1966 (March) Special Commissioner for Montagnards Affairs in the Ky Government.
- 1967-1968 Minister of Ethnic Development in the Nguyen Van Loc Government.

C. OTHER DATA

Awards:

- National Order Medal 5th and 4th class.
- Chuong My Medal 1st and 2nd class.
- Leader of the Phong Trao Thuong Cao Nguyen (Central Highlands Montagnard Movement).

Publications:

- Various brochures and newspaper articles on the Montagnards.

Special remarks:

- Pride of the Montagnards.
- Some capability in English.



MINISTER AT THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

(Secretary of State for Executive Affairs)

Mr. HUYNH VAN DAO

A. PERSONAL DATA

Profession: Career Civil Servant

Date and place of birth: May 12, 1917 in Hoi Hung, Tan An,  
Long An province, South Vietnam

Religion: Buddhist

Education:

- Baccalaureate of Philosophy
- Diploma in Law, University of Saigon

Marital status: Married, 4 children

B. OCCUPATIONAL DATA

Former positions:

- 1954-1955 Deputy Director of Finance in South Vietnam.
- 1956-1957 Director of city, provincial, and village budgets.
- 1958 Graduate training (on the job) - University of Michigan.
- 1959-1961 Secretary General, Minister of Education.
- 1962-1963 Director of Budget & Accounting, Ministry of Defense.
- 1964 Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Defense.
- 1965 Minister of Finance.
- 1965-1966 Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Defense concurrently Director General of Finance and Audit, Ministry of Defense.
- 1966-1967 Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Education.
- 1967-1968 Director of Cabinet, Ministry of Defense.

C. OTHER DATA

Special remarks:

- Considered to be a person of integrity and straight forwardness.
- Resigned his post in Defense Ministry in 1963 as Chief of Administration when facilities of his directorate were used by the Diem Government to print anti-Buddhist literature.
- Fluent English.