

1 May 1957

John A. Hannah, President  
Michigan State University  
Campus

Dear President Hannah:

We are enclosing a proposed statement for  
the citation of President Dias on the  
occasion of the conferring of his honorary  
degree.

Sincerely,

Glen L. Taggart, Dean  
International Programs

glt/mj  
enc.

cc-T.H.Hamilton

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

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DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

1 May 1957

CITATION:

Excellency Ngo Dinh Diem, public servant, statesman, patriot, devoted leader among the nations of the Free World;

As the President of the Republic of Viet-Nam during the recent years of its emergence as an independent nation, you have demonstrated on frequent occasions your great capacity as a courageous leader dedicated to the principles of the Free World. When you assumed leadership of your country after years of personal protest over existing colonial conditions in your land, few people in the entire Free World viewed the future of Viet-Nam with optimism.

During the two and one-half years of your leadership, a vast movement of refugees fleeing Communism has been admirably accomplished; dissident sects and outlaw groups have been pacified; Communist infiltration has been controlled; mass elections have been held throughout Free Viet-Nam; a constitution has been written, adopted, and proclaimed; a national assembly has begun operating; social and economic reforms have been initiated; and a new spirit of optimism has replaced the pessimism of former years.

In all of these accomplishments your leadership has set an example of courage, wisdom, honesty, and ability which have won the admiration of the people of South Asia and the Free World.

(Citation - page 2)

Michigan State University, in recognition of your outstanding accomplishments, your dedication to democracy as a way of life, your longstanding friendship with our country and with our University, is honored to bestow upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws.

rs/mj

2 May 1957

Clement E. Conger  
Assistant Chief of Protocol  
Department of State  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Conger:

I am enclosing a schedule of activities for President Diem's visit, including time and place of each event. Also enclosed is a list of major participants in the various activities, including the committee that has been doing the basic planning.

I hope this will provide you with the necessary information for your souvenir program. If there is any more detail you need, such as a more complete program for the convocation, etc., please call me.

Sincerely,

Glen L. Taggart, Dean  
International Programs

glt/mj  
enc.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE • EAST LANSING

DEAN OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

3 May 1957

To: Robert Becker, President, All-University Student Government  
Bruce Augenstein, President, Assoc. of Off-Campus Students  
Hassan Ibrahim, President, International Club  
Roger Fortush, President, Inter-Fraternity Council  
Marilou Mausteller, Pan Hellenic  
Louise Hornebeck, AWS Judiciary  
Patricia Fallister, AWS Activities  
Linda Maila, Inter-Residence Hall Council  
Janet Allen, Spartan Women's League  
Bruce Seeds, President, Armstrong Dorm  
Tony Viviano, President, Bailey Dorm  
Alexa Viorel, President, Bryan Dorm  
Dennis Kusza, President, Butterfield Dorm  
Roger Stouffer, President, Emmons Dorm  
John Rahenkamp, President, Rafter Dorm  
Edwin Rogers, President, East Shaw Dorm  
Robert Harvey, President, West Shaw Dorm

From: Glen L. Taggart

On May 15, Michigan State University will be honored by the visit of an outstanding Southeast Asian leader, Ngo Dinh Diem, President of the Republic of Viet-Nam. We believe that this will be the first time in the history of the University that the chief of a foreign nation has visited our campus. It is a real tribute to the friendly and significant relationship between the University and the young state of Viet-Nam.

As you know, Michigan State maintains a large technical assistance project in Viet-Nam. Furthermore, Ngo Dinh Diem himself served as a consultant on our campus several years ago before accepting the leadership of his threatened country at the time of the Battle of Dien Bien Phu in 1954. Through his personal courage and insight, President Diem has been able to lead his country from what appeared to be certain chaos and Communist domination through very difficult internal and international crises into a new era of security, constitutional government, and social and economic progress.

Needless to say, the visit of the President and his official party will be one of the major events of the year. We are planning a program which will include student representation and participation at every possible turn because I am sure the student body's interest in an event such as this will be great.

The one event to which all students will be invited is the convocation on Wednesday, May 15 at 3.30 pm at which time President Diem will be awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws and he, in turn, will present a major address to the University community and the nation.

Dean King and I would like to invite you to a meeting to discuss the plans for the President's visit. It will be held in Room 33 of the Union, at 8.15 pm on Monday, May 6. If you cannot attend, would you please send a representative.

*Glen L. Taggart*

VN.  
P. Ngo Dinh

7 May 1957

To: Lowell Treaster, Information Services  
From: Glen L. Taggart  
Subject: Visit of President Ngo Dinh Diem

I talked with Mr. Conger of the State Dept. today on the phone and he said a copy of the speech to be given here by Pres. Diem will be mailed to us as soon as it is available. He knew they had been working on the speeches on the plane last night, but could not give a definite time when it could be sent to us.

OK  
~~used~~

The President's travel schedule is as follows:

May 6	Honolulu
May 7	San Francisco
May 8, 9, 10, 11	Washington, DC
May 12, 13, 1/2 of 14	New York
May-1/2 of 14, 1/2 of 15	Detroit
May-1/2 of 15 to 9 am 16	MSU
May 16, 17	Knoxville & Tennessee Valley
May 17-evening, 18	Los Angeles
May 18-evening, 19, 20	Honolulu
May 21	Leaving for Saigon

Mr. Conger promised to confirm this by air mail special delivery letter so we should have it by tomorrow. If there is any change we will let you know immediately.

mj

May 7th, 1957

T. H. Hamilton  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Campus

Dear Tom:

It has occurred to me that it might be advisable to invite the members of our planning committee for the Diem affair to the dinner. In going over the list I find that six of us will be at the dinner anyway, which leaves only six additional people - Kimber, Frimodig, Bagwell, Edwards, Gorman and Schloss. If you see no real objection to inviting them I would like to have them included.

I am also enclosing a list of Viet-Nam students and participants who are expected to be on campus May 15th. I thought you would want this for invitations for the dinner and reception.

Also enclosed is a list of people who have been in Viet-Nam or in some way or another associated with the Viet-Nam program. I thought you would want this to check against your list to see if they have been invited to the reception.

Sincerely,

Glen L. Taggart, Dean  
International Programs

glt/dj

P.S. It just occurred to me that President Hannah might want to invite Emory Morris since he was in Viet-Nam with us and very much interested in the project.

LIST OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN TO VIET-NAM

President John A. Hannah  
Dean Milton E. Muelder  
Dean Clifford Erickson  
Dean Glen L. Taggart  
Dean Thomas K. Cowden  
Dr. Edward W. Weidner  
Dr. Rqlph H. Smuckler  
Dr. John M. Hunter  
Dr. John T. **Dorsey**  
Dr. Charles C. Killingsworth  
Dr. Lyle Maxwell  
Dr. Wilbur Brookover  
Dr. Cole Brembeck  
Mr. James Denison  
Professor A. F. Brandstatter  
Professor Ralph Turner  
Mr. Frank M. Landers  
Mr. Joseph Marlow  
Mrs. Joyce Bell  
Dr. E. Morris, Kellogg Foundation  
Professor Tukey, Horticulture



LIST OF PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH VIET-NAM PROJECT

Mr. Robert L. Wright

Mr. Robert Geist

Mr. Lawrence J. Baril

Mr. Richard McCleery

George Joyaux (?)

Dr. L. E. Traywick

Dean Wyngarden

Mr. Stanley K. Sheinbaum

Miss Elsie Cunningham

LIST OF PEOPLE GOING TO VIET-NAM

Dr. James B. Hendry

Dr. Robert Scigliano

Dr. Benzel L. Carmichael

Dr. Adrian Jaffee

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS ON VIET-NAM PROJECT

Mr. Robert Carle

Miss Paula Irving

Mr. James Miller, College Travel, has been to Viet-Nam

The following Vietnamese students are expected to be on campus on May 15:

* Mr. Nguyen Thanh Bach	Armstrong Hall A111
* Mr. Nguyen Tu Ban	1200 East Grand River
* Mr. Phan Huy Dan	Armstrong Hall A125
Mr. Minh Hoang	Armstrong Hall A128
* Mr. Cao Xuan Linh	Armstrong Hall A121
* Mr. Duong Vinh Mau	Armstrong Hall A120
* Mr. Le Phu Nhan	1204 West Michigan Ave. Lansing
Mr. Thu Ngoc Phan	Butterfield Hall A121
* Mr. Nguyen Van Thong	215 Louis Street, E. Lansing
* Mrs. Phan Thi Khanh Trang	Box 121 Route 2, Lansing

\* Viet-Nam Project Participants

Mr. Pham Gia Thinh (due to arrive May 11)	Y.M.C.A., Lansing
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Please add the following Vietnamese student to the  
list of those students expected to be on campus on May 15:

Mr. Tran Ngoc Nhuy                      Armstrong Hall A 122

He is a Vietnam Project Participant

VN  
Rec'd  
Visit

10 May 1957

*Diem  
visit*

Miss Ruth Jameyson  
President's Office  
Campus

Dear Miss Jameyson:

I am attaching a suggested draft of a letter that we would like President Hannah to send to all staff members. We would like this timed so that it would be received in the first mail Monday morning.

I would also appreciate it if you would ask President Hannah for a quotable statement that could be used in the State News concerning the importance of the Diem visit to the student body, and the importance of the Far East and Diem's role in that area to the United States.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Glen L. Taggart, Dean  
International Programs

glt/mj  
enc.

*Dien  
visit*

13 May 1957

~~Suggested draft of~~ Letter to go to each student at MSU:

The President of the Republic of Viet-Nam will visit Michigan State University this Wednesday, May 15.

President Ngo Dinh Diem's visit to Michigan State has special significance to us. In a sense we look upon him as an alumnus of MSU since he was here during a period of exile from his government. He served as a consultant to our Governmental Research Bureau. Upon leaving here he became President of the Republic of Viet-Nam and is now emerging as one of the strongest democratic leaders of the Far East. His unquestioned friendship with the United States and other Western democracies is playing a significant role in the political and social development of not only his own country but of the Far East generally.

Michigan State University has played a part in the development of this friendship, even beyond President Diem's sojourn on campus. Since the establishment of his government this institution has had a group of consultants working intimately with him and his people on the development of their governmental administrative policy and structure.

The major event of President Diem's visit to our campus will be a convocation to be held in the afternoon of May 15 in the Auditorium. On this occasion the University will bestow an honorary Doctor of Laws degree upon the President and he will deliver a major address. To enable all students to attend this important ceremony, classes from 3 to 5 pm on Wednesday, May 15, are being dismissed.

This represents a signal opportunity to become acquainted with the head of an important country and through our presence to demonstrate to him and his party the warm and enthusiastic friendship in which we as American citizens and representatives of MSU hold his country.

Since President Diem and his party will be arriving at the Auditorium at 3.20 pm, we are encouraging the students to be present not later than 3.15 pm.

Sincerely,

Glen L. Taggart, Dean  
International Programs

glt/mj