

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT OBSERVER  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
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SUITE 847-B  
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

December 5, 1968

Mr. Wm Vasilio Sotirovich  
President  
N.Y.U. Political Forum  
4 Washington Square Village  
New York, N.Y. 10012

Dear Mr. Sotirovich:

I am really sorry that my Ambassador, Mr. Nguyen Huu Chi, was unable to fulfill his promise to address the N.Y.U. Political Forum, last night at Loeb Student Center, due to the brutal disruption by a group of male and female demonstrators who claimed to be members of SDS.

In accepting to speak at a much famed institution of higher education, Ambassador Chi did expect a heated debate, in the course of which any hostile dissenters would have the opportunity to voice their opposition in a civilized manner. Unfortunately the demonstrators who irrupted into the room obviously had no intention of engaging any dialogue, but rejoiced exclusively in acts of vandalism and storm trooper practices.

I hope that none of them is a bona fide student of New York University, or of any other University or College. Otherwise their horde assault would be a sad commentary on a segment of the American student population of today.

The sad fact about incidents like the one which occurred last night is that they are an encouragement for Communists in Vietnam to persevere in their genocide war, in which hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese and thirty thousand fine young Americans already died, precisely to defend the right to freedom part of which is the right to dissent.

Please accept my thanks for all what you have done to protect Ambassador Chi from bodily violence by the mob last night, as well as my sincere wishes that regrettable incidents which have nothing in common with academic endeavor will never occur again at the respectable N.Y.U. Forum.

Sincerely,

*Nguyen Quoc Tan*  
Nguyen Quoc Tan  
Counselor of Embassy  
Press Officer