



**international institute  
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**Ngo Van Papers  
(1912-) 1947-2005 1947-2005**

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## Ngo Van Papers

**Collection ID** ARCH03247

**Creator** Ngo Van

**Period** (1912-) 1947-20051947-2005

**Period (bulk)** 1947-2005

**Extent** 1 m.

**Language list** English

**Language of Material** French, Vietnamese

## Context

### Biographical Note

Born in Tân Lôi, a Vietnamese village near Saigon, 1913, died in Paris 2005; left his village at the age of fourteen and moved to metallurgical industry in Saigon; became involved in demonstrations and strikes against the French colonial power; during the thirties he belonged to a coalition between parties with Stalinist and Trotskyist views, editing the journal *La Lutte* but Van and other Trotskyists left *La Lutte*; during the Second World War Van and his comrades were arrested, tortured and imprisoned by the representatives of the Vichy government and the short Japanese rule; Van decided to leave Vietnam in the spring of 1948 and moved to Paris where he became a factory worker; also he became a writer on the history of the revolutionary movement in Vietnam and Indochina and the colonial and later relations with France and entered the group around Maximilien Rubel; among his works are *Viêt-nam 1920-1945. Révolution et contre-révolution sous la domination coloniale* (1996, 2000) and his memoirs *Au pays de la Cloche fêlée* (2000); the second part of his memoirs *Au pays d'Héloïse* and also *Le Joueur de flûte et l'Oncle Hô. Viêt-nam 1945-2005* were published shortly after his death; an English translation and compilation of his memoirs was published in 2010 under the title *In the Crossfire. Adventures of a Vietnamese Revolutionary*. See also the survey of his publications, paintings and drawings and an obituary by Hilary Horrocks and Simon Pirani in Simon Pirani's Archive.

## Content and Structure

### Content

Correspondence, working materials, reviews, lectures and other documents relating to Ngo Van's books *Viêt-nam 1920-1945*, *Au pays de la Cloche fêlée* and *Le Joueur de flûte et l'Oncle Hô* 1959-2004; incomplete typescript of 'Au pays d'Héloïse' 2004; minutes of meetings of and other documents on the group around Maximilien Rubel ('le Conseilisme' / Workers' Council Movement) 1958-1964; letters and postcards from Loren Goldner 1996-2002.

### Processing Information

Preliminary list made by Bouwe Hijma in 2012

## Subjects

### Geographic Names

France

Viet Nam

## Persons

Rubel, Maximilien  
Goldner, Loren

## Themes

Colonial question/Anti-colonialist movements  
Independencies  
Syndicalism/Trade unions  
Communist movements and parties

## Material Type

Archival material

## Access and Use

### Access

Not restricted

### Preferred Citation

Ngo Van Papers, inventory number ..., International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam

## List

### Documents relating to Ngo Van's book *Việt-nam 1920 - 1945. Révolution et contre-révolution sous la domination coloniale* (original box 1)

- 1-3 Notes and photocopies from *La Lutte* and other periodicals. 1936-1939 and n.d. 3 folders
- 4-6 Working materials, including photocopies from various periodicals. 1926-1927, 1930-1933, 1945 and n.d. 3 folders
- 7-8 Correspondence and photocopies from literature and official documents. 1926, 1930, 1936-1941, 1946-1949, 1953, 1955, 1981 and n.d. 2 folders
- 9-11 Correspondence, photocopies and other working materials. 1912, 1928-1934, 1937-1939, 1947, 1950, 1965, 1973, 1980-1981, 1990, 1993, 1997-1998 and n.d. 3 folders

### Typescripts and printed matter (original box 2)

- 12 Photocopy of a reprint of *L'Insurrection armée* by A. Neuberg (Paris: le Parti Communiste, 1931; Paris: François Maspero, 1970). 1970. 1 folder
- 13 Two typescripts 'Saïgon (Origines - 1859)' and 'Saïgon: Urbanité coloniale et foyer de la modernité vietnamienne' by Philippe Peycam on the history of Saïgon. With notes and a photo of Peycam. 1997-1999. 1 folder
- 14 Photocopies of parts of *No Peace for Asia* by Harold R. Isaacs. N.d. 1 cover

- 15 Photocopies of parts of *Au Service des Colonisés 1930-1953* by Daniel Guérin. 1954. 1 cover
- 16 Photocopies of *La France en Indochine* by Nguyễn-Ninh. [1925]. 1 cover
- 17 'Les Instruments Astro-Calendériques des Han et la Méthode Liu Ren' by Marc Kalinowski in *Bulletin de l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient*. Tome LXXII. Extrait. 1983. 1 cover

### **Documents in Vietnamese language and on the group around Maximilien Rubel (original box 3)**

- 18 Handwritten notes on Cao Dai, a rather new Vietnamese religion. N.d. 1 cover
- 19 Photocopies of a Vietnamese text. N.d. 1 cover
- 20 Photocopies of texts in Vietnamese language and notes in Vietnamese language. N.d. 1 folder
- 21 Photocopies of a Vietnamese text 'Phat-Giao Hoa-Hao Sam-Giang'. 1948. 1 folder
- 22-23 Photocopies and other documents on Ho Chi Minh. 1912, 1967, 1981, 1989-1990, 1992, 1994-1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 and n.d. 2 folders
- 24 Typescript 'Tuong Niem Phan Van Hum' and letters on the authorization of Mr. Phieu Tran Nguon to have Ngo Van's book *Au pays de la cloche fêlée*, translated into English. 2001-2002 and n.d. 1 folder
- 25 Notes and other documents on the 'Hoa Hao', a reformist Buddhist movement in Vietnam. N.d. 1 folder
- 26 'Tap chi Congsan'. 2.2.1983. 1983. 1 quire
- 27 Boan Cong-Binh. Khang-Chien. 1947. 1 quire
- 28 Photocopies of typescripts by and other documents on 'Sania Gontarbert, dit Lucien, dit Sylvain Gobert, dit Lucien Magneux', including also comments by Héléne Fleury. 1993, 1997-1998 and n.d. 1 folder
- 29 Typescripts by and other documents on 'Agustín Rodríguez'. 1988-1990 and n.d. 1 folder
- 30 Documents on Roger Bossière. 1987, 1990 and n.d. 1 folder
- 31 Proofsheets of 'Avec Maximilien Rubel. Combats pour Marx. 1954-1996. Une amitié, une lutte' by Ngo Van. 1997. 1 folder
- 32 Letters and postcards written by Maximilien Rubel to Ngo Van. 1957-1959, 1961, 1970, 1983, 1994. 1 folder
- 33-37 Documents on the meetings of the 'Groupe'. 1958-1964, 1972, 1980 and n.d. 4 covers and 1 folder
  - 33 Meetings 23 September, 14 October and 23 November 1960. With enclosures. 1960.
  - 34 Meetings 3 February, 3 March, 30 March, 28 April 26 May, 8 July and 8 December 1961. With enclosures. 1961.
  - 35 Meetings 5 January, 2 February, 2 March, 13 April, 11 May, 8 June, 14 September, 5 October, 26 October, 23 November and 21 December 1962. With enclosures. 1962.
  - 36 Meetings 15 February, 19 April, 10 May and 13 September 1963. With enclosures. 1963.

- 37 Other documents regarding the 'Groupe'. 1958-1959, 1962-1964, 1972, 1980 and n.d.

### (Original box 4)

- 38-39 Correspondence, announcements, book reviews and other documents relating to Ngo Van's book *Au pays de la cloche fêlée. Tribulations d'un Cochinchinois à l'époque coloniale* and also to his other book *Viêt-nam 1920 - 1945. Révolution et contre-révolution sous la domination coloniale*. 2000-2001. 2 folders
- 40 Correspondence. 1994-1996. 1 folder
- 41-46 Correspondence, typescripts, lectures, photocopies. 1959, 1966-1972, 1986-1987, 1995-2003. 6 folders
- 41-42 1959, 1966-1972, 1986-1987.
- 43-46 1995-2003.

### (Original box 5)

- 47-51 Correspondence, typescripts, lectures, photocopies. 1994-2003. 5 folders
- 52 Correspondence. 1995-1999. 1 folder
- 53-56 Correspondence, announcements, book reviews and other documents relating to Ngo Van's book *Viêt-nam 1920 - 1945. Révolution et contre-révolution sous la domination coloniale*. 1995-2001. 4 folders

### (Original box 6)

- 57 Correspondence. 1990, 1997, 2001-2003. 1 volume
- 58 Correspondence. 2001-2004. 1 folder
- 59 Typescript 'Au pays d'Héloïse' by Ngo Van and other documents relating to this unpublished typescript. 2004 and n.d. 1 folder
- 60 Typescript 'Utopie libertaire antique et guerre des paysans en Chine' by Ngo Van and other documents relating to this unpublished typescript. 2004 and n.d. 1 folder
- 61 Documents in Vietnamese language on the book *Joueur de Flûte et l'Oncle Hô* by Ngo Van. 1998. 1 folder
- 62 Reprints of a series of articles by Ngo Van, earlier published in *Informations et Correspondances Ouvrières (ICO)* in the years 1967-1968. N.d. 1 folder
- 63 Various biographical documents used by Ngo Van for his book *Au pays de la cloche fêlée*. 1932, 1938, 1947, 1989, 1994-1995 and n.d. 1 folder
- 64 Letters and cards from Loren Goldner to Ngo Van. 1996-1998, 2002. 1 folder
- 65 Article by Loren Goldner 'The Anti-Colonial Movement in Vietnam' in *New Politics*. Vol. VI, No. 3 (Summer 1997). With some drafts. 1997 and n.d. 1 folder
- 66 Letter from Tobias Rettig to Ngo Van. With some other documents. 1999. 1 folder
- 67 'Tai xu cguong re. Noi truan chuyen cua mot nguoi dan nam ky thoi thuoc dia' by Ngo Van. [2000]. 1 volume
- 68 Photocopy of the article 'Rousseau et quelques figures de la lutte anticolonialiste et révolutionnaire au Viêt Nam' by Ngo Van in *Les Cahiers du Monde Ouvrier*. N.d. 1 folder

- 69 'Revolutionary witness: Vietnam's history of struggle against imperialism' by Ngo Van in *The International. Journal of the Workers International to Rebuild the Fourth International*/No. 17 (January 1996) . 1996. 1 quire
- 70 Three periodicals in Vietnamese language. 1998, 2000, 2003. 1 folder