COLGATE UNIVERSITY

HAMILTON, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 14, 1973

Dear Professor Kuo:

Professor Theodore Herman, a member of the Department of Geography of Colgate University, has asked me to write in support of the applications of himself and his wife for visas to visit the People's Republic of China in September 1973. I am delighted to do so, and hope that a favorable decision can be made in the near future. Professor Herman and his wife, Chen Shih-ying, first applied for a visa in November 1971 after visiting the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ottawa, Canada, and they have written letters on several occasions since that date. Their file number at the Embassy in Ottawa is (73) A/O 129.

I support the application of the Hermans on both professional and personal reasons. From a professional point of view, Professor Herman has been teaching courses on China for the past eighteen years. It is important to the College and his students that if possible Professor Herman visit the People's Republic of China to update himself on the many changes which have taken place there. The University has granted him a leave of absence for the fall semester this year beginning in September, hoping that his application would be favorably received in the light of his status as an educator and strong supporter of China in this country.

Professor Herman is anxious to learn of the procedures of regional planning in a rural commune and also in a nearby city. His interest reflects not only his academic role as a geographer, but also as a leader in regional planning with farmers and other groups in this rural area of New York State. After spending a few days talking with people who are active planners on one or two communes and in a neighboring city, Professor and Mrs. Herman would like to travel up the Yangtze either by themselves or with a larger group.

Both Professor and Mrs. Herman have personal reasons also for wishing to visit the People's Republic of China. Dr. Herman worked in China for twelve years, from 1936 to 1948. He has been asked several times by friends there when he will visit them. He is especially anxious to see his former boss in the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, Chen Han-seng, who lives at 38 Tung Hua Tachieh, Peking, with whom he has been in contact over the past year. There are other friends, such as Rewi Alley, who are also getting along in years.

Mrs. Herman, Chen Shih-ying, who was born in Ichang, Hupei, wants to visit her mother, who is 97 years old and living in Shanghai, before her mother passes away. She also has two sisters whom she would like to visit; one lives in Shanghai and the other in Wuhan. She would also like to see her friend, Dr. Wu Yi-fang, the former President of Ginling College, before she too passes away.

It would be our hope that the necessary visas can be granted soon and the Hermans informed so that they can make plans for a trip to the People's Republic of China in September. Thank you for your consideration of this reatter.

Sincerely,
Thomas A. Boutlet

Thomas A. Bartlett

Professor Kuo Mo-Jo President Chinese Academy of Sciences Wen Ching Chieh No. 3 Peking, People's Republic of China

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Embassy of the People's Republic of China 415 St. Andrew's Street Ottawa, KIN5H3
Ontario, Canada