Beat: News

President Obama visits Ho Chi Minh City

Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam

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USPA NEWS - United States President Barack Obama arrived in Ho Chi Minh City on Tuesday afternoon (May 24), commencing his youths-oriented working agenda in Vietnam´s biggest commercial hub, scheduled for May 24-25.

United States President Barack Obama arrived in Ho Chi Minh City on Tuesday afternoon (May 24), commencing his youths-oriented working agenda in Vietnam´s biggest commercial hub.

Before that, President Obama had dinner with chef Anthony Bourdain at Huong Lien Restaurant on Le Van Huu Street on May 23 evening in Hanoi. The conversation will be featured on an episode of Bourdain´s CNN travel and food show, “Parts Unknown,“ in September.

Around 500 local residents in Hanoi gathered around a “˜Bun cha´ place in Le Van Huu street area to catch a glimpse of US President Barack Obama having dinner.

The US President shook hands with people after having two portions of the capital´s famous char grilled pork with rice noodles.

President Obama landed on board his Air Force One at Tan Son Nhat International Airport at 4:00 pm, after spending one day and a half in Hanoi meeting with key government officials and delivering a speech in front of over 2,000 people at a convention center.

The president greeted the city with a smile as he waved his hand and stepped down from the plane, being welcomed by local officials.

Thousands of locals can be seen standing on two sides of the president´s route waiting for Obama´s entourage to pass by, with some holding Vietnamese and U.S. flags, welcome signs, and banners with Obama´s portrait printed on them.

This trip to Ho Chi Minh City is part of President Obama´s three-day official visit to Vietnam from May 23 to 25, in his attempt to enhance bilateral relations with Vietnam and increase U.S. influence in the region.

President Obama visited a century-old pagoda as his first destination after arriving in Ho Chi Minh City on Tuesday afternoon. He visited the Jade Pagoda at 4:30 pm to pay tribute to and admire the cultural traditions of Vietnam.

Many local citizens could not hide their excitement as they gathered on the sidewalks and at the cafés near the pagoda at around noon to see the president in the flesh.

As he left the venue at around 4:50 pm, President Obama did not forget to smile and wave at Vietnamese citizens from outside the pagoda.

After visiting the Jade Pagoda, President Obama met with young Vietnamese entrepreneurs and delivered his remarks on entrepreneurship and opportunity for the Vietnamese people.

He was impressed by dynamic young Vietnamese entrepreneurs who are believed to have a wealth of opportunities to do great things.

President Obama said he would support Vietnam in startup activities and English language teaching while expressing his confidence in the development of entrepreneurship in the country.

President Obama will host a town hall with members of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) on Wednesday morning, before leaving for Japan to attend the 2016 G7 Summit.

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