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National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

ID # ~~030623~~
029109
C0172

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8/10/71

Name of Correspondent: Asia Bennett

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: requests confirmation of a June 2 mailing concerning food aid for Vietnamese children and requests an answer -

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PL/BLAC</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8/10/71</u>		<u>C 8/10/71</u> ^{CH}
<u>STATE/HAS</u>	R	<u>8/10/71</u>		<u>A 8/10/71</u> ^{CH}
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 4800 _____

Prime Subject Code: 60172 Secondary Subject Codes: HE 003
WE 001

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence**
- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

ID # 029109

00172

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 81106118

Name of Correspondent: Asia Bennett

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Writes again requesting with the President or his designated representative re: food aid for hungry Vietnamese children

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>SC Rawl</u>	ORIGINATOR	^{TR} <u>81106119</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>81106123</u>
<u>PL Blac</u>	<u>I</u>	^{DR} <u>81106119</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>81106123</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>

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- C - Comments
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- I - Info Copy/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

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- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

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- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

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Prime Subject Code: CO 172 - _____ Secondary Subject Codes: HE 003 - _____
WE 001 - _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

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- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 -

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- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

Unclassified

(Classification)

S/S # 8120674
Date July 22, 1981

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Richard V. Allen
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: The President FROM: Ms. Asia Bennett
DATE: June 16 SUBJECT: Food Aid for Vietnam


WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 7/10 NSC #
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:


L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 21, 1981

Ms. Asia Bennett
Executive Secretary
American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The White House has asked me to reply to your mailgrams of June 2 and June 16 regarding the U.S. government's policy on providing food aid to Vietnam.

As you may know, Public Law 480 generally authorizes the provision of U.S. food assistance worldwide, and the terms of that statute prohibit the United States from providing assistance to Vietnam. Specifically, Section 411 of P.L. 480 disallows the sale of any agricultural commodities under Title I or II or their donation under Title II to Vietnam.

Additionally, the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may serve as a basis for providing food aid abroad. This legislation, however, prohibits the provision of United States Government assistance to Communist countries, expressly including Vietnam. Although the law contains waivers or exceptions to this statutory prohibition (and such exceptions cover disaster assistance), it is unclear whether such waivers or exceptions would permit assistance to Vietnam, since Section 12 of the Department of State Appropriations Act of 1973 disallows assistance of any kind, directly or indirectly, to or on behalf of Vietnam.

In addition to these legal constraints, we believe that as a general rule it would be inappropriate to provide assistance to Vietnam at a time when it is squandering its own resources to maintain its forcible occupation of Kampuchea, in violation of the United Nations Charter and two resolutions of the UN General Assembly.

The U.S. government is prepared, however, to issue export licenses to private organizations which wish to send to Vietnam small quantities of humanitarian assistance, under conditions that the donors take all possible measures to ensure that the aid reaches the intended recipients. In line with this policy, the State Department reconsidered the Mennonites' application to send wheat flour to Vietnam, which as you pointed out was

initially denied. On the basis of information the Mennonites gave to the State Department on June 12 concerning the specific institutions in Vietnam that would receive and monitor the distribution of the wheat, the Department of State recommended to the Commerce Department that the license be approved.

I hope this letter responds to the concerns you raised. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, Mr. Desaix Anderson of my office would be pleased to hear from you. Mr. Anderson can be reached by telephone at (202) 632-3132.

Sincerely,

John D. Negroponte
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
East Asian and Pacific Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

8120674

REFERRAL

JULY 8, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ATTN: AAIS

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 029109
MEDIA: MAILGRAM, DATED JUNE 16, 1981
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN
FROM: MS. ASIA BENNETT
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
1501 CHERRY STREET
PHILADELPHIA PA 19102

SUBJECT: WRITES AGAIN REQUESTING MEETING WITH THE
PRESIDENT OR HIS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE
REGARDING FOOD AID FOR HUNGRY VIETNAMESE
CHILDREN

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 33, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
LESLIE SORG
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

18
AFSC
1501 CHERRY ST.
PHILA. , PA 19102

western union Mailgram®



1-016265I167 06/16/81 TWX AFSERCO-PHA WSHA
01 PHILA PA JUNE 16

*Scheduling
cc: Morton Blackwell*

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

029109

DEAR PRESIDENT REAGAN;

ON BEHALF OF THE TEN LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR AGENCIES WHO SENT YOU A MAILGRAM ON JUNE 20 CONCERNING FOOD AID FOR VIETNAMESE CHILDREN, MAY I REQUEST CONFIRMATION YOUR OFFICE RECEIVED OUR MESSAGE.

WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE KNOWING WHEN WE MAY ANTICIPATE RECEIVING A SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE TO THE POINTS RAISED THEREIN AND A REPLY TO OUR REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH YOU OR YOUR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE.

SINCERELY,
ASIA BENNETT
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
1501 CHERRY STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102

15:45 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

1-800-257-2241
JUNE 14 1977

WESTERN UNION
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

02108

TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM, PHONE WESTERN UNION ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT:

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES

OF YOUR TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

DIAL (TOLL FREE) 800-257-2241

(EXCEPT IN NEW JERSEY 800-632-2271)

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S INFOMASTER SYSTEM DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX 6161

FROM TWX 910 420 1212

1-004939I153004 06/02/81 TWX AFSECO-PHA WSHC
04 PHILA PA JUNE 2

CC: MICHAEL DEEVER
(PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN)
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON D.C. 20500

M. Anderson

*Can you give
me our points
in this?*

PP

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT;

THE SUFFERING OF INNOCENT CHILDREN FROM MALNUTRITION AND DISEASE ALWAYS TOUCHES THE CONCERN AND SYMPATHY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. TRADITIONALLY THE UNITED STATES PROVIDES AID TO CHILDREN WHOSE LIVES AND WELL-BEING ARE ENDANGERED WITHOUT REGARD TO POLITICAL DIFFERENCES WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT.

MANY YOUNG CAMBODIANS ARE ALIVE TODAY THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES. HUNGRY CHILDREN ON THE HORN OF AFRICA AND IN CHINA ARE RECEIVING EMERGENCY HELP. BUT SO FAR CHILDREN IN VIETNAM FACING SEVERE MALNUTRITION HAVE BEEN IGNORED.

REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS RECENTLY SAW GAUNT FACES AND MATCHSTICK LIMBS OF TODDLERS BEING TREATED FOR EXTREME MALNUTRITION AT PEDIATRICS HOSPITAL NUMBER TWO IN HO CHI MINH CITY (SAIGON). DOCTORS' EFFORTS TO RESTORE HEALTH ARE HANDICAPPED BY SHORTAGES OF MEDICINE AND MILK. VIETNAMESE HOSPITALS AND DAYCARE CENTERS RECEIVED SURPLUS MILK FROM THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY UNTIL 1979 WHEN SHIPMENTS WERE ENDED TO PROTEST VIETNAM'S INVASION OF CAMBODIA.

VIETNAM BECAME A FOOD DEFICIT COUNTRY DURING FIFTEEN YEARS OF WAR. SINCE 1975 IT HAS FACED CHRONIC SHORTAGES DUE TO WAR DAMAGE, THE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. AND CHINESE FOOD AID, GOVERNMENT MISMANAGEMENT, DIVERSION OF RESOURCES TO MILITARY USES, AND DISASTROUS WEATHER.

ACCORDING TO THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, IN THE LAST YEAR VIETNAM LOST THE EQUIVALENT OF 1.3 MILLION TONS OF RICE FROM ONE OF THE MOST SEVERE DROUGHTS IN THREE DECADES FOLLOWED BY FLOODS IN LARGE AREAS OF THE CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PROVINCES. VIETNAM HAS REQUESTED 384,000 TONS OF CEREALS FOR TEN MILLION PERSONS. THE FAO'S MISSION TO VIETNAM REPORTED THE REQUEST IS, "FULLY JUSTIFIED AND URGENTLY NEEDED" AND "WILL BE USED EFFECTIVELY AND WILL REACH THE INTENDED BENEFICIARIES,"

U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY UNDER THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS TO

TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM, SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR WESTERN UNION'S TOLL - FREE PHONE NUMBERS

5241 (61 78)

DISCOURAGE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENTAL AID TO VIETNAM. EVEN HELP FROM AMERICAN PRIVATE AND RELIGIOUS AGENCIES HAD TO CONTEND WITH CUMBERSOME AND POLITICIZED LICENSING PROCEDURES.

REGRETTABLY YOUR ADMINISTRATION APPEARS TO BE ADOPTING A SIMILAR OR EVEN HARSHER POLICY BY ITS RECENT DECISION TO FORBID A SHIPMENT TO VIETNAM BY THE MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF 250 TONS OF WHEAT FLOUR DONATED BY KANSAS FARMERS.

THE PREMISE OF BOTH ADMINISTRATIONS SEEMS TO BE THAT HARDSHIP AND ISOLATION WILL FORCE VIETNAM TO WITHDRAW FROM KAMPUCHEA. WE TOO DESIRE THE WITHDRAWAL OF VIETNAMESE TROOPS. HOWEVER, DEPRIVING VIETNAM OF EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN AID IS UNLIKELY TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL. THE MILITARY IS NOT DEPRIVED OF FOOD, NOR IS THE RESOLVE OF THE GOVERNMENT SHAKEN FROM POLICIES IT CONSIDERS ESSENTIAL FOR SURVIVAL AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION.

THOSE HURT MOST BY U.S. POLICY ARE THE MOST VULNERABLE, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN. EVEN IF IT SUCCEEDED IN INFLUENCING VIETNAM'S ACTIONS, THE USE OF FOOD AS A POLITICAL TOOL WHEN THE CONSEQUENCES ARE SO EXTREME--DEATH OR LASTING MENTAL RETARDATION--IS UNCONSCIONABLE.

SEVERAL RELIGIOUS AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS ARE ALREADY TRYING TO HELP AS MUCH AS THEIR RESOURCES AND VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE PERMIT. WE URGE THAT THE LICENSING PROCEDURES OF THE COMMERCE, TREASURY, AND STATE DEPARTMENTS NO LONGER INTERFERE WITH THIS NON-POLITICAL HUMANITARIAN EFFORT. SPECIFICALLY WE CALL ON YOU TO DIRECT THAT THE MENNONITES' WHEAT FLOUR SHIPMENT BE APPROVED.

BUT EVEN IF ALLOWED, NON-GOVERNMENTAL AID WILL BE FAR FROM SUFFICIENT. WE APPEAL TO YOU TO MAKE USE OF YOUR DISASTER RELIEF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE VIETNAMESE CHILDREN WITH SURPLUS MILK OR CSM FOOD SUPPLEMENT. BY CHANNELING FOOD THROUGH AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY LIKE UNICEF OR THROUGH PRIVATE AMERICAN GROUPS, YOU CAN DIRECT IT TO THOSE MOST IN NEED IN HOSPITALS, ORPHANAGES, DAY CARE CENTERS AND SCHOOLS.

PROVIDING FOOD FOR HUNGRY VIETNAMESE CHILDREN IS CONSISTENT WITH THE MORAL VALUES AND GENEROUS TRADITIONS OF AMERICA. IT COULD ALSO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN VIETNAM AND THE U.S. ON OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES.

WE WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU OR YOUR DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS THESE PROBLEMS.

SINCERELY,

ASIA A. BENNETT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, 1501 CHERRY STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102

▶ BISHOP EDWIN BRODERICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES,
1011 FIRST AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

DR. BERNARD CONFER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF,
360 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010

REVEREND PAUL MCCLEARY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHURCH WORLD SERVICE,
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10027

— JOHN O'MELIA, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, NATIONAL BOARD
OF YMCAS OF THE U.S., 291 BROADWAY, N.Y., N.Y. 10007

➔ ERNA REDLICH, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE,
1628 16TH STREET N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009

DR. JOSEPH SHORT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OXFAM-AMERICA, 302 COLUMBUS
AVENUE, BOSTON, MA 02116

WILLIAM SNYDER, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
21 SOUTH 12TH STREET, AKRON, PA 17501

ALBERT VORSPAN, VICE-PRESIDENT, UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREG-
ATIONS, 838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

RICHARD WALDEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OPERATION CALIFORNIA, 336
FOOTHILL ROAD, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210

10:04 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

C0172

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

8136815

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8/11/21/09

Name of Correspondent: President Dr. Nguyen/Ton/Phon

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Requests the President halt the abominable Communist Retribution against the South Vietnamese who represent the opposition to a total Communist Subjugation of Vietnam.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
		ORIGINATOR	<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>✓ 99</u>	<u>DOS</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>8/11/21/09</u>	<u>[DR]</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>8/11/21/09</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
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CLASSIFICATION SECTION

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Prime Subject Code: CO 172 Secondary Subject Codes: ND016
CO 165
HU 013

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DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

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- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

8129012

UNCLASSIFIED
CLASSIFICATION

S/S # 8136815

Date January 5, 1982

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. James W. Nance
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: The President FROM: Dr. Nguyen Ton Hoan
DATE: Dec. 10, 1981 SUBJECT: Communist retribution
against opposition to communist subjugation of Vietnam.


WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: Dec. 16 NSC # 052379

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached
- A draft reply will be forwarded
- A translation is attached
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below
- Other

REMARKS:


L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

8136815

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

DECEMBER 16, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY]

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 052379

MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED DECEMBER 10, 1981

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: DR. NGUYENTONHOAN
PRESIDENT
COMMITTEE AGAINST DEPORTATION OF
NATIONALIST VIETNAMESE TO SIBERIA
288 CASTRO STREET
MT. VIEW CA XXX

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT HALT THE ABOMINABLE
COMMUNIST RETRIBUTION AGAINST THE OPPOSITION
TO A TOTAL COMMUNIST SUBJUGATION OF VIETNAM

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 62, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

37

DO8

The White House
Washington

WHB 059(2339) (1-030929C343)PD 12/09/81 233 1981 DEC 10 AM 7 27

ICS IPMWGWF WSH

055 11 12-09 1134P EST

PMS WHITE HOUSE DC

1-02 9925B343-001 12/09/81

ICS IPMWGWD WSH

RETRIEVAL REPLY: 1-039766M343 ICS IPMSJSB SNJ

01012 SVC SANJOSE CA 12-09 7P PST

ICS IPMWGWD

SVC DESK

WHITE HOUSE DC

SYS 00530 12-09 942P EST REOUR 1-036443M338 12/05 ICS IPMSJSA

SAN JOSE CA 12-04 242P PST PMS PRESIDENT OF USA SGD

RESIDENT DR NGUYENTONHOAN ETC HW GOOD CY

SAN JOSE CA 12-04 242P PST

8136815

052379

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1981 - 356-697

RESIDENT OF USA

WHITE HOUSE DC

THE OVERSEAS VIETNAMESE ARE EXTREMELY INDIGNANT BEFORE PACT
SOVIET AND COMMUNIST VIETNAM DEPORTING HALF MILLION FORMER
SOUTH VIETNAM MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL TO SIBERIA
UNDER EUPHEMISM "EXPORTED LABOR"

AND OUR ADMIRATION FOR YOU AS CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD, WE EARNESTLY MAKE THIS APPEAL AND REQUEST YOU
TO CALL TO A HALT THE ABOMINABLE COMMUNIST RETRIBUTION
AGAINST THIS SOUTH VIETNAMESE WHO REPRESENT THE OPPOSITION
TO A TOTAL COMMUNIST SUBJUGATION OF VIETNAM.

(SGD) COMMITTEE AGAINST DEPORTATION OF NATIONALIST
VIENAMESE TO SIBERIA

PRESIDENT DR. NGUYENTONHOAN FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
288 CASTRO ST
MT VIEW CA

ENDQUOTE

IF U NEED ANY MORE CORRECTIONS LET US KNOW

TFC SANJOSE CA

2336 EST

NNN



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

December 31, 1981

Dr. Nguyen Ton Hoan
President, Committee Against Deportation
of Nationalist Vietnamese to Siberia
288 Castro Street
Mt. View, California

Dear Dr. Hoan:

The White House has asked me to reply to your telegram of December 16 concerning alleged deportation of former South Vietnamese military and civilian personnel to Siberia

We are aware that the Vietnamese government has sent to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe thousands of "guest workers." Some estimates range up to 50,000 workers. We have recently received several allegations that former Government of Vietnam employees imprisoned in "reeducation camps" have been sent to Eastern Europe as laborers, but we do not have any conclusive information to prove those claims.

As you are aware, the United States does not have diplomatic relations with Vietnam and therefore our ability to influence the actions of the Vietnamese Government is extremely limited. In international fora, we have frequently condemned the Vietnamese authorities' serious violations of their citizens' human rights, and you may be assured that we will continue to publicize and denounce future violations.

Nonetheless, we would be very interested in receiving any information which you have on this subject. Please feel free to write directly to me. You can be assured that we will respect any need for confidentiality which you may deem necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Desaix Anderson", written in a cursive style.

L. Desaix Anderson
Director, Office of Vietnam,
Laos and Kampuchea

REFERRAL

DATE: 01 DEC 81

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

052708
4610
PY 4640
CO172
ND016
C0001
C0070
C0165
HU040
PU
J2007
ED
FG006-12

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: ALLEN

SOURCE: ~~X~~ TOIA, DOAN VAN
TOAI

DATE: 23 NOV 81

KEYWORDS: INDOCHINA

VIETNAM

X TANG, TROUNG NHU

CAMBODIA

SUBJ: FWDS JOINT STATEMENT ON US POLICY TWDS INDOCHINA

REQUIRED ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DUE DATE:

COMMENTS:

Cathy Millison

FOR ALLEN J LINZ

STAFF DIRECTOR

FOR NSC USE ONLY

FOR INFO CHINA OFFICE

GREGG

F WH

O CM C CM

NSA # 8106917

RECEIVED

81 NOV 30 P 5: 09

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

DICK ALLEN

IRENE DERUS

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

PETER

CY TO VP

CY TO MEESE

CY TO BAKER

CY TO DEEVER

CY TO BRADY

Staff response

SHOW CC

SHOW CC

SHOW CC

SHOW CC

SHOW CC

Comments:

1957
4413

Doan Van Toai

Research Associate
The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy
Administered with the cooperation of Harvard University

TUFTS UNIVERSITY

MEDFORD,
MASS. 02155



(617)
628.5000
Ext. 6111

November 23, 1981

Mr. Richard V. Allen
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I am glad to send you our joint statement's conclusion testified before the U.S. Congress's sub-Committee on Asian and Pacific Affairs on the U.S policy toward Indochina after the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia.

We have determined that the Vietnamese Communist is an integral and organic body of the Soviet's global strategy of hegemony. The West, especially the U.S. A. - the heart of the free world - therefore should support the resistance movements fighting against the Communist regime in Indochina.

We do know that the American's opinion is not yet ready to accept this idea, so we can use more Vietnamese defectors who recently escaped from Communists to convince the leftwing who still underestimates the Soviet danger and its ambitions.

I am writing a book on the Vietnamese dissidents who just left the Vietnamese Communist. And I just know that the son of the acting President of Vietnam, Nguyen Huu Tho, has just escaped from Vietnam a few months ago. It is really a ironic story.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Doan Van Toai

JOINT STATEMENT

of
TRUONG NHU TANG & DOAN VAN TOAI
on
U.S POLICY TOWARD VIETNAM

Committee on Foreign Affairs

As we see it, there are three policies that the United States can pursue with regard to Soviet and Vietnamese expansionism in Indo China:

1) Capitulation. The U.S. can accept the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea as a reality, recognize the Heng Samrin regime in Cambodia, normalize relations with Vietnam, resume trade with the Communists and give them aid. But there would be no end to capitulation. Logically, the U.S. would be forced to recognize the Balrak regime in Afghanistan as well as any other governments set up by the Soviets or one of their clients when they invade a foreign country. This is the conception of living in peace with the Soviets which Mr. Elliott, who testified along with us at the hearing, seems to endorse. It is also the wish of the Communists, who have urged the world to accept their fait-accomplis and to consider that the gains of Communism are irreversible.

2) Carrot and Stick. This is the policy of the present U.S. administration. For the stick, the U.S. supports the Asean nations and gives them economic and military aid to keep them strong enough to contain Hanoi on the border of Kampuchea-Thailand. For the carrot, the U.S. offers the prospect of normalizing relations with Hanoi and providing aid if the Communists withdraw their troupes from Kampuchea, lessen their dependence on the Soviet Union and accept the U.N. proposal for free elections in Cambodia under international supervision.

3) Rollback. The U.S. can attempt to overthrow the Communist regimes in Indo China by helping the resistance movements. So far, the Reagan administration has made a decision to support only the resistance movement in Afghanistan. It hesitates to take similar action in Cambodia, and it seems to be completely reluctant to help the opposition in Vietnam. Not many people in the West believe that a genuine resistance exists in Vietnam, much less that it could succeed in overthrowing the Communist regime.

Of the three possible policies, the first one means the total surrender of the U.S. and the non-Communist bloc. The second seems reasonable because it would cost very little in material terms and the U.S. would be seen in a positive light. The third policy would be considered very hawkish and costly. The people of the United States and Westerners in general are still reacting against the Vietnam War; they do not want to get involved in a similar conflict again. But in order to choose the right policy, one must know the nature of the Vietnamese Communists and the objectives of the Soviets. These are quite apparent, though we are reluctant to face up to them or to risk a confrontation.

The Soviet Communists, like their Vietnamese proxies, have constantly instructed their people and their cadres that "our revolution is to fulfill our internationalist duty". Their invasions, they declare, will determine whether Communists triumph over non-Communists in the present era. While they consider the rest of the world as an enemy to be subdued or destroyed, we in the West always express our willingness to live in peace with them. In a football game, the team that is always on the defensive is sure to be defeated. At the hearing, Douglas Pike warned that the bears -

the Vietnamese Communists - will bite if they are fed. But these bears will bite whether they are fed or not. The objective of Moscow and Hanoi is to impose Marxism-Leninism throughout the world under the leadership of the Soviets. We assure you that a policy of concession will fail to withdraw Hanoi's troupes from Kampuchea. We would like to remind you that during the Vietnam War, an argument very similar to Mr. Elliott's was made. If only the U.S. would get out of Vietnam and recognize the hegemony of the Communists, peace and prosperity would be restored. But as soon as the U.S. gave up the fight and withdrew from Vietnam, the Communists reacted more brutally than ever. They took over the whole country and imposed a totalitarian regime. Then they occupied Laos and invaded Cambodia.

But some people, like Mr. Elliott, never seem to learn. He argued at the hearing that "The more you turn the screws on the Vietnamese Communists, the stronger position the Soviets are in...the more isolated the Vietnamese are, the more the Soviets enjoy a correspondingly greater level of influence with the Vietnamese." How greater can it be? We have confirmed that Communist Vietnam has become an integral and organic part of the Soviet Union and is fulfilling its role as part of Soviet global strategy. Only a show of strength and determination on the part of the West will cause the Communists to modify or give up their ambitions of hegemony. They will continue to advance as long as the West wants to try to turn them into good friends and fears confronting them in any way. While the Communists know they cannot defeat the West by a direct war, they are willing to be patient and devour their enemies a bite at a time. Moreover, they invariably portray their aggression as heroic acts of revolution, liberation, national independence, peace, etc.

We cannot expect any change in this aggressive policy even if there is a shift in leadership in Hanoi. As long as the Communist Party remains in control with its present structure, it will continue its policy of conquest.

We favor the third policy outlined above with the following conditions:

a) The U.S. should not pursue a go-it-alone policy but act in concert with its allies in Southeast Asia to form an overall strategy to combat the Communist advance.

b) The U.S. should strengthen its ties with its most important ally in the area; namely, China. Everything should be done to continue to separate China from the Soviet bloc and to turn it into a reliable friend.

c) The U.S., in combination with China, Japan and Asean, should help the resistance movements in Indo China since they have shown a firm determination to fight and count on support from the outside. The U.S. should send weapons and economic aid but not of course, troops or advisors. One of its first objectives should be to set up a radio broadcasting station to provide the Vietnamese people with accurate news and encouragement. This time, the U.S. will be supporting a genuine peoples' movement. Unlike the earlier war when the people were divided and some thought Communism was the proper solution, today they are all united against an oppressive regime.

There is an additional advantage to confronting the Communists in Indo China. They might then be sufficiently tied down to be unable to support revolution in other parts of the world such as Africa or South America. They would run into increasing resistance in Afghanistan and perhaps in other countries they now control.

The growing costs of these resistance movements might force the Soviets to divert funds from nuclear weapons and thus relieve the U.S. and its allies of some of the ^{ir} defense burden. In this way, the policy of containment can be converted into one of rollback. Until this happens, the balance of power, especially in southeast Asia, will continue to favor the Soviets - the most brutal, dangerous imperialists in the world.

Additional Statement of Doan Van Toai

Concerning the U.S.-Sino relationship, I would like to add this analysis:

China has split with the Soviet Union because it believes that its national interests are endangered and because it has modified its ideology. While the Soviets still embrace Marxism-Leninism, it seems to me that the present Chinese leadership is moving away from Communist theory and inclining toward Western value systems, though there is still a long way to go. I think that U.S. aid and friendship can encourage this trend. As I stated earlier, aid and friendship do no good if the Communist regime is not determined to change. But in the case of China, we have seen signs of such determination. Eventually, it could become a powerful ally of the U.S. and, together with the Asean nations, provide peace and stability in the area, in which the Indo China peninsula would become a neutral zone. On the other hand, if the U.S. fails to increase its ties with China, there is always the possibility that another leadership might seize control and revert to its alliance with the Soviets - a dangerous prospect for Asia. By moving closer to China, the U.S. will accomplish two objectives: stopping Soviet expansion and hastening the end of Communism in China./

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

4413

July 24, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR JANET COLSON

FROM: JIM LILLEY

SUBJECT: Mr. Doan Van Toai

As advised in my memo to Dick Allen of April 14 (package attached at Tab III), I do not believe we should encourage any further correspondence with Mr. Toai. I have therefore written to him on behalf of Ed Meese and Dick Allen, with the hope that this will be the end of our exchange.

RECOMMENDATION: That my letter to Mr. Toai be dispatched and that further correspondence from him be sent to the State Department for direct reply.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments

- Tab I Lilley ltr to Toai
- II Toai ltrs of July 4th
- III Previous correspondence

RECEIVED 01 DEC 81 12

TO ALLEN

FROM TOAI, DOAN VAN

DOCDATE 23 NOV 81

05270R

KEYWORDS: INDOCHINA
CAMBODIA

VIETNAM

TANG, TROUNG NHU

SUBJECT: FWDS JOINT STATEMENT ON US POLICY TWD INDOCHINA AFTER VIETNAMESE
INVASION OF CAMBODIA

ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY DUE: 08 DEC 81 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION
STATE

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO
CHINA OFFICE
GREGG

COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID (C / C)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

DISPATCH 12/1 cm W/ATTCH FILE _____ (C)

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 82104130

Name of Correspondent: Ron Young

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Enclosure reply letter from James R. Carter, writes concerning the U.S. government's delay to normalize relations with Vietnam.

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>LA Duke</u>	ORIGINATOR <u>8204130</u> ^{TR}	<u>RJ</u> <u>A</u> <u>8210517</u>
<u>CO Higgy</u>	Referral Note: <u>A</u> <u>82105120</u>	<u>C</u> <u>82107112</u>
<u>DO D</u>	Referral Note: <u>R</u> <u>82105125</u>	<u>C</u> <u>8210610R</u>
<u>State</u>	Referral Note: <u>R</u> <u>8210610R</u>	<u>A</u> <u>8210719</u> ^{MS}
	Referral Note: _____	_____
	Referral Note: _____	_____

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
 - C - Comment/Recommendation
 - D - Draft Response
 - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 - S - For Signature
 - X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
 - B - Non-Special Referral
 - C - Completed
 - S - Suspended
- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**
- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 - Code = "A"
 - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 1240 _____

Prime Subject Code: CO 172 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence**
 - n - 0 - Unknown
 - n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 - n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 - n - 3 - Ron
 - n - 4 - Dutch
 - n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 - n - 6 - Ronald
 - n - 7 - Ronnie
- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**
 - n - 0 - Unknown
 - n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Nancy
 - n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan
- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**
 - n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

JULY 9 - 1982

Dear Mr. Young:

I have received your inquiry of April 28 enclosing a letter from Mr. James R. Carder to the President concerning travel to Vietnam.

There are no restrictions on travel of U.S. citizens to Vietnam. However, we discourage travel there because we do not have an Embassy in Vietnam and cannot provide the usual consular services. Persons who wish to travel to Vietnam must make their own arrangements for visas from the Vietnamese Government. There are commercial flights to Vietnam; information on them should be available from any travel agent who has the official airline guide. The enclosed travel advisory notice on Vietnam provides further information which Mr. Carder may find helpful.

Mr. Carder's letter indicates that he wishes to travel to Vietnam to be reunited with his wife. He may be unaware of the Orderly Departure Program for legal emigration from Vietnam to the United States. If Mr. Carder wishes to explore the possibility of bringing his wife to the United States, he should contact one of the voluntary agencies participating in the resettlement of Indochinese refugees. A list of the national offices of these voluntary agencies is enclosed.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

1. Correspondence Returned.
2. Travel Advisory.
3. List of Voluntary Agencies.

The Honorable
Don Young,
House of Representatives.

8215537

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

JUNE 2, 1982

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 075774

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 28, 1982

TO: MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM: THE HONORABLE DON YOUNG
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON DC 20515

SUBJECT: ENCLOSES COPY LETTER FROM JAMES R. CARDER
CONCERNING THE U. S. GOVERNMENT'S DELAY TO
NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

*Rec'd Sk...
6/2 - 1000
1982*

May 17, 1982

Dear Don:

Thank you for your recent letter enclosing a copy of James R. Carder's correspondence to the President.

I will be pleased to bring this to the attention of the Office of Presidential Correspondence to see whether a reply may be sent on the President's behalf. We appreciate your interest in writing.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Duberstein
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Don Young
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

KMD/CMP/NAP/las --

cc: w/copy of inc to Anne Higgins - for appropriate action
KMD-42A (1st Revision)

DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

37
COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES
KD

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE

2331 RAYBURN BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

DISTRICT OFFICES

FEDERAL BUILDING AND
U.S. COURT HOUSE
701 C STREET, BOX 3
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99513
TELEPHONE 907/271-5978

BOX 10, 101 12TH AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
TELEPHONE 907/456-6949

April 28, 1982

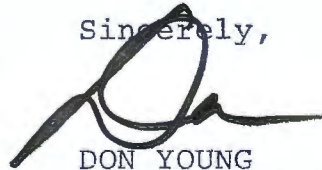
Mr. Max L. Friedersdorf
Assistant to the President for
Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

075774

Dear Mr. Friedersdorf:

This letter is prompted by correspondence received from a constituent, Mr. James R. Carder, concerning a letter he sent to President Reagan. Mr. Carder has requested that I "make sure the President receives the copy of the letter." In an effort to fulfill this request, I enclose a copy of Mr. Carder's letter herewith. Your time and consideration are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



DON YOUNG
Congressman for All Alaska

DY:bw/rhm

Dear Don

KMD 42A

(1)

19 April 1982
Haines, Alaska 99827

President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan,

I am intending to call the White House today to speak with someone who is close to you - or to yourself, if possible. I know you are a very busy man but I have a problem that has continued on and on for ten years and it demands immediate attention by the highest levels of our government. To make it quick, I have outlined five questions and one final statement. I ask you or one of your assistants to sit down and answer these questions sincerely. I am not happy with the decision that I may be forced to make. I am hoping that you might have something encouraging to tell me.

Question #1. Why is the U.S. Government delaying "Normalization of Relations" with Vietnam if it has been officially determined by the U.S. Defense Department that there are no longer any MIA's left alive in Vietnam?

Question #2. Are you aware of my case?

Question #3. If yes - Why haven't you given it more attention?

Question #4. If no - I suggest the President have his intelligence advisors inform him. I am a member of the Republican National Committee in Washington, D.C. and a member of the United States Defense Committee located in Fairfax, Virginia. Lt. General Daniel O. Graham was the chief U.S. Military Intelligence Officer in Saigon when I was there and he should be aware of my case. Has he contacted you? I have written him.

Question #5. If something is not done immediately to normalize relations with Vietnam so persons like myself who are finding themselves in similar circumstances can go conveniently to Vietnam to be with wives and families - then I will be compelled to seek political asylum in Canada or to some other country which has diplomatic relations with Vietnam and "humanitarian" assistance to get back with my wife. Is this what the U.S. Government wants?

Final Statement: I have definite serious medical problems and otherwise will be given no other alternative but to take whatever action necessary to reunite myself with my wife.

(Over)

(2) 19 April 1982

James R. Carder/Lam thi Dan

I feel that because of the technical resources this country has available to it, specifically in the area of communications, that there is no further excuse for the government of this country to inhibit my passage to Vietnam by refusing to normalize relations with that country.

I want the President to know that it hurts me deeply to have to make such a radical decision that could potentially alienate myself from my country. I had put extreme confidence in your bid for the Presidency in lieu of our relations with Vietnam during the Carter Administration. I believe that in 1980 the Vietnamese felt the same way. I am feeling more and more disappointed everyday.

Please do something to give me more faith in the American system and our leaders sense-of-justice.

My wife and I would like to try to have another child and I can't bring myself to go thru with an operation I need before my wife and I are given a decent opportunity to be together again.

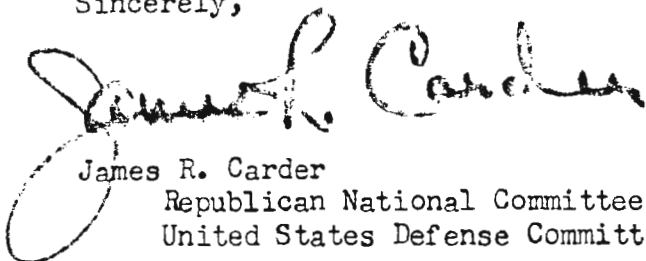
I am beginning to wonder whether there is any decency left in the world.

My emotional problems concerning this matter is that I have a strong sense of loyalty both to my country and my wife in Vietnam. I am stricken by a sense of moral obligation to both.

If I could be somehow sent back to Vietnam in the service of my country, I would feel indebted to my country for your graciousness. If I am forced to face those communists again on my own, it is going to be one of the saddest experiences of my life. I have always been a fighter and would not compromise my sensibilities without a struggle. However, I would be forced to do whatever necessary to survive as my wife has been forced to do since 1975.

Please respond to my letter as soon as possible. I have already written to the Canadian Immigration Centre in Whitehorse, Y.T. about immigration and humanitarian assistance. I am not happy about it.

Sincerely,



James R. Carder
Republican National Committee
United States Defense Committee

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

S/S # 8215537

Date July 12, 1982

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: William P. Clark
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: Max Friedersdorf FROM: Don Young
DATE: April 28, 1982 SUBJECT: Travel to Vietnam

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: June 2, 1982 NSC # 075774
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:



L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

qj
May 4, 1982

077117

4000

00172

HU

Dear Miss Fitch:

Thank you so much for sharing with me the letter about Mr. Tuan who is now suffering unspeakable privation in a communist prison in Vietnam. I read it and reread it, and I was deeply touched, not just by the simple eloquence with which his brother describes this man's suffering, but with the bright light of the love for freedom which still burns so brightly in the hearts of these people.

Surely the story told by Huynh Thanh Van gives the lie to those who slandered our national effort to help the Vietnamese in their struggle against communist aggression. Today we hear similar voices when we try to help the people of El Salvador stand up to terrorist guerrilla forces backed by outside communist powers.

Although the letter you received is heart-breaking, it should remind us all to thank God for the blessing of living in a free country. It should prompt us to be willing to sacrifice to preserve our own freedom and to be generous in helping others. Again, I appreciate your sharing it with me.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

A

x
Miss Kathleen A. Fitch
P.O. Box 2
Nestor, California 92053

8205 7

RR:AVH:PN:pps

Cleared thru NSC

A.H.

human interest

Kathleen A. Fitch
P.O. Box 2
Nestor, C.A. 92053
February 3, 1982

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20002

Mr. President,

Recently in the State of the Union Address you spoke of heroism. I would like to share a story of heroism with you. The story is told by Huynh Thanh Van about the brother Mr. Tuan who is imprisoned in Communist VietNam because of his undying love for freedom. The story is explained in a letter which is enclosed. I can not explain how this letter reached the United States (only the Dear Lord above knows that), but nevertheless it did and the Alumni Association of New Mexico State University with great effort found the Kathy Fitch mentioned in the letter which of course is me. I can verify the authenticity of the letter.

I do not understand the reason I am sending this letter to you since the information on the conditions in VietNam seem to be unresolvable. Perhaps the reason I am writing you, Mr. President, is your speeches regarding heroism and the love of freedom; also, Huynh Thanh Van made a comment regarding your policies towards communism.

I pray to the Lord God Almighty that you will personally be able to read this letter and the letters

enclosed. I know that the President of the United States can not read everything written to him by ordinary citizens, but I hope this extraordinary letter, A Letter from VietNam, reaches your desk. I know that almost nothing can be done, but I wanted to share this letter with you.

With sincerest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen A. Fitch". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kathleen A. Fitch

President Reagan's copy



January 28, 1982

Alumni Association

Kathy Fitch
c/o L. H. Fitch
Box 1568
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Ms. Fitch:

A few weeks ago we received in the Alumni Association Office a letter in Vietnamese. All we could make of it was the mention of your name. I had the letter translated and then edited the translation to idiomatic English.

I am forwarding to you a copy of our translation. I believe you may be an acquaintance of Mr. Tuan and that you would be interested in his fate. I also would like your permission to publish this letter with your name in it, or instructions if we should delete your name, if you choose.

The form we will use to get Mr. Tuan's story out remains unknown, but we will not take any action until we hear from you.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'William F. Bellais'.

William F. Bellais
Associate Director

Enclosure

Vinh Long

November 11, 1981

Dear Alumni Association:

I am sorry to write this letter in the Vietnamese language, my English vocabulary is limited, so I can't write what I want to say in your language.

I received a letter from Alumni Association for Mr. Tuan, I am his younger brother. My family and I regret and we are disturbed that my brother, Mr. Tuan, was not at home when the letter arrived. I want to thank the Alumni Association for that letter. If Tuan were home, he also would be sad and regret more than anybody in the house that he would be unable to respond. Tuan is now in jail. He tried to escape from Vietnam, and was captured in the attempt. This was his eighth attempt. Before he tried to leave Vietnam he had to work very hard to earn more money and he sold most of his household belongings. His hope to escape Vietnam did not come to fruition. A man in jail under communist regime suffers greatly; no food to eat, no water to take a shower, no place to sleep. The Communists do not even allow the relatives to bring food in to feed him. In one prison there are only four square meter for 46 people who all eat, defecate, and sleep together. These prisoners cannot even move; maybe you won't believe what I write, but it is true.

A person in prison is put to hard work in the day time, every day of the week. Prisoners are given 10 minutes to shower with three liters of water.

My wife and I were caught the same time Mr. Tuan was captured. After we were in jail a few weeks my wife and I were so sick that they had to release us.

Families in which one or more of its members worked for the Republic of Vietnam Government before the Communist came, or were working for U.S. government before are treated badly by the Vietnamese Communists (V.C.). Former army officers are put in reeducation prison forever, and the sons or daughters of those families cannot go to high school, or get a government job. The good jobs are from the high school up are only for the people who were V.C. That's why most Vietnamese people wants to leave the country and are willing to do so even in the face of danger. Ninety percent of the people who try to escape die or are captured; only ten percent can get through safely.

Kathy Fitch said to Tuan one time that: "You have got to stay in the USA, and don't go back Vietnam." But Tuan did not heed her warning. A long time ago, I wrote to Kathy Fitch, to exchange postage stamps. Her address is Box A24, Grants, NM 87020. But I didn't receive a reply from her.

Tuan is now a forced laborer on an island 10 kilometers from the main land in the delta area. Each month the VC allow Tuan's family to bring food, clothes, and medicines to meet only one-quarter of his needs. If we

want to see him on a visit, we have to register in advance. Once Mr. Tuan's wife took supplies to her husband by small boat which had no engine, and had to be paddled by hand. The boat was over loaded with people, and the boat sank in the river. She was very lucky to survive; half of the people on boat drowned.

I don't know why so many people like the communist party. For me, a communist never had a heart in his body; a communist never had a sense of humanity. They have brought us a strange peace. I stand with U.S. President Reagan. He is always careful when he talks to the communist countries, especially Vietnam.

I write this letter to you so that you will understand my brother, Tuan's situation. I hope he will be released soon and he will write you about his life in prison under communist regime. My wish for you is to be happy.

Sincerely,

Huynh Thanh Van

P.S. I hope you get this letter.