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**WHORM Subject File Code:** CO172

(Countries: Vietnam, Socialist Republic of)

**Case file Number(s):** 078000-149999

**Box Number:** 221

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*Last Updated: 01/16/2024*

CO/72

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 82106124

Name of Correspondent: Tran Ngoc Nhuon

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Urges the President's intervention with Hanoi authorities for humanitarian endeavors and release of all former officers and soldiers of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces as well as former cadres of the Government of the Republic 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
<u>P.L. - Bung</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>82106124<sup>vs</sup></u>		C	<u>82108109<sup>2</sup></u>
<u>Nat'l. Security Council</u>	Referral Note: A <sup>2</sup>	<u>82106128</u>		C	<u>82107102</u> <sup>TR</sup>
<u>DoS</u>	Referral Note: R	<u>82107107</u> <sup>TR</sup>		A	<u>82107119</u> <sup>TR</sup>
	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: 2 Individual Codes: 4900-3500 1161

Prime Subject Code: CO172 Secondary Subject Codes: NPO16 \_\_\_\_\_  
HU040 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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

UNCLASSIFIED  
CLASSIFICATION

*Tran Ngoc Nhuan* fl

S/S # 8218988

Date JUL 22 1982

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

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

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: Tran Ngoc Nhuan  
DATE: 6/19/82 SUBJECT: Possible release of inmates from Vietnam's so-called "reeducation camps" for resettlement in the United States

WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 7/7/82 NSC # 084725

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:

*Thomas J. White* /for  
L. Paul Bremer, III  
Executive Secretary

Department of State

July 19, 1982

Mr. Tran Ngoc Nhuan  
Chairman  
The Vietnamese Veteran's  
Association, Inc.  
P.O. Box 4286  
Hayward, CA. 94540

Dear Mr. Tran:

Thank you for your letter of June 19 to President Reagan about the possible release of inmates from Vietnam's so-called "reeducation camps" for resettlement in the United States.

Estimates of the number of prisoners still in the camps vary from 25,500, a figure given by Vietnamese government sources, to over 100,000, according to informed independent observers. Many have been imprisoned for seven years, principally because of their special ties to the United States, and, therefore, could possibly qualify for admission to this country through the Orderly Departure Program as holders of either immigrant visas or refugee documents.

Under an understanding between the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Vietnamese Government, an Orderly Departure Program (ODP) for the legal departure from Vietnam to other countries of persons holding either immigrant visas or refugee documents was initiated in October 1980. About one-third of those released come to the United States; the remainder go to some twenty other countries. Following a suspension of the program in February 1981 by Vietnamese authorities, movement of persons to the United States and other countries resumed in October 1981.

Since October 1981, some 10,000 persons have left Vietnam through the ODP, of which 3,000 went to the United States, while the remainder went to other countries, principally France, Canada, and the Federal Republic of Germany.

In order to initiate consideration of a person's eligibility for the ODP, the interested party in the United States should contact one of the voluntary agencies under contract with the Department of State to assist in the U.S. Refugee Program. A listing of these agencies may be obtained from the American Council of Voluntary Agencies (ACVA), 200 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10002. Alternatively, write to:

Orderly Departure Program Office  
American Embassy, Box 58  
APO San Francisco, California 96346

The ODP Office has direct responsibility for legal departure of individuals from Vietnam to the United States, and maintains all individual files. May I suggest that you write to that office directly about what the Vietnamese community in the United States can do to be of help. I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to that office.

I hope this information will be useful to you .

Cordially yours,

Bruce A. Flatin  
Director  
Office of Refugee Admissions,  
Processing, and Training

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

8218988

REFERRAL

JULY 7, 1982

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 084725

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JUNE 19, 1982

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE TRAN NGOC NHUAN  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
THE VIETNAMESE VETERAN'S  
ASSOCIATION  
POST OFFICE BOX 4286  
HAYWARD CA 94540

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT'S INTERVENTION WITH  
HANOI AUTHORITIES FOR HUMANITARIAN  
ENDEAVORS AND RELEASE OF ALL FORMER  
OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
VIETNAM ARMED FORCES AS WELL AS FORMER  
CADRES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC 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 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

*Received in files  
7/6 - 11/8  
DKM*



50K



TỔ QUỐC \*\* DANH DỰ \*\* TRÁCH NHIỆM 8218988  
COUNTRY \*\* HONOR \*\* DUTY

# HỘI CỰU CHIẾN SĨ VIỆT NAM

QUÂN-LỰC VIỆT-NAM CỘNG-HÒA

THE VIETNAMESE VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION, Inc.

P.O. Box 4286 - Hayward, California 94540

**BOARD OF ADVISORS**

Tran van Don (Army)  
Nguyen cao Ky (Air Force)  
Nguyen bao Tri (Army)  
Nguyen van Y (Army)

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Tran do Cung (Air Force)  
Nguyen tho Dan (Infantry)  
Vu dinh Dao (Navy)  
Nguyen huu Due (Psywar)  
Tran thanh Dien (Navy)  
Nguyen van Hieu (Catholic Chaplain)  
Tran manh Hoa (Navy)  
Pham van Hai (Air Force)  
Phan binh Kien (Artillery)  
Vu van Loc (Logistics)  
Phan tran Mai (WAC)  
Nguyen dinh Nhon (Intelligence)  
Nguyen huu Tan (Air Force)  
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Pham thi Tuoi (WAC)  
Nguyen huu Thong (Lawyer)  
Nguyen van Thu (Navy)

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Y-Klong Adrong (Highlander)  
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Ly siu Cong (Infantry)  
Ly Ma (Special Forces)  
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Gip A Sang (Infantry)

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Huynh phuc Nang (Engineers)  
Vuong dinh Thanh (Military Police)  
Tran van Triet (Navy)  
Nguyen huu Tuy (Airborn)

**Gulf & South USA**  
Tran van Binh (Intelligence)  
Nguyen van Nam (Infantry)  
Ngo tan Nghia (Intelligence)  
Hoang duc Ninh (Airborn)  
Chung van Sang (Medical Corps)  
Dinh van Son (Air Force)  
Nguyen minh Tam (Medical Corps)  
Le van Bua (Infantry)

**Northwest USA**  
Nguyen van Dai (Ranger)  
Vong khi Cai (Infantry)

**Midwest USA**  
Xuan Thu (Medical Corps)  
Hoang Lien (Intelligence)

**Southwest USA**  
Lieu tho Cuong (Infantry)  
Ngo Ton (Air Force)

**Northern California**  
Hang phong Cao (Armor)  
Pham thanh Quoi (Air Force)

**Southern California**  
Hoang Dao The Kiet (Infantry)  
Nguyen xuan Dung (Medical Corps)  
Le tan Dat (Intelligence)  
Vo thanh Thoi (Medical Corps)  
Nguyen huu Tien (Medical Corps)  
Pham tat Thong (Ordnance)  
Nguyen van uc (Air Force)

**Europe & France**  
Ho van Loi (Intelligence)  
Mai viet Triet (Infantry)

**Canada**  
Dang van Tuy (Logistics)

**Australia :**  
Dinh quoc Hung (Air Forces)

June 19, 1982

*Jack Burgess*

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

084725

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the Vietnamese Armed Forces veterans presently residing in the United States and other free countries of the world, The Vietnamese Veteran's Association respectfully appeal to you to use your personal prestige and the influence of the U.S. Government to intervene with the Hanoi authorities on the following humanitarian endeavors:

1. The release from their so-called Re-education Camps of all former officers and soldiers of the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces as well as former cadres of the Government of the Republic of Vietnam interned since 1975.
2. To allow the departure of former members of the Vietnamese Armed Forces who choose not to live under the Communist regime.

In a recent television interview by CBS at 7:30 PM Pacific time, Sunday June 13, 1982, Mr. Nguyen Co Thach, Hanoi's Foreign Minister, has stated his Government's willingness to set free and allow the departure of so-called Vietnamese "collaborators", those who have in the past either served in the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces and the former Government or cooperated with the United States Missions in Vietnam.

To show a sense of responsibilities and the least support toward our unfortunate former comrades-in-arms, The Vietnamese Veteran's Association and its members will undertake to sponsor, assist and provide needed services to resettle in this country particularly the following former ARVN leaders and their families:

1. Maj.General HUYNH VAN CAO (former Senator)
2. Lt General NGUYEN VINH NGHI (IV Corps Commander)
3. Maj. General TRAN BA DI (C.O. Quang Trung Training Center)
4. Maj. General LE MINH DAO (18th Div. C.O.)
5. Maj. General LY TONG BA (25th Div. C.O.)
6. Brig. General NGUYEN VAN SANG (2nd Air Div. C.O.)





TỔ QUỐC \*\* DANH DỰ \*\* TRÁCH NHIỆM  
COUNTRY \*\* HONOR \*\* DUTY

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Nguyen van Hieu (Catholic Chaplain)  
Tran manh Hoa (Navy)  
Pham van Hai (Air Force)  
Phan binh Kien (Artillery)  
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Xuan Thu (Medical Corps)  
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Nguyen van uc (Air Force)

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Mai viet Triet (Infantry)

##### Canada

Dang van Tuy (Logistics)

##### Australia :

Dinh quoc Hung (Air Forces)

Page 2

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States

The Vietnamese Veteran's Association and all those presently held in the Vietnamese Communist detention camps earnestly appeal to your compassion to try and put an end to their miseries and save them from further sufferings from the blatant violation of international conventions.

Should your humanitarian efforts succeed in obtaining the release of our former comrades-in-arms, The Vietnamese Veteran's Association will submit to you and the Department of State a comprehensive and cost effective resettlement and training program to help these skilled and professional people become economically self dependent in a timely manner. Our membership who all has a deep sense of obligations toward our abandoned countrymen, will cooperate and jointly work with the U.S. Government efforts to achieve resettlement goals.

While we await your encouraging news, please accept our deepest gratitude for your kind intervention as well as our prayer for your success.

Respectfully,

Tran Ngoc Nhuan  
Former Senator, Secretary General  
of the Republic of Vietnam Senate  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
The Vietnamese Veteran's Association

Copy To:

The Honorable Alexander Haig  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D.C.



*2/10*

104722

ID # \_\_\_\_\_

CO172

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

8236217

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

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 821 10 18

Name of Correspondent: John Shade

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Views re: Amerasian children in Vietnam. Also urges President to sign Amerasian bill.

### ROUTE TO:

### ACTION

### DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<i>✓ PL Blac</i>		ORIGINATOR	<i>8211019</i>		<i>8310120</i>
<i>DOS</i>		Referral Note: <i>R</i>	<i>8211123</i>	<i>NAM</i>	<i>C 82112122</i>
		Referral Note: _____			
		Referral Note: _____			
		Referral Note: _____			
		Referral Note: _____			

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- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
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- Code = "A"
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No. of Additional Correspondents: \_\_\_\_\_ Media: I Individual Codes: 4800 \_\_\_\_\_

Prime Subject Code: CO 172 \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Subject Codes: WE 001 \_\_\_\_\_  
LE \_\_\_\_\_

## PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

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

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 n - 4 - Dutch  
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 n - 6 - Ronald  
 n - 7 - Ronnie

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 P - Photo  
 R - Report  
 S - Sealed  
 T - Telegram  
 V - Telephone  
 X - Miscellaneous  
 Y - Study

152858



PLB/ac



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8236217

Date December 22, 1982

For: Mr. William P. Clark  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Pearl S. Buck Foundation  
Date: October 10, 1982 Subject: Amerasian Children's legislation

WH Referral Dated: November 23, 1982 NSC ID # 104722  
(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.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other.

Remarks:

OBE: Telegram requests President sign Amerasian children's legislation. He signed it on October 22, 1982 -- this letter was received by State for reply on November 23, 1982. As to other concerns raised by Pearl S. Buck in telegram --these have subsequently been discussed with representatives of this organization & State Dept officials.

*John Paul Bremer, III*  
Executive Secretary



DATE SENT: 12/22/82 CLASSIFIED MATERIAL **V 2202320**  
Copy For Addressee

FROM: DIRECTOR S/S-I 7241 NS  
(Name) (Office Symbol) (Room No.) (Bldg.)  
WILLIAM CLARK THE WHITE HOUSE

TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name) (Office Symbol) (Room No.) (Bldg.)

PART V  
DATE RECEIVED: S/S 8236217, 8236719,  
IDENTIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

Optional Form 112  
Rev. 8/79  
State AID USICA

THIS PART MAY BE USED FOR DISTRIBUTION AND/OR  
DESTRUCTION - 5 FAM 975.B AND 960.4  
RETAINED FOR 3 YEARS

DATE SENT: 12/22/82 CLASSIFIED MATERIAL **V 2202320**  
Return Receipt To Sender

TO: DIRECTOR S/S-I 7241 NS  
WILLIAM CLARK THE WHITE HOUSE

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
PART IV  
DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of Addressee)  
S/S 8236217, 8236719,  
IDENTIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESSEE SIGN AFTER CHECKING AND RETURN TO SENDER.  
RETAINED BY SENDER FOR 3 YEARS

Optional Form 112  
Rev. 8/79  
State AID USICA

8236217

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

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 23, 1982

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 104722

MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED OCTOBER 10, 1982

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. JOHN SHADE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PEARL BUCK FOUNDATION  
SHERATON BANGKOK

XX XXX

SUBJECT: VIEWS REGARDING AMERASIAN CHILDREN IN  
VIETNAM; ALSO URGES PRESIDENT TO SIGN  
AMERASIAN BILL

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

*Received in 3/1-I  
11/23 at 12:00 pm (aj)*

8236217

18  
Morton Blackwell

WHB357(0541)(1-011654A282)PD 10/10/82 2011 1982 OCT 10 AM 9 46

ICS IPMWGWC WSH

07761 10-09 0907P EST WGWA

PMS WHITEHOUSE DC

1-199418G282 10/09/82

ICS IPMIIHA IISS

IISS F M WUI 09 1955

PMS NNSYLVANIA AVE WASHINGTON DC

UWB0822 THW706 BKG003 BKBK080487

UWNX CO THBK 097

TOCBANGKOK 97/89 10 0720 PAGE/1

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

THE WHITE HOUSE

1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE

WASHINGTONDC

DEAR MR.PRESIDENT

104722

RESPECTFULLY URGE YOUR SINGNATURE SOONEST  
AMERASIAN BILL STOP ALSO MUST URGENTLY REQUEST SOME  
INFORMAL SIGNAL BE GIVEN VIETNAM THAT THEIR NILATERAL  
RELEASE AMCIT AND AMERASIAN HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICEP  
STOP STATUS NOW AMB DOUGLAS STATES VIETS  
UNCOOPERATIVE VIA

PAGE/2

NIGHTLINE VIETS SEEKING REASONABLE SIMPLIFICATION  
OF COMPLICATED INS/ODP  
PROCEDURES AND STATE US HAS NOT ANSWERED REQUEST  
MR PRESIDENT REASON CAN PREVAIL WITHOUT POLICY  
CHANGE REQUEST YOUR LEADERSHIP THIS ISSUE  
RESPECTFULLY JOHN SHADE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PEARL BUCK  
FOUNDATION

SHERATON BANGKOK.

COL 1600.

NNN

1958 EST

NNNN



ROBERT K. DORNAN

27TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CHAIRMAN

TASK FORCE ON AMERICAN PRISONERS  
AND MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

SUBCOMMITTEES:

ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS

(INCLUDES INDIA-PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN)

AFRICA

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

(CANADA-MEXICO-CENTRAL AMERICA  
THE CARIBBEAN-SOUTH AMERICA)



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

September 27, 1982

6852

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
NARCOTICS ABUSE  
AND CONTROL

TASK FORCE ON MILITARY DRUG ABUSE

REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON  
DEFENSE

121270

1240

4680

CG 172

174

Judge William P. Clark  
Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs  
The White House Office  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C 20520

Dear Judge Clark:

It has recently come to my attention that a General Le Minh Dao, SVC NZ 53/ 12544 Commanding General 18th Infantry Division (1972-1975), is being held and continuously tortured in the Ha-Tay "re-education" camp in North Vietnam. He along with several other field grade and general officers have signed a letter seeking help from President Reagan. I am enclosing a copy of this letter for your review. These men fought bravely in Vietnam and deserve our every attention.

I am also enclosing a copy of Le Thi Anh's letter to me pointing out that General Dao, who is already in poor health, is going to be placed in a "conex box." Anything that you can do to stop this wanton destruction of human life will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

ROBERT K. DORNAN  
Member of Congress

RKD/km

NSC # 8206852

7304 Roosevelt Avenue  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
January 14, 1982

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20004 .

Dear Mr. President

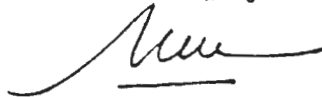
Enclosed is a letter addressed to you, which was smuggled out of a dismal prison located in Ha-Tay, North Viet-Nam. The letter was written by my husband, the former Major General Le Minh Dao and a group of high ranking Generals and Officers from the collapsed South Viet-Nam Army.

My husband was the commander of the 18th Infantry Division which had fought courageously until the end of the war, and who were responsible for making possible the evacuation of Americans from Saigon. He was captured by the communist government in 1975 and is presently imprisoned in a (so called) "camp of re-education" located in Ha-Tay, North Viet-Nam. During his imprisonment, my husband has been constantly punished with exhausting hard labor, starvation, privation, and mental torture.

May I beg you to read the enclosed letter and to do anything under your power to alleviate the ordeal of my husband and others in prison. They are all counting on you, the leader of the free world and the enforcer of world peace and human rights, to help them.

May I thank you for any assistance you can give and any action you can take. May God bless you and this country.

Sincerely yours



Tran Bich Lieng

Enclosure

HÀ TÂY Camp, North Vietnam, January 21<sup>st</sup> 1981

To Mr. R. REAGAN,  
President of the United States of America

Dear Mr. President,

We are addressing you, from this sinister concentration camp, our warm greetings at your entering upon office.

Today, when you make the oath to assume the reins of government as the fortieth President of the United States of America, we have been sustaining five years and a half in the dismal communist prisons — years of exhausting hard labors and starvation and harsh privations as well as unending mental torture with an unlimited time ahead.

Despite of the everlasting agony we have stood fast, held to the high ideals for liberty, of anti-communism and never lost trust in the United States prominent leader in these noble causes.

We resolutely believe that the United States who, pursuing an unselfish and elevated aim in South Viet Nam by using these precious resources and ultimately sending their beloved, gallant sons fighting side by side us for many years to support our country in his safeguarding his freedom, will never leave us to the mercy of the communist tyrants.

We are field grade and general officers who fought at the frontline without failure till the end, in April 1975. We accepted to share the misery of captivity beside our comrades-in-arm. On behalf of hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese prisoners, both servicemen and civilians — ranging from privates to general officers, from heret chief to prime minister, not excluding priests of Christian and Buddhist faiths, members of anti-communist political parties — we are sending you this message of faith and hope.

In the cold dark cells of the condemned ward overcoming innumerable difficulties, closely we kept track of your election campaign. By choosing you as his President the American people fully conscious of his great world wide trust, entirely aware of the threat

of the despotic and bloodthirsty communist regime - the plague of humankind - has shown his steady determination to meet the challenge, to lead the free world in the fight for freedom and democracy and to prevail. As regards us, we understand you - a symbol of resolute and consistent ideal of anticommunism - as hope, new hope, for our freedom.

Yours faithfully,

Major General

TRẦN BÁ DI  
Svc Nz. 51/121114  
Deputy Commander  
IV Corps,  
(1973 - 1975)

Trần Bá Di

Major General

LÊ MINH ĐẠO  
Svc Nz. 53/125441  
Commanding General  
18th Infantry Division,  
(1972 - 1975)

Lê Minh Đạo

Brigadier General

HUỶNH VĂN LẠC  
Svc Nz. 47/104418  
Commanding General  
9th Infantry Division,  
(1973 - 1975)

Huỳnh Văn Lạc

Colonel NGÔ VĂN MINH  
Svc Nz. 51/121328  
Chief of Staff  
III Corps,

Ngô Văn Minh

Colonel NGÔ KỶ DŨNG  
Svc Nz. 55A/109408  
Commander  
52nd Regiment, 18th Infantry Division,

Ngô Kỳ Dũng

Colonel NGUYỄN THÀNH CHUẨN  
Svc Nz. 50/118549  
Commanding Officer  
101st Ranger Division,

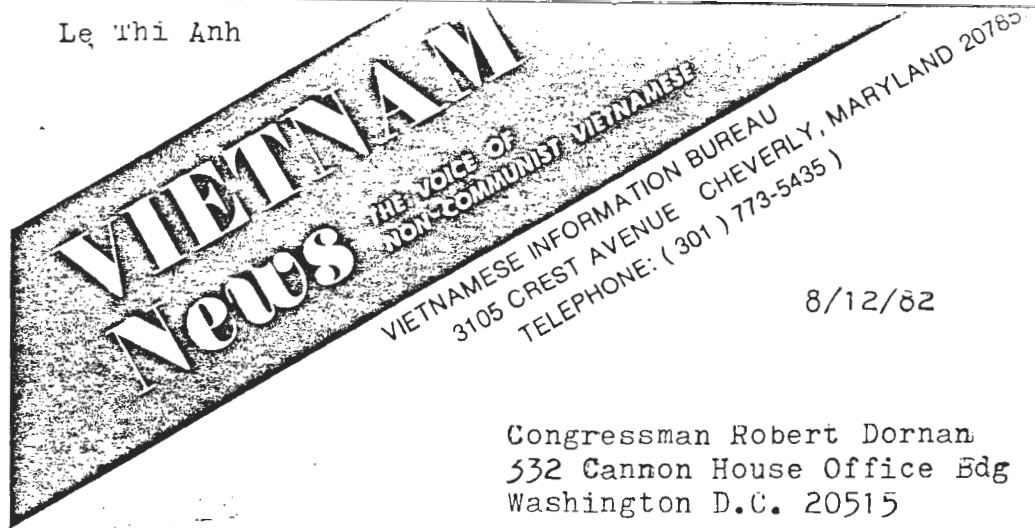
Nguyễn Thành Chuẩn

Colonel LÊ XUÂN HIỆU  
Svc Nz. 54/300613  
Commander  
43rd Regiment, 18th Infantry Division

Lê Xuân Hiệu



Lê Thi Anh



8/12/82

Congressman Robert Dornan  
532 Cannon House Office Bldg  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dornan:

Vietnamese refugees in general and myself in particular are very grateful for the remarks you made at the League of POW/MIA Families annual conference in July regarding the Vietnamese officers still being held in so called "reeducation camps" in Vietnam.

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter smuggled out of "reeducation camps" by Gen. Lê Minh Dao, currently being held in Hà-Tây camp in N. Vietnam.

His wife lives in Falls Church, VA, she has forwarded the letter to Pres. Reagan last year. Recent letters mentioned that Gen. Dao is being put in a conex box; his health is deteriorating. He may not survive much longer. The situation is not any better with the other captive generals and colonels. We must act swiftly if we can do them any good.

Please help.

Respectfully, Lê Thi Anh

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lê Thi Anh", written over the typed name.

1. NSC STAFF SECRETARY

2. NSC SECRETARIAT

*Close Out*

---

3. BRIAN MERCHANT

INTERNAL NSC ROUTING

BAILEY	NAU
BLAIR	NORTH
BOVERIE	PIPES
CHILDRESS	RAYMOND
DEGRAFFENREID	REED
DOBRIANSKY	REGER
FONTAINE	RENTSCHLER
GOLD	ROBINSON
GUHIN	RUSSELL
HELM	RYE
KEMP	SAPIA-BOSCH
KIMMITT	SIGUR
KRAEMER	SIMS
LEVINE	SOMMER
LILAC	STEARMAN
LINHARD	TANTER
LORD	TEICHER
MARTIN	TYSON
MCGAFFIGAN	WEISS
MORRIS	WETTERING
MYER	WHEELER

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RECEIVED 04 OCT 82 19

TO CLARK

FROM DC ROBERT K

DOCDATE 27 SEP 82



LE AN BICH

14 JAN 82

KEYWORDS: VIETNAM

HUMAN RIGHTS

DAO, LE MINH

CCO

SUBJECT: REQUESTS AID FOR SOLDIERS BEING HELD IN REEDUCATION CAMPS IN VIETNAM

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR CLARK

DUE: 07 OCT 82 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHILDRESS

LORD

SOMMER

SIGUR

KIMMITT

*Kill*

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

( J / )

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
C	3/26	No Action Required Per Childress		
-	3/26	Originals Returned to NSC		

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE WTT (CMR)



RECEIVED 04 OCT 82 19

TO CLARK

FROM DORNAN, ROBERT K

DDO DATE 27 SEP 82

LIENG, TRAN BICH

14 JAN 82

KEYWORDS: VIETNAM

HUMAN RIGHTS

DAO, LE MINH

CCO

SUBJECT: REQUESTS AID FOR SOLDIERS BEING HELD IN REEDUCATION CAMPS IN VIETNAM

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR CLARK

DUE: 07 OCT 82 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

CHILDRESS

LORD

SOMMER

SIGUR

KIMMITT

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

( J / )

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

COPIES TO

*C* *1/11* *ONR*

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH

FILE

*copy* (C)  
*De*

4167

ID: 140276 CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET PAGE D01  
INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE DATE 830524 RECEIVED DATE 830531  
(PREFIX) (FIRST) (LAST) (SUFFIX)  
THE HONORABLE PHILIP M. CRANE  
TITLE:

140276  
00172

ORGANIZATION: U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STREET:

CITY: WASHINGTON STATE: DC ZIP: 20515  
COUNTRY:

SUBJECT: URGES THE UNITED STATES PROVIDE THE NATIONAL  
UNITED FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF VIETNAM  
MORAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT

AGY/OFF ACTION CODE TRACKING DATE  
LADUBE ORG 830531

KD A 83 06 11<sup>VD</sup>

STAFF NAME: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
COMMENTS:

MEDIA: L OPID: LW TYPE: IBA

CODES: REPORT INDIV: 1240 USER:

✓ NSC Sec. <sup>VD</sup> R 830616

C 830618<sup>W</sup>

99 D05 R 830618

A 830628<sup>W</sup>

NSC 8304167



UNCLASSIFIED  
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8318938

Date June 30, 1983

For: Mr. William P. Clark  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: The President From: Congressman Solomon and Crane

Date: May 25, 1983 Subject: Urges U.S. provide the  
National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam Moral and  
Political Support

WH Referral Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ NSC ID# \_\_\_\_\_  
(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.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other.

Remarks:

  
Charles Hill  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED  
(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

60142 3 1 1973

Dear Mr. Solomon:


Your letter to the President of May 24 requesting that he give serious consideration to lending U.S. moral and political support to the Hoang Co Minh's National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFLVN) has been referred to the Department of State for comment.

The United States Government does not have diplomatic relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. We will not consider normalization of relations with Hanoi as long as Vietnam continues to occupy Kampuchea (which it invaded in 1978 evoking the condemnation of most of the world's nations) and otherwise plays a destabilizing role in Southeast Asia. We deplore consistent violations of human rights by the current regime in Vietnam, especially the incarceration of thousands of persons associated with the former government which continues some eight years after the end of the war. We also strongly condemn Vietnam's use of chemical warfare in Laos and Kampuchea and its indiscriminate attacks on refugee settlements along the Thai-Kampuchea border. Since our withdrawal from Vietnam the United States Government, as a matter of policy, has not been involved in activities in support of the Vietnamese resistance.

We fully share the concerns that you have expressed about the current regime in Vietnam and appreciate your advising us of Mr. Minh's solicitations.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

  
Powell A. Moore  
Assistant Secretary  
for Legislative and  
Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable  
Gerald B. H. Solomon,  
House of Representatives.





United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 2 1980

Dear Mr. Crane:

Your letter to the President of May 24 requesting that he give serious consideration to lending U.S. moral and political support to the Hoang Co Minh's National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFLVN) has been referred to the Department of State for comment.

The United States Government does not have diplomatic relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. We will not consider normalization of relations with Hanoi as long as Vietnam continues to occupy Kampuchea (which it invaded in 1978 evoking the condemnation of most of the world's nations) and otherwise plays a destabilizing role in Southeast Asia. We deplore consistent violations of human rights by the current regime in Vietnam, especially the incarceration of thousands of persons associated with the former government which continues some eight years after the end of the war. We also strongly condemn Vietnam's use of chemical warfare in Laos and Kampuchea and its indiscriminate attacks on refugee settlements along the Thai-Kampuchea border. Since our withdrawal from Vietnam the United States Government, as a matter of policy, has not been involved in activities in support of the Vietnamese resistance.

We fully share the concerns that you have expressed about the current regime in Vietnam and appreciate your advising us of Mr. Minh's solicitations.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Powell A. Moore  
Assistant Secretary  
for Legislative and  
Intergovernmental Affairs

The Honorable  
Philip M. Crane,  
House of Representatives.

REFERRAL

DATE: 18 JUN 83

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE SECRETARIAT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: SOLOMON, GERALD B H

DATE: 24 MAY 83

KEYWORDS: CO

VIETNAM

SUBJ: CONCERN RE VIETNAM & ITS PEOPLE

-----  
REQUIRED ACTION: DIRECT REPLY FURNISH INFO COPY

DUE DATE: 24 JUN 83

COMMENTS:

  
FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

*Received in 451  
6/24 83-1130-18*

June 11, 1983

Dear Phil:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter dated May 24 to the President on behalf of Mr. Hoang Co Minh, leader of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFLVN).

We appreciate your interest in conveying Mr. Minh's request that the United States provide the NUFLVN with "moral and political support." Please know that your letter has been brought to the attention of the President's foreign policy advisors for further review and response.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Duberstein  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Philip M. Crane  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

KMD:CMP:dps

cc: w/copy of inc, NSC Secretariat - for  
DIRECT response

June 11, 1983

Dear Jerry:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter dated May 24 to the President on behalf of Mr. Hoang Co Minh, leader of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFLVN).

We appreciate your interest in conveying Mr. Minh's request that the United States provide the NUFLVN with "moral and political support." Please know that your letter has been brought to the attention of the President's foreign policy advisors for further review and response.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Duberstein  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Gerald B.H. Solomon  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

KMD:CMF:dps

cc: w/copy of inc, NSC Secretariat - for  
DIRECT response



**PHILIP M. CRANE**

MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
12TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



OFFICES:  
SUITE 1035  
LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
202/225-3711

**WAYS AND MEANS  
COMMITTEE**

**DAVID J. ALLEN**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
OVERSIGHT  
HEALTH  
SOCIAL SECURITY

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

SUITE 101  
1450 SOUTH NEW WILKE ROAD  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60005  
312/394-0790

May 24, 1983

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We have had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Hoang Co Minh, leader of the National United Front for the Liberation of Vietnam (NUFLVN), who recently addressed a World Conference organized by the National Support Movement for the Resistance in Vietnam here in Washington.

The Vietnamese Freedom Fighters inside Vietnam, represented by the NUFLVN, resist the expansionist efforts of the Soviet Union in Southeast Asia and its surrogates, the Communists of Vietnam. As a result of the oppressive policies of the Vietcong, more than a million refugees have escaped abroad, of which over 500,000 have settled in the United States.

Countless others have perished at sea. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese are held in concentration camps and almost an entire people endures in misery. The NUFLVN's primary goal is to put an end to these human rights violations. They accept this responsibility as their own, and have carried out their struggle so far without outside help.

Mr. Minh has not asked for material assistance from the United States. The Vietnamese people are not looking for military assistance. They are seeking to undermine the faith of the Vietcong cadres and soldiers psychologically, rather than through military means. Therefore, Mr. Minh has requested that the United States provide the NUFLVN with moral and political support.

According to Mr. Minh, there are people in Vietnam who are firmly behind the NUFLVN, and many of the Vietnamese overseas have embraced the principles of this group. They have given full financial as

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan  
May 24, 1983  
Page Two

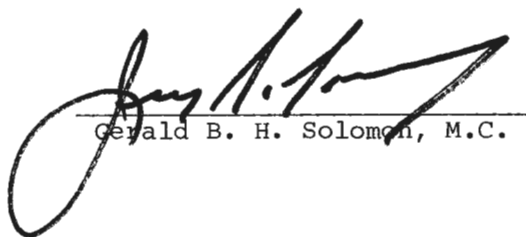
well as moral support through the National Support Movement for the Resistance in Vietnam. During Mr. Minh's brief stay in Los Angeles, 5,000 Vietnamese greeters and well-wishers were at the Los Angeles Airport and at the auditorium where he spoke the next day. On April 30, Mr. Minh addressed an audience in Washington of more than 3,000 individuals from Vietnamese communities all over the world. Mr. President, there is indeed a large group of Vietnamese here in the United States who would like to see the United States back Mr. Minh's efforts.

The NUFLVN has the approval of many countries, which have to this point expressed only tacit support of their cause, while awaiting U.S. approval and support -- it is this support that the NUFLVN is seeking. In our opinion, lending U.S. moral support would be a very important step for the United States to take toward the stabilization of Southeast Asia.

After having met Mr. Minh, it is our sincere conviction that America's tradition of defending "the cause of freedom" cannot allow us to look away. We respectfully ask that you give serious consideration to this matter -- and that action be taken in favor of the Vietnamese people.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

  
Gerald B. H. Solomon, M.C.

  
Philip M. Crane, M.C.

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8304167

RECEIVED 16 JUN 83 17

TO PRESIDENT

FROM SOLOMON, GERALD B H

DOCDATE 24 MAY 83

CRANE, PHILIP M

24 MAY 83

HILL, C

30 JUN 83

KEYWORDS: CO

VIETNAM

SUBJECT: CONCERN RE VIETNAM & ITS PEOPLE

ACTION: RECOMS TO NSC/S

DUE: 21 JUN 83 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

SOMMER

CHILDRESS

SIGUR

COMMENTS \*\* WE RECOMMEND SENDING THIS TO STATE FOR DIRECT REPLY

YES NO OTHER.

REF# LOG NSCIFID ( M / M )

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
	<i>6/30</i>	<i>Lead by State</i>		<i>CL, CP</i>
		<i>Reply</i>		

DISPATCH \_\_\_\_\_ W/ATTCH FILE \_\_\_\_\_ (C)

NSC/S PROFILE

UNCLASSIFIED

ID 8304167

RECEIVED 16 JUN 83 17

TO PRESIDENT

FROM SOLOMON, GERALD B H

DOCDATE 24 MAY 83

CRANE, PHILIP M

24 MAY 83

KEYWORDS: CO

VIETNAM

SUBJECT: CONCERN RE VIETNAM & ITS PEOPLE

ACTION: RECOMS TO NSC/S

DUE: 21 JUN 83 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

SOMMER

CHILDRESS

SIGUR

COMMENTS \*\* WE RECOMMEND SENDING THIS TO STATE FOR DIRECT REPLY

YES

NO

OTHER.

*Peter Sommer*

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

( M / )

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

COPIES TO

*State*

*c. e/c*

*direct reply, general info*

*TS*

DISPATCH

*not e/c*

W/ATTCH

FILE

*and*

(C) *not*



MEMORANDUM

3034

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 6, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR RONALD K. PETERSON

FROM: JOHN M. POINDEXTER

SUBJECT: DOD Proposal 98-107, Military Photos  
in Vietnam

We concur in the DOD proposal 98-107, "To authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories."

143559  
1130  
00172  
PR005  
FG 298  
FG 013  
FG 006-11  
LE  
FG 006-12

DD

NSC#8303034



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

May 2, 1983

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Liaison Officer-

U.S. Information Agency  
National Security Council

SUBJECT:

DOD proposal 98-107, "To authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories."

The Office of Management and Budget requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President, in accordance with OMB Circular A-19.

A response to this request for your views is needed no later than  
FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1983.

Questions should be referred to Tracey Lawler (395-4710 )  
the legislative analyst in this office, or to Dave Spevacek  
(395-4580).

*Ronald K. Peterson*  
RONALD K. PETERSON FOR  
Assistant Director for  
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

cc: Bob Howard



GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

25 APR 1983

Honorable David A. Stockman  
Director, Office of Management  
and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Stockman:

The attached legislative proposal, DOD 98-107, "To authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories," is forwarded for review in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-19.

Advice is requested as to the relationship of the proposal to the program of the Administration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William H. Taft, IV", is written over a horizontal line.

William H. Taft, IV

Enclosure

A BILL

To authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories.

1     Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives  
2     of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That  
3     notwithstanding the second sentence of section 501 of the  
4     United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of  
5     1948 (22 U.S.C. 1461), the Director of the United States  
6     Information Agency shall make available to the Department  
7     of Defense and to the military departments, photographs of  
8     military operations and military related activities in the  
9     Republic of Vietnam for the purposes of development and  
10    publication of military histories by those departments.  
11    Such photographs shall be made available only upon the  
12    request of the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of  
13    a military department and upon the reimbursement by the  
14    Department of Defense or the military department concerned,  
15    as the case may be, of the expenses of the United States  
16    Information Agency which are involved in making such  
17    photographs available.



## MEMORANDUM

## NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

May 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: CARNES LORD *a*SUBJECT: DOD Proposal 98-107, Military Photos  
in Vietnam

The Office of Management and Budget requests our views on the DOD proposal "to authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories."

I see no problem with this and concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I to Ron Peterson.

Approve ✓ 5/04 Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

## Attachments

Tab I Memo to Peterson  
II Memo fr Peterson, May 2, 83, w/atchs

RECEIVED 04 MAY 83 12

TO CLARK

FROM PETERSON, R

DOCDATE 02 MAY 83

KEYWORDS: USIA

DEFENSE POLICY

VIETNAM

SUBJECT: DOD PROPOSAL 98-107 TO AUTHORIZE USIA TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO DOD PHOTOS OF MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN VIETNAM FOR MILITARY HISTORIES

ACTION: MEMO WHEELER TO PETERSON DUE: 26 MAY 83 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

LORD

MYER

CHILDRESS

DUR

SIGUR

LENCZOWSKI

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG

NSCIFID

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ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
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# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed is a draft of legislation "To authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to make available to the Department of Defense and the military departments photographs of military activities in the Republic of Vietnam for the purpose of developing and publishing military histories."

The proposal is a part of the Department of Defense Legislative Program for the 98th Congress, and the Office of Management and Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this proposal for the consideration of the Congress. The Department of the Army has been designated the representative of the Department of Defense for this legislation. The Army recommends that the proposal be enacted by the Congress.

### Purpose of the Legislation

The purpose of the legislation is to authorize the Director of the United States Information Agency to release, to the Department of Defense and the military departments, Agency photographs of military operations and military related activities in the Republic of Vietnam. The Army and Air Force currently are compiling several volumes of military history regarding their presence in the Republic of Vietnam.

The required photographs depict scenes of the conflict in Southeast Asia prior to 1965, a period in which other sources do not provide sufficient coverage. The scenes are typically of French and Indochinese soldiers, leaders, people, terrain, various sect factions, and equipment. A volume on the early involvement, another on pacification, a pictorial history volume, and others will be adversely affected without the variety the requested photographs will

provide. In many cases photographs from other sources are either not available or would entail considerable expense to procure.

The legislation is necessary because the second sentence of section 501 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (32 U.S.C. 1461) prohibits the domestic dissemination of information compiled by the United States Information Agency. That provision is designed to protect the function of the United States Information Agency in compiling and preparing information about the United States for dissemination abroad in a manner that is designed for the oversea audience. The statutory protection enables the United States Information Agency to operate without considerations that its material will be published in the United States. The instant proposal does little to thwart that legislative policy.

Cost and Budget Data

Any additional cost resulting from the enactment of this proposal will be negligible and will be absorbed in applicable appropriations.

Sincerely,

Enclosure