

## Virginia B. Foote

**Virginia Foote is Co-Founder and President of the U.S.- Vietnam Trade Council and has worked on United States policy towards Vietnam since 1989, testifying before the United States Congress, making multiple trips to the region, speaking frequently at conferences and seminars, and working with corporations, Congress, and major veterans organization. Ms. Foote has worked for fourteen years at the International Center -- a Washington D.C. foreign policy think tank -- on issues affecting United States policy toward Asia.**

### **United States - Vietnam Trade Council**

Founded in 1989 with Ambassador Sullivan, the U.S. - Vietnam Trade Council has become the leading group on political, economic and commercial developments in Vietnam. Arranges briefings in the U.S. with Vietnamese officials including the Deputy Prime Minister, the Foreign Minister, the Minister of Trade, and Chairman of PetroVietnam, plus officials from the State Department, the World Bank and Treasury and the White House. Arrange meetings with high ranking Vietnamese officials for corporate members and trade delegations to Vietnam.

### **Veterans Organizations**

Participated on and coordinated the first delegation to Vietnam of the two major veterans groups -- the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) -- with the office of Senator John Kerry. July 1991.

Works with the VFW's national leadership arranging delegations to Vietnam and Laos and on assessing US policy towards Vietnam and the MIA issue. Arranged meetings with Vietnamese officials, the Joint Task Force - Full Accounting and other officials at the U.S. Department of State. 1991 - present.

### **Congress**

Works with Senator Kerry and staff including helping advance November and December 1992, June 1993, and January and November 1994 trips to Vietnam.

Works with Senator John McCain and staff on U.S. policy towards Vietnam including Cambodia, the MIA issue and human rights. 1990-present.

Organized January 1994 delegation to Vietnam of Senators Johnston, Hatfield, Simpson, Specter, Bennett, Nickles, and Mathews.

### **Vietnamese Fellows Program**

Hosts Vietnamese Foreign Ministry officials in Washington for three month fellowships. Former fellows include Vietnam's current Ambassador to the United Nations and Vietnam's First Secretary of the United Nations. Organizing Business Fellows Exchange Program currently.

Education: B.A. in International Economics, Hampshire College

Employed by the International Center since 1980; became director of the Commission on U.S. Asian Relations in 1986. Worked extensively on foreign policy issues relating to the Philippines, Korea, Burma, Taiwan, China and Cambodia.