

MEMO: Memo File -- BARKER

DATE: April 4, 1986

FROM: POC:hg

RE: Canadian Buddhist Association and John Lasard,
Director of the Catholic Relief Association in
Bangkok

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During January of 1986, Bob Ketcheson was asked by John Oostrom if we would be able to help the President of the Canadian Buddhist's Association locate four monks who were missing in Vietnam. As this Buddhist president had been asking Mr. Oostrom for quite some time for assistance, Mr. Oostrom thought that since our other project had developed, our contacts with Hoang and others, we were in a position to know what happened, we could help. I passed back the information to Bob that we would do what we could, but promised nothing.

Later about the second week in March, I sent my brother Ken who was in Paris, Ontario to Toronto to talk to the President of the Canadian Buddhist Association. He got the information on the missing monks and developed a contact in Thailand so that when we arrived there to implement Plan "B" we would not have to rely on the Canadian Embassy personnel. I was not completely sure that I could trust John Oostrom or the Canadian government. Ken reported back to me later that week that he had met with this man in Toronto and that he had sent copies of all pertinent information to Bob Ketcheson in Black Falls, Alberta. He said that our contact man in Bangkok was John Lasard, Deputy Director of the Catholic Relief

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Association for Southeast Asia and stationed in Bangkok. This was on or about the 14th of March, 1986.

On April 1, 1986, while I was in jail in Cascade County, Great Falls, Montana, I learned from Ken via my lawyer, Pat Cotter, of Cotter & Cotter, Great Falls, Montana, that Mr. John Lasard was bludgeoned to death on March 30, 1986, 7 days after my arrest and two days before Bob, Ken and I were originally scheduled to leave for Bangkok.

The name of the President of the Canadian Buddhist Association in Toronto, Canada can be obtained from my brother, Ken Barker in Paris, Ontario, Canada.