



I thought you might be
interested in the enclosed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Dornan".

ROBERT K. DORAN
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2965



Congressional Human Rights Caucus
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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March 6, 1991

Chairman Vo Chi Cong
State Council of Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Hanoi, Vietnam

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As members of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, we are writing to express our deep concern for Pham duc Kham.

We understand that Pham duc Kham was an officer in the South Vietnamese Army up until the fall of Saigon in 1975. At that time, he was captured by Communist forces and spent 13 years in re-education camps. Upon his release in 1988, he was held under house arrest and neighborhood supervision. On November 14, 1990, after an extensive but fruitless search of his residence, he was arrested by internal security police on charges of "planning reactionary activities" against the state.

The whereabouts of Pham duc Kham have not yet been disclosed to his wife or children. We join them in their deep concern about his whereabouts and his mental and physical conditions.

Pham duc Kham has been granted permission by the U.S. Department of State to immigrate to the U.S. and requests have been made to appropriate Vietnam bureaus for the necessary documents to leave Vietnam. We understand all such requests have been denied.

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, to which Vietnam is a signator, clearly states that every human being has a right to express his political beliefs without fear of persecution, to receive adequate protection under the law, and to emigrate from any country including his own. In accordance with the UN declaration, we respectfully urge you to release Pham duc Kham from imprisonment and permit him and his wife to emigrate to the United States where they will be reunited with their seven children.

Sincerely,


Tom Lantos


Robert Dornan
Executive Member


John Porter
Co-Chairman

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