



HOI GIA-DINH TU-NHAN CHINH-TRI VIETNAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, Arlington, VA 22205-0635

Tel: (703) 560-0058 - FAX: (703) 204-0394

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 7, 1991

TO : Mr. Robert Funseth

FAX #: 202-647-8162

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 03

SUBJECT: Resolution S. Res. 51 and copy 's letter of
Congressman Frank Wolf

"For your information"

HAPPY TET

(from all of us)

shall serve for a term of 2 years, as designated by the President."

(3) in subsection (c)(7), by striking out "national service demonstration program" and inserting "program authorized by subtitle D"; and

(4) in subsection (f)(3), by striking out "National and regional clearinghouses" and inserting in lieu thereof "Clearinghouses".

SEC. 18. YOUTH BUILD.

Section 715 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 is amended by striking out "Secretary" and inserting "Director".

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote. I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

CALLING UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM TO PERMIT POLITICAL PRISONERS TO DEPART

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 51, submitted earlier today by Senators KENNEDY, FELL, SIMPSON, LUGAR, MCCAIN, and PACKWOOD, regarding political prisoners in Vietnam now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be stated by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 51) calling upon the Government of Vietnam to permit political prisoners from the former Government of South Vietnam to depart Vietnam and reunite with their families in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, almost 4 years ago, Senator DOLE and I submitted a resolution calling on the Government of Vietnam to release the thousands of political prisoners—officials and soldiers from the former Saigon regime held at that time in re-education camps—and to allow them to reunite with their families abroad.

Today, we again submit a resolution on the subject of political prisoners in Vietnam. But much has changed over the last 4 years, and there has been considerable progress in gaining the release of political prisoners, and in expediting procedures for their emigration.

In 1987, the political prisoner population in Vietnam numbered several thousand. Today, only about 150 prisoners are still in reeducation camps. In 1987, very few were permitted to leave Vietnam for resettlement abroad. But over the past 2 years, hundreds have been able to depart and reunite with their families.

The progress of the past 4 years is to be commended. However, there is still much to be done. With this resolution, we urge the Vietnamese Government to take the final step to release all re-

maining political prisoners—many now in their later years—and allow them once again to join their families. And we urge our own administration to ensure that no stone is left unturned in the essential task of reuniting these families.

The season of TET—the Vietnamese new year—is just around the corner. For Vietnamese in Vietnam and around the world, it is a time of hope and renewal and a time to acknowledge family and friends. I believe it is important, on the eve of this important Vietnamese observance, that the Senate let these prisoners and their families know that they are not forgotten, and that we continue in our efforts to reunite them in freedom.

Mr. President, I want particularly to commend the untiring efforts of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association, under the able leadership of Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho. The families have been an inspiration to us all, as they have struggled to succeed in America, while coping with the long separation from loved ones still in Vietnam.

Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in urging the Senate's adoption of this important and timely resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 51) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 51

Whereas almost 16 years have passed since the end of the Vietnam war;

Whereas the Senate, in a resolution adopted on May 1, 1987, called upon the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to "release the remaining prisoners held as a result of their previous association with the Government of South Vietnam prior to 1975" and to permit prisoners to join their families abroad;

Whereas during the past three years the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has released significant numbers of political prisoners from "re-education camps" and has permitted many former prisoners to join their families abroad; and

Whereas at least 150 officials of the former Government of South Vietnam nonetheless remain in "re-education camps" in Vietnam, and thousands of former prisoners still have been unable to reunite with their families in the United States and elsewhere: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should continue to release the remaining political prisoners held as a result of their previous association with the Government of South Vietnam prior to 1975;

(2) the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should permit the expeditious departure of those former prisoners wishing to depart Vietnam; and

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should continue to give highest priority to efforts to speed and facilitate the reunion of former prisoners with their families in the United States.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

Mr. SARBANES. I move to reconsider the vote by which the Senate resolution was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until 10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 7; that following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be deemed approved to date; that following the time for the two leaders there be a period for morning business not to extend beyond 11:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate today, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order until 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 7, 1991.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:58 p.m., recessed until Thursday, February 7, 1991, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate February 6, 1991:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ROCKWELL ANTHONY SCHWABE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE THOMAS JOSEPH MURKIN, RESIGNED.

BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HANS M. MARK, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 17, 1994. (REAPPOINTMENT)

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

SANDRA MILLE, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 30, 1993, VICE WILLIAM C. GOETS.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

REAR ADM. JAMES A. YEAGER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL (6-8), WHILE SERVING IN A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AS WARRANTING THAT GRADE IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION AND

REAR ADM. RAYMOND L. SPEER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF) (6-7), WHILE SERVING IN A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AS WARRANTING THAT GRADE IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 33, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 8332.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

FRANK R. WOLF
TENTH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

January 31, 1991

Dear Mrs. Tho:

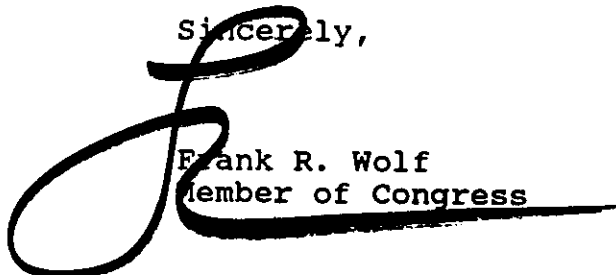
Thank you for your letter letting me know that your organization continues to support congressional action calling for the release and emigration of Vietnamese re-education camp detainees.

I appreciate and share your interest and as you know, I introduced H.Con.Res. 113 in the 101st Congress regarding this matter.

I wanted to let you know that I will again be introducing a resolution calling for the Vietnamese government to release all political prisoners and look forward to the support of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association in the passage of this legislation.

Thank you again for writing and please continue to let me know about matters of interest to you.

Sincerely,



Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho
President
Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners
Association
P.O. Box 5435
Arlington, Virginia 22205-0635

BEST WISHES —



HOI GIA-DINH TU-NHAN CHINH-TRI VIETNAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, Arlington, VA 22205-0635

Tel: (703) 560-0058 - FAX: (703) 204-0394

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 20, 1991

TO : Mr. Robert Funseth

FAX #: 202-647-8162

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Meeting request with Mr. James Williard
"For your information"



HỘI GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON, VA 22205-0635
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NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN

February 19, 1991

Mr. James Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions Division
Bureau for Refugee Programs
Room 1237
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Williard:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association in hopes of being able to establish a regularly scheduled meeting, quarterly or every two months.

Realizing that you have a hectic schedule and priorities and deadlines to meet, it would be helpful if you could let us know the feasibility of meeting with you to discuss some of the numerous cases that we have. The preferred meeting time would be late afternoon, around 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Once we are able to agree upon the frequency and time scheduled it would be easier to commit to a date each month for the meeting. Currently it has been suggested that we start meeting with you in April, June, August, October and December 1991.

Please contact me regarding the availability of your time and the feasibility of this idea. We feel that it is extremely important to spend quality time with you to go over some of the difficult and unique circumstances of various cases that have been brought to our attention.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT lrh



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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 21, 1991

TO : Mr. Robert Funseth

FAX #: 202-647-8162

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Letter from Red Cross in Geneva.

"For your information"



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

Geneva, February 8, 1991

Dear Sirs,

We thank you for your letter, dated January 14, 1991, that you sent to the attention of Mr. Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

We know and appreciate your concern and endeavours in favour of your people in Vietnam. We can assure you that the ICRC, either from Geneva or through its delegation in Hanoi, sustains its constant and longstanding efforts to get access to persons still remaining in re-education camps in Vietnam.

We are sending copy of your letter as well as of its annexes to our delegation in Hanoi.

Our delegate will certainly get in touch with the VRCS as regards the Tet parcels. However our hopes are modest indeed to obtain better results, when we consider the difficulties encountered up to now.

With my best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Roger Rappaz
Head of South East Asia Sector

FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE
POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON,
VA 22205-0635

UNITED STATES



HOI GIA-DINH TU-NHAN CHINH-TRI VIETNAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 22, 1991

TO : Mr. Robert Funseth

FAX #: 202-647-8162

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Meeting schedule with Mr. Williard.

"For your information"



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February 22, 1991

Mr. James Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions Division
Bureau for Refugee Programs
Room 1237
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Williard:

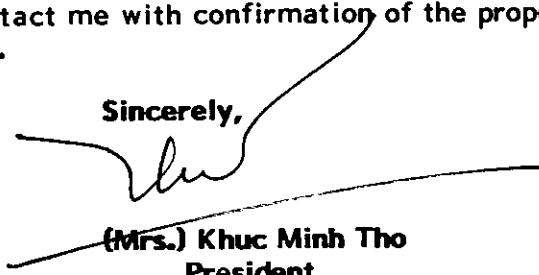
On behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association I would like to thank you for your prompt response and agreement to our proposal submitted February 19, 1991.

We would like to suggest that the first meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 1991 at 3:00p.m. with subsequent meetings scheduled for the second week of each month on a Tuesday afternoon.

We are indeed very excited about the possibility of sharing information with you and are appreciative of your supportive response. We think that by working collaboratively we will be successful in the achievement of our goals.

Please feel free to contact me with confirmation of the proposed first meeting date and time.

Sincerely,


(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT/lrh



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(703)358-5154 (0)

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 20, 1991

TO : Mr. James Williard

FAX #: 202-663-1061

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Meeting request.



GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

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February 19, 1991

Mr. James Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions Division
Bureau for Refugee Programs
Room 1237
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Williard:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association in hopes of being able to establish a regularly scheduled meeting, quarterly or every two months.

Realizing that you have a hectic schedule and priorities and deadlines to meet, it would be helpful if you could let us know the feasibility of meeting with you to discuss some of the numerous cases that we have. The preferred meeting time would be late afternoon, around 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Once we are able to agree upon the frequency and time scheduled it would be easier to commit to a date each month for the meeting. Currently it has been suggested that we start meeting with you in April, June, August, October and December 1991.

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Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT lrh

POW-MIAs in Southeast Asia

Background

Some 2,288 Americans remain missing or unaccounted for as a result of the conflict in Southeast Asia. Unfortunately, many missing Americans will never be recovered; more than 400 individuals were lost over water. Another 450 loss locations are unknown. While accepting the statistical realities, the US also recognizes that full cooperation from the governments concerned could provide additional information on the fate of hundreds of these missing Americans.

US Policy

Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the US and Vietnam have not had diplomatic relations, and the US has maintained its trade embargo on Vietnam. This has been part of a regional strategy designed to encourage Hanoi's cooperation in reaching a political settlement for Cambodia and in resolving the POW/MIA [prisoner-of-war/missing-in-action] issue and other humanitarian concerns. Normalization of relations can occur only in the context of a Cambodia settlement; the pace and scope of that process will be directly affected by Vietnam's cooperation on POW-MIAs and on other humanitarian issues of importance to the US.

As a matter of the highest national priority, President Bush has committed the US to the return of anyone who might still be held captive, obtaining the fullest possible accounting for those still missing, and repatriating recoverable remains of those who died serving our country.

In pursuance of this commitment, the US has kept the live prisoner issue at the forefront of negotiations and intelligence efforts. While we have thus far been unable to confirm that Americans are still detained against their will, the information available precludes ruling out that possibility.

Americans Missing or Unaccounted For

Vietnam	1,670
Laos	529
Cambodia	83
China (coastal waters)	6
Total	2,288

Americans Accounted For Since 1973

Vietnam	252
Laos	41
China	2
Total	295

Since the end of the war, the US has received 12,973 reports relevant to the POW/MIA issue, most of them from Indochinese refugees. Of that total, 1,477 are first-hand, live-sighting reports. About 68% of these have been correlated with Americans who were in Indochina but who have since returned to the US. Another 24% are known or suspected fabrications. The remaining 8%, or a little more than 100 of the live-sighting reports, are unresolved and under continuing priority investigation. Should we determine that Americans are still under detention, we will take every appropriate action to ensure their return.

Ongoing US Efforts

Vietnam. In his meeting on September 29, 1990, with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, Secretary Baker stressed the Administration's unwavering commitment to resolution of the POW/MIA issue. He invited the Foreign Minister to Washington for the express purpose of working out specific steps to expedite the accounting for missing Americans.

At that meeting in Washington, Gen. John Vessey, Jr. (ret.), the President's Special Emissary to Hanoi on POW/MIAs, proposed specific steps to obtain more rapid results and to establish an ongoing, viable program to achieve the fullest possible accounting of American POW-MIAs:

- Send a US technical team to Hanoi to plan improved joint investigations;
- Form a joint team of military experts and analysts to search for historical documentation on POW-MIA incidents; and
- Increase unilateral efforts by Vietnam to recover and return the remains of US personnel.

Foreign Minister Thach accepted all of General Vessey's proposals, and he announced that Vietnam and Laos had agreed to tripartite cooperation with the US to investigate cases of Americans who disappeared in areas of Laos where Vietnamese forces operated during the war. It is our strong hope that the joint agreement on these proposals will lead to a decision in Hanoi to produce quick, decisive actions that will accelerate results.

In the last 2 years, 12 joint investigations have been conducted in Vietnam, focusing on incidents where



Americans were last known to have been in the custody of Vietnamese forces or on Americans about whom the Vietnamese would likely have knowledge. Over the same period, several technical meetings have been held to enhance joint efforts and to encourage Vietnam to expand unilateral action to resolve cases. The increased level of joint activities, however, did not produce a commensurate level of results. The greatest progress occurred through Vietnam's unilateral return of remains, and, even in this area, progress

dropped sharply in the past year. Then in August a joint investigation showed signs of increased Vietnamese cooperation. In the following month, 20 remains were repatriated for further scientific analysis in Hawaii, and another 10 remains were repatriated in November.

Laos. The Lao government has increased cooperation on the POW/MIA issue in recent years. In 1989, Laos agreed to conduct year-round activities and, in early 1990, to expand cooperation further. We have conducted a series of 12 joint surveys and 4 joint excavations of 6 aircraft crash

sites in the past year. We expect to conduct more activities in early 1991. Because more than 80% of American losses in Laos occurred in areas where Vietnamese forces were operating at the time, resolution of these cases will also require cooperation from Vietnam.

Cambodia. In July 1990, a US government forensic team traveled to Cambodia to examine the first remains made available by officials in Phnom Penh. The team repatriated six of those remains for further scientific review still underway. ■



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February 19, 1991

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Chief, Southeast Asia
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Dear Mr. Williard:

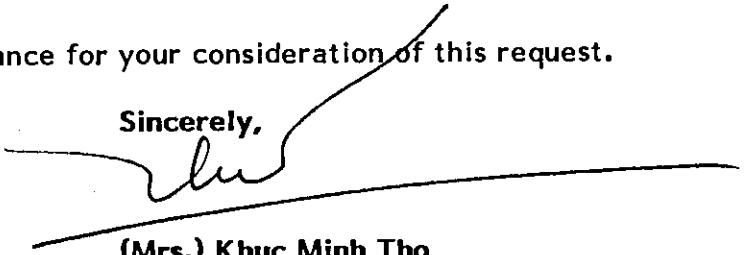
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FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 22, 1991

TO : Mr. James Williard

FAX #: 202-663-1061

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Meeting schedule



HỘI GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
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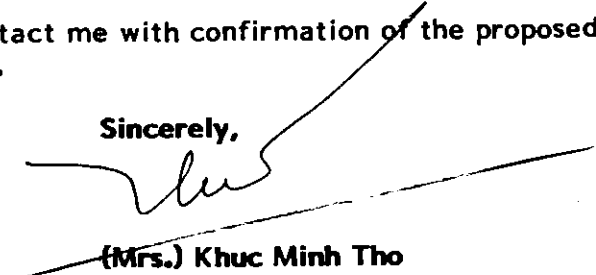
On behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association I would like to thank you for your prompt response and agreement to our proposal submitted February 19, 1991.

We would like to suggest that the first meeting be scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, 1991 at 3:00p.m. with subsequent meetings scheduled for the second week of each month on a Tuesday afternoon.

We are indeed very excited about the possibility of sharing information with you and are appreciative of your supportive response. We think that by working collaboratively we will be successful in the achievement of our goals.

Please feel free to contact me with confirmation of the proposed first meeting date and time.

Sincerely,


(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT/lrh



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 21, 1991

Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho
Families of Vietnamese Political
Prisoners Association
P.O. Box 5435
Arlington, Virginia 22205-0635

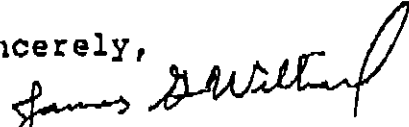
Dear Mrs. Tho:

In response to your letter dated February 19, I would be pleased to meet with you and other members of your organization on a regular basis.

The proposed meetings in April, June, August, October, and December are acceptable. I also agree that the late afternoon would be a good meeting time, although I suggest we avoid Fridays since there are often many last minute interruptions leading up to the weekend. Please let me know the specific dates you have in mind, and I think we can set a firm schedule.

Thank you for your proposal.

Sincerely,


James G. Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions
RP/RAP/SEA
U.S. Department of State



HỘI GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON, VA 22205-0635
TELEPHONE: 703-560-0058

Hội Đồng Quản Trị
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February 19, 1991

Mr. James Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions Division
Bureau for Refugee Programs
Room 1237
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Williard:

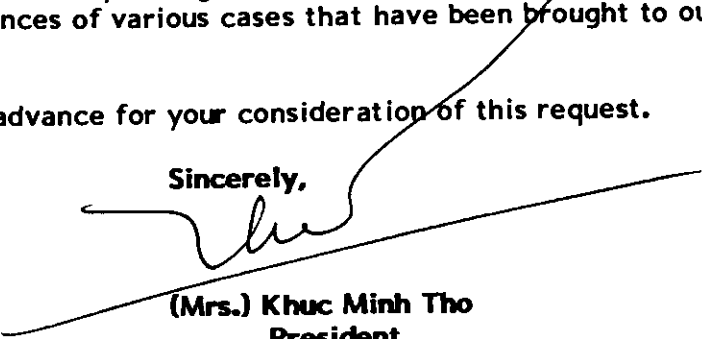
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Realizing that you have a hectic schedule and priorities and deadlines to meet, it would be helpful if you could let us know the feasibility of meeting with you to discuss some of the numerous cases that we have. The preferred meeting time would be late afternoon, around 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Once we are able to agree upon the frequency and time scheduled it would be easier to commit to a date each month for the meeting. Currently it has been suggested that we start meeting with you in April, June, August, October and December 1991.

Please contact me regarding the availability of your time and the feasibility of this idea. We feel that it is extremely important to spend quality time with you to go over some of the difficult and unique circumstances of various cases that have been brought to our attention.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this request.

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President

KMT lrh



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Washington, D.C. 20520

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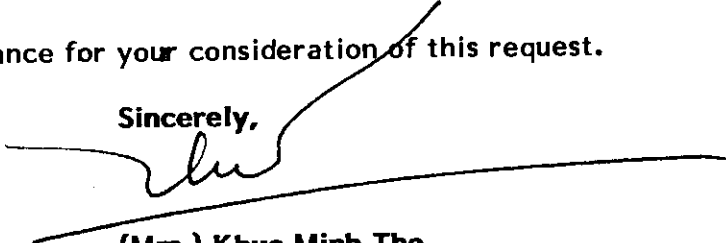
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P.O. BOX 5435, Arlington, VA 22205-0635

Tel: (703) 560-0058 - FAX: (703) 204-0394

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 7, 1991

TO : Mr. Robert Funseth

FAX #: 202-647-8162

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 03

SUBJECT: Resolution S. Res. 51 and copy 's letter of
Congressman Frank Wolf

"For your information"

HAPPY TET

(from all of us)

shall serve for a term of 2 years, as designated by the President."

(2) in subsection (c)(7), by striking out "national service demonstration program" and inserting "program authorized by subtitle D"; and

(4) in subsection (f)(3), by striking out "National and regional clearinghouses" and inserting in lieu thereof "Clearinghouses".

SEC. 11. YOUTHBUILD.

Section 715 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 is amended by striking out "Secretary" and inserting "Director".

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote. I move to table the motion to reconsider.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

CALLING UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM TO PERMIT POLITICAL PRISONERS TO DEPART

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Senate Resolution 51, submitted earlier today by Senators KENNEDY, PELL, SIMPSON, LUGAR, McCAIN, and PACKWOOD, regarding political prisoners in Vietnam now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be stated by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 51) calling upon the Government of Vietnam to permit political prisoners from the former Government of South Vietnam to depart Vietnam and reunite with their families in the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, almost 4 years ago, Senator DOLE and I submitted a resolution calling on the Government of Vietnam to release the thousands of political prisoners—officials and soldiers from the former Saigon regime held at that time in re-education camps—and to allow them to reunite with their families abroad.

Today, we again submit a resolution on the subject of political prisoners in Vietnam. But much has changed over the last 4 years, and there has been considerable progress in gaining the release of political prisoners, and in expediting procedures for their emigration.

In 1987, the political prisoner population in Vietnam numbered several thousand. Today, only about 150 prisoners are still in reeducation camps. In 1987, very few were permitted to leave Vietnam for resettlement abroad. But over the past 2 years, hundreds have been able to depart and reunite with their families.

The progress of the past 4 years is to be commended. However, there is still much to be done. With this resolution, we urge the Vietnamese Government to take the final step to release all re-

maining political prisoners—many now in their later years—and allow them once again to join their families. And we urge our own administration to ensure that no stone is left unturned in the essential task of reuniting these families.

The season of TET—the Vietnamese new year—is just around the corner. For Vietnamese in Vietnam and around the world, it is a time of hope and renewal and a time to acknowledge family and friends. I believe it is important, on the eve of this important Vietnamese observance, that the Senate let these prisoners and their families know that they are not forgotten, and that we continue in our efforts to reunite them in freedom.

Mr. President, I want particularly to commend the untiring efforts of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association, under the able leadership of Mrs. Khue Minh Tho. The families have been an inspiration to us all, as they have struggled to succeed in America, while coping with the long separation from loved ones still in Vietnam.

Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my colleagues in urging the Senate's adoption of this important and timely resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there be no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 51) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 51

Whereas almost 16 years have passed since the end of the Vietnam war;

Whereas the Senate, in a resolution adopted on May 1, 1987, called upon the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to "release the remaining prisoners held as a result of their previous association with the Government of South Vietnam prior to 1975" and to permit prisoners to join their families abroad;

Whereas during the past three years the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has released significant numbers of political prisoners from "re-education camps" and has permitted many former prisoners to join their families abroad; and

Whereas at least 150 officials of the former Government of South Vietnam nonetheless remain in "re-education camps" in Vietnam, and thousands of former prisoners still have been unable to reunite with their families in the United States and elsewhere: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should continue to release the remaining political prisoners held as a result of their previous association with the Government of South Vietnam prior to 1975;

(2) the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should permit the expeditious departure of those former prisoners wishing to depart Vietnam; and

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should continue to give highest priority to efforts to speed and facilitate the reunion of former prisoners with their families in the United States.

Sec. 2. The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President.

Mr. SARBANES. I move to reconsider the vote by which the Senate resolution was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR TOMORROW

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until 10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 7; that following the prayer, the Journal of the proceedings be deemed approved to date; that following the time for the two leaders there be a period for morning business not to extend beyond 11:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS UNTIL 10:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate today, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order until 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, February 7, 1991.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:58 p.m., recessed until Thursday, February 7, 1991, at 10:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate February 6, 1991:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ROCKWELL ANTHONY SCHNABLE, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE THOMAS JOSEPH MURRIN, RESIGNED.

BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

HANS M. MARK, OF TEXAS, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BARRY GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 17, 1992. (REAPPOINTMENT)

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT

SANDRA MILLE, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 30, 1993, VICE WILLIAM C. GOETZ.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

REAR ADM. JAMES A. YEAGER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL (O-6), WHILE SERVING IN A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AS WARRANTING THAT GRADE IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION AND

REAR ADM. RAYMOND L. SPEER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE OF REAR ADMIRAL (LOWER HALF) (O-7), WHILE SERVING IN A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AS WARRANTING THAT GRADE IN THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 33, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 2332.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

FRANK R. WOLF
TENTH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

January 31, 1991

Dear Mrs. Tho:

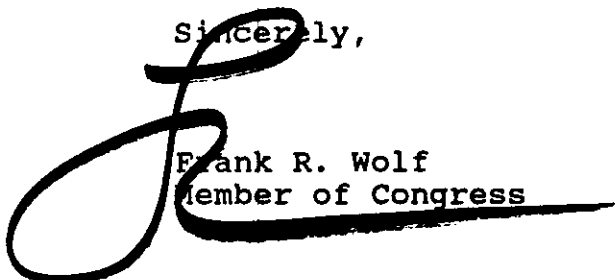
Thank you for your letter letting me know that your organization continues to support congressional action calling for the release and emigration of Vietnamese re-education camp detainees.

I appreciate and share your interest and as you know, I introduced H.Con.Res. 113 in the 101st Congress regarding this matter.

I wanted to let you know that I will again be introducing a resolution calling for the Vietnamese government to release all political prisoners and look forward to the support of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association in the passage of this legislation.

Thank you again for writing and please continue to let me know about matters of interest to you.

Sincerely,



Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho
President
Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners
Association
P.O. Box 5435
Arlington, Virginia 22205-0635

BEST WISHES —



HỘI GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON, VA 22205-0635
TELEPHONE: 703-560-0058

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NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN

February 19, 1991

Mr. James Williard
Chief, Southeast Asia
Admissions Division
Bureau for Refugee Programs
Room 1237
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Williard:

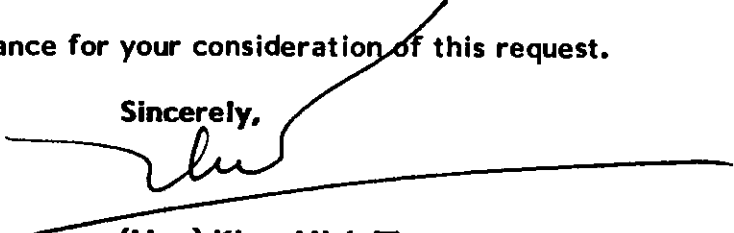
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Thanking you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT lrh



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

February 21, 1991

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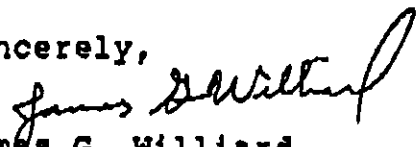
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February 25, 1991

Mr. J. Michael Myers
Counsel
Subcommittee on Immigration and
Refugee Affairs
United States Senate
518 Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Myers:

I am submitting, for your review and consideration, the information that the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association would like to get to the Appropriations Committee staff of both the Senate and the House of Representatives. We would like to suggest that they insert language, as indicated in the following, into the HHS/FSA/ORR for FY 1991 appropriation for social services line:

"Funds appropriated under this section may be used to provide refugee social services to former inmates of Vietnamese reeducation camps, regardless of whether they have refugee or immigrant status."

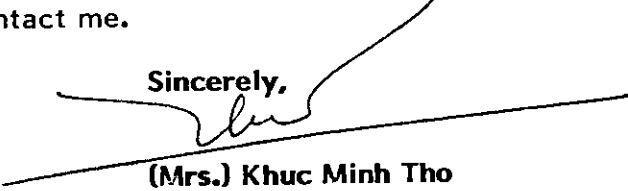
Our rationale for this is based on our belief that:

- There would be no extra cost
- This would not work a strain on the already overburdened system
- It would provide badly needed services, especially employment services and opportunities.

Of the 10-15% immigrants anticipated this year, they will need ESL (English as a Second Language) training. In addition, they will need employment services and perhaps some short-term job training in order to enter the workforce. This language in the appropriation will enable service providers to work them into the already existing refugee-serving programs simply as marginal add-ons; the small number involved, of whom only a portion would take advantage, would not overload the system.

If you have any questions and/or concerns regarding the above information please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,


(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President



HOI GIA-DINH TU-NHAN CHINH-TRI VIETNAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, Arlington, VA 22205-0635

Tel: (703) 560-0058 - FAX: (703) 204-0394

FAX COVER SHEET

DATE: February 25, 1991

TO : Mr. Micheal Myers

FAX #: 202-224-5128

FROM: Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association

NO. OF PAGES include cover sheet: 02

SUBJECT: Refugee re-authorization.

Mike mên,

Xin Mike giúp để tù nhân được giúp đỡ, nhất là các tù nhân thuộc Immigrant status, họ rất khổ sở, nhất health (medicaid).

Nếu cần gọi cho Thượng Nghị Sĩ Kennedy hoặc các Thượng Nghị Sĩ, Dân biểu khác xin Mike cho tôi biết tôi sẽ làm ngay.

Tôi sẽ gọi Mike ngay mai để Mike cho tôi ý kiến.

Cám ơn Mike nhiều lắm.

Thơ.



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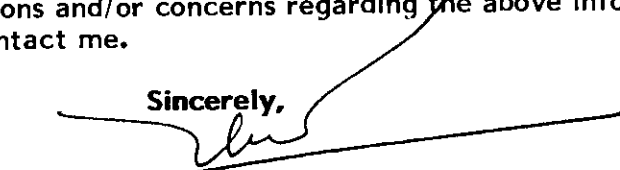
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NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN

MẪU ĐƠN XIN GIA-NHẬP

HỘI GIA-ĐÌNH TÙ-NHÂN CHÍNH-TRỊ VIỆT-NAM

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Hội Gia-Đình Tù-Nhân Chính-Trị Việt-Nam hoạt động bất vụ lợi, thuận tụy xã hội và nhân đạo nhằm mục đích vận động cho việc trả tự do cho tù-nhân chính-trị Việt-Nam và đoàn-tu gia đình.

Hội thiết tha kêu gọi Cộng Đōng hưởng ứng hoạt động của Hội bằng cách tham gia tích cực và trở thành Hội Viên. Nếu quý vị nào muốn gia nhập Hội, xin cho biết những chi tiết sau đây :

Họ và Tên: _____

Địa chỉ: _____

Điện thoại: (Số) _____ (Nhà) _____

Tên tù nhân chính trị: _____

Liên hệ gia đình với tù nhân chính trị:
(Chà, Mẹ, Vợ, Anh, Chị, Em, v.v.)

Xin quý vị cho biết quý vị có thể đóng góp bằng cách nào cho Hội: tùy theo ý muốn và lòng hảo tâm của quý vị.

Thời giờ: _____
Niệm liêm: _____ (\$12.00)
Đóng góp ủng hộ: _____ (tùy ý)

Thủ tữ, ngân phiếu xin gửi về:

HỘI GIA-ĐÌNH TÙ-NHÂN CHÍNH-TRỊ VIỆT-NAM
P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON, VA 22205
TELEPHONE: 703-560-0058



HỘI GIA ĐÌNH TÙ NHÂN CHÍNH TRỊ VIỆT NAM
FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 5435, ARLINGTON, VA 22205-0635
TELEPHONE: 703-560-0058

Ngày tháng năm 199

Hội Đồng Quản Trị
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NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN
HIẾP LOWMAN
TRẦN KIM DUNG
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Kính Gởi: Ông/Bà _____

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Deputy Secretary
NGUYỄN THỊ HẠNH
Treasurer

Trích Yếu: V/v Ủng hộ và đóng tiền niên liêm giúp Hội GDTNCTVN.

Thưa Ông/Bà,

Nhờ nghĩa cử ủng hộ và tích cực đóng góp của các ân nhân và hội viên kể từ khi thành lập vào năm 1977, Hội GDTNCTVN, một tổ chức bất vụ lợi (non-profit organization), đã có phường tiền hoạt động nhằm phục vụ tù nhân chính trị và gia đình họ.

Cố Vấn Đoàn
Advisory Committee

HIẾP LOWMAN
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN

Trong các năm qua Hội đã không ngừng vận động với Quốc Hội và Bộ Ngoại Giao Mỹ can thiệp với nhà cầm quyền Hà nội phóng thích các cựu tù nhân và giúp họ cũng gia đình tái định cư ở một nước thứ ba, nhất là tại Mỹ.

Kết quả cụ thể là đại đa số tù nhân chính trị đã được phóng thích, và từ cuối năm 1989 hàng ngàn cựu tù nhân và gia đình đã tái định cư ở Hoa kỳ. Thành quả công việc của Hội đã tạo niềm tin vững chắc ở nhiều người nên số lượng hồ sơ gởi đến Hội nhờ giúp đỡ hiện ở mức độ tràn ngập.

Để có thể duy trì hoạt động liên tục và xúc tiến mạnh mẽ hơn nữa các công tác trên, Hội GDTNCTVN thiết tha kêu gọi quý vị ân nhân và hội viên tiếp tục ủng hộ Hội. Riêng quý vị hội viên xin tiếp tục gởi niên liêm (\$12.00/năm) để Hội có phường tiền điều hành.

Chân thành cảm tạ Ông/Bà.

Kính,

Bà Khúc Minh Thở
Chủ Tịch

T.B. : Tiền ủng hộ cho Hội sẽ được trừ thuế.



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Treasurer

Cố Vấn Đoàn
Advisory Committee

HIẾP LOWMAN
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN

February 8, 1991

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Chairman
Subcommittee on Immigration and
Refugee Affairs
SR-315
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

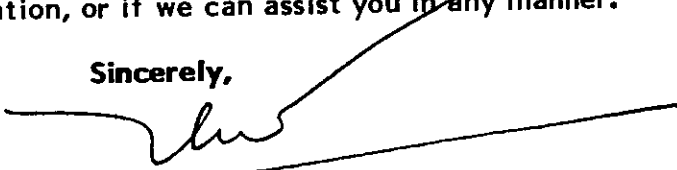
On behalf of the political prisoners and their families in the United States, around the world, in Vietnam, and especially the prisoners still in re-education camps, the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association extend our grateful appreciation to you and your colleagues for introducing Senate Resolution 51.

In addition, the timeliness of S. Res. 51 coincides with the upcoming celebration of the Vietnamese New Year, Tet, which will be celebrated on February 15, 1991. It is our hope that the Vietnamese government will take the final step to release all remaining political prisoners and allow them to join their families.

We would again like to extend our grateful appreciation to you for your consistent support and consideration of our efforts and the plight of our loved ones still in re-education camps.

Please feel free to contact us if you feel there is a need for additional supportive documentation, or if we can assist you in any manner.

Sincerely,


(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho
President

KMT/lrh