



# 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 \* Fax: (703) 204-0394

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**AGENDA FOR MEETING WITH**

**MS. KATHLEEN THOMPSON, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1995**  
**4:00 P.M.**

1. Review FPPs' cases in which their 21 year old children were denied the derivative status drawn from their fathers'.
2. Review cases of family members of FPPs' who died while in re-education and their wives also passed away or their whereabouts are unknown, presumably dead.
3. Review FPP family members of those who died after release.
4. Reexamine the cases of those Vietnamese prisoners of war -- the commandos and the special armed forces group -- the parachutists to the North and Laos being caught and imprisoned during the 1960's.
5. Review the case of Lt. Col. Tran Van Man (IV-68851, HO-41-1005) who was rejected by ODP in an interview on April 25, 1995. He was one of the 100 longest-held and his identity should not be in doubt.
6. Review the unique case of the daughter of General Le Van Hung, the heroic ARVN General who committed suicide rather than surrender his regiment in April, 1975.

7. Review the availability of admissions numbers for the remaining caseload of the FPP's and the deadline of September 30, 1995 for interviewing the caseload. What about the deadline for cases on appeal and cases pending further documentation? What is the time-frame for the adjudication of such cases?

**Release Order:** For those FPPs who lost their original release certificates, which of the following statements will ODP-INS accept: **the reissued certificate provided by the local authorities or the one issued by the Ministry of Interior ?**

**New INS Policy for Family Members of Deceased Re-eds...** According to the May 2, 1995 Refugee Processing News approved family members of a deceased reeducation camp internee must now be re-interviewed before their approval can be upheld. Please explain this new policy.

Also, stated in the same news document dated 8/15/95 there was a statement that indicated that 571 of the 703 cases proposed for interview did not appear. This information was shocking and surprising because we have been informed that almost all of the FPPs are waiting for an interview. How is the information being disseminated and how are they being notified?

**Household Registration:** Some FPPs' families were broken up when the men were in re-education; therefore, household registration cards bear neither name of the principal applicants nor the children of the respective family. Also, in some areas, the authorities changed their ration card form so that those who just returned got a different type, not the same card as before. In these situations, we ask for flexibility and understanding on the part of the interviewers.

**Any Missing Document:** Please indicate from which agency the prisoners need to obtain certification of missing document(s) in order to be eligible for the HO program. Once an agency is identified (e.g. Department of Interior) they will go there for the document before their interview with ODP officers.

Xin vui lòng trích dẫn từ bài báo  
để báo cáo chính xác. Xin cảm ơn  
Bức thư này

- Page Two -

7. Review the availability of admissions numbers for the remaining caseload of the FPP's and the deadline of September 30, 1995 for interviewing the caseload. What about the deadline for cases on appeal and cases pending further documentation? What is the time-frame for the adjudication of such cases?

**Release Order:** For those FPPs who lost their original release certificates, which of the following statements will ODP-INS accept: the reissued certificate provided by the local authorities or the one issued by the Ministry of Interiors?

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**MINUTES OF MEETING WITH  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALISATION SERVICE  
CONCERNING FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS PROGRAM  
Wednesday, August 30, 1995**

On August 30, 1995 at 4:00 p.m., the Families of the Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association (FVPPA, hereafter referred to as the Association) met with Ms. Kathleen Thompson and Ms. Janelle Jones of the Office of International Affairs of the Immigration and Nationalization Service (INS) in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Khuc Minh Tho of the Association was accompanied by Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bich, Executive President of the National Congress of Vietnamese in America (NCVA), Mr. Le Van Ba, Chairman, Washington Metropolitan Area League of Vietnamese Associations, and Attorney Thai Quy Toan, Advisor to the Association.

The participants discussed the following issues and agreed upon the following understanding:

1. Single children of FPP's 21 years and older: ODP denied derivative status drawn from the FPP father's case to many unmarried sons/daughters who were over 21 years of age. The State Department announced in December 1994 that over-21 unmarried sons/daughters would no longer be eligible for inclusion in the father's case. After a review of this policy change, INS agreed to allow over-21's to be included based on compelling humanitarian circumstances. INS made this policy modification in April of this year, but many children had been summarily excluded prior to February, 1995. The Association asked that the cases denied before February, 1995, be reviewed and Ms. Thompson agreed to ask ODP in Bangkok to reconsider these cases.

2. Family Members of FPP's who died while in re-education camp and whose wives also passed away or are now classified as whereabouts unknown, presumably dead: Ms. Jones stated that there is nothing INS can do about these cases since ODP policy has been that the application must be initiated and signed either by the FPP or his wife. The Association mentioned the case of Nguyen Phat Khoi (IV-116-466) as an exception based on compelling humanitarian concern since the father and mother both occupied high positions in the former government of South Vietnam and were closely associated with the supporting policy of the United States government. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho stated that she would sponsor the orphan children of this case. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Jones agreed to review the case on that basis.

3. Family members of FPPs who died after release as a result of detention: Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pleaded for these cases as she said she could personally sympathize with them. Many FPPs got very sick after their release due to the hardships encountered in re-education (hard work, torture, etc.). Unfortunately, they died a few weeks/months prior to their departure. Mrs. Jones stated that nothing could be done. Mrs. Thompson added that INS would review such cases, if there is evidence that the FPP who died after release nevertheless died due to the conditions of his detention.

4. Vietnamese POWs dropped as commandos in North Vietnam (in the 1960's) and in Laos (especially during the 1971 Lam Son 719 Operation). Mrs. Thompson stated that INS's latest review of these cases gave the following breakdown: 12 cases ready for interview; of 9 cases previously rejected, 8 will be re-interviewed; another 40 cases are under review including some that are so far out that they are not likely to pass; finally, an expected 25 additional cases would complete this category. Ms. Thompson stated that, of the commandos dropped in Laos, most were captured and detained as POWs before release in 1976-77. There is no evidence that this group was singled out for persecution and this is the defining criterion for the FPP program. Ms. Thompson added that if any of these cases could demonstrate that they or their family members were in any way persecuted, then they and their family members may qualify for interview. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho supported the merit of these cases and added that of the 10,000 who originally participated in the operation, only a few dozen are seeking this category.

5. Lt. Col. Tran Van Man's case: Lt. Col. Tran Van Man was one of the 100 longest-held prisoners in re-education camps, but ODP has rejected his case based on doubts as to his release documentation. Ms. Thompson stated that INS is reviewing the case based on documentation submitted by the Association and a favorable decision is likely.

6. The case of General Le Van Hung's daughter: Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bich, of NCVA, made a special plea on behalf of General Le Van Hung's daughter in view of the General's sacrifice (he was the hero of An Loc, dubbed the Stalingrad of the Vietnam War and he committed suicide rather than surrender his regiment in April 1975, the day South Vietnam fell. Every year on April 30th the Vietnamese communities around the world have a ceremony on his behalf, as he is hailed as a "Vietnam Hero"). Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho stated that the Association is prepared to assist with this case as needed. Ms. Thompson asked that documentation regarding the daughter's case be submitted, especially showing evidence that she had been persecuted or discriminated against.

7. Deadline of September 30, 1995: Ms. Thompson gave assurances that there is no problem with admission numbers as far as the remaining caseload of FPPs is concerned. The date of September 30, 1995 was only a target date. INS now realizes that this date was unrealistic and it is expected that interviewing will continue until December of this year and maybe until March of 1996.

OTHER ISSUES:

- **Release Order:** For FPPs who lost their original release certificate, ODP prefers that the reissued certificate come from the Ministry of Interior rather than from local authorities. Nevertheless, INS realizes that it is difficult for some FPPs to get a reissued certificate from the Interior Ministry due to the remote location of some of the provinces, therefore the INS will be flexible in this matter. INS is concerned about the level of fraud evident in the issuance of false release documentation due to graft and corruption. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho suggested that for those FPPs who lost their original certificates, it would be helpful if fellow prisoners prepared statements attesting to the true identity of the FPP.
- **New INS policy for family members of deceased re-eds:** Ms. Thompson indicated that she is unfamiliar with this (they have to be re-interviewed to determine if they still qualify, according to the refugee processing of ODP). She promised to look into this matter and will give an answer at a later date.

In this connection, the Association was shocked to learn that recently there were 571 no-shows out of 703 cases proposed for interview. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho felt that something is wrong with these figures. Ms. Jones stated that the high level of no-shows may be a result of ODP proposing for interview long-held former prisoners. ODP called these FPPs for interview but they did not have exit permits. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pointed out that these FPPs did not show up because they did not know they were scheduled for an interview. Ms. Khuc Minh Tho was under the impression that, after two months from the date of the scheduled interview, ODP would terminate their application. Ms. Jones said that ODP will send a notice to these FPPs and the FPPs should correspond with ODP within two months of the notice that they are applying for their exit permits. Ms. Jones said that ODP will keep their application

open if this correspondence is received within two months.

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- **Household Registration Cards (Ho Khau):** The Association asked for flexibility on the part of ODP when the officers are reviewing the household registration cards. Sometimes the registration card does not have the name of principal applicants or individual family members because families were broken up while the FPPs were in camps or the local authorities did not allow the FPP or family members to register. Also, Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pointed out that some local authorities changed the form of registration so that members of the same family may have different types of registration forms. Ms. Thompson made note of this request.



Agenda # 5

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TRẦN KIM DUNG

August 10, 1995

Mr. Daniel Solis  
District Director, INS  
U.S. Embassy - Box 12  
APO.AP.96546

Re: **Tran Van Man**  
IV: **68851, HO-41-1005**

Dear Mr. Solis:

On behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association we are writing to ask your expeditious intervention and assistance with the case of Mr. Tran Van Man (IV-68851, HO-41-1005).

Mr. Tran Van Man was imprisoned in the reeducation camps of Vietnam for 17 years until his release in 1992. As you are aware, Lt. Col. Tran was one of the longest-held prisoners who, as a group of 100, were the focus of high level negotiations between the ODP delegations of the governments of the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. After the release of these prisoners in 1992, ODP obtained an agreement from the Vietnamese government to expedite the processing of the longest-held prisoners ahead of others on the HO lists.

Our association was distressed to learn that Tran Van Man was rejected by ODP in an interview on April 25, 1995, apparently due to doubt about the validity of his release certificate. We find this action hard to comprehend. Enclosed are copies of correspondence sent to the Department of State and Amnesty International during 1992 when the release of the 100 longest-held prisoners was a pressing and urgent issue. You will notice that the name, Tran Van Man, was consistently included in this correspondence.

Mr. Daniel Solis  
August 10, 1995  
Page Two

In further support of the validity of Tran Van Man's status as one of the longest-held detainees, we have attached a list of the names of former prisoners of the group of the 100 longest-held detainees who can personally attest to his prisoner status. All of these former political prisoners are prepared to attest to the identity of Tran Van Man, if necessary.

We implore you to look into the status of this case. Tran Van Man suffered for 17 years and he should be afforded the same expeditious processing that ODP gave the other 100 longest-held reeducation camp prisoners.

Again, we sincerely thank you for your efforts and your continued support of our endeavors focused on the humanitarian issues faced by many of the families and loved ones of the former political prisoners.

Sincerely,



---

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho  
President

KMT/lrd  
Attachment

**ATTACHMENT**

Do Ke Giai, Former General  
11621 Dennis Road #1081  
Dallas, Texas 75229  
Tel: (214) 406-1929

Pham Ngoc Sang, Former General  
12672 9th Street  
Garden Grove, California 92640  
Tel: (714) 638-9586

Nguyen Van Cua, Former Colonel  
2729 Desoto Avenue  
Costa Mesa, California 92626  
Tel: (714) 546-6436

Bui Quan Khuong, Former Colonel  
4 South Van Dorn Street, #T-305  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304  
Tel: (703) 461-9530

Hoang Lam, Former Lt. Colonel  
202 E. Hellman Avenue  
Monterey Park, California 91755  
Tel: (818) 573-9112

Huynh Kim Hieu, Former Lt. Colonel  
3308 Edgewood Drive #1032  
Garland, Texas 75042  
Tel: (214) 494-5148

Le Thoi Nguon, Former Major  
3300 Edgewood Drive #1001  
Garland, Texas 75042  
Tel: (214) 487-8514

Nguyen Cong Hau, Former Major  
10111 Bissonnet #254  
Houston, Texas 77036  
Tel: (713) 272-0085

Le Kim Nhan, Former Major  
11604 E. 37th Street  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74146  
Tel: (918) 665-6907



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**Advisory Committee**

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYEN XUAN LAN  
TRAN KIM DUNG

August 10, 1995

Ms. Martha Sardinias  
Director, ODP  
U.S. Embassy  
Box 58  
APO AP 96546

Re: Tran Van Man  
IV: 68851, HO-41-1005

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Ms. Martha Sardinas  
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NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
TRẦN KIM DUNG

February 20, 1993

The Honorable Kenneth Quinn  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of East Asian  
and Pacific Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Quinn:

It is a great pleasure for us to share with you the good news that Mr. Nguyen Khac Chinh was recently released on Dec. 27th, 1992 following your successful intervention with the Vietnamese government and that he is arriving in the U.S. some time this month. We wish to express our deep gratitude for your support for his case and wish to solicit your assistance again for other longest held prisoners and especially the last 100 former prisoners released between September 1991 and May 1992.

In light of the extraordinary hardship suffered by these prisoners and their long separation from family members both in Vietnam and here in the U.S., we ask that ODP give expedited processing to this group. Many of these 100 have not yet been interviewed and those that have must still wait many months for processing formalities that we believe should be shortened when possible. As we are organizing a special freedom and reunion celebration on Capitol Hill by July of this year, we hope to have all the 100 longest-held prisoners here with us for that important event.

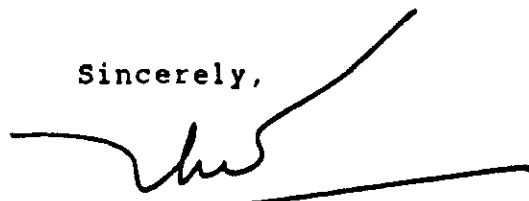
The FVPPA was happy to learn recently that the Government of Vietnam has agreed to provide to ODP all of the HO lists. The receipt of all of these lists will enable ODP to prioritize the HO interview schedule according to length of

detention. We believe that this is the fairest way to schedule interviews for the larger group of ODP-eligible former political prisoners.

We wish to thank you and the U.S. Government for the persistent efforts to secure the release of the 1975-era former political prisoners. The hard efforts of many officials in the U.S. Government made possible the release of all the 1975-era political prisoners.

We look forward both to the celebration this summer and to the new challenges that will be presented by evolving relations with Vietnam.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Khu' with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

~~(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho~~  
President

LIST OF FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED FROM  
 SEPTEMBER 1991 TO MAY 1992 WHO NEED TO BE INTERVIEWED BY ODP\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

	NAME	IV #	HO LIST#	RD LIST#	REMARKS
1	Pham Duy Tat	264361	39	7	
2	Bui Hop	86098	38	7	
3	Nguyen Van Tan	264702		7	
4	Nguyen Xuan Lọc	116488		7	
5	Trinh Bao Chuong	25355		7	
6	Do Ke Giai	505151	40	7	
7	Nguyen Tu Thai	201522		7	
8	Nguyen Huu Hai	51494	40		
9	Tran Quang Luu	48980	39	7	
10	Huynh Kim Hieu	129394	40	7	
11	Truong Duy Tai	116639	38	7	
12	Nguyen Tham	280379	37	7	
13	Tran NGoc Diem		39		
14	Ho Duc Sung	47209	39		
15	Nguyen Dat Phong		40		
16	Le Van Loi		39		
17	Nguyen The Hung	122478	39	7	
18	Vo Thanh Tong	54899	39	7	
19	Luong Khac Phap	122329	39		
20	Duong Van Vui	316578	39	7	
21	Le Kim Nhan	260575	39	7	
22	Phan Huu Nghi	276400	39	7	
23	Luong Trong Lat	205009	40	7	
24	Phan QUang Nghiep	260599	39	7	
25	Le Huu Minh	44653	39	7	
26	DANG Vinh Mai		39		
27	HO Viet Tong	68338	39	1	
28	Huynh Thanh Nhon	66474	39	7	
29	Le Thanh Phuoc	253959	20		
30	Dang Van Nghiem	272341	39	7	
31	Pham Gia Dai	216276	40		
32	Tran Van Suu	81350	39		
33	Buu Uy	317047			
34	Dao Thanh Phong	276903	39	7	
35	Nguyen Huu Sao	75529			
* 36	<del>Tran Van Man</del>	<del>68851</del>			
37	Nguyen Duc Thang	89010		7	
38	Cao Nguyen Khoa	44078	39	7	
39	Vinh Bieu	30000		7	
40	Lam Minh Chanh	253961		7	
41	Tsan Soi Fo	030723			
42	Truong Vinh Thuy	221893			

\*\*\* NOTES:

Out of the last 100 political prisoners still stranded in Vietnam we have so far received only the above mentioned names. Of the remaining former prisoners, some have already left VN., others have not yet communicated their bio-data to us. This list will be updated as we receive more information.



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May 11, 1992

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NGUYEN XUAN LAN  
HIỆP LOWMAN  
TRUONG THI LANG ANH  
TRAN KIM DUNG  
NGUYEN THI KHEN

The Honorable Kenneth Quinn  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau for East Asian and Pacific  
Affairs

Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Ban Chấp Hành T.U.  
Executive Board

Dear Mr. Quinn:

KHUC MINH THO  
President  
NGUYEN QUYNH GIAO  
Vice President  
NGUYEN VAN GIOI  
Secretary General  
TRUONG THI LANG ANH  
Treasurer  
NGUYEN THI KHEN  
Deputy Treasurer

On behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association we would like to take this opportunity to express our delight and grateful appreciation to the efforts of the many people on your staff, especially Frank Light, Country Officer for Vietnam, for being instrumental in securing the release of four (4) additional political prisoners detained in the re-education camps.

Cố Vấn Đoàn  
Advisory Committee

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYEN XUAN LAN  
TRAN KIM DUNG

We were extremely happy and joyous at receiving the news that 4 generals had been released on May 4, 1992; which leaves only 3 remaining political prisoners. It is our hope that the remaining political prisoners will also be released in the very near future.

Again, we thank you for your continued support and efforts and strongly urge you to continue pressuring the authorities in Vietnam to expedite the release of the remaining political prisoners. In addition, please convey to Mr. Frank Light our fondest appreciation for his undying commitment and efforts in support of our loved ones.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho  
President

KMT/lrc-d



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

April 8, 1992

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

Dear Mrs. Tho:

Thank you for your letter of February 18 about political prisoners in Vietnamese re-education camps. The information and insights you continue to share with us have been of invaluable assistance as we work to encourage Vietnam to release all political prisoners, with a special emphasis on those detained since 1975.

As you know from your discussions with the Vietnam desk officer, Assistant Secretary Solomon again conveyed our strong interest in this matter during his March meetings in Hanoi. After restating their government's view that this was an internal matter, the Vietnamese repeated their assurances that all 1975-era detainees would soon be released.

We intend to give top priority for interviews to those eligible detainees released since September, and we have urged Vietnam to do the same.

I hope that we soon hear more good news. We should keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Quinn  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Bureau of East Asian  
and Pacific Affairs



# 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 \* Fax: (703) 204-0394

March 12, 1992

**Hội Đồng Quản Trị  
Board of Directors**

KHƯỚC MINH THỊO  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
HIỆP LOWMAN  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
TRẦN KIM DUNG  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN

**Ban Chấp Hành T.U.  
Executive Board**

KHƯỚC MINH THỊO  
President  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
Vice President  
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Secretary General  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
Treasurer  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN  
Deputy Treasurer

**Cố Vấn Đoàn  
Advisory Committee**

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
TRẦN KIM DUNG

Mr. John Kellock  
Asia and the Pacific Research  
Department  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL  
International Secretariat  
1 Easton Street, London WC1X, 8DJ,  
United Kingdom

Dear Mr. Kellock:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 25, 1992 in which you were trying to ascertain the status of approximately 80 prisoners on whom you had received unconfirmed reports regarding their release from Ham Tan. I have attached a list of the Vietnamese Political Prisoners recently released on January 15, February 10 and February 11, 1992, which is a total of 80 prisoners. On behalf of the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association we would implore your assistance in strongly encouraging the Vietnamese government to allow them to leave, if they so desire.

In addition, I am enclosing a list of Vietnamese Political Prisoners who are still in re-education camps. Again, we would like to solicit your support and that of the Amnesty International and International Red Cross to urge the Vietnamese government to release the remaining prisoners, as they had initially promised. They had promised that "all prisoners" would be released during February/March 1992.

Please extend our best regards to Rolando Modina as we have thoroughly enjoyed working with him. I hope this information being provided will be of assistance to you. Should you have any questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho  
President

Enclosures  
KMT/lrc-d



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

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

Telephone: (703) 560-0058 \* Fax: (703) 204-0394

Hội Đồng Quản Trị  
Board of Directors

March 6, 1992

KHÚC MINH THO  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
HIỆP LOWMAN  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
TRẦN KIM DUNG  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN

## LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO ARE STILL IN THE RE-EDUCATION CAMPS SINCE 1975

Ban Chấp Hành T.U.  
Executive Board

KHÚC MINH THO  
President  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
Vice President  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
Secretary General  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
Treasurer  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN  
Deputy Treasurer

Cố Vấn Đoàn  
Advisory Committee

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
TRẦN KIM DUNG

### - GENERAL:

- 1/- Đỗ Kế Giai
- 2/- Lê Minh Đạo
- 3/- Lê Văn Thân
- 4/- Trần Ba Di ..... 4

### - COLONEL:

- 1/- Nguyễn Văn Hân
- 2/- Nguyễn Văn Sao
- 3/- Trịnh Bảo Chương ..... 3

### - Lt. COLONEL:

- 1/- Huỳnh Kim Hiếu
- 2/- Huỳnh Văn Kiên
- 3/- Nguyễn Hữu Hải
- 4/- Nguyễn Đạt Phong
- \* 5/- Trần Văn Mãn
- 6/- Trần Văn Xoan ..... 6

### - MAJOR:

- 1/- Phan Tấn Ngủ ..... 1

### - 2nd. LIEUTENANT:

- 1/- Huỳnh Di Minh ..... 1  
(Hãm Tân Camp, Z. 30D)

### - SERGEANT:

- 1/- Nguyễn Văn Hiến ..... 1  
(Hãm Tân Camp Z. 30D)

LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS  
WHO ARE STILL IN THE RE-EDUCATION CAMPS SINCE 1975

Page 1.... 16

- LAWYER:

1/- Nguyễn Khắc Chính ..... 1

- INTELLIGENCE OFFICER:

1/- Bửu Uy ..... 2  
 2/- Nguyễn Đức Thắng .....

- HỘI CHÁNH: (Defector):

1/- Võ Văn Miên ..... 1

- U.S. EMPLOYEE:

1/- Nguyễn Thanh Hoà ..... 1

- INTERPRETER:

1/- Hoàng Hiếu ..... 2  
 2/- Phạm Gia Đại.....

Total:..... 23



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

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

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Hội Đồng Quản Trị  
Board of Directors

KHÙC MINH THO  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
HIỆP LOWMAN  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
TRẦN KIM DUNG  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN

Ban Chấp Hành T.Ư.  
Executive Board

KHÙC MINH THO  
President  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
Vice President  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
Secretary General  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
Treasurer  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN  
Deputy Treasurer

Cố Vấn Đoàn  
Advisory Committee

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
TRẦN KIM DUNG

March 6, 1992

## LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED ON FEBRUARY 10, 1992

### - COLONEL:

- 1/- Bùi Quan Khưởng
- 2/- Cao Văn Uy
- 3/- Nguyễn Xuân Lộc
- 4/- Nguyễn Kim Tây
- 5/- Phạm Duy Khang
- 6/- Phạm Văn Phô ..... 6

### - Lt. COLONEL:

- 1/- Hồ Đức Sung
- 2/- Lê Văn Lợi
- 3/- Nguyễn Văn Hưng
- 4/- Thân Trọng Ư
- 5/- Trần Văn Đầu
- 6/- Trần Ngọc Diêm ..... 6

### - MAJOR:

- 1/- Đặng Văn Ngọc
- 2/- Đào Thanh Phong
- 3/- Dương Văn Vui
- 4/- Hồ Văn Côn
- 5/- Hồ Việt Tông
- 6/- Huỳnh Minh Chiêu
- 7/- Huỳnh Lam Điền
- 8/- Huỳnh Thanh Nhơn
- 9/- Lê Hữu Minh
- 10/- Lê Kim Nhan
- 11/- Lữ Kim Ba
- 12/- Lương Trọng Lạc
- 13/- Lương Khắc Pháp
- 14/- Nguyễn Công Hậu
- 15/- Nguyễn Công Quan
- 16/- Nguyễn Hữu Trân
- 17/- Phạm Tấn Ngọc
- 18/- Phan Quang Nghiệp
- 19/- Phan Kỳ Niêm
- 20/- Trần Xuân Nường
- 21/- Trường Vinh Thụy ..... 21

21

33

LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS  
ON FEBRUARY 10, 1992

Page 1... 33

- LIEUTENANT:

1/- Lê Huy Quyê~n ..... 1

- INTELLIGENCE OFFICER:

1/- Bui Quang Nghia~  
2/- Nguyễn Ngọc Tân  
3/- Trần Quang Lũu..... 3

- INTERPRETER:

1/- Trần Văn Sửu ..... 1

-----  
Total:..... 38  
=====

RELEASED ON FEBRUARY 11, 1992

- GENERAL:

1/- Mạch Văn Trường  
2/- Phạm Ngọc Sang  
3/- Phạm Duy Tất  
4/- Trần Quang Khôi ..... 4  
=====

Subtotal... 42  
=====



# 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 \* Fax: (703) 204-0394

FEB 03 1992

## Hội Đồng Quản Trị Board of Directors

KHÚC MINH THO  
NGUYỄN QUỲNH GIAO  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
HIỆP LOWMAN  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
TRẦN KIM DUNG  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN

## Ban Chấp Hành T.U. Executive Board

KHÚC MINH THO  
President  
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Vice President  
NGUYỄN VĂN GIỚI  
Secretary General  
TRƯƠNG THỊ LANG ANH  
Treasurer  
NGUYỄN THỊ KHEN  
Deputy Treasurer

## Cố Vấn Đoàn Advisory Committee

HIỆP LOWMAN  
NGUYỄN XUÂN LAN  
TRẦN KIM DUNG

## LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS

RELEASED ON JANUARY 15, 1991:

(from 1975 to 1992) = 17 years

### - COLONEL :

- 1/- Lê Địch Luân
- 2/- Nguyễn Văn Cửa
- 3/- Vĩnh Đắc ..... 3

### - LIEUTENANT COLONEL:

- 1/- Trần Văn Tiên
- 2/- Trường Duy Tài ..... 2

### - MAJOR :

- 1/- Đặng Vinh Mai
- 2/- Đoàn Bá Lộc
- 3/- Huỳnh Ngọc Thịnh
- 4/- Lâm Minh Sơn
- 5/- Lê Công Hoan
- 6/- Lê Thời Nguyên
- 7/- Lê Hữu Tông
- 8/- Nguyễn Văn Đột
- 9/- Nguyễn Thế Hùng
- 10/- Nguyễn Tâm
- 11/- Phạm Hữu Nghi
- 12/- Trần Chanh Trí
- 13/- Tsan Sung Pho
- 14/- Võ Thanh Tông ..... 14

### - INTELLIGENCE OFFICER:

- 1/- Châu Văn Sỹ
- 2/- Châu Văn Ty
- 3/- Lê Anh Kiệt
- 4/- Hoàng Lam
- 5/- Huỳnh Tường Sanh
- 6/- Nguyễn Văn Chương
- 7/- Nguyễn Văn Hai
- 8/- Nguyễn Thành Long ..... 8

LIST OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS  
RELEASED ON JANUARY 15, 1992

From page 1:..27

- POLITICIAN:

1/- Nguyễn Đình Huy  
 2/- Võ Trang ..... 2

- CAPTAIN:

1/- Đặng Văn Nghiễm  
 2/- Dườ̃ng Đứ̃c Hiễn  
 3/- Lê Văn Quang  
 4/- Nguyễn Thanh Nguyễn  
 5/- Phạm Đứ̃c Hoằ̃ng -  
 6/- Trầ̃n Quang Trườ̃ng  
 7/- Vũ Văn Nhật  
 8/- Thườ̃ng (First name) ..... 8

- LIEUTENANT:

1/- Lê Văn Quyễn ..... 1

TOTAL:..... 38

February 3, 1992

**72 INTERPRETER RELEASES**

**1151**

**August 28, 1995**

BỘ NỘI VỤ  
TỔNG CỤC I.  
CỤC HỒ SƠ AN NINH

CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM  
Độc lập - Tự do - Hạnh phúc.  
-000-

Số: 7807 /XN

TP: Hồ Chí Minh, ngày 05 tháng 5 năm 1995

### GIẤY XÁC NHẬN

- Căn cứ vào hồ sơ lưu trữ tại: Cục hồ sơ an ninh Bộ Nội Vụ
- Xét đơn đề nghị ngày 3 / 5 / 95 của ông, bà TRẦN VĂN MỸ

Cục Hồ sơ an ninh Bộ Nội Vụ xác nhận:

Ông, Bà... TRẦN VĂN MỸ.....

Sinh ngày..... 1934.....

Nơi sinh..... Sa Đéc.....

Trú quán 72 Nguyễn Đình Chiểu, P.3, Phú Nhuận, TP. Hồ Chí Minh

Cấp bậc, chức vụ trong chế độ cũ... Trung Tá.....

..... Khoa Sinh Trường Sĩ Quan Tham Mưu.....

Đã học tập cải tạo từ ngày 15 tháng 6 năm 1975.....

đến ngày 29 tháng 4 năm 1992

- Lý do học tập cải tạo... Sĩ Quan Chế Độ Cũ.....

TRƯỞNG CỤC HỒ SƠ AN NINH

TRƯỞNG PHÒNG



*[Handwritten signature]*

BỘ NỘI VỤ  
Trại Thủ Đức  
Số MM / HS

CỘNG HÒA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM  
Độc lập - Tự do - Hạnh phúc

Mẫu số 001-QLTG, ban hành theo công văn số 2363 ngày 27 tháng 11 năm 1972

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

BIỂU

## GIẤY RA TRẠI

Theo thông tư số 966-BCA/TT ngày 31-5-1961 của Bộ Nội vụ:

Thí hành án văn, quyết định thụ số 07 ngày 23 tháng 4 năm 1992

của Bộ Nội vụ

Nay cấp giấy thả cho anh, chị có tên sau đây:

Họ, tên khai sinh Trần Văn Mão Sinh năm 19 34

Ước tên gọi khác

Nơi sinh Sa Đèo

Nơi đăng ký nhân khẩu thường trú trước khi bị bắt 72 Nguyễn Đình Chiểu, Phú Nhuận - TP. Hồ Chí Minh

Can tội Trung tá khóa sinh trường chỉ huy tham mưu

Bị bắt ngày 15/6/1975 An phạt TTQT

Theo quyết định, án văn số \_\_\_\_\_ ngày \_\_\_\_\_ tháng \_\_\_\_\_ năm \_\_\_\_\_ của \_\_\_\_\_

Đã bị tống án \_\_\_\_\_ Ra, cộng thành \_\_\_\_\_ năm \_\_\_\_\_ tháng \_\_\_\_\_

Đã được giảm án \_\_\_\_\_ Ra, cộng thành \_\_\_\_\_ năm \_\_\_\_\_ tháng \_\_\_\_\_

Nay về cư trú tại 72 Nguyễn Đình Chiểu, Phú Nhuận - TP. HCM

Nhận xét quá trình cải tạo

Quá trình cải tạo ở trại anh Mão đã có cố gắng trong lao động, học tập và chấp hành nội quy trại có tiến bộ.

Tiền đi đường đã cấp đủ từ trại về đến gia đình.

Đương sự phải trình diện tại UBND Phường, xã: \_\_\_\_\_ Nơi cư trú

Trước ngày 2 tháng 5 năm 19 92

Lưu trữ ngân trở phát

Cán \_\_\_\_\_

Danh \_\_\_\_\_

Lập tại \_\_\_\_\_

Họ tên, chữ ký người được cấp giấy

Mão  
Trần Văn Mão

Ngày 2 tháng 4 năm 19 92

Trưởng trại  
(Chữ ký họ tên, cấp bậc, chức vụ)  
Nguyễn Xuân Vàng

**MINUTES OF MEETING WITH  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALISATION SERVICE  
CONCERNING FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS PROGRAM  
Wednesday, August 30, 1995**

On August 30, 1995 at 4:00 p.m., the Families of the Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association (FVPPA, hereafter referred to as the Association) met with Ms. Kathleen Thompson and Ms. Janelle Jones of the Office of International Affairs of the Immigration and Nationalization Service (INS) in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Khuc Minh Tho of the Association was accompanied by Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bich, Executive President of the National Congress of Vietnamese in America (NCVA), Mr. Le Van Ba, Chairman, Washington Metropolitan Area League of Vietnamese Associations, and Attorney Thai Quy Toan, Advisor to the Association.

The participants discussed the following issues and agreed upon the following understanding:

1. Single children of FPP's 21 years and older: ODP denied derivative status drawn from the FPP father's case to many unmarried sons/daughters who were over 21 years of age. The State Department announced in December 1994 that over-21 unmarried sons/daughters would no longer be eligible for inclusion in the father's case. After a review of this policy change, INS agreed to allow over-21's to be included based on compelling humanitarian circumstances. INS made this policy modification in April of this year, but many children had been summarily excluded prior to February, 1995. The Association asked that the cases denied before February, 1995, be reviewed and Ms. Thompson agreed to ask ODP in Bangkok to reconsider these cases.
2. Family Members of FPP's who died while in re-education camp and whose wives also passed away or are now classified as whereabouts unknown, presumably dead: Ms. Jones stated that there is nothing INS can do about these cases since ODP policy has been that the application must be initiated and signed either by the FPP or his wife. The Association mentioned the case of Nguyen Phat Khoi (IV-116-466) as an exception based on compelling humanitarian concern since the father and mother both occupied high positions in the former government of South Vietnam and were closely associated with the supporting policy of the United States government. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho stated that she would sponsor the orphan children of this case. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Jones agreed to review the case on that basis.

King for Anh Ba  
Anh Bich  
Sao Khu Ta Sua Lau  
trang 2 #4 -

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF MEETING WITH  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
CONCERNING FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS PROGRAM  
Wednesday, August 30, 1995**

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The  
1+2+3+4

**MINUTES OF MEETING WITH  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
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2. Family Members of FPP's who died while in re-education camp and whose wives also passed away or are now classified as whereabouts unknown, presumably dead: Ms. Jones stated that there is nothing INS can do about these cases since ODP policy has been that the application must be initiated and signed either by the FPP or his wife. The Association mentioned the case of Nguyen Phat Khoi (IV-116-466) as an exception based on compelling humanitarian concern since the father and mother both occupied high positions in the former government of South Vietnam and were closely associated with the supporting policy of the United States government. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho stated that she would sponsor the orphan children of this case. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Jones agreed to review the case on that basis.

3. Family members of FPPs who died after release as a result of detention: Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pleaded for these cases as she said she could personally sympathize with them. Many FPPs got very sick after their release due to the hardships encountered in re-education (hard work, torture, etc.). Unfortunately, they died a few weeks/months prior to their departure. Mrs. Jones stated that nothing could be done. Mrs. Thompson added that INS would review such cases, if there is evidence that the FPP who died after release nevertheless died due to the conditions of his detention.

4. Vietnamese POWs dropped as commandos in North Vietnam (in the 1960's) and in Laos (especially during the 1971 Lam Son 719 Operation). Mrs. Thompson stated that INS's latest review of these cases gave the following breakdown: 12 cases ready for interview; of 9 cases previously rejected, 8 will be re-interviewed; another 40 cases are under review including some that are so far out that they are not likely to pass; finally, an expected 25 additional cases would complete this category. Ms. Thompson stated that, of the commandos dropped in Laos, most were captured and detained as POWs before release in 1976-77. There is no evidence that this group was singled out for persecution and this is the defining criterion for the FPP program. Ms. Thompson added that if any of these cases could demonstrate that they or their family members were in any way persecuted, then they and their family members may qualify for interview. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho supported the merit of these cases and added that of the 10,000 who originally participated in the operation, only a few dozen are seeking this category.

5. Lt. Col. Tran Van Man's case: Lt. Col. Tran Van Man was one of the 100 longest-held prisoners in re-education camps, but ODP has rejected his case based on doubts as to his release documentation. Ms. Thompson stated that INS is reviewing the case based on documentation submitted by the Association and a favorable decision is likely.

6. The case of General Le Van Hung's daughter: Mr. Nguyen Ngoc Bich, of NCVVA, made a special plea on behalf of General Le Van Hung's daughter in view of the General's sacrifice (he was the hero of An Loc, dubbed the Stalingrad of the Vietnam War and he committed suicide rather than surrender his regiment in April 1975, the day South Vietnam fell. Every year on April 30th the Vietnamese communities around the world have a ceremony on his behalf, as he is hailed as a "Vietnam Hero"). Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho stated that the Association is prepared to assist with this case as needed. Ms. Thompson asked that documentation regarding the daughter's case be submitted, especially showing evidence that she had been persecuted or discriminated against.

*Vo va  
can khoy  
thuc thi*

7. Deadline of September 30, 1995: Ms. Thompson gave assurances that there is no problem with admission numbers as far as the remaining caseload of FPPs is concerned. The date of September 30, 1995 was only a target date. INS now realizes that this date was unrealistic and it is expected that interviewing will continue until December of this year and maybe until March of 1996.

OTHER ISSUES:

- **Release Order:** For FPPs who lost their original release certificate, ODP prefers that the reissued certificate come from the Ministry of Interior rather than from local authorities. Nevertheless, INS realizes that it is difficult for some FPPs to get a reissued certificate from the Interior Ministry due to the remote location of some of the provinces, therefore the INS will be flexible in this matter. INS is concerned about the level of fraud evident in the issuance of false release documentation due to graft and corruption. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho suggested that for those FPPs who lost their original certificates, it would be helpful if fellow prisoners prepared statements attesting to the true identity of the FPP.
- **New INS policy for family members of deceased re-eds:** Ms. Thompson indicated that she is unfamiliar with this (they have to be re-interviewed to determine if they still qualify, according to the refugee processing of ODP). She promised to look into this matter and will give an answer at a later date.

In this connection, the Association was shocked to learn that recently there were 571 no-shows out of 703 cases proposed for interview. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho felt that something is wrong with these figures. Ms. Jones stated that the high level of no-shows may be a result of ODP proposing for interview long-held former prisoners. ODP called these FPPs for interview but they did not have exit permits. Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pointed out that these FPPs did not show up because they did not know they were scheduled for an interview. Ms. Khuc Minh Tho was under the impression that, after two months from the date of the scheduled interview, ODP would terminate their application. Ms. Jones said that ODP will send a notice to these FPPs and the FPPs should correspond with ODP within two months of the notice that they are applying for their exit permits. Ms. Jones said that ODP will keep their application

open if this correspondence is received within two months.

- Page 4 -

- **Household Registration Cards (Ho Khau):** The Association asked for flexibility on the part of ODP when the officers are reviewing the household registration cards. Sometimes the registration card does not have the name of principal applicants or individual family members because families were broken up while the FPPs were in camps or the local authorities did not allow the FPP or family members to register. Also, Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho pointed out that some local authorities changed the form of registration so that members of the same family may have different types of registration forms. Ms. Thompson made note of this request.



*Embassy of the United States of America*

August 15, 1995

Bangkok, Thailand

Ms. Khuc Minh Tho  
President  
Families Of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association  
P.O.Box 5435  
Arlington, VA 22205-0635

Dear Ms. Khuc:

Thank you for your letter of June 30, 1995 received by this office on August 4, 1995. You wrote concerning the refugee applications of Do Thi Thai and her children (ODP file IV-339699/H33-447).

The referenced applicants were interviewed by a U.S. immigration officer in Ho Chi Minh City on June 6, 1995. They were scheduled for their interview due to our error. In fact, the policy that precludes the over twenty-one year old children of refugee applicants from being scheduled for interview had already been announced when we scheduled these applicants for an interview. The last interview trip to include over twenty-one year old derivative refugee applicants ended on April 17, 1995. After that date, no over twenty-one year old derivative refugee applicants have been scheduled, with the exception of cases involving a "last remaining family member". Since Hua Thi Mong Hoa and Hua Thi Thao Trang are both over twenty-one years old, neither of them can be given special consideration as the last remaining family member. For this reason, their refugee applications were denied when they appeared at the interview with their mother.

Under U.S. immigration law, refugee applicants who are also eligible for immediate relative immigrant status must enter the U.S. as immigrants, rather than as refugees. This does not preclude the principal applicant's children who are under twenty-one years old from being considered for refugee status. Since Do Thi Thai's daughter, Hua Thi Thu Thanh has been in the U.S. for a number of years and may now be a U.S. citizen, we have requested verification of her immigration status from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). In the meantime, if she is now a U.S. citizen, she should file an immediate relative immigrant visa petition with INS on behalf of her mother. Once we receive an approved immigrant visa petition on behalf of Do Thi Thai, or confirmation from INS that Hua Thi Thu Thanh is not yet a U.S. citizen, we will continue processing Do Thi Thai's and her minor son's applications.

I hope this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha Sardinas".

Martha Sardinas  
Director  
Orderly Departure Program

MS/jsj (5320a/30-31)



U.S. Department of Justice

Immigration and Naturalization Service

425 Eye Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20536

CO 100/8.3

APR 11 1995

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

Dear Mrs. Tho:

Thank you for your February 24 letter reporting on your meeting in California with resettled former political prisoners and their family members. I appreciate the ideas you expressed in your letter and during our earlier meeting.

As promised when we met, I am forwarding to you a copy of the guidance we sent to Daniel Solis, our district director in Bangkok regarding humanitarian exceptions for certain adult sons and daughters of former re-education camp detainees. Mr. Solis has assured me that all of the immigration officers involved in the Orderly Departure Program fully understand that there may be some compelling cases and that the guidance will be implemented with a generous spirit.

I understand that Kathleen Thompson of my staff has had several conversations with you on this issue and would be pleased to discuss any thoughts you may have on the guidance. Thank you again for sharing your views.

Sincerely,

Phyllis A. Coven  
Director  
International Affairs

Enclosure



Subject    Humanitarian Exceptions for Sons and Daughters of Former Re-Education Camp Detainees	Date
---	------

To    Daniel Solis  
       District Director  
       Bangkok, Thailand

From   International  
         Affairs

I recently met with Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho and other representatives of the Vietnamese-American community to hear their concerns about the recent interagency decision regarding eligibility for interview in the Orderly Departure Program (ODP).

As you are well aware, effective February 1, adult sons and daughters of former re-education camp detainees (re-eds) are no longer proposed for interview. The policy change recognized that there may be individual cases in which significant humanitarian reasons warrant including an adult son or daughter in a re-ed case. I wish to encourage generosity in considering such requests.

I appreciate the interests that are served by the policy change--detering fraud and achieving consistency in refugee processing programs. At the same time, I am sympathetic to Mrs. Tho's arguments that the resettlement of aging former prisoners might be more successful and self-sufficiency might be more quickly achieved if their children were to accompany them to the United States. To balance these two perspectives, I want to ensure that all officers interviewing re-ed cases give careful and sympathetic consideration to requests for humanitarian exception.

Mrs. Tho has been advised that any such requests may be raised by the principal refugee applicant at the time of the INS eligibility interview. The merits of the requests, of course, must be decided on a case-by-case basis. We would anticipate that deserving cases may include, for example, those in which an unmarried adult son or daughter, if not included, would be the only remaining family member in Vietnam, cases in which a family member has a physical or mental disability that could not receive appropriate care if the family were to be divided, and other cases in which unusual hardship would result were an adult son or daughter left behind.

I understand that when the interviewing officer finds an individual case has merit, the adult son or daughter can be "added-on" to the case with the issuance of a Letter of Introduction (LOI) to the Vietnamese authorities and that the son or daughter can be expeditiously invited for interview.

Page 2  
Daniel Solis

Please keep me informed of your progress under the new interview eligibility criteria and advise me if additional guidance is needed on considering requests for humanitarian exception.

Phyllis Coven  
Director



# 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 • Fax: (703) 204-0394

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TRẦN KIM DUNG

June 13, 1995

Ms. Kathleen Thompson  
Office of International Affairs  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
Department of Justice  
111 Massachusetts Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Kathleen:

Thank you for your fax of May 17th, which responded to our letter of May 4, 1995. We have several items of concern regarding former political prisoners that we would like to discuss with you, either in a meeting or by correspondence, as you deem appropriate.

We agree with your assessment that things are going well with the humanitarian exceptions to the over-21 policy. However, as a result of the abrupt introduction of the policy, several deserving cases that should have been approved under the new guidance you have provided were denied. We feel that those cases that were summarily denied by ODP before February 1, 1995 should be reconsidered under the policy of humanitarian exceptions. It is our understanding that they sent their requests to ODP for a re-interview. (See Attachment #1).

Our association is also interested in knowing the timetable for interviewing the remaining caseload of former political prisoners, and whether it is on schedule for completion by September 30, 1995. If not, will the deadline for interviews be extended to accommodate all those prisoners and family members on HO lists submitted by the government of Vietnam and those who requested a re-interview because their cases were initially denied? Will submission numbers be available throughout FY 1996 for all the approved and remaining cases?

Ms. Kathleen Thompson  
Office of International Affairs  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
Department of Justice  
June 13, 1995  
Page Two

In addition, we are concerned about the eligibility of the special forces commandoes imprisoned before 1975 who were inserted into North Vietnam and Laos during the 1960's at the direction of the United States military assistance forces. You may be aware that recent disclosures from declassified documents show that commandoes operated at U.S. direction and that most were killed. Ambassador Lambertson feels that those few who have survived, along with their families, should be considered for resettlement in the United States. (See Attachment 2A) We strongly endorse this view. Our association have some cases of this nature. (See Attachment 2B). We believe that these requests are consistent with Lautenberg legislation governing the processing of certain refugee groups in Southeast Asia from the Vietnam War era.

We also have several cases of family members whose political prisoner father died in the camps and whose mothers have either died or disappeared. These family members have deserving cases for resettlement via the HO program and we want these cases reviewed before the program ends. We have attached copies of two (2) cases in particular that were discussed at our meeting on April 20, 1994 between officials of the Department of State, Immigration (Janelle Jones) and members of our association. (See Attachment 3A and 3B). Similarly, there are cases of family members whose political prisoner father or husband died after release from the camp. We would like to have these cases reviewed and given eligibility where the humanitarian reasons are compelling.

There is the unique case of the family of General Le Van Hung, an ARVN general and regiment commander, who committed suicide on April 30, 1975 rather than surrender to the invading forces of North Vietnam. We would like to submit to your office or to ODP a full brief of the special circumstances of this long suffering family. General Le Van Hung is a Vietnam hero. We have several documents in Vietnamese supporting this case and we will have them translated and sent to ODP.

Ms. Kathleen Thompson  
Office of International Affairs  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
Department of Justice  
June 13, 1995  
Page Three

Finally, there are two troubling issues of missing or inconsistent documentation for the case files of the former political prisoners. In cases where the prisoners have lost their original release certificate, or other documents there is confusion as to whether INS will accept a reissued certificate from local authorities or whether a new certificate must be issued by the national Ministry of Interior. There have also been cases where the ODP interviewing officer has questioned the type and completeness of family registration cards (Ho Khau). The Vietnamese authorities issue different types of cards to prisoners or family members who returned in recent years. They also take away old registration cards every time they issue new cards. Finally, some of the families of the prisoners were separated for many years and, as a result, the family registration card does not include the name of the principal applicant or children of the applicant. We believe that ODP interviewing officers should understand the occasional difficulties experienced in obtaining this documentation.

Again, we would like to thank you for your extremely helpful attention to our concerns. We look forward to hearing from or meeting with you.

Sincerely,



---

(Mrs.) Khuc Minh Tho  
President

**Attachments**

JOHN McCAIN  
ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

# United States Senate

111 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-0303  
(202) 224-2238

1838 South Alma School Road  
Suite 375  
Mesa, AZ 85210  
(602) 491-4300

2405 East Arizona  
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(602) 952-2410

450 West Pecos Road  
Suite 200  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
(602) 670-8334

Telephone and Hearing Rooms  
(202) 224-7132  
(602) 952-0170

April 28, 1995

The Honorable Doris Meissner  
Commissioner  
Immigration and Naturalization Service  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Commissioner Meissner:

I am writing to bring to your attention the cases of 64 former South Vietnamese intelligence operatives who have applied for refugee status under the Orderly Departure Program (ODP). I have attached a list of the cases for your information.

It is my understanding that despite the persecution all of these individuals have faced as a result of their association with the U.S.-South Vietnamese war effort, INS has denied them refugee admission to the U.S. without interviews. It is further my understanding that this decision has been objected to by both ODP and our Ambassador to Thailand, David Lambertson.

I encourage you to take a very close look at these cases and grant interviews to the individuals in question to determine their eligibility for admission under the ODP Re-Education Camp Detainee Subprogram. These men risked their lives in service to their nation and ours. They deserve every benefit of the doubt.

Thank you for your consideration. Please, keep me informed of any developments in these cases.

Sincerely,

  
John McCain  
United States Senator

JM/wbl

ATTACHMENT # 1

The Case of Dang Van Nguyen  
(IV-253834)

Dang Van Nguyen (75 years of age) and his wife Thach Ngoc Vo (73 years of age) request that their three single adult children be allowed to join them in the U.S. The parents are sickly (Mr. Dang Van Nguyen suffers from incurable Parkinson's disease) and they need the care of their children, who are eligible for the HO subprogram of ODP. The three children were rejected in an ODP interview March 11, 1994.



Attachment # 1

DANG-VAN-NGUYEN  
THACH NGOC VO  
1471 Park Road, # 1  
Washington, D.C. 20010

June 12, 1995

IV# 253834  
H 27/193

Dear Ms. KHUC MINH THO,

By this letter, my wife and I request that you do everything you can to help bring my three children to join us in the United States.

They should have been able to come with us to this country on April 13, 1995 if there was no objection from the American interviewers in Saigon.

My three children are:

NGUYEN THI THUY TIEN (Female) DOB JAN. 7, 1954

NGUYEN THI ANH DAO (Female) DOB. Jan. 16, 1955

NGUYEN DANG QUANG (Male) DOB. Feb. 3, 1959

Their address in VIETNAM is:

266/DK. ẤP TAN TRUONG, XÃ TAN HUY, HUYỆN THANH-HUNG  
TỈNH ĐÔNG THÁP VIET NAM

They are all still single.

Sincerely,

Enclosed is: my July 11, 1994 letter  
to O.D.P. in Bangkok - THAILAND  
" for your information

DANG VAN NGUYEN (75 years)

Dang Nguyen  
THACH-NGOC-VO (73 years)  
Thach Vo

Attachment 1

266/DK. TAN TRONG. TAN MY  
THANH HUNG. GENG THAP  
VIET NAM  
MR. NGUYEN VAN DANG  
IV: 253834/H27.193  
11. JULY. 1994

ORDERLY DEPARTURE PROGRAM  
Panjablum Building 9<sup>th</sup> floor  
127. Sathorn Bai Road  
Bangkok 10120  
THAILAND

Request for a favorable decision to my children  
accompanying me to the United States of America.

Dear Sirs:

My name is NGUYEN VAN DANG - IV: 253834/H27.193,  
I was interviewed on March 11<sup>th</sup> 1994. Based on Post Interview  
document request of the Interviewing Officer. I submitted "the  
Old Household Book from 1978 to 1988" at the Office of External  
Relations, <sup>Service</sup> 6 Giai Lam Hung, G.1. HOCHIMINH City on March 13<sup>th</sup> 1994  
The U.S Interview team said that I must wait for the decision from Bangkok.  
Until now, I am still waiting for that decision. I'm looking forward  
knowing whether my family consisting five persons can immigrate  
to the United States of America. In the meantime, I write to you  
to present the particularly difficult circumstances of my family from  
30 April 1975.

Before 30 April 1975, my family lived in our own house at  
Vinh Long Province, for I was a Deputy of the National Assembly of  
the Republic of Vietnam from 1971 to 1975, I was arrested on May  
24<sup>th</sup> 1975 and detained in the reeducation camps in the North Viet Nam.  
After that days all my properties, including land, house, cars... were  
confiscated in July 1975. My wife and my children were expelled and  
had to move out, they went to dwell temporarily at one of my friend's  
house at Vinh Long province, and after that, they had to change the  
dwelling place many times until March 1978. My family's life was  
extremely miserable and precarious. In March 1978, my family  
had to choose between the coming back to my native village or the  
going to "New Economic Zone". Before this situation, my wife and my  
children decided to come back to TAN MY, my native village in the  
countryside, they lived and worked there as farmers until now.

Nguyen Thi Thuy Tien  
Nguyen Thi Anh Dao  
Nguyen Tang Luang

Properly speaking about my three children (two daughters and one son)  
I have asked you for their entry permit to accompany me to the  
United States of America, they were under 21 years old in April 1975.

Attachment 1.

at that time, their study at school was denied, they could not continue to study, they had to leave school, and before the financial difficulty of my family, their mother was very weak and could not work effectively, so they must work to earn their living and to help their mother. Until now, they are still living with their parents in the same thatch house, they are still single and must work hard together in the ricefield to help their parents, because, as you know, my wife and I are old and very weak, we are often ill, we always need the help of my children.

With the facts presented above, we hope that you can kindly consider our case in the humanitarian spirit to accept my request. Your acceptance will be a great favor to my whole family.

I shall be very much obliged to your humanitarian concern for my case. Thank you for your attention and prompt assistance. I remain,

Yours respectully

NGUYỄN VĂN ĐĂNG

-Enclosures:

1. a copy of "Post Interview Document Request"
2. a copy of "Eko Old Household Book from 1978 to 1988"
3. a copy of "Confiscation Order of Property"



# 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 • Fax: (703) 204-0394

September 20, 1994

**Hội Đồng Quản Trị**  
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Ms. Janelle Jones, Refugee Officer  
Office of International Affairs & Outreach  
Immigration & Naturalization Service  
425 I Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20536

Dear Ms. Jones:

I am writing to follow-up on the two cases previously discussed with you at the April 20, 1994 meeting.

1. Nguyen Phat Khoi IV# 116-466 ✓
2. Doan Thi Thanh My IV# 061155

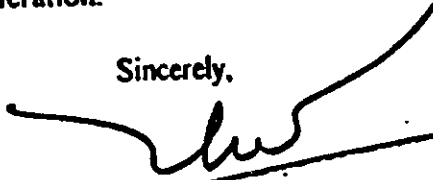
Attached are the documentations from Viet Nam pertaining to the second case which were not available at the time of the meeting.

We had previously requested that an interview for refugee status be granted by the Orderly Departure Program to these applicants who are the surviving offspring of the political prisoner who died during incarceration in the political prisoners reeducation camp. Their father died in the camp while their mother also passed away or missing, and these applicants were denied because they were determined as "no connection to the US" or for other reasons.

We would appreciate hearing from you regarding the outcome of our request and to request a meeting to discuss matters concerning the political prisoner program. Please contact me at (703) 358-5154 or via my Fax (703) 204-0394.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mrs. Khuc Minh Tho  
President

Attachments



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

## FAMILIES OF VIETNAMESE POLITICAL PRISONERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 6435, ARLINGTON, VA. 22205-0635  
Telephone: (703) 560-0058 \* Fax: (703) 204-0394

April 29, 1994

### Hội Đồng Quản Trị Board of Directors

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TRƯỜNG THỊ LANG ANH  
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Deputy Treasurer

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NGUYỄN XUÂN LÂN  
TRẦN KIM THƯƠNG

Ms. Janelle Jones  
Refugee Officer  
Office of International Affairs  
& Outreach  
Immigration & Naturalization Service  
425 I Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20536

Dear Ms. Jones:

I would like to thank you for attending the meeting of April 20, 1994 among the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS), Department of State, and our organization, the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association.

Per our discussion, attached are documents pertaining to one of the two case files which you agreed to accept for review during the meeting. The documentation pertaining to the second case is not available at this time. We will forward that documentation to you upon receipt from Vietnam. As you may recall, these are the offspring of individuals who died while detained in the re-education camp. The father's confinement was the direct result of his involvement in the implementation of policies and interests of the U.S. Government. We staunchly believe that the individuals in question can present sufficient evidence to meet the current criteria for refugee status. However, the offspring were denied an interview with the Orderly Departure Program (ODP) officials. The reason for this denial was "no connection to the U.S." We believe that, as the father's involvement with the U.S. Government meets current criteria for interview eligibility, that eligibility should be extended to surviving offspring, if substantive evidence of persecution is provided. Further, the benefit of interview should not be terminated upon the death of the surviving spouse. Also, the father's death, in this case, was directly related to his incarceration as a result of his involvement prior to 1975 with the U.S. Government. Thus, the offspring would have qualified for an interview, should the wife of the reeducation camp detainee have survived.

-2-

I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding these two cases. It was a pleasure meeting you, and thanks again for sharing with us your expertise, and information regarding the refugee program.

Should you need further information, please contact me at (703) 560-0058 or fax any request to (703) 204-0394.

Sincerely Yours,



~~Khuc Minh Tho  
President~~

Attachments