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NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9800683
RECEIVED: 29 JAN 98 14

TO: BERGER

FROM: BUI, VI HUU

DOC DATE: 05 JAN 98
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: HUMAN RIGHTS
NSA CORRESPONDENCE

VIETNAM

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: NATL MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY OF VIETNAM RE WAIVER OF JACKSON - VANIK
REQUIREMENT

ACTION: NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED

DUE DATE: 10 FEB 98 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: SCHWARTZ

LOGREF:

FILES: WH

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COMMENTS:

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DOC 1 OF 1

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 9800683

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 SCHWARTZ
001

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 98012914 PREPARE MEMO FOR BERGER
X 98021015 NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED

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FOR ACTION
SCHWARTZ

FOR CONCURRENCE
CLARKE
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FOR INFO
BAKER
KRISTOFF

COMMENTS: _____

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DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

PRESIDENTIAL/NSA CORRESPONDENCE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

ACTION OFFICER: Schwartz LOG NUMBER: 0683
DUE DATE: 10 Feb
DATE STAFFED: 29 Jan

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

☐

PRESIDENT

☒

NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

FROM: Bui, Vi Huu

NFAR

PREPARE A RESPONSE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S OR NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE WITHIN 10 DAYS. IF A LETTER DOES NOT REQUIRE A RESPONSE, PLEASE RETURN IT TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (RM 379) WITH THIS FORM, ANNOTATED ACCORDINGLY.

0683



NATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY OF VIETNAM

- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA -

P.O. Box 21443 - San Jose, CA 95151-21443 • Tel. (408) 272-5918

SAN JOSE, January 5, 1998

Hon. **SANDY BERGER** National Security Advisor
Old Executive Office Building Washington, DC 20501

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Dear Mr. Berger,

We strongly oppose the waiver of the Jackson- Vanik requirement for Vietnam at this time. That communist country continues to deny exit permission to many of its citizens, including many cases of particular interest to the U.S., not just in the ROVR program but also in many other programs which resettle former political prisoners, former U.S. Government employees, religious leaders with approved religious visa petitions, etc.

Even in the ROVR program, Vietnam has not removed the requirement for exit permission. It only delays this requirement until after the eligible applicant is interviewed and admitted by the U.S. for resettlement. At such time, the problem with exit permission will resurface. As you may know, many returnees are still without "household registration," which is a pre-requisite for exit permission. Vietnam has not indicated how it will address this situation.

We also would like to call your attention to the deteriorating human rights conditions in Vietnam. Since the U.S. government normalized relations with Vietnam in 1995, more dissidents and religious leaders have been arrested and imprisoned. Freedom of the press is currently severely restricted, much more so than a decade ago. Last month, a chief editor was arrested for divulging state secrets when he only exposed corruption.

Executive Decree 31/CP issued earlier this year allows the security police even at the ward level to place any political suspect under administrative detention for up to two years.

Vietnam has not made sufficient progress on free emigration or in the general human rights conditions to justify the waiver of Jackson- Vanik. We call on you not to send a wrong message to Vietnam that it can gain trade privileges with the U.S. without having to make any real concessions on human rights, including the right to free emigration.

JAN 29 14:37 Sincerely,
Chairman

VI HUU BUI