

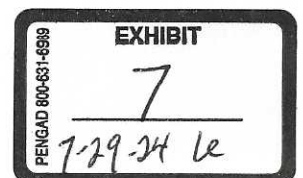
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## Vietnam A Resources List | PDF | Vietnam War | Refugee - Scribd

The Bridge, published by The Indochina Resource Action Center (. IRAC) . Editor :Dr.Le Xuan Khoa. Address : The Bridge. W - 3rd Floor

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to discuss concrete projects on transfer of technology to be implemented in the near future.

**Overview on U.S. NGOs** — In response to an invitation by the People's Aid Coordinating Committee (PACCOM), Dr. Khoa made a brief presentation on the non-governmental organizations in the U.S., their national and international interests, their humanitarian, professional and advocacy roles, and their funding sources. He emphasized the increasingly important and appropriate role of NGOs in the post-Cold War era to promote peace, democracy, and development, particularly in developing nations and war-torn countries.

**Meeting with UNDP** — During his visit to Washington D.C. in May 1995, UNDP/Vietnam Representative Roy Morey visited SEARAC and expressed his interest in SEARAC's program in Vietnam, particularly its plan to mobilize Vietnamese-American professionals in future reconstruction and development activities. SEARAC President Le Xuan Khoa visited UNDP's Hanoi office on August 6th where he discussed with UNDP Deputy Representative Jordan Ryan the need to enhance UNDP's TOKTEN program (Transfer of Knowledge Through Expatriate Nationals), and how SEARAC could be helpful in this effort. This possibility will be explored further once a new agreement on UNDP's entire program has been signed by the Vietnamese government, probably later in August.

#### TESTIFYING ON THE CPA

On July 25, SEARAC's President Le Xuan Khoa was invited to testify before a joint hearing on the Comprehensive Plan of Action co-chaired by Congressman Doug Bereuter, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, and Congressman Chris Smith, Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights. Khoa proposed a six-point plan which he qualified as both humanitarian in nature and realistic in terms of resettlement, repatriation, and assistance. He defined a number of categories of asylum-seekers that need to be re-interviewed for resettlement. Those who do not meet new resettlement criteria should be assisted in their repatriation and their effort to rebuild their lives in Vietnam. The full text of Khoa's testimony appears on the cover page of this issue.

#### SEARAC RECEIVES LEADERSHIP AWARD

On July 20 in Los Angeles, California, LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics) honored SEARAC's President Le Xuan Khoa for his "outstanding contributions and his efforts to promote greater understanding of Asian Pacific American issues and concerns." Other honorees were: William G. Ouchi, Chief of Staff to the Mayor of Los Angeles; Beulah Quo, one of Hollywood's most respected and successful Asian-American character actresses, and founding member of East West Players, the nation's first Asian American theater company; Paul Y. Sasaki, Vice

President and General Manager of the Civil and International Systems Division of TRW; and SIPA, the Search to Involve Pilipino Americans, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit community service agency founded in 1972.

The proceeds from the awards banquet will help LEAP to work toward full participation and equality for Asian Pacific Americans locally, regionally, and nationally.

#### SUPPORTING TORTURE VICTIMS RELIEF ACT

On May 3, 1995, SEARAC President Le Xuan Khoa wrote to Congresswoman Constance A. Morella, his representative (MD/8th District), urging her to co-sponsor the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1995 (H.R. 1416) introduced in the 104th Congress by Representatives Christopher Smith and Tom Lantos. The Act expedites the application by torture victims for refugee or asylum status and supports treatment programs for victims of torture in the United States. These provisions enable victims to recover their lives and become productive members of our communities. The Act also supports treatment programs abroad, both bilaterally and through the United Nations. These programs enable torture victims to continue their work on behalf of human rights.

On July 21, SEARAC President co-signed with some fifty non-governmental organizations and human rights groups a letter supporting the Comprehensive Torture Victims Relief Act (S. 1058) introduced in the Senate by Senator Paul D. Wellstone.

#### NEW FACES

*Clement K. Luc* served as SEARAC's Business Manager from 1984-85. He recently moved back to Washington, D.C. from California and rejoined us on a part-time basis to assist on compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices and help bring SEARAC's accounting system into the computer age.

*Duyen H. Nguyen* joined SEARAC in August as Program Coordinator. He is managing SEARAC's capacity-building projects, with specific focus on the National Alliance for Vietnamese-American Service Agencies (NAVASA) program and an innovative MAA Capacity Building Project under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Heritage Affairs Commission (PHAC). Duyen formerly served as Deputy Executive Director of the Southeast Asian Community Center in San Francisco, California; Director of Refugee Services at Lutheran Social Services in Chicago, Illinois; Deputy Director of the Joint Voluntary Agency, Hong Kong. He has also worked as a Targeted Assistance Grant Program Coordinator and Refugee Resettlement Specialist. He is a graduate of the University of Saigon Law School, with a BA in Criminal Justice.