

**NATIONAL
SECURITY COMMITTEE**
Chairman,
Personnel Subcommittee
Research and Development
Subcommittee

**PERMANENT
SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE**
Chairman,
Subcommittee on Technical
and Tactical Intelligence

**United States
House of Representatives**



Robert K. Dornan

January 22, 1996

46th DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
DISTRICT OFFICE:
800 Plaza Alicante, Suite 360
Garden Grove, CA 92640
(714) 971-9292

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
1201 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2965

CONGRESSIONAL TASK FORCE
Narcotics Abuse and Control Cal.
Property Rights Coalition
Human Rights Caucus

Dr. Tich Ngoc Truong, M.D.
Chairman
Vietnamese American Community of the USA
P. O. Box 720489
Dallas, TX 75372

Dear Dr. Truong:

Thank you for your letter regarding the apparent attempt by Mr. Le Xuan Khoa and his SEARAC organization to use American tax dollars to lobby for the communist government of Vietnam. My congressional district is located in Orange County, California which has the nation's largest Vietnamese-American population. In addition, I made numerous visits to Vietnam during the war and have always been a strong advocate of freedom and democracy in Southeast Asia. Since the tragic days that followed the fall of Saigon in 1975 when the refugees began arriving on American soil, I have admired the hard work, pride and love of freedom that has enabled the Vietnamese community to achieve tremendous progress in their new homeland.

I support the Vietnamese American Community's opposition to U.S. government funding for any individual or organization that seeks to be of service or seeks common cause with the tyrannical communist government in Vietnam. I believe that community development in America must be free of any organization's outside political agendas, especially those which involve direct or indirect support of dictatorial regimes.

Enclosed is my letter to Mrs. Lavinia Limon, Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement at the Department of Health and Human Services that states my opposition to continued funding of SEARAC or the designation of that organization as an "umbrella" conduit for disbursing grants to Vietnamese-American community organizations nationwide. The danger of empowering SEARAC with a multi-million dollar community development grant is that it may allow that organization to politically manipulate or penalize smaller community agencies that do not share its political agenda. In addition, I sent Mrs. Limon a copy of Le Xuan Khoa's recent interview in "The People's Army Daily" in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Congressman Robert K. Dornan
January 22, 1996

I wish a happy and successful New Year to the Vietnamese-American community. I hope that in 1996 real steps are made toward the realization of democracy and freedom in Vietnam.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Dornan", with a large circular flourish above the first few letters.

Robert K. Dornan
U.S. Congressman

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CONGRESSIONAL TASK FORCES
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Property Rights Coalition
Human Rights Caucus

January 22, 1996

Mrs. Lavinia Limon
Director, Office of Refugee Resettlement
Administration for Children and Families
Department of Health and Human Services
370 L'Enfant Promenade S.W.
Washington, DC 20447

Dear Mrs. Limon:

As a member of Congress from Orange County, California I represent the nation's largest Vietnamese-American community. Recently, my office has been inundated with telephone calls and correspondence from respected Vietnamese American leaders in my district and from across the United States expressing their opposition to the ORR funding of SEARAC or NAVASA as a primary provider of technical assistance to the refugee community service agencies. They state that their opposition is based on 1) a history of unfair bidding for ORRR grants related to refugee resettlement and community development; 2) published statements in the communist army newspaper in Vietnam by SEARAC president Le Xuan Khoa that indicate his intention to mobilize the Vietnamese-American community to support the Communist regime in Vietnam.

I support the Vietnamese American Community's opposition to U.S. government funding for SEARAC, its off-shoot NAVASA or any individual or organization that seeks to be of service or seeks common cause with the tyrannical communist government in Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia. I believe that community development in America must be free of any organization's outside political agendas, especially those which involve direct or indirect support of dictatorial regimes. Mr. Khoa's comments have politicized a process that should be strictly humanitarian. In addition, his previous support for the United Nations plan to send Indochinese refugees back to Vietnam has earned him widespread contempt within the refugee community.

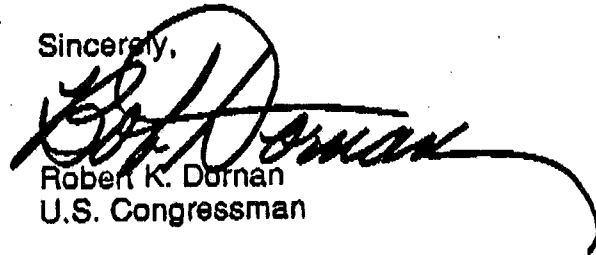
For more than two decades I have observed and supported with great admiration the development of the Vietnamese-American community. Since the tragic days of 1975 that followed the fall of Saigon when refugees began arriving on American soil, they have overcome overwhelming obstacles of language and culture by their hard work, pride and love of freedom. These wonderful virtues have enabled the Vietnamese community to achieve tremendous progress in their new homeland. The key to their future success is unity. Any organization that creates divisiveness within the community is a detriment. Given the amount of controversy and anguish that Mr. Le Xuan Khoa and his organizations have created I do not believe that they should be funded by American taxpayers or be in a position to use financial power to unfairly pressure or manipulate community-based agencies.

Congressman Robert K. Dornan
January 22, 1996

I hereby request that you provide to my office: 1) guidelines for ORR grants for refugee community development; 2) all records related to the competitive bidding process regarding to the refugee community grant in question; 3) all records related to the competitive bidding process regarding previous grants given to IRAC, SEARAC, NAVASA, the Cambodian Network Council and the Indochinese Community Center; 4) information on how agencies that are funded for domestic community development are also permitted to administer programs in foreign countries or act as lobbyists for the interests of foreign countries; 5) copies of any laws or regulations related to lobbying efforts by non-profit 501(c)3 agencies that receive government funds.

Please provide these records to my office by February 8, 1996. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact my assistant Al Santoli at 225-2965. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert K. Dornan", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Robert K. Dornan
U.S. Congressman

Enclosures

JESSE HELMS, NORTH CAROLINA, CHAIRMAN

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-8225

January 11, 1996

JAMES W. NANCE, STAFF DIRECTOR
EDWIN K. HALL, MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL & STAFF DIRECTOR

Dr. Tich Ngoc Truong
Vietnamese American Community of the U.S.A.
P.O. Box 720489
Dallas, TX 75372

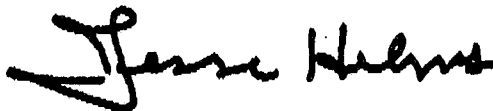
Dear Dr. Truong:

Thank you for your letter concerning repatriation of Vietnamese refugees.

The Foreign Relations Committee did not discuss this issue during consideration of The Foreign Relations Revitalization Act (S.908). However, as you may know, the House of Representatives passed an amendment during consideration of The American Overseas Interest Act (H.R. 1561) introduced by Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ) which acknowledges flaws in the Comprehensive Plan for Action screening process and authorizes appropriations necessary for resettlement of some of the refugees currently housed in camps throughout Southeast Asia.

The United States had many faithful allies during the Vietnam War and I greatly value their contribution. I appreciate you sharing your views with me and will take them into consideration when the Senate legislation reaches the floor.

Sincerely,



JESSE HELMS

JH: cm

PHIL GRAMM
TEXAS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510-4302

January 30, 1996

Dr. Tich Ngoc Truong
Chairman of the Board of Representatives
Vietnamese American Community of the U.S.A.
P.O. Box 720489
Dallas, Texas 75372

Dear Dr. Truong:

Thank you for your letter concerning the expenditure of federal funds by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to fund the activities of the National Alliance of Vietnamese-American Service Agencies (NAVASA).

I share your concern over needless federal spending and believe that all areas of federal spending should be subject to close scrutiny. In this time of unacceptable budget deficits, it is imperative that we prioritize federal spending so that the most important programs are addressed while the others are curtailed, controlled, or, if only absolutely necessary, eliminated.

I have contacted ORR Director Allan Gall on your behalf and urged him to investigate the awarding of federal grant funds or other assistance for this project. I have specifically expressed to him your concerns over the use of federal funds for NAVASA's activities. When I hear back from Director Gall, I will contact you again.

I appreciate having the opportunity to represent you in the United States Senate.

Yours respectfully,



PHIL GRAMM
United States Senator

PG:wmc

CHARLES S. ROBB
VIRGINIA

HAMPTON ROADS OFFICE:
Dominion Towers, Suite 107
999 Waterside Drive
Norfolk, VA 23510
(804) 441-3124
Email: senator@robb.senate.gov

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4603

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
FOREIGN RELATIONS
INTELLIGENCE
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
Vice Chairman
Democratic Policy Committee

February 1, 1996

Ms. Kim Cook
Executive Director
Mutual Assistance Associations Consortium, Inc.
6131 Willston Drive, #6
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

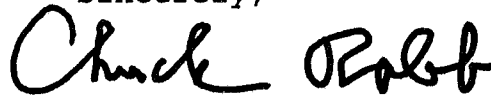
Dear Ms. Cook:

Thank you for your recent letter.

I am making inquiries on your behalf and will share the results with you when they become available.

Again, thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Sincerely,



Charles S. Robb

CSR/rew

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Russell Senate Office Building
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(202) 224-4024

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The Ironfronts, Suite 310
1011 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 771-2221

Regional Offices:

First Union Bank Building
Main Street
Clintwood, VA 24228
(540) 826-4104

Signet Bank Building
530 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541
(804) 791-0330

Crestar Bank Building
310 First Street SW, Suite 102
Roanoke, VA 24011
(540) 986-0103



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CONSTITUENT SERVICES OFFICES:
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HERNDON, VA 22071
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WINCHESTER, VA 22601
(703) 867-0890

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4610

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COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE

February 7, 1996

Mrs. Kim Cook
3406 Rose Lane
Falls Church, Virginia 22042

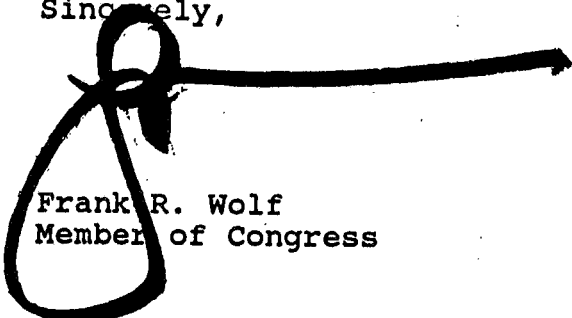
Dear Mrs. Cook:

I am enclosing an interim response from the Department of Health & Human Services in answer to the inquiry I initiated on your behalf.

Please be assured that as soon as I receive further information, I will forward it to you. In the meantime, if you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me, or my staff assistant, Judy McCary, at my Herndon address.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress

FRW:tc

Enclosure