



Southeast Asia Resource Action Center

April 15, 1996

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The Honorable Robert K. Dornan
U.S. House of Representatives
1201 Longworth Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Dornan:

SEARAC, the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, has received your inquiry dated March 5, 1996. The Board of Directors has asked me to respond to you on SEARAC's behalf.

You have requested hundreds of records, the production of which would hinder SEARAC from pursuing its important mission of Southeast Asian refugee assistance. In addition, many of the records you have requested are confidential and privileged. We have enclosed SEARAC's Form 990s for the fiscal years 1991, 1992 and 1993 (the FY 1994 Form 990 is not yet due), which by law would be available to you in our offices upon request. We have redacted those parts of the returns that are not publicly available by law.

We are also transmitting to you some additional materials that we believe address the allegations provided to you by a few Vietnamese-Americans that SEARAC misused U.S. government funding for "subversive self-interest at the behest of a foreign government." The enclosed materials illuminate SEARAC's role over the last 16 years as one of the premier non-governmental organizations protecting Southeast Asian refugees from political and religious persecution and in building strong communities and self-help organizations for those refugees fortunate enough to be resettled here in the United States. As you can see from the enclosed material, SEARAC is a highly-respected organization that has gained the admiration and support of government leaders and non-governmental organizations from across the political spectrum. There is no basis whatsoever on which to challenge the honesty or patriotism of SEARAC or its dedicated staff. We hope that this information is useful to you.

Sincerely,

Dale Fredrick Swartz, Esq.
Spokesperson for the Board

Enclosures

* Executive Committee

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