

Current Class: UNCLASSIFIED  
Current Handling: n/a  
Document Number: 2007HANOI01820

RELEASED IN PART  
B2, B6, B7(C), B7(A), B1, 1.4(D)

Channel: n/a

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ACTION VO-00

INF0	LOG-00	CA-00	INL-00	EAP-00	UTED-00	H-00	TEDE-00
	L-00	MOFM-00	MOF-00	NSAE-00	OCS-00	OMB-00	CAEX-00
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O 220550Z OCT 07  
FM AMEMBASSY HANOI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6555  
INFO AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. HEDGBETH, DAS, A/ISS  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT R STRAND  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 21 OCT 2022  
DATE/CASE ID: 09 OCT 2008 200801293

UNCLAS HANOI 001820

DEPT FOR CA/VO, CA/OCS/CI AND EAP/MLS

PHNOM PENH FOR CONS

BANGKOK FOR USCIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS CASC CMGT KOCI VM  
SUBJECT: Vietnam September Adoption Issues Cable

1. (SBU) Summary: During the month of September post issued 65 adoption related immigrant visas. Post also significantly expanded its field verification of adoption cases. In the 14 cases we reviewed, significant fraud concerns were found in all 14 cases. In seven cases these issues led USCIS to issue Notices of Intent to Deny the I-600 petitions.



Post also met with ASPs to introduce the new Vietnam Processing System. The ASP response to this initiative was very positive. Finally, post met with foreign consular officers to organize a multilateral effort to encourage Vietnam to sign the Hague Convention on International Adoption. End Summary.

2. (SBU) This cable inaugurates post's monthly adoption activity reports. These reports will focus on post's fraud prevention activities and contacts with the GVN, ASPs and third-country consular officers in Vietnam. During the month of September, post processed 65 IR3/4 visa. With the arrival of the full complement of American direct hires, post was able to significantly increase the number of field verifications it conducted as part of the I-604

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process. Post found significant fraud indicators in all 14 cases investigated, and USCIS issued 7 Notices of Intent to Deny (NOIDs) as a result of field verifications.

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Problematic Cases  
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3. (SBU) In all but three of the cases investigated, post saw a common pattern of children abandoned under highly improbable circumstances. In several cases, when interviewed by consular officers, the persons who supposedly found the abandoned children ("child-finders") completely disowned the statements in their original affidavits.

[Redacted] B2, B6, B7(C), B7(A)

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B2, B6, B7(C)

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Policy Issues  
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7. (SBU) On September 19, Embassy Hanoi held its quarterly meeting with ASPs. The main focus of the meeting was to discuss the proposed new Vietnam Processing Initiative. The meeting was opened by the Ambassador, and presentations were made by ConOff and USCIS officials. All of the agencies at the meeting welcomed the new initiative and felt that it would make processing simpler for PAPs. Comment: USCIS had intended to have the policy cleared in time for the September 19 meeting. Unfortunately, the initiative is still pending final clearance at USCIS headquarters. This delay is creating confusion for ASPs and post has seen a rush of particularly troubling cases from certain ASPs trying to "beat the deadline." Post would appreciate any efforts that can be made to expedite the publication of the new policy. End Comment

8. (SBU) The US Embassy also chaired a meeting of consular officers from other countries that process adoptions in Vietnam. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted] All ConOffs agreed to consult with their capitals on forming a multilateral strategy to encourage Vietnam to join the Hague Convention on International Adoption.

9. (U) This message was coordinated with Consulate General Ho Chi Minh City.

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