

Brown, Melissa A **RELEASED, NON-RESPONSIVE DELETED**

From: NR Aloisi, Jonathan M (Hanoi)
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2007 6:53 AM
To: Aloisi, Jonathan M (Hanoi); Blackshaw, Brett; Richelsoph, David N; Rapson, Robert G; Nagy, Eleanor; Bestic, Edward B; Cope, Aaron M; Dorsey, Dion S; Hodges, Carolyn C; Brown, Melissa A; Marciel, Scot A
Cc: Michalak, Michael W (Hanoi); Lam, Monica M (Hanoi); DeLuca, Alexandra (Hanoi); Chakwin, Mark B (Hanoi); Fairfax, Ken J (Ho Chi Minh City); Dickey, Angela R (Ho Chi Minh City); Preston, Courtney M (Hanoi); Aggeler, Brian C (Hanoi); Tousignant, Alan R (Hanoi); Mattingley, Donald G (Hanoi)
Subject: O-I #169-07
Attachments: P R E S S B R I E F I N G.doc; Consular Access Visit -- Le's.doc; Issue Paper - Human Rights - updated December62007 (2).doc; Issue Paper - Religious Freedom - updated December6 2007.doc; VNprogresssonHR112007.doc

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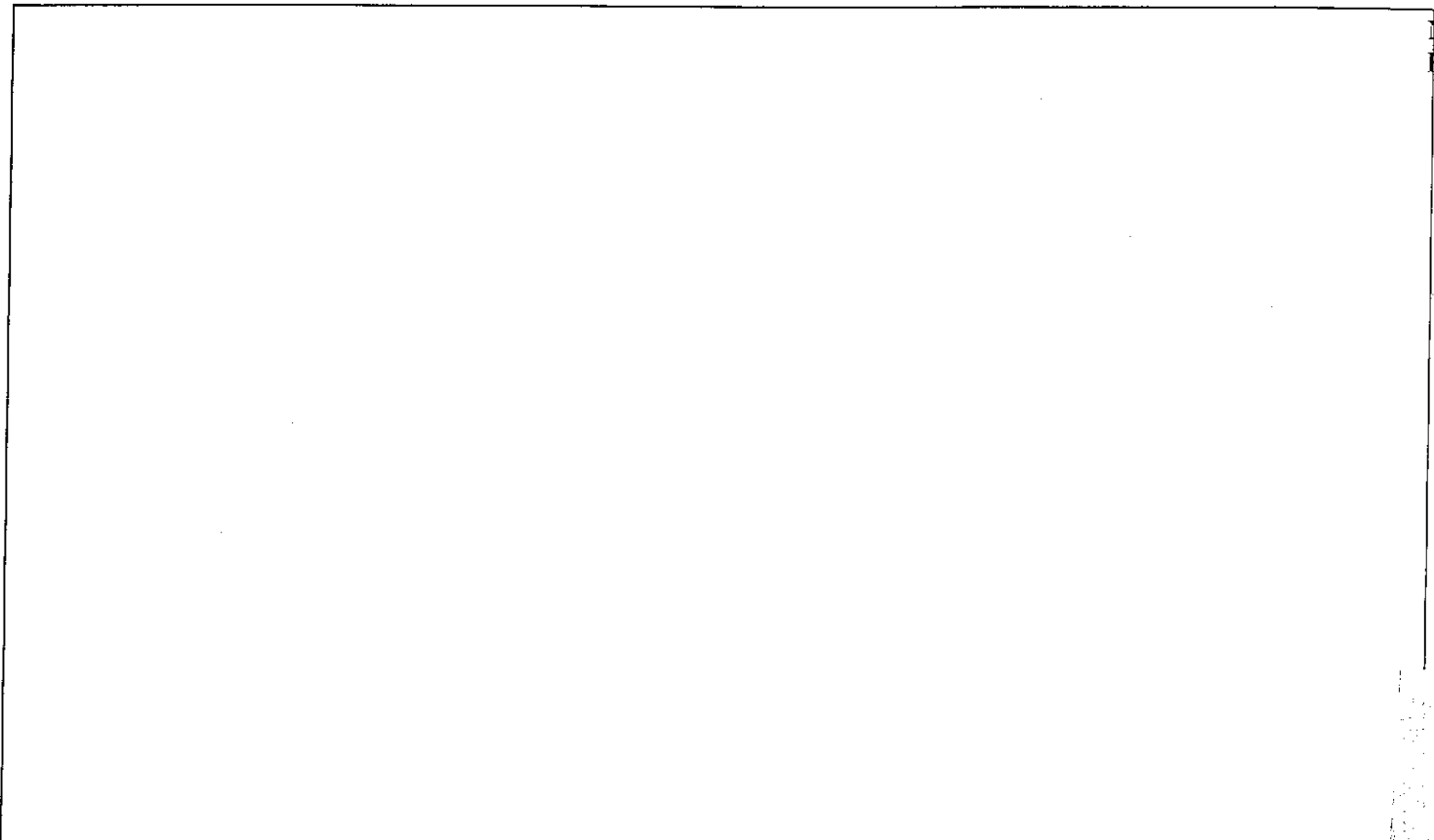
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(SBU) Adoptions - CA A/S Harty plans "Clampdown": As you'll soon see in the A/S Harty trip reporting cable, the GVN admitted to us during the

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discussions here that serious abuses are not only occurring, but that they can do nothing to change the fundamental situation until new legislation is developed and passed. Abuses include baby buying and farming, as documented in Hanoi cables over the past months. This has led A/S Harty to propose modifications in the adoptions program, in part to stop abuses and in part to cause all players, including corrupt elements, to focus on getting that legislation in place rather than in throwing wrenches into the reform process. She pitched this to her interlocutors. Now, to answer your question about how and when this issue has been raised:

- Ambassador Michalak raised adoption issues with Minister of Justice and delivered a letter expressing outlining our serious concerns about the sustainability of the MOU in late October.
- In his initial calls in September, Ambassador Michalak raised adoption issues and expressed our concerns with the Chairman of the Law Committee of the National Assembly and the Director of Consular at MFA
- The DCM has raised adoption issues with the Americas Department at MFA multiple times, and has also held meetings with MOJ and MFA Consular officials about the problems, over the past year.
- ConsChief has almost daily communication with the Director of DIA, and has sent numerous letters outlining problems with cases over the past three months.
- In October, the Mission and USCIS HCMC publicly announced Orphans First, explicitly mentioning problems with adoptions in Vietnam.
- In November, the Mission published a public announcement on its website about problems with adoptions in Vietnam.
- In June, Ambassador Marine discussed adoption concerns in frank terms with the Minister of Justice.
- In March, Ambassador Marine sent a letter to the Minister of Justice outlining concerns about DIA and the GVN's failure to implement the MOA, suspicious abandonments etc.

Thanks for the heads up about the Information Memo. We'll send the list above to CA for their information in crafting this.