



United States Department of State
RELEASED IN PART

Washington, D.C. 20520

200803431

2008 Feb 29 7 514

February 28, 2008

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

ACTION MEMO FOR UNDER SECRETARY KENNEDY - M

FROM: CA - Janice Jacobs, Acting

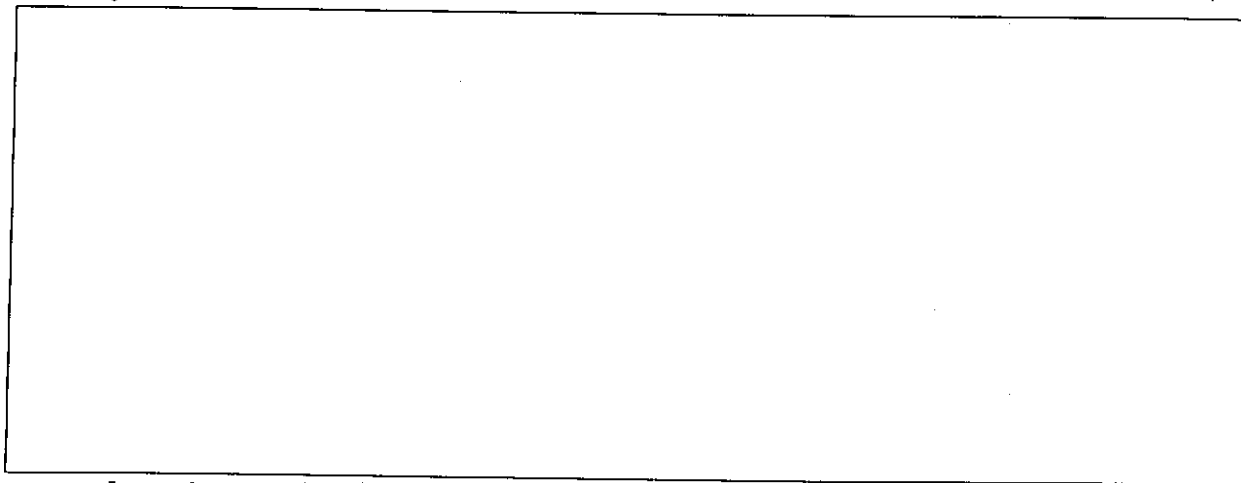
SUBJECT: Responding to Letters of Complaint about Vietnamese Adoptions

Recommendation

That you sign the attached three letters responding to complaints about the way Embassy Hanoi has handled recent adoption cases.

Approve *[Signature]* Disapprove _____
03/04/08

Background



B6

In each case, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) issued the family a Letter of Notice of Intent to Deny (NOID) in reference to their immigrant visa petition, based upon DOS investigations in Vietnam. To rebut the denial, the families hired local investigators, retained counsel, and incurred separations and additional travel/living expenses. Resolving their cases required several months. Thus, even though their petitions and visas were ultimately approved, the families feel aggrieved.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

The implementation of Orphan First for Vietnam should go a long way toward preventing such problems, but you may want to respond in an effort to respond sympathetically to their frustration, but defend the actions of Embassy Hanoi in pursuing due diligence in these cases. Your signing this letter will indicate that we have raised their concerns to ensure a higher level of review.

Attachments:

Tab 1 - Proposed Replies to [redacted] families

B6

Tab 2 - Incoming correspondence from [redacted]
families

B6

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

Drafted: CA/OCS/CI: GFuller x3-2928 2/25/08
X3-2928

Cleared: CA/OCS: MBernier-Toth (ok)
OCS/CI: JFuruta-Toy (ok)
PRI:AMCoburn (ok)
L/CA: G Dickey (ok)
CA/VO/L: JGorsky (ok)
EAP/MLS:MBrown (ok)
Embassy Hanoi: ATousignant (ok)
CA: JRuterbories (ok)
SES-CR:EHardy *EH*

Approved: CA/OCS: MTBond (ok)

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED