ROBERT L. FUNSETH

May 26, 2008 Memorial Day

Dr. Stephen Maxner, Director The Vietnam Center Texas Tech University Lubbock, Texas

Dear Dr. Maxner:

I feel deeply honored by your very kind letter inviting me to be present at the opening of The Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Collection on May 28, 2008 at the Vietnam Center of Texas Tech University.

I also wish to express my great appreciation for your much too generous words of my diplomatic efforts on behalf of the political prisoners beginning in 1982 and culminating with the signing of the agreement in Hanoi on July 29, 1989. Many, many persons inside and outside of government participated in this historic humanitarian effort, including the Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association.

And so I am especially pleased that you have provided me the opportunity once again to express my profound appreciation and admiration to the Families Association and its dedicated and generous members under the distinguished leadership of its remarkable President, Khuc Minh Tho.

I shall always treasure the moment when—after the long flight from Vietnam—when I stepped off the plane at Washington Reagan National Airport and to find waiting for me at the gate to welcome me home was Khuc Minh Tho, Trinh Ngoc Dung and other Association members.

The University and the Center and its dedicated staff are to be commended for creating this archive to preserve the historical record of this momentous event in our history and of all those persons who endured great pain and suffering as well as all those who dedicated their lives to heal the wounds of war.

Once again thank you for your invitation to attend this event honoring such a wonderful humanitarian endeaver: The Families of Vietnamese Political Prisoners Association and its President, Khuc Minh Tho.

Please extend my congratulations and best wishes to all those in attendance, including you and your associates Ms. Mary Safell and Ms. Anna Maket.

Sincerely

Robert Funseth

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