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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

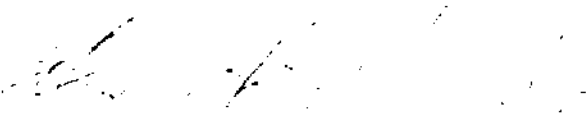
June 29, 1989

Charles E. Moore, Esq.  
Sandy Springs Office Court  
325 Hammond Drive, N.E.  
Suite 300  
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am responding to your April 12, 1989, letter to the Department's Legal Adviser regarding the case of Mung Thi Lai. It is the position of the Department of State that access by nationals of Vietnam to U.S. courts for resolution of purely private claims arising in the United States after 1975, such as those brought by your client, would not be inconsistent with the foreign policy interests of the United States. The question of possible suits by purported governmental entities is, of course, entirely separate and is not addressed by this letter. Further, the position expressed here in no way affects the current U.S. governmental restrictions that apply to financial transactions with nationals of Vietnam.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth G. Verville  
Deputy Legal Adviser

cc: Stephen L. Goldner, Esq.  
2823 Paces Ferry Road  
Atlanta, Georgia 30339-3774

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