

**KERMIT MARSH
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Mayor Pro Tern's Personal Correspondence

November 1, 2002

Via Facsimile (714) 890-6072

Vietnamese Community of Southern California
9191 Bolsa Avenue, Suite 222
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My Dear Friends in the Vietnamese American Community:

As the Mayor Pro Tem of Westminster, California, representing one of the largest Vietnamese American communities, I acknowledge and share your concerns regarding:

1. The actions of the Communist regime currently in power in Vietnam, which in December 1999 and December 2000 appears to have illegally and in secret conceded approximately 270 square miles of land and 4247 square miles of sea territory to the Communist regime currently in power in China. This apparent concession of territory, without compensation and without ratification by the Vietnamese people, effectively surrendered territories of great historical importance, for which previous generations of Vietnamese had fought and died.

2. The continuing absence of democracy and the lack of basic freedoms, including freedom of the press, which allowed the Communist regime currently in power in Vietnam to surrender historic territories to a foreign power in secret, thereby denying the Vietnamese people the opportunity to voice their opposition to the surrender of territory and explain how this will injure their livelihood and security for many generations to come.

(This correspondence prepared without taxpayer expense.)