

**Cy Thao**  
State Representative

District 65A  
Ramsey County



# Minnesota House of Representatives

**COMMITTEES:** HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES FINANCE DIVISION  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
TAXES  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
March 23, 2007

The Honorable Ralph Boyce  
Ambassador  
United States Embassy  
Bangkok, Thailand

Dear Ambassador Boyce:

We, the undersigned members of the Minnesota House of Representatives, are writing to urge your assistance in communicating with the Government of Thailand regarding the fall 2005 exhumations of the graves of at least 700 deceased Hmong refugees buried at Wat Tham Krabok monastery in Saraburi, Thailand. The Minnesota House of Representatives, through an April 24, 2006, resolution recognized the violations that had been committed against Hmong families who reside in our State. We believe that the United States Embassy can assist in achieving a resolution of this situation and we urge you to do so as soon as possible to prevent any further anguish for the families of the deceased.

In the attached report, the Governor of Saraburi Province acknowledged the existence of 211 bodily remains from the Hmong graves at Wat Tham Krabok and offered indirectly to return them to the relatives of the deceased.

We now request the Embassy's assistance with this matter by contacting the Government of Thailand to make an urgent demand to preserve absolutely and indefinitely all disinterred remains from Wat Tham Krabok, including 211 bodies identified by the Saraburi Governor's office. Additionally, we request that you send an official of the United States Embassy to Saraburi to view the remains, to verify the conditions in which they are being held, and to gather and communicate to us as much information as possible in order to assist in the dignified transfer of the remains to their families. Finally, we request the Embassy's assistance in working with the Hmong relatives, most of whom have been resettled in the United States, including those in California, Minnesota, North Carolina, and Wisconsin, to make arrangements for the proper relocation of the remains.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cy Thao".

Cy Thao  
State Representative

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