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St. Paul Mayor To Send Mission About Hmong Graves

St. Paul (AP) - St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman says he will send a fact-finding delegation to Thailand to explore options for helping families affected by the desecration of more than 900 graves of Hmong refugees in 2005.

The graves at the Wat Tham Krabok refugee camp were exhumed by workers who can be seen on videotape dismembering remains and removing the bones. The site is a Buddhist monastery, where officials have said the graves were contaminating the water supply.

The mayor's delegation will travel to Thailand Sept. 21-29. It will be led by state Sen. Mee Moua, the first Hmong-American legislator in the U.S.

St. Paul has the highest urban concentration of Hmong in the country.