

September 30, 2003: Vietnam: Commissioner Shea to testify at Congressional Members' briefing

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WASHINGTON - Commission Vice Chair Nina Shea will testify on behalf of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom at the Congressional Caucus on Vietnam and the Congressional Human Rights Caucus Joint Members' Briefing: "Vietnam: A People Silenced - The Vietnamese Government's Assault on the Media and Access to Information." Shea will testify about the ways the Vietnamese government maintains strict control over speech, including the media and Internet, and how it continues to suppress religious freedom. The U.S. government's current approach to protect free speech and religious freedom has failed to yield concrete results. Commissioner Shea also will make recommendations, including that Congress press the State Department to designate Vietnam a "country of particular concern." Who: The Congressional Caucus on Vietnam and the Congressional Human Rights Caucus What: Joint Members' Briefing: "Vietnam: A People Silenced - The Vietnamese Government's Assault on the Media and Access to Information" When: Wednesday, October 1, 2003, 2:00-3:30 p.m. Where: 2255 Rayburn House Office Building

Dean Michael K. Young, Chair

- Felice D. Gaer, Vice Chair Nina Shea, Vice Chair Preeti D. Bansal Archbishop Charles J. Chaput Khaled Abou El Fadl Richard Land Bishop Ricardo Ramirez Leila Nadya Sadat Ambassador John V. Hanford III, Ex-Officio Joseph R. Crapa, Executive Director