



**THE ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM
AND
THE FUND FOR RECONCILIATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Invite You To A Luncheon Discussion On

**“THE LEGACY OF AGENT ORANGE:
CAN THE UNITED STATES AND VIETNAM
FIND A SOLUTION?”**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2005

12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

**7TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM,
INTERCULTURAL CENTER
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY**

More than thirty years after Agent Orange was sprayed on Vietnam by the United States and its allies the impact of dioxin, the deadly toxin contained in the defoliant, is still evident in the country's environment and in the health of its people. Vietnam's recovery from a decade of dioxin exposure involves cleaning up "hot spots" around former U.S. bases where dioxin still leeches into the soil; restoring the environment; and meeting the needs of hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese believed to have suffered severe medical problems and birth defects as a result of their (or their parents') exposure to Agent Orange.

These profound needs are a source of tension in U.S.-Vietnamese relations, and one recent U.S. Ambassador to Hanoi has dubbed Agent Orange the "last significant ghost" of the Vietnam War. A joint U.S.-Vietnam research project on Agent Orange was cancelled, and a class action lawsuit brought by Vietnamese victims of Agent Orange against American chemical companies that manufactured defoliants used in the war was dismissed earlier this year. An appeal is in progress.

The luncheon will feature a delegation from Vietnam including Dr. Nguyen Trong Nhan, former President of the Vietnam Red Cross, now representing the Vietnam Association for Victims of Agent Orange Dioxin; Agent Orange sufferers Mrs. Dang Thi Hong Nhut; Mr Ho Sy Hai; and Mr. Nguyen Muoi; Mr. Vu Binh, of the Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations; and Ms. Merle Ratner, of the Vietnam Agent Orange Relief and Responsibility Campaign.

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