



Chronology of U.S. - Vietnam Relations

April 30, 1975	North Vietnamese forces take over the southern part of Vietnam, ending the war. Washington extends an embargo to all of Vietnam and breaks diplomatic relations.
1978	Talks between Hanoi and Washington on normalizing relations break down.
1988	Under the Reagan Administration, Vietnam begins cooperation with the United States to resolve the fate of American servicemen missing in action (MIA).
September 1989	Vietnam completes its withdrawal from Cambodia.
April 1991	Under the Bush Administration, Washington presents Hanoi with a "roadmap" plan for phased normalization of ties. The two sides agree to open a U.S. government office in Hanoi to help settle MIA issues.
April 1991	U.S. begins humanitarian aid projects for war victims to be administered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).
October 1991	The Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs established with Senator John Kerry as Chair and Senator Bob Smith Vice Chair.
October 1991	Vietnam supports U.N. peace plan for Cambodia. Secretary of State James Baker announces Washington is ready to take steps toward normalizing relations with Hanoi.
December 1991	Washington lifts the ban on organized U.S. travel to Vietnam.
1991	U.S. Congress authorizes the United States Information Agency (USIA) to begin exchange programs with Vietnam.
February 1992	Joint Task Force - Full Accounting founded to conduct field activity on MIA accounting with General Thomas Needham in command.
February 1993	The work of the Senate Select Committee concludes.
July 2, 1993	President Clinton clears way for resumption of international lending including IMF and World Bank to Vietnam.
January 26, 1994	Senate amendment (S.AMDT.1266) re: the lifting of sanctions being contingent upon a resolution of all cases or reports of unaccounted for U.S. personnel lost or captured during the war in Vietnam fails by a vote of 42-58.
February 3, 1994	President Clinton lifts trade embargo.
January 28, 1995	United States and Vietnam sign agreements settling property claims and establishing liaison offices in each other's capitals.

May 15, 1995	Vietnam gives U.S. presidential delegation batch of documents on missing Americans, later hailed by Pentagon as most detailed and informative of their kind.
June 1995	Veterans of Foreign Wars announces support of U.S. normalization of diplomatic relations with Vietnam.
July 11, 1995	President Clinton announces "normalization of relations" with Vietnam.
August 6, 1995	Secretary of State Warren Christopher visits Hanoi and officially opens U.S. embassy. Vietnam opens embassy in Washington
September 20, 1995	Senate amendment (S.AMDT.2723) re: prohibiting financial assistance to Vietnam unless certain conditions relating to Americans unaccounted for from the Vietnam War are met fails by a vote of 39-58 (3 NV).
May 1996	U.S. presents Vietnam with trade agreement blueprint.
July 25, 1996	Senate amendment (S.AMDT.5027) re: striking funds made available for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for technical assistance fails by a vote of 43-56 (1 NV).
April 7, 1997	U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Finance Minister Nguyen Sinh Hung sign accord in Hanoi for Vietnam to repay debts of \$145 million, from the former government of South Vietnam.
April 10, 1997	Senate confirms Douglas "Pete" Peterson, Vietnam War veteran and former prisoner of war (POW), as Ambassador.
April 16, 1997	United States and Vietnam reach agreement on providing legal protection for copyright owners.
May 9, 1997	Peterson takes up post as U.S. Ambassador in Hanoi, Le Van Bang becomes Ambassador in Washington, DC.
August 1997	U.S. government, under the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), begins a commercial law program.
October 1997	Vietnam institutes new processing procedure in ROVR program significantly improving progress.
March 11, 1998	President Clinton issues waiver of Jackson-Vanik Amendment for Vietnam, paving the way for OPIC, Ex-Im, TDA, USDA and MARAD.
March 26, 1998	Minister of Planning & Investment Tran Xuan Gia and Ambassador Pete Peterson finalize signing of the OPIC bilateral for Vietnam.
July 23, 1998	The U.S. Senate votes 66-34 to continue funding for the U.S. Embassy in Vietnam based on ongoing cooperation on the POW/MIA issue.
July 30, 1998	The U.S. House of Representatives renews the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam by a 260-163 vote.
October 1998	U.S. and Vietnam agree to negotiate Science & Technology Agreement.
June 30, 1999	President Clinton re-extends the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam.
July 25, 1999	USTR Ambassador Richard Fisher and Vietnam Trade Minister Tuyen agree to a bilateral trade agreement in principle in Hanoi, Vietnam.

August 3, 1999	The Jackson -Vanik waiver passes the House by a vote of 297-130.
December 9, 1999	Ex-Im and the State Bank of Vietnam complete the framework agreements which allow Ex-Im to begin operations in Vietnam.
March 13, 2000	Secretary of Defense William Cohen becomes the first U.S. Defense Secretary to visit Vietnam since the end of the War.
May 3, 2000	U.S. passes House Concurrent Resolution 295, which urged Hanoi to repeal all laws restricting freedom of expression. It is referred to Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.
July 13, 2000	Vietnam Trade Minister Vu Khoan and USTR Ambassador Barshefsky sign an agreement on trade relations at USTR. President Clinton announces the conclusion of a bilateral trade agreement with a White House Rose Garden ceremony.
July 26, 2000	The U.S. House of Representatives renews the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam by a 332-91 vote.
November 16-20, 2000	President Clinton visits Vietnam, with Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta, USTR Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, Senator John Kerry (D-MA), Congressmen Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Vic Snyder (D-Ark), Mike Thompson (D-CA) and Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-CA). Business delegations and the leadership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars attend.
November 17, 2000	The U.S. Department of Labor and Vietnam's Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs sign a Memorandum of Understanding on Labor cooperation.
January 2001	The Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000 established by an Act of Congress, which will provide annual funding of \$5 million until 2019 for Vietnamese students to study in the United States.
January 15-18, 2001	House Minority leader Dick Gephardt (D-MO) and Congressman Ray LaHood (R-IL) lead a Congressional delegation to Vietnam.
June 1, 2001	President Bush renews the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam.
June 8, 2001	President Bush transmits the request for NTR for Vietnam and implementation of the trade agreement to Congress.
July 17, 2001	Senate Finance Committee consideration and mark-up session held. BTA ordered to be reported by voice vote.
July 26, 2001	House Committee on Ways and Means consideration and mark-up session held. BTA ordered to be reported by voice vote.
July 26, 2001	The U.S. House of Representatives renews the Jackson-Vanik waiver for Vietnam by a 324-91 vote.
September 6, 2001	BTA passes by voice vote in the U.S. House of Representatives.
October 3, 2001	BTA passes without amendment by 88 - 12 vote in the U.S. Senate.
October 10, 2001	Ambassador Nguyen Tam Chien presents Letter of Credence to President George W. Bush at the White House.
October 16, 2001	President George W. Bush signs BTA into Public Law No: 107-52.
November 28, 2001	BTA Ratified by Vietnam National Assembly, 278-85.
December 3, 2001	Ambassador Raymond Burghardt sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam.

December 7, 2001	BTA signed into law by Vietnamese President Tran Duc Luong.
December 9-14, 2001	Permanent Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung heads a high level delegation to Washington, DC, New York and San Francisco, accompanied by Vu Khoan - Minister of Trade, Tran Xuan Gia - Minister of Planning and Investment, Nguyen Manh Kiem - Minister of Construction, and other government officials and over 60 members from the Vietnamese private sector.
December 10, 2001	U.S - Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement signed into force at a Blair House ceremony with Deputy Prime Minister Dung, Trade Minister Vu Khoan and USTR Ambassador Robert Zoellick. Conference and banquet hosted by US-VTC
March 3-6, 2002	The first Vietnamese-U.S. scientific conference on Agent Orange opened in Hanoi, with the participation of hundreds of U.S. and Vietnamese researchers.
April 8, 2002	Ministry of Justice reports that after an initial review of all laws issued by ministries and central bodies, approximately 150 laws were found to have inconsistencies in relation to the provisions of the BTA.
May 6-7, 2002	Deputy USTR Ambassador Jonathan Huntsman in Hanoi to open BTA Joint Committee
May 10, 2002	Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh visit to Washington, DC
May 13, 2002	Farm bill including catfish provision requiring Vietnam to rename its catfish product signed by the President Bush
May 18, 2002	Vice Minister Luong Van Tu of Ministry of Trade Delegation to the U.S.
June 1-8, 2002	Minister of Justice Nguyen Dinh Loc visit to the U.S. on BTA implementation
June 3, 2002	Jackson-Vanik waiver signed by the President Bush
June 12-22, 2002	Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Manh Cam visits to Texas, New York, Massachusetts and Washington DC.
June 28, 2002	The Catfish Farmers of America filed an anti-dumping petition against Vietnam
July 18, 2002	Ways and Means Committee hearings on Jackson-Vanik renewal
July 23, 2002	The Jackson-Vanik waiver passes the House by a vote of 338-91.
August 8, 2002	U.S. International Commission determines that there is a reasonable indication that U.S. industry is threatened with material injury by reason of imports of certain frozen fish fillets from Vietnam.
November 8, 2002	Department of Commerce determines that Vietnam is a non-market economy for the purposes of anti-dumping and countervailing duty proceedings.
April 3, 2003	Congressman Chris Smith reintroduces the Vietnam Human Rights Act (H.R. 1587) into the U.S. House of Representatives.
June 17, 2002	U.S. Department of Commerce issues its final determination in the catfish investigation, concluding that Vietnamese producers have sold frozen catfish fillets at less than fair value, with margins ranging from 36.84 to 63.88 percent.
July 15, 2003	Vietnam Human Rights Act is added as an amendment to the House Foreign Relations Authorization Act (HR 1950). The authorization bill passes in the House on July 15 and is sent to the Senate.
July 17, 2003	Vietnam-U.S. Garment and Textile Agreement signed in Hanoi by Vietnamese Minister of Trade Truong Dinh Tuyen and U.S. Ambassador Raymond Burghardt.
July 23, 2003	U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) issues its final determination concluding that catfish imports from Vietnam have materially injured the U.S

	catfish industry. The ITC's affirmative determination enables the Department of Commerce to issue an antidumping order imposing duties in the range of 36.84 - 63.88 percent.
September 16, 2003	Vietnam's Minister of Trade Truong Dinh Tuyen visits the U.S.
October 5, 2003	Vietnam's Minister of Planning & Investment Vo Hong Phuc visits the U.S. to promote bilateral investment.
November 10, 2003	Vietnam's Minister of Defense Pham Van Tra Visits the U.S. to discuss cooperation in regional security promotion.
December 4, 2003	Vietnam Deputy Prime Minister Vu Khoan visits Washington, DC and other U.S. cities. The U.S. and Vietnam sign a bilateral aviation agreement.
December 12, 2003	Vietnam WTO negotiators participate in a Working Party Meeting in Geneva. Bilateral discussions are held with the U.S.
December 31, 2003	Southern Shrimp Alliance files anti-dumping petition against shrimp producers from Thailand, China, Brazil, India, Ecuador, and Vietnam.
January 21, 2004	The U.S. International Trade Commission held the preliminary phase of anti-dumping investigations on "certain frozen and canned warm water shrimp and prawns" filed against Brazil, China, Ecuador, India, Thailand, and Vietnam.
February 17, 2004	Description: In the preliminary ruling, all six commissioners of the U.S. International Trade Commission voted in favor of continuing to investigate the alleged "shrimp" dumping case.
March 4, 2004	Description: Senator Brownback introduced Senate Resolution 311 calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Father Thaddeus Nguyen Van Ly. The Resolution condemned the detention of Father Ly and violations of freedom of speech, religious freedom, movement, association and lack of due process in Vietnam, while urging the Government of Vietnam to consider its actions in the context of its broader relationship and its bilateral trade agreement with the U.S.
April 2, 2004	Announcement of the formation of the U.S. Vietnam Caucus, which seeks to monitor and support normalized relations between the U.S. & Vietnam in the U.S. Congress with Congressmen Rob Simmons (R-CT) and Lane Evans (D-IL) as co-chairs. National Assembly Vice President Mr. Nguyen Phuc Thanh and Vietnamese Ambassador to the US, H.E. Nguyen Tam Chien hosted an event to celebrate this occasion on April 28 th , 2004.
May 6, 2004	Confirmation by the Senate of Michael W. Marine, of Vermont, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service to be the third U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam in the post war period.
May 17 - 21, 2004	The 3 rd BTA Joint Committee Meeting was held in Washington, DC. Vice Minister of Trade Luong Van Tu led the delegation from Vietnam.
June 3, 2004	President Bush signed and sent to Congress the annual extension of authorization for the Jackson-Vanik waiver, including Vietnam.
June 7 - 12, 2004	Truong Dinh Tuyen, Vietnam's Minister of Trade, met in Washington with key US government officials to discuss Vietnam's accession to the WTO, the US-Vietnam Textile Agreement, the ITC investigation on shrimp imports, and implementation of the US-Vietnam BTA.
June 16, 2004	Vietnam held the 8 th Working Party round of WTO accession negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. Bi-lateral negotiations were held with various member countries including Australia, the EU, and the U.S.

June 23, 2004	U.S. President George W. Bush designated Vietnam as a new recipient for the \$15 billion plan to combat AIDS globally, expanding the initiative from Africa to Asia for the first time. As a "focus country", the United States can sharply increase funding to nongovernmental organizations that provide AIDS services in Vietnam.
July 6, 2004	The U.S. Department of Commerce announced its preliminary determination on antidumping duties for shrimp imports from Vietnam and China in the dumping investigation filed against imports from Vietnam, China, Brazil, Ecuador, India and Thailand.
July 19, 2004	Viet Nam Human Rights Act of 2003 (H.R. 1587), sponsored by Rep. Smith (R-NJ), passed House of Representatives by vote of 323-45.
July 22 - 23, 2004	Deputy USTR Josette Shiner visit to Hanoi to discuss BTA Implementation and Vietnam's WTO Accession.
July 28	USS Curtis Wilbur DDG-54 arrives in Danang, becoming the second U.S. Navy ship to visit Vietnam since 1975. The ship is scheduled to spend six days in port. Senior officers of the warship meet the local officials and representatives of the Vietnamese Navy Zone 3.
September 15	Vietnam has been designated as a Country of Particular Concern (CPC) under the Religious Freedom Act
September 19-26	Washington State Governor Gary Locke leads a 25-member trade delegation through Vietnam to explore business opportunities for the state.
September 20-24	Minister of Justice visits the US
October 5	Vice Minister of Finance Le Thi Bang Tam visits the US
October 25-28	Members of the US Working Party and Vietnam's WTO negotiating team meet in Washington, DC for another round of bilateral negotiations and discussions on multilateral commitments for Vietnam's WTO accession
November 30	The US Department of Commerce decided to uphold penalty tariffs slapped on shrimp imports from Vietnam in July, saying the country sold shrimp to the US at below-market prices, but it lowered the anti-dumping tariff from 4.13 to 25.76%. Unless the decision is appealed, Vietnamese shrimp exports will be subject to the new duties as of February 2005. The US will not impose anti-dumping duties on dusted and battered shrimp from Vietnam. Tariff rates go into effect 1-week from the date of publication in the Federal Register.
November 30 - December 18	National Assemblywoman Madam Ton Nu Thi Ninh to Visit the US on a three-week tour.
December 10	BTA Renewed by President Bush
December 11	United inaugurals flight and direct service between the US and Vietnam
December 12	Vietnam's 9th WTO Working Party Meeting (Geneva)
January 6, 2005	The U.S. International Trade Commission upheld last February's preliminary finding that imports had injured, or were likely to injure, U.S. shrimp processors and fishermen. The panel reaffirmed with a 6-0 vote that frozen shrimp have hurt the U.S. industry, but the group voted 4-2 to scrap tariffs on canned imports, which make up about 0.4% of imports
January 18, 2005	Former USTR, Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, spoke to an audience of government officials and business representatives on "U.S.-Vietnam Relations: Challenges and Opportunities" during her visit to Vietnam
January 28-February	Elena Bryan, Deputy Assistant USTR for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, and

1, 2005	Jennie Ness, Attorney Advisor for USPTO, travel to HCMC and Hanoi for on-going negotiations and discussions on BTA implementation and Vietnam's pending accession to the WTO.
March 14-16, 2005	The next round of US-Vietnam bilateral talks on Vietnam's accession to the WTO is held in Washington.
Late March, 2005 (planned)	CPC Deadline to Assess Sanctions on Vietnam Description: On September 15th, Vietnam was designated a Country of Particular Concern (CPC) under the Religious Freedom Act. The Senate must decide whether sanctions will be applied within 180 days.
June 2005 (planned)	Prime Minister Phan Van Khai visits the US
December 13-18, 2005 (planned)	Vietnam 's WTO accession at The Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong, China