



## United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520  
June 2, 1999

Ms. Heidi Kuhn  
Roots of Peace  
4800 Fernwood Way  
San Rafael, CA 94901

Dear Heidi:

On behalf of the President's Demining 2010 Initiative and in my own name, I wanted to thank you for your warm hospitality during my visit to the Bay area and to congratulate you for the success of last week's activities to raise awareness and funds for the Roots of Peace project. The various events -- especially the gala dinner at the Mondavi estate and the San Rafael Rotary Club luncheon -- provided important opportunities to highlight the threat of landmines to civilians around the world and concentrated attention on what Americans can do to address this global crisis. Your hard work, skill and dedication were in clear evidence throughout.

Jim Lawrence told me that your efforts since the weekend have put the Croatian minefield adoption over the top. This is particularly gratifying. I know from experience in Angola, Mozambique, and other mine-affected countries how much of an impediment the presence of landmines can be to average citizens trying to put their lives together again after extended periods of conflict. At the same time, it is satisfying to see how quickly life returns to normal in a village, a school, or a market after the area is declared to be safe from landmines. Helping families reinhabit their homes, cultivate their fields, and walk without fear is a precious gift that your efforts have helped bestow on thousands of fellow human beings half way around the world.

I hope you are enjoying a well-deserved period of rest now. For the long-run, my office is committed to working with you on the various projects to involve the wine industry and others in long-term projects to attack the tragedy of landmines and the need for sustainable development. Again, my deepest congratulations on your success and thanks for your humanitarian gestures. Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D.K. Steinberg'.

Donald K. Steinberg  
Special Representative of the President and  
Secretary of State Albright for Global  
Humanitarian Demining