

QUANG TRI VICTORY FOUNDATION TƯỢNG ĐÀI TÁI CHIÊM CỒ THÀNH QUẢNG TRỊ

November 3rd, 2025

Mr. Bill Kramer
Chief Executive Officer
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
8949 Wilshire Boulevard
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

RE: Formal Protest and Request for Investigation Concerning the Eligibility of the Film, “Red Rain” (“Mưa Đỏ”), for the Academy Awards

Dear Mr. Kramer:

On behalf of the Quang Tri Victory Foundation, a California-based non-profit organization with the mission to educate and inform the American public and future generations of the historic Second Battle of Quang Tri in 1972 (aka Easter Offensive II), we submit this formal protest regarding the eligibility of the communist-inspired film titled, "Red Rain" ("Mưa Đỏ"), for consideration in the upcoming Academy Awards. This concern is based on substantive violations of the Academy's Rules of Eligibility for the International Feature Film Award, specifically Section II, Paragraphs E and F, which clearly stipulate specific criteria concerning the film's production, origins, and independence.

"Red Rain" was produced by the Vietnamese Army Cinema, an agency directly controlled by the Vietnamese Communist military, and directed by Lieutenant Colonel Dang Thai Huyen. This film received approval from the Vietnamese government censorship and approval body, the Cinema Department, which acts to endorse and control contents aligning with the regime's political objectives. This raises serious questions concerning the film's compliance with Rule G, Paragraph 3, which mandates that all submissions must be original works created independent from undue political influence or state propaganda.

Furthermore, the film propagates a distorted historical narrative that falsely depicts the events of the Second Battle of Quang Tri (1972). It portrays American and South Vietnamese forces as barbaric and inhumane, which is factually inaccurate and serves as a vehicle for ideological propaganda. This content violates Rule A, which requires that the film reflects authentic artistic and cultural expression, and that the content not be primarily propaganda or political in nature.

Given that production was created under the auspices of a government-controlled entity, and that its content promoted the current regime's political interests, Red Rain's production and content may violate the eligibility criteria set forth in the Academy's Rules due to lack of independence and factual integrity.

Specifically, Section II, Paragraphs E and F state that the film must be an original work and should not be a product of political influence or propaganda and must meet standards of artistic authenticity. The substantial and active involvement of the Vietnamese military and government censorship authorities, not free citizens or residents of the submitting country, call into question these standards and eligibility.

In light of the information above, we respectfully request that the Academy undertake a thorough verification process, examining the production background, funding, creative process, and content of "Red Rain" to determine its adherence to the Rules of Eligibility. Should the film be found in violation of these rules, it must be deemed ineligible for the award consideration.

Maintaining integrity, transparency, and fairness of the Academy Awards is paramount. Recognizing a film that functions as state propaganda designed to distort historical truth would undermine the credibility and ethical standards of the institution.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter. We trust that the Academy will handle this concern with due diligence and uphold the integrity of its adjudication process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "/s/ Van Tran". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

VAN TRAN
Chairman, Board of Directors
Quang Tri Victory Foundation

VT/vn

Cc: Board of Directors