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INFORMATION REGARDING REFUGEE PROGRAM

Inquiries made by Mr. R.V. FRAKES on Dec. 7, 1954,
Explanation by High Board for Refugees on Dec. 16, 54.

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I. & VII.- QUESTIONS : Are there any current piaster payment or rice distribution to any refugees ?

Will people who have resettled receive a lump payment in piasters ?

ANSWERS : Currency distribution.- Before October 20th. 1954, each refugee received per day : adult 12 piasters and child 6 piasters. This daily allowance has been cut out by the former Commissioner General from October 20th. 1954. Henceforth each refugee receives 100 piasters on reaching Saigon. After his arrival in resettlement area (Centre or South Viet-Nam) he will be entitled to 700 piasters (300\$ to be granted immediately and 400\$ after ending the house construction).

As per decision from the former Commissioner General each refugee who has resettled in P.M.S. will receive 1.000\$ (400\$ at first and 600\$ afterwards).

RICE DISTRIBUTION.- Rice distribution for the period from 7 to 10 days (600 grs. per day for each refugee) is reserved only to refugees who are temporarily lodged at Saigon-Cholon and awaiting the transportation in resettlement centers.

Students and pupils.- From October 20th. 1954 special care is taken for students and pupils who are helped by the Ministry of National Education on the financial accounts of the High Board for Refugees.

II & III.- QUESTIONS : Is there a difference in the amount paid or distributed to Refugees from province to province ?

If so, what is the basis for the differential ?

ANSWERS : No difference in the amount distributed to Refugees from province to province in South VN.

But in Centre Viet-Nam each refugee receives 10\$ and 500 grs. of rice per day.

IV.- QUESTION : If no current distribution, when is future distribution of money or rice anticipated ?

ANSWER : According to the new Commissioner General this question is included in a general lump-plan that will be wrought and determined shortly.

V & VI.-QUESTIONS: What is the authorization of the yellow "supply card" frequently referred to ?
What privileges are authorized by this card ?

ANSWER : The yellow "supply card" created by the Social Action Ministry has been cancelled by the former Commissioner General.

VIII.-QUESTION : Are Refugees expected to purchase lumber for their homes and for furnishing to equip such facilities as an infirmary, school, etc. ?

ANSWER : Of course, all refugees are contemplating to purchase lumber for their homes, plank beds, etc. by their own means.

IX.- QUESTION : Who decides on suitability or unsuitability of the present resettlement locations ? What are the criteria ?

ANSWER : The Chief of Province decides on suitability or unsuitability of the present resettlement locations. He is guided by technical advisers of the place.
Criteria : - Nature and quality of the land.
- Superficies (about 1Ha. for 5-person family)
- Climate, Drinking water, accessibility.

X.- QUESTION : Is clothing available for Refugees ? Other supplies, such as tools available ? When ? How distributed ?

ANSWER : Clothing is not available for refugees. However cotton stuff may be sometimes distributed as requested. Tools and agricultural implements are allowed from time to time on account of the credit's exiguity.

XI.- QUESTION : Is money or rice or other assistance available for people returning to their homes enforced service with the Viet-Minh army ? For the prisoners released after the Geneva Accord ?

ANSWER : They are considered as the above refugees and entitled to the same rights and privileges.