

1.00 Refuges gen file

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Dr. D. C. Laverne, Assistant Director

FROM : Health and Sanitation Division, Dr. Poindexter, Deputy Chief
Hildrus A. Poindexter

SUBJECT : Welcome Kits.

DATE: February 3, 1955

Reference: Your Memo 26 January re above subject.

Mr. Frakes, Health Education Advisor and now on TDY with Refugees Activities was originally given the responsibility for implementing the Welcome Kit Distribution project. The procedures had been worked out with Mr. Ashley, which are in substance as follows:

The kits are to be given to mothers, who are refugees, at the time of giving birth to a child since arriving in Free Viet Nam. This procedure would work through Monsignor Harnett and his fellow workers. Literature has been prepared to accompany the kits which were recently received. Letters have been sent to the village leaders after the "TET" holiday. As of this date 31 January no kits have been distributed as no requests have been received. Recent verbal information indicates that the Kits should begin to move very shortly. (Per Mr. Frakes explanation to this office).

Note: Results of conference with Mr. Frakes after this memorandum was written (Feb 4), I am informed that the work is now proceeding satisfactorily with 250 kits already delivered.

Dr. Poindexter -

HAP:GFP:se

Does the birth rate indicate that the number of kits will be distributed within this year. If not, wouldn't refugee students, ^{orphans} orphans in institutions be good possible recipients. If you can arrange that distribution in cooperation with Mrs. Nixon.

Dr. Poindexter,

On the report inspection, on discussions, I think that we should give the kits to school children also. Since there are not too many functioning schools at this time in the refugee villages, I think there are enough kits for both purposes.