

Hq/RS. MARINE CORPS.

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.  
REFUGEE CLIPS

19 June 1975

File

# 18,500 Refugee Tally Due Again At Pendleton

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON —**  
The maximum refugee population of 18,500 again will be reached here in the next few days as efforts accelerate to reduce the population of mainland-bound refugees on Guam and to return to Vietnam some refugees already in the continental United States.

The camp population was 17,985 yesterday as preparations were made to receive groups of refugees desiring to return to Vietnam from the three other camps in the mainland United States.

Nick Thorne, head of the civilian Interagency Task Force here, said all Vietnam returnees now in the United States would be transferred to Camp Pendleton, probably by Friday.

He said about 260 prospective returnees are at the camps at Ft. Chaffee, Ark., Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Eglin AFB, Fla., with another 90 already in Camp Pendleton. Many more are in collection points in the Pacific and will not be brought to Camp Pendleton, he said.

## POPULATION CUT

The current refugee population on Guam is about 25,000, or 15,000 more than there is safe housing for in the upcoming typhoon season, Thorne said. He said Washington has given orders that the population on Guam should be reduced to 10,000 by June 24.

The official said he anticipated between 500 and 700 refugees a day will be leaving Camp Pendleton for homes with American sponsors, with as many coming to Camp Pendleton from Guam each day.

If that pace is kept up, Thorne said, the refugee program can be concluded at Camp Pendleton by late October, before the worst part of Southern California's cold season, Thorne said. He stressed, however, there is no guarantee the mathematical projection will be realized.

Approximately 25 per cent of all the refugees who have been processed through camps in the mainland United States have settled in California, Thorne said.

## CALIFORNIA INFLUX

To date, he said, more than 7,000 have become California residents and a total of 28,000 can be expected to settle in California before the program ends, he said.

He said the pace of California settlement has accelerated since John Eisenhower, chairman of the President's Commission on Refugees, predicted the California number would not exceed 15,000. However, he added, the number is substantially less than the 80,000 figure once raised as a possibility by California officials.

Thorne also said abortions would be permitted refugee women who request them, in accordance with California law, probably at University Hospital in San Diego. About 15 women have requested the operation, Thorne said, including one woman who wants to return to Vietnam

to rejoin her family.

He said a flight from Camp Pendleton to Ft. Chaffee reunited some families at Ft. Chaffee yesterday. A flight from Ft. Chaffee to Camp Pendleton is planned soon but the date is not firm, he added.

He also said Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Uruguay all have agreed to accept refugees provided they have certain skills. For example, he said, Colombia is looking for workers for its metal, plastic, textile, leather and hotel industries.

14 pgs each.

# Sponsored Refugee Family Faces Hardships, Has Hopes

By ANGELA MACK  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — Nguyen Ngoc Phan has dreams of one day owning a little business of his own, someplace where his family can work together and take pride in what they do.

He knows it won't be easy — starting a business in the United States takes a great deal more money than in Vietnam. But even more important, he needs a job to start saving that money to support his nine-member family.

Sponsored by John and Mary

Sathrum of Oceanside, Phan and his family are living with them until he can find work. Phan's wife and sister have found full-time jobs as sewing machine operators at a local firm, and he has applied for work at numerous businesses in North County.

In Vietnam Phan had managed his own wholesale fabric import business for the past three years before the evacuation. He previously worked for the United States military, starting in 1956 as a clerk-typist. Within four years he had worked his way to chief of the

local national payroll division, overseeing the work of approximately 100 employees.

"He has had a great deal of administrative experience," says Sathrum, who worked with Phan while on his tour of duty in Vietnam with the U.S. Army. "We don't see him getting a job right off that will enable him to support nine people, but I would like to see him doing something he's best suited for."

Phan, his wife, their four children, his mother, sister and brother-in-law all left Vietnam with only one hour's notice. They had to leave behind many things they'd owned all their lives.

"We are very happy to be in the United States," Phan says. "Many people in my country have a dream to come here, but only those with a lot of money can come before."

"My wife, she cry about the things we left behind. But now that I find my old boss (Sathrum) and can begin new life here, we forget all that."

When Sathrum heard that Vietnam refugees would be coming to Camp Pendleton, he posted notices on the bulletin board in the camp with the hope that Phan would see them and contact him. On May 11 Phan called him and, once sponsorship was established, the family was out of the camp by May 30.

Since then he and his wife have been trying to find work for Phan, his wife, sister and his wife's brother. A retired lieutenant colonel, Sathrum spends as much time as he can helping Phan fill out applications, study for his driver's license and transporting him to interviews.

"I am willing to help him in any way I can," Sathrum says. "I know somewhere there must some company that can use a man with Mr. Phan's skills. Until then, he and his family will stay in my house. I was ready for this when I sponsored them."

Phan is an out-going individual, and his enthusiasm about the new life in America is apparent. Although sometimes new words confuse him, he speaks and understands English very well.

"When we left Saigon, we lost everything," he says. "But I am ready to work very hard and someday maybe learn enough about American business to start my own."

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GRANDMOTHER hooks rug while others hunt for jobs.

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REFUGEE family of nine live with sponsors in Oceanside as they begin new life. (Mack Photos)

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## Pendleton To Be Center For Returning Viet Refugees

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — "Little Saigon," first stop for thousands of Vietnamese refugees bound for a new life in the United States, will also be the jumping-off point for those who want to go back to Vietnam.

But one refugee who put in for repatriation is changing his mind again, saying he may want to stay.

The U.N. high commissioner for refugees is handling applications by 2,650 Vietnamese and Cambodians who have applied to return. A U.N. representative said Tuesday that returnees will be assembled here, from other camps in Arkansas,

Pennsylvania and Florida, possibly beginning today.

A 23-year-old former South Vietnamese Air Force accountant, who asked not to be identified, told UPI Tuesday he now believes he can find a job and settle in the United States after all, easing the fears the motivated him to apply for repatriation.

"These possibilities are still very slim," he said, "but I think it will work ... I have not made the final decision yet, because if I can find a good sponsor, somebody who cares for me, I would change my mind about going back there."

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# John Lay: A Serviceman Who Really Serves

By DENNY FALLON  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — Serviceman.

If a word association test were administered throughout the community, the term would conjure thoughts of liquor store holdups, high-speed chases and drug overdoses.

There's a 21-year-old Navy dental technician attached to the Camp Pendleton brig that merits a different description.

John Lay, a Louisiana native with a touch of boondock humor, has emerged himself in local affairs. Two nights a week his volunteer efforts bring him to the Breakfast Optimist Minor League baseball diamond on Brooks Street, where he assumes the role of umpire.

It is an experience that often leaves Lay loaded with satisfaction and enjoyment.

"Here are these tiny kids, no bigger than ants," says Lay in his pleasant southern tones. "and they go through all the Big League motions. It's really a kick to see them out here chattering away like yard birds and learning the game. I really like fooling around with these kids. They're great."

John Lay has been stationed in the San Diego area for nearly a year and a half. By his own admission, the

North County is light years away from his hometown of Punkin Center, population 500.

His community involvement project began when neighbor Lelo Hernandez, the minor league director, interested Lay in restoring bicycles to working order for the Breakfast Optimist's Christmas Bureau toy drive.

"He jumped right in and just took over," said Hernandez, himself active in Breakfast Optimist affairs. "He's a heck of a kid. You know, most of the things your read or hear about service guys is all bad. Here's a guy that shows the different side. We're real proud of him."

The sour image often projected by his young military colleagues also irks Lay.

"It bothers me," said Lay, "it really does. I know some of us cause a lot of trouble, but I think it's a minority. Sometimes I think we get a bad shake."

Under Hernandez's careful supervision, the six-team program for players primarily for players between the ages of eight and 10, stresses the game's fundamentals and develops the skills needed to advance to Little League.

"John has helped tremendously,"

said Hernandez of Lay's umpiring function. "The kids need to be exposed to good officiating and he provides them with it."

Annually the Breakfast Optimist Club sponsors a high school oratory contest. Lay was instrumental in recruiting entrants. His contributions to the Breakfast Optimist has impressed many club members, and according to Hernandez, Lay is a strong candidate for Man of the Year honors.

"He's really done a job for us," said Hernandez. "I'm also in the Elks and when Lay turned 21 I gave him an application. He's a quality guy and he's the kind of citizen we need in Oceanside."

Lay and his wife Elizabeth are fond of California, but he intends to enroll at Louisiana State University and study dentistry. "LSU is about 40 miles from home," said Lay. "I'd like to go back and further my education."

Often on Saturdays, his day off, Lay offers his skills to the Vietnamese refugees billeted at Pendleton.

"He goes out there and checks and cleans teeth," said Hernandez. "He doesn't get payed, he just does it on his own. That shows you a lot doesn't it?"

John Lay, a serviceman who really serves.

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**YOU'RE OUT!** shouts umpire John Lay, to Mission Bowl's Ken Combs. Putting the tag on is Dale Steen of the Elks. Lay, a serviceman, umpires in his spare time.

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## Woman Killed In Base Crash

CAMP PENDLETON — An Oceanside woman died and four others were injured in a car crash here Friday, the base information office announced today.

Laurie Ann Branske, 22, of 501 North Ditmar St., Oceanside, was dead on arrival at the Naval hospital here after her car collided with a palm tree.

Deborah M. Cella, 214 Daffodil St., Oceanside, is hospitalized with back and head injuries. Three children in the car escaped with minor bumps and bruises, according to the base information office.

Mrs. Branske, wife of hospital corpsman third class Griffith Branske, died when her car was forced off Vandegrift Boulevard near the 401 Range access road. The car slammed broadside into a palm tree.

She swerved her car to avoid a car driven by Bert F. Roe, 1626 Alvarado St., Oceanside, a base spokesman said.

Roe told investigating officers he swerved to avoid colliding with a third car, and crossed into the eastbound lanes.

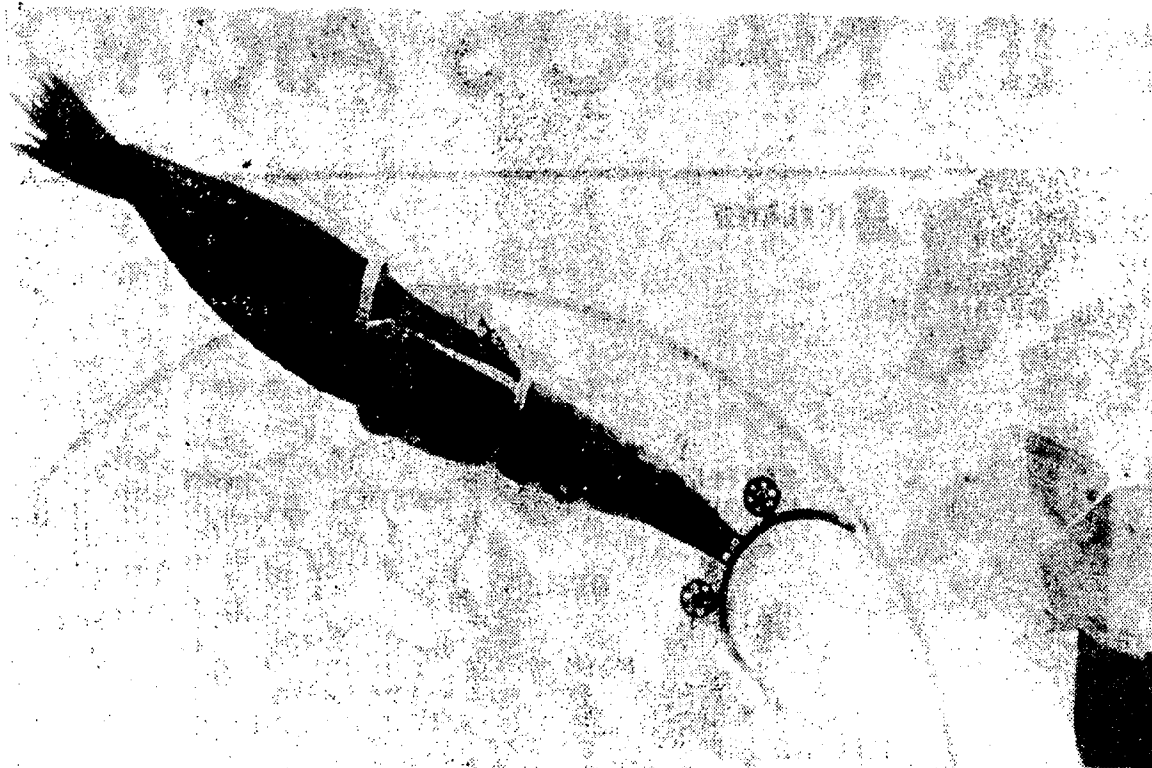
The third vehicle left the scene of the accident. The accident is under investigation.

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Navy's money-saving employee, Fat Man, a year-old, 142-pound sea lion paid only in fish,

locates a depth charge on command. Device on his nose will then pull it to the surface.

## **Taxpayers Saved \$2,000 per Trip**

# **Sea Lions Retrieve Navy Mines**

CORONADO (AP) — When the United States sends Fat Man to find and bring back mines stranded on the ocean floor, taxpayers may be saving \$2,000 per trip.

That's the difference between hiring human divers and using Fat Man, a 142-pound sea lion that is paid in fish, the Navy says.

The year-old seal is one of five that retrieve objects from the ocean bottom with unerring skill, thanks to training in Naval Inshore Underwater Group 1 at Coronado Amphibious Base.

A special "grabber" device designed at the nearby Naval Undersea Center is fitted over the pug nose of a sea lion, which swims to a sunken object by homing in on a beeper device.

can teach them to do anything," says former Navy diver Marty Conboy, who turned sea lions into deep-water retrievers before the project was officially turned over

to the Navy in 1972.

Sea lions are ideal for the job because they have good vision in the dark, watery depths and ability to determine the source of a tone or

beeper which they are trained to find.

In some cases, the sea lions have been flown in wire cages to find sunken objects in waters off the East Coast.

When the grabber hits the object, a tripping device flips out two arms which form a circle, snaring it. Above, a line operated with the aid of a winch pulls the object to the surface.

All the sea lions ask is a fish right before each dive and several more smelt as a reward for each successful trip below.

A good civil servant like Fat Man can make 150 dives in succession into water 50 or 60 feet deep, going down even after his food supply is ended, according to the Navy's mammal command.

Several have been taught to locate submarines and other objects without the aid of beepers.

"Given enough fish, you

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### *Curts-Ferneding Vows*

Mr. and Mrs. Robert House Colley of "Linden," Lexington, Ky., have announced the marriage of their daughter, Martha Ferneding of Rancho Santa Fe, to Adm. Maurice Edwin Curts of Coronado and Las Gaviotas, Mexico.

The ceremony was performed Monday in the North Island Naval Air Station chapel by Navy Cmdr. Bey G. Grunder. Mrs. Henry Snow Sanger of Rancho Santa Fe was the bride's attendant and Vice Adm. Ruthven Elmer Libby of Coronado served as Adm. Curts' best man. Adm. and Mrs. Curts will make their home at Rancho Santa Fe, where they will give a party July 3.

Adm. Curts, now retired, was in command of the cruiser Columbia in World War II and was the recipient of the Navy Cross, Distinguished Service Medal and Purple Heart, among other decorations. He later commanded the Pacific Fleet.

Mrs. Curts is the former president of the Rancho Santa Fe Republican Women Federated and is now an associate member of the Republican State Central Committee. She has been active in the Girl Scouts. Mrs. Curts is a member of Colonial Dames of America and Daughters of the American Revolution, Liberty Bell chapter.

## F.J. Schober Takes Over Guard Post

Maj. Gen. Frank J. Schober Jr., 41, a native of Los Angeles, has assumed command of the California National Guard in Sacramento.

Schober, who became the guard's commanding general yesterday, had served as strategic research analyst of the Special Studies Institute at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, prior to his new assignment.

Upon graduation from the University of Santa Clara in 1956, Schober was commissioned as a second lieutenant. His army service includes teaching posts at the General Staff College and the Army War College, as well as a tour of duty in Viet Nam as commander of the 52nd Signal Battalion.



UPI photo

GEN. F. SCHOBBER JR.  
Heads National Guard

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A Los Angeles Herald-Examiner, Wednesday, June 18, 1975 A7

# U.S. Adds Sub Missiles To West Europe Defense

c.1975 N.Y. Times News Service

MONTEREY — The United States has assigned more submarine-launched Poseidon missiles to the defense of Western Europe as part of a plan to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's nuclear forces.

High-ranking Defense Department officials said Tuesday that the commitment will also increase the conventional capacity of North Atlantic forces, particularly those of West Germany and the United States.

With increasing reliance on the missiles, the officials explained, it will be possible to transfer aircraft from nuclear missions to conventional ground support and cutting of supply lines. The planes would be equipped with a new generation of accurate bombs that should greatly increase the alliance's ability to attack supply lines of the Warsaw Pact forces.

The assignment of more Poseidon missiles was reviewed by seven defense ministers attending a meeting here of the North Atlantic Nuclear planning group. This

panel was created in 1966 to review plans for using the nuclear warheads supplied by the United States.

A communique at the conclusion of the two-day meeting said the defense ministers had reviewed studies "dealing with the defensive tactical employment of nuclear weapons

in cases where initial use has not achieved its purpose, "possible steps to enhance the physical security of nuclear weapons stored in Western Europe, and the implications of new weapons technology upon the alliance's nuclear posture.

The commitment of more Poseidon missiles is part of an evolution in nuclear strategy, largely at the initiative of the United States.

There has been no basic change in the eight-year-old strategy of "flexible response," with its broad range of options running from first use of nuclear weapons, if North Atlantic forces are being overwhelmed to retaliatory use against targets in Eastern Europe.

According to American officials, there also has been no significant reduction in the stockpile of 7,000 nuclear weapons in Western Europe.

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## U.S. Arms Sales Reduction Urged

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Gaylord Nelson, D-Wis., urged the government Tuesday to cut back its foreign arms sales at least to the amount exported by the Soviet Union.

Nelson called for the reduction at the opening of a hearing on arms sales before a Senate foreign relations subcommittee.

Chairman Hubert H. Humphrey, D-Minn., said the United States has become the world's leading arms merchant, exporting "twice as much as our nearest rival, the Soviet Union."

The purpose of the hearing, Humphrey said, is to stimulate public discussion whether U.S. arms sales programs fit in with the stated U.S. policy objective of achieving "a world that is free from the scourge of war."

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# Base Expansion On Island Backed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Diego Garcia, which is leased by the United States from Britain, has served as a major communications post and a refueling spot for small ships and planes.

## SOUTH OF INDIA

A palm-tree studded island which serves as the home of about 300 fishermen, Diego Garcia is approximately 1,000 miles south of the southern tip of India.

Because of its strategic geographical importance — near both the Middle East and Africa — interest in the island heightened as trouble in those areas developed.

During the Arab-Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973, Defense Department officials became concerned about the dearth of refueling and repair facilities available to U.S. ships should they have found it necessary to protect U.S. interests in that area.

The announcement of plans to improve the military facilities, however, strained relations between the United States and India, whose officials have expressed concern the action will touch off a new U.S.-Soviet power struggle.

By a 10 to 8 vote, the committee recommended the full Senate authorize spending \$13.8 million to lengthen the runway and enlarge fuel storage tanks so larger planes and ships can use the facilities.

Pentagon officials insist the facilities are needed to offset growing Soviet influence in that area of the world and to assure the ability of the Navy and the Air Force to refuel there.

## INSTABILITY RISES

The Pentagon's security concerns sharpened when the former Portuguese African colonies began receiving independence, making the area politically unstable.

U.S. officials were upset again when Somalia granted permission for the Soviet Union to use its ports in such a way that they could virtually be Russian naval bases.

Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger testified last week that the presence of Soviet antiship missiles at Berbera, Somalia, made it essential that Diego Garcia be improved to supply a carrier task force for 30 days.

A number of nations in the area, including India, have urged that the Indian Ocean be made a nuclear free zone.

Sen. John C. Culver, D-Iowa, an opponent of the expansion of Diego Garcia, expressed a similar idea.

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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

20 June 1975

File

# Doctors Allay Fears Over TB Among Refugees

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

## CAMP PENDLETON —

Navy Capt. Jean-Jacques Gunning, chief of medicine at Camp Pendleton's Naval Hospital, acknowledged the bows of greeting from four women dressed in hospital bathrobes and surgical masks.

"Cho Ba," said Gunning, using the traditional Vietnamese greeting for women. "Cho An," they replied.

The refugee women all had suspected cases of tuberculosis, and they wore the surgical masks in order not to breathe directly on anyone.

"You can stand next to them and be safer from infection than you would be on a crowded bus," said Gunning.

## LEADING DISEASE

The women were among 17 tuberculosis patients under hospital care at Camp Pendleton. There is more tuberculosis than any other infectious disease at Camp Pendleton, said Gunning, adding there was little cause for concern.

As soon as refugees arrive at Camp Pendleton, he said, they are given chest X-rays. Those with suspicious X-rays are administered other tests, and if the suspicion is not allayed, they are hospitalized.

Gunning pointed out that the 17 tuberculosis patients were drawn from more than 35,000 refugees who have come to Camp Pendleton since Operation New Life began in late April.

Other cases of contagious diseases under treatment at the Naval Hospital included typhoid, malaria and infectious hepatitis.

On the day that Gunning greeted the four women, there were approximately one case of each of the other maladies represented in the patient population.

Gunning said when he learned that refugees were coming to Camp Pendleton, he was more worried about what the refugees might be exposed to at the camp than what they would be bringing to the United States.

## BIGGEST FEAR

"My biggest fear was that there might not be proper sanitation at the tent facilities," said Gunning. "If there had been a break in sanitation, we could have had a terrible diarrhea outbreak."

Gunning, who was stationed as a doctor in Vietnam for one year and in other parts of Asia for nine years, said the medical complaints of Camp Pendleton's refugee population have thus far been rather run of the mill.

He said nothing "exotic" has been encountered, and certainly nothing that Navy doctors have not been exposed to many times before.

Except for some interesting cross-cultural occurrences, Gunning said, life at the hospital is no different than life at any other hospital.

## LIVE IN HOSPITAL

The first thing to strike a visitor's eye is that parents of sick refugee children are allowed to live in the hospital.

"When you admit a patient, you normally admit a family," said Gunning. "Family separation is tough on them. Actually I think that's a progressive idea anyway. What other countries have done because of a lack of nurses, we have done away with in the United States because we think

A baby cried, and a Vietnamese woman got up from her cot to comfort the infant patient. "That's a good example of what I'm talking about," said Gunning. "She can comfort her son better than any nurse can."

While interpreters are available, Gunning says language problems still pose difficulties in treating the patients. "We have to get patient consent forms for almost every kind of procedure," he said, "and you can imagine the lively conversations we have through interpreters when we tell the patients we want to take a sample of their bone marrow."

Vietnamese doctors who work at dispensaries and clinics in the refugee camp area come to the hospital several times a week to help in cases where there are serious problems of communication, Gunning said.

Another problem the doctor said is common is "Vietnamese patients telling doctors what they want to hear."

"In the Orient," he said,

"it is not considered polite to disagree. So if you ask a patient a leading question, you'll get a leading answer."

He said it is not uncommon for two doctors to get entirely different case histories from a patient, if they are not careful in how they word their questions.

Of 384 patients at the Navy Hospital the other day, 88 were refugees. Bed space was available for nearly an-

other 200 patients, Gunning said.

"We've got plenty of bed space," Gunning said. "Anyone that needs to get into the hospital can."

He said there has been some ripple effect on the outpatient population of the hospital, however. "We are short-staffed," said Gunning, "and in some cases people will have to wait longer to see a doctor in non-emergency situations."

For example, he said, outpatients who want to have a gall bladder removed may have to wait three weeks instead of one week.

He said this was not only because of the refugee situation, however. "It happens every year at this time," said Gunning. "We have doctors who leave the service in June and they are not replaced until July or August."

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## Refugees Ask To Go Home

Special to the Herald-Examiner

### CAMP PENDLETON —

More than 300 refugees who fled here when South Vietnam fell under Communist control have asked to return to their homeland, according to a senior U.S. State Dept. official.

Nick Thorne, head of the inter-agency Task Force here, said 355 refugees will be processed for repatriation at the camp by United Nations representatives.

Thorne said 90 of the war refugees are staying at Camp Pendleton and the remaining 265 are scattered in refugee centers elsewhere in the U.S.

A pregnant South Vietnamese woman who had asked for an abortion is among the refugees asking to return. She and 14 other refugee women wanting abortions will be counseled before operations are scheduled, Thorne said.

Thorne said processing will begin as soon as refugees at other U.S. centers begin arriving here.

Several Western nations have offered to admit some of the refugees, including Canada which plans to resettle up to 14,000, according to Thorne.

Refugees have been encouraged by the new government in South Vietnam to return home.

Meanwhile, U.N. officials in New York report another 2,500 war refugees at camps in the Pacific also have asked to return home.

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# Refugee School Project Planned

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The county Board of Education yesterday agreed to develop and supervise a summer educational program for refugees at Camp Pendleton.

For their agreement came after assurances that the federal government would assume the full cost of the program.

The board voted last week to refuse a state Department of Education request that the county apply for funds to operate such a program. The refusal was attributed to lack of specific direction and leadership on the part of the federal government in handling the refugee situation and unanswered questions about the source of financing for the project.

**REQUEST.** Yesterday the board agreed to apply for \$257,200 (including \$32,000 to reimburse any county expenses) after a representative of William Riles, state superintendent of public instruction, told members it would not result in any direct expense to San Diego County taxpayers.

Under the proposal, the county will act as a subcontractor for the state Department of Education, which in turn will be reimbursed by the federal government. County Supt. M. Ted Dixon and county personnel will develop and coordinate the program which will operate between July and August.

An independent full-time director and noncounty staff members will be hired to actually operate the program.

The goal of the project will be to provide intensive English language training for the refugees, prepare them to enter schools and orient them to community and school life in the United States.

## DOUBTS EXPRESSED

Although there was unanimous agreement to apply for the funds, some board members express reservations.

"I'd just like the state department (of education) and HEW to both understand that we're taking this thing on as their agent," board member P. N. Hyndman said.

Hyndman told Dave Gordon, special assistant to Riles, that the board was aware of the problems of the refugees and was sympathetic to the need for providing some English training and orientation.

"But this should be strictly, 100 per cent altogether a federal program," he said.

He also expressed some doubt that a program could be developed, implemented and carried out within the 60 days allotted.

However, Dixon said he felt the program could be operational by the first of July.

He said the program probably would use some English-speaking refugees as aides for English teachers who would be hired for the summer.

The program will be carried out in some of the Oceanside school district's facilities on the U.S. Marine Corps base, Dixon said.

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# Refugee Scouts Need Equipment

OCEANSIDE — San Luis Rey District's chairman, has been appointed by the Western Region, Boy Scouts of America to oversee and help coordinate the Vietnamese Scouting program at Camp Pendleton.

Retired Marine Lt. Col Lee V. Barkley, and Oceanside businessman, was selected after the Western Region and San Diego County Council learned of the Vietnamese efforts through the Red Cross and

Vietnamese National Scouting Commissioner Trac Troung Trong.

Lee and several members of the district committee have already made several visits to meet with the refugee Scouters, observe their activities and determine their needs.

However, because the refugees left Vietnam with only what they could carry and are operating in an unfamiliar environment, the Scouting leaders were

seriously limited in the programs and activities they can conduct.

Lee also emphasized that the Boy Scouts of America have waived the citizenship requirements for refugee Scouters. This waiver enables district Scouters to begin registering refugee adults and boys into the American Scout family.

Scout records will be established for each refugee Scouter. Refugees will administer their own

program develop and maintain individual Scout records while at Camp Pendleton.

Several things are critically needed for the refugees to develop their Scouting program.

Scouting Handbooks is one necessity so that the refugees can learn English while participating in Scouting activities.

Other items needed are: one or two typewriters, tables, chairs and desks for

the Vietnamese Scout leaders Scouting Activities Center tent. Also Cub and Boy Scout uniforms and insignias are needed.

Individuals who have items to donate should take them to one of the following collection centers:

Packard Dental Clinic, 725 Grand Ave., Carlsbad;

Bubble Bath Exterior Car Wash, 3635 Mission Ave., Oceanside;

Fallbrook Fire Department.

The Security Pacific National Bank, 302 E. Broadway, Vista.

Funds are also immediately and critically needed to develop and support the refugee Scouting programs and activities as well as sponsor the refugee Scouts.

Lee Barkley concluded, "Donations are solicited and should be made payable to Boy Scouts of America and addressed to 2335 Fire Mountain Drive, Oceanside, Ca. 92054.

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**STRANGE BEAST** — A baby jackrabbit, caught when it wandered into the Vietnamese refugee camp at Camp Pendleton looking for food, bewilders a group of children as it is held up by one of their leaders. Few Vietnamese from Saigon have ever seen a rabbit. After a few furry pets, it was released.

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## Scouts ask help

The Boy Scout, with an accepted image of helping the elderly lady across the street, now needs some help himself.

Some 280 Boy Scouts were among many thousands of Vietnamese refugees hustled to the eight camps at Camp Pendleton. They left home in a hurry, their possessions today amounting to only what they could carry.

The Boy Scout from Vietnam is working with his American brother today to serve the daily needs of those in dusty tent cities. Never in Scouting history has there been an effort quite like this.

Only 25 of the 280 boys, ranging in age from eight to 16, managed to bring their uniforms — that sartorial badge of distinction the world over.

Many mothers in North County probably have one in the closet right now — a Scout uniform son outgrew a few years back.

It'll never serve a better purpose — than on the willing back of a Vietnamese Boy Scout.

These youths at Camp Pendleton come in all sizes. So do the uniforms that Junior outgrew.

These boys, by the nature of their oath, are expected to do one good turn every day. Presently, they are doing about one an hour.

The Moms and Dads of North County can now look to their closets.

They can do a good turn, too. Uniforms — or any parts thereof — can be brought to The Vista Press, and will be sent on to the boys at the camps.

(6)

DAILY PILOT A5

**Puzzled**

A Vietnamese youngster, dwarfed in an oversized Marine Corps fatigue jacket, looks towards the sky and wonders "Will the sun ever shine?" Weather has been the biggest complaint of the thousands of Vietnamese refugees currently based at Camp Pendleton.

⑦

NEWSPAPER *DAILY PILOT*  
*SECT A, PAGE 5*

DATE *17 June 75*

## Refugees preparing for return

CAMP PENDLETON (AP)—A total of 355 Indochinese refugees will be processed for repatriation here by United Nations representatives, a senior State Department official said.

The refugees seeking repatriation are all South Vietnamese except for one Cambodian.

Ninety of them are presently staying at this Marine facility and the remaining 265 are scattered in refugee centers elsewhere in the United States. Nick Thorne, head of the inter-agency Task Force here, said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, reports reaching United Nations officials in New York indicate another 2,300 Indochinese refugees at camps in the Pacific or in Thailand also have asked to be returned to their homes.

Thorne said processing will begin as soon as refugees at other centers in the United States begin arriving at Camp Pendleton.

⑧

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 ESCROWING TIMES ADVOCATE SECT A, PAGE 10 DATE: 18 June 75  
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# Back to Asia

## 350 Refugees to Return

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — A senior State Department official said Tuesday that a total of 350 refugees from Southeast Asia have said they want to return home and that all will first gather here.

Nick Thorne, who heads the Interagency Task Force at the Camp Pendleton relocation center, said the 350 are all Vietnamese except for one Cambodian.

Among the South Vietnamese is a pregnant woman whose husband remained in Saigon.

The woman asked also for an abortion — one of 15 sought by women refugees, Thorne said. University Hospital in San Diego is being considered for the surgery, said Thorne, after the women are given counseling.

In addition, Thorne said, five Latin American nations have offered to accept a number of the war refugees. He identified those countries as Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Uruguay.

The names of other Western Hemisphere nations which are expected to take in refugees will be announced soon, Thorne said.

Canada already has announced plans to resettle as many as 14,000.

He predicted 28,000, or about one-fourth of the 131,000 refugees who fled Indochina, will settle in California.

"The Latin American nations are being rather selective about the types of skills and occupations they will accept," Thorne said. Colombia is limiting its immigrants to employable heads of households who are metal workers or skilled in textiles, leather and plastic industries.

Another Latin American nation which Thorne did not identify has agreed to take a South Vietnamese village's entire population which arrived at Camp Pendleton last week. They are 250 members of 39 families from the village of Phuoc Binh on the seacoast near Saigon.

No date was given by Thorne for the homeward-bound refugees to be gathered in Camp Pendleton, but he said he hopes most of the 131,000 who came to the United States will be out of the four major resettlement camps by the end of October.

DAILY PILOT

NEWSPAPER

SECT A, PAGE 3

DATE 18 June 75

75 THE SAN DIEGO UNION A-9

## More Refugees Urged

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate's Democratic and Republican leaders urged the administration yesterday to allow additional Indochina refugees to enter the United States. The said they are "disappointed, as we are certain you are, in the response from other nations" to requests that they receive Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees.

Democratic leader Mike Mansfield and Republican leader Hugh Scott wrote joint letters to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Attorney General Edward Levi. The number of additional refugees who might be expected to come to the United States if allowed would be less than 5,000, they said.

(10)

## 35,000 Refugees Find Home

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford told a delegation of Roman Catholic bishops Wednesday that 35,000 Vietnamese refugees have been relocated in the United States and he hopes to increase the rate at which others are placed in new homes.

The President met for 35 minutes with leaders of the U.S. Catholic Conference and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. A White House spokesman said the delegation presented views on a number of subjects, including abortion, federal aid to parochial schools, illegal aliens in the United States and world food problems.

The spokesman said most of the discussion centered on the refugees who fled South Vietnam before it fell to the Communists in April. Several Catholic volunteer agencies are involved in the resettlement. Ford told them that 28,000 refugees remain on Guam and in four military bases in the United States. He said that about 700 refugees are being resettled each day and that he had asked his staff how this could be increased to 1,000 a day.

On the subject of world food, the bishops discussed the voluntary effort by Catholics and members of other churches to purchase food and to develop new technology so that developing countries can provide their own food sources. They urged a strong federal role in the world food situation.

The bishops also told the President that the government should consider some sort of amnesty for illegal aliens now in the United States. But they agreed with the government policy to curtail the flow of aliens across U.S. borders, primarily from Mexico.

## Taking Away Jobs

Those people who are worried that the Vietnamese refugees will take jobs away from the Americans are barking up the wrong tree. The amount of jobs that the refugees will take from our citizens will be infinitesimally small compared with the massive amount of jobs that our hysterical environmentalists are denying American labor.

AARON H. SHUM  
Marina del Rey

(12)

L. A. TIMES SECT. *II* PAGE *6*

DATE *19 June 75*



## 35,000 Viet Refugees Settled in U.S., Ford Tells Bishops' Group

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Ford told a delegation of Roman Catholic bishops Wednesday that 35,000 Vietnamese refugees have been relocated in the United States and he hopes to increase the rate at which others are placed in new homes.

The President met for 35 minutes with leaders of the U.S. Catholic Conference and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. A White House

spokesman said the delegation presented views on a number of subjects, including abortion, federal aid to parochial schools, illegal aliens in the United States and world food problems.

The spokesman said most of the discussion centered on the refugees who fled South Vietnam before it fell to the Communists in April. Several

Catholic volunteer agencies are involved in the resettlement. Mr. Ford told them that 93,000 refugees remain on Guam and in four military bases in the United States. He said that about 700 refugees are being resettled each day and that he had asked his staff how this could be increased to 1,000 a day.

Among those attending were Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin of Cincinnati, Archbishop Thomas A. Donnellan of Atlanta, Cardinal Terence Cook of New York, and Bishop James W. Malone of Youngstown, Ohio.

L. A. TIMES SECT. *I*

PAGE *9*

DATE *19 June 78*

CMC WASH, D.C.

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

23 June 1975

*File*

# From Coed to Breadwinner

•First of a two-part series.

By ANN SALISBURY

Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

It was just before midterm exams when Therese Luong, delicate and softspoken USC student, became head of her family.

Therese, 22, had been a Vietnamese student at USC for five years. She had become accustomed to American traditions. She was a good student and the university had given her several scholarships. Each summer she had worked to pay living expenses.

But when the phone rang that night in April, everything changed.

Saigon was falling and her family was fleeing. Her mother was in Guam with her 14-year-old twin sisters, Marie and Natalie. Her two brothers, Eric, 17, and Francois, 19, were still in Vietnam with their father, but were going to leave soon.

It was Therese's job to get them sponsors.

For Therese, who had always thought she was self-sufficient, asking for help was not easy. But help came. State District Court Judge Robert Thompson, the father of Therese's faculty friend, Dr. William Thompson, agreed to sponsor her brothers and father.

Miss Bea Von Allmen, USC director of international services, sponsored her mother and sisters.

Therese has accepted her new role bravely. She is confident she'll somehow manage to care for her family, and though she has been somewhat successful at making order

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page A-1)

out of the chaos of recent weeks, she admits her day-to-day life has become a nightmare.

She doesn't mind giving up a graduate degree to help make ends meet.

But Therese still faces a silent struggle: Her father never arrived.

If it were not for that, the process of finding new roots in a foreign country might not be so difficult. But the Luong family's story is not unique. There are hundreds of other families facing the same crisis of separation and adjustment.

And without a father, becoming Americanized will be a slow and painful experience for the Luong family.

It is Mrs. Luong who worries Therese most. Getting established in a new land is hard enough. But for 25 years Mrs. Luong lived for her husband, Therese says. Now she can't stop worrying about what might happen to him if he is still in Saigon, and she can't face the idea that she might have to establish a new life without him.

30pp  
Loup

Smith

"Father sent the two boys a couple days after mother and the girls left," Therese says. "It was fairly early in the immigration, and he was almost 100 per cent sure he'd be able to escape. The American government had promised to get him out because he was working for the United States."

Therese's father, Luong Quang Tho, was a pilot and founder of Military Sealift Command. His brother, chief of police of a Saigon province, arranged for Eric and Francois and a cousin to be smuggled aboard an American bus bound for the International Airport's Refugee Processing Center.

But Luong stayed behind.

"It made him angry to see all the government officials running away," Therese said. "He wanted to stay until the last and help every way he could. He wanted to help the people escape and he was depending on the American Navy to evacuate him."

While it is possible that Luong might be among the thousands of refugees still in a refugee camp or on Guam, Therese says her family is doubtful he was able to escape.

"My mother and father were very close," she said. "My mother is 48. She told him she was old and did not care about living if she was not with him. She wanted only to be with him, but he assured her he would join her. She would never have left him if he hadn't promised he'd come."

Today Therese's brothers, sisters and mother are living in an apartment in the married students complex on the USC campus. University Chancellor Norman Topping arranged for them to spend the summer there and Therese plans to enroll her mother and sisters in special English classes offered as a service to dependents of foreign students.

Therese asks visitors not to mention her father when they are around her mother . . . she doesn't want to see her cry.

But Mrs. Luong is willing to talk about her experiences.

She sits tentatively on the corner of a roll-away bed in the tiny dormitory room. She clasps at her elbows and huddles forward over her knees.

She looks younger than 48, but her eyes seek reassurance. She is afraid.

"Everything seems so strange," she says in Vietnamese. "I wonder if the children will have enough money to stay in school. I wonder if I can find a job. I wonder about a lot of things."

Therese explains: "Mother thought America would be like a dream. But, she got blown away like a cloud. So many things have happened to her that she is still feeling the shock. She couldn't direct things the way she wanted them to be."

"She waited for father and my brothers in Guam. But while she was still waiting for father, she was sent to Fort Chaffee in Arkansas with Eric and the twins. And now she is here with the children, but without father."

Mrs. Luong and the three children waited 10 days at Fort Chaffee before paperwork could be completed to leave the Army base and fly to Los Angeles.

Francois and his cousin, who had been detained in Guam for additional processing, finally were sent to Camp Pendleton. And Therese kept track of her family through long-distance telephone calls.

Mrs. Luong's eyes fill with tears as she recalls Therese's thoughtfulness.

"At Fort Chaffee the food was so terrible that we were spending the little money we had at hamburger and fruit stands," she said. "Although the food improved before we left, at first no one could eat the Army food."

"So a few days after we arrived a package came for us. It was filled with a canned ham, special spices, and a certain fish sauce from Chinatown just like the one we use every day in Vietnam. It was from Therese, and it was just like home. I opened it with my friends. We were all so eager and so hungry. It was gone within an hour."

For the past year, Therese's 20-year-old sister, Odette, has been a student at California State University at Los Angeles, and worked in an office to pay her out-of-state tuition fees.

Odette must keep working, Therese says. Francois speaks English already, and already has plans to take a job as a hospital errand boy.

But Therese says she would like to see her mother

confident of herself, secure and rested before she gets a job in the fall.

She has considered being a cashier, a seamstress or a florist's assistant.

Therese expects to get a job working with computers at a major scientific research laboratory and she is looking for a neighborhood for her mother and brothers and sisters to live with a good public school system.

Since her family has arrived she has taken them to the rose gardens in Exposition Park and to local grocery stores, but there hasn't been much time for sightseeing.

"Mother is amazed at how convenient things are here," Therese says. "When I took her to a local market she was surprised to see the meat counter. At home she had to kill the chickens, clean them and pluck all the feathers out before cooking them."

"Our biggest meal was at noon, and she would spend all day cooking and doing housework at home. Now she can understand why so many American women work."

Therese says she and Odette have tried to reassure their mother that they will be able to take care of her.

"We want her to believe everything will be all right," she says, hesitating, as though she would like to believe that herself.

But Therese and Odette fear what might happen if they should learn their father is still in Vietnam. They are afraid their mother might want to go home . . . a fate which they think would surely result in her death.

"Mother fled from North Vietnam when it was turned over to the Communists," she said. "She is on their blacklists."

"The Communists would rather use an inexpensive bullet than go to the expense of reeducating someone like my mother, whose ideas are a threat and hard to change."

"She would not live if she went home. We want her here, with us."

NEXT: A Vietnamese colonel credits his faith in God for bringing him and his family to new life of freedom in the U.S.

②



Herald-Examiner photos by Conrad Merz

Portrait of Luong family in their apartment at USC includes twins Catherine and Natalie, foreground, Eric, Mrs. Luong, Therese and François, at rear. Their father stayed in Saigon to help others escape, perhaps too long. At left, the twins have a legitimate reason to watch a lot of television: it helps them improve their English.

During their first week in new home, Therese leads her brothers and sisters on a tour of USC campus. With no father, burden of being family's breadwinner has fallen on her shoulders.



Youngsters provide light moment for their mom by introducing her to a wildly-painted Volkswagen, something she'd obviously never seen in Vietnam.



④

HERALD\*EXAMINER

SECTION

A

PAGE

1

(Cont)

DATE

22 June 75

## Refugees Get Shoes

CAMP PENDLETON — South Vietnamese refugees in Camp Six received a much needed gift Thursday in the form of 20 pairs of shoes.

Retired Gen. E. W. Snedeker donated \$50 to St. Patrick's Church in Carlsbad which prompted another Carlsbad resident, Marcella Gilbert, to add to the donation and deliver the shoes for the church.

Tia Bui, a refugee who is now settled off Camp Pendleton, pointed out the need, saying many children were going barefoot.

If anyone wishes to donate additional shoes, they should call the church at 729-2866.

⑤  
OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. 2 PAGE 15 DATE 20 June 75

## Returning Viet Refugees Due At Pendleton

EGLIN AFB, Fla. (UPI) — Thirty-six Vietnamese refugees, mostly "men of military age" who have asked to be returned to South Vietnam, will be taken to Camp Pendleton, Calif., this week.

Air Force Maj. Jim Tilton, a spokesman for the refugee relocation center here, said Thursday another dozen refugees who have asked for repatriation to Vietnam will be sent to Camp Pendleton later when they have completed processing.

Tilton said those of the 36 returnees who attended a meeting Wednesday with a State Department briefer "all appeared to be men of military age." He added he had no breakdown on men, women and children among those scheduled to go back. They are expected to be moved to Pendleton today or Saturday.

Sources at the camp said earlier that all those who applied to return to Vietnam were former Air Force and Navy crewmen who became involuntary refugees when their commanders left the country.



# Returning Refugees Due Here

CAMP PENDLETON — There are 90 refugees at Camp Pendleton now who want to return to Vietnam and 265 more will arrive within the next few days.

Refugees wanting to go back to their homeland were scheduled to be flown from other camps at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, and Fort Chaffee, Arkansas to Camp Pendleton for processing as returnees.

Of the 90 refugees already at Pendleton, 89 are Vietnamese and one is a Cambodian, Lt. Col. Arthur Brill said this morning.

Brill, public information officer for the marine base, said that the departing refugees are "under the complete control of Mohammed Gharid of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees."

Brill said he has no idea how long the processing will take, since it will be done by the United Nations agency.

"Each of our 90 have to fill out detailed biographical forms, and are interviewed personally," he said.

The forms are then sent to Geneva, and on to the government authorities in South Vietnam for an indication if each refugee will be accepted back."

Brill said he anticipates no problems with the arrival of the other Vietnamese.

## Refugee Will Build Monument To Gratitude

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

CAMP PENDLETON — A Vietnamese sculptor is expressing his gratitude for the welcome accorded him and other Indochinese refugees by building a permanent memorial which will stand near the entry to the refugee center here.

The sculpture by Nguyen Luan Dat will be of reinforced concrete on a metal base and will show a Vietnamese

child sitting in an open palm. The hand symbolizes the warm welcome extended by the U.S. Marines and all Americans, it was explained.

Work is under way on the sculpture, which will rise 15 feet from a base covered with grass and flowers. Dat hopes to finish the sculpture, "Welcome Newlife," by the Fourth of July.

Dat has a unique motiva-

tion for his artwork. When he and his wife, Phung Thi Hanh, arrived at the refugee center in early May, two Marines and a sailor assigned here learned that Hanh was pregnant and helped to arrange a baby shower for her.

The shower was held May 30 through the efforts of the three men, Sgt. Jim Ponath, Cpl. George Thomson and PO Michael Patry. Other

military personnel and their wives joined in to help.

The child, a boy, was born Sunday in the Navy Hospital at the base. He was named David after the camp chaplain, Navy Cmdr. David Plank.

(8)

## 76 Refugees Ask Return To Vietnam

By RUBY SEXTON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — United Nations representatives have processed 76 applications from Vietnamese refugees seeking to return to their homeland but have had no response from the Provisional Revolutionary Government, a U.N. spokesman said yesterday.

Mohamad Gharib of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees said a total of 122 refugees here have indicated their desire to go back.

The completed applications were forwarded to Geneva, Switzerland, for presentation to PRG representatives, he said, adding that he hopes for an answer to individual requests "within weeks."

### 2 KEY FACTORS

Gharib said two repeated themes appear in the refugees' requests — a wish to rejoin other family members and a desire to take part in the country's reconstruction.

A Camp Pendleton spokesman, CWO Roger Combs, said refugees from the three other centers in the United States will be brought here for their return to South Vietnam.

No date has been set for their assignment here, he added. Another camp will be set up on Wake Island to handle refugees not yet brought to this country who want to go back, he said.

### TOTAL OF 2,650

U.N. officials reported this week that approximately 2,650 refugees here or on Guam want to return to South Vietnam.

Combs said refugees are continuing to be released from Camp Pendleton at a rate of about 300 a day.

However, the refugee population is expected to return to its capacity of 18,500 as additional refugees are brought here from Guam, he said.

More than half the 38,086 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees who have arrived at Camp Pendleton to date have left for resettlement, Combs said. With 18,287 releases, the refugee population yesterday was 17,799.

### GAVE WARNING

When the U.N. program was begun June 4, Gharib warned that the new South Vietnamese government might not accept all the refugees seeking to go back.

Refugees who want to return to their country have to fill out a form containing questions prepared by the PRG. Among other things, they are asked why they left and why they want to return.

(9)

## Refugee Classes Begin

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

OCEANSIDE — Classes start today in Oceanside schools to help adult Vietnamese refugees learn English and become oriented to American customs.

Associate Supt. Jim Truax said the program will also be offered to Vietnamese children.

"We are setting up a program to handle the influx of Vietnamese refugees," Truax said, "but I want to make it clear that we will provide the same service for other residents of the community who need it."

The adult program, organized by MiraCosta College, will concentrate on teaching English, Truax said. The

classes will be held in the morning at Libby and Laurel schools and at night at Oceanside High School-West.

For the younger students, the official said: "A youngster will stay in the class until he is ready to enter the regular school program. We also expect more refugees to move into Oceanside in the coming months."

To screen the students, Truax said the district will check their English competency and understanding of the American system.

He said the district will hire one teacher and instructional aide to run the class and add more staff as enrollments increase.

(10)

# Ft. Chaffee Feud Denied As Cause Of Refugee Shift

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

**CAMP PENDLETON** — A revolutionary Government of total of 164 refugees seeking South Vietnam to return. repatriation to Vietnam arrived at this military base yesterday after being flown from Ft. Chaffee, Ark. aboard two military C-119 aircraft.

The refugees arrived two days ahead of schedule but officials said it was because the planes were available to fly them, not because of fighting that broke out during demonstrations at Ft. Chaffee.

During the third day of demonstrations by refugees protesting delays in repatriation, one of the demonstrators got into a fight with a newly-arrived Vietnamese who called the demonstrator a Communist. Military police broke up the fight and arrested the two. Officials said feelings are running high at Ft. Chaffee between the refugees who want to return to Vietnam and those who wish to stay in the United States.

## PENDLETON PEACEFUL

A Camp Pendleton spokesman said there have been no demonstrations at the base and everything is peaceful. He said the Ft. Chaffee refugees have all made applications for repatriation and the base will merely provide them a place to stay while they are waiting for approval from the Provisional Rev-

olutionary Government of South Vietnam to return. In addition to the 164 refugees who arrived yesterday, there are about 125 refugees at Camp Pendleton who have requested repatriation, a base spokesman said.

## FISHERMEN UNITE

Also here on the base yesterday, about 60 fishermen from Vinh Tau Province northeast of Saigon met at a village in the United States comparable to Phuoc Tinh, home port of about 1,000 of the estimated total of 40,000 fishing boats in Vietnam.

Phan Duc Thu, a camp 4 coordinator who served as interpreter for the fishermen, said about 3,000 sailed about 20 miles off the Vietnam coast to meet the U. S. 7th Fleet.

One man said he spoke for six fishermen's families who fled from Hanoi to South Vietnam and are now at Camp Pendleton. They are afraid to return to South Vietnam but would like to fish and farm in the United States as they did at home, he said.

One of the refugees said their chief boat builder in their home village is in camp 5 at Camp Pendleton and would help them build boats in the United States if they are relocated in a fishing village.

## Refugees Vow Hunger Strike

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — Seventy-five refugees wanting to return to Vietnam demonstrated today to protest a delay in sending them to Camp Pendleton, the next step in their journey back home.

They also threatened a hunger strike if they were not given a specific departure date within 24 hours.

David Arnold, a representative of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, announced Monday that all refugees wishing to return to Vietnam would be taken to Camp Pendleton and held there until the

Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam agreed to take them.

Arnold said the airlift of repatriates from Ft. Chaffee, Eglin AFB and Ft. Indian Town Gap would begin Thursday or Friday.

Arnold told the refugees Thursday that they would not begin the flights to Pendleton before Monday. He said the planes that were to take them to Pendleton have been sent to Guam in an effort to get other Vietnamese refugees off the island before the typhoon season.

(12)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. 1 PAGE 2 DATE 20 June 75

## Abortions Will Be Offered to Viet Refugees

Abortions will be available to Vietnamese women at Camp Pendleton who request them under an agreement worked out between the Marine Corps and a San Diego community health care organization.

Marine public information officer Lt. Col. Arthur P. Brill said the refugees are entitled to the same type of medical care as American citizens or residents.

"If a woman wants an abortion, she is entitled to have one. We are not going to condone the abortions, but we are not going to discourage them," he said.

He said eight refugee women, all of them less than 12 weeks pregnant, have so far requested abortions.

A woman wishing to terminate her pregnancy would first see the U.S. Navy doctor and the Vietnamese physician at the camp's obstetrics-gynecology clinic.

She would then be counseled by the physicians and by representatives of the health care organization, whom Brill refused to name pending a final vote of approval by its directors.

If she desired an abortion after counseling, the health care agency would make arrangements for the abortion to be performed by licensed doctors in community hospitals.

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## ABORTIONS

Continued from First Page

Costs would be covered by government funds allocated to the refugee program.

Brill said abortions would not be performed at Camp Pendleton's hospital because of limited staff and facilities in the obstetrics-gynecology department there. He added that dependents of Marines also are referred to off-base hospitals for abortions.

(B)

## GRAND JURY PROPOSAL

# Sponsor Refugee Family, County's Cities Urged

The Los Angeles County Grand Jury, which recently visited Vietnam refugees at Camp Pendleton, recommended Thursday that each of the county's 78 cities sponsor a refugee family.

In a letter sent to relevant grand jury foreman Jesse C. Robinson wrote:

"Wouldn't it be a fine idea for each city in Los Angeles County to undertake the sponsorship of such a fine family? The idea could spread across the country. It would demonstrate the humanitarian and the compassionate qualities of Americans, traits characteristic of our people."

Robinson said the suggestion for municipal sponsorship of refugee families stems from a remark by Marine Major James Williamson, the camp's escort during their re-

cent visit to the refugee camp.

"The captain remarked that if every city in the United States would sponsor one Vietnamese family, there would be no refugees left at Camp Pendleton," the grand jury foreman said.

(14)



## Pro-Freedom Rally Staged By Refugees

Related story — D-2

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — A group of Vietnamese refugees chanting "down with the Communists" demonstrated yesterday to offset a protest a day earlier by a group of their countrymen who want to return to Vietnam.

About 40 persons, mostly women and children, carrying banners in English and Vietnamese, walked four blocks through the refugee camp area. Their signs said, "We are grateful to Americans" and "We ourselves look for freedom."

### SHIFT PRIORITY

Su Tan Thanh, 26, one of the organizers of the counter-demonstration, said he was fearful Americans might misunderstand Friday's demonstrators who demanded a specific date for their departure to Camp Pendleton, the first stopping point in their repatriation.

Officials told those demonstrating Friday they would leave Ft. Chaffee by Tuesday.

The Friday demonstrators were upset because they had been given a departure date for that day and it was canceled. Col. Joe Rogers, Army information officer at Ft. Chaffee, said the flight out was canceled because priority was being given to flying refugees to the United States from Guam and Wake Islands before the typhoon season.

### NOT OPPOSED

The demonstrators yesterday said they thought Vietnamese refugees from Guam and Wake should be flown in before those who want to return to Vietnam are taken back.

"We want to transport our people in the Pacific first," said Thanh. "We don't protest their repatriation (those wanting to go back) but we don't agree with that kind of action," Thanh said.

David Arnold, a United Nations representative, said yesterday the refugees wishing to return will be transferred to Pendleton until the provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam agrees to let them return.

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WANT TO FARM

## Ky Asks Land For Refugees

South Vietnamese only want a place in the sun and a place to farm and get over the shock as they integrate into American society, former South Vietnamese premier Nguyen Cao Ky said here yesterday.

Ky, appearing before the Air Force Reserve Section of the Reserve Officers Association's national convention in the Town and Country Convention Center, said "mine is a lost generation."

The 180,000 South Vietnamese refugees need a transition period he said. "If we just disperse them and throw them into American society, there is no way they can survive," Ky said.

### EMOTIONAL PROBLEM

The Vietnamese face an emotional problem that must be resolved immediately, Ky said, adding: "There is no useful purpose to look back."

Ky said the men need about two acres each to grow rice and vegetables and to raise pigs and chickens. This would enable them to feed their families.

The war in Vietnam was the longest, most difficult, most complex and most controversial of all wars, he said, and to draw from the experience of that conflict would take months, even years of research considering all of the aspects of the military, political, social and economic considerations both from the Vietnamese and American point of view.

The United States, he said, is going to have to reassure itself and the rest of the world of its commitment to contain the spread of international communism.

Ky said reports of the buildup of Soviet might that he

heard earlier in the session "was a frightening report of what the United States and the free world face."

As for Ky and his fellow refugees, he said it is a time to forget the painful past and concentrate on the future.

"The needs of the Vietnamese refugees are very little," he said. "All we need is a little place in the sun. I believe in this big country we can find this. We don't want to be a new burden."

Ky said his people are fully aware of the opinion of many in the United States, "people who for some reason are against the presence of Vietnamese in this country. Some say it is because there are millions of jobless Americans and our presence threatens to take away jobs."

### 'MUST AVOID IT'

Ky said he did not know if this argument was valid, but "we must avoid it." By keeping the refugees in the countryside, he said, the South Vietnamese will not be competing for jobs.

"We have no intention to do this, no capability" to compete with Americans, he said.

Ky said he would not attempt to pinpoint the reasons for the his country's defeat. His countrymen were at war for 25 years, he said, "in one of the longest conflicts in the history of mankind."

### 'DON'T WANT WELFARE'

"We don't want to live on welfare," he said.

Asked by a New Yorker whether his people could take the cold climate of the northeastern section of the country Ky said "yes, we would have a problem with the weather."

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## U.S. Aided on Viet Cost

World Vision International, headquartered in Monrovia, has presented a check for \$23,586 to the U.S. government as a contribution toward the expenses of evacuating 88 of its Vietnamese staff members from Saigon last April.

The voluntary payment from the private relief agency was made this week by the Rev. W. Stanley Mooneyham, World Vision president. "We believe that the American organizations working abroad should not expect the U.S. government to pay all their bills," Mooneyham said.

(17)

L. A. TIMES SECT. I

PAGE

29

DATE

21 June 75

## Refugees Protest Delays in Return Home

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI)—A group of about 80 refugees began a peaceful demonstration for repatriation to Vietnam Friday and said they would turn to more violent activity Sunday if a date is not set for their return to Saigon.

The refugees said they were angry and upset at the delay in transferring them to Camp Pendleton, the first stop on the journey home.

David Arnold, a representative of the United Nations, announced Tuesday that refugees wishing to return to Vietnam would be transferred to Camp Pendleton and held until

Government of South Vietnam agrees to take them back.

Arnold later said the flights were being postponed until next week because available transport planes were being used to fly more Vietnamese refugees off Guam into the United States before the start of the typhoon season.

"The Americans want to play a game with us," said Le Minh Tan, 44, who has been acting as a spokesman for the refugees in camp wanting to return to Vietnam. "We are upset and we are mad. The American government is very rich and has very, very many planes."

ing return to Vietnam would begin a hunger strike today if they did not get a definite departure date for Pendleton. If that does not work, Tan said, "We will take stronger action. We will destroy a few cars and we will block the road. We will sit in the middle of the road and not let cars pass if we do not hear something by Sunday."

Tan said he did not know how officials would react to such action and added, "If they want to kill us, go ahead and kill us. We love our country and we want to go home."

Of 52,000 refugees housed at Ft. Chaffee, 100 have said they want to return to Vietnam.

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L. A. TIMES SECT. I

PAGE 16

DATE 21 June 75

## 80 Refugees At Ft. Chaffee Protest Repatriation Delays

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. Pendleton yesterday, but the (UPI) — About 80 of the refugees who want to return to Vietnam demonstrated for eight hours yesterday in hopes of speeding up their repatriation. Other refugees who do not want to go home planned a counter demonstration.

Late in the day administrators assured the repatriates they would be moved to Camp Pendleton, Calif., next week. The demonstration was ended and plans for a hunger strike today and violence tomorrow were delayed.

Lee Minh Tan, 44, a spokesman for the demonstrating refugees, said if the group was not flown to Pendleton Tuesday they would demonstrate again.

The repatriates were to have been flown to Camp

transfer was delayed because the planes were being used to transfer other refugees from Guam to the United States.

Donald McDonald, civilian coordinator at Chaffee, told the demonstrators they would be transferred Tuesday. He urged them to be patient and stop protesting.

David Arnold, a United Nations representative trying to arrange the repatriation, met with the demonstrators after McDonald. Arnold said he told them "if there is no plan here by Tuesday, I'll demonstrate with you."

Nguyen My, 44, a spokesman for the second group of refugees, had called the demonstrators Viet Cong "agents" and urged they be separated from the other refugees at the post.

"They (the demonstrators) do not represent the majority of the refugees in this camp," said My, a barracks leader. "We fear their action has affected our future relocation, and we don't accept their actions."

"In my opinion, they are VC agents," said My.

Tan denied the demonstrators were Communists.

"If we were Communists, we would never come to U.S., or if we were Communists we would stay in U.S. and send information back to Vietnam," he said. "We are not Communists. We just love our country and want to return."

My said some of the refugees who want to return to Vietnam have coerced other refugees into filling out repatriation forms by threatening the safety of their relatives in Vietnam.

## Problems Forecast In Teaching Of Vietnam Children

PITTSBURGH, AP — American college children may not see the same world as their teachers, who do not understand the Asian culture, say the University of Pittsburgh professors.

Dr. Margaret McFarland, associate professor of psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, says she sees special problems in employment and education for refugees who fled the Communist takeover in South Vietnam.

And W. Keith Brown, chairman of the anthropology department, said identical forms of behavior, such as how a student relates to his teacher, may be interpreted in opposite ways in different countries.

Both presented their views during a panel discussion over the weekend at the Western Psychiatric Institute.

20

## F.D.R.'s Refugee Snub Recalled

Editor, The Union: When President Ford made his report concerning the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, he said this country's policy had always been to accept without strings attached people in distress from all over the world.

This is not so. During the Nazi holocaust, a boat with 937 persons who were promised to be accepted by Cuba was not allowed to land there. France, England and Belgium took a small number of these desperate people but President Franklin D. Roosevelt denied their entry into the United States. The rest of the people had to return to the Nazi hell.

This is in "Voyage of the Damned" by G. Thomas and M. M. Witts.

M.R., San Diego

(21)

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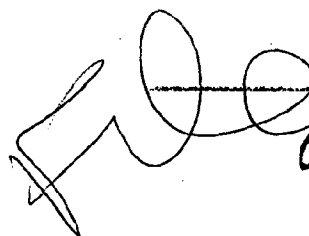
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M.H., San Diego

(21)



 HQ. MARINE CORPS  
CAMP PENDLETON, CA.  
REFUGEE CLIPS  
JUN 25 1975 1975  
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Going To Okinawa

## Art Brill To Leave Camp Pen

BY MICHAEL METCALF  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Lt. Col. Art Brill confirmed today he will leave his post as Public Affairs officer at Camp Pendleton.

Director of the Joint Public Affairs Office since July, 1972, Brill has been chief liaison officer between the Marine base and the South Coast Community. He is a member of the Military Affairs committee of the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce.

He is being reassigned to Camp Butler, Okinawa, headquarters of the 3rd Marine Division and the 1st Marine Air Wing. His position at Camp Butler has not been specified at this time, but he believes he will continue as a public affairs officer.

Brill's transfer to Okinawa is a routine rotation which occurs at the end of a tour of duty, normally three years at one location.

## Brill Leaving Post . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

He will be replaced by Lt. Col. Daniel Brown, who is presently commander of a battalion of Marines on Okinawa. Like Brill, Brown is an experienced public affairs officer. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin and holds a master's degree in journalism.

Brill will remain at Camp Pendleton until early September.

Commenting on his experience at Camp Pendleton, Brill said it had been "a gratifying experience," but noted he "still had a long way to go" until September.

In addition to handling the international press corps at the Vietnamese refugee camps, he also oversees the publication of the 21,000 circulation base newspaper, a radio program and an active community relations program.

Camp Butler is the forward U.S. Marine Base in Asia. Recently, the Mayaguez rescue operation was staged from Camp Butler.

18 PM  
Camp

0

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN-POST

A-1

DATE

24 June

**'Smiling, Happy'**

## 164 Refugees Set For Asian Return

At the end of a long ordeal that involved escaping the Communists, traveling to a strange land on crowded boats and planes and being shuffled from camp to camp, 164 Vietnamese refugees arrived at Camp Pendleton Sunday to reverse the process and return to their Asian homeland.

Two military C141s, the same planes that brought many of the refugees to the United States, brought the refugees from Ft. Chaffee, Ark., to this Southern

California Marine base to begin the process of repatriation.

A base spokesman said they appeared "smiling, quiet and happy" when they arrived. All were given quarters and meal cards and were integrated with the rest of the refugees here who are waiting to get out.

"There have been no demonstrations so far and everything is peaceful," a Pendleton spokesman said. "Since all of the refugees have made their applications for repatriation through the United Nations, our job is merely as a housekeeper to provide them with a place to stay."

A fight broke out between two Vietnamese refugees who accused each other of being Communists early Sunday at the Arkansas refugee center.

②

DATE 23 JUNE

## *Viet Fishing Town Asked by Refugees*

**By Associated Press**

A Vietnamese fishing village transplanted to a site on the Southern California coastline.

That's what refugees from the fishing village of Phuoc Tinh say could happen in six months if the United States government is willing to give them home and boat building supplies and living expenses for the period.

Some 60 members of an estimated 3,000 Vietnamese fisherman and their families made the proposal at a meeting Sunday in Refugee Camp 4 at Camp Pendleton.

Nguyen Van Nhac, a spokesman for the group, said his group would like to see refugees of fishing villages now scattered in camps throughout the United States, Guam and Wake Island, brought together to live in the proposed village.

Lim Thi Than, the wife of a fisherman, said they could build the

boats they would need because one of their fellow refugees was a master boat-builder in South Vietnam.

But other refugees think the idea is unfeasible.

"The fishermen are not well-educated," said Huynh Kim An, who said he owned two fishing boats in South Vietnam worth a total of \$58,000.

"They would be better off economically if they split up and worked for an and learned from American fishermen," An added.

Bat Luong Thanh, who said he worked previously for the Vietnam Directory of Fishers, felt the transplanted fishing village idea might work in Latin America.

He said Vietnamese fishermen were used to fishing in shallow waters and they would have to adjust to machinery for deep-water commercial fishing in the United States.

★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★

③

# Viet Boy Scouts active again

By HERR ASHILOCK  
Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scout movement, would be pleased to know his young men of this modern day have the situation well in hand at Camp Pendleton.

The dapper English youth leader of a half century ago would be tickled pink in the knowledge that 280 Viet Scouts, from eight to 16 years of age, today are delivering the mail to refugee tents in all eight camps; are working in mess halls at mealtimes, and are running errands all over the place.

This is a story of the strange and wonderful workings of international friendship, stronger than any bonds ever broken by the cannon of warfare—and initiated weeks ago by a 34-year-old national commissioner of scouting in VietNam.

Truong Trong Trac, who stood tall in Scout work in Saigon, hustled together his legion of juniors in a strange, new world. He scoured the camps to find 40 to 50 scouting leaders—plus Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and Rovers by the scores.

Trac contacted the American Red Cross, which forwarded the word to the San Diego County Council office—with the result that district Scout executives, Martin Walsh, Carlsbad, and Robert DeCuir, Fallbrook, immediately were assigned to help.

At least 50 North County Boy Scouts, including several from Vista, visit the refugee camps on Sundays and Thursdays. They join hands, literally, with their contemporaries from a battle-torn nation in keeping the show on the road, so to speak.

The nearly 300 Viet Boy Scouts left their homeland in a hurry. Only 25 managed to

bring their uniforms—so the big push in North County today is to secure uniforms the American boys outgrew—from households in Vista, Fallbrook, San Marcos, Oceanside, Carlsbad, or wherever.

"These boys at the eight camps need scout books and uniforms badly," said Martin Walsh. "North County residents wishing to donate can contact the Boy Scout offices in San Diego (298-6121) or call the Vista Press (724-7161)."

The Viet Nam Scouts, once organized, now busy themselves daily about the camps. They deliver the mail and the camp newspaper, run all manner of errands, work in the mess tents before and after meals, supervise operation of television sets in various locations, help greet New refugees still arriving daily around the clock, and work with Red Cross officials in locating lost children.

"Many of the children in the refugee area are here without their parents," said DeCuir. "Thus far the Viet Scouts have located about 60 of the children who became lost."

On their two visiting days each week, the American Scouts help teach English to their new friends.

"The Vietnamese boys have a project—another one," said Walsh. "They have obligated themselves to learn five new English words each day. These they must pass on to another refugee. It's sort of a chain learning process."

Since nearly all the Viet Scouts arrived at Pendleton without uniforms, the American Boy Scout district office soon arranged to supply the youths with sun visors designating them as affiliated with the Boy Scout movement.

"They wear these all the time—even over their regular caps," said Walsh. "Now the boys hope they'll receive

4



TOO BIG? . . .Scouting executive John Ackerman, San Diego, tries to fit a young Vietnamese refugee Cub Scout with a pair of Scout trousers. Scout uniforms are being donated by the local Scout organizations. The Vietnamese have been registered with the Boy Scouts of America.

⑤

## **Resettlement Of Refugees Due Quickly**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The director of the refugee resettlement program says all Indochinese refugees should be resettled in the United States by the end of the year.

The comments by Interagency Task Force director Julia Taft come a week after a General Accounting Office report said the refugee program was in some cases moving too slowly.

To date, Mrs. Taft said, about 40,000 of the 130,000 refugees have left the four reception camps in the United States and have been resettled. They are being moved out at a rate of about 700 a day.

About 4,000 of them have gone to other countries, notably Canada and France, and 2,031 have asked to be repatriated.

A representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee Relief's office will be going to Saigon shortly with 500 completed applications for return home, she said.

President Ford Monday sent Congress the Interagency Task Force report on the program's progress.

## Teacher Finds Vietnamese Refugees Eager Students

FT. INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa. (UPI) — The veteran educator said his classes would be the envy of any teacher.

Students rise when he enters the classroom and again as he leaves.

Class attention is constant. Vandalism does not exist and no student ever interrupts.

Though sometimes 90 students crowd into a classroom with only 30 chairs and no desks, they find class periods of an hour and a half too short.

"Their eagerness to learn is incredible. They believe their very survival depends on it, and since I began teaching, I've never known students with quicker grasp."

The teacher is Dr. Neal Musmanno, who was deputy secretary of education in Pennsylvania for 12 years.

His students are Vietnamese refugees — lawyers, children, architects, fishermen, businessmen, farmers, engineers, teachers and former soldiers of South Vietnam.

"Classes include whole families — from children and their parents to grandparents — and that may be a significant control factor," Musmanno said.

Musmanno, who also teaches at the University of Pittsburgh, was one of the first of 100 volunteers who began teaching English to the Vietnamese at this military base three weeks ago.

"It's survival English aimed at helping them arrange to shop for groceries, find shelter, clothing, security and communicate with the rest of us.

"Most older Vietnamese are bilingual in Vietnamese and French, with some of the younger people bilingual in Vietnamese and GI English. Profanity, unless it's GI, is not part of their vocabulary. The peak of something like profanity might be a wish 'that a dog die on your land,'" Musmanno said.

②



# Future Hopes Dim Sad Memories For Viet Mayor's Daughter

By REBECCA SORDELET  
Register Staff Writer

Her silky black hair cascading around a face which embodies the essence of gentle, Vietnamese beauty, it is hard to imagine Le Thi Tuong Vy as the product of an age of violence.

Yet, she has lived with war for as long as she can remember. When her father was 17, two years younger than she, he narrowly escaped death during a Vietminh attack on his village by hiding under a mound of black buffalo feed.

Her grandfather, who was the most important man in Can Nhí where the incident took place, was murdered along with another of his sons.

Stories like that one are as familiar to Vy as the tale of a Kansas clapboard house dropping from a cyclone

into the Land of Oz is to an American.

With the inevitable fall of South Vietnam approaching earlier this year, Vy's family feared something more substantial than the wicked witch of the west. They had special reason to.

After escaping his native village, her father, Le Chi Cuong, had decided to follow the example of his own father, who had been a district chief. His political conscience had been rudely awakened by his father's death and he had worked his way up the governmental ladder to his present position, mayor of the city of Da Nang.

Suddenly, being mayor of Da Nang became a distinction which was more dangerous than prestigious to both Le Chi Cuong and his family.

Vy, who was working for Food for the Hungry, was offered the chance to escape to the United States by the American president of the international organization. She was already assured of a sponsor, Brig. Gen. (USMC Ret.) Duane L. Faw of Santa Ana, who was a friend of her father.

Vy's father would not allow her to ignore what seemed to him to be the only sure road to safety, even though escape meant leaving her home and family.

He knew that, in America, she would not be completely isolated from her loved ones. Her older brother, Le Chi Dung, was living there on a student visa, attending Cal Poly Pomona. Also studying at the same college was one of her best girl friends, Nguyen Loan, who had adopted the nickname, "Angie."

So, four days before the surrender of South Vietnam, Vy fled from her homeland clinging to the hope that her family would be able to follow sometime in the near future. A few days later, her father was able to arrange for his own escape.

But heartbreak cast a shadow over Le Chi Cuong's chance for flight. Passage could not be arranged for his wife Duong Thi Bach Yen, daughters Le Thi Minh Phuong and Le Thi Hong Loan and son Le Chi Vinh.

In the midst of the panic welling over the rumors of the "bloodbath" that would follow the surrender, he considered all the possibilities and decided that the best thing he could do for the safety of his family would be to leave.

"It's true that his family is in danger now," explained Gen. Faw who is also sponsoring the former mayor. "But they are in much less danger than they would have been if Le Chi Cuong had stayed. They would have been trying to hide him."

Vy, who has been in this country a little over a month, shares her father's heartaches and bittersweet thoughts about the past and future.

Homesickness is bitter. Her eyelids lowered, her voice quivered as she replied, "Sometimes, I think I want to go back. I miss my 'mummy.' I love her very much."

At the same time, thoughts of a brighter future are sweet. Anxiety over efforts to reunite her entire fami-

(8)

ly left her for the moment as she sat in the living room of her sponsor's Santa Ana home.

Vy is eager to "assimilate." "I feel I will adapt to American customs, but not for a time," she said, her diminutive figure regaining its erect posture as thoughts of great expectations replaced the sad memories. "Everything strange to me." She formed the English words learned in a Vietnamese Catholic school very carefully.

Strange is an understatement for the contrasts in lifestyles she has experienced this past month.

Working in the dispensary and volunteering as a translator at Camp Pen-

dleton's "Little Saigon," she has witnessed the plight of other refugees whose contacts in the U.S. weren't as strong as her father's.

Two weeks ago, she was introduced to a giant mouse, monarch of the happiest kingdom of them all where everything is always beautiful. She was given the grand tour.

And now she finds herself addicted to ground meat and bread slapped together with pickles and ketchup. She's chosen "Christine" as her new American name, but her sponsor prefers to call her "hamburger" because of her fetish for the all-American delicacy.

Vy, herself, in traditional Vietnam-

ese attire, is in contrast to her older brother and girl friend, Dung, who has been here for four years, and Angie, for three years are Americanized right down to his two-toned aviator glasses and her tight-fitting, faded jeans.

In no time at all, Vy should be "assimilated" as they are. She's intelligent and wants to continue pre-med studies begun in Vietnam just as soon as she can gain entrance to Cal Poly Pomona.

She'll need a scholarship to complete a degree there, but she has been told she'll need to gain her citizenship in order to qualify. In the meantime, she wants to go to work.

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NEWSPAPER Register K1 (pic)

DATE 22 JUNE



**NEW LIFE** — *Le Thi Tuong Vy, left, the 19-year-old daughter of the former mayor of Da Nang, hopes to make a new life in America by continuing pre-med studies begun in Vietnam. Her escape just four days before the surrender of South Vietnam was made possible by the American president of Food for the Hungry, an international organization which she was working for at the time. Soon afterwards, her father, Le Chi Cuong, right in photo at right, also fled the besieged country for America. Brig. Gen. (USMC Ret.) Duane L. Faw of Santa Ana, left in photo at right, is sponsoring the father and daughter.*

*(Register Photos by YGNACIO NANETTI)*

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NEWSPAPER *Register*

*K1 (Pic)*

DATE *22 JUNE*

## Abortion Aid Offered To Indo Refugees

CAMP PENDLETON (AP)—Indochinese refugees wanting abortions will be operated on at this Marine base under an agreement worked out between the Marine Corps and a San Diego community health care group, officials said.

Lt. Col. Arthur P. Brill, Marine public information officer, said this week, the abortion service was offered on the principle that the refugees "are entitled to the same type of health care as American citizens or resident aliens."

"We're not selling or condoning the idea, nor are we discouraging it," said Brill.

He said eight refugee women, all less than 14 weeks pregnant, have requested abortions to date.

Brill said the women will first be medically examined by an American-Vietnamese medical team and then counseled by representatives of the health care organization, which was not identified.

If the women still want their pregnancies terminated, the health care group would make arrangements for them to enter area community hospitals.

## Returning Viets stop at Pendleton

CAMP PENDLETON (UPI) — At the end of a long ordeal that involved escaping the Communists, traveling to a strange land on crowded boats and planes and being shuffled from camp to camp, 164 Vietnamese refugees arrived Sunday to reverse the process and return to their Asian homeland.

Two military C141s, the same planes that brought many of the refugees to the United States, brought the refugees from Ft. Chaffee, Ark., to Camp Pendleton to begin the process of repatriation.

A base spokesman said they appeared "smiling, quiet and happy" when they arrived. All

were given quarters and meal cards and were integrated with the rest of the refugees here who are waiting to get out.

"There have been no demonstrations so far and everything is peaceful," a Pendleton spokesman said. "Since all of the refugees have made their applications for repatriation through the United Nations, our job is merely as a housekeeper to provide them with a place to stay."

A fight broke out between two Vietnamese refugees who accused each other of being Communists early Sunday at the Arkansas refugee center.

(13)

NEWSPAPER Times Advocate

A-4

DATE 23 June

# Life on Coast

## Refugee Tackles Freeway

By **HILARY KAYE**  
Of the Daily Pilot Staff

Hieng Heng hopped on a rusty, dilapidated bicycle and began pedaling to his new job.

The only problem was, Heng took the only route he knew from Newport Beach to Santa Ana — the Newport Freeway.

The 34-year-old Cambodian refugee had ridden as far as the Dwyer exit on the freeway before being brought to a halt by a California Highway Patrolman, who spotted the small man pedaling alongside speeding autos.

Heng speaks no English, but was carrying a card explaining who he is and that he is staying with the Robert Leith family in Newport Beach.

After Heng slipped away unnoticed in the early morning, the Leiths contacted four police departments and told them to be on the lookout for a small Cambodian man riding a bicycle. They

also scoured the surface streets in vain.

Heng was taken to a Santa Ana police station, where he was picked up by Leith and taken to his temporary job as an assembler at a speaker plant in Santa Ana.

The Cambodian refugee later said through an interpreter he realized something was wrong because people kept staring at him as he rode.

But, he said he believed he was supposed to take the bicycle to work because he had been shown the route the day before by car.

He also said he did not want to bother anybody by hitching a ride in a car.

Heng still rides to work on a bike — this time a newer model. But now he travels the eight-mile route along Red Hill Avenue and other surface streets.

It takes him 45 minutes but he says he's happiest doing it that way because it lets him feel independent.

Heng, his wife, Lieng, and two sons, Vantha, 4, and Vanarith, 18 months, have been in Newport two weeks and will remain with

(See REFUGEES, Page A3)

## REFUGEE. .

the Leiths until a permanent job can be located.

St. James Church of Newport Beach is sponsoring the family. Heng lived in Phnom Penh and worked as a chauffeur and mechanic in the American Embassy motor pool.

The family fled with hundreds of other Cambodians and were flown to Bangkok and then to Camp Pendleton.

Language has been a problem for the two families, but a combination of sign language and patience has proven successful in most cases.

"We didn't know until we met them that they spoke no English and very little French," said Mrs. Leith.

"My daughter, Carolyn, and I both speak a little French, and we thought we'd be able to muddle through with that," she said.

"First I try in English. Then I try in sign language. Next, I use my French. Finally, we both usually collapse in laughter," says Mrs. Leith, explaining her conversations with Mrs. Heng.

Several members of the Khmer Solidarity Association of America, which has West Coast headquarters in Long Beach, have come to the Leith home to help translate.

But soon the language troubles will ease because the Hengs are taking weekly English lessons.

Mrs. Heng is learning from Mrs. Leith about American methods of cooking and cleaning and the two women share the cooking chores for the 10 people now sharing the house.

"So far, all American food has gone over well with the Hengs except pea soup," says Mrs. Leith.

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**TWO FAMILIES**—Together in Newport Beach home they share are (from left) Jim Leith, Bill Leith, Carolyn Leith, Bob Leith,

Sharon Leith (front), Barb Leith, Vanarith Heng, 4, Vanarith Heng, 18 months, Lieng Heng and Hieng Heng.

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NEWSPAPER Daily Pilot - A-2 (Pic) Cont. of A-1 DATE 21 June



**Going Back****Angry Refugees  
Lash 'U.S. Lag'**

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — The spokesman for 80 refugees who want to return to Vietnam said Friday the United States was deliberately delaying their repatriation.

"The Americans want to play a game with us," said Le Minh Tan, 44, a leader of the group of refugees who demonstrated for eight hours because of a delay in their transfer to Camp Pendleton, the first step in repatriation.

The refugees broke up their demonstration after post officials assured them they would be flown to Pendleton on Tuesday, but said they would resume their protests if the flights are rescheduled.

**THE FLIGHTS** originally had been scheduled for this week, but were postponed because the transport aircraft were needed to bring more refugees from Guam to the United States. The government has speeded up efforts to bring refugees to this country because it is typhoon season in the Pacific.

"We are upset and we are mad. The American government is very rich and has very, very many planes," said Tan.

The demonstration did not upset American officials who pointed out the protesters were breaking no laws, but it did upset some of the other refugees.

Nguyen My, 44, a barracks leader and spokesman for a second group of about 20 Vietnamese, said the demonstrators were Viet Cong agents and asked they be separated from the other refugees.

**"THEY DO NOT** represent the majority of the refugees in this

camp," My said. "We fear their action has affected our future relocation and we don't accept their actions. In my opinion, they are VC agents."

16

HQMC - CMC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.  
REFUGEE CLIPS

27 JUNE 1975



File

# All Refugees Can Return, Saigon Says

**Repatriation Proposal  
Initiated by Communist  
Regime, U.N. Reports**

**BY GREG WASKUL**  
Times Staff Writer

The new government of South Vietnam has decided to accept all Vietnamese refugees who wish to return to their homeland. The Times has learned.

The refugees will be processed through the office of the High Commissioner for Refugees of the United Nations, a U.N. spokesman said.

The United Nations has set up an office in Hanoi within the last two weeks and has sent emissaries to Saigon to work out details of the plan with the Provisional Revolutionary Government, the spokesman said.

The U.N. spokesman indicated that the repatriation program was initiated by the PRG.

Earlier, it had been widely reported that the U.N. repatriation effort was initiated when the United States asked the United Nations to negotiate with the PRG for return of refugees who wished to return home.

"The PRG asked us to take the necessary steps to begin the repatriation effort," the U.N. spokesman said. "They said they wanted to allow refugees who wanted to return home a chance to come back to their native land. It's not a matter of forcing them to do it as some have suggested. They came to us first and asked us to help return refugees who wanted to return to Vietnam."

The U.S. government has indicated it would allow any refugee who asks for repatriation to be returned home. The government is acting in a caretaker capacity in the cases of those who will be repatriated, feeding

## All Refugees Can Return, Saigon Leaders Tell U.N.

*Continued from First Page*

them and giving them shelter at U.S. bases until they can return home.

Nearly 2,000 Vietnamese refugees have expressed a desire to return to Vietnam. Repatriation will begin "within a few weeks," the spokesman said.

The PRG has not agreed to grant a formal amnesty to all returning refugees, nor has it been asked to, the U.N. spokesman said.

"The refugees who return will be subject to the laws of Vietnam," the spokesman said. "It must be remembered, however, that the United Nations has had many experiences with repatriation similar to this and has never had a problem with recrimination against repatriated citizens."

The United Nations also has received requests for repatriation from nearly 700 Cambodians. Unlike the South Vietnamese repatriation efforts, however, there has been no direct contact between U.N. representatives and authorities in Cambodia.

As a result, no agreement has been reached between the United Nations

and the Khmer Rouge government of Cambodia to repatriate those refugees who wish to return, the spokesman said. But despite the lack of a formal agreement, he said, the United Nations has decided to process repatriation applications of Cambodians at all refugee camps.

The applications will be held until a final determination is made on eventual U.N. involvement in Cambodian repatriation efforts.

The process for repatriation through U.N. channels is complicated. First, the refugee must indicate a desire to return to his homeland. Signs are placed in prominent locations in each camp telling the refugee how to contact a U.N. representative if he wants to be repatriated.

Next, the refugee must fill out a 29-question form including information about political affiliations of friends and relatives as well as himself.

For the Vietnamese, the questionnaire also specifically asks whether the refugee has ever worked for the U.S. or South Vietnamese government.

The refugee is next interviewed in an effort to determine whether his repatriation desires are sincere. Then he is photographed. The information is then forwarded to the United Nations' New York office, which sends it on to the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva. The Vietnamese forms are finally sent to the PRG for approval.

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## Woman Says Viet Child in Her Care Wants to Return

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—A woman who accepted a Vietnamese orphan from Operation Babylift for adoption told a U.S. district court Wednesday that the child insists she has a mother and wants to go home.

"She keeps a paper bag full of treasures she wants to take home to her mother," the court was told by Elisabeth Brodyaga, 34, a law school graduate studying for the California Bar.

The child, a 6-year-old, calls Miss Brodyaga mother when Americans are present in her house but behaves differently when Vietnamese are present.

Miss Brodyaga was appearing as a witness before Judge Spencer Williams in a case seeking a court order to compel the government to investigate the cases of 2,200 children brought to the United States.

The complaint, asserting the children were not orphans, claims many of the children were "abducted" in Operation Babylift in a government effort to make U.S. policy in Vietnam look good.

The suit was filed April 29, and the

Immigration and Naturalization Service informed the court that last Friday it had decided to give investigation of the orphan cases "highest priority."

Miss Brodyaga was unable to discover if a release was ever signed by the mother. The child said she has a sister and grandmother near Saigon as well as a mother, and Miss Brodyaga said that with great sadness she would return the child if she really wanted to go, if the mother wanted her, and if it was possible.

Tran Ti Bich, a Vietnamese mother of three, told the court she turned over her 6-year-old son to a priest in Saigon who sent him to the United States. She had feared the Communists would kill the son because he had an American father.

Mrs. Bich and her other two children later managed to get to the United States, and recently were released from Camp Pendleton because they have an American sponsor.

But Mrs. Bich has been unable to find her son. She does not know where the father is, either.

By ROBERT DETRICH  
Tribune Military Writer

Computerized intelligence tapes taken out of South Vietnam by U.S. officials before the South Vietnamese government fell are being used to uncover "undesirable" Indochina refugees, the Evening Tribune learned today.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service said the data on the previously undisclosed Saigon tapes was used to uncover most of the 209 Southeast Asians refugees now in this country who must undergo additional security checks.

They said that the 209 are currently being reviewed based on suspicion of criminal activity or irregularities in initial background investigations.

And the INS spokesman said 126 of those are now at Camp Pendleton.

"There is one allegation of murder (in Vietnam) as well as allegations of activities that, if proved, would place refugees in an excludable or undesirable category," INS spokesman Vern Jervis told the Tribune.

Excludable categories include prostitution, theft, drug trafficking and membership in a Communist organization or being a Communist sympathizer.

The chief tool used in the initial investigations is a library of South Vietnamese police computer tapes containing profiles of virtually every South Vietnamese citizen — including known and suspected members of the Viet Cong.

The tapes were delivered to U.S. Mission officials in Saigon just before the fall of the South Vietnamese government.

Jervis confirmed that the Saigon tapes, now in the hands of the U.S. State Department, are being used. The investigations are being conducted by INS agents, the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Refugees who were in the U.S. previously are also checked against FBI files.

Jervis said refugees defined as undesirable will not be involuntarily returned to their homelands.

"Several things could happen," he said, "depending on each case."

The options include voluntary deportation to the nation of origin (South Vietnam or Cambodia), deportation to a third country, or placement in a special alien parole status under INS supervision.

(Cont. on page A-3, col. 4)

## Tapes raise doubts about refugees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Refugees on the exclusion list could also be placed in a federal penal institution or INS detention center," Jervis added.

In all cases, he noted, refugees categorized as undesirable would be offered a chance for a hearing and would be permitted to be represented by an attorney.

"There are precedents for federal detention or deportation of refugees in undesirable alien categories," he said. "In the Cuban refugee operation, we found 12 really bad actors. They chose the third country

route and were accepted by a Latin American nation."

The security checks are made on all refugees over age 14. So far, 45,290 have been completed.

A CIA agent at Camp Pendleton, one of the last to be evacuated from Vietnam, also spoke about the Saigon tapes with the Tribune.

He said the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese bumbled a chance to duplicate them.

"They rocketed and shelled the central Saigon police compound, destroying the computer punch

cards used to make the tapes.

"That was one of the greatest mistakes they

made. The cards could have given them a handle on everyone in South Vietnam."

(3)

DATE 25 June

PAGE 1

SECTION 1

EVENING-TRIBUNE

About 1,000 Indochinese refugees are receiving welfare grants in California and another 263 are enrolled in the Medi-Cal health care program, a state official reported. Gary McComber, coordinator of the Brown Administration's Vietnamese Inter-agency Commission, said the figures so far are about what he had expected. Currently, there are about 2.6 million persons receiving public aid in California.

(4)

L. A. TIMES SECT. 1

PAGE 2

DATE 26 JUNE 75

## 371 REFUGEES AWAIT TRIP BACK TO VIETNAM

Special to the Herald-Examiner

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Most of the 18,506 Southeast Asian refugees here are looking forward to new lives in the U.S., but 371 are awaiting transportation back to South Vietnam; even though some admit they could be put to death.

"They are treated no different than any other refugees," Marine Lt. Col. Arthur Brill said yesterday when he announced more arrivals from other U.S. camps who have chosen to be repatriated.

"We're making no special effort either way to persuade them to stay or encourage them to return to their homeland."

One of those who wants to return is Dang Van Ngau, a U.S.-trained pilot who served in the South Vietnamese Air Force.

"I like it here, but my family is not here. If I talk too much, I will die when I go back to Saigon."

The repatriation is being

sponsored by the United Nations, but it is not known when the first flights to South Vietnam will begin, according to U.N. spokesman Mohamed Gharib.

Meanwhile, 2,000 sailors who fled in 40 South Vietnam Navy ships during the final hours of the Southeast Asian war are beginning to filter into the refugee camp here. They are the remnants of their country's former 41,000-man navy.

"We don't want to be parasites in your country," said Cmdr. San Vu Huu, skipper of the destroyer escort Tran Hanh Du, which once was the U.S.S. Forster.

"I accepted the ship from the U.S. Navy in San Francisco in 1971, and now it's back in your navy."

According to Huu, many of his men want to enlist in the U.S. Navy, and a Defense Dept. spokesman in Washington said American-trained personnel will receive enlistment priority.

5

# U.S. Resettlement Efforts Criticized By War Refugees

WASHINGTON (AP) — A group of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees criticized the government's resettlement program yesterday as suffering from "an overall lack of coordination" and bureaucratic delays.

In addition, there is a "lack of credible information" passed on from the Interagency Task Force on Refugees to the refugee population, the group said.

Four Vietnamese refugees aired their complaints at a meeting of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, created by President Ford to oversee the efforts to resettle 133,000 persons who fled during and after the fall of Saigon and Phnom Penh to Communist governments.

"There is an overall lack of coordination within the interagency task force," said Dan Sot Hi, from South Vietnam.

**CONFLICTING ANSWERS**  
He said the various U.S. Government agencies represented in the camps provide conflicting answers to the refugees' questions about how to find sponsors and jobs in American communities.

The refugees also complained that "numerous" Vietnamese with sponsors lined up are still held in resettlement camps because of security clearance and health requirements.

In some cases, the sponsorship offers have been pending for weeks, the refugees said.

Gov. Dan Evans of Washington said there often were delays of a month or more



GOV. DAN EVANS

... complains of delays

A summary of the committee staff's meeting earlier with 17 refugees said, "There was general agreement that there was an overall lack of coordination and insufficient information available for the benefit of the refugees."

"This lack of information has resulted in considerable confusion and anxiety about the resettlement program. Additionally there is considerable apprehension on the part of the camp inhabitants in that they are not aware of the opportunities, nor of what they can expect upon being placed with a sponsor."

## FOOD COMPLAINTS

There were other criticisms which an official of the task force said the resettlement program is trying to correct.

For example, the committee staff noted complaints that food in the camps "was not properly prepared and not compatible with Vietnamese or Cambodian diets."

One refugee said "there is too much idle time" which could be used for English language instruction or other educational programs.

6



## 2 Indicted In Theft Of Refugee Gear

A federal grand jury indicted a Marine warrant officer and a Navy dental technician yesterday on charges of conspiring to steal and receive 19 tons of government supplies valued at \$108,000 that were intended for Vietnamese evacuees at Camp Pendleton.

The defendants are WO4 John William Moody, 44, and Annmarie Michalski, 37, both of 705 Placer Ave., Vista. Moody has been in the Marines for 24 years and Miss Michalski in the Navy for nine years. Both were stationed at Camp Pendleton.

### PENALTIES NOTED

Assistant U.S. Atty. Michael Bruney said conspiracy carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and \$20,000 in fines.

Bruney said earlier that the supplies — all new items that had been purchased for the evacuees — filled three large semi-truck trailers.

The supplies included field jackets, other clothing, toiletries, soap, plates, cups, eating utensils, dishpans, mattresses, sheets, blankets, sleeping bags, tents, tools, hammers, locks, lanterns, fans, paint, electrical fixtures, chairs, playing cards and cigarettes.

Authorities said the items had been stored in a warehouse in San Marcos.

Bruney said a deputy sheriff saw Miss Michalski and "an unknown person" un-

loading what appeared to be field jackets from a rented truck at the warehouse.

### SEARCH MADE

Bruney said the two persons were placed under surveillance and later investigators approached them and asked to be allowed to examine the goods put in the warehouse.

He said Miss Michalski and Moody consented to the search.

An FBI affidavit filed with the complaint quoted Moody as saying he had directed Miss Michalski and his son to take the property to the warehouse in the rented truck and that Miss Michalski had leased the warehouse.

The document quoted Moody as saying he intended to sell the goods.

7

209 UNDER INVESTIGATION

# U.S. Clears 62 Refugees Of Crime, Red Affiliations

Follow-up investigations of all refugees seeking to settle in the United States to the Immigration and Naturalization Service have five federal agencies, he said. The agencies include State Department, Defense Intelligence Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency. The refugee can be returned to his homeland, to a third country or paroled to live in the United States under supervision of the immigration service.

Vern Jervis, an Immigration and Naturalization Service spokesman in Washington, said 209 out of about 60,000 refugees checked for immigration clearance were identified as possible undesirable. The State Department was able to bring back 125,000 cards compiled by the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, according to the Interagency Task Force in Washington.

Jervis said 125 of the 209 refugees are at Camp Pendleton and the rest are at other relocation camps. They are not under any special custody or confinement, he said.

**FOLLOW-UP PROBES**

Follow-up interviews and investigations are being conducted, he said, to determine the status of the remaining 147 refugees.

"In many cases we were able to clear the individual because of confusion over a person's name, or that the infraction was a minor one," Jervis said.

The INS sends the names

**JOB APPLICATIONS**

"In many cases the information the agencies has was taken from employment applications," he said.

The State Department was able to bring back 125,000 cards compiled by the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, according to the Interagency Task Force in Washington.

Spokesmen for the Interagency Task Force and the INS said yesterday that the State Department does not have access to any computerized intelligence compiled by Saigon police.

**RED ACTIVITIES**

Jervis said most of the charges against the original 209 it dealt with Communist activities, either as party members or sympathizers. Other allegations include drug trafficking, prostitution, robbery or even murder.

(8)

# 'Tent City' Closes On Guam



Military crews face the task of cleaning up after the last refugees moved out of

"tent city" on Guam. The tents served as home for nearly 80,000 South Vietnamese

refugees who passed through Guam on their way to new homes.

—AP Wirephoto

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# Refugee navy docks at camp

By ROBERT DIETRICH  
EVENING TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

## CAMP PENDLETON

The refugee center here is holding the last muster of what is left of the South Vietnamese navy.

They are 2,000 seamen — including 15 admirals, who took 40 U.S.-built warships and combat boats to sea in the final hours of their government's existence rather than surrender them to Communist forces.

They represent a navy that once numbered 41,000 men.

U.S. State Department officer Nick Thorne, head of the refugee task force here, said the sailors are being concentrated here to simplify a special sponsorship program launched by the U.S. Navy.

The Vietnamese navymen are only one of a community of special groups of war victims that will eventually go on to new lives from the tent cities and Quonset hut villages that opened up as a refugee haven April 29, the day Saigon fell.

Camp Pendleton is unique among the four refugee centers now in full operation in the United States.

A United Nations team here will process all Viet-

namese and Cambodians who want to return to their homelands. More than 2,000 of the 131,000 refugees have requested repatriation.

All refugees accepted for resettlement by third countries, such as Canada, Australia and a growing number of European and Latin American nations, will depart from here.

Indochina ethnic minorities will make their transition to new lives here. They are the Montagnards, Vietnamese aborigines; Chinese Nung tribesmen; Chinese-Vietnamese and Chinese-Cambodians.

Meanwhile, refugee task force workers here and at the other reception centers — Indiantown Gap, Pa.; Fort Chaffee, Ark.; and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. — braced for a massive airlift today of more than 3,000 refugees from Guam.

They are refugees who were housed in tents on the Pacific island which is about to face the summer typhoon season. Remaining will be 10,000 crowded into typhoon-proof shelters.

Camp Pendleton will receive about 750 of the Guam group, raising the refugee population to full capacity, 18,800.

Since April 29, more than 19,200 refugees at Pendleton have been processed to new homes. The other three camps have processed about 14,000.

The number of South Vietnamese navymen here now is nearly 500. The rest are on Guam.

"We were the last of the South Vietnamese forces to leave our country," said Cmdr. San Vu Huu. "The air force flew their planes out several hours before we got under way."

Huu was commanding officer of the destroyer escort Trai Khanh Du, the former U.S. ship Forster.

"I accepted the ship from the U.S. Navy at San Francisco in 1971," he said. "Now it is back in your Navy."

Among the warships returned to the U.S. Navy was the South Vietnamese navy flagship, the destroyer escort Trai Hung Dao, named for a Vietnamese admiral who defeated a Chinese naval force 700

years ago. It is the former USS Camp.

One of the flag officers here is Rear Adm. Thang Cao Dang, who commanded the Mekong River patrol force. He brought with him several units of frogmen and commandos similar to the U.S. Navy's SEALs.

Huu said many of the South Vietnamese navymen want to enlist in the U.S. Navy. The Defense Department announced yesterday that South Vietnamese and Cambodian military personnel who were trained by Americans would receive priority for enlistment once they become resident aliens.

They are in a parole status now.

"We don't want to be parasites in your country," Huu said. "We want to work for your country."

In San Diego, a special liaison office was established at 11th Naval District headquarters to handle special U.S. Navy sponsorship arrangements.

(10)

# Homesick refugees going back to Asia

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some 2,000 refugees who were brought to American territory from Cambodia and Vietnam want to return to their homelands, says the head of the government's refugee task force.

Julia Vassila Tait said the repatriation process will come under the jurisdiction of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees.

Another 150 Indochina refugees are being investigated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for possible exclusion from the U.S. resettlement program, said James Green, deputy commissioner of the agency.

None of the refugees has been excluded yet, Green has said. But he said a variety of charges have been made against them, including trafficking in the black market, prostitution and working in Communist territory.

Green said the U.S. predicts that at least 100,000 refu-

gees will be settled in the United States before the end of summer. She said voluntary agencies helping resettle refugees say they anticipate some 70,000 refugees within the next three months.

She said she hopes that homes can be found for all the refugees before the end of the year, but said this can be accomplished only with a large effort to recruit additional sponsors.

President Ford recently

reported to Congress that of the 101,399 Indochina refugees who reached American territory last year, 32,321 have been resettled and 1,756 have gone to other countries.

Progress to date has been good when considered in the context of the magnitude of the refugee situation — the large numbers and great distances — and the short period of time available to deal with it.

(11)

CMC - HAMC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.  
REFUGEE CLIPS

30 June 1975



## MACK'S GRANDSON

Major Recalls  
Old-Time A's

By DONALD H. HARRISON

CAMP PENDLETON — It's probably no accident that the Vietnamese refugee team of Camp Six currently holds the intramural championship in volleyball. It's been whipped into shape by a guy who's been around sports all his life.

He is Maj. Frank Cunningham, the commander of Camp Six, but folks from Philadelphia ways may remember him better as Connie Mack's grandson.

From the time he was 7 years old, Cunningham worked for \$2 a day for his grandfather's Philadelphia A's. That year he signed on as batboy — a job he kept till he was well into high school.

"My grandfather — well, we called him pop pop — used to come over to the house every Sunday for dinner," he recalled. "I remember playing catch with him in the side yard when he was in his 80s."

"Anyway, one day when he was owner-manager, I asked him if I could be a batboy and he said sure. I was pretty well supervised and at first they didn't let me out onto the field.

"But after a while some of the ballplayers took me under their wings. I remember Sam Chapman (a centerfielder), let me use his locker. And Hank Majeski (a third baseman) always watched out for me."

Gradually Cunningham rose to the status of full-fledged batboy and he still chuckles over the experiences.

"I used to go down to the field at 9 a.m. and don my uniform and then while the pitchers were warming up, I got to hit and pitch. When the rest of the team came, I was relegated to the outfield where we'd snag flies.

"I remember the outfielders had a game that whoever called for the ball had to catch it. The other guys weren't allowed to touch him, but they could do

anything else to try to distract him. You'd wait for the ball and suddenly there would be 20 gloves all around you. If you dropped the ball, you had to buy a Coke, and I guess I had to buy a lot of them."

That kind of side-game also marks the pickup volleyball games between the refugees and the Marines under Cunningham's command.

"The losers have to do pushups," Cunningham said. "We Marines have been doing a lot of them lately," he admitted.

The sight of Marines doing their losers pushups is difficult for many children in the Camp Six area to resist. They jump on the Marines' backs.

Connie Mack was Cunningham's maternal grandfather and, as sports trivia lovers can tell you, his real name was Cornelius McGillicuddy. "He changed his name while he was a player," Cunningham said, "because they couldn't fit his name on a scoreboard."

Cunningham said he likes to set the record straight about his grandfather's "penny pinching."

"It's not true," he said, "if you compare the salaries the New York Yankees got in the days of Ruth and Gehrig, the Philadelphia A's did better."

In his last few years as a batboy, Cunningham says his favorite days were when the A's played doubleheaders. "My grandfather would manage the first and then he would turn over the second game to either my uncle Earl (Mack, who coached), or Earl Simmons (a Hall of Fame leftfielder).

"Uncle Earl or Al sometimes would let me sit in my grandfather's seat in the dugout during the second game, and they'd let me flash singles to the batters.

"You know, the other team never caught on that this kid scratching himself and putting his arm was really relaying the signals. Al and my uncle told me what to do, of course."

Cunningham played baseball in high school and in his freshman year at La Salle University in Philadelphia, but I had seen the best in baseball and I knew I couldn't match up," he said.

During college, Cunningham figured he was bound for the draft and enrolled in a special program allowing him to do his Marine boot camp in the summer. When he graduated in 1955, he was commissioned a second lieutenant.

Cunningham transferred from the 1st Marine Division to the Camp Pendleton staff last November and expects to be shipped to Japan next November.

21 pgs  
last



—Staff Photos By Jerry Windle

Marine Maj. Frank Cunningham, active in the organization of volunteer teams at Camp Pendleton, (top) and (bottom) takes to the court himself for a net battle.

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# One More New American Citizen

By PHYLLIS GAPEN,  
Editor, People Section

OCEANSIDE — Beautiful Vietnamese Thao McLaughlin spent more than four years getting over, under and around the red tape of becoming a U.S. citizen.

By the end of next month, she'll have cut through the maze of tape and



made a dream come true — she'll become one of numerous new U.S. citizens who've successfully completed U.S. citizenship training, completed residency requirements and been screened for citizenship here.

Her journey through the official maze of U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services began when she decided to come to the United States from Saigon, Vietnam, to meet the parents and relatives of an American contractor she met during the Vietnam War.

The seamstress left her little shop in Saigon where she produced hand-made clothing for discriminating shoppers, her own beloved Vietnamese family and the country she had known as home for more than a quarter of a century to come to the U.S.

She lived in the United States for more than a year before she married her husband, Oceanside contractor, Lee McLaughlin.

During that year, she carefully considered whether she wanted to spend the rest of her life in the United States, she said.

During the first few years of her marriage, Thao housed numerous Vietnamese girls she knew who met with problems after immigrating the

the United States; she and her husband became the parents of a Vietnamese-American son and Thao began studying to become an American citizen.

She said she decided, "I want to be an American citizen and I want to spend my life here with my husband and children."

She began working to become a U.S. citizen during classes offered by the Oriental American Fellowship sponsored by Grace Baptist Church at 240 Grace St. in Oceanside.

Several days ago 21 other women who studied citizenship lessons with Thao went with her to take a U.S. Immigration citizenship test.

For the 22 women from 15 different countries, it was the last hurdle to cross on the road to citizenship.

All of them passed the examination and qualified for the award of U.S. citizenship.

In the next several weeks the women will be officially named new U.S. citizens.

For Thao, the process of becoming a citizen was simpler than for some of her classmates.

In Vietnam she had attended a Republic school in which she studied English for five years. Because of this, her command of spoken and written English was very good and she was able to learn quickly the history of the United States, information about political parties and the intricacies of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

During the long months of waiting to fulfill residency requirements and studying for her citizenship exam, Thao kept her active mind occupied fashioning attractive silk clothing of Vietnamese styling for herself as well as work clothing for her husband and play and dress outfits for her young son.

She also learned the intricate art of cake decorating and recently charmed a gathering of Oriental and American friends with a cake she baked and decorated for a dinner that served over 200.



**NEW CITIZEN** — Thao McLaughlin, a new American citizen who lives in Oceanside, spent months studying the history, politics and economics of the United States after she decided, "I want to be an American citizen and I want to spend my life here with my husband and my son." She and her son were happy smiles this week when they learned she had passed a U.S. Immigration Service citizenship test.

Bomero Photo

## Repatriation Of South Vietnamese

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam has told a United Nations mission in Hanoi that all refugees who fled from that country may return home if they wish.

There have been about 2,000 refugees in the United States who have expressed a desire to return to their native land. And information is being disseminated at the refugees camps as to the steps to be taken. United Nations representatives are stationed at each camp to take applications for repatriation.

It is perfectly understandable that many of those who fled have a yearning to return to their lifelong homes. While we have done everything possible in an emergency situation to make them comfortable, it has been a rough experience for many of the Vietnamese.

The climate, with a cold spring, has not been

what they had been used to. And tent and barracks living certainly does not provide the amenities to which many were accustomed.

Sponsorship of refugees has been good, all things considered. Yet there are many in the camps who have no sponsors nor immediate hope of entering into normal civilian life.

Our motives in accepting the refugees were humanitarian in the highest degree. There was no coercion, nor is there a wish to retain those who want to return.

No guarantee of a policy of non-recrimination has been voiced by the Saigon government, nor is one expected. Those who go back will, in our opinion, be taking a calculated risk that they will not suffer under the ideas of justice of the Communists.

# Refugees face tape file check

By ROBERT DIETRICH

TRIBUNE MINUTE WRITER

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"That was one of the greatest mistakes they made. The cards could have given them a handle on everyone in South Vietnam."

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# Oceanside Refugee Center Proposed

By SAUL SHAPIRO  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — An ambitious proposal for an Indo-Chinese convalescent center to serve refugees and local citizens was unveiled before the Oceanside city council Wednesday.

Marine Corps chaplain David Plank and Saigon Vietnamese Refugee Luu Nguyen, Esq., an attorney, told the council that they have recently filed papers with the California secretary of state for a non-profit organization called "The American-Vietnamese Democratic Cultural Assistance Association."

Plank said the association is seeking five to nine acres in Oceanside for the center which would assist in the preservation of racial identity, national history, ethnic pride, and cultural distinctives.

In addition, Plank noted the center would help with the preservation of racial identity, national history, ethnic pride, and cultural distinctives.

Plank said the center would be a place where the Vietnamese people could come to live and work, and where they could be helped to adjust to life in America.

Plank, who can be seen in the Marine Corps photo, has secured funds from major foundations across the country to run the center and he was hopeful that the Oceanside city councilmen might donate land or sell it to the association at a reduced rate.

The facility would have a main center that would be supported by handicapped centers. It would be surrounded by eight buildings including a library, legal assistance center, museum, communication center, and exchange and citizenship centers.

Mayor Howard Richardson appointed councilmen Mc Smith and Bill Ben to look into the matter and for possible ties with the Economic Development Commission.

Richardson, who proclaimed his support of the project, stated, "I think I can say for myself and the council that we have our moral support. We will do what we can to assist."

Luu, who spoke on the subject, formerly had his own law firm in Saigon. He will be a graduate in law from Michigan State.

He told the council the construction center would "be a great asset to the community and would represent a valuable contribution to the city's growth and development."

(8)

CMC - HQ MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

8 July 1975

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# 50 Refugees Fly To Guam On Trip Back To Vietnam

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — In unusual secrecy, 50 Vietnamese who want to return to their country were loaded aboard a plane yesterday and flown to Guam.

Only after the repatriates were airborne did authorities here announce their departure and the fact that another 200 Vietnam-bound refugees would leave Camp Pendleton for Guam today.

Nick Thorne, chief civilian authority here, and Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, the Marine Corps spokesman, said no announcement was made about the first flight to avoid a potential demonstration by refugees.

The two recalled there was a protest at Ft. Chaffee, Ark., several weeks ago by persons desiring to be repatriated who believed the process was taking too long. That demonstration triggered a counterprotest by Vietnamese waiting to be settled in the United States.

## TWO-DAY DELAY

Thorne attributed the initial demonstration to the fact that the repatriates were told they would be transferred to Camp Pendleton on June 20 but were not moved until two days later.

He and Brill said silence was kept so that word of the flight would not leak out in advance and cause disappointment among the refugees if the plane failed to materialize.

The 50 repatriates will join others already on Guam who are awaiting word from the new government in Saigon that they may return to their country. With 200 more leaving Camp Pendleton today, the number of persons here known to be desiring repatriation will be reduced to 168.

Thorne said 23 persons who had been settled with sponsors in the United States have notified authorities they too wish to return to Vietnam. He said the United States will honor their request.

## TO WAIT AT GUAM

He said the United States is transferring repatriates to Guam in an effort to consolidate them all in one place. At the same time, he said, room is being made for refugees now on Guam at the four resettlement camps on the mainland.

He called the operation "an exchange of populations."

Thorne said he was not aware of any international developments which would indicate that arrangements have been made to transport the repatriates to South Vietnam. He said the status of the repatriates in Guam will be the same as their status while in Pendleton — waiting to hear from the new Saigon government.

He said he told the repatriates by taking them to Guam the United States is

taking them as far as it can pending their acceptance by the new regime.

## ARRANGEMENTS LAG

The government in Saigon has been quoted by United Nations officials as saying all repatriates will be welcomed. But arrangements for their transfer have not been announced.

Brill accompanied the repatriates from Camp Pendleton to El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, about 25 miles north, where they boarded an Air Force C-141 for the 16-hour flight that will arrive in Guam at 10:10 a.m. today, San Diego time.

He said there were 43 men, three women and four children aboard the flight as well as four security personnel and Mohamad Gharib, the representative here for the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Brill described the repatriates as "apprehensive" about their flight, and said Gharib accompanied them to reassure them that the U.N. would continue to monitor their progress.

## EMOTIONAL MOMENT

The leatherneck spokesman said watching the repatriates return to an uncertain fate in South Vietnam was one of the more emotional experiences of his life.

The group that left yesterday was advised by Thorne and Gharib that a bus would leave in an hour to take them to El Toro. Before their plane left for Guam at 4:28 p.m., the repatriates were subjected to body searches for security reasons.

Asked if the military feared the plane would be hijacked to Saigon, Brill replied that was always a possibility.

The first 50 had been among the refugees who were transferred from Ft. Chaffee to Camp Pendleton.

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OTHERS CELEBRATE HOLIDAY

## 200 Refugees Leave For Vietnam

Picture — A-3

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Independence Day at the war refugee camp here mixed American-style celebrations with the departure of 200 more Vietnamese for their homeland.

While the 17,500 encamped Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees played soccer, listened to band concerts, and carried on daily activities, the last of the initial 250 who wanted to return home boarded C-141 transport planes, and after a refueling stop in Hawaii, landed in Guam 17 hours later.

Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, Marine Corps spokesman, said the 200, mostly men aged between 25 and 35 years old and a handful of women and children, were less tense than those in the group of 50 that left Thursday.

**GRATITUDE TOLD**

There was not much smiling," Brill said. "The kids looked like they were going to Coney Island — another adventure. The adults were a little more relaxed (than Thursday) and pretty emotionless."

He said several spokesmen for the refugees said they were grateful for the treatment they had received during their two months in

American hands. But they said they wanted to go home to be with families left behind when the Communists took over South Vietnam.

Brill said a United Nations official also heard several refugees say they wanted to help rebuild their country.

There are still 100 at Camp Pendleton who want to return home, Brill said, and they probably will depart in the next few days. There is no schedule yet on when refugees from other resettlement camps throughout the country will arrive here to be processed out of the United States and sent to Guam.

Brill said the U.N. still is working on arrangements to transport the refugees from Guam, since the U.S. is not responsible for that last leg of their journey.

**DAY CELEBRATED**

Meantime, the refugees who have chosen to make America their new home celebrated Independence Day

just as they might have celebrated Nov. 1, the day they used to observe as the fall of former South Vietnam President Ngo Dinh Diem in 1963.

The one thing missing was fireworks, which Camp Pendleton officials banned because of the extremely dry conditions that made brush fires possible.

The refugees had been told during the previous day that it was "America's birthday" and several, when asked, said they knew it was the 199th anniversary.

But menus were unchanged. For breakfast they were served two eggs and a chopped meat dish. Chop suey topped the luncheon fare and for dinner they feasted on fried fish, corn, coleslaw, steamed rice and soup.

**NEW EXPERIENCE**

For Hoang Van Phong, this was the beginning of a new experience, for he was getting ready to leave Monday for his new home in Albuquerque, N.M., and an occupation as a car parts deliveryman.

He had been a highway patrolman in Vietnam, with the primary task of driving VIPs around.

"I feel bad about leaving now, because I'd like to help

out," he said on his tidy bunk in Tent 12B.

For Nguyen Dmang Hien, Nguyen Thi Thuan and Vo Truong Son, all in their early 20s, the joy of the day was listening to the Pyewackett (dog or cat) music group from San Diego.

**DENVER TUNES**

Marsha Bowman said the crowd of 200 or more enjoyed John Denver tunes most.

Explained Hien: "We like happy melodies." He said this wrapped in a blue ski jacket on a moderately warm afternoon — he had contracted a cold, he said.

Just as they used to do on Vietnamese holidays, the refugees organized their own games in the morning.

And for one refugee the question was whether processing for departure from the camp would continue during the holiday. It did and 150 refugees left for newfound homes.

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## Homesick Refugees Depart

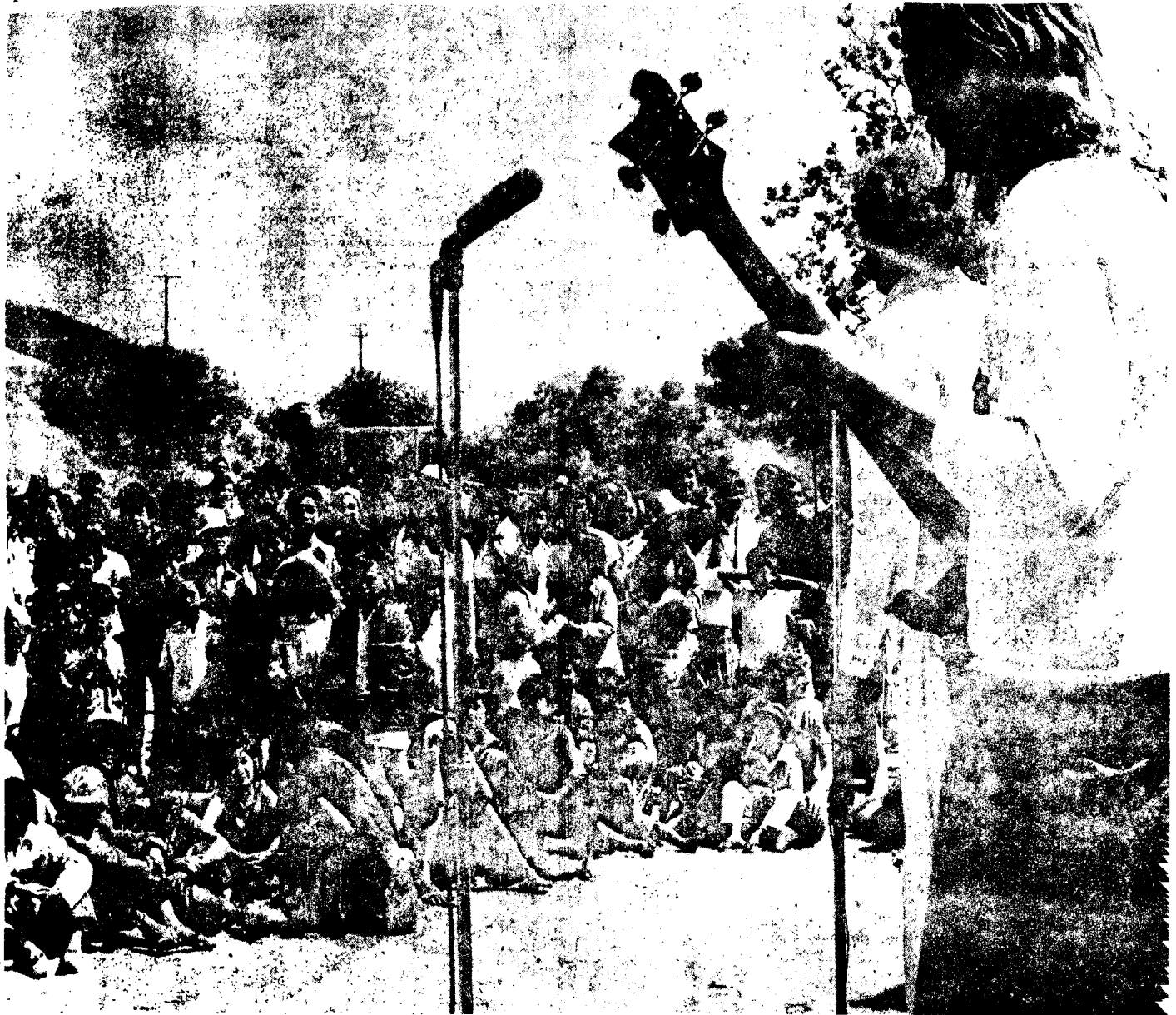
CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — The first group of Vietnamese refugees who want to go back to their country left here Thursday for Guam, where they are to be housed until further arrangements for repatriation are completed.

State Department officials said 50 refugees were bused to nearby El Toro Marine Air Station for the flight to Guam. Another 200 were to be flown out Friday.

Some 2,000 refugees, about 1,200 of them still on Guam, have asked to be sent back to the country they fled when the Communists took over. Almost all of them are said to be so desirous of wanting to rejoin relatives they left behind that they are willing to risk whatever treatment the Communists give them.

Officials here said they had no word on precisely how or when the repatriates would be taken from Guam to Vietnam.

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— Nora Cochrane Photo

## Refugees Join Celebration

Various bands and volunteer entertainers rotated yesterday to help Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base celebrate America's Independence Day.

For some refugees, the holiday weekend was their last on the base. They were either going home to Vietnam or to new homes in the United States. For others, the holiday

was an interlude as they waited for a sponsor. Fireworks were banned on the base because of the danger of grass fires (Story, Page A-7)

(4)

## Base Treats 1,000 Refugees Daily

CAMP PENDLETON — Nearly 1,000 patients are seen each day at dispensaries located throughout the refugee center here.

Staffed by ten Navy doctors and more than 100 medical corpsmen, the dispensaries offer a variety of skinned knees to psychiatric consultation and pre-natal care.

In spite of the volume of daily traffic at the makeshift dispensaries located throughout the center, there are normally about 100 refugees listed as inpatients at the Naval Regional Medical Center (NRMC) here.

"Generally, the refugees are in very good health," says Lieutenant Commander D. M. Davidson, Medical Coordinator for the refugee center. "Of course, most of them are from the Saigon area where medical

facilities were quite accessible. Another significant factor, I think, is their diet. Obesity is simply not a problem for these people."

In addition to the dispensaries at each tent camp, two special trailers are maintained in the Talega area for more elaborate treatment.

Newborn children are cared for at the "baby trailer" after they and their mothers are released from the NRMC, south of the refugee area. The other trailer is for elderly refugees who need special care.

Another medical service offered at the center is the "roving patrol," a team of medical corpsmen and Red Cross volunteers who spend each day touring tent areas seeking refugees who may need care but are reluctant to go to the dispensary.

"We are very fortunate to

have the voluntary services of a number of Vietnamese physicians," says Dr. Davidson. "They are a tremendous aid to us; in fact, of the 1,000 patients seen each day, probably 800 are seen by the Vietnamese physicians."

"We operate on a referral basis," Dr. Davidson continues. "Those patients requiring lab work, surgery,

or the help of a specialist are scheduled at the Medical Center."

Dr. Davidson adds that the refugees are generally cheerful and cooperative. "I'm sure they appreciate the services we have to offer. At the same time, our doctors and corpsmen are finding them pleasant people to deal with."

### *Memorial Planned*

CAMP PENDLETON — When the last refugee has left Camp Pendleton, when the tents are struck and the "instant city" is no more, there will be one permanent reminder of Operation New Arrivals.

Located in front of the Refugee Processing Center, through which each refugee must pass, a nine-foot concrete monument will symbolize the beginning of a new life for thousands of refugees.

In the shape of an open hand cradling two small children — one Vietnamese and one Cambodian — this "Hand of Hope" is the work of Luu Nguyen Dat, 34, a Vietnamese artist and lawyer whose works have been displayed in Vietnam, Belgium, France and the United States.

Mr. Luu, who had been elected General Secretary of the Vietnamese Artist, Painter and Sculptor Association, describes his newest creation:

"The hand, held open in greeting, symbolizes the warm and friendly greeting given by the American people to the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees."

"The children playing on the hand," he said, "represents the real meaning of the evacuation — new life and hope for the future."

Luu Nguyen Dat, who was an attorney in Saigon, holds both a Master's Degree in Art and a Bachelor's Degree in Law from the University of Saigon. Since arriving here with his family, he has rendered ten oil paintings and 20 water colors depicting the experiences of refugees in a new land. He signs his works "Dhat", inserting his wife's initial (the letter "h") in his name.

Mr. Luu and his wife have four children, including a son born at Camp Pendleton shortly after the family arrived here.

# Refugees Returning To South Vietnam

CAMP PENDLETON — Amidst two holiday celebrations, 250 Vietnamese refugees left Camp Pendleton for a return to their homeland.

While 17,500 refugees here celebrated their first Independence Day on Friday and marked an ancestral Buddhist holiday called Obon on Saturday, others left for El Toro Marine Corps Air Station on the first leg of their return trip to South Vietnam.

Contingents of 50 refugees on Thursday and 200 on Friday left Camp Pendleton for El Toro, where they boarded a C-141 transport plane for the trip to Guam.

The returning refugees had expressed the desire to be with their families in South Vietnam or to assist in the rebuilding of their homeland, according to a Marine Corps spokesman.

The group included mostly men between 25 and 35 plus a handful of women and children. There were 23 refugees who had found sponsors that sought the return trip.

The first 50 refugees to depart left under a veil of secrecy at El Toro. The announcement of their departure was made only after they were airborne.

Officials said that they hoped to avoid any demonstration by other refugees.

Still waiting to return home are another 130 refugees, but no schedule has been established for their departure.

Officials here expect that there will be even more Vietnamese going home in the near future.

Vietnamese students and military throughout the country, whose studies and training ended on June 30, are anticipated to apply to return home.

Meanwhile, the Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees that remain at Camp Pendleton spent the warm holiday weekend playing soccer and listening to band concerts.

No firework displays were held at the base.

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## 2 meetings slated for Vietnamese

Meetings for Vietnamese refugees and their sponsors will be held next week under auspices of San Diego-area church groups.

The first will be sponsored by the San Diego Roman Catholic Diocese's refugee resettlement program Friday at 7 p.m. at St. Columba Catholic Church, 3327 Glencolum Dr.

Program director Bert Donaldson says the main purpose of the meeting will be formation of a Vietnamese refugee association.

The second meeting will be held July 12 at 7 p.m. in

the Balboa Park Conference Building under auspices of the San Diego Refugee Coalition, composed of representatives of Protestant, Roman Catholic and Jewish groups.

Donaldson, chairman of the coalition, said two meetings are being held because of the lack of coalition support for formation of the refugee association which will be discussed at the the July 11 meeting.

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### Filipinos At U.S. Bases Due \$2 Million Raise

MANILA (UPI) — The U.S. government will spend more than \$2 million annually in pay increases to 21,000 Filipino workers on American military bases in the Philippines.

The majority of the workers are employed at Subic Bay Naval Base, a major 7th Fleet repair facility, and Clark Air Base, home of the 13th Air Force.

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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

1 July 1975

**APPLICATIONS FILED****Refugees Ask Welfare Aid In County****By CAROL KENDRICK**

More than half the Vietnamese refugees who have settled in San Diego County have applied for welfare assistance, according to state and county officials.

The Welfare Department has received 225 applications as of last week, involving 512 persons and 7 unborn children, said W. L. Porterfield, chief of welfare services for the county.

The state Department of Benefit Payments, which is keeping track of refugee settlement in California, reported that as of June 21, 794 refugees had located in San Diego County.

State records have been kept only since May 22 and do not include refugees from two other relocation centers around the country.

Porterfield said the total number of refugees in San

Diego is probably about 900.

So far, the county has spent about \$17,500 to help refugees, according to Dave McCullough, assistant director of income maintenance.

Although an arrangement between nine voluntary organizations and the federal government has created a system to provide alternate sponsors if original sponsors back out, Porterfield said refugees with sponsors are not prevented from applying for welfare.

Porterfield said sponsors are "darn good people, very humane, with, I'm sure, the highest motivations."

**MISTAKEN NOTION**

He added it is a mistaken notion among many people that sponsors are able to assume full financial responsibility for refugee families.

"The realities are such that there's no choice but to turn to public support," he

said.

Some confusion apparently has occurred over the allocation of federal money for refugee support.

Richard Welch, assistant to the director of the state refugee task force, said as he understood the arrangement, the government would give the volunteer organizations \$500 for each refugee "to be passed on in some fashion to the sponsor or to the refugee."

**CALLS RECEIVED**

Welch said his office has received calls from sponsors who have unsuccessfully tried to apply for the \$500 grant.

Information from county welfare and Department of Health, Education and Welfare officials, however, indicates the money is for use by the volunteer agencies, not payment to individual sponsors.

Porterfield said the money,

is used to cover costs of relocating the Vietnamese from refugee camps to sponsors' homes. The volunteer agencies pay for transportation and any clothing or supplies needed before relocation, he said. After that, all expenses are up to the sponsor.

A spokesman for the Inter-agency Refugee Task Force (toll-free information line said confusion over the \$500 support money is common among callers.

**VOLUNTEER GROUPS**

"Volunteer organizations at each camp are receiving money to support the refugees during their stay in the camp," the spokesman explained.

HEW and public information officials at Camp Pendleton said each of the nine volunteer organizations is handling the money in a slightly different way, and

all are subject to review by government auditors.

Those spokesmen did say that generally the money is being used for transportation, expenses when a sponsor defaults and another must be found, and the administrative and overhead costs of operating their refugee programs.

Local welfare officials are expecting eventual reimbursement for the costs to the county for supporting needy Vietnamese immigrants. Porterfield said the federal government has promised 100 per cent reimbursement, although no money has arrived yet.

The state benefit payments office has not received any claims from counties. Welch said no reimbursement is expected for several months.

## Vietnamese At Pendleton To Start English Instruction

An eight-week summer school program for Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton will start tomorrow, according to San Diego County Department of Education officials.

The county education department was given \$237,200 to run the program. It is part of a \$440,988 federal grant to the state from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

HEW Secretary Caspar Weinberger officially announced the award of the grant last week.

Weinberger said the funds will be used to teach English to adults and school-age children to help them adjust to the U.S.

### CURRICULUM

In San Diego, curriculum writers worked through the weekend to get instruction outlines prepared for the first day of school, Dr. Werner C. Dieckmann, deputy superintendent for schools and operations in the county, said.

In-service training sessions for volunteer teachers

will be held today at Camp Pendleton.

Dieckmann said instruction will be primarily in "survival" English and orientation to American living. Survival English is the teaching of words and phrases used in day-to-day activities refugees will face out in communities. These include going to a grocery store and enrolling a child in school, Dieckmann explained.

There also will be a special course exploring the problems the head of a household will face.

Regular classes will be taught in morning and afternoon sessions.

In the evenings, speakers will discuss citizenship training, American government and topics requested by refugees themselves to supplement the regular day program, Dieckmann said.

Dieckmann said that four two-week cycles of courses will be run to accommodate about 10,000 refugees. Courses will be taught six days a week in tents with space for 25 students.

The program will be carried out with volunteer teachers who will be reimbursed for mileage and meals. A program director, an instruction coordinator, an assistant coordinator and curriculum writers will be paid.

### BUSSEING PLAN

Original county plans called for bussing children to schools in districts bordering Camp Pendleton. The idea was shelved after objections from Vietnamese parents and the military, Dieckmann said.

"The Vietnamese themselves apparently didn't want to let their kids go too far out of their sight," Dieckmann said. "The military was concerned that some might get lost while being bussed to the schools."

No local tax monies will be spent on the Camp Pendleton program, the operations chief said. County school board members unanimously voted against contributing local funds for this purpose earlier this month.

## Vietnam Refugee Doctors To Staff Clinic In Arkansas

WILMOT, Ark. (AP) — For the first time in more than two years, the medical clinic in this farming area will be open today — staffed by Vietnamese refugee doctors.

"Last Friday night, I went to sleep and slept well for the first time in a long time," said Mayor Bill Place. "That's because we now have three doctors in town."

A temporary permit to practice in Arkansas was granted Friday to Drs. Thieu Bui, 41, and Ton That De, 42, each a Vietnamese refugee. The wife of De also is a physician, but she has not completed requirements to practice in this country.

When the refugees began arriving at the relocation center at Ft. Chaffee in northwest Arkansas, officials at Wilmot, five miles north of the Louisiana border, saw their chance.

### MEET REQUIREMENT

"We just got in there and dug and hunted," said Place. "We knew what the requirements were because we had tried so hard so many times before to get even foreign medical students licensed to come."

Bui and De each at one time was a resident at an American medical school, thus fulfilling a major requirement for getting a license to practice in the United States.

To get permanent licenses, they still must pass two standard medical tests, which will be given later.

Wilmot — population 1,202 — is a commercial and trading hub for a sparsely populated, 120-square-mile area in northern Louisiana and southern Arkansas. It had been classified as a medically depressed area by the federal government.

"They are very nice people," said Bui. "When we arrived the Jaycees and other people gave gifts and provided furniture. This is the spirit of this community — a lot of warm friendship."

### GOOD OPPORTUNITY

"I think it is a good opportunity here. If I was by myself only, I might go to a university where they have a training program, but since we are just refugees, I think I have to start to work. The

life here is good. I have four children to raise. Right now, it fits pretty good."

De, who has seven children, said he believes he can contribute more at Wilmot than in an urban area. "The people need us here more," he said. "Everybody here is very warm and their hospitality is outstanding."

The biggest hurdle he sees is language — "the problem of understanding between the patients and myself."

Place said most medical school graduates tend to shy away from rural practice these days.

"Also, doctors don't want to do a solo practice — they have no time off," Place said.

"We're 25 miles from the nearest hospital here and the doctors can't afford to leave a seriously ill patient," he said.

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ORIENTATION TO AMERICA

# Class Provides Refugees With U.S. 'Survival Skills'

By RAY KIPP  
Education Writer  
The San Diego Union

A trip across San Diego by a Vietnamese or Cambodian refugee could easily turn into an adventure in the land of the lost without the help of Gretchen Bitterlin and Nghiem Xuan Phu.

For while many of the refugees have been fortunate enough to find sponsors and leave Camp Pendleton to relocate in the San Diego area, they're still unprepared to tackle the everyday skills that most people might take for granted.

It was that situation that prompted the San Diego Community College District to open a new course especially designed to provide the relocated Vietnamese with basic "survival" skills. **CAN'T READ SIGNS**

Catching a bus and going downtown is a simple task for most people, Ms. Bitterlin explained. But if you can't read signs or don't know how to ask directions, it can be an insurmountable problem, she said.

"Just imagine yourself in Vietnam in the same situation," she said.

So this was one of the first skills discussed at the "English for the Vietnamese and American Way of Life" that started last week at the Kearny Adult School.

Ms. Bitterlin, a district

ESL (English as a second language) teacher, doesn't speak Vietnamese. Her co-instructor, Nghiem Xuan Phu who is a native of Vietnam, has taught English in Hawaii for several years.

## IN CLASS

District officials are pleased with the response to the experiment. On its first night last Tuesday, there was more than 100 people with an age range from 5 to 60.

Although many of the refugees speak or understand some English and help those who do not, the need for the class has been quickly documented.

Nguyen-Cao Phu, a former mechanic in the Vietnamese air force, is one of the more fluent class members, having learned English while attending school in the United States several years ago.

"But it is a very hard language and I hope to soon be able to learn enough to find a job," he explained.

## WELDING CLASS

If he can't return to jet mechanics, he will probably study welding this fall in a community college, he said.

Nearly all of the 15 members of the Nguyen-Cao family, who were sponsored by a Linda Vista church, attend the class.

Sao Then, the only Cambodian attending the class, also speaks some English,

having worked as a maintenance man in the American Embassy in Cambodia. He hopes to pick up enough skills to find a job as an electrician or plumber.

But before Phu, Then and the others can find jobs, they must learn to live in an entirely different culture.

## LEARN TO MANAGE

During the 10-week class, the refugees will learn how to manage in American stores and supermarkets, use the telephone and postal services and find their way about the city.

There will also be instruction in filling out forms — social security information, job applications and school registration.

The Bitterlin-Phu approach has the Vietnamese instructor identifying language needs and explaining the complex information.

Although she doesn't speak Vietnamese, she communicates well using repetition, sign language, the blackboard and a lot of patience and smiles.

Ten weeks isn't a long time to indoctrinate a person into a whole new lifestyle.

But Ms. Bitterlin and Phu think the class will provide the first steps necessary in preparing the younger students to enter school and the adults to make it on their own.

(4)



— Staff Photo by Larry Armstrong

The San Diego Community College District starts a new course for refugees designed to provide the relocated Viet-

namese with basic "survival skills." Gretchen Bitterlin, standing, is instructing the class.

(5)



**STRANGE FOOD** — A Vietnamese refugee family living in Mission Village tried pizza for the first time, and after some hesitation, found it delicious. At top, Pham Thi Minh Duc, offers a wedge to Nguyen Thi Kim Phuoc, 6, while Nguyen Thi Kim Phuong, 15, waits to see how the others like it. At center, Pham Thi Tram Anh, 19, tries the pizza gingerly, and finds it not bad, and, bottom, Pham Thi Kim Kinh and Nguyen Thi Kim Phuoc, 6, attack the pizza with gusto.

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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

3 July 1975

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# Refugees look to their 'Miss Sandra'

By BARBARA HERRERA

Sandra Gustafson hurried along a dusty road between refugee tents, and Vietnamese heads turned, a tiny girl toddled after her, tugging at the hem of her blazer, and a man hailed her from his tent door.

"Miss Sandra," the Vietnamese man called, "we have been waiting for you."

He is Le Tinh Thong, who left behind in Saigon a position as English teacher.

"I have good news for you," Ms. Gustafson said. "There is an agency in San Diego which needs a person to teach English as a second language. A representative will come up with me tomorrow to talk to you."

Le thanked her. Mrs. Le, standing nearby, smiled happily.

"I have some friends I would like you to meet," Le said, motioning toward another family that shares his tent.

Ms. Gustafson has met many such friends — refugees in need of a sponsor.

For some of the refugees awaiting resettlement at Camp Pendleton, Ms. Gustafson's thin, angular face has become a familiar one. At home in La Jolla, Sandra Gustafson is known as a trustee of the Bishops' Schools, chairman of local horse shows, a Junior League volunteer, publicity chairman of last year's Scottish Highland Games, the daughter of retired Superior Court Judge Ronald Abernathy.

But in Camp 8, one of the tent cities housing refugees at Camp Pendleton, she is "Miss Sandra" — a friend who gets things done. To the refugees that means she can find them a sponsor, their anxiously awaited ticket from the dreary camps to a new life in the United States.

In fact, she and a friend, Diana Withee, have found sponsors for more than 20 refugee families since May 13. That was the day they volunteered to serve juice in the Red Cross canteen for what they thought would be one eight-hour shift. First it was a matter of placing phone calls for refugees perplexed by the mysteries of a coin telephone. Then it became a matter of contacting friends, relatives, businesses and professional associations to find them jobs and sponsors.

Without the help from the two volunteers, the names of the 20 refugee families might well be sitting in computer banks and volunteer agen-

cy files, awaiting their chance to be matched with a likely sponsor.

When Ms. Withee left for a new home in New Orleans last month, it became a lonelier job for Ms. Gustafson. But, she hastens to add, her work is not unique. She is one of several local people working either formally or informally through the eight volunteer agencies which have contracted with the federal government to resettle refugees.

The volunteers, providing personal contact with refugees, stand out in sharp contrast to the systematic bureaucracy and paper shuffling inevitably involved in refugee processing and sponsor verification. Agency officials recognize the value of the volunteer work.

"Their work has become a valuable auxiliary to the whole system," said a spokesman for the Inter-Agency Task Force, which is running the resettlement program.

The program, recently characterized variously as "a commendable job of organizing and using resources" in a General Accounting Office report and as "a nightmare

for officials and refugees alike" by the Senate subcommittee on refugees chaired by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., has processed 32,000 refugees into American society — about 16,000 of them through Camp Pendleton.

"We can't solve the whole refugee problem ourselves," Ms. Gustafson said, "but once you realize the need you can't just return to your normal routine and do nothing."

Ms. Gustafson, daughter of an immigrant — Judge Abernathy was born in Glasgow, Scotland — said that her work on behalf of refugees is "the most demanding but most rewarding work I've ever done."

And that recent, dreary, overcast morning at Camp Pendleton, when Le introduced her to his friends, turned out to be the typical beginning to one of her 10-hour days.

Le's friends were Mr. and Mrs. Tran Thuong Hai and their four children. They hoped for sponsorship through a church family. By day's end Ms. Gustafson had found them sponsorship with a Linda Vista family.

And Tran, in turn, introduced her that day to a 26-year-old woman physician and her 19-year-old brother, a law student. Ms. Gustafson returned to the camp a day later with a friend from La Mesa, who brought along her four children to meet the couple. The La Mesa family is now exploring possibilities of getting the physician and law student enrolled in school before accepting sponsorship.

Within two days Ms. Gustafson had found sponsors for two more families. She felt almost certain, too, that the English-teaching job would go through for Le.

Once matched, sponsors must be verified through the volunteer agencies. And refugees must get security clearance before leaving Pendleton for their new homes.

Finding sponsors has not always been so fast for Ms. Gustafson. "The needs of the sponsors do not always match the needs of the refugees," she said.

And sometimes the best intentions of both sponsors and refugees are fouled by red tape.

The problem was the lack of a central refugee file listing names and occupations of refugees. When a sponsor asked for a pharmacist, for instance, he would have to depend on one of the volunteer agencies to find him a pharmacist or go through all eight agencies, each of which kept individual files.

But the task force last month succeeded in setting up a central computerized file, listing all the refugees' names and vital information about them, according to the task force spokesman.

One of the biggest obstacles, according to Ms. Gustafson, has been the requirement that no refugee can leave camp until he or she has received both security clearance and verification of sponsorship.

The requirement can create problems in finding jobs. Prospective employers, unable or unwilling to leave their businesses for a trip to the refugee camps, want the refugees to come to them for job interviews.

It's the classic vicious circle: the refugee cannot leave camp without verified sponsorship; the potential sponsor will not agree to sponsorship unless the refugee leaves camp and comes for an interview. In several such cases, Ms. Gustafson said, potential sponsorships have fallen through.

A spokesman for the Inter-Agency Task Force acknowledged the problem. "Unfortunately, however, it appears that there's the fear that refugees might leave the post and get into American society without anyone to take care of their sponsorship," the spokesman said.

But another problem that has hindered the volunteer efforts may have been solved.

If the work sometimes gets frustrating, it took a teen-ager to express to Ms. Gustafson and Ms. Withee the sentiment that has kept them moving. Al Khue, a 14-year-old member of a family for whom they found sponsors in Upland, Calif., wrote to Ms. Withee after her family had settled into the new home.

"We are very grateful to you and Miss Sandra for your helping us," Al Khue wrote. "We wish you and Miss Sandra will be our dearest friends forever."

"The charity of American people has stirred our hearts."



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### ***Teachers Needed***

CAMP PENDLETON — Volunteers are being sought to teach English and American living to Asian refugees.

Instructors teach day classes in "survival English," designed to give refugees a fundamental working vocabulary in English that will enable them to get around after resettlement.

Night classes are also taught in American living, concentrating on how to accomplish the everyday tasks typical in the normal American's life, such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping in a supermarket.

Instructors need not hold a teaching certification nor have teaching experience, though both are preferable. College students are eligible.

No salary will be paid; the teaching is voluntary. Some expenses, such as travel costs, will be reimbursed for volunteers.

One hundred teachers are needed each day, a spokesman of the refugee center said.

Volunteers should contact Jay Allen at the Camp Pendleton education office of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The phone numbers are 725-7400 and 725-7308.

(4)

## Montagnards Said Not Ready for Life in U.S.

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — Montagnard tribesmen, among the Vietnamese refugees here, are not ready for 20th century life in the United States and will be placed in villages of their own in the mountains of western Washington state, an official said here Tuesday.

"The Montagnards' rate of literacy is so low and their knowledge of the outside world is so little that for sheer survival they must remain together," said Nick Thorne, director of the refugee program at this Marine base.

He said they will go to Washington state because "the altitude and climate of western Washington is an approximation of the physical environment of their home in Vietnam.

Thorne said he did not know if Washington state officials had decided exactly where the Montagnard villages will be built.

He said he had recommended they be given jobs with the National Park Service because they are "damned good woodsmen."

"They won't show up on the relief roles," said Thorne. "Their standard of living is not very expensive."

Montagnards lived as farmers and crossbow hunters in the remote mountains near the Vietnam-Laos border. Many fought with Americans against the Viet Cong.

About 40 Montagnards have arrived here recently and another 400 are expected from Pacific way-stations, Thorne said.

(5)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. A

PAGE 7

DATE

2 July

CMC- HQ MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

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**PARADE PRACTICE** — Vietnamese refugee children at Camp Pendleton practice for a parade planned in their base

refugee camp on July 4th. The day will be the first July 4th celebration for the children, who came to the United States several

months ago from South Vietnam. They live in a refugee camp aboard the marine base.

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OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. 4 PAGE 1

DATE 4 July

## MORE SPONSORS SOUGHT FOR REFUGEES AT PENDLETON

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — Fewer Americans are offering to sponsor Vietnamese war refugees — less than half the earlier figure — and a resettlement official says he's concerned.

A letter is being sent by President Ford to the nation's governors, asking them to help, Nick Thorne said.

A direct "hot line" telephone number will be set up Friday for those willing to be sponsors, he said.

Thorne, who heads the Inter-agency Task Force at this Marine Corps relocation center, said about 300 sponsors are being found daily compared to 700 daily shortly after the tent city was established.

rine Corps relocation center, said about 300 sponsors are being found daily compared to 700 daily shortly after the tent city was established.

Thorne said there are fewer than 10,000 refugees now on Guam with 7,000 others on Wake Island waiting to be sent to the United States.

The new "hot line" phone number is 800-854-3148 and replaces one which sent callers through a central bureau before reaching Thorne's office.

# Sponsor lack stirs refugee fears

By SCOTT STEWART

CAMP PENDLETON — A drop in the number of sponsorship offers has brought increased concern about the future of the 17,896 Vietnamese refugees awaiting resettlement from this sprawling Marine base.

Not only are sponsorship offers dwindling — down to 300 a day as opposed to 700 daily when the evacuation of South Vietnam began — but the processing time required for the refugees to leave is climbing.

"We feel the lack of sponsorship offers is due to the lack of a public information campaign," said Nick

Thorne, head of the Interagency Task Force, which is in charge of refugees' affairs.

Thorne, who returned here yesterday after three days of talks in Washington, said the five agencies handling security checks of the refugees have been ordered to work 24-hours-a-day to speed processing.

"The average time for a refugee to process out of here is 25 days, and climbing," Thorne said. "We're hoping that a speed-up of the security checks and a new hot-line number will cut that time down and interest more sponsors."

Beginning Friday, would-be sponsors can call 800-854-3148 direct to Camp Pendleton.

"With the old hot-line number, the information went to a central bureau then had to be sent back to us," Thorne said. "We hope this number of our own will cut the process by three days."

Thorne said he understands President Ford will be asking governors of all states for help in resettling the refugees.

The hot-line number could also serve to relieve some of the confusion potential sponsors have found  
(Cont. on page A-5, col. 1)

## Refugee sponsor interest declines

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

when they go to the base to visit refugees selected for them.

"We used to have complaints of people spending a long time waiting, especially on the weekends, to visit families they intended to sponsor," Thorne said.

"But I haven't heard any complaints along that line for a few weeks."

"You have to remember that we have 500-750 people a day visiting here on the weekend, which causes some of the confusion. But we encourage people to come out here and look around."

Thorne said a major problem here is the reunification of broken families, most of whom refuse to leave until reunited.

"We have 7,885 refugees in camp who are waiting to be reunited with their families," he said. "Of those, 3,530 have members of their families in the Pacific area and due here soon; 225 are in other camps, and 121 are in third countries that they went to when fleeing South Vietnam."

Thorne said the number of refugees on Guam is now below 10,000, with a further 7,000 on Wake Island waiting to be sent to the United States as soon as space is available.

"If you've ever been to Wake Island, you can guess how anxious they are to leave," he said.

③

# Black American Is Refugee, Eager For Overseas Work

By  
**DONALD H. HARRISON**  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Not everyone living in the refugee camp here is an Indochinese refugee. Jim McClaude, 28, is a black American; and until he and his family jumped aboard a helicopter to escape incoming Viet Cong artillery, he was happy living as an expatriate in Saigon.

"Ever since I was a kid, I wanted to get out of the United States," said McClaude. "I was in the Air Force four years hoping I could get overseas — but I didn't get there until after I got out."

He got to Vietnam with an American company, a small contracting firm that needed a mechanic. Even after being laid off, he stayed there until April 29 when Saigon's airport came under Viet Cong artillery fire. With his family he took the first helicopter out, eventually arriving here May 9.

"the same dudes help you out. One time a fellow asked me how it was going and slipped \$50 in my pocket. He didn't ask to be paid back, or make a big fuss over it."

## LIKES TO TRAVEL

Another reason, he said, is "I don't like staying in one place; I like to travel. I remember my first trip by car from New York to North Carolina. I remember getting excited by the different hills, the different license plates."

McClaude met Nguyen Thi Kim Hai one rainy day in

Saigon, when he let her into his cab. She is the daughter of a Moroccan soldier and had a daughter by an American GI. They moved in together.

Recently Ms. Hai took a fall at Camp Pendleton, and doctors had her stay in camp to monitor possible internal bleeding. She thinks she will be allowed to leave in another week or so.

"Otherwise," said McClaude, looking around Tent 5F in Camp 6, "we'd have been out of here long ago."

(4)

# Refugees Learning Road Rules

OCEANSIDE — A California Highway Patrol officer will begin instructing refugees next week on American police traffic procedures.

Officer Dennis Ward, 39, acting special duty officer at the patrol's Oceanside office, said the CHP was asked by the state Department of Motor Vehicles to conduct classes on "what to expect if they get stopped" by a law enforcement officer.

Ward said the request came from R. L. Bartelt, manager of the Oceanside office of the DMV, which has been charged with the responsibility of conducting traffic safety classes for the immigrants.

Bartelt asked the highway patrol to explain to the Vietnamese and Cambodians what to expect "so

they'll be acclimated to what we do in the States," Ward said.

"He told me to tell them what the red light means, what they're supposed to do (if they see one), what the equipment is in the car, how the outside public address system works and why we have the shotgun," explained Ward, a 10-year veteran of the patrol.

"A lot of them aren't aware of the function of the highway patrol as opposed to city police," he continued. "We'll explain that our main job is traffic control and that, generally speaking, if they're on a freeway, they're primarily going to see the highway patrol. But if they're in a city, they may see the CHP, because we have jurisdiction anywhere, as well as the local police, who are

limited to geographical jurisdictions. Also, city police have traffic and criminal divisions."

Ward said the refugee camps at Camp Pendleton are consuming vast amounts of informational literature about traffic safety and state highway laws.

"We tried to get materials for distribution at the (Del Mar) Fair, but everything (the DMV) is getting goes out to the refugee camps," he said.

An interpreter will assist the officer in lectures at the Vietnamese and Cambodian camps, Ward said, and a patrol car will be utilized for a visual aid.

The program is scheduled to be given on a continuing basis, Ward said.

(5)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. 2 PAGE 13 DATE 2 July

# Parish Helps Vietnamese

By ANGELA MACK  
Assistant Editor  
People Section

OCEANSIDE — Although she constantly apologizes for not knowing English very well, Nguyen Thi Kieu Anh is quickly adapting to her new life in the United States.

There are two things of major concern to her right now, and one of them is making American friends. The other is finding a job so her husband can continue his medical studies here in the U.S.

"I am looking for any kind of work," Anh says. "Of all the new things in the United States, that is my biggest anxiety, applying for a job."

Anh and her husband, Nguyen The Hung, were both university students in Saigon before their evacuation. It wasn't until they reached the United States, however, that they were married in a double ceremony with Hung's sister and her fiancé at Camp Pendleton.

It was the couples' marriages that brought their families to the attention of the pastor at San Luis Rey Mission Parish. Realizing they would have very little to look forward to while in the refugee camp, Father Martin McKeon had the idea for the church to sponsor the young couples and their immediate families.

Through parish contributions, two houses in the Oceanside area were rented for the families, and parishioners are helping in a variety of other ways.

According to McKeon, the parish will help in as many ways as possible to get the families established so they are self-supporting. Job possibilities for adults are of major concern.

Anh is very optimistic about her future in the United States, and doesn't seem to regret having to discontinue her law studies for a job.

"We left Vietnam for freedom," she says. "And we are very happy to be here. If we had stayed, the Viet Cong would have killed us."

Although both Anh and her husband do not discount ever being able to return to Vietnam, they are content with starting anew here in America.

"The people at San Luis Rey Mission have been very nice to us," she says. "They help us in so many ways."

Some of the parish women held a bridal shower for the two new brides after they were settled in their homes, and the parish men have helped with cutting the grass and electrical repairs on the houses.

A total of 11 family members live with Anh and her husband, and six other live with his sister's family. Most of the family members were farmers, although one woman worked as a typist in the American embassy in Vietnam and some are tailors.

"I want very much to make American friends," says Anh. "And I want to go to school and learn to speak English better."

Father Martin says the language problem has been little problem, and most everything is easy to get across. The children, he says, are out playing in the neighborhood already, but for the older family members it might take a little more time.

Even though their futures are still somewhat unsettled, both Anh and her husband have begun planning ahead. They would eventually like to have a home of their own, but are content now to live with the family until things are better financially.

"Your country is so rich," Anh said with amazement. The grocery and department stores are a constant source of new things for her.

"Many people in our country want to come to the United States," she says. "We had two hours to get ready, and we must leave everything behind."

"I am very happy for the chance to come here. And we are looking forward to our new life here."

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**HOPEFUL** — Nguyen Thi Kieu Anh and her husband Nguyen The Hung, moved from a Camp Pendleton refugee camp to Oceanside when parishioners at Mission San Luis Rey decided to sponsor the young university and medical student. See Story left.

Mack photo

## 'WE MISS OUR PARENTS'

## Viet Children at Pendleton Sit and Wait

BY GREG WASKUL  
Times Staff Writer

While refugees by the thousands are making plans to leave American bases around the world and begin new lives, a group of children at Camp Pendleton must sit and wait until the American government decides what to do with them.

"We miss our parents, especially after it gets dark. There are many boys and girls crying every night. It is like a chain reaction—one boy cries and others start crying together—especially when they play the Vietnamese music over the loud-speaker," says Phan Xuan Hoang, 15.

Phan lived in Saigon with his parents until the Communist offensive threatened the city. His father, an army colonel, paid to get Phan, his only son, to safety.

The boy later found himself at Camp Pendleton along with 106 other unaccompanied children, according to Nick Thorne, Interagency Task Force commander at Camp Pendleton.

Some of the children, who range in age from 2 to 17, have waited as long as six weeks to leave the camp. Only four of the children have been reunited with their parents.

The government, however, cannot decide whether to put the remaining unaccompanied children into foster homes or place them through normal adoption procedures. And, unless red tape is cleared and a decision made, there are many children who will remain in the camp for some time to come.

The Red Cross is taking care of 33 of the children.

Thorne said he thought the situation was so complicated that it could have "a tremendous potential for unhappiness."

"We want to stay away from adoption processes until we are absolutely sure that the child is an orphan," Thorne said. He also said that in cases in which parents or blood relatives were found in Cambodia or South Vietnam, the government would decide whether to place the child in a foster home or put him up for adoption.

Thorne said that such a decision must be made with the mutual agreement of several agencies in the task force because "we don't believe we can play God in this thing."

Meanwhile, the Red Cross is conducting camp-to-camp searches for

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Part of the problem has been that even if the government decided to let Phan leave Pendleton, he could not be declared a ward of the court in Ventura until he is physically in the Ventura area.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Smith is growing more bitter.

"At one point several weeks ago, they told us we would have him in less than a week. They said problems would be solved quickly, but they weren't.

"That makes it doubly hard on us. We've been told several times he would be with us. Yet every time it is about to happen, they change their minds again."

Meanwhile, Phan said he had been at Pendleton so long that he would do anything to "get out of here as soon as possible and stay with the

Smiths so I don't feel so lonesome. I want to feel like I'm living with a family like back home."

He said he doesn't want to return to Vietnam because his parents insisted he leave the country and stay in America.

"They told me they were sending me away so that I can have a better future for my life, so that I could have freedom for myself, and so I could have a good education. That is why I will never go back to Vietnam," Phan said.

The Smiths are concerned about his education here as well.

"Phan doesn't speak English and we want him to learn the language this summer so he won't have as many problems when school starts in September. There is an extended family of 25 Vietnamese living only

★ Los Angeles Times 5  
Sun., July 6, 1975 Part II

three blocks from us, and they would be able to help him learn English, too," Mrs. Smith said.

Meanwhile at her home, Mrs. Smith packed a box of homemade cookies and a Vietnamese grammar book to send to Phan at Camp Pendleton.

"We didn't start this with the idea of adopting a child. We just wanted to provide a home for a child for a while. But Phan is a beautiful child," Mrs. Smith said.

"We just don't understand what in the world is the hangup," she said. "We're willing to adopt him, be permanent sponsor or whatever the law requires. We just want somebody to stamp the final form and let us have him."

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## CHILDREN

Continued from First Page

the parents of the unaccompanied children. So far, they have located four sets of parents, according to Red Cross spokesman Patrick Guibao.

Thorne said he would like children who became separated from their families after they left Vietnam or Cambodia to be sponsored as a group, with the sponsor agreeing to return any child when the parents or blood relatives are found.

Another solution is to have a refugee family take care of a child, with the understanding that the child be returned to its parents or relatives should they be found.

"We prefer this kind of approach," Thorne said. "By the time we get all the refugees out of the Pacific, we will have enough information to be able to check and double-check while the children are still in the camp."

Meanwhile, the children at Pendleton are taking part in recreational and educational programs.

There is a Red Cross nurse on call 24 hours a day. Volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have offered assistance around the clock for various hut activities.

The Red Cross described the mental attitude of the unaccompanied children as "good and improving" although Guibao conceded that there was "a great deal of instability" when the program began about six weeks ago.

But the children are not as enthusiastic about their situation as Thorne and Guibao are.

Phan arrived in Camp Pendleton on May 13, and was told that since his parents were not at the camp, he would not be able to leave even if he found a sponsor.

A Thousand Oaks family, the Leonard Smiths, met Phan at Pendleton and decided to sponsor him shortly thereafter.

"The Smiths wanted to sponsor me," Phan said, "but they were told they could not because I have no parents here and I am so young."

"They then agreed to adopt me. They have come to see me several times. They were always ready to take me out, and I was always ready to go, but we have had to wait so long. I have been here six weeks, and I still have not heard anything from the processing center," Phan said.

The Smiths are just as frustrated.

"We were told we could sponsor Phan, so we filled out the necessary forms. Then they told us we would have to adopt him. So we worked through a Ventura County adoption agency to have our home cleared."

"We have done everything possible to cooperate with the government, but we are still waiting for them to make up their minds how to handle it."

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## News-makers----

# Bachelor Swamped by Instant Family

—In an era of instant coffee, instant breakfast and instant diapers, **Phil Fox** of Clarksville, Ind., has fallen heir to all of that and more: an instant family. The 30-year-old bachelor, an employee of the Army-Air Force Exchange Service, agreed to sponsor one Vietnamese refugee. He wound up instead with two women and twin 7-month-old boys. Occupying one bedroom of his two-bedroom home are Phan Thanh Lien, 35, whom he met in 1971 when working in Saigon; her mother, So Thi Chung, 56, and the twins. Fox is happy with his new life-style: Mrs. Lien makes coffee when she gets up to feed and care for the babies, and she cooks "more than I do," he says. Left behind when the women and children fled were Mrs. Lien's husband and her father, neither of whom was able to get out. Meantime, Fox's girlfriend is understanding and is helping Mrs. Lien, who worked as a typist for American agencies in Saigon for 10 years, in her search for a job. And Fox expects to become an instant bachelor again when that happens—within the next month or two, he hopes.

—Speaking of families, that of **Tommy Tiller**, 60, of Charlotte, N.C., gathered on the 4th of July for the singing of Christmas carols around the fully decorated tree and opened the presents that had gone untouched after Tiller had suffered a stroke last Dec. 20. His family refused to break the tradition of family holiday gatherings by celebrating without him, and on Independence Day his three children and five grandchildren gathered in the spirit of Christmas. "This is wonderful," said Tiller, now confined to a wheelchair and not at all missing the fireworks amid the tinkle of Yuletide bells.

—Elsewhere, in Concord, N.H., a religious symbol has landed a Baptist minister from Los Angeles in jail and he will go to court on charges of disorderly conduct. **Arthur Blessitt**, who has been lugging a 12-foot cross around New Hampshire while campaigning for the Presidency, refused to explain his mission and ended up behind bars as a consequence.

—Another Baptist minister with a somewhat greater reputation as an activist, the Rev. **Jesse L. Jackson**, 33, is starting to preach religion. Jackson, head of Operation PUSH, says in Chicago he will be shifting his emphasis from political and economic freedom to an evangelistic crusade for the nation's spiritual and moral values.



Phil Fox shows off his newly acquired family.

AR Wirephoto

—The Rolling Stones really hadn't expected to draw a crowd in the sleepy town of Fordyce, Ark., with its population of 4,000. They hadn't really expected to stop there at all. But stop did British rock guitarist **Keith Richard**, who was charged with reckless driving and carrying a concealed weapon, a hunting knife. He was accompanied by fellow Rolling Stone Ron Wood and two other persons. As they waited seven hours for their lawyer to fly from Memphis and get Richard released on \$163.50 bail, the word spread and a crowd of several hundred gathered at City Hall. Richard and Wood made it to Dallas in time for a concert, leaving the town of Fordyce talking about the day the Rolling Stones gathered no moss in their midst.

—By DeWayne Johnson

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PRAYERS, CHANTS, INCENSE

# Refugees Mark Buddhist Event At Pendleton

Related story — Page B-1

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

CAMP PENDLETON — "Welcome the Obon Holiday; the Buddhist Mother's Day," read banners strung across entrances to refugee tent camps here yesterday.

The celebration was not like your average Mother's Day in the United States, however.

No one made breakfast to be served to mother in bed, nor gave mother a present with an insulting greeting card.

The Obon Holiday is rooted in the Buddhist religion, and it was celebrated by robed ministers who chanted and burned incense in an outdoor ceremony attended by several hundred (Vietnamese refugees as well as more than 150 kimono-garbed Japanese-Americans from Los Angeles).

## REINCARNATION

The Rev. Tri Sanh, Buddhist chaplain at Camp Pendleton, said Buddhists believe in reincarnation, and pray on Obon Day for the well-being of their current mothers and for persons who were their mothers in other lifetimes.

The minister said the Buddhist have a story about a man named Mu Ku Ren whose mother's soul was in hell. The man tried by praying to rescue his mother's soul, but was unsuccessful. However, when other Buddhists joined they carried a prayer of sufficient force to rescue Mu Ku Ren's mother, the Rev. Tri Sanh said.

The minister added that on Obon Day Buddhists pray communally for their forebears in emulation of Mu Ku Ren and his friends.

As the services began, an English-speaking narrator set the tone: "Although we are far from our homeland, we take this occasion to express gratitude to our mothers, to pray for their safety if they are not with us and pray for their salvation if they are not living."

## SCULPTOR WORKS

Elsewhere in the camp, sculptor Luu Ngyen Dat was completing work on a giant piece he calls "the hand of Hope."

The hand symbolizes the

Americans, Dat told a reporter, and the children playing in its palm represent the children of Indo-Chinese refugees in this country.

"There are two images I am working with," he said. "The first is the hand of welcome. For this reason, I choose the left hand, because the left hand is closest to the heart."

"The other image is that of the children. It is because of them that we left our fertile country. We left to give them a chance for a better life and a chance for a good future."

Dat, father of four children including one born in Camp Pendleton, said he expects to finish the mammoth work tomorrow. He had hoped to complete it for the Independence Day celebration, but said he did not have all his materials.

The sculptor said he got the idea for the piece while watching the Vietnamese and Cambodian children cavort with uniformed Marines.

"The smile the Marines put on our children's faces gives us courage," he said.

Dat has a sponsor in Michigan but has delayed his departure from California until he can finish the sculpture. In the meantime, he is staying in Oceanside with one of the chaplains at Camp Pendleton, Navy Cmdr. David Plank.

Dat named the boy born here Luu Viet David Wilbur. The David is in honor of Plank. Wilbur is in honor of the Michigan man who will sponsor his family.

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## LANGUAGE COURSE

# Refugees Now Learn 'American'

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

CAMP PENDLETON — "OK," shouted Kelly De Sare into the microphone. "Does everybody remember what 'bread' means?"

"Money" thundered back nearly 500 refugee voices.

"Right, you all remember your slang," said Mrs. De Sare. "What does 'c'mere' mean?"

"Come here," came back the response from the crowd that ranged in age from elementary school age children to grandparents.

Mrs. De Sare, 321 Boxwood Canyon, Camp Pendleton, has been teaching a two-hour course every night but Sundays to orient the Asian refugees to life in the United States.

The wife of a Marine gunnery sergeant assigned to Camp Pendleton, Mrs. De Sare volunteered her time as a teacher. This week, however, she was named coordinator of night school classes for the refugees under a program being run by the San Diego County Department of Education and will be paid.

## Unorthodox Teaching

Her teaching style is unorthodox and popular with the refugees. She teases them, kids them and jokes with them about their English, their pronunciation and their mistakes.

From a class of 20 that met under a shade tree, Mrs. De Sare's orientation class has swelled to nearly 500 nightly. There are not enough benches in the tent that serves as a chapel during the day to accommodate all her students.

"All right," said Mrs. De Sare, who the refugees call Mrs. Kelly. "Let's talk about supermarkets. What kinds of food do you want to eat?"

Members of the class call out names of food, and Mrs. De Sare writes them on a blackboard. Rice, corn, eggs, lamb, oranges.

The shopping list is completed, and Mrs. De Sare asks Tang Vinh Tai, a former employe with the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, to interpret the names of foods for those in the class who do not understand.

Then, in unison, the class reads back their imaginary shopping list. "Rice, oats, wheat, chicken . . ." Never has a shopping list sounded so profound; the 500 voices sound like a chorus in a Greek tragedy.

Mrs. De Sare runs through a quick lesson on what to do in an emergency (dial operator), then commences a review of the English words for various parts of the body.

She points and the class intones: "head, forehead, eyes, cheek, nose, chin."

She points to her throat. They say "toat."

"Toat?" exclaims Mrs. De Sare in mock horror. "Oh I get it. We're all playing a joke. Today we will all be stupid. Right?"

"No," replies the class gleefully.

"Today," says Mrs. De Sare, "we will be —"

"Smart!" yells the class.

"Today," adds Mrs. De Sare, "we will be —"

"Intelligent!" the class choruses.

The lesson goes on.

"No, not 'heep,'" says Mrs. De Sare, "hip!"

The class works on 'hip.'

The next problem area is the shin. The Vietnamese pronounce it "chin."

Mrs. De Sare tells them they must not say 'chin' when they mean 'shin.' "If you go to the doctor and tell him your 'chin' hurts, he will put a bandage on your face and you will be limping around," she says.

## How To Find A Job

Mrs. De Sare begins to talk about the one thing many refugees worry about most: How to find a job.

She tells them they will need a Social Security card and an alien green card. She tells them there are three places where they can begin their search for jobs: The employment office, the classified section of the newspaper and private employment agencies.

There are many questions about the Social Security card, the green card, and "is it true that the length of your hair will determine if you get a job?"

Mrs. De Sare ponders this. She replies: "I think if you tell them you are a refugee, it will not matter."

After class, students linger to talk with Mrs. De Sare. One is leaving the camp the next day, and grips Mrs. De Sare's hand in both of hers.

"Goodbye," she says.

"You will write to me?" asks the teacher.

"I will," said the woman. She starts to say something else, her voice catches, she squeezes Mrs. De Sare's hand, and turns away.

Mrs. De Sare has no teaching degree, and says she worries that she is presumptuous to be teaching refugees, many of whom have educations far more advanced than her two years of college.

"She is a good teacher," says Tai.

Because of her sense of humor?

"More important," he says, "she understands us."

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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

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# Refugee Class Unique

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — "Does everybody remember what 'bread' means?" shouted Kelly De Sare into the microphone.

"Money," roared back nearly 500 refugees.

"Right," she said. "What does c'mere mean?"

"Come here," answered the crowd that ranged in age from elementary school children to grandparents.

It's all part of an unorthodox but popular two-hour course Mrs. De Sare teaches six days a week at this relocation center in an effort to orient Vietnamese refugees to life in the United States.

Mrs. De Sare, wife of a Marine Corps gunnery sergeant, teases, kids and jokes with the refugees about their English, pronunciation and mistakes. The refugees, who call her Mrs. Kelly, love it.

Starting as a volunteer with a class of 20 under a shade tree, her class has swelled to nearly 500 nightly. She was just named coordinator of night school classes for refugees under a program run by the San Diego County Department of Education.

"All right," she said. "Let's talk about supermarkets. What kinds of food do you want to eat?"

As the class members call out names of food, Mrs. De Sare writes them on a blackboard. Rice, corn, eggs, lamb, oranges. The list is translated and explained to the refugees by Tang Vinh Tai, a former U.S. embassy employee in Saigon.

After running through a quick lesson on what to do in an emergency (dial the operator), she starts a review of English words for various parts of the body.

She points and the class intones: "head, forehead, eyes, cheek, nose, chin."

Then she points to her throat and the class responds with "toat."

"Toat?" she exclaims. "Oh, I get it. We're all playing a joke. Today we will be stupid. Right?"

"No," the class shouts back gleefully.

"Today," she says, "we will be —"

"Smart!" the class yells.

"Today, we will be —"

"Intelligent," the refugees sing out.

The lesson goes on.

"No not 'heep, it's hip." The class works on hip.

She also spends time telling the class about one thing many refugees worry about most: finding a job.

The refugees ask about Social Security cards and immigration cards, and one wonders "is it true the length of your hair will determine if you get a job?"

Pondering that for a moment, Mrs. De Sare replies: "I think if you tell them you are a refugee, it will not matter."

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## More Refugees Arrive As Returnees Leave

CAMP PENDLETON — The refugee "pipeline" bringing hundreds of Southeast Asians into the U.S. is continuing to flow, with 500 expected here in the next 24 hours.

Base officials said today that 251 Vietnamese have left Camp Pendleton for Guam as part of the repatriation effort, and another 272 are awaiting available aircraft or interviews preceding their departure.

A U.N. representative left Camp Pendleton with the first planeload of 50 last week for Guam, where he greeted the next four flights.

The majority of those who want to return to Vietnam are young adult males, mostly ex-military men, said Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, public information officer.

Brill also said that a total of 1,252 refugees have gone on to other countries; including 869 to Canada, 346 to France, 18 to Australia, 14 to the

United Kingdom and lesser totals to other countries.

"We've had no deaths (at the refugee center)," Brill said, "67 births -- 36 males, and 31 females -- and we're hardly admitting anyone to the hospital...we're averaging about four or five a day, maybe less."

Brill said there are a total of 77 refugees in the Naval Regional Medical Center, but none with serious diseases.

The refugees camps had a total population of 17,911 this morning, including 1,221 Cambodians, and departures to sponsors are averaging 250 to 300 a day.

Brill said Timothy Cardinal Manning, Archbishop of Los Angeles, will say a special Catholic mass at the camp Wednesday, and the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey circus will feature a special performance for the residents on Thursday.

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OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT.

PAGE

DATE

## U.S. May Close 3 Of 4 Refugee Camps

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Three of four camps set up in the United States for relocation of Indochina refugees may be closed by this winter, a federal government spokesman said Tuesday.

Only Ft. Chaffee, Ark., will be kept open through the winter, said Eleanor Green, spokesman for the federal Interagency Task Force on Indochina refugees. Those centers to be closed are Ft. Indiantown Gap near here, Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

"We do not have a target date," she said. "We will certainly not keep Pendleton or Indiantown gap open past cold

weather. It is not a date we can set. It depends on the weather and we've always envisioned closing Eglin first."

She said Eglin was the least efficient of the four camps.

The agency has been releasing about 715 refugees daily from the four camps. They either have sponsors or enough money to set out on their own.

About 62,000 refugees are in the four U.S. camps. Another 18,000 others are on the Pacific islands of Guam and Wake. In addition, several hundred refugees are at air bases in Thailand and the Philippines, Green said.

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# Rise in Refugee Placement Failures Alarms Officials

BY BILL RICHARDS and AUSTIN SCOTT

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—Federal and private agency officials working on resettling Vietnamese refugees in the United States are alarmed over mounting problems between Vietnamese already released from refugee camps and their American sponsors.

Increasingly, a number of officials said this week, refugees who have been released in the sponsorship of friends, relatives or others are turning up at public and private relief agencies without jobs or money.

"At this point," said Dale DeHaan, staff director for the Senate subcommittee on refugees, "there appears to be a very alarming rate of breakdown. We're getting scores of phone calls from refugees and sponsors who have nowhere to turn. . . In all my 12 years in refugee placement, I've never seen a breakdown rate like this."

Several private agency officials and

other staff members of the Senate subcommittee said much of the blame for the problems—called "breakdowns" by the officials—come from the "direct release" program run by the federal Interagency Refugee Task Force, which has been overseeing the operation of the program.

As the number of refugees began building up in the four large holding camps scattered around the country, task force officials allowed refugees with contacts among friends and relatives—and, more recently, with promises from people who have telephoned in their desire to sponsor refugees—to leave.

L. A. TIMES SECT. 1

PAGE 1

DATE 9 JUL

## Eglin Refugee Relocation Center to Close by July 31

From United Press International

Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., will be closed as a refugee relocation center by July 31, and Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Camp Pendleton, Calif., will be closed for refugees before winter, Mrs. Julia Taft, director of the inter-agency task force for Indochina refugees, said Monday.

Ft. Chaffee, Ark., will be the only refugee camp now open that will be operated during the winter, Mrs. Taft said.

There is a possibility that a new camp will be opened to house Vietnamese refugees during the winter, if Ft. Chaffee isn't large enough to house all those not processed out of the camps by winter, she added.

Chaffee has a capacity for housing 25,000 refugees, but it has a capacity of only 20,000 in barracks that can be heated.

Refugee flights into Eglin and Indiantown have been halted, but Vietnamese are still being sent to Chaffee and Pendleton as refugees are processed out of those camps.

"We have stopped putting people into Eglin and Indiantown in order to concentrate on out-processing," she said.

Mrs. Taft said Indiantown Gap and Pendleton would probably be closed before Oct. 1. She said she would decide by the end of this month whether another camp will be opened for the winter.

There were 23,226 refugees at Ft. Chaffee, 17,495 at Pendleton, 16,232 at Indiantown, 5,372 at Eglin, and 18,609 at Guam and other Pacific camps Sunday. A task force spokesman said 43,802 refugees had been processed out of relocation centers into the United States and 4,536 had been processed out of the relocation camps and sent to other countries by Sunday.

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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

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A handwritten signature, possibly reading "Jr", is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

# Refugees Need Teaching Aides

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Volunteers to teach Survival English courses to Southeast Asian refugees at Camp Pendleton are needed immediately.

Survival English is part of Project PREP (Pendleton Refugee Education Program), an instructional program directed and operated by the Department of Education, San Diego County in cooperation with the California State Department of Education, under the provisions of a contract with the United States Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Currently there are over 19,000 refugees living at Camp Pendleton. Survival English is designed to help them, in a series of lessons to be given during July and August, to attain a basic language facility for transition into U.S. society.

All teaching is done at Camp Pendleton by volunteers who are assisted by experienced bilingual education specialists and native language translators.

Volunteers do not need a teaching credential, and while some teaching experience would be useful, it is not essential. The people who are needed are energetic, English speaking individuals over 18, who want to help a group of people who have a strong desire to learn. Volunteers will receive a daily mileage and meal allowance.

Volunteers must make a commitment for six all-day sessions in a two-week period. Orientation sessions are given at 1 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and four classes a day are conducted from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Special instructional materials have been prepared for the daily lessons. Teacher inservice sessions for each lesson are held at 8:30 each day, with follow-up sessions at 4 p.m.

To volunteer, a person should report to the Educational Volunteer Trailer at Camp Pendleton for one of the orientation sessions. The Educational Volunteer Trailer can be reached from Interstate 5 by taking the San Clemente-El Camino Real exit and proceeding directly to the Camp Pendleton entrance.

Prospective volunteers can also call the Educational Volunteer Trailer at 725-7400 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily or Joyce Trask, Department of Education, San Diego County, 278-6400, extension 219, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sandra Stokes-Johnson, a Project PREP coordinator of volunteers reports that volunteers find the teaching at Camp Pendleton an extremely rewarding experience.

# Refugee Camp Plans Fall Closing

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — From the very first arrivals, Vietnamese have complained of the cold at "Little Saigon," the first U.S. refugee camp. Now the government is trying to get all refugees out and close it down before winter.

"We recommended that the refugee camp at Pendleton be closed by Oct. 1," Nick Thorne of the State Department said Tuesday.

"We have no plans to winterize the area," he said, and special efforts have begun to clear the 17,600

Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees out of the camp by autumn.

"We hope to close by October, but we're not making any promises," said Thorne, senior refugee coordinator.

"If any refugees are still here in October they will be moved to another camp."

The tents and quonset huts that house the refugees in nine camps would not be livable during the winter, he indicated.

The first refugees arrived during

the chilly Southern California spring, when the camp — just inland from the Pacific Ocean — was frequently cloaked in cold, damp fog. The nights are always cool and the refugees were issued Marine Corps jackets and draped themselves in service blankets to keep warm.

Thorne said that at present about 250 to 300 refugees a day leave Pendleton to take up residence under sponsorship around the United States. He expected the population to remain

static, as the number of arrivals from Guam equals the departures.

Current plans are to reduce the present four refugee camps to one by winter, he said. The camps at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and Indiantown Gap, Pa., will also be closed and all refugees without sponsors will be gathered at Ft. Chaffee, Ark., this winter, he said.

He said 35 per cent of the 130,000 refugees, or 47,288, now have sponsors or U.S. homes.

# Refugee camp close asked before winter

By JIM MOLNAR  
Staff Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON** — A recommendation, that the refugee tent cities here be closed before the Southern California winter moves in, perhaps as early as October, has been forwarded to the Intra-Agency Task Force on refugees in the nation's capital.

Dick Thorne, senior civil coordinator at Camp Pendleton, announced his recommendation yesterday, citing health and comfort hazards to the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees still awaiting sponsors as the

According to Marine spokesman Warrant Officer Roger Combs, the cost to winterize the camps would become prohibitive, but he was quick to point out that Thorne's plan was only a recom-

mendation and nothing final has yet been decided.

Combs said if the refugees were to be moved, the camp in Fort Chaffee, Ark., would be a logical location.

He added that severe hardships would probably arise if the refugees were to remain on

the Southern California coast during the winter rainy season.

The camp presently maintains an average of about 18,000 refugees. "About 250 on the average leave here every day with sponsors, but an additional 250 arrive to take their places."

Nearly 40,000 have already

been processed through Camp Pendleton, 21,455 persons already having been released to sponsors.

Combs said the number of inquiries from potential sponsors has dropped off dramatically during the past

(Cont. on Page 16, Col. 5)

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CARDINAL MANNING LEADS RITES

# Vietnam Refugees Likened To 'The Israelites Of Old'

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Cardinal Timothy Manning of Los Angeles yesterday likened Vietnamese refugees here to "the Israelites of old" who were "brought from bondage across the waters to the rim of the land of milk and honey."

The Roman Catholic prelate conducted a special outdoor Mass to join the Vietnamese in giving thanks to God and "to this great nation (which) for 200 years has opened its arms to the dispossessed."

He said America should also be giving thanks "to you the Vietnamese people."

"You are bringing to this country a rich heritage of culture and faith," he told more than 1,000 refugees attending the ceremony.

**LOVE OF GOD**

Cardinal Manning told the refugees that love of God is woven into the fabric of American society.

He quoted the Declaration of Independence's reference to all men being "endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights," informed the Vietnamese that American coins bear the legend "in God we trust" and cited the "one nation under God" wording of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Several hundred yards from the outdoor worship service, Brig. Gen. Paul Graham, military coordinator for the refugee center, and sculptor Luu Nguyen



**CARDINAL MANNING**  
... Los Angeles bishop

Dhat dedicated a 9-foot "Hand of Hope" Dhat fashioned over the past month from reinforced concrete donated by the Marines.

**TRIBUTE TO U.S.**

An open palm holds two children, and a plaque bears the inscription that the work is "a tribute to the United States of America for accepting, housing and relocating more than 40,000 Vietnamese and Cambodia refugees and immigrants at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California during the spring and summer of 1975."

Dhat said the July 4 date

was chosen, despite it being July 9, because "within my heart I finished this work on July 4 to contribute my thanks on Independence Day."

The sculptor, his wife and three children will leave tomorrow to join sponsor Wilbur Cullar in Millington, Mich. Mrs. Dhat met the Cullar family while she was a journalism student at Michigan State University and the 1963 homecoming queen there.

Later in the day, a small crowd gathered near a squad car of California Highway Patrol Officer Dennis Ward, who demonstrated the car's sirens and red lights and how to use road flares.

**STAY IN CAR**

Ward, assigned to the Oceanside CHP office, told the refugees that in the event they are stopped by a police officer, they should remain in their car.

"Normally," he said, "the officer will tell you why you have been stopped and will ask to see your driver's license."

"That's all we want; we don't want money, just your driver's license," Ward told them.

The officer also briefed the refugees on procedures to follow in the event of a traffic accident. His lecture on the camp was part of a program sponsored by the CHP and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

'NOT THE PAY'

## Something Special In Red Cross

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

### CAMP PENDLETON

When there is a break in the work routine, Red Cross nurses here sometimes will talk about Agnes, Betsy or Clara.

Agnes was a 1972 hurricane that lashed the East Coast. Jackie Green remembers flying from her home in Los Angeles to serve in a makeshift hospital in Danville, Pa.

Betsy was a tropical storm that struck the Gulf Coast, causing Lorraine Kertis to be summoned from her home in South Bend, Ind., to a shelter in New Orleans.

And Clara? Clara Barton was the Red Cross founder and some nurses like to personalize the organization they work for. They say they are in Clara's service, as if she were alive today.

Between disasters, Mrs. Green is a housewife. Mrs. Kertis works as a substitute nurse in Indiana factories.

Carol Hamilton, full-time staff supervisor from Kansas City, Mo., says no matter what disasters Red Cross reserve workers have served in, "they've had common experiences."

"They have worked long hours and have shared in a camaraderie that is special to the Red Cross."

Friendships are deepened, she said, when Red Cross workers travel across the country to find a friend they have worked with before.

The supervisor said the camaraderie, and the belief that their work is noble, are among the reasons so many persons agree to leave their homes on 24 hours notice to become disaster reserve workers.

"It's not the pay, that's for sure," she says.

An element of escape, trading everyday problems for a chance to help people with "real problems" is another, Mrs. Hamilton says.



## Refugee Sponsors Decreasing

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — The number of offers from Americans willing to sponsor refugees has fallen off, State department officer Nick Thorne said Wednesday.

Thorne is senior refugee coordinator and head of the government team at "Little Saigon," the first of the refugee camps.

Only the day before, Dale Haan, staff director for the Senate subcommittee on refugees, said in Washington there was "an alarming rate of breakdowns" in the refugee placement program.

Many refugees already released found their sponsors were not really prepared to care for them through the transition to life in the United States, Haan said.

The federal government is working against time and mounting placement problems in an effort to close down three out of four Vietnamese refugee camps in the United States by autumn.

The State Department goal is Oct. 1. Officials hope that by then all refugees will be out of staging camps in the Pacific and refugees still without American homes can be concentrated in heated barracks at Ft. Chafee, Ark., for the winter.

## Teachers Sought For Refugees

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Volunteers to teach evening courses in the everyday aspects of American life to Southeast Asian refugees at Camp Pendleton are needed immediately.

These evening courses in the everyday aspects of American living are part of Project PREP (Pendleton Refugee Education Program), an instructional program directed and operated by the Department of Education, San Diego County, in cooperation with the California State Department of Education under the provisions of a contract with the United States Office of Education, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Currently there are over 19,000 refugees living at Camp Pendleton. Courses in everyday American life are designed to help them, in evening programs to be given during July and August, to attain a basic familiarity with activities such as using the telephone shopping at the supermarket, getting a drivers license, registering for school, etc.

All teaching is done at Camp Pendleton by volunteers who are assisted by native language translators.

Volunteers do not need a teaching credential, and while some teaching experience would be useful, it is not essential. The people who are needed are energetic, English speaking individuals over 18, who want to help a group of people who have a strong

desire to learn. Ability to communicate with large groups, to be entertaining and informative, and to work several hours at night in the outdoors is desirable. Volunteers will receive a daily mileage and meal allowance.

Volunteers must make a commitment for six evening sessions in a two week period.

Orientation sessions are given at 6 p.m. each night and the programs are conducted from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

To volunteer, a person should report to the Educational Volunteer Trailer at Camp Pendleton for one of the orientation sessions. The Educational Volunteer Trailer can be reached from Interstate 5 by taking the San Clemente-El Camino Real Exit and proceeding directly to the Camp Pendleton entrance. Driving time from downtown San Diego is approximately one and a half hours. Prospective volunteers can also call Kelly DeSare at the Educational Volunteer Trailer at 725-7400 between 1 and 6 p.m. daily or Joyce Trask, Department of Education, San Diego County, 278-8400, extension 219, Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

DeSare, coordinator for the evening programs, observed "our evening programs have been extremely well received. We need more of them, and we need more volunteers now."



— Staff Photo by George Smith

Rice, Vietnamese style, is prepared for Thelma Ward by the two young men she and her husband are sponsoring, Nguyen Qui Hien, left, and his brother,

Nguyen Qui Vinh. Vinh will teach English to Vietnamese in Chula Vista schools this summer; Hien, who also will tutor, is studying and looking for work.

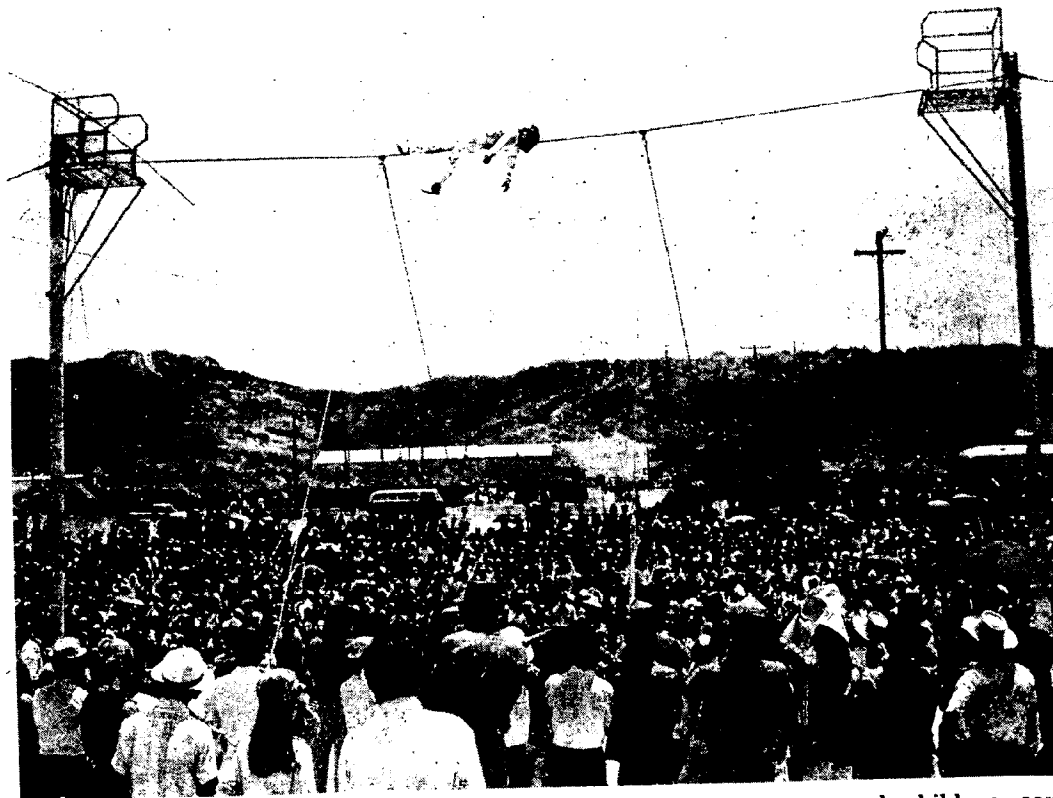
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CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

14 July 1975

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**CIRCUS THRILL** — An enthralled and enthusiastic crowd of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees received a special and

unique treat Thursday when The Greatest Show on Earth performed for their benefit at Camp Pendleton. More than 8,000 men,

women and children saw their first circus, which featured the special talents of French highwire specialist Philippe Petit

*Similar Photos  
L.A. TIMES & S.D. Union*

*27 pages  
each.*

A-10 THE SAN DIEGO UNION

CAMBODIANSExpatriate Looks  
For His Family

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

CAMP PENDLETON — dia's new rulers to date have When Oun Kly started financial management school at the United Nations High School at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., Commission for Refugees. Earlier this year, he was a major in the Cambodian army. The U.N. can only put on file the names of those Cambodians who want to return to their country in the anticipation that someday the new Rhnom Penh government will want to normalize relations with the rest of the world.

By the time he finished, his country had fallen to the Communists and the whereabouts of his wife and 2-year-old son were unknown to him.

After finishing the courses, Kly joined Cambodians living in Quonset huts in the San Onofre section of Camp Pendleton. Each person he met, he questioned eagerly for a hint, a breath of information, that might help him locate his wife and child.

He supposes now that they were among the Phnom Penh residents who were marched to the countryside by Cambodia's new rulers. But even of this he is not certain.

**SPONSOR AVAILABLE**

Unlike most Cambodians at Camp Pendleton, Kly is not worried about finding a sponsor and beginning life anew in the United States.

Friends in Indiana offered to sponsor him, but he said he could not accept their offer. He must search for his family, he told them.

His situation is not like that of the Vietnamese who have signed up for repatriation to their country. Cambo-

**MAY TRY FRANCE**

In English perfected here and in Australia, Kly told a reporter he hopes to arrange transportation to France, where he believes he may be able to learn from the grapevine something about his family.

Cambodia was once a French colony, and Kly said he believes the French Communist party may have good contacts with the Khmer Rouge — the Cambodian Communist party which now rules his nation.

Kly concedes his strategy is a long shot, but points out there is an information vacuum in the United States about current events in Cambodia. American correspondents are not permitted inside the country.

He said when one wants to know if his family is dead or alive, any information — even fragmentary information he may glean from French Communist sources — is better than none at all.

## 'Clara' Keeps Service Service Alive

CAMP PENDLETON — Agnes, Betsy and Clara are quonset hut words among Red Cross nurses here.

Jackie Green remembers Agnes vividly. Agnes in 1972 hurled her hurricane-self across the East Coast and Jackie ended up flying from her Los Angeles home to serve in a quickly-made hospital in Danville, Pa.

Lorraine Kertis won't forget Betsy easily.

Betsy, a tropical storm which recently struck the Gulf Coast, was the reason Lorraine was summoned from her home in South Bend, Ind., to a shelter in New Orleans.

But Clara? Well, she's somebody every Red Cross nurse remembers. She's Clara Barton, the founder of the Red Cross.

Even today Red Cross nurses say they are in Clara's service.

Right now Jackie and Lorraine are serving Clara at Talega, a Camp Pendleton refugee camp for Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees.

When there's no disaster in sight, Mrs. Green is a housewife, Mrs. Kertis works as a substitute nurse in Indiana factories.

Mrs. Green is now running a dispensary at Camp Pendleton which serves civilian helpers. Camp Pendleton military personnel have been providing most of the medical assistance to refugees.

Having worked with numerous military clinics, Mrs. Kertis said she is seeing different kinds of health problems, such as upper respiratory infection and cases of depression.

She said in disasters, "Frequently we help families replace lost goods — like furniture or their houses. Here we are working on the reunification of families. It's an entirely different set of problems."

Carol Hamilton, a full-time staff supervisor from Kansas City, Mo., said the belief that their work is noble is among the reasons so many persons like Betsy and Lorraine agree to leave their homes on 24 hours notice to become disaster reserve workers.

She said friendships are deepened when Red Cross workers travel across the country to find a friend they have worked with before.

"They've had common experiences. They have worked long hours and have shared in a camaraderie that is special to the Red Cross.

"It's not the pay, that's for sure," she said while trying to explain why so many people volunteer with the Red Cross.

Emergency service to the Red Cross, however, may offer an element of escape, an opportunity to trade veryday problems for a chance to help people with "real problems," Mrs. Hamilton said.

(3)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE, SECT. 1 PAGE 2 DATE 11 July

# Costs Of Educating Refugees May Fall On Local Districts

By RAY KIPP  
Education Writer  
The San Diego Union

Local school districts and community colleges may have to pay most or all of the costs of meeting the special education needs of Vietnamese refugees settling in this area.

Under the present policy statement of Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Caspar Weinberger, only those elementary-secondary districts receiving large concentrations of refugees would receive federal aid. And HEW officials say there are currently no provisions for federal financial assistance to community colleges operating special programs for the Vietnam refugees.

However, HEW officials in Washington yesterday were voicing optimism that the

federal relief picture would improve.

And two California lawmakers have or are drafting bills which would pay all the regular and special education costs for refugees.

Rep. Edward Roybal, D-Calif., has introduced a \$180 million bill to help defray education costs over the next three years.

Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., is also developing legislation which would provide local districts with 100 per cent of the basic education costs for each refugee child the first year, 50 per cent of the cost the second and possibly 25 per cent the third.

In addition, Cranston is proposing a one-time \$400 allocation per refugee for additional language training, according to Gary Aldridge, the senator's aide.

Yesterday, Ms. Liz Reis-

ner, HEW spokesman in Washington, said several proposals are being developed to improve aid to districts, including support for community colleges adult education.

But they are contingent upon changes in the present policy and congressional and presidential willingness to fund them.

Without cooperation, local districts may end up living with the present HEW position.

That is, HEW will provide one-time only grants this fall to help defray the costs of districts with high concentrations of refugees. To be eligible for the grants of \$200-\$300 per student, the refugees would have to exceed 100 students or 1 per cent of the district's enrollment.

(Continued on B-6, Col. 1)

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# Local Districts May Bear Refugee School Costs

(Continued from Page B-1) However, federal funds ment, whichever is less. The grant would be provided only for each refugee over those limits.

This could create problems for local districts.

## STATE, LOCAL FUNDS

The San Diego Community College District currently has about 270 Vietnamese enrolled in its summer classes — about 100 in a new English-Americanization class especially designed to provide them with survival skills.

It is being paid for entirely through state and local support.

However, federal funds have been allocated to operate similar classes at Camp Pendleton for those refugees who have not found sponsors and been relocated yet.

Dr. Phil del Campo, district adult education director, said the cost estimates for those already enrolled could easily reach \$30,000 by the end of the summer.

"And if the need exists, we'll probably open more," Del Campo said.

Because of recent steps in the state Legislature and governor's office to limit state support for community colleges to a maximum 5 per

cent increase next year, adding programs in one area will mean eliminating them in another.

District trustees have already acknowledged the fact that many classes — especially the leisure and self-improvement classes of the adult division — will have to be dropped next year.

## CALLED IMPORTANT

But Del Campo considers the Vietnamese classes highly important.

He said they fall within the five areas identified by Assemblyman Joseph B. Montoya, D-La Puente, as

deserving full state apportionment — ESL (English as a Second Language), elementary and high school diplomas, Americanization and vocational programs.

Del Campo said complaints are already coming in about class cuts, but that priority areas will have to be served first with the money that is available.

The San Diego Unified School District is also gearing up for an influx of refugees.

How many they will get is still unknown, but administrators unofficially estimate it could be well over 200.

"We'll just have to finance out of regular staffing," said Deputy Supt. William Stegeman. "So far, it looks like another extra responsibility without any real help to meet it."

Stegeman said the district is legally obligated to enroll all those refugees seeking admission to city schools.

Officials are preparing for language problems, he said.

"We're trying to get Vietnamese-speaking teachers," he said.

Problems similar to those being faced by the county's largest elementary-second-

ary and community college districts are also going to face smaller districts.

## NEW POLICIES

Ms. Reisner said that HEW efforts to assist local districts are being developed to exceed the scope of the present policies outlined by Weinberger.

But regardless of the proposals, she said HEW is facing limited financing.

Congress allocated \$100 million to meet all the welfare, health and education needs of the refugees, both at the camps and after they are relocated.

# Some Refugees Will Settle In Latin America

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — About 90 refugees here have been selected for immigration to Latin America by officials of the International Commission on European Migration.

Giovanni Tortora, who heads ICEM's Latin American migration program at the international organization's Geneva headquarters, has been in Camp Pendleton since Monday making the selections.

The official said the 90 will go to such countries as Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Uruguay as soon as their visas and other documents arrive from those countries.

## 60 OTHERS

He said another 60 refugees also are being processed for migration to Latin America, and many more are eligible so long as they have the skills sought by the Latin American governments.

The Latin American countries primarily seek technicians and engineers who can aid their economic development programs, Tortora said.

No limit has been placed on the number of refugees eligible for Latin American migration, he said, so long as they meet ICEM's specifications.

## INITIATIVE SOUGHT

Besides technical skills, Tortora said he tries to ascertain the refugees' intelligence and initiative. "We want someone who shows some push," said Tortora, an Italian national. "I would rather have a technician who has ordinary skills but has a lot of drive than one who is expert but lacks enthusiasm"

ICEM, a 31-nation consortium created after World War II to find jobs for displaced persons, has been interviewing refugees for about a month. So far none has been placed in Latin America.

Tortora said refugees have not exactly been beating down ICEM's doors for the chance to go to Latin America, explaining that many refugees are unacquainted with Latin America but are familiar with the United States because of the long American involvement in Vietnam.

## MAJOR FACTORS

About 150 refugees have been rejected for migration to Latin America because they lack the skills sought. Many of these, said Tortora, were jet pilots or helicopter pilots.

Three things are stressed to refugees who seem to qualify for the program, the official said.

First, much of Latin

America's climate is tropical like Vietnam's. Second, ICEM will guarantee their travel, housing and employment in Latin America. Third, they will face less competition for career advancement in Latin America than in the United States.

He said the first question from prospective immigrants usually is, "How stable are Latin American governments?" Tortora says

he tells them they are less stable than the United States, but more stable than what they saw in Vietnam.

Since 1964, he said, ICEM has placed 10,000 persons in Latin America. He said the

organization's efforts are not geared primarily to help refugees, although that may be a side effect, but rather to recruit personnel to aid in Latin America's economic development.

(6)

## Refugee Protest Delayed Return

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — A group of Vietnamese refugees today planned a hunger strike in an attempt to force U.S. authorities to speed up their repatriation to South Vietnam.

The strike, organized by Le Minh Tan, a former defense attache for the South Vietnamese Army in Saigon, involves some 260 Vietnamese who t immediate transportation to their homeland.

Tan worked out a schedule that would allow the protesters at least one meal in a 24-hour period, except for some who vowed they would fast for 72 hours.

Part of the group planned to go without breakfast, another group to miss lunch and a third to do without supper.

One group volunteered to fast on bread and water for three days.

②

# Official Discounts Refugee Problems

WASHINGTON (UPI) — refugees have been resettled in the United State — “the vast majority successfully.” The number of breakdowns in the resettlement process of Vietnamese refugees has been small, a representative of the government task force coordinating the program said yesterday.

Elinor Green, speaking for the Interagency Refugee Task Force, said figures from two of the four resettlement camps in the country show there have been only 15 breakdowns — problems where a sponsor and a refugee for one reason or another did not work out — that needed “repair.”

Her statement was in response to a statement made Wednesday by Dale Dehaan, staff director for the Senate subcommittee on refugees and escapees, who said there appears to be a “very alarming rate of breakdown” in the resettlement process.

Approximately 130,000 Vietnamese fled the country for the United States at the time of the Communist takeover last April.

“What we suspect is that the breakdowns are largely where an American citizen has brought back his extended family and can’t cope with it,” Miss Green said.

She said that in those cases, — which amount to about 10,000 of the 130,000 — the resettlement program has no control. Because of the relationship with the American citizen, she explained, the refugees are free to leave the camps at any time.

So far, she said, 46,570

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CMC - HQ. MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

16 July 1975

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File

FILM

ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS

## Refugees Enjoy Day At Circus

CAMP PENDLETON (AP)  
— Thursday was circus day for the Indochina refugees at "Little Saigon."

Some 8,000 refugees, children and adults alike, stood or squatted on the ground between clusters of green tents as the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus put on a show that lasted nearly two hours. Admission was free.

Clowns with painted faces, jugglers and pretty girls in sequined tights entertained the refugees.

French high-wire daredevil Philippe Petit also thrilled the audience by walking a tightrope stretched about 30 feet above the dry grass.

Cotton candy was passed out during the free exhibition and the Vietnamese and Cambodian youngsters were still tearing at the fluffy stuff an hour after the circus performers packed up and returned to San Diego, where the circus is performing this week.

26 pgs  
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L. A. TIMES SECT. 1

PAGE 3

DATE

11 July

## Cambodian Refugees Now Want To Return

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — Thirty-two former Cambodian military officers who say they miss their families and their country want to go home, despite what they have heard about conditions there.

Arne Torgersen, a representative of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, said the officers are the only ones of about 2,000 Cambodians in refugee relocation centers in the United States who have requested repatriation.

The 32, mostly single whose families are in Cambodia, were members of the Cambodian Air Force and Navy who were in training at Lackland AFB, Tex., when the country fell in March.

Torgersen said the UN had not established diplomatic channels with

Cambodia for the return of repatriates and he wasn't sure when such channels would be established.

"I have heard the reports, but I'm not sure they are true. I don't care. I want to go back to my country. I want to live with my family and work for my country," said Sim Silena, 24, a former lieutenant in the Cambodian Air Force.

Silena thinks the new government in Cambodia will allow him to return.

"I didn't escape from my country," he said. "I came here by military order to take training. I am not a refugee."

Torgersen said he had not discussed with the Cambodians the reports of famine and the shifting of persons from the cities to the countryside.

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

1

14

DATE

13 July

(2)

## Cambodians Airlifted To CamPen

CAMP PENDLETON — The United States airlifted 256 Cambodian refugees to Camp Pendleton Sunday, bringing the total here to more than 1,200.

An embassy spokesman at Bangkok, Thailand, said they were "mostly civilian families" who had found their way across the border into Thailand from Cambodia following the Communist takeover April 17.

The refugees were released by Thai government officials under "special parole," waiving normal government regulations.

Thai estimates put the number of Cambodian refugees still in Thailand at between 5,000 and 6,000.

A spokesman at Camp Pendleton confirmed that the latest refugees arrived on two flights Sunday, but said he had no further information about any further immigrants from that country.

Approximately 400 Cambodians have been processed and left the base, so there was no problem with finding room for them, he said.

In addition, 43 Cambodians at Camp Pendleton have requested that they be allowed to return to their own country, but the spokesman said the United Nations representatives have not worked out repatriation plans with the new government, as it has for the Vietnamese.



## Refugees May Obtain Student Aid

OCEANSIDE — Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees are eligible for educational financial assistance here, MiraCosta College has been advised.

In a dispatch from the U.S. Health, Education and Welfare Department, a department spokesman said Basic Educational Opportunity Grants and the Guaranteed Student Loan programs are available to refugees who enroll in postsecondary institutions this fall.

Vietnamese and Cambodian students who were in this country prior to the fall of those two governments will also be able to take advantage of these funding opportunities, the dispatch specified.

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRI. ONE

6

DATE 13 July

(4)

## Refugee Hunger Strike Protests Delayed Return

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — A small group of disgruntled South Vietnamese who want to return home went on a hunger strike after breakfast Saturday but called it off in time for dinner.

A second group went on a hunger strike after lunch but was expected to call it off in time for Sunday breakfast.

Both groups were protesting red tape that has stranded them on this Pacific island on their way back to South Vietnam from the continental United States.

About 40 homesick repatriates out of nearly 1,500 in Guam — 251 of them transported from the U.S. mainland — staged the first short-lived strike. The number of protesters in the second group was not immediately known.

American authorities called the action a demonstration rather than a hunger strike, but it appeared to resemble more closely a weight watcher's diet.

U.S. officials said they were powerless to speed up the repatriation process, which is in the hands of the Geneva-based United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

"We are watching the situation closely," a military spokesman said.

The U.N. representative on Guam, George Gordon-Lennox, left for Hong Kong Friday to discuss the matter with U.N. authorities there, according to a U.S. Navy spokesman.

OCEANSIDE RECORD TRIBUNE

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14

DATE 13 JULY

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CMC- HQ MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

17 July 1975

File

EDUCATION PROGRAM

# Old Newspapers To Aid Refugees

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

CAMP PENDLETON — they would have in the "sur-  
Two thousand newspapers — vival English" classes con-  
the July 9 editions of The ducted for less advanced stu-  
San Diego Union and Eve- dents.  
ning Tribune — were deliv- Mrs. Johnson said the  
ered here yesterday to help classified advertising sec-  
refugees learn about life in tions of the newspapers will  
the United States. be used to teach refugees

The newspapers were re- about job seeking and also to  
quested by the county De- familiarize them with the  
partment of Education, kinds of jobs available.  
which is running an educa- Display advertisements  
tion program for refugees will be studied to acquaint  
under a contract from the refugees with the costs of  
U.S. Department of Health, such items as groceries,  
Education and Welfare. clothes and other essentials,

Although the news is old, Mrs. Johnson said.  
education coordinator Sandy The newspapers were  
Johnson said the newspapers stacked in a trailer yester-  
still can be put to good use day, and authorities here ex-  
as the basis for instruction in pect to begin distributing  
English for students too ad- them to classes for about  
vanced for simple call cards. 1,000 students next week.

"We'll have them all read In the meantime, Mrs.  
the same article, and then Johnson said, George Cooper  
discuss it," said Mrs. John- of the Sweetwater Union  
son. She added that in retell- High School District will de-  
ing what they read, the refu- velop a lesson plan to utilize  
gees will utilize more com- the newspapers as fully as  
plex sentence structure than possible.

# Red Propagandists Reported At CamPen

CAMP PENDLETON (UPI) — Vietnamese refugees say they are the targets of a propaganda campaign by pro-Communist Vietnamese students trying to frighten them into returning to Saigon by telling them Americans "will beat them, starve them and exploit them as slaves."

Most refugees, even though they have little knowledge of life in the United States, have ignored the campaign, according to residents of this Marine base camp that houses more than 17,000 homeless Southeast Asians.

The campaign is being waged by "a small group of Vietnamese students who came here years ago," while the war was still in progress, said Tran Trong Trac, a volunteer worker in Camp 3.

"They came into this camp as visitors or as volunteer English teachers and distributed mimeographed newspapers with pictures of Ho Chi Minh, reports of the Communists' victory in Saigon and tales like how the refugees will be ill-treated by American sponsors who will beat them, starve them and exploit them as slaves," Trac said.

The students told refugees that their countrymen already released from the camp were being made to work without being fed and were forced to care for "disobedient and turbulent" American children.

Other refugees said the students clandestinely circulated two newsletters in the camp, "Doi Dien" (Confrontation) and "Thai Binh" (Peace). The papers urged refugees to refuse to accept sponsorship and ask to be sent back to Vietnam.

A Marine Corps spokesman said military officials were not aware of the newspapers and such activities may be illegal.

A spokesman for the Vietnamese Volunteer Association of California, a group of Vietnamese students who

sided with the anti-Communist government in Saigon, said the pro-Communist group at his university in nearby Long Beach has about 13 members, has branches at other California colleges and receives financial support from leftist sources. The spokesman, who teaches English in the refugee camp, asked not to be named.

"It's very distressing because we have no means to counter the propaganda among ourselves and it's alarming for the refugees who know so little about America," he said.

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# Departing Camp Leader, Refugees Swap Surprises

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer,  
The San Diego Union

CAMP PENDLETON — It was going away day yesterday for Maj. Pat Townsend, commanding officer for camps 1, 2 and 3 here, and he had a surprise carefully planned for the refugees in honor of the occasion.

The refugees, it turned out, also had a surprise for him.

Townsend's idea for a surprise came to him after he wrote a letter to his parents in Harlingen, Tex.

In it, he described what his life has been like since May 7 when he took charge of the day-to-day operations of three of the camps at the refugee center here.

## AUTO FIRM CALLS

His parents turned over the letter to Harlingen's local newspaper, which printed Townsend's account. Not long afterward, the Marine major received a telephone call from Boggus Motor Sales Inc. of his home town. "Are there any mechanics there that need sponsors?" a company official asked.

Townsend asked all mechanics living in the camp who needed sponsors to report to his command trailer. Ten did. He called the company back and suggested that they fly out somebody to interview them.

"They were only interested at first in one," said Townsend, "but now I think they've got jobs for three or more."

Depending on how large the mechanics' families are, Harlingen may soon have a substantial Vietnamese community, Townsend said. "When I go home, we can all have a party."

## SPONSORS LINED UP

The Boggus firm met with leaders of local churches and other groups to line up sponsors and homes for the families of the mechanics they decide to hire.

Yesterday, two representatives of the company were in Camp Pendleton to begin the interviews. Don Wissner, general manager, said all the details for the refugees' sponsorship have not been completed, but that they wanted to be at Camp Pendleton in time for Townsend's departure.

Townsend is being transferred to the Naval Command and Staff College in Providence, R.I.

When he gathered the refugees to say goodby and to

surprise that some of his home town folks were in camp, the refugees had a ceremony planned for him.

## GIVEN PORTRAIT

They presented him with a portrait of himself, done from a photograph by a refugee artist, and a letter of commendation signed by the top four elected refugee officials of Camps 1, 2 and 3.

"Throughout your daily performance, you have expressed to the Vietnamese refugees your heartfelt sympathy and willingness to help

in their arrangement for a new life in America," the letter said.

"We are keenly aware of this, and feel that you have contributed greatly in the refugee resettlement efforts. This is a strong example of American humanitarian (sic) and desire to maintain the role of the United States as a superpower and the most wonderful country in the world."

The refugees also presented Townsend a knitted cap for his wife, Joan.

## American Flag Gift To Refugees

CAMP PENDLETON — Vietnamese Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts. "Welcome to the United States. We are sorry that you had to leave your homeland but are happy you came to this country." The letter that accompanied the flag went on to read: "We have little to offer you other than the freedom we inherited from our ancestors when they were refugees like yourself."

These were the opening words to a letter accompanying a 5x7 foot American flag that was mailed to refugee Boy Scouts here. The flag was from the Cub Scouts of Pack 401, Pleasant Hill, a token of their friendship and love.

During ceremonies here the flag was presented to Lau, Nguyen Thieu, 9, and Trac, Truong Trong, the former national Scout Commissioner in South Vietnam. Now he's the head of the Scout group here.

On hand for the ceremonies were approximately 200 camps 8 and 5.

"Good luck and best wishes."

According to Jack Mahoney, cubmaster Pack 678, the scouts plan to fly the flag on an improvised flag pole atop a tree, which is located in the center of their activity area between tent camps 8 and 5.

(4)

## Refugee Sponsor Groups Sought

By United Press  
International

The number of Americans wishing to individually sponsor Vietnamese refugees is 25 per cent of what it was two months ago and relocation officials are now going to see if a group plan might work.

Julia Taft, director of the Interagency Task Force for Indochina Refugees, said Tuesday that Task Force officials have decided against starting a national campaign to revive interest in individual sponsors for the refugees. Instead, they have decided instead to concentrate on group sponsorship by local clubs and state and local governments.

(5)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE 2 - 13

DATE 15 July



# Care Sought For Refugee Children

The county Welfare Department was authorized yesterday by the Board of Supervisors to contract with the federal government for local foster care services to abandoned Vietnamese refugee children.

As many as 300 or 400 children at Camp Pendleton may be without parents or guardians, Human Resources Agency Administrator Ruben Dominguez told the board.

The Welfare Department has agreed to provide foster care or adoptive services for 25 refugees, if all costs are reimbursed by the federal government.

Assistant Welfare Director Felix Rusnak said the department is not prepared to care for more than 25

youngsters, even with federal funds.

## SUPERVISORS' VIEW

Supervisors Lou Conde and Lee Taylor indicated they did not wish to see the county left with the responsibility for large numbers of refugee children, and no money from the government.

"We have taken action to get the state Department of Health involved," Rusnak said. "It should be a state-wide responsibility."

From information on some of the orphan children at Camp Pendleton, Rusnak said it appears most are teenagers, and some have serious health or emotional problems that must be dealt with before placement in foster homes is possible.

A group of about 30 chil-

dren now is being cared for in a Red Cross facility at the camp, he said. Of those, only three or four are under 10 years old.

## FOSTER HOMES

Because of the ages of the children, most probably will go to foster rather than adoptive homes. Rusnak said he would like to see them placed directly in homes when they leave the refugee camp, rather than be relocated in another holding facility.

This camp is scheduled to close in October, which Rusnak said means contract negotiations will have to proceed quickly if the children are to have somewhere to go at that time.

Costs for services to the abandoned children have not been determined.

"It will cost a lot — foster care is not cheap," Rusnak said. Complete physical and psychological examinations will be conducted, and continuing medical care for some children may double costs already anticipated at \$200 a month for each child.

## EXPENSIVE CARE

Before the county accepts responsibility for a child, the government will try to locate parents or relatives, Rusnak said. No adoptions will be arranged unless there is little chance of parents appearing to claim the child.

But because of the confusion surrounding the refugees' arrival in this country, checks on other refugee camps will be made in case parents and children were separated during the evacuation from Vietnam.

CMC- HQ. MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

18 July 1975

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# Pro-Red Vietnam Students Urge Refugees To Return

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

CAMP PENDLETON — A group of pro-Communist Vietnamese students, apparently studying in Long Beach area schools, circulated anti-American leaflets urging refugees here to return to Vietnam, a spokesman for the refugee center here said yesterday.

Nick Thorne, senior civilian coordinator here, told a news conference many refugees confirmed to him that the leaflets were distributed last week.

The leaflets said Camp Pendleton is a prison and the United States is an even larger prison.

Thorne said the refugees who saw the leaflet distribu-

tors mainly were jeered by refugees, who he said asked the students: "If it is so bad in this country, why do you stay?"

He said no precautions were planned by authorities here against future occurrences.

Thorne added he did not believe the leaflets would have much effect on the refugees' morale.

By way of contrast, Thorne announced that some refugees in the camp had composed some songs about the United States. A verse of one of them went: "From far away, I've come to this land, With nothing in hand, Leaving behind me, All my property, And my home city,

I've come to this land, From so far away, And I'm gonna stay, This is my land."

He also announced that Mohamad Gharib, representative of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, had been transferred to Guam, and had been replaced by David Arnold, who had been the U.N. representative at Ft. Chaffee, Ark.

The civilian coordinator said 282 persons at Camp Pendleton who desire to be repatriated to South Vietnam probably will be flown to Guam within a week. Earlier this month, 251 refugees were flown to Guam to await their acceptance by the new government in South Vietnam.

23 pgs  
Lash

Sam

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REFUGEE SEEKS U.S. POST

# S. Vietnam Ex-General Hopes To Revive Career

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer

The San Diego Union  
CAMP PENDLETON — Tu Van Be, to quote military officials here, "assumes a low profile" while living the life of a refugee.

As a brigadier general in Vietnam, he had nearly 7,000 men under his command and ran South Vietnam's biggest air base at Bien Hoa.

Yesterday, in the tent his family shares with another in Camp 4, Be was sitting on his cot reading a book. Like most refugees, he was dressed in an open neck sports shirt, work pants and thongs.

## HOPES TO CONTINUE

The general said he hopes he will be able to continue his life as a military officer when he is released from the camp. But, he said, if it is impossible for him to become a military man in his new country he would like to work for the air force as a civilian.

Be was the No. 2 logistics officer in South Vietnam, according to Air Force Maj. Gen. James Randolph, who has agreed to sponsor Be, his wife, his parents and four children.

"He was in charge of the logistics command," Randolph said in a telephone interview from Tinker AFB, Okla., where he is commanding general. "They did all the maintenance on aircraft engines and also supplied all the other South Vietnamese air force bases."

Be's father has been complaining of a chronic cough, and doctors at Camp Pendleton want to make certain he did not contract tuberculosis. Be plans to stay at Camp Pendleton until his father is cleared to go.

"I'm familiar with the U.S. Air Force, so the first idea that came to me was to work with them," said Be. "But I have been told that I cannot join the Air Force until I become a citizen and that may take seven years."

Tom Irvin, deputy civilian coordinator here, said Be was misinformed, that he needs to become a resident alien in the United States, rather than a citizen, before he can consider enlisting in the armed services.

## ARE PAROLEES

Currently, Vietnamese refugees are parolees in this country. Irvin said changing their status from parolees to resident aliens may require an act of Congress, or perhaps can be done administratively by the U.S. attorney general.

Irvin said it is not clear whether the attorney general has that power and the question is being researched in Washington.

Congressional acts converted Hungarian refugees in the 1950s and Cuban refugees in the 1960s to resident aliens, Irvin said.

Be met Randolph at Bien Hoa in 1970 when Randolph headed up an advisory team during the time of "Vietnamization" of the Vietnam War.

Randolph, then a colonel, commanded about 150 Americans who were experts on aircraft maintenance and on computerizing materiel records. Be was his counterpart.

Be was evacuated from Saigon on April 29 because "we cannot live under their (the Communists') regime, under their rule." He went first to Guam and arrived at Camp Pendleton May 9. He wrote to Randolph to tell him he was in the United States.

Randolph already has sponsored the families of two South Vietnamese air force colonels, and said he will be responsible for 18 persons when Be and his family arrive.

The American general said he will seek to convince Be that he would be better off obtaining employment in private industry rather than waiting for the chance to join the Air Force.

"Oklahoma City has large distribution facilities for national companies because we are more or less in the middle of the country," Randolph said. "We'll get him fixed up with something here."

His wife, a pharmacist in South Vietnam, "can write it and she understands the books, but she has trouble with the pronunciation," Be said. Randolph said he is arranging to send Mrs. Be to school so she can become an accredited pharmacist in this country.

(2)

# U.S. Hires Firm To Feed Refugees

By WAYMAN DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON** — A six-month, \$4.7 million contract to feed Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees at Camp Pendleton has been awarded to a Mississippi firm, The Blade-Tribune learned today.

Southeastern Services Inc. of Jackson, Miss. began interviewing the first 250 of an expected 2,000 applicants in the former Tide Chrysler building on Hill Street in Oceanside this morning.

John L. Swindle, a representative of the firm, said his company plans to hire approximately 800 local persons to replace marines and navy men presently manning the mess halls at the base.

Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, public information officer at the base, said the civilians will begin July 27, "allowing these military personnel to return to their primary jobs."

The majority of the food service personnel are from the 1st Marine Division at Camp Pendleton, but there are others from other tenant units on the base, as well as from Marine Corps and Navy units around the country, he said.

The contract extends through Jan. 24 and calls for the feeding of 19,000 refugees three times a day.

Brill said he had no information on previously announced plans to close Camp Pendleton during the winter months because of the discomfort the weather will cause the Asian immigrants.

Between 1,500 and 2,000 job applicants are expected to be interviewed by the company's

representatives, and all must have been referred through the state employment development office, Swindle said.

(3)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

DATE

16 July

**Mr. BT**



**Says . .**

The 800 persons being hired to cook for the refugees at Camp Pendleton ought to include every one of the 800 refugees who have applied for welfare.

(4)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

A - 7

DATE 17 July

# 800 War Refugees Seek Aid

SAN DIEGO — The county Welfare Department has received applications for public assistance from more than 800 Vietnam and Cambodian refugees, it was learned today.

Glenn Haugh, program assistant for the department, said the figures were current through Monday and show 348 applications on behalf of 807 persons of both Vietnamese and Cambodian descent, plus 12 unborn persons.

Claims are for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Medically Indigent (MI) and for General Relief (GR), he said.

"Of those, we have granted 54 AFDC, including 210 persons plus three unborn," Haugh explained. "Twenty-eight cases of GR have been approved (35 persons) as have 63 cases of Medically Indigent (72 persons.)"

Thirty-five cases have been denied and 11 withdrew, Haugh said.

The remaining cases are still pending.

The welfare officials said he didn't know what percentage of the "sponsored" refugees in the county the figures represented, but that his agency had been getting claims from Asian immigrants who were formally at camps in places other than Camp Pendleton "and ended up here."

He did not place a dollar value on the aid that was granted.

(5)

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIUNE

1 - 1

DATE 16 July

## S. Viets Learn Reds Docfrines

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — More than 309,000 troops, policemen and civil servants of the former South Vietnamese government underwent full "reeducation" last month. Saigon's Liberation Radio reported Wednesday.

It was the largest total figure reported for those indoctrinated by the new Communist regime and indicated that a sizable percentage of the old regime's former personnel have undergone re-education courses.

"They have realized the generous policy of the revolution and promised to implement the revolutionary policies," the broadcast said.

More than one million men served in the armed forces and as police of the former regime.

The Saigon radio also announced that South Vietnam and Austria had agreed to exchange ambassadors.

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HERALD\*EXAMINER SECTION A PAGE 5



# O'side Studying Plan For Refugee Center

By **STEVE MOORE**  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — A proposal for a Vietnamese cultural center here will receive further study by the Oceanside Economic Development Council before it decides what action to take.

Chaplain Dave Plank from Camp Pendleton again asked for Oceanside's assistance in a breakfast speech to the OEDC this morning.

Plank said he hopes the non-profit corporation to build the center will soon receive tax deductible status from the Internal Revenue Service.

"Contributions have been slow in coming in because we lack that status, but we are asking for contributions from governmental entities, foundations and individuals," Plank said.

He again repeated a request for five to nine acres of land in Oceanside to build the refugee center — a facility he said would also double as a community center.

Plank had no cost estimates for the facility, which would seat 3,000 people in the main building. He said artist's renderings have been prepared.

There would be eight other

buildings surrounding the main convention center devoted to cultural and other similar affairs.

Plank said he was not asking for "prime beachfront land."

Plank said he would like to see the first annual convocation of refugees held in Oceanside next May 9.

Councilman Mel Smith asked Plank the reason for having the center here when all the refugees will be removed from Camp Pendleton by winter — scattered about the country.

"The refugees consider this area their 'Plymouth Rock' and think of it as the place where they first stepped ashore," he replied.

City Manager Larry Bagley asked whether Plank had contacted Camp Pendleton about land on the base being made available for the refugee center.

Plank said he had not and added it might be difficult going through the "chain of command."

Bagley replied, "You can start with Congress when it comes to land acquisition."

Bagley then asked if the command at Camp Pendleton endorsed the project.

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRI-UNE

2 - 13

DATE 17 July

CMC- HQ MC

CAMP PENDLETON, CA.

REFUGEE CLIPS

22 July 1975



# No Time for Boredom In This Refugee Camp

By RUDY AVERSA  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — The terror that came from takeover of their homeland has terminated and the excitement and confusion of being brought to a new land has slowly died down as most of the Vietnamese refugees at this Marine camp base prepare hopefully for new lives.

"I don't think there is much boredom here," said Boris Kasimiroff, head of the YMCA volunteer unit that provides entertainment and recreation programs for the refugees. "Even those who find themselves with time on their hands walk around the camps to get exercise."

Kasimirov said since the Y programs began last May they have settled down into a routine and the Vietnamese themselves have been taking over much of the work involved in setting up inter-camp competition matches in sports such as volleyball and soccer.

"The programs are more localized now at each camp. The interest in soccer is just tremendous," said Kasimiroff.

"Things are pretty active here and in the last few days we've had about 1,000 refugees leave the camp and another 1,000 come in," said Col. Arthur P. Brill, Marine public information officer.

"Their experience at Pendleton, I think, gives them a good idea of American life. It's a faster paced living than what they're used to," said Col. Brill, who said since the refugees can't see America until they are cleared and get sponsors, in the interval, "we bring America to them."

Many of the Vietnamese have radios and

there are television sets in every camp. Hundreds of American newspapers are passed out each day and there is still high attendance at the motion pictures shown nightly.

"The kids aren't bored," said Col. Brill. "There are play schools and there are 11,000 people attending some type of educational classes everyday, from survival English to college level English."

While the kids slide down the hills on cardboard, the fathers and older brothers and sisters learn how to drive with help from the California Highway Patrol and Department of Motor Vehicles.

There are cultural activities and more than 7,000 persons attend religious services on Sundays.

"The Vietnamese are a family-oriented people," said Col. Brill, adding that mothers do not have time to get bored because they are taking care of their families.

With the summer sun searing down on the camp, the men of the Vietnamese families are coming out of their tents more and getting involved in activities.

"The household heads may still have worries as they think about securing sponsors, finding jobs and planning a new life in a new country," said Col. Brill, and although many of the Vietnamese are processed and released in about 25 days there are still some refugees who have been given clearance but haven't as yet found sponsors, he said.

Pendleton is oldest of the four relocation centers and operations will have been going on there three months on July 29. Pendleton is the

only camp housing repatriates who want to return to their homeland. It is the only camp that is housing Cambodian refugees, as 1,500 live in Quonset huts in a camp separate from Vietnamese. It is also the only camp that has refugees who will be immigrating to Canada, Brazil and other Latin American countries. The International Commission for European Migration maintains an office at the base and new U.N. representative, David Arnold, is working at Pendleton.

"You won't see too many sun tans here," said Col. Brill, indicating that the Marine task force and civilian volunteers are still working on a seven-day-a-week operation.

New arrivals to the camp seem to be a little younger and are more blue-collar work oriented than the earlier arrivals who had more professional backgrounds. New arrivals also have a little less knowledge of English, but are learning rapidly.

"Nearly half the refugees are children and that makes for quite a beehive of activity," said Col. Brill.

There are play schools  
and 11,000 people attend  
classes everyday.

5/1 pgs  
labeled

27

# Pendleton Jammed; Sponsors Lacking

By ANN SALISBURY  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Little Saigon remains crowded almost to capacity as about 250 Vietnam refugees leave each day and planeloads more from Guam and Wake continue to arrive.

The population this week was just above the 17,000 mark, with more than 25,000 refugees already processed and turned over to their sponsors.

But Warrant Officer Roger Combs, a Marine press aide, said as many as 500 refugees could leave the camp each day if there were an adequate number of sponsors.

"There has been some dissatisfaction with the long delay in finding sponsors," he said. "Out of the 17,000 refugees, there are about 14,000 who have clearances from the Immigration Service and could leave immediately if they had sponsors. Some have been waiting two months or more and they are very frustrated."

Combs said there had been some problems with red tape in getting sponsors for refugees because all calls were directed to a Washington, D.C., phone number, which referred names of volunteers to other agencies for review.

But he said a new local phone number had been established this week and persons wishing to sponsor refugees will have less of a delay and fewer complications to deal with now. The new toll-free number is 800-422-4255.

"Our first priority now is getting the 6,000 refugees off Wake Island," Combs said. "Conditions there are not as good as they are on Guam. If we can find enough sponsors, hopefully, we'll be able to have them vacate Wake by the end of this month."

Earlier this week the camp was visited by Communist Vietnamese students from Long Beach who circulated anti-American leaflets among the Vietnamese Village. The leaflets urged refugees to return to South Vietnam and called the United States "a prison."

Nick Thorne, a State Department representative, said the leaflets were met with ridicule by the refugees, quoting them as asking, "If it is so bad in this country, why do you stay?"

Of the 42,000 refugees to have arrived at Camp Pendleton, Combs said fewer than 200 had decided to return home.

"Not one gave ideology as the reason to return," Combs said. "The people who want to leave are nearly all young men whose families have been left behind and who want to be with their loved ones. They do not know what will happen to them when they return and are very brave."

②



For some Vietnamese refugees, life in military refugee camps is becoming a bore. But many children are less affected by boredom than the adults.

Youngsters at Camp Pendleton, right, keep active in sports and various other activities.

③

## Camp Has First Refugee Death

The first death among Vietnamese refugees has been recorded at Camp Pendleton yesterday included 47 men, six women and seven children. "Most of them were young males who left families behind in Vietnam," he said.

Sam Ky Dieu, 64, died late Friday in the camp's hospital of tuberculosis. The spokesman said Dieu had been under treatment for some time for the disease. Brill said he was uncertain whether a flight of 76 refugees scheduled to leave Pendleton today will do so.

The refugee, who was living in the tent city along with 12 family members, will be buried at 3 p.m. tomorrow in Eternal Hills Cemetery in Oceanside. Funeral details had not been completed late yesterday. The spokesman said many of the refugees scheduled for that flight have changed their minds and decided to stay in this country. Brill said the flight will be canceled if 30 or fewer refugees are ready to go aboard.

Meanwhile, Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, refugee center spokesman, said 60 more refugees left Camp Pendleton yesterday en route to repatriation in South Vietnam. They were sent to Guam until arrangements for their return to Vietnam are completed. "We may not have enough persons to justify a flight," Brill said. "Anything under 30 makes it just too expensive to schedule a C-141 flight."

Sixty other refugees who sought repatriation left Friday aboard a military C-141 aircraft. As for Cambodians at the camp, Brill said repatriation for those refugees will be accomplished when arrangements are completed with the present Cambodian government.

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# 32 Refugees Ask To Drop Ties With Catholic Agency

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Thirty-two Cambodian refugees have signed a petition demanding that they and their families be permitted to cancel their agreement with the United States Catholic Conference and seek sponsors through another voluntary agency.

A spokesman said that when the petition was presented to the USCC on Wednesday, members of their families were frightened by threats that the petitioners would be arrested.

Joseph Battaglia, director of the USCC here, refused the group's request to be transferred en masse to another agency during a Thursday meeting that he and the Cambodians both described as hostile and unproductive.

But Battaglia told a reporter yesterday that he planned to let individuals in the group transfer to other voluntary agencies on a "case-by-case basis."

Capt. William Cowan, commander of Camp Pendleton said when the Cambodians were presenting their petition on Wednesday, he received a telephone call from officials in the processing area five miles away that a demonstration appeared to be in progress.

He said he told Songthara Omkar, a refugee who served as coordinator at San Onofre for Cambodian affairs, that if a violent protest was in progress, the leaders could be arrested.

That word spread through the camp before it was realized that the meeting at the USCC headquarters was peaceful, Cowan said.

Lt. Col. Arthur Brill, official spokesman for the refugee center here, said "arrest" was too strong a word to describe what might have happened in the event of an

unlawful demonstration. But, he said, "we do not permit anything to disrupt the good order and morale of this base."

## NO OBLIGATION

The official spokesman said that the United States Catholic Conference is under no obligation to transfer the Cambodians, whose families include 51 persons, to another agency.

"Once a refugee signs up with a voluntary agency, he cannot be released unless the voluntary agency voluntarily agrees to release him," Brill said.

The Cambodians — some of whom say they have been in Camp Pendleton for more than two months — told a reporter through spokesman Huon Chaunhuor that the USCC has broken promises to them about potential sponsors and until recently required them to deal with a Vietnamese employee who they did not trust.

Chaunhuor, an agronomist who was graduated from Mississippi State University and who headed the Khmer-American Alumni Association in Phnom Penh, said he was chosen as spokesman because of his fluent English and because he had successfully transferred from the USCC to the Church World Services agency before the controversy erupted.

## FALSE PROMISES

He said the group of 32 petitioners, who want to be transferred to the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees, include several who had been falsely promised sponsorships in Texas and Minnesota by the USCC.

Chaunhuor also said the USCC frequently provided the refugees inadequate information about potential sponsors, telling them that they would learn of the jobs that awaited them "when you get there."

Battaglia said communications with the 32 Cambodian refugees "broke down when members of the

group refused two or three offers of sponsorship which they considered beneath them.

Chaunhuor said it was true some offers of sponsorships had been turned down, but said it was because USCC provided inadequate information on the potential sponsors.

## NEW AGENCY

Battaglia was asked why the refugees shouldn't be permitted to find a new agency, even if their reason for doing so was in dispute.

He said all the voluntary agencies had agreed to discourage such practice in order to not add to the paperwork which he said already engulfs the agency.

⑤

**Mr. BT**



**Says . .**

If the Vietnamese think that the  
Marine Corps' chow has been bad,  
wait until they get that  
commercial stuff.

⑥

OCEANSIDE PLAZA TRI-ONE

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**70,000 refugees  
find new homes**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The White House said yesterday 70,000 South Vietnamese refugees have found homes in America and the remainder, about 60,000 are being placed at a rate of 650 to 750 a day.

Press Secretary Ron Nessen said refugee resettlement is proceeding so well that only Ft. Chaffee, Ark. will remain open as the sole refugee way station.

⑦

# Community Acceptance

## Refugee Stumbling Block

By LIZ HARRIS  
Staff Writer

LEUCADIA — For a young Vietnamese couple living here, the most difficult part of their adjustment involves acceptance.

Not of their personalities; they quickly agree the people here are more generous and warm than they ever expected.

But what they want most of all is acceptance as part of the community. Always there's the visible mark "alien" made indelible by their slight, small frames, dark skin and hair and almond shaped eyes. And it's blocking them from truly melting into the local society.

"We are Americans" stresses Tran Giac Hoa. "Of course we like this country and want to stay." His wife, Nguyen Thi Le Huong, nods in agreement. They sit at a small table in a studio cottage, their two small children running in and out, scrambling about with a neighborhood child.

More than anything else, Tran and his wife want independence. They have been living as guests of their sponsor, Madeline Dodge, since May. They appreciate everything she's done for them.

But, says Tran, "I would like to live independently."

He is not one used to "handouts." In Saigon, he was director of the national water district, a civil engineer. Here, after weeks of searching for work, he landed a summer job as a maintenance worker for the San Dieguito Union High School District.

His wife, a medical

student, left Vietnam shortly before her thesis was due. She has no certification document in medicine and now studies constantly, preparing for an exam to be given a month from now by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates. She would like to be a physician.

It is not so much the tight

job market which precludes Tran from finding a job more suited to his skills. Rather, the fine print on so many job applications rules him out.

Many jobs, require U.S. citizenship. To be a citizen, he must swear a declaration of intent to stay in the country. To swear a declaration of intent, he must have lived here for two

⑨

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

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years.

Tran's status as a legal alien disturbs him. He acknowledges the intent of the labor law is "correct. But in our case it's an exception," he says, carefully picking his words. "We have no nation now."

Besides having no nation and little money, the Tran family has very few worldly possessions. Ardent anti-communists, he and his wife prepared to leave Vietnam when they saw the tide turning. They packed their belongings and planned to head out on ship.

But time ran out on them and at the last minute, Tran found he could escape the country by plane. He drove home from his office (his car was stolen within minutes), gathered his family and two suitcases and headed for America. They left behind, family, three-bedroom house, savings, clothing, possessions.

They are starting from scratch but already can provide their own food. Their three and four-year-old sons have adopted typically. They eat hot dogs for breakfast, munch on

candy, soil their new playclothes and leave their toys scattered everywhere. They are already learning English.

Tran says everything about America is good. Yet there is the nagging drive to improve his family's lot, so he works by day and studies by night, hoping to take some sort of examination which will legitimate his skills in America.

Although she has tried to make life as comfortable as possible for the Tran family, Ms. Dodge admits, "They're really very intense about the whole thing." She predicts they will be paying their own rent in six months time.

As their "sponsor" her relationship to them has been almost that of a mother to her children.

Besides furnishing their basic material possessions, giving them a place to stay and food to eat, she has given of herself.

During the first two weeks of their stay in her backyard cottage, she "oriented" them to the foreign culture of America and to the community of Leucadia. She introduced them to modern appliances, to Mexican food

and freeways, to little things Americans take for granted but others find amazing.

Within two weeks, she and Tran were job hunting at water districts and in the county. They made three trips to the Human Resources Office and finally landed the job, on their own, at the high school district.

Now she feels they are on their feet and making their way towards independence. She would like to see some of their relatives here also

with sponsors.

"The biggest investment is of yourself," explained the retired nurse, "in giving the tie to learn and understand and be a little patient and explain.

"I think we have to stir interest in people" to get them to sponsor families, she added. For herself, she said, "I get awful tired of sending my money (charity) to Timbuktu. It's awful nice to watch it happen."

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OCEANVIEW PLACE TRI-UNE

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'GETTING TO KNOW YOU' are Miraby Brown, right, and Tran Giac Hoa family.

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OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

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JANUARY 1978 12:00 PM

# Bill Seeks \$125 Million to Educate Vietnam Refugees

BY PAUL HOUSTON  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—California's two senators introduced legislation Friday to give local school systems \$125.5 million for the education of Vietnamese refugee children over a 27-month period.

California would receive about \$40 million to help educate more than 14,000 Vietnamese children who are expected to settle in the state with their families.

Democratic Sens. Alan Cranston and John V. Tunney drafted the bill at the urging of California school superintendent Wilson Riles.

Appearing at a press conference with the senators, Riles said that the federal money was needed to soften the impact of a sudden influx of refugees on already overburdened local property taxpayers.

The legislation has broad bipartisan support, with cosponsors including Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) and Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.).

A similar measure was introduced in the House last month by Rep. Edward R. Roybal, Democrat from Los Angeles. Roybal's bill called for fed-

eral funding of \$312 million over three years, but an aide said that the numbers would be scaled down to match the Cranston-Tunney proposal of \$125.5 million through Sept. 30, 1977.

Riles originally had sought a five-year, \$588 million program that would have included education for adults as well as children and would have given California about \$188 million.

Cranston and Tunney said the final figures had been arrived at after it had been determined that they would receive the broadest support in Congress.

Riles began lobbying for help after the Department of Health, Education and Welfare announced June 5 that only \$6 million to \$10 million was available for education costs in the \$405 million refugee aid bill voted by Congress in May.

HEW agreed to make an average one-time payment of \$250 per pupil in extreme situations where the number of refugee children was 1% of total school enrollment.

"That clearly is not adequate,"

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L. A. TIMES SECT.

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## Vietnam Film Distorts Picture

Editor, The Union: My attention is directed to the Parade magazine article (July 13) on Francis Ford Coppola's planned motion picture on the Vietnamese war.

The article says the script shows U.S. soldiers as "high on depe," treating Vietnamese girls "like cows," murdering Vietnamese, relishing napalm attacks and becoming "little more than animals themselves."

I worked with the American advisers in Vietnam, watched closely the long struggle in Vietnam and finally ran away on the last day of freedom in that sad country.

The filmmakers are completely unjustified in their appraisal of the war, the majority of our soldiers and the sacred cause of freedom for which we fought and lost. I ask the film director to conjure up a spark of decency and not put forth this false picture.

The Vietnamese people have suffered enough already and deserve the silence of their enemies. Our men at arms, who fought, sweated and in many instances died in Vietnam, also deserve at least our silence.

Rev. James J. Devlin, S.J.  
Catholic Chaplain  
to Vietnamese Refugees  
Camp Pendleton

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# U.S. Refugee Aid Plan Denounced By State Official

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Gov. Brown's top welfare official called the U.S. refugee aid program "disastrous" yesterday and said not enough federal money actually reaches the refugees.

Most of the federal money allocated for Vietnamese refugee assistance is being absorbed by the sponsoring agencies, said Mario Obledo, Brown's health and welfare secretary.

Obledo termed the programs "inefficient" but said he knew of no illegal activities. He added: "Most of the money is kept by volunteer organizations and very little gets to the refugees."

Federal contracts allocate \$500 in federal money to volunteer agencies for each resettled refugee. Congress approved \$70 million for this purpose.

Obledo and his chief deputy, Robert Gnaizda, said the organizations take \$200 "off the top" from the \$500 for overhead.

Obledo refused to name any of the agencies involved.

"We do not yet have a definitive analysis from the legal department so it's difficult to say at this point that volunteer agencies are abiding by their obligations or not," said Dick Welch, head

of Obledo's refugee task force. Asked whether the money was being properly allocated, he said, "That's still up in the air until we hear from the legal department. That's part of the question we're unable to answer."

Three of the sponsor-finding organizations contacted by The Associated Press denied any irregularities. One of them, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Los Angeles, said religious belief prevents it from accepting "one penny" from the government.

Carl Malder of Sacramento, coordinator of refugee relocation in California for the U.S. Catholic Conference, said: "We have to make a strict accounting for the \$500 we get for each refugee, so that no money is left over and put into our coffers."

Alton Kastner, deputy director of the International Rescue Committee in New York, said in a telephone interview that his group takes a cut out of the \$500 federal allotment if it costs the organization less than that to locate a refugee. However, he said many times it may pay \$2,000 to settle another refugee and cannot collect more than \$500 for that person.

(14)

## REFUGEE FAMILY'S HOPES DASHED AGAIN

ISLAND POND, Vt. (UPI) — Despite an 11th-hour petition drive, sponsoring officials yielded to local opposition yesterday and canceled plans to resettle Tuo Han, a former deputy minister of ethnic affairs in South Vietnam, in this northeastern Vermont village.

"It's all over. We're very disappointed," said Joseph Goldovitz. His family was one of three which had agreed to provide employment and housing for the refugee and his family.

Goldovitz said it was the third time that a sponsorship of To Han had been withdrawn.

Han, his wife, 10 children, 79-year old mother, brother and sister-in-law were to be sent here yesterday from a refugee camp in Indiantown Gap, Pa.

However, those plans collapsed under local concern that the Vietnamese would burden the limited resources of this village of 1,200 about 20 miles from the Canadian border.

Because of that opposition, the state-sponsored Vermont Catholic Charities withdrew its approval Wednesday. The national Catholic Charities organization followed by canceling the trip yesterday.

Refugee officials said they would try to find other sponsors for the refugee family.

(15)



## Air Crash Suits Total \$2.5 Billion

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Lockheed Aircraft Corp. has been sued for \$2.5 billion in connection with the cargo jet crash that killed more than 100 Vietnamese orphans April 15, Lockheed records showed yesterday.

Lockheed disclosed the lawsuits in documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The C-5A cargo jet was one of five being used to evacuate 2,000 orphans for adoption by U.S. families in the final days before the Communist takeover in South Vietnam.

Many of the orphans were the children of Americans who had served in South Vietnam and all had been adopted by U.S. families, according to the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Plaintiffs were not listed in the documents, but it was assumed that most were parents of the dead or injured children or passengers.

The craft carried at least 319 passengers including 43 crew members and an estimated 243 orphans. More than 200 persons died, most of them orphans.

Exact numbers have not been determined because of the crisis conditions which prevailed at the time of the crash.

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— AP Wirephoto

## Vet Sponsors 16 Refugee Relatives

Gary Lindsay, right, holding son Jeffrey, 2, stands with his 16 Vietnamese refugee

relatives he is sponsoring. Lindsay, who is providing food and shelter for the group at

Westminster, Calif., is a Vietnam veteran with a Vietnamese wife.

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— SAN DIEGO UNION

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# Vietnamese Center Proposal Discussed

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

OCEANSIDE — The proponents of a Vietnamese cultural center in the area should get support from the Marine Corps and Camp Pendleton officials before pursuing their project further, a city economic development unit said.

The Oceanside Economic Development Council told Chaplain David W. Plank that his proposal for a 3,000-seat convention center and accompanying structures also needs further economic justification.

OEDC members discussed Plank's American-Vietnamese-Cambodian Cultural Assistance Association (AVICCAA) at the request of the City Council.

Councilman Melvin J. Smith said it is unlikely the city will be able to give much financial assistance to AVICCAA, a nonprofit organization formed recently.

Plank said he was hoping the city might be able to donate between five and nine acres of land for the center, which, he noted, could be used as a regional convention center.

City Mgr. Lawrence M.

Bagley asked Plank whether he had looked into land at Camp Pendleton that might be used for the center. Plank said he had so far only sent a copy of articles of AVICCAA's incorporation and a covering letter to Brig. Gen. Paul G. Graham, former Camp Pendleton base commander and now the Marine Corps' coordinator for the refugee program at the base.

Graham said he had not received the letter which Plank said he sent two or three weeks ago but was aware of the cultural center proposal.

"I don't think the Marine Corps would be necessarily involved at all," Graham said. "I don't see any reason — absolutely. The Marine Corps cannot take any official stand on something of this nature. We cannot make commitments under any circumstances, nor would the Department of Defense get involved in it."

He added that he has no authority to grant surplus land to AVICCAA, but Plank said later he will ask Graham's advice in looking into possibilities for land.

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— AP Wirephoto

Cambodian refugees cross into Thailand at border village. Witnesses said

about 300 Cambodians attempting to flee were shot down by soldiers.

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# Cambodian Refugees Shot By Khmer Rouge Soldiers

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AP) — Nearly 300 Cambodians were shot to death by Khmer Rouge soldiers last week as they attempted to escape to Thailand from Cambodia, witnesses said during the weekend.

About a dozen survivors interviewed at this border town told of three separate incidents in which men, women and children fleeing toward the border were ambushed and shot by patrols of the Communist-led Khmer Rouge.

The ambushes, for which there was no independent confirmation, reportedly occurred about 50 miles from the Thai border near the provincial capital of Battambang in northwest Cambodia.

## HARSH TREATMENT

One of the escapees, Ung Tica Seng, 32, said starvation and harsh treatment by the Khmer Rouge had forced many to attempt escape. Seng said he and his two children were among about 200 Cambodians who had slipped out of a forced labor camp but fell into a Khmer Rouge ambush about 20 miles northwest of Battambang. Only about 30 of the group made it to Thailand, he said.

About 7,000 Cambodians have sought refuge in Thailand since Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge in April.

Survivors reported the Khmer Rouge also opened fire on about 100 refugees strung out in a line 10 miles east of Battambang.

## BABIES SHOT

"They didn't give us any warning, but just opened fire on us. Even babies were shot," said Ky Teng, 32, who said he and about 10 others were the only ones to survive.

The third killing reportedly took place at a village 15 miles west of Battambang. Uk Sam Huon said he saw about 30 members of his group killed after he climbed a tree when the shooting started.

A number of the refugees interviewed, both at Aranyaprathet and at Krong Yai, said cholera and other diseases had broken out and the Khmer Rouge lacked modern medicine to deal with the problem.

Some of the refugees who survived the ambushes said they were disappointed at their reception by Thai villagers and authorities.

## VALUABLES TAKEN

"First, I thought they were going to be friendly toward us," Teng said. "But instead the Thai villagers we met forced us to kneel down while they searched us for gold and money."

U.S. diplomats in Bangkok also have reported a number of Cambodian refugees have been stripped of their more

valuable belongings upon crossing the frontier.

"It reminds me of an old Cambodian saying," Teng said. "When you try to escape from the crocodile you sometimes find yourself in the mouth of the tiger instead."

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## Refugee Aid Money Syphoned by Volunteers

SACRAMENTO (AP) — California's top welfare official said Thursday that most Vietnamese refugee aid money is kept by the volunteer organizations set up to help them.

Mario Obledo, Gov. Brown's Health and Welfare Agency secretary, cited "staff reports" as the basis for the charge. He declined to identify the volunteer organizations.

Calling the federal government's refugee plan "disastrous," Obledo said the sponsorship program "has run into a snag."

"Most of the money is kept by volunteer organizations, and very little gets to the refugees."

Robert Gnaizda, Obledo's chief deputy, said, "We do not have actual figures. We'd prefer not to name the organizations because the study was not scientific."

Gnaizda said sponsors are "taking \$200 off the top" from the money provided by the federal government. He added that sponsors of a family of five took a total of \$1,000 off the top for overhead — or housing that already had existed for their own use.

Obledo added, "I'm not saying they are doing anything wrong. I'm just saying there is a lot of inefficiency. I wouldn't think" laws have been broken.

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# Refugees Shot In Escape Bid

ARANYAPRATHET, Thailand (AP) — Nearly 300 Cambodians were shot by Khmer Rouge soldiers during attempts to escape to Thailand from Cambodia, witnesses said over the weekend.

About a dozen survivors interviewed at this border town told of three separate incidents last week in which men, women and children fleeing toward the border were ambushed and shot down by patrols of the Communist-led Khmer Rouge.

The ambushes, for which there was no independent confirmation, reportedly occurred about 50 miles from the Thai border near the provincial capital of Battambang in northwest Cambodia.

One of the escapers, Ung Tiea Seng, 32, said starvation and harsh treatment by the Khmer Rouge had forced many to attempt escape. Seng said he and his two children were among about 200 Cambodians who had slipped out of a forced labor camp but fell into a Khmer Rouge ambush about 20 miles northwest of Battambang. Only about 30 of the group made it to Thailand, he said.

"The killing was horrible. I saw blood streaming from their bodies which were riddled with bullet holes," he said, wiping tears from his eyes. "I heard them screaming for help as I ran from the scene. I nearly killed myself when I saw my friends gunned down."

About 7,000 Cambodians have sought refuge in Thailand since Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge in April. Last week alone several hundred crossed the frontier near this town 200 miles east of Bangkok.

Survivors reported the Khmer Rouge also opened up on about 100 refugees strung out in a line 10 miles east of Battambang.

"They didn't give us any warning, but just opened fire on us. Even babies were shot," recalled Ky Teng, 32, who said he and about 10 others were the only ones to survive.

The third killing reportedly took place at a village 15 miles west of Battambang. Uk Sam Huon said he saw some 30 members of his group killed

after he climbed a tree when the shooting started.

A number of the refugees interviewed, both at Aranyaprathet and at Krong Yai, said cholera and other diseases had broken out and that the Khmer Rouge lacked modern medicine to deal with the problem.

Some of the refugees who survived the ambushes said they were disappointed at their reception by Thai villagers and authorities.

"First I thought they were going to be friendly toward us," Teno said. "But instead the Thai villagers we met forced us to kneel down while they searched us for gold and money."

U.S. diplomatic sources in Bangkok also have reported that a number of Cambodian refugees have been stripped of their more valuable belongings upon crossing the frontier.

"It reminds me of an old Cambodian saying," Tenx said. "When you try to escape from the crocodile you sometimes find yourself in the mouth of the tiger instead."

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