

CMC

CAMP PENDLETON

CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE

CLIPS

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## Hams Send Refugee Messages

CAMP PENDLETON — Amateur radio operators transmitting and receiving personal messages for refugees at Camp Pendleton haven't mastered Vietnamese verbs, but are becoming modestly fluent at pronouncing Vietnamese names.

"There aren't really a lot of different names used in the language, so you find many persons having identical names. In messages, age and birthplace, when known, are included as part of a name to expedite delivery," according to Art Smith, assistant communications manager of the American Radio Relay League's San Diego section.

Most messages originating at Camp Pendleton are sent to refugees at other

centers: Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, or Indian Town Gap, Pennsylvania. "These people are trying to find and keep track of friends who are at centers or who have moved after being sponsored."

Messages are translated into English for sending and back into Vietnamese at the place of reception. Then a "locator" sees that delivery is made to the right person. "The system works surprisingly well considering the language and name problems," Smith says.

W6IAB at Camp Pendleton is one of a national network of amateur stations handling refugee communications. San Diego County hams plan to maintain the station as long as a need exists.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. 2 PG. 15

DATE 3 Sept. 75

## Red Cross Asks Honor For Volunteer Worker

The San Diego County Chapter, American National Red Cross, has nominated Mrs. C. Temple Murphy of Point Loma for the highest Red Cross award in the United States — The Harriman Award For Distinguished Volunteer Service.

Mrs. Murphy received the nomination for her outstanding volunteer efforts in aiding the refugees at Camp Pendleton since the beginning of "Operation New Arrivals" in April.

It marks the first time the San Diego chapter has made such a nomination, said Phyllis Meyers of chapter headquarters.

As head of the entire volunteer operation at Camp Pendleton, Mrs. Murphy traveled 122 round-trip miles each day to serve as administrator and coordinator for all Red Cross volunteers from San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles counties and other areas of California. She worked at the camp with Bryce Torrence, national Red Cross staff director.

In her wide-ranging efforts in the refugee programs,

Mrs. Murphy coordinated the volunteer services for the Red Cross canteen, the information and referral bureau, the supply distribution centers and family services. She also obtained sewing machines and materials for the refugees from the business community and helped organize and staff play-school centers at the camp.

Mrs. Murphy began her Red Cross volunteer career as a high school student in Massachusetts. During World War II she worked as a Red Cross canteen aide and a nurses aide.

Her nomination was sent to the Red Cross national board of governors in Washington, D.C.



Mrs. C. Temple Murphy of Point Loma reads to a small Vietnamese refugee at one of the play-school centers at Camp Pendleton as part of her job as Red Cross Volunteer coordinator at Pendleton, the Marine camp.

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San Diego Union

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### **CAMP LISTS SPONSOR FOR ITS REFUGEES**

EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (UPI) — Authorities say all 876 Vietnamese remaining at the refugee tent city here have sponsors who will take them before the center's scheduled closing on Sept. 15.

Air Force 1st Lt. Steve Phelan, center spokesman, denied reports that only 600 of the refugees still at Eglin have sponsors and the rest would be sent to Fort Chaffee, Ark.

"As far as we know, all of them here are sponsored. The only way any of them would go to Fort Chaffee is if the sponsorship broke down," Phelan said.

The Labor Day weekend saw 82 Vietnamese phased out of the tent city and put into the hands of sponsors.



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## 'Jeannie' Breaks Language Barrier

— "When she came in she said she wanted to be called Jeannie," said Karen Brandon, an elementary school teacher in Riverview, Fla., "so that's what it is." And that's how **Le Pham Phi Nga**, 5, began to break the language barrier on her first day at kindergarten. Jeannie is the nickname a young friend gave the pixieish little Vietnamese refugee, the daughter of a South Vietnamese air force pilot and nurse. "Jeannie communicates with the other children beautifully," said Mrs. Brandon. "I don't know how. They talk, but I think there's a good deal of sign language, too." The teacher and aides spend extra time with Jeannie, and the little girl carries a looseleaf pad and pencil with her everywhere and tries to work even at recess and rest periods. "She watches, listens and then tries it herself," Mrs. Brandon said. "All you have to do is show her."



Bright-eyed Jeannie, watching and listening.

AP Wirephoto

## VIETNAMESE GIRL

# 'Jeannie' Breaks Language Barrier

RIVERVIEW, Fla. (AP) — Le Pham Phi-Nga, a 5-year-old Vietnamese refugee, found a way to break the language barrier her first day at kindergarten. She insisted on being called "Jeannie."

It was a nickname given her by a neighborhood youngster who thought it fit her pixieish, new-found friend.

"When she came in she said she wanted to be called Jeannie," said Karen Brandon, a Riverview Elementary School teacher. "No one objected, so that's what it is."

She's the daughter of Le Van Thuyet, 34, a South Vietnamese Air Force pilot who flew nearly 300 refugees out on the day Saigon fell, and Pham Dao Duc, 32, a nurse.

## SIGN LANGUAGE

"She communicates with the other children beautifully," says Mrs. Brandon. "I don't know how. They talk, but I think there's a good deal of sign language, too."

Jeannie is alert, attentive, eager to learn.

"She watches, listens and then tries it herself," Mrs. Brandon says.

When the roll is called, she listens for the name "Jeannie" and with a grin raises her hand to indicate attendance.

The teacher and an aide spend extra time with Jeannie, repeating words and phrases in English, pointing out objects while calling them by name and drawing pictures to suggest meanings.

## 'I DON'T KNOW'

After a week in school, a little boy leaned over to ask what she was drawing. "I don't know," she replied with an answer she evidently picked up on her own.

She carries a looseleaf pad and pencil with her everywhere, and, during any free time, she is diligently at work printing ABCs or learning to copy numbers. She even tries it during rest periods, until she gets caught.



— AP Wirephoto

Le Pham Phi-Nga, 5, a Vietnamese refugee, began kindergarten class in Riverview, Fla., yesterday, and insisted that everyone call her "Jeannie." So teacher's aide Helen Kinney taught her to write her "new" name.

### *Refugees Sponsored*

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# Refugee Food Service Employees' Complaints Spur State Investigation

By WAYMAN DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — The state labor board is investigating a private firm providing food service to refugees after formal complaints by several employees.

Grievances of food service workers had reached the point that petitions demanding a mass meeting Friday with the contractor's management were circulating among employees today, according to one worker.

Southeastern Services Inc., recently awarded a \$4.7 million contract to feed the base's Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee population, has been accused by employees of:

- Broken promises regarding pay and hours.
- Arbitrary and unfair assignments of work.
- Obscene and demeaning language by supervisors.
- No clearly defined chain of command, resulting in conflicting orders and confusion.
- Improperly ordering employees to sign

for rest periods not actually taken.

- The failure to post prominently state regulations regarding employees' rights and benefits.
- Inaccuracies in computing accumulated pay and confusion regarding disbursement of employee paychecks.
- Ordering employees to sign forms saying they had taken their legally required rest periods, when they had not.
- Laying off employees without cause while simultaneously hiring new workers.

Arlene Delgado, a representative of the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement of the California Department of Industrial Relations, confirmed that an agent from her office had been assigned the investigation after receiving four written complaints and several by telephone.

The Blade-Tribune learned of the investigation after six employees of the firm contacted a reporter to complain about their treatment.

All asked that their names not be used for fear of economic reprisal, they said. Four men came forward initially and a female cook appeared two days later.

Then, unknown to the others, a supervisor called to make similar complaints and confirmed what the employees had said.

Southeastern president John Swindle denied most charges, but said he had no information on some complaints. He confirmed that he had been contacted by the state labor investigators.

Many of the complaints centered around the alleged attitude of supervisors toward the second and assistant cooks, warehousemen and food servers; an attitude that they characterized as similar to military boot camp.

The most serious violations centered around purported disorganization and mismanagement, causing confusion and disruption among the employees.

Other complaints indicated that, while the company, or more specifically, certain supervisors, were within the law, they were clearly acting unethically.

For example, the employees said, although their work day technically starts at 6 a.m., they are ordered to take their 30-minute and 15-minute breaks between 6 and 6:45 a.m. Technically, the law regarding break time has been followed, but the intent has been circumvented, they charged.

A second cook who goes to work at 4:30 a.m. explained that, while company representatives have provided a van to transport he and his colleagues to the base, they haven't provided a driver.

"We drive trucks out at 3:30 and I was just informed that they do not have insurance for us and it's illegal for us to drive the trucks out," he said. "Also, on the contracts it says we will get paid 'per productive man hour,' and even though I consider driving the truck out productive, they're not going to pay for that if it's not legal."

How, he was asked, will he and the other cooks get to work?

"Oh, we'll still drive the trucks out" even though it's not legal, because, he said, they would be fired if they didn't show up for work.

(Employees of Southeastern are not permitted to drive private vehicles to the base.)

All six vowed that they were told they would be paid from the period that left Oceanside on company chartered buses, through their return, so-called "portal to portal" pay. This information, they said, came not only from the company, but also from a spokesman at the state employment office (who refused to give them his name.)

Both Swindle and the manager of the state office of employment development denied that.

Regarding that charge and other complaints, said employment office manager Tom Rice, "The only thing I can say is, the orders that I wrote up were according to employer's specifications, and any information that an employee gets should be gotten at employee interviews (regarding) what the conditions of hire are."

Rice suggested employees with complaints should take them to the labor board.

Swindle, 35-year-old head of the firm which has contracts with 17 military installations in 15 states, said "they were never told by anyone in our organization that portal-to-portal pay would be appropriate."

Regarding the charge that the employees were forced to take two breaks as soon as they arrived, Swindle said all rest periods were paid, but he didn't know when they

were taken or if the charge was true.

"As far as abusive language," he said, "I'm not aware of any abusive language. We have had obscene language used by employees which we issued a directive to all employees that that's neither proper nor acceptable."

The six persons interviewed saw it differently.

All mentioned a particular supervisor at Camp Talega, a retired marine sergeant.

"He's evil and ignorant," declared the female cook, a 24-year-old former hospital worker. "Every time he walks out of his office he's yelling and screaming about something...he's the most disgusting person I've ever met in my life (with the) grossest language."

Similar complaints came from the men, particularly one of the warehousemen, who said he too was offended by the man's language.

"They're treating us like we're in the military," the woman said. "I have four people telling me what to do. Someone will tell me to do something then another guy comes along and changes it."

Women, she said, are victims of a misplaced emphasis on women's liberation.

"I had to carry in 45 crates of oranges by myself one day," she said. On another occasion, a woman helper was ordered to help lift a giant metal pot and suffered a rupture.

"I think they're trying to get as much out of us as they can."

All six, including the supervisor, emphasized that their hours were misrepresented by the company.

"We were told we would be working an eight-hour day, then they cut it back to seven and a half," one of the men said. "But that doesn't count the hour out there and the hour back."

Swindle said he wasn't surprised at the complaints because "any time you have approximately 800 employees, people will misinterpret things. The only thing that surprises me is the fact that the people would go direct to the labor board prior to bringing any complaints they have to this office."

However, one of the men, a teacher working for his master's degree, said when he submitted a list of questions to his supervisor he was told, "This sounds like a bitch," was sternly reprimanded and told to resubmit it.

Others agreed that they are not allowed to ask critical questions and were warned that "if we have to be talked to twice, we will be out of a job."

She and others also complained that medical care was not readily available, except for very minor injuries, which Swindle also denied.

The supervisor also complained of hostile and violent treatment at the hands of the refugees, who, he said, often throw the food back at the food servers. The others did not mention that, however.

All said they had heard that at least 700 persons had resigned from the company, but Swindle said it was more like 150.

The supervisor said that employees are also often at fault in not showing up for work or failing to perform properly.

Recurring throughout the interviews were charges of "preposterous" rules and regulations that, they said, bore little resemblance to reality, such as wearing hair nets to empty garbage, or even to board the bus in Oceanside. "It's like being in McHale's Navy or Catch 22," they agreed.



MEALS FOR REFUGEES prepared by unidentified food worker.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. 2 PG. 15 (CONT.) DATE 4 SEPT. 75



## Viet Children Reunited With Parents at Camp Pendleton

By **NATHAN SAWYER**  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

Two Vietnamese parents have been reunited with their seven children here after more than four months of uncertainty and hardship following their separation in the chaotic evacuation from South Vietnam during the Communist takeover last spring.

Lt. Col. Tien Van Nguyen and his wife, Gicao, were rejoined with their children two weeks ago at Camp Pendleton after they spent four harrowing months in a refugee camp on a small, arid island off Malaysia.

The family are now living with Tim Brosnahan, a Belair electronics executive, and his wife, Gayle, who were in-

strumental in getting U.S. State Dept. officials to find the children's mother and father and reunite the family.

The parents became separated from their children when they left them in the care of neighbors and went to Saigon for a day to obtain passage for their family and relatives out of the battle-stricken country.

It was on this day that all routes to and from Saigon were cut off by the Communists, Col. Van Nguyen said.

The children, under the care of a Vietnamese doctor and his family, secured passage on an evacuation boat north of Saigon and eventually were taken to Camp Pendleton.

Before leaving Vietnam, the doctor managed to notify Van Nguyen by phone that his children were being evacuated by ship to Guam.

After frantic efforts, Van Nguyen and his wife secured passage on an overcrowded fishing boat bound for the Philippines. But in the chaos of the mass evacuation, their boat was forced to land at the tiny island of Perhentien, where they were encamped for the next four months.

Van Nguyen, a highly skilled communications instructor who speaks fluent English, hopes to settle in the Los Angeles area and work as a radio technician or teacher.



Herald-Examiner photo by Mike Mullen

Lt. Col. Tien Van Nguyen's Vietnam refugee family happily hug upon being reunited after four months separation. Standing from left: Huong, 10; Vuong, 2; Thuy, 14; Mrs. Van Nguyen, Tien, 8, and Hoa, 11. In center, Col. Van Nguyen holds (left) Nhu, 5, and Hung, 3.

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# Refugees On Guam Protesting

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — The Guam legislature has adopted a resolution to move unruly Vietnamese repatriates to Wake Island where there is no civilian community.

The move was prompted by rioting last week in which four U.S. marshals were injured, two buildings destroyed by fire and several government automobiles damaged.

Sen. Joseph Ada, speaker of the legislature, introduced the resolution which was adopted Friday night by 18 votes to one, with two abstentions.

"They have just simply worn out their welcome," one legislator said of the Vietnamese refugees who are demanding repatriation back home. About 1,500 repatriates are being detained at Guam's Camp Asan.

They have put up signs and banners around the camp calling Guam "Devil's Island".

Japanese tourists who arrived in two buses Saturday were taking pictures of the repatriates' signs and the Vietnamese themselves as they sat under a sign proclaiming a hunger strike.

In his resolution Ada charged that the "hostile atmosphere and potential for calamity increases as the ranks of the dissidents increase."

Ada expressed fears that the demonstrations may spark a confrontation with local Vietnam war veterans.

Guam lost 77 men in the Vietnam fighting, the highest per capita rate of any American community.

"The people of Guam in general resent their home being called a Devil's Island and they further resent the fact that the repatriates are turning their hostilities onto the very people who extended them a helping hand and a place of safe refuge during the recent evacuation of Vietnam," Ada's resolution noted.

There is some indication that U.S. authorities may not be anxious to relocate the repatriates to Wake because it would be difficult to fence off vital installations there such as a missile range and fuel oil storage areas.

(16 per each)

# Refugee Tutors Needed

CAMP PENDLETON — More volunteers to teach survival English and practical living classes to Asian refugees at Camp Pendleton are needed through October 31.

The survival English and practical living classes are part of the Pendleton Refugee Education Program (Project PREP), 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.

The survival English and practical living courses are designed to help the refugees at Camp Pendleton attain a basic language facility and the "living skills" needed to make a transition into everyday American life.

Since July 1, when the programs began, nearly 550 teachers volunteered a minimum of six days in a two-week period to teach the daytime survival English classes or the evening practical living sessions. These volunteer teachers met with nearly 15,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian students daily.

Many of these volunteers were teachers, college students, and people from business who gave up vacation time to teach at Camp Pendleton. Now, however, many of these people must return to their regular work. But the need is still there and more volunteer teachers are needed.

Volunteers do not need a teaching credential. 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. Each volunteer is assisted by a native language translator and for the survival English lessons, special teaching materials have been prepared. Volunteers for both the survival English and the practical living classes receive a daily mileage and meal allowance.

A volunteer survival English teacher must make a commitment to attend inservice sessions and teach from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., for three days a week in a two-week period or for six consecutive Saturdays. The commitment for teaching the practical living classes is three days a week in a two-week period, from 6 p.m. to 10.

Prospective volunteer teachers for the daytime survival English program should call Dianne Schilling, volunteer coordinator at Camp Pendleton, at 725-7400 or 725-7016, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Saturday, or Joyce Trask at the Department of Education, San Diego County, at 278-6400, (extension 219) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Prospective volunteer teachers for the evening practical living classes should contact Kelly DeSare, coordinator for evening programs, at 725-7308 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

## Refugee School Plan Criticized

By BENJAMIN SHORE

Copley News Service

WASHINGTON — The Ford administration's attitude toward helping states educate Vietnamese refugee children "borders on arrogance," Wilson Riles, California superintendent of public instruction, said yesterday.

In a meeting with reporters, Riles said the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare has offered roughly \$300 per refugee child, although California estimates the special needs of these unexpected pupils will cost \$1,600 each for the first school year.

Riles was scheduled to testify today in favor of legislation introduced by Democratic Sens. Alan Cranston and John V. Tunney of California that would reimburse states for the total cost of educating the refugee children.

### FEDERAL POLICY

"It was federal policy to get involved in Vietnam; it was federal policy to evacuate the refugees; it was federal policy to locate the refugee camps in California and several other states, so it should be federal policy to pay for the children's education," Riles said.

"We are basically unprepared for them," he said, although he acknowledged that some local school districts did make some preparations over the summer.

"We were back here last spring pleading for resources, but we ran into a stone wall at HEW. 'Education has a very low priority back here. It borders on arrogance.'"

### WEINBERGER PROPOSAL

Then-HEW Secretary Caspar Weinberger proposed a possible assistance level of \$300 per refugee child, but only for those in excess of the first 100 in any school district.

The Cranston-Tunney bill, which has strong bipartisan leadership support and thus is virtually assured of passage, would reimburse state and local districts in full for any special education costs related to refugees.

However, Riles said, the bill covers only pupils in kindergarten through 12th grade. "Adult and vocational education is another ball game entirely," he said.

Riles said approximately 9,000 refugee children already are enrolled in California schools, and another 6,000 to 10,000 are expected, if the present refugee resettlement pattern continues.

HEW has assured state and local governments it will pay all health and welfare costs of the refugees, but it did not make the same promise for education.

## Refugees To Get \$500 Each

Resettlement of 2,000 Southeast Asian refugees living at Camp Pendleton will be aided with the use of a \$500 grant per person in federal funds, according to Supervisors Chairman James Hayes.

In his role as the chief of the county's refugee relocation program, Hayes yesterday said he has one agreement for a \$1-million grant which will be funneled through the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency to the Council of Oriental Organizations.

In a telephone conversation with Mrs. Julia Taft, federal refugee director, Hayes said she told him she would begin the necessary administrative steps in Washington, D.C., for the program.

"Initially, Mrs. Taft believed that only 500 refugees should be resettled at a time under this program," Hayes said. "But I impressed on her the fact that we had to meet the government's Oct. 15 deadline for closing the refugee center."

Hayes said he would work with GLACAA and the Oriental group to find sponsors and would provide monthly evaluation reports.

### **Cambodian takes own life**

CAMP PENDLETON —  
A 28-year-old Cambodian  
refugee hanged himself in  
the psychiatric ward of the  
Naval Medical Center here,  
Marine Corps Base officials  
said yesterday.

The refugee, identified as  
Chhoen Try, was the first  
Indochina war victim to  
take his own life here since  
the resettlement center  
opened April 29. Seven  
other refugees died of nat-  
ural causes.

The county coroner's of-  
fice confirmed Try's death  
was a suicide.



## 2,000 Refugees to Be Resettled

A program to resettle 2,000 Southeast Asian refugees living at Camp Pendleton was announced Friday by Chairman James A. Hayes of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Hayes said federal refugee Director Julia Taft expressed full accord with the program in a lengthy telephone conversation.

## GUAM OK'S MEASURE ON UNRULY REFUGEES

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — The Guam legislature has adopted a resolution to move unruly Vietnamese repatriates to Wake Island where there is no civilian community.

The move was prompted by rioting last week in which four U.S. marshals were injured, two buildings were destroyed by fire and several government automobiles were damaged.

Sen. Joseph Ada, speaker of the Legislature, introduced the resolution which was adopted Friday night by 18 votes to one, with two abstentions.

"They have just simply worn out their welcome," one legislator said of the Vietnamese refugees who are demanding repatriation home. About 1,500 repatriates are being detained at Guam's Camp Asan.

They have put up signs and banners around the camp calling Guam "Devil's Island."

Repatriation of the refugees has been stymied by refusals of the new South Vietnam government to accept them.

Vietnamese refugees who have chosen to make their home in Guam have scheduled a ceremony today to thank the people of the island for their hospitality. An estimated 400 Vietnamese have elected to remain here.

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## Small-Town School Opens Fall Term to 100 Viets



These Viet youngsters go to U.S. schools this fall. The question is: Who is going to pay the expense?

The Christian Science Monitor News Service

COLFAX — When school opens this year, some 550 students at Colfax High School will share their rooms and teachers with more than 100 newcomers to this California town in the Sierra foothills — not far from the streams where "forty-niners" once panned for gold.

The new students are Vietnamese, the children of some 125 refugee families temporarily staying at "Hope Village" in nearby Weimar.

Sponsored by a nonprofit group, Food for the Hungry, they are among some 20,000 Vietnamese children U.S. officials say must be absorbed by American high schools. Elementary schools must handle another 19,000.

Federal, state, and local officials say the exact numbers of Vietnamese students going to individual school systems will not be known until classes begin.

But the heaviest impact is expected in Los Angeles County, San Diego County, and San Francisco County in the West; the New Orleans area in the South; and the Washington, D.C., region in the East.

As schools prepare for the challenge, many educators at the local and state levels urge stepped-up federal assistance — especially in California, the most popular state for refugees, with at least 25 per cent of the more than 48,000 persons processed out of refugee camps, according to federal officials.

Los Angeles County will bear the heaviest burden in refugee children, according to a state education official, who estimates the influx of Vietnamese students there could reach as high as 3,000.

The Los Angeles school system would like to set up one or two special reception centers for Vietnamese children and their families to provide up to three months of intensive language preparation and other courses to help refugees fit into regular classes, according to Richard Hammerle, director of specially funded programs in Los Angeles.

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# U.S. Boosts Aid for Refugees' Education

**Administration Bows to Pressure but Cranston, Riles Call Rise Inadequate**

**BY PAUL HOUSTON**  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—The Ford Administration bowed to the protests of state and local school officials Tuesday and agreed to a substantial increase in federal aid for the education of 40,000 Indochina refugee children.

One-shot checks totaling about \$15 million will be mailed to school districts and state education offices beginning this month or next, an official said.

Originally, the Administration had planned to allot only \$6 million to \$10 million to education from the \$405 million refugee aid bill voted by Congress last May.

Despite the increase, Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), Sen. J. Glenn Beall Jr. (R-Md.) and California schools chief Wilson C. Riles called the funds inadequate.

At a Senate hearing conducted by Cranston, they pressed for passage of a broadly sponsored bill providing eight times more money over a two-year period.

Riles argued that bringing the refugees to the United States was a federal decision, and with most school districts "facing a grave financial crisis," it was wrong to place an added heavy burden on local property taxpayers.

California has nearly 10,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee children enrolled in public schools this year, with the greatest numbers in Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties, Riles said. He predicted that the total will reach 20,000.

The Administration's new position on aid was announced at the Senate hearing by Don Wortman, director of the refugee task force at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

He said HEW had come to realize that many school districts face massive problems in dealing with refugee children who speak little or no English and are experiencing traumatic cultural adjustments.

Thus, he said, HEW will provide \$300 a child for special services such as English language instruction bilingual programs, "culturally sensitive" aides or tutors, teaching materials and teacher training.

Additionally, for school districts with large refugee enrollments, HEW will make available \$600 for each refugee child in excess of 100 or in excess of 1% of the total student population, whichever is less.

Until Tuesday, HEW had disclosed  
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## REFUGEE EDUCATION

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no plan to make reimbursement for special services and had planned to pay only \$200 to \$300 a child over the 100-child threshold.

A bill introduced by Cranston and Sen. John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) goes beyond HEW funding by providing money not only for special services but also for basic education costs.

The bill provides \$1,260 a child for basic education and \$300 for special services during the current school year plus half that amount for the

next year.

The bill's total authorization would be \$126 million.

Wortman said HEW opposes the bill because the department believes basic costs should be picked up by state and local agencies.

"The refugee school population is sufficiently dispersed so as not to impose a significant burden on local school districts," he said. "There is usually an extra seat or two in existing classrooms . . . We do not believe that the addition of a single child or

even a few children increases operational costs by \$1,260 per child."

Cranston said it was "shocking" that the administration took so long to acknowledge the education problems of refugees, but he was pleased that HEW had agreed to fund at least the special costs.

But failing to pick up basic costs, he said, "falls far short of the clearly documented need."

Beall said he was happy the administration "has come part way" but added that passage of the Cranston-Tunney bill, of which he is a cosponsor, is "extremely important."

Other cosponsors include Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) and Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.).

Los Angeles Times

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Date: 10 SEPT. 75

**SHYNESS FADES QUICKLY****Hard Step for Refugee:  
His First Day at School****BY KATHY BURKE**  
Times Staff Writer

Before he began school here Wednesday, Thong Huynh had been practicing his English with birds and the family cat and dog.

He had also practiced the language with the friends he had made in his neighborhood in Canoga Park. But Tommy, as he is called, was so intimidated about first day in an American school he asked his mother to go with him.

A shy but alert 10-year-old, Tommy was only a few months out of Camp Pendleton when he stepped quietly into Room 16 at Nevada

Avenue Elementary School Wednesday with his mother, Hien Huynh, at his side.

The teacher, Mrs. Jeanette Skaff, told him in a friendly voice to take a seat, any seat he liked. But he could not make up his mind, glancing first at the teacher, then at his mother.

When Tommy hesitated, Mrs. Skaff thought he might not understand English. But his classmates, who had only stared until then, readily understood.

Please Turn to Page 5, Col. 1



**ON THE BALL**—Thong Huynh, 10, in socko game.  
Times photo by Robert Lachman

## Vietnam Refugee's First Day at School

Continued from First Page

"He's just shy," said Domingo, a boy sitting nearby. "Everybody's scared when they start school. I was scared when I started."

"I wonder if he likes America," said another youngster, Jack. "Should I talk to him? Should I ask him if he likes America?"

Jack waited, but only about 10 minutes, until he and Tommy were on the way to the playground. Tommy's answer, timid but affirmative, reassured him.

By the time a socko game (a form of dodge ball) had ended, Tommy not only was talking with the other boys, but his agility was complimented by his new friends.



## REFUGEE EDUCATION PROGRAM EXTENDED

The San Diego County Board of Education yesterday approved an extension of the refugee educational program at Camp Pendleton until Oct. 31.

The county has operated a program designed to meet the needs of Southeast Asian refugees by providing them with a basic language facility and other skills needed to make the transition to American life.

The program had been conducted by the county with funds made available by the United States Office of Education and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

County school Supt. Dr. M. Ted Dixon said he has been told by Marine Corps officials that the camp will be closed by the end of October.

The program has operated with volunteer teachers who are paid \$5 a day in addition to the costs of their transportation to the camp. Dixon said the decrease in the camp's population — now about 11,000 — has resulted in a decrease of the number of volunteers needed.

He said about 1,500 refugees are expected to enter the county school system. He said about 75 per cent of the refugees are now attending the classes.

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San Diego Union

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CAMP PENDLETON

CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE

CLIPS

SEP 15 1975

DATE

PAGES 14

# Refugee Threatens Suicide By Fire

By WAYMAN DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — A small group of Vietnamese repatriates Thursday threatened protest demonstrations — and one said he would burn himself to death — if they were not flown to Guam immediately.

Both United States and U.N. officials said they took both threats "very seriously."

Following the announcement by 19 of the 27 returning refugees in the United Nations camp here, Nick Thorne, senior civil coordinator for the Interagency Task Force, telephoned Washington to ask for an aircraft. He said he expected an answer later today.

The problem, he said, was that the governor of Guam had refused to accept any more repatriates because of a riot by those already on the island about two weeks ago.

Even if he gets the plane, he said, he has no idea where it could take the refugees.

There are presently about 1,600 Vietnamese at Guam awaiting repatriation and another 157 in the U.S., including those at Camp Pendleton. There are also 111 Cambodians wanting to go home, but none have been sent to Guam.

The Vietnamese here charged that they were being lied to by the U.S. government in general and Thorne in particular. Thorne said they have complained of being used as "propaganda" by the United States.

The repatriates emphasized that in spite of the poor conditions at the Guam repatriation camp, they wanted to "share the hardships" of their fellow Vietnamese.

They were also concerned that when they eventually did return to Vietnam the Communist government would treat them harshly because they remained in the United States instead of waiting in Guam.

Thorne said the repatriates were desperate and he had little doubt that, in their present state of mind, they would attempt some overt action, which could include the possibility of self-immolation.

The demonstration was scheduled for 3 p.m. Thursday but was averted when U.N. representatives negotiated a hastily arranged press conference in the office of David Arnold, a representative of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

Arnold, who said he had just returned from Guam, told reporters that the repatriates were intensely serious about their demands and were willing to do almost anything, including the threatened suicide, to call attention to their plight.

Brig. Gen. Paul Graham, military commander of the refugee camp, disclosed that the Marine Corps took the threats seriously enough to place all of the repatriates under constant observation.

He declined to detail any further security measures, but he did say flame-retardant blankets had been placed at strategic locations around the various camps.

All Vietnamese refugees are kept away from the "motor pool" and all vehicles, he added.

The repatriates, who refused to identify themselves to newsmen or to state why they wanted to return to Vietnam, said they would wait to see the results of the news conference before they took further action. However, they indicated, they would not wait long.

They criticized Thorne for not meeting with them at noon Thursday, as they said he had promised.

However, Thorne said that they had misunderstood. He said he would "get word to them" about a future flight but

(Continued On Page 2)

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REFUGEE explains group's demands to return to Vietnam (Staff Photo)

## Refugees . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

because they are under the jurisdiction of the U.N., he could not talk to them personally if a U.N. representative was on the scene.

Thorne said he offered several alternatives to the repatriates, including a meeting with the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese observers at the U.N., but they rejected them all.

Reporters asked the repatriates if they still planned a suicide by fire if their wishes were not granted. Through a U.N. interpreter, they said "if their demand to return to Guam is not filled, that could happen...they couldn't tell a time limit, it depends on arrangement between them and person in charge."

Arnold chided a reporter who asked the Vietnamese how such a threat could be believed, calling it an irresponsible and provocative question.

"Having been the person who intervened in their behalf, such questions will only, and I don't mean this as a pun, inflame the situation," Arnold said.

## Human Torch Threat by Viets

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — Extra guards ringed gasoline supplies as United Nations representatives worked Friday to arrange flights home for 20 angry South Vietnamese refugees threatening to immolate themselves.

The refugees had threatened to set themselves on fire if they weren't allowed to return soon to South Vietnam.

The self-immolation threat was apparently being taken seriously by officials but a former chief of South Vietnam's intelligence, now a sponsored refugee, said they might be Communist infiltrators.

It could be a trick, said the former intelligence chief who now calls himself Col. Anh Ba in an interview in nearby San Diego.

A study of tape recordings of the 20 voices at a news conference indicates they may actually be Communist infiltrators with lists of refugees with families still in Vietnam, he said.

"They want to give those lists to the Viet Cong," said Ba, whose former agency was Saigon's equivalent of the FBI.

On the tape is the whispered voice of a man being asked by a reporter for background information about the 20 men.

"We will tell them we were in the military, or the police force, or the civil service," he said in Vietnamese.

Ba said all but one of the voices on the tape have North Vietnamese accents.

# Refugees threaten suicide at Pendleton

By BERT DIETRICH  
and JOE HUGHES

CAMP PENDLETON — The former head of the South Vietnamese version of the FBI says some of the Vietnamese refugees who threatened suicide here yesterday unless flown to Guam are actually Communist infiltrators.

He says they may have compiled lists of refugees whose families are

still in South Vietnam.

Nguyen Van The, 31, a former Saigon police officer, acted as spokesman for the group. A United Nations representative translated The's comments for newsmen at a press conference here yesterday.

The said the 20 would set themselves afire unless they were quickly airlifted to Guam, where 1,600 other Vietnamese are hoping to be repatriated and permitted to return to the Communist-controlled country.

They called the press conference, The said, because they believed United States government officials were either delaying their departure to Guam or lying to them.

Col. Anh Ba, a cover name of the exleader of Saigon's security agency, translated a tape recording made by Evening Tribune reporters at the press conference at a United Nations trailer.

He said all but one of the voices on the tape have North Vietnamese accents.

Col. Anh Ba's analysis of the tape casts doubt on the sincerity of the threats. He picked up whispered conversations among the Vietnamese at the press conference.

(Cont. on next page, col. 4)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"All but one of the voices on the tape have North Vietnamese accents," said Anh Ba, who is living with a sponsor in San Diego County.

"They were using, for example, the North Vietnamese term 'Dong Chi' which means 'same direction,' but is actually the word for 'comrade' in the Communist meaning.

"That was not common in South Vietnam."

He said the U.N. interpreter did not mention less-lethal self-inflicted bodily damage discussed by the 20 men.

"Some were talking about burning themselves, but most said they would try cutting their bellies (partially) in imitation of the Japanese hara-kiri, or cutting their hands and feet," said Anh Ba.

Anh Ba, who still has members of his security organization here, said there is no doubt that a proportion of the Indochina refugees who want to go back to Vietnam are Communist infiltrators who have made lists of refugees here.

"They want to give those lists to the Viet Cong," he said.

Not all the 20 voices on the Tribune tape seemed to be locked in to a common cause, Anh Ba said.

"One voice cautioned the others to keep silent on certain questions," he said.

He cited this translated dialog:

Tribune: "Why do you want to go back to Vietnam?"

Voice: "Don't let them ask those questions. Later, we can say it is for our families, or our country."

Tribune: "Do you think the South Vietnamese Communists will punish you?"

Voice: "Don't answer that question."

Tribune: "Were you taken out of Vietnam against your will?"

Voice: "Don't answer that question."

Tribune: "Why did you leave Vietnam, leaving your family behind?"

Voice: "Don't answer that question. It will make trouble."

When the Tribune asked for a profile of the occupations of the men who want to return to Vietnam, the same voice whispered, "We will tell them we were in the military, or the police force, or the civil service."

Officials in Washington and at Camp Pendleton were attempting to arrange an emergency airlift of the 20 to Guam today.

Two Tribune reporters were first to meet with the Vietnamese here when the refugees asked for the

meeting with media representatives.

Camp Pendleton military police, U.N. officials and representatives of the Camp Pendleton Inter-Agency Task Force monitored the meeting.

In a separate press conference later, Nick Thorne, a representative of the U.S. State Department and head of the Inter-Agency Task Force, characterized the refugees as "desperate" and on the verge of "irrational acts."

He immediately phoned officials in Washington to attempt to arrange an emergency airlift for the refugees.

"If we don't hear from Washington in a day or two," said Thorne, "the situation is going to heat up."

The refugees, after meeting with the media for more than 75 minutes, said they would wait a undetermined period of time for an answer to their demands before taking other action.

They said they would continue to rely on the Tribune and other media to "get our word out."

But Camp Pendleton Brig. Gen. Paul Graham said emergency precautions were being taken to keep the situation under control.

He said extra sentries were guarding motor pools in the refugee camp area, where huge supplies of gasoline are kept.

He also said guards were watching the activities of the refugees who have threatened to burn themselves.

Refugees have been demanding they be airlifted to Guam for several weeks but U.S. officials had been waiting for other refugees seeking repatriation to arrive here from military bases across the country in order to get a full plane load.

But another roadblock to that plan occurred 10 days ago when some of the 1,600 South Vietnamese already on Guam, waiting for the new Saigon government to decide if and when it will allow them in, participated in a major riot.

Since then, American officials in Guam have been reluctant to accept any more refugees on the island.

"That's been the major problem," said Thorne. "If

we can't send them to Guam, where can we send them."

Thorne said he was afraid the South Vietnamese refugees would consider the United States government "liars until the airlift arrives."

"Until I give them a date and they see that plane, this entire situation will be very serious," he said.

Thorne said other refugees seeking repatriation

had demonstrated in the past before being airlifted to Guam "but those demonstrations were nothing like what these people are threatening."

Thorne called the threats the most serious so far.

Dave Arnold, a United Nations spokesman at Camp Pendleton, said the crisis yesterday was averted only by the meeting with

newsmen.

"We would have had a serious demonstration at 3 p.m.," said Arnold.

Asked to explain, Arnold said the Vietnamese probably would have started burning themselves.

That action has been used by Vietnamese in the past when they apparently felt no other courses of action available. But never at a U.S. refugee camp.

# Language Found Big Obstacle For Refugee Children

By NGUYEN ANH TUYET

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — teacher about English texts: Difficulty with English has That's really something. I forced Vietnamese refugee couldn't follow after 15 or 20 children to lose one to two minutes because I cannot years in American schools. remember them all and

Nearly 3,000 refugee stu- there were many words that dents in the Los Angeles I don't know. The teacher area from kindergarten to also cannot understand my senior high started school English because of my last week one grade lower pronunciation.

than if they had stayed in "My sister, who is in 7th grade, and I have no problems getting along with other children. They are very helpful knowing that we are refugees."

They arrived in the United States five months ago. All speak little or no English.

Thousands of others are waiting at Camp Pendleton because of the inability of their parents to find a home or a job. There are now about 17,000 Vietnamese living in California and at least three-fourths are of school age.

## GREAT CHANGES

The children also face great changes in cultural and educational systems but apparently with less difficulty than their parents.

Nguyen Thu Diem, 12, said of her first day in 8th grade at Constitution High School at La Habra.

"We had some tests. They were difficult, except for mathematics which we learned already in the French school in Saigon. I think I can beat them all in math.

"There were also some readings. We listened to the

The two speak fluent French after six or seven years in French schools. They had some English lessons but not enough to compete with their fellow Americans.

## PARENTS CONCERNED

Parents are not really concerned about the possible loss of one year in school. Diem's father, Nguyen Trong Nguyen, said, "It is necessary that they learn English first.

The county's Board of Education, however, said there is no fund yet for Vietnamese who will need printed materials, tapes and cassettes to help in the transition from Vietnamese to English.



**COMMENTARY****Refugees'  
Status Bars  
Enlistments**

By L. EDGAR PRINA

Copley News Service

WASHINGTON — Although the Department of Defense has authorized the enlistment of Indochina refugees into the U.S. armed forces, it may be a long time before any appreciable number don an American uniform.

The federal interagency Task Force which is directing the resettlement of more than 135,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees has estimated there are between 17,000 and 20,000 males of enlistment age in the group.

But the maximum number potentially qualified for U.S. military service has been estimated to be between 6,000 and 8,000.

According to the Pentagon, none of the refugees has as yet been accepted for enlistment. There have been approximately 100 applications.

One reason for the rejections is that the law bars enlistment of non-citizens who are not permanent residents (resident aliens) of the United States.

**Navy Turns Down Applicants**

The Navy, for example, reports that of 14 applicants for enlistment it has received to date, 11 were rejected because they were not resident aliens. The other three were turned down because of failure to meet other service standards.

Three refugees sought to enter U.S. naval officer programs and all were disqualified because they did not have resident alien status.

As it stands now, the vast majority of the refugees are in a legal limbo and cannot become permanent residents unless Congress passes special legislation to permit it.

This is because they are not regarded as "refugees" under the law. If they were, they could attain resident alien status two years from their date of entry into the United States.

"They are parolees and the law does not recognize them as having been admitted into this country," an official of the Immigration and Naturalization Service explained.

"They are still 'knocking on the door,' so to speak."

There may be help coming to the refugees on this matter, however.

On Sept. 10, Sen. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Republican leader in the Senate, introduced two bills to assist Indochina refugees who wish to remain in the United States.

One of the measures, entitled "The Refugees Re-employment Adjustment Act of 1975," would allow any alien who is a native of Vietnam, Cambodia or Laos and has come to the United States as a political refugee after Jan. 1, 1975, to be reclassified as a permanent resident with the approval of the U.S. attorney general.

**Would Remove Main Barrier**

If the Scott bill becomes law, a principal barrier to U.S. military service for those otherwise qualified refugees would be removed.

Under a Defense Department directive, the four military services may give enlistment preference to qualified Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees who had been previously trained "by our armed forces" as well as those in training in the United States when their government fell.

Individuals in the above categories, however, make up only a small part of the potential 6,000- to 8,000-man pool.

"Former trainees who are determined to be qualified on the basis of current service standards, and who have been admitted to the United States as resident aliens are to

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BILL MAY REMEDY MATTER

# Status Of Refugees Bars U.S. Military Enlistments

(Continued from Page A-1)

be given preferential enlistments in the occupations for which they were trained," the Pentagon said.

"Those evacuees without prior U.S. military training who attain permanent residency status will compete with resident U.S. applicants for enlistment."

Even with resident alien status, however, qualified refugees probably will find it difficult to enlist. The great bulk of them would have to compete with Americans and, with each of the services obtaining its full quota of recruits under the all-volunteer system, the order of the day almost certainly would be "Americans first."

The situation could change once the tight job market opens up. Unemployment in the United States still is over 8 per cent.

Those interested refugees who have certain skills in short supply in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force, and meet other service requirements, will have the best chance of being accepted for enlistment.

A Pentagon official pointed out, as an example, that a number of highly trained Vietnamese underwater demolition team (UDT) experts were among the refugees

who fled to the United States. The U.S. Navy had trained them and they served with U.S. units during the war.

"I understand the Navy has had some difficulty recruiting personnel for underwater demolition duties," he said. "I know some U.S. naval officers would very much like to see these experienced Vietnamese recruited, but they can't be until they get resident alien status."

Approximately 13,500 Indochina refugees have served in the armed forces of their native country, the Pentagon reports. Most of them, about 12,800, served in the Vietnam military, with roughly half as officers and half as enlisted men.

The remainder were members of the Cambodian armed forces — 430 officers and 270 enlisted men.

Congress passed bills in July, 1958, and in November, 1966, granting resident alien status to Hungarian and Cuban refugees as of the date of their original entry into the United States.

Scott made his appeal for legislation on humanitarian grounds. The Pentagon, however, took a hard-nosed, dollar-and-cents approach.

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## Refugee Is Learning Hard Way

NEWPORT BEACH (AP) — Hieng Heng is learning about America.

First the 34-year-old Cambodian refugee learned not to ride his bicycle on the freeway. Four police departments and the California Highway Patrol helped him on that one.

Now he has learned not to leave his bicycle outside his place of employment in Santa Ana, to which he pedals 10 miles daily. A bicycle thief has filled him in on that lesson, he reported.

"He was very proud of that bike," said his sponsor, Barbara Leith. "He bought a new wheel for it and fixed the bent frame."

But he also has learned there are people who care. The rector of the nearby Episcopal church loaned him a replacement.

**Marines Keep Watch On Dissident Refugees**

*San Diego Union Staff Dispatch*

CAMP PENDLETON — Brig. Gen. Paul Graham, commandant for the refugee camp here, says dissident Vietnamese refugees who have threatened to burn themselves alive are being kept under surveillance by Marines.

Additionally, he said, steps have been taken to prevent the 20 refugees or their friends from obtaining gasoline or other flammable material.

The refugees said at a news conference Thursday that one or more of their members would burn himself alive if the government does not fly them to Guam, where other refugees awaiting repatriation to Vietnam are billeted.

# Vietnamese Suicide Protest Threatened

From a Times Staff Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON**—A group of South Vietnamese awaiting repatriation Thursday threatened that one of their number would burn himself to death unless federal officials move more swiftly to send them on their way.

But federal and U.N. officials in charge of the repatriation said they still are not sure just how soon—or by what route—the refugees will be going home.

The Vietnamese had tentatively set 3 p.m. Thursday as the hour for a demonstration that was to have culminated in the self-immolation.

They were finally persuaded, however, to hold a press conference instead, being assured that they would be permitted to tell newsmen their grievances.

N. G. W. Thorne, senior civil coordinator of the Inter-agency Task Force set up to handle the refugees' problems, said there were 27 Vietnamese at the camp presently requesting repatriation.

Only 19 showed up for the press conference and they refused to give newsmen their names. But they affirmed that one of their number had been ready to set himself afire—and still was.

"We are being kept here (at Camp Pendleton) for propaganda purposes," one spokesman for the repatriation group said.

"Thorne has lied to us. He said he would get us to Guam as soon as possible. But we are still here and much time has passed. Today (Thursday) he was to have met with us at noon.

"But when noon came, he was not here. He promised us a plane to take us to Guam. The plane is not here, either . . ."

Thorne and United Nations representative David Arnold met with the newsmen later and said they believed the whole matter was the result of a misunderstanding.

Thorne said he normally works with the repatriation group only through Arnold, who, in his official capacity, is responsible for the arrangements to get the Vietnamese home.

He said he met with the Vietnamese several days ago—only because Arnold was temporarily absent.

Thorne explained that he officially had requested his Washington headquarters to send a plane to take the refugees to Guam, the staging area for repatriation, 10 days ago.

But the plane was not sent at that time, he said, because the government likes to wait until it has a larger load. And now another problem has arisen.

He said the governor of Guam has indicated the island has more refugees than can be comfortably accommodated already and has requested that no more be sent for a time. Just how long a delay might be in store has not been determined as yet, Thorne said.

## Refugee Education: Who Pays?

The responsibility for educating 40,000 Indochinese refugee children is that of the federal government, but the Ford Administration is unwilling to take the lead.

Instead, and fortunately, educators and members of Congress are exerting leadership. They are also exerting pressure, and they won a small victory the other day. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare agreed to increase refugee education aid.

At a Senate hearing, an HEW official conceded that many local school districts face massive problems in educating children who speak little or no English and who are experiencing difficulty in adjusting to a new culture.

The government's concession is to raise federal education aid from an earlier commitment of \$6 million-\$10 million to \$15 million. This would be a one-time payment of \$300 to \$600 per child for special education services. The money would come from the \$405 million refugee aid bill approved in May.

Members of Congress and California Supt. of Public Instruction Wilson Riles consider the increased level of aid inadequate. We agree.

Riles, at the Senate hearing, noted that the decision to bring the refugees to the United States was a federal decision.

While the government has accepted financial responsibility for resettlement—including health, welfare and social service costs—it is clearly shirking its responsibility to pay education costs.

The government's position is puzzling. Education costs for Cuban refugees were paid by the government. We cannot imagine why Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees would be treated differently.

Riles pointed out that most school districts face a grave financial crisis. He says local property taxpayers should not have to assume the added burden of educating the refugees. We agree.

The school year has begun. Districts are operating under budgets that did not anticipate the special and expensive needs of refugee children. In fact, districts today cannot predict how many refugee students they will have next week or next month. That depends on how quickly resettlement proceeds.

Schools could ask for more money, but the voters have been loathe to pay for even routine education programs. Districts could cut programs—many already have to balance budgets—but that could produce a community backlash against the refugees. That would distort the entire resettlement effort.

The only acceptable course is federal reimbursement of refugee education costs.

Although HEW refuses to take the initiative, California Sens. Alan Cranston and John V. Tunney have. They have introduced legislation that would provide \$125.5 million to local school districts for this and the next school years.

That is a lot of money, but the United States accepted a lot of responsibility in welcoming the refugees.

Under the bill, which would reimburse schools for actual per-pupil costs as well as special education costs, no community would be burdened because of refugee resettlement. It is a sensible, humane and fair piece of legislation.

By releasing more education aid, HEW has argued the case for the Cranston-Tunney bill. If the school districts face massive problems, it would seem that they need massive assistance. A one-time payment of a few hundred dollars is not enough. It may turn out that \$125.5 million is not enough. Congress can address that when it has more information.

School districts have an immediate need, and the legislation is an immediate answer. The bill enjoys wide support in Congress. It should become law, and quickly.

# 20 Threaten Suicide Unless Repatriated

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Twenty Vietnamese refugees here yesterday said some of their group would burn themselves alive unless the United States government flies them to Guam.

They made the announcement at a press conference in the headquarters of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, to which newsmen from throughout Southern California had been summoned by military authorities.

Through spokesman Nguyen Van The, the refugees said they want to go to Guam to join about 1,600 refugees who are awaiting repatriation to Vietnam.

The said the refugees had planned a demonstration yesterday, but agreed to call it off in exchange for authorities arranging a press conference for them.

## NO DEADLINE SET

Nguyen Van The said self-immolation was not planned at yesterday's demonstration, but said one or more of the refugees had vowed to set fire to themselves in the future unless the flight to Guam is arranged.

Nguyen Van The said his group has not yet agreed

upon a deadline.

Nick Thorne, head of the civilian Interagency Task Force here, said he took the threat seriously and has asked Washington to arrange an emergency flight for the refugees.

He said he expected an answer today.

Thorne said he had been attempting for 10 days to arrange a flight to Guam, but had been stymied because of a demand by civil authorities in Guam that no more repatriates be flown to the Pacific island.

## GUAM RIOTS

He said riots by repatriates in Guam two weeks ago resulted in four U.S. marshals being injured.

David Arnold, the U.N. representative here, said

that before he returned from the Guam refugee camp two days ago he found the feelings of civilians on Guam running high against the repatriates.

He said many Guam citizens had fought in the U.S. armed forces in Vietnam, and openly resented that the refugees want to go home. He also said fears have been expressed on Guam that the volatile situation has kept tourists away from the island.

## FEAR EXPRESSED

Thorne said the 20 refugees want to go to Guam now because they fear the Communist government in Vietnam will treat them as second-class citizens if they stay longer at Camp Pendleton.

One of the refugees, who refused to be identified, told newsmen, "We want to share the hardships there (on Guam) with the other repatriates."

To date, none of the refugees who have asked to return home have been accepted by the new Vietnamese government.

All 20 refugees at the press conference were men between the ages of 20 and 50. They said they were former soldiers, policemen and civil servants.

## 27 ON LIST

Arnold said there are 27 persons signed up at Camp Pendleton for repatriation. The refugees at the press conference said they did not know if the other seven shared their feelings.

Thorne had told the refugees earlier this month he would champion their cause in Washington on his trip there last week. Upon his return from Washington, Thorne asked the refugees if they would be interested in forming a delegation to meet with Viet Cong and North Vietnamese observers at the U.N. to ask for repatriation.

Thorne said he told the refugees to think the proposition over and to give an answer at noon yesterday. He said he learned through intermediaries that the refugees' answer was that they would not be interested in meeting with the North Vietnamese observers on the grounds that their plight was widely known.

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## Viets Threaten To Torch Selves

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — Twenty Vietnamese refugees said Thursday at least one or more of the group would burn himself to death unless the United States flies them to Guam.

The threat was reminiscent of 1963, when South Vietnamese Buddhist monks set themselves afire in their efforts to bring down the government of Ngo Dinh Diem.

At a hastily organized news conference, the 20 men said they wanted to join 1,600 refugees waiting on Guam to return to Communist-controlled South Vietnam.

Nick Thorne, head of the civilian Interagency Refugee Task Force, said the threat was genuine and he will try to arrange the flight as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, Marine Gen. Paul Graham said all 20 refugees were being watched and efforts were being made to keep from them any gasoline or other flammable material.

He also promised that Marines would smother any attempt at self-immolation.

Nguyen Van The, spokesman for the group, said they had planned a demonstration at the refugee camp Thursday, but agreed to call it off when the Marines let them hold the news conference.

Thorne said he has tried vainly for 10 days to arrange the Guam flight for the men.

Civil authorities on Guam refuse to accept any more

refugees since the recent outbreaks of violence there, he said.

But the refugees don't care about that, he added.

"They have become so desperate to go home, they won't listen to logic," said Thorne. "The only thing they want to hear from me is that I have a plane for them, which I don't."

The refugees said they were ex-soldiers, policemen and civil servants under the old anti-Communist regime.

Thorne said they wanted to go to Guam now because they feared the new Vietnam government would treat them like second-class citizens if they stayed any longer at Camp Pendleton.

28 pgs  
back.



CMC

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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### *Refugees Sponsored*

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — About 2,000 Camp Pendleton refugees will be resettled here under a \$1 million federal grant.

The Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency said Monday it will administer the grant together with the Council of Oriental Organizations. The two groups will find sponsors for refugees and help in their resettlement.

An agency spokeswoman said money for the grant will come from funds appropriated by Congress for resettling Southeast Asian refugees.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. 2 PG. 13

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**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT** — Four-year-old Trinh Tang would sooner chuck this idea of going to school, but parents and teachers have other ideas. On her first day at Ditmar kindergarten Monday,

Trinh's tears flowed non-stop despite the comforting efforts of bilingual aide Jovita Lopez. Three of Trinh's refugee sisters also attend Ditmar. (Carman photo)

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. 2 PG. 13

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## Refugees' Repatriation Plane Due

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

**CAMP PENDLETON —**  
The Vietnamese evacuees who have expressed a desire to return to their homeland may take their first step toward that goal within the week.

Dr. Thomas Irvin, deputy senior civil coordinator for the Inter Agency Task Force here, said Washington has agreed to make an airplane available to those seeking repatriation within a week.

He said they will be flown to Guam on their first step toward repatriation to join about 2,000 others who are awaiting further action.

Irvin said anywhere from 30 to 50 evacuees want to return, including 20 who have threatened to burn themselves to death.

The Vietnamese in the refugee camp were informed of the latest word Monday, Irvin said. He told a press briefing that the information has cooled the situation.

### DATE UNDECIDED

The exact time and date of repatriation will be announced later, he added.

A base spokesman said the responsibility for arranging the return of evacuees to their homeland rests with the United Nations high commission for refugees.

In addition to the Vietnamese wanting to be repatriated, the spokesman said there were about 130 Cambodians also asking to be returned.

The Cambodian problem, he said, is that there is no one from the United Nations here to act on their behalf. He explained there has been no outside contact with the Cambodian government.

### GROUP SPONSORS

Irvin, meanwhile, said plans were under way in various stages to arrange group sponsorship for about 9,000 of the 10,300 evacuees remaining at Camp Pendleton.

For example, Los Angeles County has agreed to sponsor about 2,000 more evacuees in addition to those already relocated there.

About 200 tents have been removed and about 40 to 50 more are ready to be removed here as the Inter Agency Task Force moves toward meeting the Oct. 31 closing date.

Irvin said about 100,000 evacuees have been relocated throughout the United States, Canada, and France as well as other locations and about 30,000 remain here, at Ft. Chaffee and on Guam.

## HAYES TO SUPERVISE L.A. REFUGEE EFFORT

County efforts to resettle some of the 16,000 refugees still at Camp Pendleton are to be coordinated by Supervisors Chairman James Hayes, who once took a Vietnamese family into his own home.

Hayes has been named by his colleagues as the county's resettlement chief and already has begun work on the new federal program which grants \$500 per refugee.

The money will be funnelled through the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency to the Council of Oriental Organizations, which

will find sponsors for the refugees.

"We will be keeping constant watch to make sure the program functions properly," he said, "and these people will get the very best service we can provide."

Hayes stressed that any negative comment on the program will be reviewed by the county, which will receive monthly reports on the resettlement effort from GLACAA.

The supervisor recently toured the Camp Pendleton refugee center with the county grand jury and also sponsored a Vietnamese family of six in his Rolling Hills home. He said the five-week stay culminated in the family moving to a home of their own in Bellflower and being aided by community groups.

There are about 6,000 refugees now living in Los Angeles County. This includes 2,000 persons receiving some form of welfare which is offset by the government.

## 50 Pendleton Viets To Fly to Guam

**CAMP PENDLETON** (AP) — Fifty Indochina war refugees, including 20 who threatened to burn themselves to death, will be flown to Guam within a week, a spokesman said Tuesday.

A spokesman for the State Department also announced that more than 100,000 of the 130,000 refugees in the United States had been resettled.

The repatriation flight plan was disclosed at a news conference by Dr. Tom Irvin, deputy senior civil coordinator for the Inter-Agency Task Force.

Last week spokesmen for the 20 South Vietnamese refugees demanded to be flown to Guam and allowed to return to South Vietnam, threatening self-immolation if unable to do so.

A former South Vietnam official's claim that some of the 20 men may actually be Communists who infiltrated the refugee ranks went unanswered by authorities.

Irvin said in a telephone interview that "the responsibility for security investigations belongs to the Immigration and Naturalization Service," either in the United States or on Guam.

"I can't speculate on that," he was quoted as saying. "But we don't anticipate any problems here."

There have been 20 or 30 other refugees waiting at Camp Pendleton to return to Vietnam at their request.

Awaiting similar trips on Guam now are 2,000 others.

Irvin said several group sponsorship plans were being prepared which will find homes for 9,000 of the 10,000 refugees still at Camp Pendleton.

Among the sponsors in California are Los Angeles County which expects to resettle 2,000 refugees and a Chinese-American family organization in Los Angeles finding homes for 1,500 refugees with Chinese backgrounds.

Irvin said it appears unlikely that any of the refugees at Camp Pendleton will be unable to find homes and be taken to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., when the Camp Pendleton relocation center shuts down late next month.

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back*

## Refugee Situation SLR Topic

OCEANSIDE — Current status of the Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton will be reviewed Thursday, Sept. 25, when the Greater San Luis Rey Area Planning & Development council meets at Marty's Valley Inn.

N.G.W. (Nick) Thorne, senior civil coordinator at the Camp Pendleton refugee camp, will address the Greater SLR Council general meeting at noon, according to Phillip C. Ferguson, council vice president.

Thorne is expected to review the events that led to establishment of the camp and evacuation of the Vietnamese civilians to the United States, explain the current status of the Asians and talk about the future of those refugees who have not yet been placed in American homes.

The refugee village at Camp Pendleton was established last April when the United States withdrew from Vietnam. Since that time more than 30,000 have been processed at the base with over 10,000 remaining at camp.

Thorne, who retired after 20 years in the Marine Corps, is a native of Poland who came to this country with his parents as an infant. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1942 and was commissioned the following year. His military career included World War II, duty in China following the war and service in Korea during 1951 and 1952.

On retirement in 1962 as a lieutenant colonel, he joined the foreign service and has served principally in the Far East and North Africa. His last overseas assignment before coming to Camp Pendleton was deputy chief of the American embassy mission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Presently he holds the rank of senior foreign service officer.

Ferguson said that persons not members of the Greater SLR Council may attend the luncheon meeting by contacting the restaurant.

## Refugees Enter U.S. Schools With Difficulty

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Vietnamese children are having difficulty — because of language problems — with American schools.

As a result, many Vietnamese refugee children have been delayed by one or two years in their education.

Nearly 3,000 refugee students in the Los Angeles area from kindergarten to senior high started school last week one grade lower than if they had stayed in Saigon.

They arrived five months ago. All speak little or no English.

Thousands of others are waiting at Camp Pendleton because of the inability of their parents to find a home or a job. There are now about 17,000 Vietnamese living in California and at least three-fourths are of school age.

The children also face great changes in cultural and educational systems but apparently with less difficulty than their parents.

Nguyen Thu Diem, 12, said of her first day in 8th grade at Constitution High School at La Habra:

"We had some tests. They were difficult, except for mathematics which we learned already in the French school in Saigon. I think I can beat them all in math.

"There were also some readings. We listened to the teacher about English texts. That's really something. I couldn't follow after 15 or 20 minutes because I cannot remember them all and there were many words that I don't know. The teacher also cannot understand my English because of my pronunciation.



## Refugees give pact reasons

By **ROBERT DIETRICH**  
TRIBUNE Military Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON —** "I think the Provisional Revolutionary Government will treat us with compassion and deep understanding," said Pham Van Khoung, retired South Vietnamese artillery officer and, until April 29, a Saigon police captain.

He is one of 20 refugees here who made a fire-suit pact if they are not swiftly united with 1,600 countrymen now on Guam awaiting return to their Communist-conquered homeland.

Most of the other 20 shared his views as they talked with a reporter inside the United Nations refugee center yesterday.

They used the same site Thursday to ask reporters to tell their story. Marine Corps officials permitted the meeting after one of the group threatened self-immolation.

During the Thursday meeting, their spokesman, Ngo Thanh Chan, 33, also a former Saigon police official, refused to comment on why the men want to return to South Vietnam.

Yesterday, they were unanimous in saying they wanted to "help reconstruct our country after 30 years of war."

left their families behind ranged from frank admissions of panic to vagueness.

"There was much panic," said Khoung, 38, the ex-artillery officer.

Warrant Officer Dinh Van Thanh, 50, a South Vietnamese soldier for 23 years, admitted he was "extremely fearful" as surrender to the Communists loomed. He has a wife and seven children in Saigon.

Thanh, the spokesman, said, "I followed the crowd."

He voiced doubt about his reception at the hands of the PRG.

"I do not know what will happen to me, but I personally believe the Saigon government is ready to tolerate us after 30 years of war."

Would they be willing to fight under the flag of their former enemies?

"We will join the army of our country depending on the needs of our country," he said.

Meanwhile, U.S. interagency refugee resettlement officials sent new requests to Washington for an airlift of the 20 along with about 130 others here and other refugee centers in the continental U.S. to a way-stop on their road back to Saigon.

David Arnold, who represents the UN high commissioner for refugees here, said the commissioner, Sadruddin Aga Khan, arrived in Hanoi yesterday to discuss the plight of the repatriates.

A U.S. State Department official said he was not permitted to say whether any of the repatriates failed to pass security checks, which include probes for Communist affiliation.

All 20 repatriates who made the suicide threat said they have families in South Vietnam.

Their responses to questions concerning why they

*CMC*

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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## Thieu blamed for Saigon fall

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (UPI) — Former South Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky blames corruption in the regime of former president Nguyen Van Thieu for the loss of South Vietnam to the Communists.

Ky also criticizes U.S. presidents for not letting him invade North Vietnam.

About 1,000 University of Virginia students attended Ky's first college lecture appearance yesterday since he fled Saigon and settled in the United States as a refugee. About 20 pickets protested the appearance for which the university paid Ky \$2,500 and expenses.

The former air marshal and vice president, 45, said he thought America was right to intervene in Vietnam but wrong to pursue a "no-win policy."

He said he tried to persuade a succession of U.S. presidents to give his forces the capability to invade the north. "Had we done this in the mid-60s, we could have changed the military situation," he said.

"As a Vietnamese I can tell you that the American involvement in Vietnam has not been a mistake," he said. "Our biggest mistake was to go into the war with



NGUYEN CAO KY

a no-win policy. We always restricted ourself in the use of our capabilities."

Recounting his version of Vietnamese history since 1954, Ky excused his government's final collapse. He said "we had to begin with a big zero -- our only asset being our determination."

Ky said the people lost faith in their government after Thieu rigged the 1971 election against him and Gen. Duong Van "Big" Minh.

"The weak leadership of Mr. Thieu was the major factor contributing to the Communist victory," he said.

Ky said Thieu's regime was not corrupt at the start but that "in 1971 the second Presidential election took place in Vietnam and Mr. Thieu resorted to all political maneuvers to eliminate Mr. Minh and myself."

"That was the biggest cause of the defeat by the Communists. It marked the beginning of the end. Corruption and inefficiency were thriving at all levels," Ky said. "As a result, the people no longer trusted the government."

Asked why there was so much corruption in the government, Ky said: "As long as the world turns and as long as you have people, you have corruption."

He described Ngo Dinh Diem as "an incorruptible patriot."

BY OCT. 31

## Refugee Camp To Close

Special to The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Efforts to relocate Vietnamese refugees are succeeding and none of the 10,000 remaining at this camp will be sent to Arkansas for the winter, camp officials said yesterday.

The refugee camp on this Marine base will be closed Oct. 31, they said.

"We do not anticipate the transfer of any refugee to Ft. Chaffee, Ark.," Dr. Tom Irvin said. Irvin is Camp Pendleton's deputy director for the State Department task force in charge of resettling Indochina refugees.

He said a combination of

programs by states, voluntary agencies and corporations will find enough sponsors to take the refugees before the winter, at the rate of about 1,500 a week.

Ft. Chaffee will be the only refugee camp in the United States by the winter. It is housing about 19,000 in barracks which have winter heaters and other facilities that Camp Pendleton does not have.

There are now about 18,000 Indochina refugees in California. Officials estimated the number will go up to 25,000 when all 130,000 refugees are resettled.

Irvin also said the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent As-

sociation has offered to give homes and jobs to 2,000 refugees of Chinese extraction.

Negotiations also are under way in Washington, D.C., to relocate large groups of refugees in Oregon, Denver, New Mexico, Texas and Hawaii, he said.

At Pendleton, camp organizers have dismantled more than 300 tents, and closed three mess halls, two post exchanges and one dispensary because of the resettlement of its residents.

In the past five months, 48,900 refugees have passed through the camp. About 4,000 of them went to other countries, such as Canada and France, for resettlement.

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# Some Vietnam Refugees Paid To Escape Communist Regime

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — Communist victors in South Vietnam apparently did not resist the gleam of gold or crackling bills and allowed some 108 Vietnamese to pay them \$90,000 for permission to flee the country.

The refugees are now living in the United States. They left Saigon in June, after spending an uneventful 42 days under the new Communist regime.

"We paid five taels of gold each to the fishing boat's threeman crew," said Tran Kim Khanh, who escaped with his two younger brothers and a sister.

"The fishing boat was anchored at Vung Tau beach resort and the crew had secured safe passage out of the territorial waters

after paying the Viet Cong more than two million piasters (about \$3,500)."

A tael is worth about \$180.

Vung Tau is 40 miles southeast of Saigon. The wouldbe refugees at the time asked permission from the Viet Cong to sail to their native places in the Mekong Delta. But instead of going home, they arranged to pay for the trip to Singapore.

The fishing boat had machine trouble in high waters after two days and drifted for another four days before a Danish commercial ship picked them up and handed them to U.S. authorities in Thailand.

"I don't know how much the crew paid the Viet Cong in gold besides the two

million piasters, but everything was fine," Khanh said.

"Some Viet Cong officers came to our boat before we set to the sea and said goodbye. One of them pointed his finger to our boat, saying 'this boat is making a trip abroad'. They all laughed.

"We had a bag of about 200 pounds of rice and a few cans of drinking water on the boat. Most were families of army officers or civil servants caught during the takeover of Saigon."

A 42-year-old man who also made the trip said the Communists were mild during the first month of their occupation of Saigon. Life was normal and residents were allowed to move in and out of the city freely. That was how the group escaped.

During the trip, the refugees learned the crew already had made two similar trips, sneaking refugees to Singapore. Only one trip was successful.

The crew told them the boat ran out of fuel on the second trip and was caught by the Communists at the southern tip of the country.

They were freed after giving up all their gold. But the one hundred or so passengers were put in jail and their fates were unknown.

# Refugee Influx Is Predicted

By ANGELA MACK  
Assistant Editor  
People Section

VISTA — Most of the Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton have little personal resources left and would just as soon return home if assured of safety.

But according to a former Army physical therapist working with them, the refugees in California will probably stay. And as the weather gets colder in other states, more refugees may try to come here, along with the Cambodian refugees all over the South Pacific.

Dot Weller, who has been working as an interpreter with the refugees, painted a dim future for the 'average' refugee here in America, and said the wealthy ones, high officials and army officers are far removed from military camps.

Ms. Weller, Indochina secretary for the American Friends Service Committee, worked for five years at a rehabilitation center in South Vietnam. She spoke to North County residents at a recent meeting of the Palomar Friends, telling about the break-down in sponsorship for the refugees and the estimated 2500 now waiting to go home.

"None have gotten further than Guam," she said. "It appears the new government in Saigon is too busy to start its proposed screening of refugees."

Ms. Weller commented on the problems of sponsorship, saying some released refugees are already on welfare, and many sponsors never completely understood their commitment.

"Some refugees were released to U.S. relatives who proved quite unable to care for them," she said. "One Vietnamese here received 33 relatives, some of whom he did not know, and could not support them."

"Nine national volunteer service agencies were given the task of resettling refugees and allotted \$500 each. Some of the agencies have been deceived by sponsors who exploited those they took,

and others lost interest and abandoned their charges."

"If refugees are to be on the tax roles instead of the welfare roles, they will need training," Ms. Weller said. "But that brings the threat that they will get jobs at the expense of Americans here, where unemployment is high."

The AFSC is trying to raise \$75,000 for needed reconstruction equipment in Vietnam, however, Ms. Weller said the Treasury Dept. is delaying licenses for exportation of the equipment.

"In general, the power transfer in South Vietnam was peaceable," she said.



"Quaker relief workers were in Vietnam until about two weeks ago, and they found the natives happy with the new regime. All political prisoners were freed 48 hours before the new government took power."

Ms. Weller said the new government gave amnesty to Saigon's soldiers, had them register, leave guns and uniforms, and then go home. They are now attending political reeducation classes. She said there was no need for so many Vietnamese to flee their country, and that only a few of them would have been in danger.

The refugees here are westernized and quite different from the peasants she knew in Vietnam, Ms. Weller said. "Saving face is important," she said. "And oriental courtesy demands that the refugees tell you what you supposedly want to hear, truthful or not."

## Refugees Seeking Return Guaranteed Plane Flight

By WAYMAN DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — A threatened protest demonstration by about 19 Vietnamese repatriates here last week has apparently succeeded, base officials said Wednesday.

Washington representatives of the Inter-Agency Task Force have agreed to send an aircraft later this week or early next week to transport them to Guam.

The Vietnamese scheduled the "peaceful" demonstration to protest being held on Camp Pendleton, but threatened that one of their number would commit suicide by fire to emphasize their demand.

Because of the announcement that Washington had agreed to send the plane, the tense situation in the camp has cooled down, declared Dr. Thomas Irvin, deputy senior civil coordinator for the task force.

Since they have officially requested to return to Vietnam, the repatriates have been placed under the authority of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, which will oversee the operation.

However, the new Communist government in Saigon has not yet decided to accept those who wish to return.

Brig. Gen. Paul Graham, who heads the military command at the refugee camp here, revealed last week that the protesting repatriates are being kept under constant surveillance by marine authorities, but no incidents have been reported.

It was also disclosed that up to 9,000 of the remaining 9,990 refugees still on the base may have sponsors before the camp is closed permanently.

Major Sally Pritchett, public information officer for the refugee center, said the average departure rate last week was 200 refugees a day, but that 300 left Tuesday.

The refugee center at one point had a total population of 18,700. As the number decreases, she said, tents used for sleeping purposes, educational instruction and other uses were being taken down. Of the 1,100 tents that were up, 250 have so far been taken down and stored, she said.

Irvin said about 100,000 refugees have been situated throughout the U.S., Canada and European countries.

Refugees still remain at Fort Chaffee, Ark. and there about 1,500 to 2,000 on Guam, as well as several hundred Cambodians.



# 100,000th Refugee Resettled in U.S.

BY CHRIS BOWMAN  
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—The 100,000th Indochina refugee resettled by U.S. efforts left Ft. Chaffee, Ark., this week and the remaining 35,000 refugees at U.S. resettlement centers are expected to move to new homes by the year's end, officials said Thursday.

Members of the government's Interagency Refugee Task Force said that all government camps can be closed by the end of the year if refugees continue to leave at a daily rate of near 700.

The program to settle 135,000 Indochina refugees was launched shortly after the fall of South Vietnam to Communist forces on April 30.

Julia V. Taft, director of the task force, said that the resettlement effort made good progress over the summer "through the outstanding performance of the (volunteer) resettlement agencies and the generosity of the American people."

Refugees are permitted to leave the camps only if a sponsor agrees to provide them food, shelter and clothing until they are self-supporting. Thus far, nine volunteer agencies have helped match refugees with sponsors.

Taft admitted that in a few cases, refugees had returned to reception centers because of sponsorship breakdowns and incompatibility of one sort or another.

A breakdown of the refugee population yet to be processed shows 9,991 at Camp Pendleton, Calif.; 5,985 at Indiantown Gap, Pa.; 16,431 at Ft. Chaffee, Ark.; and 1,800 refugees in Guam who wish to return to Vietnam or Cambodia. Taft said that a United Nations commissioner will meet with officials in Hanoi today to negotiate their repatriation.

Taft said that another U.S. refugee camp, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., resettled its last refugee Monday and is now officially closed.

She also said that 45,000 of an estimated 70,000 resettled refugees who are 17 or older have or will enter the job market.

"This is certainly a small figure when we compare it with the nation's workforce of some 95 million," she said.

Officials in California have been concerned about the growing number of refugees drawing welfare checks.

According to Robert Gnaizda, deputy secretary of California's Health and Welfare Agency, 9,005 of 17,565 refugees resettled in the state are receiving "some form of public assistance" this month.

"We estimate that 75% will be on welfare by the end of the year unless fundamental changes occur," Gnaizda said.

He said his agency had submitted a proposed job program to the federal government that would provide up to 60 days of job training for refugees.

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### Ky Blames Thieu Corruption For Defeat



Nguyen Cao Ky

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (UPI) — A former South Vietnamese vice president, Nguyen Cao Ky, said last night that deposed President Nguyen Van Thieu's corruption and inefficiency caused his country to lose its war with the Communists.

In his first public appearance in the United States, Ky, a refugee living in Fairfax County, Va., told about 1,000 University of Virginia students that his goal in the Saigon government was to reduce corruption in the Thieu government at least to the level of "international standards."

About 20 pickets protested Ky's speech, for which the university paid him \$2,500 plus expenses.

EXILED SAIGON WARLORDS

# Ex-Generals Find New Lives In U.S.

By NGUYEN ANH TUYET

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — They are living the life of exiled warlords, some with fortitude, others as well-heeled, money-loaded new Americans.

They still are shadowed by the defeat in South Vietnam and the hate of their own countrymen. Some of these army generals have been living in near seclusion since they arrived in the United States five months ago.

There are about 50, ranging from brigadier to lieutenant generals, and one full general. They are living with relatives or with U.S. Army officers who were their military advisers during the American participation in the Indochina war.

Lt. Gen. Ngo Dzu, accused of trafficking opium when commanding the 12 provinces in the mountainous region in Central South Vietnam, is living with relatives in Sacramento. Dzu spends most of his time studying business administration.

Living in the same area is the former army engineer chief, Maj. Gen. Nguyen Van Chuc, who bought a gasoline station, complete with a garage repair shop. The station is being run with the help of family members. Chuc also is taking business courses.

Refugees who traveled with the generals said the wife of Gen. Cao Van Vien, chairman of the Saigon joint chiefs of staff, deposited nearly \$1 million in Guam and the line formed by wives of the Saigon officials to sell their gold fortunes was broken only when the bank ran out of money to buy them.

Vien and other exiled highest military commanders could not be approached. They first were sponsored by U.S. Army officers, then moved to their own houses in areas around Washington, D.C., in Texas or on the West Coast.

Some soldier-refugees at the beginning of the evacuation threatened to dump Maj. Gen. Bui Dinh Dam

into the ocean. Dam was chief of the draft service. Intervention by more understanding refugees saved his life.

The former police chief of Saigon, Brig. Gen. Trang Si Tan, is living in the Los Angeles area. He has refused all requests for interviews and so far, has ducked all social life.

Bad luck has continued to haunt Lt. Gen. Mai Huu Xuan, a long-time police chief under the late President Ngo Dinh Diem. Xuan disappeared from his home in Monterey, after a Vietnamese policeman claimed that it was Xuan who carried out an order from the French government—not the CIA—to assassinate Diem in 1963.

Some of the exiled generals have not found jobs.

"I asked the Pentagon for a job in military research," said Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Minh, the last military governor of Saigon and now living in New York City. "But I

have not received any offer yet. I would work for the U.S. government if I am wanted because all my life has been in the army and the government."

Minh is writing a book about his experiences in the years preceding the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnamese Communists.

Another is hunting for a job in Boston. He is Maj. Gen. Dao Duy An, deputy commander of the area around Saigon. So far, he has found none that would fit him.

"A manual job is too difficult for me. So I prefer to go to the university," he said.

## Guam Hits U.S. on Viet Refugees

A top Guam legislator accused the United States of "a string of broken promises" and angrily demanded that it call off any plans it has to ship "unstable" Vietnamese refugees to that Western Pacific island. "The people of Guam have been extremely patient in the refugee situation despite a string of broken promises by federal officials from Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger on down," said Sen. Joseph Ada, speaker of the Guam legislature.

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Los Angeles Times

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# Some Vietnamese Generals Brought Out Enormous Wealth

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Some former South Vietnamese generals exiled in the United States are so loaded with money and gold acquired during the war that they don't have to worry about finding jobs.

They are living in near seclusion, avoiding all contact with other Vietnamese. They fear resentment and possible revenge.

There are about 50, from brigadier to lieutenant generals — plus and one full general — living with either relatives or ranking U.S. Army officers who knew them at the height of the American involvement in Vietnam.

A few are adapting, with grace and resignation, to the exiled life of warlords in

a country which supported them during a war but not in their new life.

Some left behind huge fortunes in properties and businesses, worth hundreds of times more than what they were able to take along in the evacuation. Refugees who traveled with them estimate some generals had gold bullion worth "several" hundreds thousands dollars.

The wife of Joint Chief of Staff Gen. Cao Van Vien deposited in Guam about \$1 million, they said.

A three-star general was seen climbing onto a U.S. 7th Fleet vessels with an attache case so heavy that an aide had to lift it for him. The case was believed to contain gold.

Brig. Gen. Trang Si Tan, former Saigon police chief, is living in the Los Angeles area with friends. Efforts by UPI to get to him were thwarted several times by relatives.

A Vietnamese who talked to him recently said Vien, the most trusted police officer of Taiwan-exiled President Nguyen Van Thieu, has ducked all social life.

Tan's boss, Maj. Gen. Nguyen Khac Binh, national police director, is living quietly in Washington, D.C. He also could not be approached.

One who has made himself deliberately available to reporters is Air Force vice marshal Nguyen Cao Ky, a resident of North Virginia.

Ky is making a living by lecturing. He

has not said how much he is being paid. He was sponsored by Food for the Hungry, a non-profit organization.

When Ky was at Camp Pendleton, Calif., he denied reports he is rich. He said he owned less than \$100, but conceded his wife has about \$30,000.

The last military governor of Saigon, Lt. Gen. Nguyen Van Minh, is living in New York City. He said in an interview he is looking for a job that would fit his military experiences.

"I asked the Pentagon for a job in military research but have not received any offer yet. I would work for the U.S. government if I am wanted because all of my life has been in the army and the government. I cannot take a civilian job

yet.

"I am writing a book on what had happened in South Vietnam and probably would give lectures in universities."

Minh said he has only one check, for \$1,860, which he prepared for his wife and three children before the evacuation. He said he had not intended to leave South Vietnam.

The deputy commander of the area around Saigon, Maj. Gen. Dao Duy An, is living with a brother-in-law in Boston. He said, "I have not been able to find a job yet. Actually I am drifting. I don't see anything that could fit me yet."

"A manual job is too difficult for me. So I would prefer to go to a university."

At least one has not shunned publicity for his work as a restaurant waiter — Lt. Gen. Dong Van Khuyen, the army's chief of staff, who is working at Ft. Eustis, Va., at \$165 a week to support his family of 10.

The former army engineer chief, Maj. Gen. Nguyen Van Chuc, bought a service station complete with a garage repair shop near Weimar, Calif., and is taking management courses.

"In general, they are doing well," said a former cabinet official who has been in touch with some generals. "Only a few dedicated former field commanders are poorer and are meeting some difficulties to readjust themselves here."

## 34 Vietnamese promised airlift

By WAYNE CARLSON

CAMP PENDLETON — The Vietnamese refugees who threatened suicide unless the U.S. government airlifts them to Guam will be flown there "within a week," Thomas Irvin, deputy civilian coordinator for the resettlement program here, said yesterday.

Irvin said 34 refugees here have said they want to return to South Vietnam. "Twenty-seven people have definitely signed up; six or seven others have said they might go," he said.

Irvin said officials are convinced "there are no political overtones whatsoever" in the refugees' desire to return to the Communist-controlled country.

"The reason most of them gave was a desire to return to Vietnam primarily for family considerations," he said.

Irvin declined to comment on an Evening Tribune article last Friday in which the former head of the South Vietnamese government's version of the FBI said some of the refugees who threatened last Thursday to set themselves afire were actually Communist infiltrators.

Col. Anh Ba, cover name of the ex-leader of Saigon's security agency, had picked up whispered conversations among members of the group on a tape recording Tribune reporters made at the press conference.

He said all but one of the voices on the tape had North Vietnamese accents. He said there was no doubt some of the refugees who said they wanted to go back to Vietnam were Communists who have made lists of refugees here to give to the Viet Cong.

Irvin said a representative of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees had interviewed all the refugees who have said they want to return to their homeland and is convinced that their desire to return did not involve political motives.

He said, however, the interviews were conducted before publication of the Tribune article.

Another Pendleton official, press officer CWO Roger Combs said the Vietnamese hoping to be repatriated have been told of the airlift plan.

"They remained quiet when they were told. We don't anticipate any more problems," he said.

The 34 refugees here will join 1,600 on Guam who also seek to be repatriated.

Irvin also announced yesterday that all but 30,000 of the 130,000 Vietnamese who came to the United States after the fall of their government have been resettled with sponsors in this country.

He said 10,000 remain at Pendleton.

Of those, he said, there are firm or tentative commitments from sponsors for 2,000.

Irvin said Los Angeles County government has agreed to sponsor 2,000 and the Consolidated Chinese Benevolent Assn. has agreed to sponsor up to 2,000 others.

Combs said the govern-

ment is hopeful the relocation camp at Pendleton will be closed by the end of October, as originally planned.

He said several hundred of the tents hurriedly pitched by the Marines here to house the refugees have been taken down.

25 pgs

*CMC*

CAMP PENDLETON

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## Refugee Repatriots Airlifted

CAMP PENDLETON — Twenty-two Vietnamese who demanded to be flown to Guam for repatriation processing got their wish this morning.

A base spokesman said an aircraft flown in from Washington was scheduled to take off at 8 a.m. for a direct flight to the Pacific island where approximately 1,500 other Vietnamese repatriots are located.

Originally, there were about 29 refugees here who threatened protest demonstrations, including a suicide by fire, if their demands were not met.

Representatives of the Inter-Agency Task Force and the U.N. High Commission for Refugees, which has authority over them, negotiated a news conference with the dissidents in lieu of the demonstration.

The spokesman said this morning that of the original 29 who wanted to go to Guam, seven had changed their minds.

"They were moved last night into (a central staging) area and awakened at 3 a.m. for breakfast," the spokesman said. "At 6 a.m. they left for El Toro" Marine Air Base, where the plane was waiting.

The spokesman said it was not revealed how many repatriots from Fort Chaffee, Ark., if any, were already on the plane.

Nick Thorne, senior civil coordinator for the Inter-Agency Task Force, said recently that the repatriots wished to travel to Guam because they were afraid of the possible repercussions against them in their country if they stayed at Camp Pendleton.



### **RELOCATION OF REFUGEES TOPS 100,000**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The 100,000th Indochina refugee was processed and resettled in the United States yesterday.

Mrs. Julia Vadala Taft announced that Phham Phu Quoc, a former South Vietnamese Army major, and his family of nine were processed at Fort Chaffee, Ark., and left for Racine, Wis.

Mrs. Taft, director of the Interagency Task Force responsible for the resettlement program, said the Quoc family is being resettled with aid from the Lutheran Church.

### *Refugees Enroll*

OCEANSIDE — Forty-five Vietnamese refugees have enrolled in Oceanside schools for the new semester, a school spokesman said today.

Six of the students are in the high school, two in junior high and "the remainder (are) spread evenly through the elementary schools," the spokesman said.

"The Vietnamese, at their own request, will be assimilated into the regular school program, and will participate in English as a Second Language classes."

## Warm Socks Are Needed By Refugees

CAMP PENDLETON — An emergency need exists for socks and hosiery, all sizes, for the remaining refugees at Camp Pendleton, reports Maj. Harland J. Hall, director of the Salvation Army Men's Social Service Center of San Diego.

Small sized pants, sweaters and jackets are also needed for the forthcoming cooler weather. Call 239-2301 for pickup.

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under government contract by a local college.

In one class, a 15-year-old Vietnamese girl wrote a dramatic account of the "terrible adventure" in which she and her family fled by sea and were picked up from a leaking boat by a U.S. Navy ship.

Now, she says, the family's worries are, "Where will we live? What will we make our living by? There are many questions."

The girl, Cao Thuy Huong, is taught by Sarah Ernst, a lively and animated woman, who emphasizes the practicalities of living in America while also focusing on cultural values. A recent day was devoted to the South.

Students drifted in, segregating themselves by sex on hardwood benches on opposite sides of the austere furnished classroom, and sang "Dixie." One topic of discussion: the history of slavery.

All refugees are fed cafeteria-style in large military dining halls. With the temperature on a recent day at 86 degrees, fans stirred the dead air as the evening meal was served.

Each adult and child carried a paper plate piled high with boiled ham, stringbeans and a large scoop

of rice, the staple of the Vietnamese diet.

Although Vietnamese women have been advising U.S. Army cooks on preparing food Vietnamese-style, there are still complaints that the rice is undercooked and the vegetables overcooked.

Probably the best-organized group among the refugees are fishermen, some of whom comprised the complete populations of villages which once dotted the coast of South Vietnam.

When President Ford visited Chaffee in August, 59 fishermen stood side by side along the route of his motorcade. Attached to each man's hat was a paper plate with a brightly colored letter from the English alphabet.

Together, the 59 paper plates spelled out, "Thank you President Ford. Thank you U.S. Congress, welcome President Ford."

Under the sponsorship of a local

businessman, there is planning under way to send 1,000 fishermen and their families to Ozark, Ark., where they hope to establish a catfish farm along the Arkansas River.

Other groups of fishermen plan to establish villages near Lafayette, La., and Galveston, Tex., along the Gulf Coast.

By custom, Vietnamese seek to have their every dealing with government certified by a formal, official stamp, the more ornately designed the better.

In July alone, an American-run legal office on the post created from scratch notarized 13,000 birth and marriage certificates and other similar personal documents.

Officials say privately that with no means of verification, they doubt the legal value of any of the documents.

"They are important to the refugees so we keep grinding them out," said one official.

A half-dozen refugees have sought

legal help recovering deposits they say they had in the Chase Manhattan Bank branch in Saigon. One woman displays a passbook showing \$4,500 left in the bank when the branch closed last April.

Chase Manhattan officials in New York say they're "working on it," according to one Chaffee official.

One resettlement case worker was wearied by Vietnamese who go through the lengthy process of finding an American sponsor only to reject the offer at the last minute.

"I don't have any authority to do this," said the case worker. "But I tell them we'll put you at the bottom of the list with a two-month delay."

That sometimes works, he says, "but many are still reluctant to go."

The constantly recurring question is when will all the refugees be out of the camps.

In an interview, senior U.S. civilian MacDonald cites the early Au-

gust average of 300 daily departures from Chaffee as evidence the camp will be out of the refugee business by December, or perhaps before.

Officials of private agencies charged with finding sponsors for all 130,000 refugees believe they will be lucky to close by April 30, 1976, the first anniversary of the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnamese.

Some refugees are to be transferred to Chaffee when Eglin Air Base in Florida closes in October.

No other transfers are officially planned, according to MacDonald, but other resettlement officials say privately that unsponsored refugees will also be brought to Chaffee from the other two camps. Indiantown Gap in Pennsylvania and Pendleton in California. Both are scheduled to close this fall.

"All of the figures are relative to the efficiency of the volunteer agencies," said McDonald, acknowledging no one knows positively that the supply of sponsors will match the total of 130,000 refugees.

In the meantime, those in the camps wait, some patiently, some not, many afraid to leave, and others doubting they ever will.

**LOOKING AT AMERICA**

*Refugees line the barbed wire-topped fence dividing their compound from the rest of America at Fort Chaffee, Ark. With little else to do, the Vietnamese line the fence daily, watching the traffic pass on the nearby highway.*



— Nora Cochrane Photo

## HAPPY GOODBY TO HAND OF HOPE

A Vietnamese family pays a final visit to the Hand of Hope sculpture before leaving the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base for their new home in Covina.

The sculpture of the hand was designed by Luu Nguyen Dhat in appreciation for the housing of 40,000 refugees at the Marine Corps base.

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# Nearly 400 Refugees Are Physicians

Vietnamese Influx Could Ease  
Doctor Shortage In Rural Areas

By LEW SCARR

Medical Writer, The San Diego Union

There are almost 400 physicians among the Vietnamese refugees in this country, many of whom are eager to help its doctor maldistribution problem.

California, attractive for many reasons to physicians, still suffers from a lopsided concentration of doctors which on a map looks like some serious spotted fever.

Latest data from the California Medical Association show that San Francisco County has the heaviest concentration of physicians with 530.9 per 100,000 population.

But on the low side, Modoc County has only two physicians serving 8,475 persons, and Alpine County has none for its population of 650.

A San Diego doctor, Dr. Vu-Dinh Minh, an assistant professor of medicine at UCSD School of Medicine and a specialist in diseases of the chest, says Vietnamese doctors are ideally suited to small-town, rural practice.

"They would be perfect for the small-town situation," Minh said in an interview, "because they can do a little bit of everything."

Minh was asked how well the Vietnamese doctors have been trained.

## A COMPARISON

"I think they might have something more than the average American physician in terms of experience with diseases, and their surgery is very good because they have had to do a lot of that," he said. "But they are far behind American physicians in terms of the latest medicines and techniques. Most of them are unfamiliar with medical developments of the last five years."

Minh, himself a Vietnamese who has been trained in both countries, and 20 of his colleagues at UCSD School of Medicine have begun to plug this academic gap.

Twenty of the 100 physicians in the refugee group originally at Camp Pendleton are still living in the San Diego area. Minh and his associates have begun tutoring them to take the first step toward medical practice in California.

## THREE STEPS

There are three steps a foreign-trained physician must take before he can practice here.

First, he must take a comprehensive written examination to prove that his medical training is equivalent to that given in this country.

Then, since no one can practice on the strength of a degree alone, he must take one or two years more training as an intern or resident physician and then, finally, he must pass an examination which licenses him to practice in this state.

Minh began teaching 12 of

the 20 Vietnamese doctors in his Mt. Helix area home two weeks ago, beginning a program aimed at helping them pass their educational equivalency exam in January.

Classes have moved to University Hospital and are being held two hours nightly, five days a week.

#### IN ENGLISH

All classes are conducted in English. Minh said language will be a problem for the doctors, but weaknesses in basic science are more serious, he thinks.

So, in October the instructors are concentrating on renal diseases, congenital heart and lung diseases, endocrinology, nutrition and biochemistry.

"At the beginning I had a lot of uncertainties," Minh said. "At our first meeting they still showed the impact of getting to this country and being in camp.

"They looked very much like the refugees they are. But now they look more like medical men. I think it is because they are beginning to think about their skills and discussing them with American colleagues,

#### 'SEEMED STUNNED'

"They seemed stunned at first. But now I feel very optimistic that they will do well in their exam."

Minh said the refugee physicians do not represent a typical cross-section of the medical profession in South Vietnam. Instead, he said, they belong, in the main, to what he called the upper layer.

Among the original group are two former secretaries of South Vietnam's equivalent of HEW, and one of these was holding his cabinet position when South Vietnam surrendered in April.

Another is a former president of the Vietnamese Medical Association.

Here, a woman physician is working in Escondido as a domestic while her husband, an engineer, is digging ditches.

Minh said another doctor is working as a nurse's aide but is not complaining even when he has to empty bedpans because he at least still has a hand in his profession.

Another is a box boy at a supermarket.



## Guam Fears 22 Refugees Are Agitators

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — Twenty-three Vietnamese repatriates arrived here late Saturday from California and all but one were isolated as possible troublemakers from 1,500 other repatriates awaiting permission to return to Vietnam.

The one exception was the lone woman in the group, identified only as Miss Chung. William Paupe, deputy civil coordinator, said Miss Chung was among the first refugees to flee from Communist forces closing in on Saigon last April.

She was sent to Camp Pendleton because she had a sister and brother-in-law living in Los Angeles and qualified for immediate entry into the United States.

However, the brother-in-law, a minister, has been transferred to Canada and cannot take his Vietnamese sister-in-law with him, Paupe said. The woman, believed to be about 30, then decided to return to Saigon where she still has members of her immediate family, including her parents.

Miss Chung was separated from the 22 men with whom she arrived and housed in a former tourist hotel which is being used as an immigration detention area for refugee families.

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**Mrs. Nga Diu Do**

Graveside services will be at 2:45 p.m. tomorrow in Greenwood Memorial Park for Mrs. Nga Diu Do, 72, of 6551 Burgundy St., who died Friday in her residence.

Mrs. Do was born in Nam Dinh, North Vietnam, where her late husband was provincial governor for 20 years. She came to the United States in May among the first group of Vietnamese refugees.

She is survived by a son, Dong Thai Dung of San Diego, five daughters and 19 grandchildren.

*CMC*

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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**DEADLINE IS OCT. 31**

## Pendleton's 'Little Saigon' Empties As Closing Nears

By HOMER CLANCE  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Five short months ago, more than 18,000 South Vietnamese overflowed "Little Saigon" here as Operation New Horizon was at its peak. Today, barren fields can be seen adjacent to the remains of tent cities, and tents stand empty as officials move as fast as possible to close this temporary facility by Oct. 31. Last May the six tent cities that were quickly thrown up over two square miles in the northern reaches of this sprawling Marine base were bulging at the seams.

### COLD AT NIGHT

The area was bustling with activity and excitement — as well as complaints from mothers whose babies were

not used to the low temperatures of Southern California nights.

On the first day of the camp's operation, 24 military and commercial jets landed an hour apart to bring 4,000 refugees — men, women and children of all ages.

### MARINES WORK HARD

These refugees, who fled their homeland after it fell to the Communists, landed at El Toro Marine Corps Air Station.

As they stepped off the planes, they were directed aboard waiting buses and driven the short distance to Camp Pendleton, where they were assigned quarters in a tent.

Meanwhile, sweaty, sleepless Marines worked around the clock to erect more tents to house the flood of refugees

which would eventually total more than 100,000 for three reception centers.

Bulldozers scraped fields level to make way for additions to existing tent cities. Portable toilets were brought in by the hundreds.

There were then accommodations for 10,000 refugees in 139 Quonset huts, barracks and tents.

The Marines were spending \$2 million a day for materials for new water, electricity, telephone and life support systems for the refugees. Field jackets were distributed to ward off the chill of night temperatures and special clothing was ordered for babies for the same purpose.

### 'HURRY UP, WAIT'

Once they arrived at "Little Saigon," however, it became a matter of "hurry up and wait" for most of the men, women and children who were seeking to start a new life.

Security checks took between seven and 10 days. As an example, on one day 2,729 refugees were processed through various government agencies set up here. However, only 192 of them were cleared for departure.

Further complicating the problem was the fact that more than half the 18,000 refugees at the temporary relocation center at one point had no sponsors or were awaiting certification of sponsors.

### GAMES, MOVIES

The Marines gathered the English-speaking South Vietnamese together and asked them to form their own governments within each tent city, down to a leader for each tent. The refugees were also asked to perform work chores.

Games were organized, sporting equipment distrib-

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# Refugee Center At Pendleton Empties

(Continued from Page B-1) uted, movies became a nighttime treat, and recreation facilities were established.

Next came schooling — particularly in English, rudimentary English for those who knew none at all, utilizing both American and South Vietnamese teachers.

Dispensaries were set up in each tent area, utilizing South Vietnamese doctors.

Now the bustle of activity has slowed to a snail's pace. Trails alongside roadways throughout the tent camps which were formerly crowded daily with the refugees are practically empty.

Acres of ground where squad tents stood are now bare as "Little Saigon" is slowly being closed down.

During Operation New Horizon, 49,936 refugees arrived at Camp Pendleton. Thus far, 41,952 have departed.

## 7,984 LEFT

This left 7,984 in camp as of yesterday, with 163 scheduled to depart during the day.

Since Sept. 16, departures have averaged 237 daily.

Arrivals (this includes births) expected yesterday were six.

At the height of refugee activity, there were 1,000 tents occupied by the refugees. As of yesterday morning, 383 of them had been removed, and more were dismantled yesterday.

This left 731 tents still standing, but some of them were empty and earmarked for removal today.

Nick Thorne, U.S. State Department coordinator, said many of the 7,984 expect to remain in the United States.

## FEW ARE UNSKILLED

However, "we've got a whole village of 211 people, and we are in the process of placing them in New Guinea or Gabon," he said.

Thorne said only 3 per

cent of the refugees are listed as unskilled and they "have not been difficult to place."

He said the health of the

refugees generally has been good, although 16 contracted leprosy since early summer and 68 have been treated for chronic tuberculosis.

He added it will take some "real hustling" to resettle all the refugees who remain by the Oct. 31 deadline for closing the refugee camp.

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**CHILDREN'S RIGHTS****Judge to Decide Religious Issue in Asian Adoptions****BY MYRNA OLIVER***Times Staff Writer*

Superior Judge Lester E. Olson, after lashing out at the state Department of Health for failing to consider constitutional rights of Southeast Asian orphans, has taken under submission the question of whether adoption agencies can dictate the religion of prospective parents.

He said last week he will rule "as soon as possible" in the civil suit brought by Dr. Richard S. Scott and his wife, Linda, to adopt Toup Ven, a Cambodian boy Scott found when he met a World Airways baby-lift plane last April 12.

Scott is medical director of disaster operations for the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

The Scotts claimed Family Ministries, which planned to place 20 Cambodian refugee children (and 28 Vietnamese orphans not covered specifically in the suit), infringed on their constitutional right to religious freedom by requiring all prospective adoptive parents to be "evangelical Protestants." The Scotts are Episcopalian.

Olson last July enjoined the Whittier-based Family Ministries, which received the children from a religious-philanthropic organization called World Vision, from finalizing adoptions of the children and from requiring specific religious affiliations for prospective parents pending his final decision.

Anthony Michael Glassman and David Keene Leavitt, attorneys for the Scotts, argued in court that the religious requirement violates freedom-of-religion rights of prospective parents and the children.

Because Family Ministries received foreign children transported, medically treated and briefly supported by federal funds, they said, the adoption agency must heed federal and state law.

They also argued that Family Ministries violated a California law requiring placement of children in adoptive homes with religious training their natural parents practiced or chose. Little is known about the chil-

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## Judge to Rule on Asian Adoptions

Continued from First Page

dren's background, Glassman and Leavitt conceded, but chances are higher the youngsters should go to Buddhist or Catholic homes under that law than to "evangelical Protestant" ones.

Family Ministries lawyer David Nissen countered that the Scotts were not formally denied the chance to adopt a child and that Family Ministries is a private agency which neither needed nor requested government money for the children and has its own religious rights.

He also argued that Family Ministries was required to place the children in "evangelical Protestant" homes because it was requested to do so by World Vision, acting as "substitute parent." Nissen denied the Scotts' argument that the children were not relinquished to World Vision by natural parents (as required by California law) but by grandparents or aunts or anyone caring for them.

Olson and all attorneys stated frequently during the six-day trial that legal status of the orphans has been clouded by a lack of Cambodian records and the "haphazard approach" of various U.S. officials to processing the children.

Olson delivered his most stinging criticism to the state Department of Health (which supervises adoptions in California) through its lawyer, Dep. Atty. Gen. Anne G. Pressman. The judge demanded to know why the department had never considered the constitutionality of Family Ministries' religious requirement.

Pressman said the department had been concerned primarily with placing the children in permanent homes, and did not consider going to court over the religious issue because it was not a legal-oriented department.

"Miss Pressman," the judge said sternly, "they are loaded with lawyers. The place oozes with legal assistance. That is almost laughable! They either did it (ignored the religious issue) intentionally or they didn't care about it."

Pressman said the Department of Health hesitated to go to court in a situation that might champion one religious faith over another.

Olson said angrily the state attorney general's office should have gone to court to clarify the orphans' muddled rights just as it goes to court to protect California consumers from short-weight packaging or price-fixing.

"Are the consumers of Fritos more important," the Adoptions Court judge stormed, "than the children who were brought in here by fiat of the United States and then just dumped, apparently, with no government supervision?"

Glassman, who asked Olson to place supervision of the children with the Los Angeles County Department of Adoptions, characterized the state Department of Health position as "essentially, we don't like the religious requirement, but until we find these are not good parents, we will find no violation of the law."

"They are saying," Scott's lawyer said, "this was some kind of a national emergency and we are going to suspend the First Amendment for these proceedings."

Many of the children, including Toup Ven, are now with foster parents in Los Angeles and Orange counties who are seeking to adopt them. The Scotts' petition to adopt Toup Ven, filed last April, is still pending.

Los Angeles Times

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**Guam Alerted For Vietnamese Unrest**

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — U.S. marshals and Guam police went on a full alert yesterday for a possible uprising among the 15,000 Vietnamese on Guam awaiting repatriation to South Vietnam.

U.S. government officials said they received word yesterday that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Vietnam had advised its United Nations representatives that the repatriates were not welcome in Vietnam.

They said the news has caused unrest in the camp.

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## CAMP BARING UP

# 2 Refugees Find Home

GLEN GARDNER, N.J. (UPI)—Two nudist camp operators said Friday their application to sponsor two Vietnam refugees, first rejected by the U.S. Catholic Conference, would soon be completed with another agency.

Earl and Lucille Hansen, who operate the Circle H Ranch here, said the application probably would be approved next week by a Czechoslovakian-American group.

The Hansens welcomed two refugees, Binh Van Tran, 27, and Hoang Van Nguyen, 24, to their 20-acre nudist colony July 27 after their sponsorship had been approved by the

Catholic Conference.

When the investigator learned the Hansens' Circle H Ranch, listed on the sponsor application as a "naturalist resort," was a nudist camp, the conference balked at approving the application.

"I was very honest with the Catholic Conference," Mrs. Hansen said. "I said we ran a naturalist resort but I guess the Catholics didn't know what a naturalist resort was."

"Binh and Huong are very happy here," Mrs. Hansen said. "Nudity is not a concern to them. The camp is what Binh calls a 'naked town.' It's no problem for them."

Los Angeles Times

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—Staff Photo by John Price

## Song Of Harvest

Trang Tran, right, sings a Vietnamese harvest song as she dances with a group in Balboa Park. The

program, by the San Diego Vietnamese community, drew a large Sunday crowd.

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IN RESETTLEMENT

# Communities Thanked For Refugee Aid

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

OCEANSIDE — The top State Department coordinator at the Camp Pendleton refugee center thanked Oceanside and other local communities yesterday for their help in resettling the thousands of refugees who have been processed locally.

N.G.W. (Nick) Thorne, senior civilian coordinator at the base for the State Department, told the Greater San Luis Rey Area Planning and Development Council's monthly meeting that it will take "some real hustling" to place the remaining 8,300 refugees at the base by the Oct. 31 closing of the "Little Saigons" where the Cambodian and Vietnamese have been housed since their governments fell last spring.

In one of his few speeches while he has headed the coordination of the program, Thorne described the elaborate procedures the refugees must undergo before leaving the base. He added that his own State Department officials have been the slowest of the five governmental agencies in providing security clearances, required of all refugees 17 years of age and older.

## Roadblocks For Refugees

The other roadblock, he told the group at Marty's Restaurant, has been the delay in transferring federal funds to state and local governments, which have been promised 100 per cent reimbursement for taking care of the refugees through next September.

Thorne said many misconceptions have arisen among the public since the refugees arrived — such as poor health, huge numbers of untrained, lower class people and high numbers on welfare.

Of the 50,000 refugees processed at Camp Pendleton, Thorne said only 18 have contracted leprosy, two cases being communicable and all treatable. There have been 68 cases of chronic tuberculosis, he said, and these and other serious health cases are being placed in U.S. Public Health Service hospitals, particularly in San Francisco.

Only 3 per cent of the 50,000 have been classified as unskilled, Thorne continued. But these and others around the nation at the other refugee camps have posed no major placement problems.

## Few On Welfare

"We've got a whole village of 211 people and are in the process of placing them in New Guinea or Gabon," Thorne said. "The unskilled have not been difficult to place."

As for welfare cases, Thorne said the numbers have been exaggerated, because most of the refugees said to be on welfare are actually only drawing Medicare benefits.

"The numbers quoted as being on welfare should be scrutinized very carefully," he said. Los Angeles County, he said, was said to have 60 per cent of its refugees on welfare, although only one-third are on welfare and the other two-thirds have medical coverage which is not necessarily used.

Thorne said many special ethnic groups are participating in the last stages of the placement program. The Chinese community, he said, recently has had 18 volunteers at Camp Pendleton sorting through names and matching overseas Chinese refugees to Chinese-Americans with the same names. In three days, he said, 530 Chinese were placed this way.

The refugees have been sent to all states, he said, including Alaska, were 50 were placed with a hotel. But letters and calls from citizens offering to sponsor refugees have dropped from the 1,000 per day in May to less than 100 today, he said.

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## Refugee Camp Aide To Address Group

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

OCEANSIDE — Officers of the Greater San Luis Rey Area Planning & Development Council have invited N. G. W. (Nick) Thorne, senior civil coordinator at the Camp Pendleton refugee camps, to speak at the GSLR luncheon at Marty's Valley Inn at noon today.

Phillip C. Ferguson, vice president of the civic group, said he expects Thorne to tell why and how the camp was established last April when the U.S. withdrew from South Vietnam.

Ferguson said Thorne probably will discuss what will happen to those refugees who have not been placed in homes, or provided sponsors, when the camps are closed.

More than 30,000 refugees have been processed through the refugee center and more than 10,000 still are in camps there.

Thorne, a native of Poland who came to the United States as an infant with his parents, served 20 years in the Marine Corps through World War II and the Korean War, and retired in 1962 as a lieutenant colonel. He has served in the Far East and North Africa with the Foreign Service. He was deputy chief at the embassy in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, before returning to Washington.

Ferguson said non-members may attend the GSLR luncheon.

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CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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## **Zumwalt Takes In Refugees**

# **Viet Admiral Finds a Port**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The last commander of the South Vietnamese navy is living in former Chief of Naval Operations Elmo Zumwalt's basement.

Zumwalt, who lives in suburban Arlington, Va., is providing a home for Adm. Chung Cang and nine members of Cang's family, including his wife, son, sister, nephew, niece and cousin.

The Cang family fled South Vietnam in July.

Zumwalt, who retired as chief of naval operations last year, used dividers to convert his home's basement recreation room into a three-bedroom home for the Cang.

"Adm. Zumwalt has introduced me to different places and sent my resume to several places," said Cang.

Cang is currently enrolled in a hotel-motel management course.

"I think his problem is very similar to the problem I would have if I had to leave the country and find a new job, having never done anything but command ships and men," Zumwalt said. "It takes time for him to learn enough technical skills and adapt to a new culture."

Zumwalt and his wife, Mouza, have found jobs for all working age members of the Cang family except the admiral and his wife.

Cang's son Hung, 17, works in a local cafeteria; his sister, Dat, 41, has a job in a department store warehouse; his nephew, Bru, 18, is a print shop aide; his niece Huong, 21, is a shampoo girl in a beauty parlor and his cousin, Van, 40, is a hotel porter.

Zumwalt said he and his wife decided to sponsor the Cang because "I thought I should help the last of the Vietnamese navy chiefs."

# Portraits of a People Seeking Tomorrow

By MERT GUSWILER  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

"Where have you been?" her friends asked her.

"Here. I'll show you," she answered, and began to drag out canvas after canvas. "Operation Refugee, I call it. Camp Pendleton."

Texana, internationally known for her People of the World paintings, stepped back. "Cambodian, Vietnamese," she pointed at the paintings. The faces of numbed children, patient oldsters, 'watched' the People Painter and her friends.

"Good Lord!" exclaimed a friend. "I was so mad about this whole thing, so angry, and that's all suddenly left me. Look at that!" She pointed to the face of an older girl.

Not quite full-faced, the girl in the painting gazed offside with eyes seeking tomorrow. Next to her stood a painting with two youngsters and an old woman. The old woman did not seem to be aware of the two young ones beside her. She looked straight ahead with tired, calm eyes. The two young ones took strength from each other, appearing insecure but hopeful.

"You asked me where I'd been," Texana said. "I've been on a very long journey, and miles have nothing to do with it. It may have been the longest journey of my life."

Her friends listened, not quite understanding, for the People Painter has been in most of the world's most remote areas, searching out and capturing on canvas the world's history and hope in the people who make the world their home.

"The Marines call my Operation Refugee 'Operation New Life,'" she began. "And you cannot believe the job they've done. Do you realize that this is the first time in the history of the world that such an operation has taken place? Can't you feel a bigger meaning here, a plan we really didn't think of but which in this time of the world's history we were chosen as participants, as the movers and doers . . . call it God, call it a supernatural power, call it whatever you want . . . but this whole thing belongs to eternity as well as to time and that's why I had to go and record these people, capture them, for they are very special People of the World."

"But Texana," said a friend. "We've always had refugees here; this nation was built by refugees from one place or another."

"Right," she said. "But, and this is the point, no one has ever gone and got refugees before and brought them to their own land. They've allowed them to come, encouraged them to come, but they've never gone and just picked them up and brought them here. If you'd see them and try to talk with them, it would come clearer I know. Like the hand . . ."

She pointed to a photograph which showed a large hand. Cupped in the hand was a young boy while an even younger child seemed to crawl to safety backwards into the palm of the hand.

"This stands about 10 feet high," she said. "It's made of reinforced concrete and was built right across from command headquarters at the camp. It's a monument to this country for its carrying out of 'Operation New Life.' It took about a month to construct."

She was silent, as were the others. They looked at the monument which was designed by a Vietnamese man. They read the inscription on the stone placed beside the Hand of Hope:

"Hand of Hope by Luu Nguyen Dhat. A tribute to the United States of America for accepting, housing, and relocating more than 40,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees and immigrants at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California during the spring and summer of 1975. 4 July 1975."

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Texana, the world-travelled people painter who uses only one name, is shown above with some of the portraits she made at Camp Pendleton. At right, a closeup of the work. The base is rushing re-settlement of the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees before the rainy season when living conditions would be impossible at Pendleton.

Herald-Examiner Photo by Bruce Howell





A young Cambodian refugee is captured on canvas by Texana, internationally known artist who made several visits to Camp Pendleton to get the feelings of those staying there.

HERALD\*EXAMINER

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(cont.)

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## Publicity Aid Appreciated

**EDITOR:**

Over the last several months the Department of Education, San Diego County, has enlisted your support in publicizing the need for volunteers to teach Survival English and American culture to the Southeast Asian refugees living at Camp Pendleton.

With your help the Pendleton Refugee Education Program has been a success. Presently there are more than 90 volunteers working daily with 6,400 refugees in the instructional program. Response to previous appeals for volunteers has been so positive that an optimum student-teacher ratio has been reached.

The Survival English and American culture instructional programs will be phased out by October 31. Since July 1, when the Pendleton Refugee Education Program began under the joint sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; the California State Department of Education; and the Department of Education, San Diego County, as many as 15,000 refugees a day have received instruction to help them make the transition into everyday American life. To date 440 individual volunteers have taught Survival English or American culture to nearly 40,000 refugees.

Please accept our gratitude for the publicity you gave to the program.

**M. TED DIXON**  
Superintendent of Schools  
San Diego

### *Refugee Workshop*

SAN DIEGO — A series of five workshops for refugee information will be sponsored by the San Diego Refugee Coalition and other community groups.

In the North County, a workshop will be held Oct. 4 at the United Methodist Church, 4690 Lado de Loma in Vista at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the workshop is to acquaint both current and potential sponsors about the various aspects of sponsorship with several goals in mind: to develop more sponsorship, to assist in the smooth transition of the refugee into the community, and to prevent potential problems.

Free and open to the public, the workshops will be conducted in two parallel sessions — one in English for sponsors, and one in Vietnamese for refugees.

A highlight of each workshop will be a presentation of Vietnamese culture to point out possible areas of misunderstanding between Vietnamese and American attitudes and practices.

Representatives from the San Diego County Department of Public Welfare will provide information and answer questions regarding public assistance and Medi-Cal.

For more information, call Rev. Laurel Gray at 232-7388 at Lutheran Social Services.



**SHARING**—Elmo Zumwalt, retired Chief of Naval Operations, stands outside his Arlington, Va., home with Adm. Chung Cang, last commander of the South Vietnamese navy. Cang and nine other family members, in rear with Mrs. Zumwalt, are living in remodeled basement of Zumwalt's home. The Zumwalts have found jobs for all Cangs of working age except admiral and his wife.

*CMC*

CAMP PENDLETON

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## Refugee Aid Plan Dropped

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The Brown administration assailed what it called "elephantine federal bureaucracy" Tuesday and said it was dropping plans to sponsor 3,000 Indochina refugees in a job-training program.

Mario Obledo, Health and Welfare Agency secretary, said the federal government has not responded to the month-old proposal in time for California to participate.

Under the program, 100 refugees were to get public-service jobs; another 400 were to get on-the-job training; and the remaining 2,500 would get training and help in finding jobs.

As another part of the program, jobs were to be found for 1,000 returning U.S. servicemen.

Obledo's chief deputy, Robert Gnaizda, said the program would have taken care of most of the refugees still housed at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base.

"Now most of them will wind up on welfare," Gnaizda said in an interview.

In a letter to David Mathews, U.S. secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Obledo said his several inquiries to HEW have been unanswered.

"Having received no response from your office, I must now formally and regretfully inform you that we will not be able to participate," Obledo said.

"This is because it may be too late to effectively develop a sponsorship program as all refugees are about to be removed from Camp Pendleton and we need a 30-day lead time."

## 1,541 Viets To Sail Home From Guam

WASHINGTON (AP) — The administration has decided to permit 1,541 Vietnamese refugees board a Vietnamese ship in Guam's harbor and sail for home to an uncertain fate.

Describing the situation as "a human dilemma," Julia V. Taft, director of the U.S. interagency task force on Indochinese refugees, said Tuesday many had fled "in panic" or under duress and now wanted to be reunited with their families.

At the same time, she disclosed that about 5,000 refugees waiting in Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Hong Kong and South Korea,

would be admitted to U.S. camps and processed for settlement here.

She acknowledged that despite a recent visit to Hanoi by the U.S. high commissioner for refugees, Prince Saoruddin Agha Khan, there was no assurance that the refugees will be accepted.

The decision on the returning refugees was approved by Ford Monday night and cleared with the National Security Council. The ship, a 487-foot vessel, will be stocked with food and fuel over the next two or three weeks and then embark on a voyage expected to take about two weeks.



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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. Temp. PG. 3 (cont.) DATE 28 SEPT. 75

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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE SECT. Temp. 3 (cont.) DATE 28 Sept. 75

# Joys Of Youth Dim Differences



By LIZ HARRIS  
Staff Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON** — The joys of playing together penetrated any "communication gap" between American youngsters and Vietnamese refugees last week when they joined for a day of fun and games.

For nearly four hours, the San Dieguito Boys' Club hosted recreational activities for nearly 150 Vietnamese children. A troop including two high school varsity basketball players, the Boys' Club table tennis team, sixth graders from Capri and Park Dale Lane School in Encinitas, and others planned a day of sharing with the

refugee children.

Boys' Club director Greg Nelson said he got the idea about a month ago after visiting the base and finding it lacking recreational offerings for children. He organized activities such as kite-making, arts and crafts, and team sports, loaded the youths on a bus and took off for Camp Pendleton.

Results were great, he reports. "Everyone got along well," he said. Especially the girls seemed to have no trouble relating to one another. When the busload of San Dieguito youths arrived, he said, "they just swarmed all over us. They accepted us very graciously."

## Refugees to test Vietnam Reds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Braving an uncertain reception in Saigon, 1,541 Vietnamese refugees now on Guam will be sent home aboard a Vietnamese ship with U.S. approval.

U.S. officials said the refugees, who appealed persistently for repatriation, turned down advice to wait until it was clear they would be accepted by the Communist regime in Saigon.

Several threatened immolation if they were not put aboard the Vietnamese ship now docked in Guam's Apra Harbor.

The U.N. high commissioner for refugees, Prince Saorudin Agha Khan, and his special assistant, Zia Rizvi, recently completed a mission to Hanoi. They reportedly advised State Department officials to try to delay the return of the refugees until acceptance was certain.

Because of adamant refugee leadership, a decision was made to send the refugees home. Officials hope they will be taken in as were two other shiploads from other countries.

Some 130,000 Vietnamese

and Cambodian refugees were evacuated by U.S. forces last spring before the Communists took control of Saigon and Phnom Penh.

Although tens of thousands resettled in the United States, many others had severe difficulty adjusting. In California, for instance,

9,000 of the 17,000 in this state are on welfare.

Several hundred Vietnamese in this country also will be repatriated if the shipload from Guam is accepted in Saigon, U.S. officials indicated.

In Agana, Guam's acting governor, Rudy Sablan, announced to a cheering

crowd of refugees that President Ford approved a plan to send them back home.

However, Sablan said it would be about three weeks before the 2,500-passenger Thong Tin can receive the necessary repairs to make it seaworthy.

## 'Little Saigon' end nears

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After Oct. 31, the only physical reminder here that there was a Little Saigon is a massive sculpture, created by a Vietnamese artist, depicting a U.S. hand of friendship cradling happy Indochina children.

Today's tally of unsponsored refugees in the U.S. was 27,212. Of those, 14,877 were at Fort Chaffee. Another 4,739 were at Indian-town Gap, Pa., which is scheduled to close in November.

The last weeks of Little Saigon will be marked by intensified efforts to find sponsors for refugees here. Officials of the U.S. intera-

gency task force are optimistic that most of Little Saigon's present population will not have to go to Fort Chaffee.

They are actively seeking group sponsorship arrangements by communities, religious groups and Asian associations.

The Chinese Benevolent Assn. of California recently agreed to sponsor more than 500 Chinese-Vietnamese.

The Agapi Foundation of San Diego has established a temporary halfway house at 602 Anita St., Chula Vista, where refugees whose sponsorships have broken down are housed,

fed and given employment counseling.

J. Perry Robinson, an Agapi member, said the organization wants to build a permanent halfway house in the Brown Field area that would provide quarters for up to 250 refugees.

The San Diego County Welfare Department reported 1,046 refugees are now receiving some form of welfare assistance.

A county welfare spokesperson estimated there are about 8,000 Southeast Asian refugees in the county. The total for the state is estimated at more than 20,000.



**END OF THE WAIT** — Members of a refugee family, their makeshift luggage stacked at Camp Pendleton's departure area, wait for their U.S. sponsor to arrive. Family waited months to gain sponsorship. — Photo by Joe Flynn

## **'Little Saigon' tents soon to steal away**

By **ROBERT DIETRICH**  
TRIBUNE Military Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON** — "Little Saigon," the sprawling two-square-mile tent city that became the first U.S. mainland home for Indochina refugees five months ago, will be a ghost town by Oct. 31.

That is the date set for shutting down the refugee center here which, since April 29, processed nearly 50,000 Vietnamese, Cambodians and

Laotians to new homes in the U.S.

Today there were 7,500 at this Marine Corps base, some patiently watching the calendar for the date set for their departure to a sponsor's home. Others look at Oct. 31 as the day their uncertain future will continue at Fort Chaffee, Ark., where all unsponsored refugees will go into winter quarters.

(Cont. on page A-4, col. 2)

## U.S. Permits Refugees To Go Home

WASHINGTON (AP) — The administration has decided to permit 1,541 Vietnamese refugees to board a Vietnamese ship at Guam and sail for home to an uncertain fate.

Describing the situation as "a human dilemma," Julia V. Taft, director of the U.S. interagency task force on Indochinese refugees, said yesterday many had fled "in panic" or under duress and now want to be reunited with their families.

At the same time, she disclosed that about 5,000 refugees waiting in Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Hong Kong and South Korea would be admitted to U.S. camps and processed for settlement here.

As a result, Mrs. Taft said, the 130,000 ceiling for Indochinese refugees informally set by the administration and Congress probably will be exceeded.

The decision on the returning refugees was approved by Mr. Ford Monday night and cleared with the national Security Council. The ship, a 487-foot vessel, will be stocked with food and fuel over the next two or three weeks and then embark on a voyage expected to take about two weeks.

It will be operated by a 60-man Vietnamese crew under the command of a former naval officer, Tran Dinh Tru, who was elected by the refugees, Mrs. Taft said at a briefing after work of the decision has leaked out.

She acknowledged that despite a recent visit to Hanoi by the U.N. high commissioner for refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, there was no assurance the refugees will be accepted.

## Refugee Job Training Plan Is Canceled

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The Brown administration said yesterday that it was canceling plans to sponsor 3,000 Indochina refugees in a job-training program.

Mario Obledo, Gov. Brown's Health and Welfare Agency secretary, said the federal government has not responded to the month-old proposal in time for California to participate.

Under the program, 100 refugees were to get public service jobs; another 400 were to get on-the-job training; and the remaining 2,500 would get training and help in finding jobs.

As another part of the program, jobs were to be found for 1,000 returning U.S. servicemen.

Obledo's chief deputy, Robert Gnaizda, said the program would have taken care of most of the refugees still housed at Camp Pendleton.

"Now most of them will wind up on welfare," Gnaizda said in an interview.

## National Study of Viet Refugee Resettlement Problems Planned

A nationwide study of resettlement problems of Vietnamese refugees has been undertaken by two universities—one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast—it was announced in San Diego Tuesday.

Dr. Edward Foster, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of San Diego, said his college will undertake the research project in partnership with the State

University of New York at Buffalo.

Object of the project, he said, is to document specific problems encountered by refugees in assimilating themselves into American society and to study various cultural traits of the refugees as they apply to American society.

Funds for the study, he said, will be provided by the two universities and from various foundations.

Los Angeles Times

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## VIET REFUGEES

Continued from First Page

fugees, Mrs. Taft said at a briefing.

She acknowledged that despite a recent visit to Hanoi by the U.N. high commissioner for refugees, Prince Saoruddin Agha Khan, there was no assurance that the refugees would be accepted.

Mrs. Taft said letters from relatives and parents and broadcasts from South Vietnam convinced the refugees they should make the repatriation attempt.

Tensions had peaked over the past few weeks. There were several demonstrations and one riot at the camp on Guam.

Among them, she said in reply to questions, are about 600 men who were sailors or soldiers aboard ships

they thought were taking them to safe ports in South Vietnam during the final days of the war. In many cases, she said, military superiors forced them to keep sailing for Guam.

Besides the 1,541 on Guam, another 47 housed at Camp Pendleton, Calif.; Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Ft. Chaffee, Ark., have applied for repatriation and will be given a chance to sail with the ship.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), chairman of the Senate refugees subcommittee, issued a statement saying the Administration's "humanitarian intent" was clear, but he questioned the wisdom and efficacy of the decision. He asked, "Why have we opted for the risky course of

simply letting the repatriates set sail with no clear understandings over their reception? And what risks do we run by having U.S. naval vessels escort the repatriates to Vietnamese waters?"

Answering questions at her briefing earlier, Mrs. Taft said there would be no military armed vessel accompanying the Vietnamese ship. "They will be on their own." She said the Vietnamese have said that if they get into any trouble, they would like assistance.

"We are still trying to work out whatever the specifics would be on that," she said. "But we would not plan to have a military destroyer or escort going with the ship."

## U.S. TO LET 1,541 VIET REFUGEES SAIL FOR HOME

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Administration has decided to permit 1,541 South Vietnamese refugees to board a Vietnamese ship in Guam's harbor and sail for home to an uncertain fate.

Describing the situation as "a human dilemma," Julia V. Taft, director of the U.S. Interagency Task Force on Indochinese Refugees, said Tuesday that many had fled "in panic" or under duress and now wanted to be reunited with their families.

The decision was approved by President Ford Monday night and cleared with the National Security Council. The ship, a 487-foot vessel, will be stocked with food and fuel over the next two or three weeks and then embark on a voyage expected to take about two weeks.

It will be operated by a 60-man Vietnamese crew under the command of a former naval officer, Tran Dinh Tru, who was elected by the re-

Please Turn to Page 13, Col. 4

## Brown Viet Refugee Job Plan Scrapped

SACRAMENTO (UPI)—The "Jobs for Americans" proposal made by Gov. Brown to obtain employment for Vietnamese refugees and jobless Californians has been scuttled by the Ford Administration, state officials disclosed Tuesday.

The result, Brown Administration officials said, is the state will provide little if any special assistance to refugees making California their permanent new home.

Brown had proposed the \$350 million jobs for Americans program to develop jobs for refugees and to assure an equal number of new jobs for unemployed California citizens.

That plan was "summarily rejected" by the Ford Administration, said Robert Gnaizda, deputy state health and welfare secretary.

The Brown Administration then proposed earlier this month a scaled-down \$15 million version that initially was favored by the Ford Administration, Gnaizda said. But the state did not receive any further response and Tuesday withdrew the proposal.

Mario Obledo, state health and welfare secretary, said the Vietnamese job development program died because "the elephantine federal bureaucracy" ignored it and now there is too little time for proper implementation.

The upshot, he said, will be that more Vietnamese refugees will be forced onto welfare rolls instead of finding jobs.

"We will not be able to participate," Obledo said in a letter to U.S. Health, Education and Welfare Secretary David Mathews, "... because it may be too late to effectively develop a sponsorship program as all refugees are about to be removed from Camp Pendleton and we need a 30-day lead time."

Obledo said 51.3% of the Vietnamese refugees in California were receiving welfare as of Sept. 1 and the percentage should rise to 75% by next year. He said about 80,000 of the 130,000 refugees are expected to settle eventually in California.

He said the state welcomes the refugees and "to the degree possible, but without providing expensive special treatment that discriminates against other needy Californians, we in California will do our best to assist and to offer a receptive climate."

The scaled-down proposal would have provided job development programs for 3,000 Vietnamese refugees and 1,000 Americans. However, "in areas of heavy concentrations of Vietnamese refugees," the first priority for jobs would have gone to American veterans of the Vietnam war.

The plan also called for a \$500 direct grant to each refugee, job sponsorship by major corporations, creation of a

new statewide telephone "hot line" to assist refugees and other immigrants and "on-the-job experience for Vietnamese refugees."

Despite the Ford Administration's rejection, Obledo said the state will create the hot line to state employment offices for all immigrants "as of Christopher Columbus Day" —Oct. 13.

He also sharply criticized the U.S. State Department for "its desire to evacuate the refugees (from temporary housing facilities) at any cost, such as via nonexistent sponsorships and immediate welfare signups."

"Over the last 200 years, scores of immigrant groups with even less education and skills than the Vietnamese refugees have come to our shores, avoided welfare and become successful without government assistance," Obledo said.

"It is ironic that despite massive federal government assistance the present immigrant group will mostly be on welfare during our bicentennial year," he added. "That this would happen to the proud and hard-working Vietnamese should be cause for shame."

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**CHARTERED PLANES  
FLY 775 REFUGEES  
OUT OF THAILAND**

BANGKOK (AP) — The United States flew 775 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees out of Thailand yesterday, bringing to about 10,000 the total number of Indochinese refugees that have left the country for resettlement in America.

The latest batch of refugees left on two chartered aircraft from Utapao Air Base southeast of Bangkok.

San Diego Union

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# State Official Forecasts Large Influx Of Refugees

By  
**DONALD H. HARRISON**

California's health and welfare director says now that the Camp Pendleton refugee camp is closed he still believes the refugee program was a disaster and that as many as 80,000 refugees ultimately will settle in California.

"We don't have complete figures, but as of now we estimate there are between 25,000 and 30,000 refugees already in California," Mario Obledo said. "I still stand by my prediction that 80,000 will settle here."

Obledo, in a telephone interview, said 53 per cent of those refugees now in California are receiving some kind of public assistance.

## **AID DEFINED**

This includes not only general financial assistance, which people think of when they say "welfare," but medical assistance as well, Obledo said.

Such assistance is paid by the federal government, and thus has no direct effect on the state treasury, Obledo said. But, he added, there are indirect costs to the state, which his office plans to catalogue in a report under preparation.

Because the program

under which persons and institutions agreed to sponsor the refugees was "a moral commitment rather than a legal commitment," Obledo said, "the result has been that more and more people are requiring public assistance."

He said California had offered to be a resettlement agency for the refugees provided that it receive not only \$500 per refugee, as other resettlement agencies have received, but millions of dollars in federal subsidies to create a job program for the refugees and other Californians.

## **REQUEST CUT**

He said the state initially requested \$350 million, then scaled down its hopes to \$15 million before the federal government rejected the application.

"I would rather have the federal money going into jobs than for public assistance," said Obledo.

"I have a hard time classifying a program as a success when you take the refugees out of a camp and put them into a community and on public assistance.

"A program like that could have been done overnight," Obledo added.

"There is nothing imaginative about that."

Obledo said he believes many refugees in other states will migrate to California where the climate is agreeable and where there are many other Vietnamese and Cambodians.

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# Refugees Taught To 'Survive'

Language Training  
Given To Majority  
At Camp Pendleton  
By RAY KIPP  
Education Writer  
The San Diego Union

The majority of the refugees who were processed through Camp Pendleton began life in their new country with enough basic language skills to survive on their own, local education officials say.

By the time the last tents were folded at the West Coast refugee center last week, educators estimated that nearly 80 per cent of the 50,400 transients moved through there had received 12 to 18 lessons in English and basic survival skills.

The effort to provide that training involved more than 700 volunteers — nearly half of them credentialed California teachers — who donated more than 50,000 hours of instructional time.

The effort was administered by the San Diego County Department of Education and financed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. HEW allocated \$1.07 million for the educational services at the camp.

## BELOW ESTIMATE

Although final figures are still being computed, county education officials expect the tab for the program will come to about \$700,000 — well below the federal allocation.

"I think a lot of people are surprised we didn't use all the money," according to county Supt. M. Ted Dixon. "But that wasn't the idea. From the beginning we only intended to spend what we had to to get the job done."

The key to the success of the program was the volunteer effort in presenting the program developed by the county, said Tom Davies, curriculum coordination director.

"It couldn't have been done without them," Davies said.

The county officially took over the educational responsibilities at the camp on July 1 after P. N. Hyndman and other county board members were assured that the federal government would reimburse the county for all expenses.

## LED OPPOSITION

Hyndman led the board's opposition to the county taking over the program until he was entirely satisfied it would not place any burden on the local taxpayer.

Until the county took over, educational efforts at Camp Pendleton were provided through the Red Cross and other volunteer agencies and the federal agents at the camp.

Although the common view was that that Camp Pendleton was a Vietnamese refugee camp, the lessons were developed in five languages in addition to English

(Continued on B-4, Col. 4)

# Refugees Taught To 'Survive'

(Continued from Page B-1)

— Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Chinese, and Thai.

The programs were developed to help the refugees acquire the basic skills they will need to survive in the United States — how to get directions, use public transportation, buy food, clothes, health services and other essential activities.

Ingram said he believes the program resulted in money well spent.

"I think they'll face very few problems in terms of what they might have had without the few weeks of orientation," Ingram said.

Locally, San Diego County school districts report 833 refugee children enrolled. The San Diego City Schools have the largest segment with 380.

## MORE RETURNING

However, county school officials believe many more refugees are returning to the San Diego area after becoming independent from their sponsors.

Rucker said the 2,230 refugees officially reported in San Diego may be as high as 6,000.

There was little coordination and considerable confusion at times, according to officials.

"They also didn't have a developed program or the materials that eventually came into play," said B. E. Ingram, program director.

When the county assumed responsibility for the program a small staff — ranging at times from 10 to 33 people — was hired to develop the curriculum and handle the clerical work for the volunteer effort.

Volunteers eventually received some reimbursement for their efforts — about \$5 a day plus mileage for a maximum of \$20 per day — but it was far from being a profitable venture for them, said Don Rucker, county special services and programs administrator.

The curriculum specialists developed 12 — then later four more — lesson packets to provide refugees with basic "survival" English and communication skills they would need to acquire goods and services. The lessons were designed to fit into the anticipated 15-20 day stays of the average refugee. However, many of those processed through the camp repeated many of the lessons.

## FIVE LANGUAGES

More than 600 adults are currently taking advantage of the San Diego Community College adult division classes for refugees, according to Dr. Phil del Campo, adult division president.

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# Refugees learn English

SAN DIEGO—It's a long way from Quang Ngai to Queretaro, yet natives of both places find themselves crossing paths today in San Diego County.

There, in Operation SER's English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) classes, America's oldest nationality is meeting America's newest.

Since August, 14 Vietnamese refugees have been learning survival-oriented, job-related English—three at SER's main office in National City and 11 at the North County branch office in San Marcos.

To better handle what is anticipated to be a considerable influx of Vietnamese into the area, SER has already hired its first Vietnamese instructor, Thong Le, 33, a graduate of the University of New Zealand.

The Vietnamese classes reflect SER's changing pattern in dealing with an increasingly multi-ethnic community in the San Diego Area.

In one ESL class alone, side by side are: Khanh Cong Vu, a former bicycle mechanic from Saigon; Maria del Carmen Lopez, formerly of Cinco de Mayo High School in Tijuana; Carlos Reyes from Santiago, Chile; Manuel Roxas from Manila, P.I.; and Hyon Sook Lim from Seoul, Korea.

According to SER's Executive Director, Gil Abeyta, SER must "recognize the fact of ongoing change affecting ESL programs.

This change, along with affirmative action standards, attempts to guarantee equal ESL opportunity to all segments in our community.

While, in spirit, SER wholeheartedly agrees with and endorses this concept, the priority and thrust of our ESL remains, of course, with the Spanish-speaking."

SER training began to pay off for the Vietnamese students early; four of them are already

working and one has entered Palomar Junior College in San Marcos.

Nearly all the Vietnamese students had some knowledge of English, much of it sprinkled with colloquialisms they had picked up from listening to English-language radio and TV in Vietnam. But to be able to search for and hold jobs, considerably more was needed.

Arriving in America in May, most of them had struggled their way through the crowds that had besieged every form of outgoing transport in the last days before the fall of the Republic of Vietnam.

Two of the students were on active duty in the military at the time. One, Lap Van Luu, had previously been to the U.S. for pilot's training. All ultimately found themselves at the giant refugee center at Camp Pendleton, in San Diego's North County area.

Today, most of them live in

North County's towns—Oceanside, San Marcos, Escondido—some with their sponsors, some now on their own.

Because of the scarcity of public transportation in the sprawling North County, many of the students must rise before dawn in order to make the bus connections that will take them to SER's classes.

The Vietnamese differ from the majority of SER's Spanish-speaking clientele in that many of them had been skilled professionals in their own country.

Mastery of English and professional licensing will set these men on the road to building new lives in America—but even then, they will still face the twin hurdles so familiar to the Spanish-speaking: a depressed economy and racial discrimination on the part of some employers.

By now, having already studied English for three months at the side of students with names like Morales, Orozco, and Salazar, the Vietnamese have picked up a few Spanish phrases.

"Como esta?" and "Gracias" may be heard from Nguyen Tam Duy and Vu Binh Quoc.



## *Refugee Camp Closing*

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — The first and largest of the nation's Southeast Asian refugee camps will meet its Halloween shutdown deadline — six months and two days after most of the refugees arrived.

One group of 125 Cambodians and one South Vietnamese who now want to return to their homelands were scheduled to fly to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., today to await their departure for Asia.

The remaining 147 refugees will be picked up by sponsors on Friday, officials said.

A total of 50,826 refugees — including former South Vietnamese vice premier Nguyen Cao Ky — passed through the nine camps stretched along an edge of this sprawling Marine base midway between Los Angeles and San Diego and just a few miles inland from Richard Nixon's San Clemente estate.

The U.S. government spent \$17 million to feed, clothe and relocate the refugees.

San Clemente State San Jose

A-2

30 OCT 75

## Last of Refugees Leave Camp Pendleton

From A Times Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON—Liang Suy Lang and 10 members of his family packed up their meager possessions and departed for their new home in Los Angeles Friday, the last of the more than 50,000 Southeast Asian refugees to pass through this once-bustling tent city.

The big refugee camp here was the first established in the United States, and the last to close. During its six months and two days of operation, 50,418 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees were processed and sent to new homes.

At its peak, the camp housed 18,500 men, women and children. They lived in Quonset huts and thousands of military tents.

By noon Friday, the last of the tents had been struck and stored, Marines had swept down the streets and the camp was deserted.

Los Angeles Times

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Date. 1 Nov 75

## 'Little Saigon' closes at Camp Pendleton

By ROBERT DIETRICH  
TRIBUNE Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Only a handful of Indochinese refugees remained here today gazing over empty fields that for the past six months have been a halfway-house community nicknamed "Little

Saigon."

One was the family of Kim Ngin, a Cambodian who requested repatriation. His wife, Mui, gave birth Wednesday night to a son, who is automatically a U.S. citizen.

Another is the family of former South Vietnamese navy quartermaster Pham Phu Lan, whose wife, Do Thi Anh, refused U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service orders to go to the refugee center at Fort Chaffee, Ark., instead of the family's sponsors in Atwater, Calif.

An INS spokesman in Washington said Mrs. Anh, five months pregnant, did not clear security because of a child abuse charge. In an eleventh-hour decision, INS canceled the Fort Chaffee order.

One of her sons, Phuong, 9, is being held by the San Diego County Welfare Department.

"I love my son," she said tearfully as she pleaded with Marine Corps and federal refugee officials. "I hit

(Cont. on next page, col. 4)

more

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# Refugees' Little Saigon closes at Camp Pendleton

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

him because he stole. I want him to be a good boy."

Marine Lt. Col. Daniel Escalera tried to calm her saying, "Please trust me" and asked INS officials to review the case.

"They hurt me so much," Mrs. Anh sobbed. "I cannot stay with the Viet Cong and in this country I have trouble with freedom."

That confrontation yesterday temporarily marred what refugee officials termed a day of happiness for 147 Vietnamese refugees who moved out of camp to join their sponsors.

Escalera kept his word to Mrs. Anh. She and her family went to their sponsors instead of Fort Chaffee. Still unresolved, however, is the status of her son in San Diego. Mrs. Anh refused to sign papers giving permission for Phuong to live with a foster parent.

The "Little Saigon" area officially closed at noon today.

The two square miles of training area at the north end of this Marine Corps base that was temporary home to 50,418 Southeast Asian refugees has been dismantled with almost the same speed it was erected in the first week of May, shortly after the fall of South Vietnam.

Aboard the last bus to depart yesterday was Lieu Dung and his family group of 10. The Dung family are Chinese Vietnamese en route to a new home in Honolulu.

They are being sponsored by the First Chinese Church of Christ in Honolulu. The

always have deep respect for the U.S. Marine Corps."

Just ahead of all the carrying, the Dung family to their new lives in Hawaii were three buses crowded with 117 Cambodians who chose to return to Cambodia.

The 117 Cambodians who departed this morning were flown to Ft. Chaffee to await word from the Khmer Rouge regime on how they will be repatriated.

Most of the Cambodians did not wish to discuss their reasons for wanting to return. One who did, a former Cambodian Navy electronics technician, who gave his name only as "Sam," told a reporter, "My wife is in Cambodia and she needs me. You must also understand that Cambodia is still my country."

Sam, who was undergoing advanced electronics training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center when Cambodia fell to the Communists last April, said he was able to talk with his wife by telephone just before the surrender.

"I miss her," he said.

The official end of refugee operations here will be about noon tomorrow when the last of about 50 refugees will go home with their sponsors.

The federal interagency refugee task force staff will remain here until about mid-November, mainly to sort out the bills the Navy and Marine Corps will present to the task force for housing, sheltering, feeding and providing medical care for the refugees.

INS officials said they had no statement for the U.S. Marine Corps. William S. Allen, an INS spokesman, said there were no mass graves or other sites that did not exist before.

Camp Pendleton, the host of four Indochina refugee centers in the nation, handled a large share of the 137,000 war refugees who were evacuated to this country.

About 10,000 are living in San Diego County now and about 15,000 are reported in Los Angeles County.

Refugee task force officials anticipate that by year's end, as many as 60,000 refugees will be in California, primarily because of the climate.

There are no restrictions on refugee travel in the United States.

col. 1

col. 2

bus left at 7 a.m. following the timetable set by the Marine hosts.

"We've lived here for 40 days in a tent," Dung said. "For us, the weather was very cold and we are very happy to be going to Hawaii."

"But we did not mind the cold very much because of the warmth of our Marine Corps friends. They were very kind to us, and I will

that one is expected to be well over \$17 million, and will come out of the \$505 million in federal money authorized by Congress and the White House for refugee resettlement.

The average cost per day for each refugee here has been estimated at \$5.04.

"Little Saigon" will revert to its former use as a training area for Marine Corps reservists — with a

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WAITING — Vietnamese refugee Tran Hu Nguyen waits at Camp Pendleton Refugee Center for the

bus that will take her to meet her new American sponsors. — Photo by Larry Armstrong.

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### **Baby Among Last Refugees**

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — A newborn Cambodian boy and his parents became the last of the Southeast Asian war refugees in camp as the biggest U.S. relocation center folded its tents Thursday.

The unnamed boy was born in the Naval Hospital late Wednesday, a Marine Corps spokeswoman said. His parents were not identified publicly, but they were expected to remain five days.

Meanwhile, the last 147 refugees seeking new lives in the United States left, one by one or in small groups, as their sponsors arrived.

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# Flight Of Stork Delays Refugees

Picture — Page A-3

By **DONALD H. HARRISON**  
Staff Writer

The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Kim Ngin's family had to cancel its plans yesterday to join 120 other Cambodian repatriates on a flight to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., on what was to be a last day of this refugee camp.

Ngin was meeting his son, the 185th child born to refugee parents at Camp Pendleton, while his countrymen were airborne for the Army installation where they will await permission to return to their country.

The boy, weighing 8½ pounds and 20 inches long, was born at 10:43 p.m. Wednesday. He and his mother, 25-year-old Mui, will recuperate several days at the Naval Hospital here before joining other Cambodians at Ft. Chaffee.

## STAY AT MOTEL

Ngin and a 3-year-old daughter, Tuoi, were put up at the Hostess House, a base motel for military dependents.

Seven other persons besides Ngin's family are at the hospital and will be transferred to the care of their sponsors or to Ft. Chaffee when their health permits.

Of the other refugees who were at Camp Pendleton yesterday morning, all but

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15 left for new lives by nightfall. Four of these were scheduled to leave the camp at 5:30 this morning on a flight for Merced and 11 members of a Thai Dam family were expected to be picked up by their Los Angeles area sponsors at 9:30 this morning.

## 9 CHILDREN

The Thai Dam are Liang Sui Lang, 52, a former bartender at the U.S. Agency for International Development mission in Vientiane, Laos, and his wife and nine children.

Despite the holdovers, the Camp Pendleton refugee program was declared completed by Nick Thorne, head of the Inter-Agency Task Force, at a combined meeting of his staff and the staff of the military commanders and the voluntary agencies which arranged for the resettlement of 50,418 refugees from here.

"A lot of people said we couldn't pull this off" when the refugee program began six months ago, Thorne said. "Our motto should be 'They said we couldn't do it and we did it.'"

## DOUBTS ARISE

Thorne said he often had his doubts that so many refugees would be settled in six months.

"For so many Americans to step forward and be so kind and generous is a

rather exhilarating feeling," he said.

The last refugee to leave the camp yesterday with a sponsor was Phan Van Thu, 28, a South Vietnamese journalist. He was picked up by Mike Bennington, a 30-year-

old life insurance salesman from Garden Grove.

"Are you hungry?" Bennington asked his fellow bachelor.

"Yes," said Thu.

"So am I," said Bennington. "Let's get out of here."

MORE

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— Staff Photo by Joe Flynn

## Refugee Ranks Increase

Kim Ngin and his wife, Mui, admire their son, as yet unnamed, while other Cambodian repatriates were leaving

Camp Pendleton for Ft. Chaffee, Ark., on what was to be the last day of the California camp. (Story, A-7)

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## 'Hard-Core' Refugees Lacking Sponsors

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) -- Some Vietnamese have been at Ft. Chaffee Relocation Center since the camp opened last spring, prompting official debate whether the refugees represent a hard-core lot difficult to place.

There also is an underlying problem of some refugees having "lost face" and actually trying to avoid agencies seeking to place them into the mainstream of American life.

A count this week showed 10,961 refugees at Chaffee, which is scheduled to close at the end of the year, out of 49,017 received since the camp opened May 2. Of those remaining, 2,576 arrived in May.

"I don't think they are hard core or hard to place," said Donald G. McDonald, senior civil coordinator. "But there are several reasons they are still here.

"I'm told by some of our counselors many of them are despondent because they haven't got a sponsor. They feel they aren't wanted and have lost face."

However, Carroll Morris of the International Rescue Committee, one of eight voluntary agencies working at Chaffee to link up refugees with civilian sponsors, said frankly, "We're getting down to the hard-to-place."

Of the 118 cases on the files of the Catholic conference, Morris said there was only one family, and the rest single males. He said it was harder to find sponsors for single males than for most families.

David Lewis, director of the United States Catholic Conference, conceded

many of those who arrived in May do not want to leave the camp and in fact avoid contact with the voluntary agencies by faking registration with his conference.

All refugees are supposed to register with one of the voluntary agencies seeking sponsors.

MacDonald agreed some refugees were reluctant to leave. To counter the problem, he has hired four former Vietnamese refugees to aid in counseling and assist the two priests, Buddhist monk and Protestant minister already on his staff.

## Refugee Camp Now A Ghost Town

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

**CAMP PENDLETON —**  
"Little Saigon" became a ghost town on Halloween when the last 15 refugees living in its tents departed the camp for life with American sponsors.

The last family to leave was that of Liang Sui Lang, 52, a Thai Dam, who for the second time in his life is finding a new country.

Liang's family lived in North Vietnam until 1954 when it came under Communist rule. Like many Thai Dam, an ethnic group related to residents of Thailand, he migrated with his family to Laos.

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### WAS BARTENDER

In the Laotian capital of Vientiane, he worked as a bartender at the U.S. Agency for International Development mission.

When the Communist Pathet Lao took control of Laos shortly after the fall of neighboring Vietnam, Liang crossed the border into Thailand, where he stayed in a refugee camp with his wife and nine children until earlier this month.

He came to Camp Pendleton on a program to resettle the Thai Dam in Iowa, but after arriving here, requested permission to settle in the Los Angeles area where other refugees known to his family are living.

### LEAVE FOR L.A.

Permission was granted and Liang's family was picked up at 8:30 a.m. yesterday by a representative of the International Rescue Committee for a trip to Los Angeles and introduction to the family's sponsor.

Eleven refugees still are at the Naval Hospital in the southern portion of this Marine base, about a 40-minute drive from the camp.

Several will be transferred to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., when they are well enough to travel, and the others will be released to their sponsors, officials said.

## Ft. Chaffee Refugees Linger

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SAN ANTONIO DAILY SUN-STAR

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## Last Refugees Set To Leave Pendleton

EL TORO—A plane load of 121 Cambodian refugees will take off from the Marine Corps Air Station here this morning, marking the end of the Indochina refugee encampment at Camp Pendleton.

The Cambodians, to be bused to El Toro at 6 a.m. are scheduled to depart at 8:30 a.m. for winter quarters at Fort Chaffee, Ark., where they will be matched up with sponsors.

Another busload of 14 Vietnamese refugees will leave Camp Pendleton at approximately the same hour, bound for homes with sponsors.

The remaining 132 Vietnamese refugees will leave the base by private automobiles with their sponsors.

Camp Pendleton's Little Saigon refugee village will be completely empty on the scheduled closing day Friday.

Marines have folded away most of the tents that have housed some 50,000 refugees since the first wave of evacuation planes began arriving at El Toro April 29.

Bulldozers are once again reclaiming the land for its original purpose, a Marine training ground.

Approximately 130,000 refugees fled Indochina when the Communists took over, and all are expected to be with sponsors in their new American homes by the time Fort Chaffee is scheduled to close Dec. 31.

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## Refugee Guardianship Staff Reviews A Job Well-Done

Thursday it was all over but the paperwork at Camp Pendleton for John Anderson of the San Diego County Adoption Services and eight other social workers.

While most of the social-worker staff will return to their regular jobs after three months of arranging guardianship for more than 700 Vietnamese children and teenagers at Camp Pendleton, there will still be follow-up work and need to find more foster parents, Anderson said.

Of the 700 children, 110 — mostly teenaged boys — were totally unaccompanied

when they arrived here, he said. Eighty-two were with distant relatives or unrelated adults, and about 600 were with close relatives.

The unaccompanied children were given medical examinations. A social history was developed for each one with the aid of interpreters on Anderson's staff, before the search for foster homes began.

### THE SAME ANXIETIES

"These youngsters shared the same anxieties as all refugees — apprehension about the future, plus the depression that set in from separation," he said. "It varied with the situation. Some had come alone by plane because their families felt they would have a better chance here.

"It was harder on others who had been separated from their families by chance, perhaps by the boat leaving without the family. Some had thought they were being taken to another part of Vietnam, and found themselves on Guam on their way here."

"In some cases the arrangement has not worked out and the children won't be able to stay with the people who accompanied them, so we will have to find more foster homes."

(In the case of children accompanied by close relatives the screening was done by Red Cross, although Anderson's staff was responsible for contacting social agencies in other areas.)

Anderson said that foster parents of Vietnamese refugees receive the same payments and medical coverage as do foster parents of children here. The program, he said, is reimbursed by the federal government through the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare from a congressional appropriation for refugee programs.

Those interested in becoming foster parents of Vietnamese teenagers can contact the San Diego County Department of Welfare Foster Home Licensing, 6950 Levant St.

With the closing of the Camp Pendleton operation, Anderson and his staff have the satisfaction of knowing that all of the unaccompanied youngsters have been placed in foster homes — 25 in San Diego County, the rest throughout the state.

Anderson said that while there appeared to be no foster homes available at first, families, including some who had previously sponsored refugees, began offering their services. He said his staff was greatly aided by agencies who helped get necessary licenses to place children in foster homes.

### EASIER TO PLACE

"It was actually easier to place these youngsters than it is to place local teenagers here," he said.

Seven of the social workers on Anderson's staff were from three Department of Welfare services: Child Placement and Protective Services, Dependent Children, and Adoptions. The eighth is Binh Minh Thi Nguyen, a Vietnamese who received her master's degree in social work from San Diego State and had been employed with another agency until she joined Anderson's staff for this project.

Miss Binh will continue to keep in contact with the youngsters in this area who are in foster homes, and will also be available to help with any future placements.

Anderson said that more foster homes may be needed for youngsters who came with distant relatives or unrelated adults.

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**Senate okays refugee bill**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — through fiscal 1977.

The Senate has approved by voice vote legislation designed to provide federal aid to states for the education of Indochina refugees. The measure provides full reimbursement to the states for each refugee pupil plus \$300 per pupil in supplementary assistance grants. It also provides

The bill, sent to the House, would cost an estimated \$141.9 million for adult education.

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### **FALL PLAGUES VIETNAMESE**

BUFFALO, N.Y. (UPI)  
— A group of newly arrived Vietnamese refugees became frightened when they thought a "plague" had struck the trees in the Buffalo area.

However, student volunteers at the State University of New York at Buffalo quickly explained that leaves normally fall off trees in autumn around here.

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# *Last Viet Refugees Depart*

**CAMP PENDLETON** — Today marked the end of the beginning for 50,000 Indochina war refugees who settled here temporarily during the past six months.

Marines struck down the final stakes in what was once a bustling tent city and watched the final two families depart for new homes in California.

In all, 50,418 homeless refugees passed through the Camp Pendleton gates during a six-month, \$17. million resettlement operation.

The quonset huts at Camp Talega were deserted this morning, except for crews of marines who cleared the final refugee village of worn clothing, furniture, toys and other belongings left behind.

There was no fanfare as the final

families left. But there was relief on the faces of marines, civilians and governmental personnel who had combined since April 29 in a massive cooperative effort.

In recent weeks, the problem of resettling the refugees turned into a problem of persuading some fearful ones to leave. Nick Thorne, senior civil coordinator for the Camp Pendleton operation, said some refugees even hid in the hills for fear of being forced to leave the security of the camp.

Having been fed, clothed and housed for months, some homeless war victims were afraid to face the uncertainty of a new life outside their Asian refugee community.

According to Thorne, all but 16 were

finally persuaded to accept sponsors. The remaining three families were flown to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., for final disposition of their cases.

But the vast majority of Camp Pendleton's refugees went to new homes all over the United States in the past six months. Of the 50,000 total, only 597 chose to return to their homeland.

Vietnamese who wished to be repatriated were flown to Guam, where they sailed on a ship for home. Some 125 Cambodians who still want to go back were flown to Ft. Chaffee where they await further word from the Cambodian government about going home.

Camp Pendleton became the birthplace for 165 babies and the final home for eight refugees who died — one of them a 109-year-old Vietnamese woman.

There was one suicidal death, and also a threat that a Vietnamese repatriate would burn himself to death as a protest against delays in the return to Vietnam. But the threat got quick results, and 27 repatriates were flown promptly to Guam.

Thorne himself was amazed this week to find that every single refugee who came to Camp Pendleton was accounted for.

Now, with the once-sprawling refugee city having been shut down exactly on schedule, the paperwork and post-mortems will begin.

Marines who built the vast tent city, operated it and dismantled it, will restore the valley in the hills behind San Clemente to its natural state.

The civilian staff will write reports and evaluations and try to wrap up "Operation New Arrivals" by November 15.

San Clemente Daily Sun 2001

A-1

DATE

31 OCT 75



# Pendleton Refugee

By JACK V. FOX  
United Press International

Marines struck the last tents today and shut down the once bustling refugee camp at Camp Pendleton through which 50,418 homeless Southeast Asians had passed since the fall of South Vietnam six months ago.

The final few families were shuttled out on buses Thursday evening for new homes in the Los Angeles area and what had once

been a noisy city of 18,500 population at its peak was deserted.

In the last two weeks, the problem was not relocating the refugees, but persuading them to leave.

Nick Thorne, the State Department official who was chief civilian coordinator at Pendleton, said that as recently as 10 days ago 550 of the refugees would go hide in the hills rather than face the uncertainty of life

in a strange country.

All but 16 were finally persuaded to depart, and those three families were flown to Fort Chaffee, Ark., for final disposition of their cases.

Out of the more than 50,000 who were processed, a total of 597 chose to return to their homeland. One of the few crises at Pendleton came when 27 South Vietnamese demanded to be put on a plane for immediate departure.

## Camp Disbanded

boat to Saigon.

They threatened that if they were not returned, one of them would burn himself to death in front of the officers' club. Authorities quickly gave in.

During the refugees' stay here 165 babies were born. There were eight deaths — seven of natural causes, including a 109-year-old woman, and a Cambodian who committed suicide.

sponsorship to new homes and jobs around the country, although about 19,000 chose to stay in California.

The program at Pendleton alone, funded by the federal government, cost \$17 million. At one time there were 1,000 Marines just feeding the Vietnamese and another 700-800 providing other services.

At one time, 500 teachers were combined from the Fort

school system to teach classes in basic English and citizenship. There were movies every night and entertainers including Pat Boone, Rosemary Clooney and the Barnum and Bailey circus came to Pendleton to help relieve the tedium.

Thorne said there was considerable worry about some of the refugees' reluctance to de-

NEWSPAPER

Daily Pilot

A-1

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## Refugees Depart

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — The United States flew 775 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees out of Thailand on Thursday, bringing to about 10,000 the total number of Indochinese refugees that have left the country for resettlement in America, a U.S. Embassy spokesman said.

NEWSPAPER

Daily Post

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# 1,546 Arrive In Vietnam

SAIGON, Vietnam (UPI) — A group of 1,546 Vietnamese repatriates who sailed homeward from Guam, even though permission had not been granted by the Provisional Revolutionary Government, arrived in South Vietnam Oct. 27, the (South Vietnamese) Liberation Red Cross announced yesterday.

The Liberation Red Cross said it sent doctors to the undisclosed port to provide medical care to the repatriates who made the voyage aboard the repaired merchant ship Thuong Tin. The vessel left Guam Oct. 16.

It said one passenger died during the trip and was buried at sea.

The Liberation Red Cross condemned the administra-

tion of President Ford because the U.S. government "had stubbornly ignored the warnings of the Provisional Revolutionary Government." The Vietnamese left Guam without official word from PRG they would be allowed to return to their country.

The communique accused the Ford administration of "acting irresponsibly" toward the sick, old and pregnant refugees.

A spokesman for the PRG said the decision to permit the return of the Guam refugees was based on humanitarian reasons. But he said other refugees evacuated by the United States in March and April would have to apply for permission to return and each application

would be dealt with separately.

The Red Cross communique said two-thirds of those aboard were "puppet military men" and civil servants.

ALSO L.A. TIMES  
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AND SAUNDERS  
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**Vietnamese Granted Reprieve In Canada**

OTTAWA (AP) — Dang months more, the immigra-  
Van Quang, a former Saigon tion minister said.  
general ordered deported Robert Andras told the  
from Canada because he House of Commons that ef-  
allegedly was a drug traf- forts were being made to get  
ficker in South Vietnam, will the United States to accept  
be allowed to stay in the the general rather than send  
country at least several him back to Vietnam.

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## LAST REFUGEE FAMILY LEAVES CAMP PENDLETON

BY KATHY BURKE  
Times Staff Writer

The last family of refugees at Camp Pendleton left the Marine base Tuesday, six months and one week after the first of 50,000 Southeast Asians arrived at the tent camps there.

The family of Cambodians, which hopes to repatriate, stayed after the camp had closed Friday because the mother had given birth to a boy last week.

All four family members, including the newborn child, were flown Tuesday to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., where they joined about 120 other Cambodians awaiting word from their government about their return.

The total cost of the six-month refugee camp operation at Camp

Please Turn to Page 6, Col. 1

## LAST FAMILY

Continued from First Page

Pendleton was \$17 million, including \$2 million to set up the camps, the Marine public information office announced.

The \$17 million figure also includes the cost of more than 7 million meals served to refugees, nearly 8,000 pairs of shoes issued to them and the salaries of military and government civilian personnel who numbered more than 1,200 at peak of the operation.

Nick Thorne, senior coordinator of the Interagency Task Force on the base, said that with relatively few exceptions, all refugees who passed through the camps were placed with sponsors.

Those exceptions all flown to Ft. Chaffee, include a handful of refugees who have not yet received security clearances and several hundred more who are awaiting resettlement in third countries or unification with family members already in third countries.

About 240 Vietnamese refugees who would not accept a sponsor were also transferred to Ft. Chaffee, presumably to wait there until an opportunity arises for them to return to Vietnam.

A few thousand refugees remain at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa., which will close Nov. 30. Ft. Chaffee is scheduled to close Dec. 31.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES

DATE: 5 NOV 75

*CMC*

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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## Saigon Declines Refugees' Return

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—South Vietnam has told the United Nations that "practical considerations" prevent it from accepting refugees who fled the country in April when the Viet Cong took over, a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday.

The new Saigon government's view was relayed to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, in Hanoi last week by a special representative of the South Vietnamese government.

The U.S. government has decided to permit about 1,600 refugees on Guam to return to their homeland at their request, but without the concurrence of the Saigon regime.

The spokesman said the commissioner was told that although South Vietnam did not "question the principle of repatriation, practical considerations prevented this from being implemented forthwith."

Instead, the South Vietnamese representative proposed that the commissioner visit South Vietnam later this year for further discussion.

Under these circumstances, the spokesman said, the commissioner's office is not involved "in any attempt at repatriation."

The U.N. involvement in the Vietnam refugee matter began last May when the Communist authorities in Saigon requested the commissioner's office to help facilitate repatriation of all refugees who fled Vietnam.

26 pgs.

Los Angeles Times

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Date: 2 Oct. 75

## 2nd U.S. veto bars Vietnams

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States vetoed U.N. membership for South and North Vietnam again yesterday because of the continued exclusion of South Korea from the world organization.

U.S. officials said the Security Council's failure to give equal treatment to all three membership applicants was the sole reason for the American vetoes.

The United States vetoed the two Vietnams on Aug. 11 for the same reason and said it would keep on using the veto until South Korea was admitted.

The Communists mustered a big majority in the General Assembly last week and asked the Security Council to "reconsider immediately and favorably" the applications from Saigon and Hanoi.

The vote in the council was 14 to 1 in favor of the two Vietnams, with only the United States opposed. The vote on Aug. 11 was 13 to 1, with Costa Rica abstaining.

Six council members voted with the United States last Friday to put South

Korea's membership application on the council's agenda, but this was two votes short of the necessary nine. The six were Costa Rica, France, Britain, Japan, Italy and Sweden.

The countries voting against a hearing for South Korea were China, the Soviet Union, Byelorussia, Iraq, Guyana, Mauritania and Tanzania. Cameroon abstained.

Explaining its failure to side with the United States on the vote yesterday, France said it objected to package deals and felt each country should be considered on its own merits.

Britain, while also supporting the Vietnamese applications, said the Communist and nonaligned countries who criticized the U.S. vetoes, while they kept South Korea out of the world organization were guilty of hypocrisy.

Diplomats at U.N. headquarters had various explanations for North and South Vietnam seeking separate U.N. seats while insisting that unification is their goal.



### S. Vietnam Criticizes Plan For Refugee Ship

AGANA, Guam (AP) — South Vietnam said in a Hanoi Radio broadcast yesterday that the U.S. government should abandon plans to give South Vietnamese repatriates on Guam a ship in which to return home.

But U.S. officials who monitored the broadcast said there was no indication that the repatriates would not be welcomed back to Vietnam.

James Herbert, senior civil coordinator for refugees on Guam, interpreted the PRG's move as "a fit of pique that the U.S. would act first."

San Diego Union

Section

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## U.S. Warned on Repatriations

HONG KONG (UPI)—South Vietnam warned the United States Saturday of serious consequences if it goes ahead with plans to repatriate about 1,600 refugees now on Guam to South Vietnam, the Vietnam news agency reported.

The South Vietnamese Foreign Ministry charged the United States with "arbitrarily planning to repatriate 1,600 Vietnamese refugees without the consent of the Provisional Revolutionary Government," the agency reported.

It said the Foreign Ministry threatened "serious consequences" if the United States went ahead with the plan.

The U.S. government Tuesday granted permission for refugees on Guam to return to South Vietnam on one of the vessels that carried them to the island last May after the fall of the Thieu regime.

A U. N. spokesman said Wednesday South Vietnam has told the United Nations that "practical considerations" prevented Saigon from accepting the refugees.

He said that the United Nations was told that although Saigon did not "question the principle of repatriation, practical considerations prevented this from being implemented forthwith."

Instead the South Vietnamese proposed that a U.N. representative visit Saigon later this year for further discussions.

## Vietnamese Ship Without A Country

A human tragedy of great magnitude is building in the case of Vietnamese refugees who fled to this country, and elsewhere, prior to the overrun of South Vietnam by Communist forces of Hanoi and the Red supported Viet Cong.

More than 1,500 of them, who for one reason or another regret their flight from their native land and wish to return home, have left the United States and are waiting in Guam for a voyage home in a former Vietnam ship which will be manned and commanded by Vietnamese.

Disconsolate refugees in Camp Pendleton and other American refugee areas had threatened self-immolation if they were not returned to their home.

In spite of the fact that the new South Vietnamese government had asked the United Nations last May to facilitate repatriation of

those who fled and wished to return, it now says that "practical considerations" prevent it from accepting these people now.

The government of South Vietnam realizes, of course, that the problem of those who wish to return home is an aggravating one for the United States.

We thus have the potential of a dramatic and tragic voyage of former Vietnamese people to their old homeland only to find that their ship will not be allowed to land and that they will become people without a country seeking to find a nation that will accept them.

The total lack of humanity of the government of South Vietnam in repulsing these people so that they may become a source of trouble to the United States and the free world is a measure of the reason why so many fled in the first place.

## Five-Year Refugee Aid Program Being Sought

WASHINGTON (UPI) — California state legislators want a five-year federal program of aid for Vietnamese refugees, but the state's two senators appear to have decided to settle for less.

A delegation of legislative leaders headed by Assembly Speaker Leo T. McCarthy Thursday met with Julia Taft, the head of a federal interagency team dealing with refugee programs, and White House aide James A. Cannon, to urge longer term federal aid.

McCarthy told reporters that they were seeking "a firm commitment" for a five-year program of federal financing but that they still had not been able to get one.

"We still have a selling job to do," he said.

The speaker said the fact that the state's two Democratic senators, Alan Cranston and John Tunney, had backed away from supporting a five-year plan to back a two-year aid plan instead was not "inconsistent" with their position. The reason, he said, was that some states were "not interested" in a long term program because it would have little effect on them.

In California, he said, a longer term program was important because of the large numbers of refugees that would be involved and because of the impact of refugee children on the state's schools.

McCarthy said the state was ready "to assimilate 5,000 Vietnamese refugees into the permanent population" but that the fiscal burden, especially on schools, would be too heavy if federal aid were cut off after only 18 months or two years.

Democratic Chairman John Foran of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee said members of the group also had met with aides to Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, D-Maine, to discuss pending amendments to the Clean Air Act.

Foran said they had been assured that California would continue to be allowed to impose stricter emission controls than those called for under federal antipollution laws.

The delegation also spent part of its time in the national capital lobbying against an Internal Revenue Service ruling that the "tax home" of state legislators was the state capital rather than their home districts.

McCarthy said the ruling would have "an extraordinary impact" in California because the state has "a fulltime legislature" and the lawmakers would not be able to deduct many expenses that they have in the past.

The legislative leaders defended their lobbying efforts during a trip paid for with tax funds as being in the public interest rather than merely in their own private interests.

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Headquarters, Marine Corps

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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# 6,200 Refugees Still At Pendleton

By JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — A task force has until mid-October to find sponsors for the 6,200 refugees remaining at Camp Pendleton.

According to Maj. Sally Pritchett, the U. S. State Department task force assigned to the refugee sponsorship-resettlement project is concentrating on gaining large group sponsors in an effort to find places for the last Vietnamese.

Those who are not sponsored by mid-October will be flown either to refugee camps at Fort Chaffee, Ark. and Indian Fort, Indiantown, Penn.

They are leaving Camp Pendleton primarily because the tent cities are not equipped to protect the refugees against coming winter temperatures.

"Winterized" barracks are available at the other two bases, but it is hoped sponsors will be found for all Vietnamese housed here so they won't have to be transported east.

Pritchett said it is likely that only one

large group will have to be sent to the other camps. This is a group of 600 who are awaiting visas for relocation in other countries.

The large group sponsors Pritchett mentioned are cities, states and other entities capable of handling large groups of refugees. Each sponsor is paid a certain amount of money per refugee, and these large groups are no exception.

This was pointed out to indicate that refugees sponsored by cities and states will not be supported by local taxpayers' money.

Sponsorship offers have been slowly dwindling as the end of the effort to absorb the refugees continues. They were coming in at a rate of 700 per day as late as June, but they dropped to 150 per day by late August.

The offers these days are as high as 75 and as low as five per day, Pritchett said.

Pritchett reported that nearly 50,000 refugees have been received at Camp Pendleton since the arrivals began last

summer. She said 43,700 have left the camp, and that 40,000 of these were released into the United States.

Her figures cover Camp Pendleton only.

She said over 2,000 have been sponsored in other countries, including Canada, England, Saudi Arabia, Australia, France, Germany and the Philippines.

She said over 400 from Camp Pendleton have sought return to Vietnam. She also said there are 1,500 refugees on Guam awaiting return to Vietnam.

The last flight of refugees into Camp Pendleton was a group of 231 from Guam in mid-August. Arrivals since then have been small numbers, mostly for purposes of reunifying families.

One group of 350 will arrive at Camp Pendleton soon, but these are already sponsored by the state of Iowa and will leave shortly after arrival.

Estimates are that at least 1,800 refugees have settled in San Diego County. By the end of July, 1,650 had settled in the county, the majority of these within the

city of San Diego.

Pritchett said there is no possibility of a sudden influx of new refugees into Camp Pendleton. The refugee camp will be closed by the end of October at the latest, and the tents have been coming down as the refugees leave.

Pritchett said stories that large number of refugees are on "welfare" are misleading because the figures have been based partly on the number which have signed up for state medical assistance.

She said the sponsors are charged with the responsibility of taking care of Vietnamese until they can support themselves, and that most sponsors — all of which were screened — are trying to accomplish that goal.

Previously obtained information indicated that only 50 cases of abandonment have been reported. When a sponsor indicates he can't handle the burden, another sponsor is found by agencies working with the State Department.

## 11-Member Refugee Family Sponsored By Three Churches

By PHYLLIS GAPEN,  
Editor, People Section

OCEANSIDE — The morning the Viet Cong bombed Vung Tau for the last time, Truy Quang Pham woke with confidence, knowing he had a bank account fattened with one million piasters.

But artillery fire near his family-owned drugstore soon disturbed his peace.

In 10 fleeting minutes, his family scooped up as many belongings as possible and scurried to a nearby South Vietnamese naval vessel which a family friend and military officer had arranged for the family to board along with 5,000 other South Vietnamese.

The boat set sail and shortly afterward its passengers heard the announcement their country had unconditionally surrendered to North Vietnam.

When South Viet Nam fell to the communists, Pham's piasters became worthless. In less than a day he lost his country, his store and his wealth.

Within days, Pham and passengers on the boat headed for Subic Bay, Philippines, faced even greater tragedy, however.

Available stores of food and water ran dangerously low.

When an American ship passed by the South Vietnamese vessel, it transferred supplies to the people-packed ship, enough to feed passengers until they arrived in Subic Bay. For Pham, this escape from Vietnam was much more hazardous than his first.

In 1954, Pham, his wife and his first child were airlifted from Haiphong Harbor to Saigon when Ho Chi Minh's troops overran the area.

Beginning in 1946, Pham had "worked for the communists to fight the French to regain our country's liberty, when I didn't know the communists well. I was a policeman in Hanoi in 1952. When we got to know them, we didn't want to live under them," he told Christian Sponsors, a group of representatives of three local churches sponsoring the Pham family and several cousins.

"Everybody poor under communism. It's cruel — no freedom to speak, even cannot read newspapers except the party newspaper."

Pham and his family of eight are Catholics, a religious group not endeared to the communists.

In Saigon, after the first airlift, Pham again worked as a policeman, but this time for the South Vietnamese.

When he fled Vietnam in 1975, Pham said he feared he would be killed along with South Vietnamese government officials, former policeman and those who had fled the North after communists took over there.

His wife and children feared the way they would have to live, Buu Can, a South Vietnamese physician and Pham's cousin explained.

Pham said the second escape from Vietnam was much more difficult because this time there was no three-week period in which to sell personal belongings and raise funds to leave the country — there was only a matter of minutes to get out of the country.

"This time I knew that there would be many difficulties here and we must accept that."

Can told Christian sponsors the family first obtained more money on Guam when Pham's godson worked as a translator and gave his earnings to Pham.

Several months after the huge family ranging from eight to 43 years-of-age arrived at Camp Pendleton, Christian Sponsors decided to sponsor it. Sponsors



TRUY QUANG PHAM

From Riches To Poverty In A Day

(Continued)



**FORMER BIOCHEMISTRY STUDENT**, Tran Ann Pham, left, her sister, Tuyet Ann Pham, a former journalism student at Saigon University, and their

mother, (left to right) discuss their family's escape from a town in South Vietnam. One day they were a wealthy upper class

family, the next they were destitute. Now they're being sponsored by three local churches in their new country. Open photos

from King of Kings Lutheran Church and Immanuel Lutheran Church of Oceanside and Pilgrim Congregational Church of Carlsbad donated \$350 to feed the family, obtained a home rent-free for the family and helped a cousin and Pham's son find jobs as a janitor and carwash attendant. Sponsors headed by Oceanside Public Library Director Helen Nelson are now seeking donations of funds and supplies to underwrite costs of sponsoring. The two persons working to support the family so far are bringing home only a total of \$600 a month for the 11-member family.

Pham, the head of the family, will shortly enroll in an automotive repair course \$350 to feed the family, obtained a home rent-free for the family and helped a cousin and Pham's son find jobs as a janitor and carwash attendant. Sponsors headed by Oceanside Public Library

Director Helen Nelson are now seeking donations of funds and supplies to underwrite costs of sponsoring. The two persons working to support the family so far are bringing home only a total of \$600 a month for the 11-member family.

Pham, the head of the family, will shortly enroll in an automotive repair course at MiraCosta College to retrain himself to qualify for a new job.

His young son and three of his daughters are enrolled in elementary and high schools in the area.

His 20-year-old son, Tuan Ann Pham, is working at a car wash. Pham's daughter, Tran Ann Pham, had studied biochemistry for three years at the University of Saigon but will wait until the family can afford to send her back to school before resuming her studies. It is expected she will take a

job as soon as her sponsors can find one for her.

Tuyet Ann Pham, a 19-year-old daughter, may resume studies next year after working for several months. She is a former journalism student.

Tran Huu Phung, a former South Vietnamese army captain and a cousin of the family, recently obtained a basic opportunity study grant from the U.S. government and is enrolled in general education courses at MiraCosta College. Buu Can, another cousin, hopes to resume practicing medicine in two more years after completing an internship and passing a medical exam.

The Christian Sponsors are assisting Pham's family and his cousins and godson in readjusting to a new life in the United States.



## EAST MEETS WEST

# Vietnam Family Sponsorship Benefits 2 Ways

By LUCRETIA STEIGER

It was around June 20 when Patty and Bruce Wing decided to sponsor a Vietnamese family. She called a volunteer agency in San Clemente she had read about in a church bulletin.

What neither Patty nor Bruce realized then was how well this sponsorship would work out for both foreign and American families.

"I love my Vietnamese family and I think that as long as I live, they'll be my friends," Mrs. Wing said.

"I gained so much from learning about their quiet, gentle ways, their love of family. And on the fun side, I learned how to eat with chopsticks and now I know a lot of Chinese dishes.

"I think more people would become sponsors if they knew how easy, and how inexpensive, it really was. Our family lived with us for two months and it was not a financial drain. They can make meals out of almost nothing at all. And they're super grateful for the chance to come out of the camp and try to fit into American life.

## FELT THE URGE

"I felt very urged to want to help the Vietnamese when I would watch the news," said the wife of a PSA pilot. "It makes you feel uncomfortable to live in a nice house and they're up there in those tents."

Tau Dinh Trinh and his wife Ngan, who speak English, and their 3-year-old son Phi arrived to stay in the Wings' guest room July 2.

The Wings had visited them at Camp Pendleton several times earlier, Mrs. Wing said, before bringing them home to Clairemont where they would live with the Wings and their two children, Eric, 7, and Beth, almost 3, for what turned out to be two months.

Tau was one of six brothers and sisters who came to American from a Vietnamese family of 10, Mrs. Wing said. Still a matter of sadness and worry to the Vietnamese family is the fact that four brothers and sisters, and the mother and father, still are in Vietnam.

## NO LUCK YET

"I've tried to help Tau track them down," Mrs. Wing said, "but so far we haven't had any luck. The problem is that the oldest brother, now here, was an aerial photographer who helped plot strikes in Vietnam, and he is worried about the danger to his relatives still there."

This brother, a former air force major in Vietnam, now is washing dishes in a company cafeteria in San Diego and is extremely grateful for the work, she said. His sister also works in the cafeteria as a hostess.

The Wings began helping Tau and his family, after moving them into their home, by aiding Tau in getting a driver's license and registering for medical care for his pregnant wife.

Then the search for a job began, and Tau, a former musician in the air force band in Vietnam, found work in the Navy Exchange at Naval Training Center as a hot dog stand operator.

## FOUND A HOME

"Everything they had when they moved in with us had been donated to them and it wasn't much," Mrs. Wing said. "After Tau got his job and had earned several paychecks, they moved in with the other members of his family who had rented a five-bedroom, three-bath house in Clairemont.

"Tau, Ngan and Phi (pronounced Fee) stayed with us for two months and they were charming, wonderful people," she said. "Tau did everything he could around the house and his wife cooked. I had trouble doing anything because they wanted to do it all.

"When I would come down

for breakfast in the morning, Tau would have been up, and have the floor swept and the garden watered. They didn't eat breakfast, but would have their big meal at noon, and I tried to go along with that.

## SO MUCH ROOM

"They were really awed by the fact that my husband and I and our children lived alone in this house that seemed so big to them. Although Tau's parents had owned a restaurant in Saigon and had a nice home there, about 20 people had lived in it.

"When Tau and Ngan first arrived here, they had quite an emotional adjustment to make because everything was so strange. They would sit alone in their room and

be very sad. Ngan, who had lost her whole family, would cry, and I would try to get her to talk about what she was feeling.

"When they were first here, they would go over and over the story of the last day, the day they left Vietnam.

"Tau looked up to my husband, a pilot, as the picture of what an American man should be. He was very impressed by Bruce.

"We had a very calm but interesting time with them, because they were so willing to learn. We would share a lot of the duties around the house; Ngan would watch the children if I went somewhere and at night, while Tau and Ngan went to English classes at Clairemont High School, I would bathe Phi and get him ready for bed.

## MORE NEEDED

"Our neighbors and friends were grand, donating furniture and silverware to

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## Sponsorship Of Family

(Continued from D-1)

the family, but they need more furniture and clothes. Eventually, they want to get separate apartments and homes, but they figure it will take them about a year to get on their feet.

"I go by the house a couple of times a week to see what I can do, and I'll help Ngan when her baby is born. She's 22, only about 10 years younger than I am, but she doesn't have her mother to consult with about the baby. I'm a nurse and I'll give her all the help I can.

"Out of 11 people now living in that house in Clairemont, six are working, and I think that shows how industrious they are.

"I think if more people would take a month out of their lives and take in a few of these people, it would be wonderful. We all have so much to share here, and I don't mean just material things. The Vietnamese, although they're somewhat familiar with Western ways, have to learn our ways of doing things in this country.

### TOLERANCE FIRST

"You have to have some tolerance at first; to think what they're saying and learn to understand what they mean to say. Taking a bath in a bathtub is a new experience for them, for instance. Getting under a sheet, instead of on it, these are things we take for granted that they need to learn about. "They need to learn how to dress, how to shop in the supermarket; all the little things of life in this country.

"The 'new life' for the Vietnamese — they call it a 'new life' because of all the new paperwork they must do — is a hard life. They're happy to be here and to be alive although they miss their home and country. They're grateful for any help they can be given. Lots of Americans just don't give them a chance."

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—Staff Photo by George Smith

Mrs. Patty Wing, who with her husband Bruce sponsored a Vietnamese family, and Tau Dinh Trinh play with little Linh Quang Nguyen. Tau and his

family lived with the Wings for two months, now are settled with other family members at a home in the Clairemont area.

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## 8,000 Wait At Pendleton

More than 8,000 Vietnamese people of all ages — adults — are waiting for sponsors in a city of tents at Camp Pendleton Marine Corps base.

"Most of the people here are in families," says Maj. Sally Pritchett, USMC, press officer for the refugee camp at Camp Pendleton. "The average is four to five persons to a family. Nearly 75 per cent of the people are less than 25 years old, with 14 per cent between 5 and 10.

"Sponsorship consists of taking care of families and individuals, getting them assimilated into society and whatever that takes, including helping them find jobs. It's a moral, not a legal, commitment.

"We're hoping that all the people will be sponsored out of the camp by Oct. 31, our cutoff date, when those still here will be sent on to Fort Chaffee, Ark., for winter."

Anyone interested in learning more about sponsoring is asked to call a toll-free number, 800-422-4254 within California or 800-854-3148 outside California, or write to the Inneragency Task Force, Camp Pendleton, 92055.

Agencies involved in helping relocate the refugees through offices at Camp Pendleton include Church World Service, US-Catholic Conference, International Rescue Committee, Lutheran Integration and Refugee Service, Tolstoy Foundation, International Committee for European Immigration, Church of Latter-day Saints and Czechoslovakian Refugees.

In case sponsorship does not work out, Maj. Pritchett said, the agency working with the refugee and the American sponsor becomes responsible for the refugee.

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## South Vietnam Issues Warning

HONG KONG (UPI) — South Vietnam warned the United States Saturday of serious consequences if it goes ahead with plans to repatriate about 1,600 refugees now on Guam to South Vietnam, the Vietnam News Agency reported.

The South Vietnamese Foreign Ministry charged the United States with "arbitrarily planning to repatriate 1,600 Vietnamese refugees without the consent of the Provisional Revolutionary Government," VNA reported.

The report said the foreign ministry threatened "serious consequences" if the U.S. went ahead with the plan.

"To give permission for Vietnamese to return is the sovereign right of Vietnam and the U.S. has no right to force the matter," the VNA report, quoting the foreign ministry said.

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# 22,000 Refugees Given Driver Training Courses

SACRAMENTO — Some 22,000 Vietnamese refugees now relocated in homes throughout the United States are better prepared to drive in America after having attended driver training classes of the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

The classes have ended because of the pending mid-October closure of Camp Pendleton Marine base in San Diego County as a refugee relocation center.

State DMV Director Herman Sillas said departmental personnel conducted more than

140 separate classes with attendance up to 650 persons each in a number of cases.

At each class, driver handbooks in both English and Vietnamese were distributed to every potential driver, as were road sign charts picturing the various international driving symbols encountered on United States roadways.

The traffic safety courses were conducted in both English and Vietnamese by Duc Nguyen, a student a Sacramento City College, who was hired by the Department of Motor Vehicles. The young

Vietnamese worked under the direction of James Chapel, a drivers license examiner in DMV's Oceanside office.

Chapel, who spent a number of years in Vietnam, organized the programs based upon his knowledge of the different driving habits of motorists in the two countries.

"For instance," Chapel noted, "the refugees were totally unfamiliar with line stripes and lane dividers."

The multi-lane freeway system was an entirely new concept to them, too," Chapel said.

"We had to convince them that they were not to stop on a freeway for any reason. That was hard for the Vietnamese, a people used to picnicking along the roadside, to understand because the well-landscaped California freeway medians look particularly appealing."

George Treco, manager of driving school services for the department who acted as headquarters coordinator for the project, explained that the classes were held at the Camp Pendleton base because that was where most of the refugees first arrived in the United

States and where they spent the longest period of time.

"We felt by concentrating on the new potential drivers at one location we could be more effective with less inconvenience and cost. Otherwise, the new drivers would have had to take a similar course at one of the 147 DMV field offices throughout the state before they became licensed California drivers," he said.

The highway safety educational programs included a basic orientation lecture and slide presentations conducted

by Nguyen.

The classes also included motorcycle safety films with demonstration rides available on motorcycles.

Additionally, special sessions on bicycle safety were conducted with the assistance of the Southern California Automobile Club. The bicycle classes were directed toward Vietnamese youngsters, and safe-riding brochures were provided in English and Vietnamese by the Auto Club.

California Highway Patrolmen also helped with the classes.

A Vietnamese family of five, just moving into a new rented house in Riverside, lost most of its household belongings to burglars. Police said Nguyen Minh Kim, 31, a machinist, his wife and three children, aged 8 months to 12 years, were moving from an apartment to the house. During one of their trips they returned to the house and discovered nearly everything but the furniture was taken by burglars who entered through an unlocked window, police said. The family is sponsored by a local church group, which has indicated it will replace necessities.



**Resettlement of Indochina refugees** should be complete by mid-December, Julia Vadala Taft, the head of the resettlement program told Congress. Testifying before the House immigration subcommittee, she said 29,000 refugees remained to be resettled of the 137,000 who had entered the system. She said plans called for closing the Camp Pendleton, Calif., refugee camp by Nov. 1. Two other camps will remain open until the last refugees are resettled, she said.

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Los Angeles Times Sect I Pg. 2

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# Refugee Group Sponsorship Questioned

By JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO — A group of 138 Vietnamese refugees from Camp Pendleton, sponsored for use as farm workers here, are receiving questionable treatment.

The refugees have not started the jobs their sponsor promised he would provide, nor do they know what those jobs will be, according to Sacramento Bee reporter Iris Yang, who has been investigating the refugees' plight.

Yang found the refugees are being housed in low-income apartments in the city's "minority area" and that some of them are overcrowded and in violation of health department standards.

Yang said the sponsor has apparently

taken on more of a responsibility than he realized, and reported in a story on Tuesday that the refugees' "continued livelihood appears to be in serious doubt."

She said the sponsor has never made it clear what he plans to do with the refugees.

The sponsor, according to a Los Angeles-based agency called the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, is Earl Quong, a Sacramento farmer. Yang reported that Quong promised jobs for fifty refugees on a 1,000 acre ranch.

Under an agreement with the CCBA, Quong obtained the refugees and agreed to pay them \$2.25 per hour to start and \$2.50 after one week.

CCBA, according to Camp Pendleton's Maj. Sally Pritchett, is a sponsoring

agency which handles Vietnamese with Chinese backgrounds or heritage. She acknowledged the refugees are from Camp Pendleton, and said they were sent up in two separate groups.

The CCBA, like all sponsoring agencies, receives \$500 for each refugee it can find a sponsor for. CCBA reported that all the money received for handling the refugees has been deposited for them in a Los Angeles bank.

CCBA said it will give all the money to the refugees. It reportedly gave each refugee \$100 of his \$500 when they left for Sacramento.

The money deposited in the Los Angeles bank is available to the refugees through identification cards, the CCBA said.

Yang said sponsor Quong told her he did

not realize the fifty workers would bring so many children.

She said Quong said he is seeking additional housing for the refugees. The only jobs the refugees have reportedly seen so far are 20 positions in tomato fields owned by an associate of Quong. These positions will end in three weeks with the end of the tomato season.

Quong said he may be able to find two or three months of pruning work for the refugees in area pear groves.

Yang said Quong has not been available for comment for several days. She said he is difficult to contact because he lists only one phone which is located on a pole in area fields.

Yang said Quong told her he may try to set up 20-acre sharecropping operations for the refugee families.

Headquarters, Marine Corps

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

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### *Refugees Adopted*

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — Fifty-three refugee children who left Vietnam without their parents have been placed with foster parents in the United States.

Before the foster parents receive custody of the children they must agree not to seek permanent custody of them for at least three years.

"We ask them to sign the agreement because most, if not all these kids, have parents living in Vietnam. We want to protect their rights and we want the kids to be able to return to their parents in Vietnam if they want to and the opportunity ever arises," explained Ann Henshaw, a State Department attorney and legal advisor at Chaffee.



**AFFECTED BY COURT ORDER**—Some of the prospective mothers attending a news conference with their young Cambodian charges

are Mrs. Sally Miller, left, with John Kam Soth; Mrs. Dione Secombe, rear, with Mary Vanna; Mrs. Barbara Kolar with Kouy.

Times photo by Bruce Cox

Los Angeles Times Sect. II Pg. 1

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## Refugee host's chickens killed

JAMESTOWN, Tenn. (UPI) — A Fentress County farmer said today the deliberate killing of 11,500 of his 12,000 broiler house chickens was tied to his sponsorship of a Vietnamese family.

Wade Reed, 51, said "someone" propped open the door to one of his two brooders Saturday, allowing a neighborhood dog to enter.

"The chickens were literally frightened to death. The dog doesn't have to touch them," he said. "The birds stack up two or three deep, climbing on top of one another and they smother. They can die by the thousands in four or five minutes."

He said he does not think a dog was brought into the brooder deliberately.

"They didn't need to do that. They know there're enough dogs around here to do the damage. It was deliberate, all right. The door to the brooder is latched from the inside and has a mighty strong spring. They had to prop open the door with a stick," he said.

The fowl, raised on the farm about 6 miles east of Jamestown on Highway 52, had grown to about 2 pounds each.

Reed, a retired chiropractor who came to Fentress County from Oklahoma two years ago to "grow my own food organically," said no

one heard or saw anything. He said the Vietnamese family of 10 was occupying the larger of his two farms and their living quarters were far away from the brooders. He discovered the killing early yesterday.

"Before I brought the family here, some people told me I was going to have trouble because of them. But, I didn't take them seriously," he said.

Reed, who lives with his married daughter, grandson and an adopted Indian son, 14, said the chickens belonged to a poultry company. He is paid to take care of them.

Reed said he was not sure if the killing was covered by the vandalism clause in his insurance policy.

Headquarters, Marine Corps

CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE CLIPS

DATE OCT 13 17 1975

PAGE

# Refugee Wins Title As Coach

BY ARLED SWEETLES  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Ta Duy Bau's last-minute flight from the besieged streets of Saigon has ended in the glamor of Las Vegas.

The 27-year-old Vietnamese war refugee left Camp Pendleton's refugee city Saturday for a new life as an assistant tennis coach at one of Las Vegas' resort hotels.

Bau, who was a member of South Vietnam's national tennis team since 1972, began his flight to a new life April 30 by escaping Saigon as the capital city was falling to the Viet Cong.

He was a helicopter pilot, and he believes he was the last aviator to successfully flee Saigon on that fateful day as the communists overran the city.

Bau's success story came to a climax Friday when he played two tennis matches that qualified him to be a professional tennis teacher in the United States.

Not only did his performance win him U.S. tennis credentials, but they won him a sponsor in Las Vegas. He departed the refugee center the next day.

While he was at Camp Pendleton, the personable Bau played into the hearts of marines and fellow refugees with his considerable tennis skills. He defeated both the base champion and the base runner-up. Word about Bau's prowess spread, prompting a worker at the refugee processing center to pull a few strings and set up Friday's qualifying match.

Bau was cheered on by fellow refugees as he played on his "home court" — an old rundown tennis court that was constructed at Camp Talega years before the refugee village was established.

Bau played singles and teamed with a fellow refugee to play doubles Friday against representatives from the U.S. Professional Tennis Teachers Association.

He won only one of the matches but

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 2)



## Marine Refugee Site Becoming Ghost Town

CAMP PENDLETON — "It's looking like a ghost town around here," Maj. Stacy Pritchett said Monday.

She was describing the Camp Pendleton refugee city, which once supported a population of more than 18,000 but now is down to 6,234.

Day after day the marines are disassembling tents that once housed Indochina war refugees. The plan is for the refugee city to be completely shut down by the end of the month.

One settlement — Camp 6 — has been entirely torn down. Today it is a vacant lot, just as it was before the influx of war refugees began April 29.

Maj. Pritchett, who serves as press

officer at the refugee city, said this week that all 6,234 remaining refugees will probably have sponsors by the time the camp shuts down.

So far, Camp Pendleton has accepted 49,967 refugees from overseas and has watched 43,723 leave for new homes all over the United States.

Among those who remain, most are slated to be sponsored by large organizations. The State of Iowa, for example, will sponsor several hundred refugees who are expected to be the final arrivals from overseas.

They are scheduled to arrive at Camp Pendleton at about the middle of the month and they will leave as soon as their papers can be processed.

NEWSPAPER: Daily Sun-Post Sec. A Pg. 1

DATE 7 Oct. 75

### 5 REFUGEES BURGLARIZED IN 1ST HOME

RIVERSIDE (AP) — Five Vietnamese refugees moving into their first house in this country have lost most of their household possessions to burglars, police say.

Officials said yesterday Nguyen Minh Kim, 31, a machinist, was moving his wife and their three children from an apartment to the rented house.

Returning to their new home on one of the moving trips, they discovered nearly everything but the furniture had been taken by burglars who entered through an unlocked window.

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SAN DIEGO EVENING TRIBUNE

SECTION 4

PAGE 7

DATE: 9 Oct. 1975

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# Pendleton Refugees Leave For Arkansas

By JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — Flights removing Vietnamese refugees from Camp Pendleton are planned today and Wednesday.

Today, a group of 345 are leaving, and 220 will leave Wednesday for Fort Chaffee, Ark. These refugees are awaiting the processing of visas which will allow them to leave the United States either to meet foreign sponsors or to be reunited with relatives.

Another group of 46 repatriots will leave the camp tomorrow for Guam. From there they will be returned, by their own choice, to Vietnam.

According to a Camp Pendleton spokesman, the schedule to close the refugee camp by the end of October is still firm. One of the main reasons the camp is closing is because the tents which now house the refugees are inadequate for winter living.

The barracks at Fort Chaffee have been recently "winterized" and prepared to house the refugees.

The spokesman said it is hoped sponsors will be found for the Vietnamese

remaining in camp, but this does not appear likely at this time. There were 6,200 refugees still in camp on Oct. 6, and there are approximately 4,600 as of today, including those scheduled to leave.

The spokesman said she expects refugees to remain in camp up until Oct. 31.

Sponsorship offers have gone down to an irregular trickle, so officials are seeking sponsors which can handle large groups — including states and cities.

One group of 350 Vietnamese will arrive at Camp Pendleton tomorrow, but these will leave shortly after for the state of Iowa, which has sponsored the entire group.

A group of 138 refugees sponsored by a Sacramento farmer to serve as farm workers made news recently when it was discovered the sponsor took on a burden he was not prepared to handle. The sponsor, Earl Quong, says now he wishes he hadn't sponsored the group. Quong has been unable to adequately house and feed the refugees, and he has failed to find them jobs he promised he would provide.

# Refugee Dollars Aid Town

FORT SMITH, Ark. (UPI) — Despite millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs it has meant, city officials hope the nearby Ft. Chaffee refugee relocation center will close as planned by the end of the year.

Since the center opened May 2, the unemployment rate in Fort Smith has dropped from 11.4 to 8.2 per cent. It is the only major metropolitan area in Arkansas where the rate has steadily declined in the past five months.

"It's been a little windfall, but it's not anything our economy depends on," said Ray Riley, Fort Smith city administrator.

Riley and other city officials are skeptical that the camp will close Dec. 31 as announced by Julia Taft, head of the Interagency Task Force for Indochina Refugees in Washington. At Chaffee, officials said they expect to empty the camp before that date.

"We'll finish earlier if we maintain our current outflow rates," said Donald G. MacDonald, Chaffee's senior civil coordinator.

So far, the camp has resettled 34,866 refugees. There are 13,018 refugees at Chaffee now and last month an average of 224 refugees left the camp daily.

"If we maintain an outflow of 200 a day," McDonald said, "we will empty the camp by Dec. 12."

The Army has contracted for services that will total \$12.8 million by December. The payroll for local persons hired to work at Chaffee will total \$4.2 million by December.

And the Department of Health, Education and Welfare contracted with Westark Junior College at Fort Smith for \$1.4 million to run schools for the refugees.

"It's been good for us," said Paul Latture, Chamber of Commerce manager, "especially the restaurant, motel, apartment and car rental businesses. But the gas situation is geared to a December closing and we hope it does."

If Chaffee does not close then, it could detrimentally effect thousands of jobs. The pipeline that carries natural gas to Chaffee also supplies the Whirlpool plant that employs more than 4,000 persons and several other large industries near the Army post.

President William Walker of Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Co. said if Chaffee remains open after the end of the year, he may have to cut off gas to the industries because pipeline capacity isn't such it can supply both in very cold weather.

The city administrator and the chamber manager both expressed amazement when told almost 35,000 refugees had been resettled.

90 STRANDED IN OAKLAND

# Refugee Job Plan Falters

OAKLAND — "We left Vietnam dreaming of a new life, now we are hungry," says one of 90 refugees who were brought here to train for jobs but now find themselves candidates for the welfare rolls.

The refugees are mostly former South Vietnamese military officers who arrived in Oakland Sept. 17 after leaving the Camp Pendleton relocation center.

The plan to train them for jobs went awry because it was designed for people who spoke English, and it turned out most of the refugees do not. And now, a \$40,000 grant for their support is running out.

## CAN'T RETURN

"We can't send them back to Camp Pendleton," said John Whalen, a San Francisco lawyer helping handle the grant from the Tolstoy Foundation of New York. "Once they (the refugees) are out, the government won't take them back. So we're asking Alameda County welfare to put them on the rolls."

One of the refugees, Dang Phung, had hoped to get a job as a security guard.

"We can't go back to Vietnam because of the Communist government," he said. "The American people have been so nice we thought we'd make good together. But right now we've been hungry for the fifth time" since coming to Oakland.

## SECURITY GUARDS

Whalen said the refugee training program here was supposed to involve 60 bachelors "fluent in English, ready for training." Instead, he added, some of the "bachelors" turned up with families and children, creating room and board problems.

The training was to prepare them for employment as security guards under the guidance of Gordon Jacobson of the Urban Security Services of San Francisco.

Jacobson said he was assured the refugees could handle English, but found that only one in three spoke the language.

## SCHOOL 'ADOPTION'

"There is just no way we can get them jobs without that," he said.

One refugee family did not share the despair of the Oakland refugees. The family

was "adopted" by students at Serra High School in San Mateo, across San Francisco Bay from Oakland. Pham Hong, his wife, Lee, and their year-old son were greeted by cheering students at San Francisco International Airport when they arrived Monday from Los Angeles.

The idea for the adoption project came from the Rev. Albert Vucinovich, a faculty member who was stationed at Camp Pendleton as a Navy chaplain last summer. Father Vucinovich said 400 of the 700 students pledged \$1 a month each to the family and many volunteered to help them learn English.

### *Sponsors Not Paid*

Individual sponsors of Vietnamese refugees are not paid \$500 per refugee when they become sponsors.

A Monday, Oct. 6 story in The Blade-Tribune incorrectly implied that such payments are made to all sponsors. That is not true.

Sponsoring agencies — such as the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and Church World Service — are paid \$500 in federal funds for each refugee they handle.

The agencies are the processing and monitoring organizations which form the link between the camp and the sponsor.

The money is to cover processing, office, clerical and other costs which come up during the process of finding sponsors. It is also used to take care of refugees who are victims of sponsorship breakdowns until another sponsor can be found.

Individual sponsors are not paid, and they must pay the cost of sponsoring through other sources, including their own pocketbooks.

## 70 Refugees Stranded Without Funds, Jobs

OAKLAND (UPI) — Seventy young Vietnamese men are living in a rundown apartment without money and jobs after promises they would be trained and hired as security guards.

"We're hungry ... we want to work," Dang Phung told the San Francisco Examiner Monday in explaining his group's plight.

Neither the State Department nor the Bay Area Maintenance Service Council, San Francisco, knew what to do about the problem. A spokesman at the Marines' Camp Pendleton refugee camp said the plight of the men was under investigation.

The men in their 20s and early 30s were transferred from Camp Pendleton to Eagle Field in Fresno County on Sept. 11 for training as security guards. The training was to have been funded by a \$40,000 grant from the Tolstoy Foundation of New York City, and BAMSC.

The group was transferred to Oakland on Sept. 17. On their second day here they were refused service in a restaurant because their bill for the previous meal had not been paid, Phung said.

G.E. Molander, who with Erwin Pardue served as an administrator for the grant, then began paying for the meals. On Sept. 23 the refugees were told by Molander that there was no more money.

Then Molander came up with some more cash. But, Phung said, on Sept. 30 "we were told they ran out of money again.

"On Oct. 1 we were hungry and the police came and asked us why we were in front of the building. We told them we were waiting for somebody responsible from the Red Cross, Health, Education and Welfare Department or something."

Molander then gave them more money.

He told them that the training program was over Oct. 3. Phung said that he has not seen Molander or Pardue since then.

Gordon Jacobson of Urban Security services, San Francisco, said his firm paid \$6,000 to train the refugees.

"We contracted (with BAMSC) through Erwin Pardue to train them and we were given assurances that they could handle English, which you need in this business," Jacobson said. "But almost all of them can't communicate in English and there is just no way we can get them jobs without that. There exists this basic inability to communicate."

Now, he said, the refugees have been "pretty much thrown out in the streets ... they don't have jobs, they don't have money and they don't have food."

Jacobson said the BAMSC has been paying the rent for the apartment. And, he said, the refugees have been receiving handouts.

# Farmer Regrets Sponsoring Scores Of Refugees As Farm Laborers

By JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO — A farmer, who sponsored 138 Vietnamese refugees from Camp Pendleton for use as farmworkers says he wishes he had never taken on the burden.

According to Iris Yang, a reporter investigating the refugees' plight for the Sacramento Bee, rancher Earl Quong told her he didn't expect the refugees to bring so many children.

"He's very frank about what he wanted the refugees for," said Yang. "He wanted 50 male farmworkers with two kids each so he could move them all over the area to

work for him."

Quong had reportedly promised he would provide jobs for the refugees and that he would pay them \$2.25 to start and \$2.50 after one week. In fact, there were few jobs available, and the 20 refugees who did work were picking tomatoes on a ranch owned by an associate of Quong.

Tomato season will end soon, and so will the jobs. Quong said he would try to find pruning work in the fruit orchards for some of the refugees, but this is not yet firm. Yang said some of the women refugees were working in a garment factory.

The refugees were handled by a

sponsoring agency called the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. The agency finds sponsors for refugees with Chinese backgrounds or heritage.

The CCBA, like all sponsoring agencies, gets \$500 in expense money for each refugee it finds a sponsor for. CCBA chose to give the money to the refugees themselves, and set up an account for them in a Los Angeles bank. Yang said the money is being distributed to the refugees over a period of time to insure a steady, if small income.

She said that the refugees have used up most of their initial portions of money (\$100 each, according to a Camp Pendleton spokesman) buying food and cooking utensils. She said the refugees were taken not long after their arrival to a department store where they bought cooking utensils for exorbitant prices they may not have understood.

Yang reported last week that some of the refugees were being housed in low-cost apartments under crowded conditions which violate health codes. Quong has said he is working on finding more housing for the refugees.

Yang said several charity agencies and other sponsorship agencies have been helping the refugees adjust to their situation. Food has been brought in to those who need it.

Quong said he is planning to start some of the refugees on 20-acre sharecropping operations, but few of them are interested in the idea, according to Yang.

According to a Camp Pendleton spokesman, when a sponsor can't handle refugees he has taken on, the sponsoring agency is supposed to find another sponsor. This is one of the reasons agencies are paid \$500 per refugee.

Quong has not yet declared a breakdown in his sponsorship, Yang said.



### 30 Refugees Await Word on Return Home

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (AP) — Thirty refugees flown here from Ft. Chaffee, Ark., awaited word today on their pleas to be taken back to South Vietnam.

A Marine Corps spokesman said the new arrivals probably will be flown to Guam in a few days.

A ship is scheduled to sail from Guam to South Vietnam, returning refugees who want to go back to their homeland, but the United States has not sanctioned the trip, and no word has been received from South Vietnam's government about their return.

REFUGEES

## Wife Relents, Joins Husband for Trip Home

BY KATHY BURKE

Times Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON—A Vietnamese pharmacist who had decided to return to South Vietnam from Camp Pendleton was joined at the last minute Tuesday by his wife and infant son after the woman had pleaded unsuccessfully with authorities not to let her husband go.

The family left for Los Angeles International Airport in a U.S. marshal's car about 15 minutes after a bus carrying 41 other repatriates had pulled out of Camp Pendleton's departure area at 1 p.m.

A spokesman for the Interagency Task Force on the base said Tran Thien Hung, 37; his wife, Huyhn Phi Phuong, and their son, John Patrick Tran, born at Camp Pendleton five months ago, originally had planned to return to their homeland together.

But when Phuong heard that the refugees were returning to Vietnam from Guam aboard a ship, she withdrew, worried that the child could not make the trip safely.

Hung was adamant about his decision.

Please Turn to Page 4, Col. 1

Los Angeles Times Sect. II Pg. 1

15  
Date: Oct. 1975

# 'Let Me Not To The Marriage Of True Minds Admit Impediments



(Continued)

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT. A

PG. 3

DATE: 15 Oct. 1975



—Staff Photos by Georea Smith

The anguish of Huynh Thi Phuong is shown at top left as she watches her husband, Tran Thien Hung, start to leave

Camp Pendleton for Guam without her; at top right, clutching hands after she agrees to join him; at bottom left, as they load

belongings in a car that will rush them to the airport. At bottom right, she cradles their son, John Patrick Tran. (Story, A-1)

DATE: Oct. 1985

SPECIAL FINANCING SOUGHT

# 1,000 Asia Refugees Utilize Area Schools

San Diego community colleges and city schools are providing programs for nearly 1,000 Southeast Asia refugees while state and federal officials try to provide special educational financing.

David W. Gordon, special assistant in the state Department of Education, said yesterday state officials are working with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare to secure California schools support for refugee educational programs.

Gordon said HEW has identified \$5 million for nationwide distribution to support English training for refugee adults and another \$15 million for refugees enrolled in elementary and secondary schools.

Although HEW officials have indicated these funds will be available, Gordon said the method of distribu-

tion and amount earmarked for California schools has not yet been determined.

While education officials are awaiting HEW action on their share of the \$100 million appropriated to meet all the health, educational and welfare needs of the refugees, congressional efforts are continuing to provide full federal support for the education of relocated Southeast Asians.

A \$126 million bill co-sponsored by California Democratic Sens. Alan Cranston and John Tunney passed the Senate's labor and public welfare committee this week and is headed for a floor vote.

The bill would provide full support for elementary and secondary school refugee students for this year and one-half support next year.

A similar bill is also being carried in the House by Rep.

Edward Roybal, D-Calif., and a host of co-sponsors.

But Gordon predicted the federal legislation will face a tough test as administration officials have indicated they will mount an opposition movement. Some federal officials believe the educational responsibilities for the refugees lies with state and local school districts, Gordon said.

As the state and federal efforts continue, area officials are conducting educational programs for the refugees using state and local funds.

About 600 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees are participating in ESL (English as a second language) and "survival" classes being offered by the San Diego Community Colleges' adult division.

The San Diego City School District also has 382 refugees enrolled in its elemen-

tary and secondary school programs.

Gilbert Guzman, director of the district's bilingual programs, said refugee students are attending regular classes but are also being provided with ESL and special instruction. Guzman said 20 Vietnamese speaking aides already have been hired and a number of English-speaking Vietnamese parents are being utilized as volunteers.

"But we haven't received any funds, only confirmation (from HEW) that they will be forthcoming," Guzman said.

Gordon and Guzman both said they have been informed the HEW allocation will be \$300 per student for the first 100 students (or the first 1 per cent of a district's total enrollment) then \$600 for each additional student.

However, the \$190,200 the San Diego Unified District

received under this plan is only a one-time grant and there would be no support in future years.

Gordon said the district's adult classes are also being provided with ESL and special instruction. Guzman said 20 Vietnamese speaking aides already have been hired and a number of English-speaking Vietnamese parents are being utilized as volunteers.

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## Meeting For Refugees Is Scheduled

The area's new Southeast Asian residents will have an opportunity Oct. 20 to meet each other and learn about public services to help their lives.

Southeast Asian war refugees living in San Diego County and their sponsoring families are being invited to a "Meet Your Good Neighbor" night at Montezuma Hall in the Aztec Center of San Diego State University from 7 to 10 p.m.

The event is being sponsored by the San Diego chapter of the American Red Cross and the Vietnamese Community Foundation.

A Red Cross spokesman said the event is intended to give the new residents information on services available in the county, to answer questions, to provide resource materials and to help foster a sense of community among Southeast Asian residents.

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THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT. A

PG. 11

DATE: <sup>13</sup>Oct. 1975

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## Ex-General Now Greets Diners

YORKTOWN, Va. (AP) -- A former three-star general in the South Vietnamese army now greets diners and escorts them to tables at a local restaurant.

"I don't have anything left to show that I was a general," Dong Van Khuyen said.

He rejects suggestions his new station in life is a come-down, saying he views it as a challenge.

"I wipe the table, I help everybody, I want to practice," he said. "I must learn to put things on the table right ... the knife and the fork. In Vietnam, we use chopsticks and it didn't matter which side they go on."

Khuyen's take-home pay is \$165 a week, which he said is about four times what he made as a lieutenant general in South Vietnam.

Khuyen, 48, has a \$500 bank account given him by his American sponsor, Lt. Gen. Jack C. Fuson, the Army's deputy chief of staff for logistics.

With Khuyen here are his wife, a sister and seven children. Still in South Vietnam are his father and four sisters.

"Life is finished for me," he said. "I live for my family."

*12*

## Vietnamese given caution on picnics

SACRAMENTO (AP) — One of the things Vietnamese refugees had to learn about driving in America was not to stop along a freeway to picnic, Department of Motor Vehicle officials say.

"The multi-lane freeway system was an entirely new concept to them," said James Chapel, who directed classes for 22,000 refugees at the Camp Pendleton refugee relocation center.

"We had to convince them that they were not to stop on a freeway for any reason," said Chapel, a driver's license examiner in the DMV's Oceanside office who spent a number of years in Vietnam.

"That was hard for the Vietnamese, a people used to picnicking along the roadside, to understand because the well-landscaped California freeway medians look particularly appealing."

The classes have ended

because of the pending closure of the refugee center.

Duc Nguyen, a bilingual Vietnamese student at Sacramento City College, was hired to conduct the classes under Chapel's direction.

Each student got a driver's handbook in English and Vietnamese. The classes included motorcycle safety films, demonstration rides on motorcycles and sessions on bicycle safety.

Officers of the California Highway Patrol took a patrol car to the classes demonstrated its equipment and explained to the refugees how to react if stopped by an officer.



## Refugees Leave For Vietnam

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — More than 1,500 cheering South Vietnamese refugees sailed for home today despite the apparent reluctance of the Communist government to accept them.

The South Vietnamese ship *Thuong Tin*, used to take fleeing refugees to Guam last spring, left Agana this afternoon with 1,546 would-be repatriates on board.

The refugees cheered from the decks as the ship's last line was cast off. A North Vietnamese flag flew from the stern mast and many of the refugees stood at attention.

The vessel, facing stormy waters in the Philippine Sea, left without the approval of Saigon's Provisional Revolutionary Government and against the advice of the United Nations Committee on Refugees.

The *Thuong Tin* was expected to pass Mindinao in the southern Philippines within four days. A tropical storm 600 miles east of the Philippines was moving toward the region at 16 miles an hour.

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### *Refugees Leaving*

CAMP PENDLETON (UPI) — Hundreds of South Vietnamese refugees begin leaving "Little Saigon" on this sprawling Marine base today, bound for either Ft. Chaffee, Ark., or back to Southeast Asia as this refugee center winds down operations.

Camp Pendleton, which at one time housed 18,500 refugees from South Vietnam and Cambodia and handled nearly 50,000 arrivals, officially goes out of business as a refugee center on Oct. 31.

Two groups were scheduled to leave the base today, including about 345 refugees who are being transferred to Ft. Chaffee to await visas to countries outside the United States.

The second group of about 45 refugees are repatriots who are being flown to Guam to await a ship to take them back to South Vietnam.

A base spokesman said another group of 220, many awaiting visas to join relatives already living in other countries, was scheduled to be transferred to Ft. Chaffee on Wednesday.

San Bernardino Daily Sun 10/31

A - 2

14 OCT 1975

HOME TO VIETNAM

# 1,546 Refugees Begin A Desperate Voyage

*Related stories — Page A-16*

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — A merchant ship carrying 1,546 Vietnamese sailed for South Vietnam yesterday without any word on whether the Communist government will allow the refugees to disembark.

A North Vietnamese broadcast quoted Hanoi's official newspaper Nhan Dan as calling the U.S. decision to repatriate the refugees an "adventurous and irresponsible action fraught with serious consequences." The broadcast gave no indication on whether the refugees would be permitted to land.

The would-be repatriates cheered from the decks of the Thuong Tin I, a former South Vietnamese merchant ship, as Guam Gov. Ricardo J. Bordallo cast off the last line.

The North Vietnamese flag flew from the ship's stern mast and many of those on her decks stood at attention.

The vessel sailed without a captain in command, since the repatriates decided earlier that decisions would be made by majority vote at sea.

The ship's course could take it into the path of a typhoon, now 600 miles east of Manila, moving toward the Philippines.

There was no doctor aboard, although eight women who sailed are in the last stages of pregnancy.

Those aboard sailed without official word from the Provisional Revolutionary Government in Saigon that they would be allowed to enter Vietnam.

The journey also was against the advice of the United Nations Committee on Refugees. No escort or monitoring ships have been provided, although U.S. officials here said American vessels would assist the Thuong Tin should an emergency occur at sea.

Almost all of the refugees came to Guam last May with the 130,000 South Vietnamese who fled after the April 30 Communist takeover in Saigon.

At the last, 51 refugees arrived from the U.S. mainland to sail aboard the Thuong Tin, and 28 others changed their mind and asked to be sent to the United States.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

A

PG.

1

DATE: 17 Oct. 1979



**UNCERTAIN JOURNEY**—South Vietnamese refugees cheer as they sail from Guam for homeland.

AP Wirephoto

## SAIGON HASN'T OK'D GUAM GROUP

# 1,546 Viet Refugees Sail for Home

AGANA, Guam (UPI)—A merchant ship carrying 1,546 Vietnamese sailed for South Vietnam Thursday without any word on whether the Communist government will allow them to come back home.

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But neither the agency nor the newspaper gave any indication whether the refugees would be permitted to land.

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At the last count, 51 refugees arrived from the U.S. mainland to sail aboard the *Thuong Tin* and 28 oth-

ers changed their mind and asked to be sent to the United States.

The PRG criticized the United States for allowing the vessel to sail without the concurrence of the new regime in Vietnam.

A petition from the repatriates in September described their frustration at being separated from their families as the major reason they wanted to return to Vietnam.

They left with the "blessings" of the people of Guam, who had made it clear the Vietnamese had worn out their welcome in this American territory because of acts of violence and reference to Guam as a "Devil's Island."

Demonstrations by the refugees and demands by the local government all but forced the U.S. authorities to give in to refugee plans.

The ship was fueled and provisioned for a 30-day voyage, although the estimated sailing time to Vietnam is 10 days.

Los Angeles Times

SEC A

PAGE 14

Date: 17 Oct 1977

## Refugees face weak welcome

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — More than 1,500 cheering South Vietnamese refugees sailed for home today despite the apparent reluctance of the Communist government to accept them.

The South Vietnamese ship *Thuong Tin*, used to take fleeing refugees to Guam last spring, left Agana this afternoon with 1,546 would-be repatriates on board.

The refugees cheered from the decks as the ship's last line was cast off. A North Vietnamese flag flew from the stern mast and many of the refugees stood at attention.

The vessel, facing stormy

waters in the Philippine Sea, left without the approval of Saigon's Provisional Revolutionary Government and against the advice of the United Nations Committee on Refugees.

The *Thuong Tin* was expected to pass Mindinao in the southern Philippines within four days. A tropical storm 600 miles east of the Philippines was moving toward the region at 16 miles an hour.

The captain and crew of about 60 — all South Vietnamese refugees — are considered qualified seamen, but have relatively little experience in long-range voyages.

VISTA PRESS

SEC A Page 2

DATE 16 Oct 1975

## 30 Refugees Await Word on Viet Trip

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — Thirty refugees flown from Ft. Chaffee, Ark., awaited word today on their pleas to be taken back to South Vietnam.

"I'm going home because Vietnam is my country," Hai Le Van said after arriving Sunday from Arkansas.

A woman said she and two sons left her husband on the mainland in their frantic effort to get to Con Son Island but that they were taken to the United States instead.

The sons have found sponsors in France but she wants to return to her husband, the woman said. She refused to identify herself to a reporter.

Hai, a 38-year-old soldier, said he has a wife, two sons and his mother in a village near Saigon.

Another refugee, Nguyen Thanh Van, 26, said he wants to return to his wife and children.

At the end of the war, he said, "there was fighting and I ran."

A Marine Corps spokesman said the new arrivals probably will be flown to Guam in a few days. No word was received from South Vietnam's government about their return.

Another 5,036 refugees hoping

for resettlement in the United States or elsewhere will leave Camp Pendleton before the local relocation center, which has resettled 44,933 people, shuts down Oct. 31.

There are no refugees left at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida; 12,389 at Ft. Chaffee and 3,976 at Indiantown Gap, Pa.

NEWSPAPER

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VISTA PRESS SEC A PAGE 1

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# Refugees begin 's

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (UPI) — Marines are striking the tents in "Little Saigon," first and biggest of the Vietnamese refugee camps, which is closing down after housing almost 50,000 Vietnamese, sending most on their way to the new lives they sought and a few back to Vietnam.

Others, still without sponsors, face being sent to another

camp in Arkansas, a prospect that has caused tensions to rise, provoking fistfights and depression among those facing more time in limbo.

Marines have already dismantled one of the eight cities of tents and quonset huts on the Camp Pendleton base. Others stand deserted. Few persons can be seen on the road linking several of the main camps, thronged only a few months ago

with Vietnamese looking for friends and relatives in the camps.

The camp is to be closed by Oct. 31. The Defense Department said Tuesday morning that 4,300 remain, some are being sent home, he said.

At the present time, it is expected to be down to the end of the month. They are trying to send some to Ft. Chaffee, Arkansas. All Vietnamese depend on the U.S. for their support.

The camps at Camp Pendleton and Eglin Base, Fla., also

## Refugees

(Cont. from Page 1)

loaded into buses Tuesday and taken to a Marine air field to be flown to Ft. Chaffee.

Another 220 were to accompany them today. They are not destined to winter there, but are headed for other countries which have accepted them.

Forty-two others meanwhile were put aboard a plane bound for Guam — assembly point for those who asked to return to their native country. They join 1,592 already there, awaiting entry permits from the new Communist government in Saigon.

## Last Refugees To Be Placed By December

WASHINGTON (AP) — The resettling of Indochina refugees should be complete by mid-December, the head of the resettlement program has told Congress.

Julia Vadalia Taft, director of the Interagency Task Force for Indochina, said 29,000 refugees remain to be resettled of the 137,000 who entered the system.

Testifying before the House immigration subcommittee, Mrs. Taft said plans call for closing the Camp Pendleton refugee camp by Nov. 1. The Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Ft. Chaffee, Ark., camps will remain open until the last refugees are resettled, she said.

The reception center at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., has already been phased out.

She said the program generally has been a success since its establishment five months ago to find homes for refugees who fled or were evacuated from Vietnam and Cambodia with the fall of U.S.-supported governments there.

However, Mrs. Taft said many of the resettled refugees are having a hard time finding employment, while others are being forced to accept low-paying work.

She said interviews with 1,570 heads of households, representing 9,300 resettled refugees, showed that of those questioned, 68 per cent of the males and 51 per cent of the females who are more than 14 years of age have found employment.

Most of the employed people are between ages 25 and 44, she said. "About 75 per cent of those 55 and older are experiencing difficulty in finding employment," she testified.

Some 1,600 refugees, most of them in the refugee camp on Guam, will soon be returning to Vietnam on a ship of Vietnamese registry currently in Guam harbor, she said.

The ship will be sailed by Vietnamese seamen among the group and will have no Americans aboard, nor will it have a U.S. Navy escort ship, she testified.

NEWSPAPER

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# Now Become Ghost Towns

Picture — Page A-3  
By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON** — It's nothing but a plowed field now, but if you close your eyes you can sense children running after Frisbees and almost see the women at their washing boards.

Over there, halfway down the barren field, the children played Ping Pong, and a few yards farther was where they had their television tent. From where you stand, at the edge of the field, you could have heard the announcements in Vietnamese over the loudspeakers.

The site was once Camp 6, which housed nearly 4,200 members of Camp Pendleton's refugee population. But today there are barely 4,200 refugees in all of Camp Pendleton, and Camp 6 is no longer needed.

Neither are Camps 3, 5 or half of Camp 8. Tents have been taken down in all these places. By Oct. 31, all the tents in all the camps will have been taken down, the remaining refugees will have been either resettled or transferred to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., and only a few changes in the landscape will serve as reminders that Camp Pendleton once was called "Little Saigon."

## 'HAND OF HOPE'

Cast in reinforced concrete, a 9-foot-high hand, cradling two child-like figures, rises in front of the trailer park that serves as administrative headquarters for the refugee camp. The sculpture, by Luu Nguyen Dhat, is called "The Hand of Hope" and commemorates the assistance the United States government gave the refugees.

none is found for them, they speak Vietnamese or Cambodian who go through the camps twice a day to speak there? Will sponsors be found for them soon? Or will they take their places at the back of the line, ineligible for sponsors until refugees already at Ft. Chaffee are settled?

The question officially is unanswered at this point. Nick Thorne, the senior civilian administrator at Camp Pendleton, says, if sponsorship offers continue to come in at Camp Pendleton at the present rate, there will be no need to transfer anyone to Ft. Chaffee.

**TENSION AREA**  
Another source of tension exists among refugees who wonder if they should have gone to Guam to join 1,800 of their peers on a ship voyage back to Vietnam.

"Many of them feel that, if the ship makes a successful voyage, they will change their minds and ask to be repatriated to Vietnam," Thorne says. "So they don't know what to do. Should they accept sponsorship and leave the camp? Or should they wait until the very last day for news of the ship and risk transfer to Ft. Chaffee?"

Another group of refugees, says Thorne, "still is of the mind that American society is very hostile to them."

"They are afraid to leave the camp, yet they don't want to go to Ft. Chaffee either," he added. "We've done what we can for them, including asking refugees who were here to come back with their sponsors to tell them what life is like on the outside."

**CIVILIAN AIDES**  
The official said he has on his staff eight civilians who

But, he said, Americans have limited effect on the morale of the refugees. Talking to Americans is not like talking to their own.

Although there have been some flights to Ft. Chaffee, Thorne says none of these have involved refugees who are without sponsors.

Many were sent because they are waiting for visas from other countries where they wish to settle. The visas, he said, are not expected to arrive until after Camp Pendleton closes.

Sixteen persons were sent to Ft. Chaffee because they still have not been given security clearance by the United States government, he said.

## CLOSING DATE

Although Oct. 31 is the camp's official closing date, the cutoff date for sponsorship or transfer to Ft. Chaffee is Oct. 28, Thorne said.

After that, he said, the only refugees who will remain are those whose sponsors have asked that they be held at Camp Pendleton for a day or so, or persons who are hospitalized and cannot be immediately transferred.

Thorne said a skeleton civilian staff will remain at Camp Pendleton through Nov. 15 to write reports.

On Dec. 31, the refugee program officially will come to an end across the nation. Problems of the refugees will be transferred from the ad hoc Interagency Task Force to the standing Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs in the State Department.

Two permanent sewers also run through the camp area, which will be utilized by Marine Corps reserve troops next summer when they camp at Camp Pendleton.

Some civilians and military who worked at the refugee camp since its inception April 29 admit to a paradoxical feeling of sorrow at seeing it dismantled.

## WAY STATION

The purpose of the camp was to serve as a way station between Vietnam and a new life in the United States. Emptying the camp meant fulfilling the goal of the refugee program: to find a new life for the victims of the Indochina War.

But, as one civilian official said, "we built a team here that worked; there was an esprit de corps here and we enjoyed solving problems together. Soon all of us will scatter to new assignments, and it's sad in a way."

Coexisting with this feeling of sadness, is a feeling of tension, particularly among the refugees whose futures still are unresolved.

Some of the refugees still do not have sponsors, and if

# Pendleton Refugee Camps Closing

BY FRED SWEGLES  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — A mood of tension is setting in among the 4,600 Indochina war refugees remaining at the dwindling refugee city here.

The camp is scheduled to be shut down Oct. 28, and tents are being removed daily. But U.S. authorities are unable to remove the fears and doubts that pervade among the yet-unsponsored refugees.

Nick Thorne, senior civil coordinator for the refugee resettlement program here, told newsmen Tuesday there are "considerable tensions" among the remaining Vietnamese and Cambodians.

These tensions are materializing in the form of occasional fistfights, a general smugness among some refugees, and a refusal of some to venture outside their tents during the daytime except to eat meals.

Thorne said some of the refugees are becoming more demanding and picky about where they will accept sponsorships.

Although many refugees are wondering if they will indeed receive a sponsor by Oct. 28, others are not certain they want to accept a sponsor. According to Thorne, some refugees are waiting to learn how well a shipload of Vietnamese repatriates make out when they sail soon back to South Vietnam.

If the repatriates are accepted by the new communist government, some Camp Pendleton refugees may want to join them in leaving the United States.

State Department personnel are able to allay the refugees' fears about not getting sponsored, Thorne said. But it is impossible to console the refugees who are wracked with indecision, waiting to see how well the repatriates fare when they set sail from Guam.

A group of 45 refugees who want to be repatriated back to their homeland departed Tuesday for Guam. They will join about 1,600 others who are already on Guam awaiting the dramatic sailing of the ship back to Vietnam.

Still remaining at 123 Cambodian refugees be returned home.

recently at the United representative of Communist government possible repatriation.

Camp Pendleton Cambodians in camp expected to be sponsored week.

Among the Vietnam Pendleton late Tuesday Arkansas, where the visas for resettlement.

## Refugee Camps Closing . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

countries that have offered to accept them.

Thorne reported that the remaining 4,600 Camp Pendleton refugees are continuing to be processed seven days a week, with an average 210 leaving each day for their new homes in the United States.

Thorne expects virtually all the refugees to be sponsored out by Oct. 28. Any who remain, however, will be sent to the Ft. Chaffee refugee center.

The only refugees that will remain at Camp Pendleton by Oct. 31, Thorne said, will be those who are hospitalized or those whose prospective sponsors have asked for a little more time.

Government officials will then, in November, begin the final dismantling of the Camp Pendleton refugee operation which began in April. Three other refugee

centers in the United States will continue to operate until December 31.

Since April, Camp Pendleton has accepted about 50,000 refugees and has sent all but 4,600 to new homes in the United States.

The only ones that remain on the unsponsorable list at present are 16 security cases and 59 who are on medical hold, Thorne reported.

One of the recurring fears among the remaining refugees, he said, is the feeling that U.S. society is "fundamentally hostile" to the refugee resettlement program.

Camp Pendleton civil personnel have tried to counter this fear by bringing to refugees who have already been sponsored to visit the camp and relate their experiences on the outside.

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## End Of An Era At Pendleton

A Marine sergeant walks past rows of tents which once housed Vietnamese refu-

gees at Camp Pendleton. The tents will be taken down and remaining refugees at the

camp either will be resettled or taken Chaffee, Ark. (Story on Page 246)

## 24 'Rescued' Refugees On Welfare

FRESNO (AP) — A group of Vietnamese refugees has been rescued from conditions "not fit for anybody" and placed on welfare here, a Fresno County official said yesterday.

The 24 refugees were living at Eagle Field, a dilapidated World War II airbase on the western edge of Fresno County.

"I don't know what will happen to us — we're under the support of welfare, we have to do what they say," said the leader of the group, Nguyen Tam, after some of his companions were moved to public housing.

"I haven't been to Eagle Field, but I understand the conditions are deplorable," said Reed Clegg, county welfare director.

"We rescued some, very frankly, from conditions that are not fit for anybody."

Clegg said the refugees were brought to the crumbling base to cook and maintain a camp for 86 other Vietnamese who were being trained as security guards by a private nonprofit San Francisco group, Bay Area Maintenance Service Council (BAMSC).

However, the 86 were moved to Oakland last month when a \$40,000 government grant ran low, and Tam and his group have struggled to exist amidst sewage, shattered windows and a shortage of food.

"What happened is, that a sponsor took them out to the base, then expected them to stay there while he collected rent from the government," Clegg said.

## 24 Viet Refugees Rescued From Base in Fresno

FRESNO AP—A group of Vietnamese refugees has been rescued from conditions "not fit for anybody" and placed on welfare here, a Fresno County official said Thursday.

The 24 refugees, ranging from an 84-year-old grandfather to a 2-month-old infant born prematurely, had been living at Eagle Field, a dilapidated World War II air base on the stark western edge of Fresno County.

"I don't know what will happen to us. We're under the support of welfare. We have to do what they say," said the leader of the group, Nguyen Tam, after some of his companions were moved into public housing.

"I haven't been to Eagle Field, but I understand the conditions are deplorable," said Reed Clegg, county welfare director. "We rescued some, very frankly, from conditions that are not fit for anybody."

Clegg said the refugees were brought to the crumbling base to cook and maintain a camp for 86 other Vietnamese who were being trained as security guards.

Los Angeles Times

*Sec II Page 8*

Date: *17 Oct. 1975*

## Refugees Offered Jobs

OAKLAND (UPI) — Offers of aid are coming in for 70 penniless young Vietnamese men who fled communism only to face hunger and unemployment in America.

A rancher wanted to teach the refugees English and heavy equipment operations and a young San Francisco waitress asked for donations instead of tips to help the men, who had been promised jobs as security

guards.

The San Francisco Examiner said it received dozens of calls offering help. Many came from former Vietnamese military officers.

The men in their 20s and early 30s were transferred from Camp Pendleton to Eagle Field in Fresno County on Sept. 11 for training as security guards. The training was to have been funded by a \$40,000 grant from

the Tolstoy Foundation of New York City, and Bay Area Maintenance Service Council which helps minority groups. The group was transferred to Oakland on Sept. 17.

Tolstoy sent two of its top officials to Oakland Tuesday and a government spokesman said the foundation had been provided with 100 names of potential sponsors in the Bay Area.

Meanwhile, a Tolstoy spokesman said the two men who set up the program have "resigned" and could not be located.

SAN FRANCISCO DAILY SUN POST

9-7

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# Refugees Hungry, Work Offer Fails

OAKLAND, Calif. (UPI) — Seventy young Vietnamese men are living in a rundown apartment without money and jobs despite promises they would be trained and hired as security guards.

"We're hungry ... we want to work," Dang Phung told the San Francisco Examiner Monday in explaining his group's plight.

Neither the State Department nor the Bay Area Maintenance Service Council, a nonprofit minority placement service in San Francisco, knew what to do about the problem. A spokesman at the Marines' Camp Pendleton refugee camp said the plight of the men was under investigation.

The men in their 20s and early 30s were transferred from Camp Pendleton to Eagle Field in Fresno County on Sept. 11 for training as security guards. The training was to have been funded by a \$40,000 grant from the Tolstoy Foundation of New York City, and BAMSC.

The group was transferred to Oakland on Sept. 17. On their second day they were refused service in a restaurant because their bill for the previous meal had not been paid, Phung said.

G.E. Molander, who with Erwin Pardue served as an administrator for the grant, then began paying for the meals. On Sept. 23 the refugees were told by Molander there was no more money.

Then Molander came up with some more cash. But, Phung said, on Sept. 30 "we were told they

ran out of money again."

"On Oct. 1 we were hungry and the police came and asked us why we were in front of the building. We told them we were waiting for somebody responsible from the Red Cross; Health, Education and Welfare Department or something."

Molander then gave them more money. He told them that the training program was over Oct. 3. Phung said that he has not seen Molander or Pardue since then.

Gordon Jacobson of Urban Security services, San Francisco, said his firm paid \$6,000 to train the refugees.

"We contracted (with BAMSC) through Erwin Pardue to train them and we were given assurances that they could handle English, which you need in this business," Jacobson said. "But almost all of them can't communicate in English and there is just no way we can get them jobs without that. There exists this basic inability to communicate."

Now, he said, the refugees have been "pretty much thrown out in the streets ... they don't have jobs, they don't have money and they don't have food."

Jacobson said the BAMSC has been paying the rent for the apartment. And, he said, the refugees have been receiving handouts.

James Wright, president of BAMSC, said his agency has provided some money on an emergency basis.

SAN FRANCISCO CHIEF 1002

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## School Adopts Viet Refugees

SAN MATEO (UPI) — A Vietnamese family has been "adopted" by students at a Peninsula high school who have promised to contribute \$1 a month each to the refugees' support.

Students from Serra High School greeted Pham Hong, 25, his wife, Lee, 23, and their year-old son when they arrived Monday night from Los Angeles.

"We're a Catholic school and we wanted to do this for charitable reasons," said Father Albert Vucinovich, a Serra teacher.

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN 1975

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## Ship Without A Home

A human tragedy of great magnitude is building in the case of Vietnamese refugees who fled to this country, and elsewhere, prior to the overrun of South Vietnam by Communist forces of Hanoi and the Red supported Viet Cong.

More than 1,500 of them, who for one reason or another regret their flight from their native land and wish to return home, have left the United States and are waiting in Guam for a voyage home in a former Vietnam ship which will be manned and

commanded by Vietnamese.

Disconsolate refugees in Camp Pendleton and other American refugee areas had threatened self-immolation if they were not returned to their home.

In spite of the fact that the new South Vietnamese government had asked the United Nations last May to facilitate repatriation of those who fled and wished to return, it now says that "practical considerations" prevent it from accepting these people now.

SAN CLEMENTE DIRECTOR FOR POL

A-4

15 OCT. 1975

# Path from Escape to Rebi

By FREDERICK SCHOEMEHL  
Of the Daily Pilot Staff

On April 28, Saigon stood on the threshold of defeat.

Nhue Van Nguyen feared for his life, but more, for the lives of his wife and five children. He quickly made arrangements for them to leave Saigon for Guam by airplane.

Nhue remained behind, convinced, as many others were, that the fall remained some time away. They were wrong. The Viet Cong tide lashed at the panicked city with surprising might.

**TWO DAYS LATER, THE** red flag flew over Saigon.

Nhue's fear mounted after the fall. He was a South Vietnamese senator. He was a Roman Catholic. He had allowed his wife and children to leave Saigon for refuge in the United States.

Each was a crime in the eyes of the Viet Cong, each punishable by death.

Nhue knew he had to get out.

A close friend, a lieutenant colonel in the South Vietnamese army, told Nhue there was a way — via a kind of contemporary underground railroad—to the Philippines.

**THE FOLLOWING DAY, May 4,** Nhue, dressed in peasant clothes, boarded a bus ordered by the Viet Cong to return peasants who had flooded Saigon to their homelands.

Nhue rode the bus to Vang Tau Bay, a resort 100 miles northeast of Saigon. To

the Viet Cong soldiers who inspected the bus along the route, Nhue was just another peasant.

At Vang Tau, Nhue, following instructions given by his friend, located a Catholic priest who would lead a group of 82 persons, including 45 children, to freedom.

The group was led, by secret signs, to a tiny fishing boat, not more than 20 feet long and eight feet wide. They crowded in.

**THE BOAT TRAVELLED UP**COAST, hugging the shoreline, so not to attract attention.

After darkness fell, the boat turned to the east, toward the Philippines.

The voyage in the tiny fishing boat lasted five days and five nights. A schoolbook map, a compass and the sun were their only navigation aids.

On May 9, the boat beached in the Philippines: food, water and fuel supplies were perilously low.

Nhue remembered May 9 as "Resurrection Day."

**HE WAS RESURRECTED, AND** alone. He knew his wife and children were in the United States. He did not know where.

He wrote letters — about 100 in all — in search of his family, to the United Nations Commission on Refugees, the State Department, Pentagon, refugee encampments in California, Arkansas and Florida, Wake Island, Guam, Hong

Kong, Manila, Thailand. He met, years ago on visit to Laguna Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Bu and Miss George Plett search.

A letter to the refugee center at Ft. Chaffee, Ark., paid off, around a new English class, the home of a relative of who had been that she was Pentecostal refugee center.

**NHUE RECEIVED A** letter from his wife and children. On July 4, Guam, Rudy Pendleton reunited with his wife and family.

On July 15, under the sponsorship of the Catholic Church, his family resettled in Laguna.

"We can't freedom day ly," said Nhue.

Today, Nhue works in Albertus, a jacket, and as interpreter at Laguna I School, a daily adult education for Vietnamese refugees.

**HE BUZZES UP ON** an afternoon adult education.

It is a big change for a man who was one of the seven leading South Vietnamese.

"I have gone down. But I forget the past. We are going beginning we are enjoying here."

**Repatriates**

AGANA, Guam (AP) — South Vietnamese who have decided to return to their homeland began boarding a ship here today for their voyage to an uncertain future.

More than 500 repatriates were taken from Camp Asan to the vessel Thuong Tin I at the commercial port. U.S. Navy buses carried the Vietnamese in groups of about two dozen at a time.

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CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE CLIPS

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IN TWO WEEKS, 'LITTLE SAIGON' AT CAMP PENDLETON WILL BE CITY THAT WAS  
Marines That Helped Set Up the War Refugee Camp Now Are Dismantling It.

# Refugees

By FREDERICK SCHOEMEHL  
Of the Daily Pilot Staff

Within two weeks, the city of Vietnamese refugees that sprang up at Camp Pendleton Marine Base will be a memory.

By Thursday, only 4,200 of the more than 50,000 arrivals remained in the tent city over the hills from San Clemente.

Many of those still stationed at

the base occupied their time packing what few belongings they have acquired in the six months the tent city has been in operation.

Refugees who have sponsors are leaving the base at about 200 persons per day for resettlement throughout the United States.

Maj. Sally Prichett, a base spokeswoman, said Marine

NEWSPAPER

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DATE 17 OCT 1975



Daily Pilot Photos by Patrick O'Donnell

**FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN AT THE TENT CITY, IT'S PRETTY MUCH LIFE AS USUAL**  
**Afternoon English Classes Still Draw Many Refugee Children**

# Leaving Pendleton

Corps officials hope all remaining refugees will have sponsors by the Oct. 31 shutdown date ordered for Camp Pendleton.

Those that do not have sponsors will be transferred to Fort Chaffee, Ark., until they are resettled.

Others spent their time Thursday sewing, listening to English language tapes or just watching

as Marines methodically removed the scores of tents that were pitched to house the war refugees.

Three of the eight mini-camps within the refugee complex have been dismantled.

English classes for children still were being conducted by bilingual teachers. There was still a bustle of activity at the main processing center located on the outskirts of the camp.

From time to time, a voice came over the camp-wide public address system, calling the name of another refugee whose sponsorship was certain.

"Yeah, it's really pretty quiet," said one Marine. "I guess it'll be that way here until the reservists come in next summer."

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**GHOST TOWN**—A marine sergeant at Camp Pendleton walks past rows of tents where South Vietnamese refugees once were housed. The tents will be taken down and, by Oct. 31, the remaining Vietnamese—4,200 as of Friday—will go to Ft. Chaffey, Ark., or to sponsors' homes.

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Los Angeles Times

SEC 1

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Date: 1800T1975

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**Storms Ahead****Cheering S. Viets  
Depart for Saigon**

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — More than 1,500 cheering South Vietnamese refugees sailed for home today despite the apparent reluctance of the Communist government to accept them.

The South Vietnamese ship Thuong Tin, used to take fleeing refugees to Guam last spring, left Agana this afternoon with 1,546 would-be repatriates on board.

**THE REFUGEES CHEERED** from the decks as the ship's last line was cast off. A North Vietnamese flag flew from the stern mast and many of the refugees stood at attention.

The vessel, facing stormy waters in the Philippine Sea, left without the approval of Saigon's Provisional Revolutionary Government and against the advice of the United Nations Committee on Refugees.

The Thuong Tin was expected to pass Mindanao in the southern Philippines within four days. A tropical storm 600 miles east of the Philippines was moving toward the region at 16 miles an hour.

**U.S. OFFICIALS ON** Guam said American vessels would assist the Thuong Tin if an emergency develops at sea. But the United States did not provide an escort for the ship.

The captain and crew of about 60 — all South Vietnamese refugees — are considered qualified seamen, but have relatively little experience in long-range voyages.

Almost all of the repatriates had been on Guam since May when some 130,000 refugees arrived from South Vietnam following the April 30 Communist takeover of Saigon.

Fifty-one of the repatriates arrived this morning from the U.S. mainland to make the voyage. Twenty-eight others backed down at the 11th hour and will be sent back to the United States.

**AMERICAN OFFICIALS** said each refugee was interviewed before departure to confirm the decision to return to South Vietnam.

The Saigon government criticized the United States for letting the ship sail without Communist approval. South Vietnam was believed to be worried about the possibility of spies in the group of returnees.

NEWSPAPER

Daily Pic IT <sup>SEC</sup> <sup>PAGE</sup>  
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**SHIP SIGHTED****Refugees Head  
Back To Vietnam**

From United Press International and Associated Press

The ship carrying 1,546 Vietnamese repatriates back to South Vietnam from Guam headed for the San Bernardino Strait in the Philippines yesterday flying the North Vietnamese flag.

The position of the South Vietnamese vessel Thuong Tin I was reported by other vessels in the area. It is expected to be off Mindanao in the Philippines today.

In Saigon, South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government still gave no indication it would allow the ship to enter the country.

The ship left Guam Thursday for South Vietnam without official word from the PRG and against the advice of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

**NO MESSAGES**

U.S. authorities on Guam have not received any radio messages from the ship since its departure and disclaimed any further official interest in the ship's voyage, a Navy spokesman said.

He added, however, that U.S. authorities would respond to any call for assistance from the Thuong Tin I and treat it like any other emergency.

The repatriates said be-

fore sailing they hoped to receive instructions from Saigon on where they should dock because they had planned no specific port of entry.

President Ford said earlier in Washington that the United States has no more obligation to the repatriates.

**OBLIGATION OVER**

"I think our obligation as a country has ended," Mr. Ford said in an interview Friday with Cox Newspapers to be published today.

If the refugees are not allowed to land in Vietnam, Mr. Ford said, "I would then suggest that there is the United Nations Commission on Refugees."

Meanwhile, 14 South Vietnamese refugees seeking asylum in the United States arrived in the western Japanese port of Kobe yesterday aboard the Japanese tanker Shoko Maru, which picked them up off Saigon Sept. 27. Authorities said they all were well.

The refugees — five females and nine males ranging in age from 2 to 55 — will not be permitted to land on Japanese soil until the ship arrives in Yokohama tomorrow, officials said.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

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## SAIGON RECEPTION STILL IN DOUBT

# Refugees Sail West Under Hanoi Flag

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sional Revolutionary Government still gave no indication it would allow the ship to dock there.

The ship left Guam Thursday for South Vietnam without official word from the PRG and against the advice of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

U.S. authorities on Guam have not received any radio messages from the

ship since its departure and disclaimed any further official interest in the ship's voyage, a Navy spokesman said.

He added, however, that U.S. authorities would respond to any call for assistance from the Thuong Tin I and treat it like any other emergency.

The repatriates said before sailing they hoped to receive instructions

from Saigon on where they should dock because they had planned no specific port of entry.

Authoritative Saigon sources Saturday said the PRG is watching the Thuong Tin I closely but the government only reiterated its previous warning that the U.S. Administration would be held responsible for any consequences.

The PRG position has been that authorization for the return of overseas Vietnamese to South Vietnam is the sole sovereign right of Saigon and PRG officials have condemned the United States for its unilateral deci-

sion to let the Thuong Tin I sail for Vietnam.

Unofficial sources said that people in South Vietnam believe the incident is a political maneuver or a plot to import Central Intelligence Agency agents trained in the Pacific to South Vietnam. The PRG has not discouraged this belief.

The Tin Sang daily newspaper in Saigon said in its Saturday editorial that the United States might plant its agents among the repatriates on the merchant vessel which is expected to arrive in South Vietnam around next Saturday.

Los Angeles Times SEC 1-A PAGE 7

Date: 19 Oct 1975

# BLACK THAIS All Prepared For A New Life In Iowa

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

**CAMP PENDLETON —** There is a new group of refugees from Southeast Asia here who share neither the languages nor the worries of the 3,200 Vietnamese and Cambodians awaiting resettlement.

The Thai Dam — or Black Thais — arrived from refugee camps in Thailand last Wednesday, and in contrast to the Vietnamese and Cambodians whose futures are uncertain, the mood of the Thai Dam is festive.

The reason they don't exhibit the signs of tension shown by their camp neighbors is that their future is decided, their long status as refugees is almost over.

## 344 PERSONS

Today, representatives of the state of Iowa are expected at Camp Pendleton to arrange for the resettlement of all 43 Thai Dam families, 344 persons.

Tomorrow or Wednesday, say camp officials, the Thai Dam will fly to Iowa and to their new lives.

The Thai Dam are known as Black Thais not because of any racial characteristic, but rather because of the black clothing they wear.

"In older days," says Cam Uynh, their official spokesman, "there were two colors to wear: black and white. White gets dirty, so we chose black."



— Staff Photo by Tony Doughty

Raddathay Uynh helps strap Nhoni Quych into the sling, called a la, that Nhoni's mother uses to carry the baby. They are Thai Dam refugees who are at Camp Pendleton. (More pictures, Page A-3)

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT. 1

PG. 4

DATE: 2000/1975

ago the Thai Dam migrated try.

throughout Southeast Asia Uynh visited the United States in 1965 while en route from a portion of China southwest of Mongolia. He to Puerto Rico to study housing construction.

Thai Dam women wear ankle-length skirts of black material, called sins. The long skirt is tied with a colorful sash, and contrasts with the bright, multi-colored blouses, often sewn with beads, that they wear. On their heads, the women fold brightly colored scarfs, called pieou.

Mothers carry their infants on their backs, papoose style, in a sling called a ja.

Uynh said yesterday his people have other similarities to American Indians, including: a belief in the spirit world, rather than a single deity.

"We believe in ancestors, in a spirit of the village, a spirit of the district, and in a spirit of the nation.

"We also believe in bad spirits," said Uynh, "and we have sorcerers (medicine men) to chase them away."

Uynh said some U.S. immigration officials were puzzled over whether to classify the Thai Dam as Vietnamese, Laotians or as Thais (from the nation of Thailand).

#### SEEK CITIZENSHIP

"We are whatever you want us to be," said Uynh. "It makes no difference now; soon we will become American citizens."

He said about 1,000 years

what became North Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Burma and even India. Their language, like their religion, is their own, but "we can understand the Thai spoken in Thailand if they speak slowly."

Uynh's own family settled in Sonla province of North Vietnam, and from 1942 to 1945 his father was the chief of the province, sharing authority with a French colonial official.

In 1946, Uynh's father was killed by North Vietnamese Communists because he was preaching separation, or at least autonomy, for the Thai Dam people.

Three years later, Uynh's brother died in a battle against Communist troops.

While this was happening, Uynh was in France studying engineering. After the French lost Vietnam in 1954, he said, what was left of his family migrated to Laos, first to a border town, then to the capital city of Vientiane.

#### RAN CENTER

When he joined his family in Laos, he went to work for the Laotian government, ultimately becoming director of the technical center of the Laotian rural affairs minis-

In May of this year, he and his family hailed a taxi, drove to the Mekong River, and crossed into Thailand after it became apparent that the Communist Pathet Lao would win control of the country.

Another 2,000 Thai Dam still are in refugee camps in Thailand and the Thai government wants them to leave.

"The Thai government would like good diplomatic relations with its neighbors, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia," said Uynh. "That's why they asked the refugees to leave as quickly as possible."

#### DO ANY JOB

He said he is uncertain how his people will earn their livelihood in Iowa, but he is unconcerned. "Our people can do any job. If they need mechanics, or people to wash the street, we can do it."

As a government official and the son of a rich man, Uynh said he led a comfortable life in Laos. Now, his wife Nang Hau, daughter Raddathay and son, Phagnathay, are without money. "But we have freedom," he said. "It's better, yes?"

## Viet Refugee Killed In Collision

SANTA ANA—A Vietnamese vehicle was Diem Ngoc Luu, 30, refugee was killed here Wednesday when the pick-up truck, in which he was riding collided with a car driven by another Vietnamese refugee. The accident occurred at 11:45 a.m. at First and Euclid Streets. Investigators said Ngu was riding in the back of the truck filled with gardening tools. Killed was Nhi A. Ngu, 48, of Pomona. The driver of the other when the truck and car collided.

THE REGISTER

SEC A PAGE 2

DATE: 160ct. 1975

**Repatriation Ship Not Sighted, Manila Says**

MANILA (UPI) — A South Vietnamese ship carrying 1,546 repatriates from Guam to Vietnam has not been sighted in Philippine waters, a navy spokesman said yesterday.

The Thuong Tin I left Guam Thursday. Its route should take it through the San Bernardino Strait, off the Philippine island of Luzon, and into the South China Sea and Vietnamese waters.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

A PG. 2

DATE: 21 OCT 1975

## Vietnam Repatriates Sailing For Saigon

AGANA, Guam (UPI) — The ship carrying 1,546 Vietnamese repatriates back to South Vietnam from Guam headed for the San Bernardino Strait in the Philippines Saturday, flying the North Vietnamese flag.

The position of the South Vietnamese vessel *Thuong Tin I* was reported by other vessels in the area. It is expected to be off Mindanao in the Philippines Sunday.

In Saigon, South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government still gave no indication if it would allow the ship to enter the country.

The ship left Guam Thursday for South Vietnam without official word from the PRG and against the advice of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

U.S. authorities on Guam have not received any radio messages from the ship since its departure and disclaimed any further official interest in the ship's voyage, a navy spokesman said.

He added, however, that U.S. authorities would respond to any call for assistance from the *Thuong Tin I* and treat it like any other emergency.

The repatriates said before sailing they hoped to receive instructions from Saigon on where they should dock because they had planned no specific port of entry.

Authoritative Saigon sources Saturday said the PRG is watching the *Thuong Tin I* closely but the government only reiterated its previous warning that the U.S. administration would be held responsible for any consequences.

The PRG position has been that authorization for the return of overseas Vietnamese to South Vietnam is the sole sovereign right of Saigon and PRG officials have condemned the United States for its unilateral decision to let the *Thuong Tin I* sail for Vietnam.

Unofficial sources told UPI that people in South Vietnam believe the incident is a

political maneuver or a plot to import Central Intelligence Agency agents trained in the Pacific to South Vietnam. The PRG has not discouraged this belief.

The *Tin Sang Daily* newspaper in Saigon said in its Saturday editorial that the United States might plant its agents among the repatriates on the merchant vessel which is expected to arrive in South Vietnam around Oct. 25.

The newspaper said the unilateral action by the U.S. government violated South Vietnam's sovereignty.

## **1,500 stop on way to Vietnam**

MANILA (UPI) — A merchant ship carrying more than 1,500 South Vietnamese refugees to their homeland arrived in the Philippines today, the Philippine News Agency said.

The Thuong Tin arrived in Cebu with a slight unexplained gash on its starboard bow. The PNA said coast guard authorities were to meet later today with the ship's skipper, but gave no further details.

The ship — against the advice of the United Nations Commission on Refugees — steamed for South Vietnam Thursday from Guam without docking, permission from the Communist government in Saigon.

U.S. authorities on Guam have not received any messages from the Thuong Tin since its departure and disclaimed any further official control over the ship's voyage, an American Navy spokesman said today.



## Refugee Settlement Planned In Florida

CEDAR KEY, Fla. (UPI) — The wilderness just north of this gnarled old fishing village is not unlike parts of Vietnam's Mekong Delta.

And if enough refugees come up with some cash — and American tourists develop a taste for dried squid — it could earn the Vietnamese name "An Cu," which translates into "peaceful residence."

At least that's the plan of a group of Latin American investors, led by a Cuban exile from Miami, who foresee a self-sustaining village of 100 Indochinese refugee families as part of their hopes for developing 12,000 acres of pinelands and marshes in rural Levy County.

In an unhappy choice of phrases, the promoters labeled the resettlement program "Project Phoenix" and called the place Anchor, an admitted Americanization of the Vietnamese term.

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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 3 PG. 27

DATE: 1900/1975

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## Group Withdraws From Pact to Relocate Refugees

BY JAMES QUINN

Times Staff Writer

A Los Angeles-based Asian-American organization Monday withdrew from a \$1 million contract to relocate 2,000 Southeast Asian refugees, raising doubts whether the remaining refugees at Camp Pendleton could be resettled before the refugee center's scheduled Oct. 31 closing.

The Council of Oriental Organizations (COO), representing 10 Asian-American communities, backed out of the relocation program because of "bureaucratic foot-dragging" that made it impossible to fulfill the terms of the contract, according to Dennis Nishikawa, council president.

The withdrawal of the organization will not affect plans to close the center, but some refugees may have to be transferred to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., Maj. Sally Pritchett, deputy press officer at Camp Pendleton, said.

COO was one of 10 social service organizations that contracted with

the federal Interagency Refugee Task Force to relocate the 50,376 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees who arrived at the Marine base.

Pritchett said Monday 3,266 refugees remain at the tent camp. About 200 are leaving for homes each day.

The \$1 million grant was to have been administered locally by the Greater Los Angeles Community Action Agency (GLACCA), with COO the agency designated for carrying out the program.

Ralph Fertig, GLACCA's executive director, said the agency board would meet Monday to decide what to do about the unfulfilled contract.

He said it was "legally possible" that another agency could pick up the nonbinding contract, but added, "We think very highly of COO, and if they say it can't be done, we would give that opinion great weight."

Please Turn to Page 25, Col. 4.

# English-Speaking Goal Splitting Viet Family

BY FRED SWEGLER  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

SAN CLEMENTE — There's just one problem with that fond old adage about "the family that stays together..."

In the case of the Trinh family, the family that stays together speaks Vietnamese together.

And that's not helping any of the family members learn English.

So, although the family has become self-sufficient during two months of living in San Clemente, the Trinh's would like to split up temporarily.

Five adults are planning to move to Santa Ana to attend schools in English and vocational training during the next three to six months.

And in the meantime — until the family can regroup — the Trinh adults are appealing for San Clemente families to take in four Trinh children.

Thap, the 33-year-old leader of the Vietnamese refugee family, believes strongly that English is the key to success in this new country.

He believes it so strongly that he is willing to temporarily sacrifice family unity to achieve that goal. In fact, Thap even turned down an offer of a \$6.50-an-hour construction job after mulling it and deciding that English is more important in the long run.

The Trinh family placed an ad in the Daily Sun-Post this week for "good temporary homes for their children, for the purpose of learning English."

The four kids are Tien, 15; Quang, 12; Le-Ha, 9; and Tranh, 6. Quang is already living temporarily in the home of a schoolmate.

The Trinh's believe it is important that each of the children to be placed in a separate American home. If they stay together, they will speak Vietnamese and the experience will do no good, the Trinh's say.

One woman offered to take all three of the youngsters who currently need homes, but the offer was refused because the kids need to be split up.

"They're not looking for foster homes — they just think it's very important to learn English," says Bob Holt, whose sponsorship originally got the Trinh's out of the Camp Pendleton refugee camp.

"It's just a temporary thing," Holt said. "They want to bring the family back together."

Holt and his wife Linda cannot take in any of the children because of their work schedules and their commitments to additional refugees they are helping to sponsor.

They ask anyone interested in taking a child into a good American home to contact them at 498-0542. The children's medical needs, should any problem arise, would be covered by MediCal according to Holt.

The Holts look at the Trinh family as a model of success in the refugee resettlement program. Among the five adults, four have found jobs during the past two months in town. Three of them have even held down two jobs at the same time.

Unlike many refugee families, they have stayed away from accepting any food stamps or welfare.

But these were low paying jobs, and the Trinh's hope their stay in Santa Ana can lead to a better life. The Trinh's, while living frugally in an Avenida Mariposa apartment, have pooled their savings and believe they can remain self-sufficient during their Santa Ana schooling.

Three of them will attend English classes fulltime, while the other two will participate in a federal program that will pay them each \$240 a month while they learn English and electronics.

Without the four children to support, the Trinh adults believe they can afford to live in Santa Ana on their savings and on the vocational pay.

The two youngest children are Thap's offspring. Their mother (Thap's wife) had to stay behind in Vietnam because the grandparents forbade her to leave.

Thap and the other Trinh's are brother and sister. Their elderly parents were unable to leave Vietnam.

The nine Trinh's fled their native Saigon the day before communist troops overran the city in April. Eight members of the family walked to the sea and boarded an escape ship that took them to the Philippines.

During the seven-day voyage, Tien recalls that all they had to eat was a little rice and some raw fish.

The ninth family member, Khoai, escaped Saigon by clinging onto the door of a cargo plane as it took off. Several other would-be refugees fell after clinging onto ascending the plane, but Khoai held on and luckily was pulled inside after the plane became airborne.

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN-POST SEC PAGE 2 170CT1975



Fred Siegler Photo

Bob Holt, three young refugees seek help from families

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN POST SEC PAGE DATE 17 OCT 1935  
A 2

OCT 22 1975

## 344 'Thai Dam' Refugees Latest To Arrive At Camp Pendleton

**CAMP PENDLETON**—A colony of 344 "Thai Dam" refugees

that spilled across Thailand borders when the Communists moved against Laos and Cambodia have arrived here for relocation in Iowa.

Their arrival came only 15 days before Camp Pendleton's "Little Saigon" refugee center is due to fold its tents and fade into history.

Officials here said the Thai Dam, or Black Thai, lived along the borders of Thailand and have been kept in Thai refugee camps since May.

Iowa officials will arrive here next week to match the refugees up with volunteer sponsors in that state. A spokesman said the U.S. State Department had contacted Iowa officials about resettling the special group of refugees in that state because they are primarily an agricultural people.

Another group of 323 Thai Dam has arrived in Fort Chaffee, Ark., and also will be relocated in Iowa when sponsors are found for them there. Iowa officials said the refugees "might do very well in Iowa with their country attitude."

The group arrived here Wednesday, bringing the total number of Southeast Asian refugees at Camp Pendleton to 4,234. All will be gone when the camp is dismantled and closed Oct. 31, officials said.

It is hoped here that a considerable number of the refugees

will be sponsored out of the camp before the closing date. All that are not will be flown to Fort Chaffee where there are heated permanent buildings for the coming winter.

Marines are tearing down the tents at Camp Pendleton and grading the land back to its former training ground status as fast as the refugees move out.

Two tent areas were demolished Wednesday. "It is beginning to look like a ghost town here now," said Maj. Sally Pritchett, a Marine Corps information officer.

At the height of the influx of refugees, there were nearly 12,000 people in the tent city that became known as "Little Saigon."

The refugees left here now include a large number of single males. "It is difficult to find sponsors for them," said Major Pritchett.

She said there is some anxiety among the refugees scheduled to be transferred to Fort Chaffee. "They feel they are, again, starting over in another unknown environment without any future that they can foresee," she said.

Fort Chaffee, itself, is due to close its refugee center Dec. 31. It is hoped that the 10,000 or more refugees expected to be there Oct. 31 will have found sponsors by the closing date.

THE REGISTER

SEC D PAGE 14

DATE:

17 OCT 1975

# Angry Union Demonstrators Protest Use of Viet Refugees as Strikebreakers

BY HARRY BERNSTEIN  
Times Labor Writer

Angry union demonstrators Tuesday marched in front of the Federal Building here to protest the use of Vietnamese refugees as strikebreakers at California Originals, a pottery manufacturer.

Joseph Dernetz, deputy director of the U.S. Department of Immigration and Naturalization here, said the ref-

ugees are entitled to find any jobs they can in this country, "and there are no legal restrictions against the kind of work they accept."

William D. Bailey, president of the company, said, "I think some of our new employees hired since the strike began Oct. 9 are Vietnamese refugees, but we don't ask them their national origin."

Pressed for details, however, he

said he had hired 39 of the refugees before the strike and another 31 since the walkout was called by the International Brotherhood of Pottery and Allied Workers.

The immigration department apprehended 81 illegal Mexican aliens working at the company in an investigation there last summer, and previous checks at the firm by the government also resulted in appre-

hensions of Mexican nationals illegally in this country.

But Dernetz said there are no present restrictions on the Vietnamese working behind picket lines because they are here legally.

S. L. Fullerton, vice president of the union, denounced the use of the Vietnamese, noting that in another strike recently by Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers of America, Vietnamese refugees were hired by Egg City, an Oxnard egg producer, to work as strikebreakers.

"Although we are not racists since many of our strikers are immigrants from Mexico, we do not want government-sponsored strikebreakers

taking our jobs," Fullerton said.

He called on Sen. Alan Cranston and John V. Tunney "to seek immediate congressional action against the use of political refugees to break strikes by American workers."

The company and union differed sharply on most other issues in the strike.

The union said most workers are paid \$2.15 an hour, are forced to work without masks or gloves in unsanitary conditions, and almost all of the original 430 strikers are still on strike. The union is seeking a \$3 hourly minimum wage.

Bailey, the company president, said most workers make about \$3 an hour

now, and the \$2.15 rate is for beginners. The company has offered to boost the minimum rate to \$2.35 an hour, he said.

He said "more than 300 of the original strikers have returned to work, and the company has hired only 184 new employees, about 95% of whom are Mexicans, although we have some colored and even some Indians and maybe 40 Anglos."

He denied the union charges of unsanitary working conditions, saying government inspectors "gave us a clean bill of health."

Los Angeles Times

SEC  
II

PAGE  
3

Date: 22 OCT 1975

## State Says 22,000 Refugees On Dole

SACRAMENTO (AP) — At least 53 per cent of the refugees from Southeast Asia who settled in California are on welfare, and the figure may rise, says a state official.

Mario Obledo, California's secretary of health and welfare,

told a news conference this week "I think this illustrates the failure of the sponsor program."

But he said it takes months to know the figures exactly, and the percentage "may very well be 75 or 85 per cent, and we won't know until January."

He said at 53 per cent, the number of refugees on tax assistance would be 22,000.

A frequent critic of the federal government's management of the refugee relocation program, Obledo said he attempted to set up personal meetings on the subject during a visit to Washington last week. But "my calls went unanswered," he said.

Obledo said the refugee program "is becoming more of a California program" because they will remain in California.

He added "The Vietnamese refugees, being human beings, are the responsibility of all of us."

# Refugee Sponsor Search Ends Here

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

Picture — Page A-3

**CAMP PENDLETON** — The aide said two Cambodians were flown two weeks ago from Camp Pendleton to Marine base became a refugee camp April 29, sponsors the United Nations in New York to meet with U.N. representatives of the new Cambodian regime. On their return, the aide said, they reported they were promised they would be allowed to return at some future unspecified date.

Nick Thorne, head of the civilian Interagency Task Force, said all but 325 of the 2,673 refugees still at Camp Pendleton have been matched with sponsors, and more than enough sponsors are available for the remainder.

Of the refugees without sponsors, 125 are Cambodians who want to return to their country, Thorne said. For the other 200, the question is whether they can be matched with sponsors before the refugee camp is closed nine days from now.

**ASKED TRANSFERS** — The Cambodians, most of them military men who were studying in this country when Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge, have asked to be transferred en masse to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., to await word from the Cambodian government on when they may return to their country, an aide to Thorne said.

## IOWAN BEGINS TALKS

In Camp 3, Colleen Shearer, Iowa employment security commissioner, began meeting with 344 Thai Dam who will be settled in her state. She said enough sponsors for all the Thai Dam have been obtained, and that she and four other Iowa officials now are matching refugees with sponsors. She said a flight to Iowa may be arranged for them by the weekend.

Except for the Thai Dam in Camp 3, all refugees were scheduled to live in Quonset huts by today. Residents of Camp 8, once the biggest of the tent cities, have been transferred to the Quonset huts in the San Onofre area. Today, Tent Camp 4 is scheduled to be taken down, officials said.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

A

PG.

8

DATE: 22 OCT 1975



# Greetings From Iowa



— Staff Photo by George Smith

Colleen Shearer, employment security commissioner of Iowa, exchanges traditional

greetings with Thai Dam refugees who will be settled in her state. The state has

arranged sponsorship for all 344 Thai Dam who arrived last week. (Story, Page A-8)

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

A PG. 3

DATE: 8/20/71

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

# 1,500 refugees at party recreate a bit of Vietnam

By ROBERT MONTAGNE

Electronic guitars thrummed a soft, slow orient-  
al theme.

In front of a crowd of about 1,500 Vietnamese fighter pilots, sang his homeland's equivalent of "America the Beautiful." The lyrics described teak-forested mountains, lush valleys, sparkling beaches.

The scene was in San Diego State University's Montezuma Hall last night, where more than 1,500 Vietnamese refugees gathered to establish new friendships or rekindle old ones.

They are among the Indochina war victims whose sponsorships by San Diego families, congregations and civic groups have worked out.

The gathering was sponsored by the San Diego Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Vietnamese Community Foundation.

The 1,500 represented about one-sixth of the Southeast Asians now resettled in San Diego County.

Girls and women in brightly colored ao dais, the long-skirted Vietnamese traditional female dress, mixed with boys and men, some in sport jackets, others in neat shirts and sweaters.

"When I first got involved with the refugees last April," said Jan Kiss, assistant director of nursing and health for the Red Cross chapter, "I worked with crowds like this coming in from Southeast Asia."

"The best we could do for them in those days was put them in large rooms with mattresses all over the floors."

But some of the refugees

The Rev. Mr. Peter Robinson, a Protestant minister, said the San Diego-based Agapi Foundation, Inc., "sponsorship has been misery."

The Agapi Foundation, local representative of the Tolstoy Foundation, one of the refugee resettlement agencies under U.S. contract, has stepped in to help resettle more than 50 individual refugees or families whose sponsorships have broken down.

"In some of the cases," he said, "the refugees were being exploited or there was friction."

Mr. Robinson described one case in which three refugee families were sponsored by a restaurant owner who made them work long hours for a few dollars a week and restricted their movements.

Agapi, which has an eight-bedroom "halfway" house in Chula Vista, took in the three families and arranged for new sponsorship.

Another San Diego sponsorship breakdown involved former Lt. Col. Vinh Ho, cousin of Bao Dai, the last Vietnamese emperor, who has been in exile in Paris since 1954. Ho chose to serve in the Republic of Vietnam army.

Ho, his wife and three children, were moved into a renovated garage on the Agapi grounds.

On Sunday, the Ho family met their new sponsors, the congregation of the Point Loma Church of the Nazarene.

The Agapi Foundation, which has arranged sponsors for more than 600 refugees, is negotiating with the city and county for lease of

a former Navy barracks complex once used to house commercial airline pilots.

Volunteers are looking for a house that could hold up to 200 refugees," Mr. Robinson said. "We want to primarily help ex-military men who are single or came here without their families. Not many sponsorship offers come in for single men."

Catholic Community Services, another federally contracted resettlement agency, reported 25 breakdowns out of 1,600 sponsorships.

The number of sponsorship breakdowns among the 9,000 refugees estimated to be in the county has not been accurately tabulated, because of varying definitions of the term, "breakdown."

Most of the volunteer agencies consider refugee families forced to resort to welfare assistance as sponsorship breakdowns, even though they still reside with their sponsors.

The county Department of Public Welfare listed 984 refugees receiving cash assistance.

That assistance, however, is reimbursed by federal funds.

So, too, is impact money for elementary and secondary schools enrolling refugee students. There are now 833 refugee students in schools throughout the county. The impact aid is at the rate of \$300 for each student, with the exception of the San Diego Unified School District, which, with an enrollment of 382 refugees, receives double the rate. The \$600 rate is authorized for school districts with 100 or more refugee pupils.

"The good thing about the whole project is that we are not taking their culture away from them."

Red Cross officials passed out resource books printed in English and Vietnamese that described U.S. laws and customs, how to use the telephone, where to get emergency help and a glossary of English words for food, health conditions and other "survival" expressions.

The refugees at last night's good-neighbor event, many of them proudly introducing their sponsors to friends and relatives, do not reflect the new lives of many other refugees in the county and other



**CAUGHT** — Natali Cao, 12, gets in the middle of a game of London Bridge with Red Cross youth volunteers Paul Newton, left, and Carl

Gieser. Natali was entertained outside San Diego State's Montezuma Hall last night while about 1,500 Indochinese refugees met inside

SAN DIEGO EVENING TRIBUNE

SECT: A

PAGE: 2

DATE: 21 OCT 1975



**STARTING NEW LIVES**—A group of Thais, including a baby in a sling on mother's back, leaves their tent quarters at Camp Pendleton refugee center for new homes in Iowa. There are 344 so-called Black Thais in group. The refugee center closes Oct. 31.

Los Angeles Times

SEC

1

PAGE

2

Date: 22 OCT 1975

**Refugee Ship Plods Toward South Vietnam**

AGANA, Guam (AP) — A refurbished merchant ship was reported yesterday to be plodding at a steady 12 knots to an uncertain reception in South Vietnamese waters 700 miles away.

The ship, Thuong Tin I, left Guam Oct. 16 with 1,546 repatriates, who insisted on making the voyage back despite warnings from South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) that they would not be accepted.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT. A PG. 2

DATE: 23 OCT. 1975

## Viet Refugees Live Like Serfs


LOS ANGELES (UPI) — County officials were warned Tuesday that between 400 and 700 Vietnamese refugees resettled in the Pomona Valley are being exploited under conditions reminiscent of southern "sharecropper concepts of the 1880's."

Robert Boyd, executive director of the county Human Relations Commission, told the Board of Supervisors the Southern California Minorities Capital Corp. advances money to the refugees for major appliance purchases then deducts the amount from job earnings.

Boyd said a situation was developing similar to that in the Old South where sharecroppers went deeper and deeper into debt.

Clarence Webb, director of community relations for the city of Pomona, said that the refugees were given menial work such as gardening and rug cleaning for \$2.60 an hour.

Webb said 157 refugees were moved into corporation-owned apartments in such condition that "most Americans would not live in them" and that the corporation deducted rent from their pay.



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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNESECT. *APG. 14*DATE: *22 Oct 1975*

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## Refugee Eye Care Donated

**CAMP PENDLETON —** When Lions Clubs and a unique organization named Services for the Blind, of Santa Ana, combined energies at Camp Pendleton recently, they focused their attention on better eyesight.

These organizations and a team of five Southern California optometrists from the California Optometric Association set out to coordinate an effort to provide eye care to every refugee who needed it at the Marine Corps base.

Working in conjunction with various Orange County Lions Clubs, the optometrists — arranged to send equipment and set up a mobil unit at Pendleton. A Vietnamese optician began the screening process when the unit was first installed this summer.

"The program began when I was contacted by Wilhelm DeNijs, executive director of Services for the Blind, Inc., said D. Donald Becker, sight conservation chairman for Lions International District 4LA. "He told me of the eye care problems at Camp Pendleton. And since these people had no other place to turn, we decided to become involved in helping them."

Soon the five optometrists met at Pendleton to conduct comprehensive examinations and iron out wrinkles in the program, paving the way for more O.D.s to later join the effort.

With refractors mounted on makeshift wooden stands and stabilized with rocks, the optometrists went to work in an empty quonset hut in the middle of a refugee site. Vietnamese participants were notified beforehand of the availability of the service and waited in line — some for four hours — to be examined by the optometrists.

"As was expected the first day was unorganized," says Dr. Becker. "But we got a good start, examining more than 50 patients."

*for*

### **Refugees get radio station**

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — Radio station K224AG-FM has been dedicated at this Vietnamese refugee relocation center, making it the first bilingual English-Vietnamese station in the nation.

The 10-watt station is financed by the United States Catholic Conference and is the first station permitted to broadcast from a military installation, according to program director Dave DeHart.

DeHart said the station's program is a 50-50 balance of American and Vietnamese music from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. He also said the station broadcasts lessons in English and programs dealing with American history and culture and health care. Slightly more than 12,000 Indo-Chinese refugees remain at Ft. Chaffee.

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## 'Black Thais' Group To Settle In Iowa

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — A new group of Southeast Asian refugees, isolated by language and customs from their fellow refugees, but pragmatic to the core, are relishing the prospect of a new home in Iowa.

"It is blessed news that we were accepted by the Iowa government," said Cam Uynh, spokesman for the 43 families of Thai Dam — Black Thais — who arrived here last Wednesday. "Our people can do any job. If they need mechanics or people to wash the streets, we can do it."

Uynh, an engineering graduate who studied in France and served as technical director in

the Laotian Rural Affairs Ministry, explained Sunday that his people were a puzzle to American immigration officials, who were not sure whether to classify them as Vietnamese, Laotian or Thais.

"We are whatever you want us to be," Uynh said with a chuckle. "It makes no difference now. Soon, we will become American citizens."

The Black Thais were to meet today with Iowa officials to discuss how they would be resettled.

Uynh said his people migrated 1,000 years ago from an area southwest of Mongolia to other parts of Southeast Asia.

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## MOST REFUGEES GONE

# Camps Grow Quiet as Deadline Nears

BY KATHY BURKE  
Times Staff Writer

The young marines balanced on the back of the pickup truck watch the small clouds of dust spread toward the feet of refugees sitting near the outside of the tent.

The blue and white pickup stops near one tent where a Vietnamese woman stares into the sunshine. Two marines jump down from the back and begin to pick up a lone cot sitting in the sun outside the woman's tent.

"No, no," she shouts, and reaches to pull the cot inside the ropes that secure the tent.

The marines hop back on the truck, and it resumes its slow cruise, the men peering into tents on either side for any items refugees may have left behind.

Such scenes of military efficiency are replayed continuously these days at Camp Pendleton, the temporary home for more than 50,000 Indochi-

**Two camps are now  
just bulldozed fields  
glaring in the sun.**

nese refugees since the first of them arrived in late April.

The marines are dismantling the camps with the same thoroughness they employed in setting them up, and it seems there will be little left for any of the refugees to come back for. If they ever want to come back.

Camps 5 and 6 are now bulldozed fields, glaring in the sun like buff-colored scars next to the brush-covered hills and green tents remaining in Camp 4.

Gone, too, is Camp 8—the largest of the refugee camps and one that swarmed with reporters in the first few weeks after the arrival of former

South Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky at Tent 3C.

And in Camp San Onofre, which housed the Cambodian refugees, all but a few of the Quonset huts are empty. And bulging cardboard boxes tied with string are piled each day in front of the camp commander's office, ready for shipment to the homes of sponsors.

The relative quiet emphasizes the imminent closing of the camps.

Showers and mess halls that daily created a din have been torn down. Classrooms, television sets and Ping-Pong tables are gone.

And the loudspeakers that incessantly blared information and questions and suggestions and announced visitors—all but a couple have been taken away.

Fewer than 2,000 refugees inhabit the camps. And Nick Thorne, senior coordinator of the Inter-agency Task Force on the base, repeatedly has confirmed the projected camp closing date of Oct. 31.

Task Force officials even have announced that sponsors are no longer needed for the refugees at Pendleton, and only those special cases which cannot be placed with sponsors will be flown to Ft. Chaffee, Ark.

So, for those few who remain, each sweep of the marines through the camps reminds them of the impermanence of their lives there.

Tensions that occasionally kept many refugees in their tents all day or flared into fistfights seem to have abated.

There are the same worries—job, home, language skills—but they are not new. In some cases they are more noticeable now as time is running out, and in others they are well camouflaged.

Giap's case is an example of the latter.

Do Linh Giap, 41, a former Saigon



**WITH PRECIOUS POSSESSION**—Vietnamese girl and her doll.

Times photos by Boris Yaro

radio engineer, is energetic inside his tent in Camp 4.

He and his wife, six children, his mother-in-law, sister-in-law and niece have been sponsored by a church in Pasadena, and he is busy packing boxes.

"When I go to Pasadena, I want to get a job as soon as possible. I want self-support, that's all."

He reflects a moment, then begins to praise Americans.

"I came here without a cent in my pocket and everywhere they try to help us.

"They have open arms, generous heart."

He pauses again, his energy fading. "You know," he says reflectively, "it was very hard for my family to move here."

He then seems resigned, taking refuge in an outlook that finally places everything beyond his control.

"Everything happen. I think, like a dream," he says with an almost apologetic smile.

"Everything changed. We had good house in Vietnam, comfort.

"Now everything changed," he says. "Now the best way is to see everything like a dream.

"And if something happen, let it happen. With me now, I don't ask anything. I just accept everything. I don't complain."

He says all this triumphantly, anxious to explain how he has figured it all out.

"Just be laughing too much and happy too much. I think that's a good way."

Giap attempts a smile as he finishes speaking.

He says that he can play "many instruments of music" should he have

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# Camps Grow Silent

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difficulty getting a job as an electrical or technical engineer.

"Maybe I'll become an artist," he says with optimism.

Although most of the refugees remaining at Camp Pendleton will be placed with sponsors, some will have been sent to Ft. Chaffee by the time the refugee camps at Pendleton close at the end of next week.

They include 125 Cambodians who are trying to arrange repatriation; 223 refugees awaiting resettlement in other countries; 343 refugees awaiting reunification with family members in other countries, and 24 cases defined as "security problems."

Fifty-nine persons with medical problems, including 11 persons with

leprosy, will not be resettled until they are released from the hospital.

Those few Vietnamese left to be resettled were the last to arrive on Guam. Many of them came from the provinces of Vietnam, from places where they could escape only by boat.

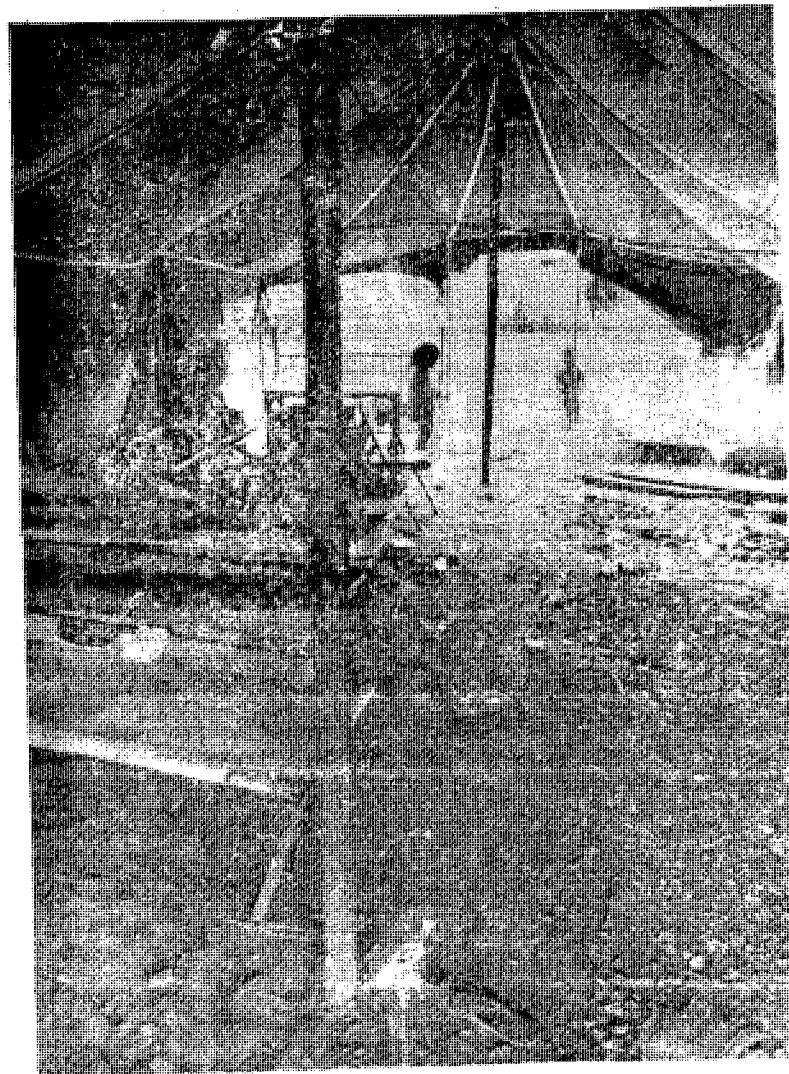
Most of them were in the Vietnamese military or held peripheral positions with American government offices or companies.

Many of them do not speak English beyond a few words and phrases. They communicate much less easily with marines or visiting members of the media.

Tran Thi Kim Thanh, 14, is an exception. She is from Saigon, where she studied English in school.

She is quick to explain that "Kim" means gold and "Thanh" means blue.

Her mother sits in a chair beside



ONCE A HOME—Only cots—and a small shoe, foreground—remain.  
Times photo

DECLASSIFIED

# as Refugees Leave

"I think Americans are very good to me," she continues, pushing her English to its limits.

"I want to study very much. I want to be a scientist. I was the best student in mathematics in my class in Saigon.

"I speak five languages: Vietnamese, English, a little French, a little Chinese, and one sentence in Korean."

Thanh leaves Monday for New Jersey, although she cannot remember the name of the city in which she will live. She will learn it when she gets there, she says.

The blue and white pickup has stopped again. All the marines get out this time and enter a deserted tent.

The refugees living there have left behind much debris: a mattress, broken rubber sandals, meal tickets, a map of the United States folded into an airplane, ripped jackets, a crib, school books, baby bottles, a broom, a man's coat, a pair of training pants.

In a box of rubbish, a child learning English threw a notebook fashioned from a military Inquiry and Reply form AF 1973.

String through two holes punched at the top of the pages holds the notebook together.

the door of their Quonset in Camp 2. A pretty woman with a resolute jaw, she bears the preoccupied look of a person waiting in an office for her case to be called so she can go home.

She brought Thanh and three other children with her, but her husband and two other daughters are still in Vietnam.

"My mother is very sad," Thanh says. "She cries every night and she does not sleep well.

"She misses my father."

Thanh's father, a special officer with USAID, had boarded a ship with all his family except his two oldest daughters, aged 16 and 18.

They had been guarding one of the family's two homes against looters and were supposed to pack things there and meet the family at the ship.

When they did not show up, Thanh's father went to get them. He never returned.

But Thanh, unlike her mother, is so excited about her new home that she would much rather talk about the United States.

"I think this country is a good country," she says with a sweet smile. "This country looks like my country—I think that—so I like this country."

The child had written a different month of the year many times on each of the pages, winning his battle to keep the entries straight on the unlined paper.

After the months, the child had copied a prayer from a Catholic hymnal, complete with hyphens.

*"Ho-ly ho-ly ho-ly lord God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry Ho-sanna in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the highest."*

On the last page of the notebook was printed an entry that the child might have included for fun, adding a touch of levity to the practicality and religiousness of his first two efforts.

"Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepers (sic)," it read.

*km*



PACKED UP—Young refugees wait with belongings for the bus.

Los Angeles Times

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CAMP'S LAST DAYS—Television in a tree is viewed by Vietnamese at Camp Pendleton. Refugee center is being closed.

Los Angeles Times

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# Refugee Family Locates Homes

BY FRED SWEGLES  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

**SAN CLEMENTE** — Six young members of the Trinh family took a giant step this week.

They moved away from the security of their close-knit family and out into the English-speaking world.

The Trinhns are Vietnamese war refugees who lived together in San Clemente for about two months. But living together proved to be a major obstacle in their goal of learning English.

So, to break away from the habit of speaking Vietnamese together all the time, the nine-member family parted this week. Temporarily.

The three oldest Trinhns are moving to Santa Ana for several months to attend schools in vocational skills and English. Meanwhile, the six younger Trinhns have each found homes with a local American family.

The idea is for each refugee to be forced to speak English on a daily basis.

The Trinhns were working and supporting themselves in a San Clemente apartment for two months before they decided to take this giant step.

Once they decided to sacrifice their family ties, they took out a classified advertisement in the Daily Sun-Post last week seeking homes for the children.

The ad, along with an article in Friday's Sun-Post was successful in placing all the needy Trinhns with families.

"I think everyone turned out happy," said Mrs. Bob Holt, whose husband sponsored the nine Trinhns out of Camp Pendleton two months ago. "Splitting up was something that had to be done. The family will be back together soon."

The three oldest adults in the family plan to support themselves in Santa Ana off their savings and off \$240 a month which two will each earn at vocational school.

Actually, five of the oldest Trinhns

originally planned to move to Santa Ana. But they could not find any reasonably priced apartments that would rent to five persons.

As an alternative they tried to find a suitable apartment for two Trinh girls, ages 18 and 22. But the only place they could afford were in neighborhoods they felt might not be good for the girls.

Fortunately, the Holts were able to place the two girls, My and Hoa, with San Clemente families whose homes are only two blocks apart. So they will continue to live here, learning English from families rather than from schools.

The other youngsters who were placed in local homes include Tahn, 6, and his sister Le-Ha, 8. Tien, 15, has been accepted into the same house as Le-Ha so he can help interpret for her. He already speaks some English.

Quang, 12, already had a San Clemente home before his family took out the ad last week. He is living with a schoolmate.

It was Quang who reunited the Trinh family at Camp Pendleton several months ago. Eight members of the family had escaped South Vietnam in April, separately from a ninth member of the family.

The ninth member, Khoai, was a jet pilot who ultimately arrived at Camp Pendleton with another member of his squadron. One day, Quang happened to spot this other squadron member entering a Camp Pendleton mess hall. He eagerly asked about his brother.

A happy reunion followed. Since then, the Trinh refugees have lived together happily and self-sufficiently in their San Clemente apartment.

This week the family parted company again — but under much nicer circumstances than the last time in April. They're planning another happy reunion soon in San Clemente, and hopefully this time they'll be able to greet each other in English.

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN POST

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Fred Thompson Photo

**ALMOST OUT** — Mary Duong, a 7-year-old Vietnamese war refugee, plays with her tiny sister among the tents being disassembled at Camp Pendleton. The two little girls and their family expect to depart the dwindling refugee city later this week for a home in Los Angeles, as the resettlement program here begins to shut down. Camp Pendleton today houses only 2,600 refugees, a mere shadow of the onetime recurrent population of 18,000. The camp, having processed some 50,000 refugees over the past six months, will close October 31.

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## Refugees Treated Like Sharecroppers?

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — County officials were warned Tuesday that between 400 and 700 Vietnamese refugees resettled in the Pomona Valley are being exploited under conditions reminiscent of Southern "sharecropper" concepts of the 1880's.

Robert Boyd, executive director of the County Human Relations Commission, told the Board of Supervisors the Southern California Minorities Capital Corp. advances money to the refugees for major appliance purchases, then deducts the amount from job earnings.

Boyd said a situation was developing similar to that in the old South where sharecroppers went deeper and deeper into debt.

Clarence Webb, director of community relations for the city of Pomona, said that the refugees were given menial work such as gardening and rug cleaning for \$2.60 an hour.

Webb said 157 refugees were moved into corporation-owned apartments in such condition that "most Americans would not live in them" and that the corporations deducted rent from their pay.

Most of the refugees came here from Camp Pendleton in September. Webb said the corporation received approximately \$500 from the federal government for each refugee under the understanding they would resettle and follow through on relocations of the Vietnamese.

Gerald Martin, head of Southern California Minorities Capital Corp., denied the refugees were living in "potentially explosive conditions."



**REFUGEES LEAVING —**  
Friends of departing Vietnamese refugees bid their farewells this morning as a chartered bus aids the process of emptying the Camp

Pendleton refugee camp. The refugees are bused to San Diego, for a flight to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., where they will stay during the winter months. (Staff Photo)

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIUNE

SECT. 2 PG. 15

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**TENT CITY FALLS** — Camp Pendleton marines strike squad tents erected last spring to temporarily house Vietnamese

and Cambodian refugees. The last of the refugees who have not yet been resettled with American sponsors are being transported to

Fort Chaffee, Arkansas within the next week where better quarters for winter weather are provided. The refugee camps at Camp

Pendleton, which at one time housed as many as 20,000 refugees, are being dismantled as the last occupants depart.

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CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE CLIPS

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ted.

The existence of Black's Beach itself remains uncertain as city officials study what to do with that 900-foot stretch-of monster they created.

The city Park and Recreation Board will hold a public hearing on Black's Beach Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Casa Del Prado auditorium in Balboa Park.

On Nov. 4, the Board of Supervisors will hold a similar hearing on possible creation of a nude beach at the foot of J. St. in Encinitas.

Nudity has even become a political issue in the upcoming city election.

And a Los Angeles attorney has threatened a lawsuit against San Diego because he says the city should have required an environmental impact report before establishing the nude zone at Black's.

There's more.

Sun-crazed lemmings scramble down 1,000-foot cliffs to the beach in numbers ranging up to 15,000 on a bright weekend.

Others watch the nude scene through binoculars from atop those cliffs in a parade that Paul Saltman, vice chancellor for UCSD, has called "perverts watching perverts."

This view largely is shared by the 80-odd families who live in plush La Jolla Farms, where \$150,000-\$200,000 homes surround the access to the beach.

The rush to Black's has created problems the city has been unable to cope with.

There is no paved parking area. No permanent restrooms. Limited lifeguard service. Limited police patrol. And the beach itself is crowded and dangerous.

## Beach-nudity issue continues to rage

By JOE HUGHES

Eighteen months ago San Diego City Council established this country's first legal "swimsuit-optional" area on Black's Beach, and thus fired the opening shot in the nude beach revolution.

The echoes are still heard around the nation.

In Santa Fe, N.M., nude bathing now is legal in a national park Sunday through Wednesday. Nudity is prohibited Thursday through Saturday.

Along Cape Cod National Seashore, a federal court has banned nudity because the bare bodies were doing "irreparable harm to the delicate beach area."

At Camp Pendleton, bathers are circumventing federal, state and county antinude laws by going without swimsuits below the mean high tide line where jurisdiction is cloudy.

And then there's Black's Beach.

That swimsuit optional zone decision triggered a tidal wave of birth-day suit activity coast to coast. Nude beach zones were opened, then closed. Pro and con nude factions began debating bare facts surrounding the unclothed.

The controversy over how to handle the Great Nude Explosion continues to rage everywhere — including Black's Beach where it all began in May 1974.

Even the County of San Diego and its Board of Supervisors has not escaped unscathed in the Black's Beach fallout.

The supervisors recently hurried a strong antinude ordinance into effect covering all beaches in unincorporated areas. That ordinance becomes effective tomorrow.

And they still are searching for one county beach where swimsuit optional sunbathing could be permit-

(Cont. on page A-3, col. 1)

The city report says there are many environmental concerns at Black's. It doubts the state coastal commission would go along with installing permanent restrooms, stairs or parking along the delicate Torrey Pines bluffs.

Without those improvements, the problems at Black's — and other beaches — could go on forever.

Los Angeles attorney Robert Krueger, a specialist in law of the sea, is asking the state attorney general to evaluate his complaint that the city should have sought coastal commission approval before opening Black's Beach to nudists.

Krueger, who owns two houses overlooking the beach, said his suit against the city would be brought by himself and several neighbors, and would ask San Diego not only to apply for a permit but obey water quality standards.

He also will ask that Box Canyon, site of one of the many trails carved in the bluffs to the beach below, be protected as a natural resource. He feels nude bathers are entitled to the beach, but

The tidal action at Black's is considered the fiercest in the county. Stingers, for some reason, lurk in the waters. Up to 10 bathers a day are stung. The lifeguards who treat them must perform double duty.

Says lifeguard Lt. Buster Mico:

"Some days we rescue more people on the cliffs, trying to get down to the beach, than we do in the water."

A report on Black's released this week by the city Park and Recreation Department did little to clear up the situation.

The report recommended no solutions to the Black's Beach problem. It only brought up more problems. Such as a California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan that recommends 100 square feet of beach per person.

At Blacks, the report says, only 30 square feet of sand per person is available.

But, on crowded days, that's more like three square feet.

the environmental impact of the beach should have been studied.

The city, 18 months after legalizing Black's as a nude beach, has yet to undertake that study.

Another group, the Nude Beaches Committee, has mobilized to protect Black's from closure. It is circulating petitions to seek a city-wide vote on Black's and the establishment of more swimsuit-optional zones to take the pressure off Black's.

That vote, if it gets on the ballot, would take place in June 1976 before the rush of summer nudists to Black's.

The nude beach committee also is involved in the attempt to establish other swimsuit-optional zones in the county.

Alternate sites studied include two separate areas of Sunset Cliffs, an area at the western end of the San Diego River flood-control channel, the state beach south of Indian Canyon and the state beach area beginning 4,000 ft. north of Indian Canyon.

Indian Canyon is directly north of the city-controlled Black's Beach.

City officials have ruled out all those options with the exception of the area south of Indian Canyon. And that area is in question because of the city's environmental concerns.

The Indian Canyon area, owned by the state, already is used by some nude bathers.

But county Parks and Recreation Director Lloyd T. Lowrey says there are no appropriate beaches along the county coastline for such beaches.

A 1972 state Supreme Court ruling allows nude beaches if they are secluded.

There are dozens of beaches along the county coastline that have served historically for "skinny-dippers."

And there are similar spots along the 500 miles of California's coast.

A recent survey by the Evening Tribune showed nudists on beaches from Point Loma to San Clemente.

In some cases, they were asked to put on bathing suits when discovered by patrolling lifeguards. But as soon as the guards would drive their wagons out of view, off came the suits most of the time.

In a Tribune survey, beaches in the north coast between Encinitas and Leucadia were found to be dotted with nudists. Nudes here. Suited bathers there. Some of the beaches used by the nudists were in view

of homes and businesses on the bluffs above.

The new anti nudity county ordinance and cool fall weather should cut down on that activity.

Parks director Lowrey said the sheriff's department and lifeguards have been instructed to arrest those nude on county beaches.

State beaches are another matter.

It also is against the law to sunbathe nude there, but state officials rarely enforce that law.

On state beaches north of Black's and north of Encinitas and Leucadia, nudity is ignored. Rangers do not enforce the law.

That state law is 15 years old.

This brings up the interesting point of what happens when a county and state beach adjoin each other.

The sheriff or lifeguards could be arresting nudes on one side while state rangers could be allowing nudity on the other. This has happened.

The state has yet to clarify its position.

There is some confusion on beaches near or on Camp Pendleton where the land is owned or controlled by three separate agencies — the county, state or federal governments, depending on where you are.

Camp Pendleton military police patrol the federal beach on their property

only from the San Onofre bluffs to where the water rises at mean high tide.

From the mean tide line to the water, the land is county-owned and military police have no jurisdiction.

Lt. Col. Dan Brown of the marine base's public information office said military police may call for assistance from the sheriff in instances where nude bathers run from military property to the county land when they see M.P.s heading their way.

The M.P.s affectionately refer to this sprint as the "bare-bottom boogie."

Those who don't run from military land to the county property — or the water — fast enough are caught, detained and can be turned over for prosecution, Brown said.

"But our nude problem is not a great one," said Brown. "I can't tell you we have lots of people coming on our beaches to go nude. It doesn't happen."

On the state-park side of San Onofre, however, the nudes do cavort. State park rangers have made some arrests there. Most of the time, though, they ask bathers to don their suits.

If arrested for going nude, penalties range from \$500 to six months in jail, or both.

That will be the penalty when the county ordinance against nudity becomes law tomorrow.

That ordinance should

clear up some confusion at Camp Pendleton where nudists would run or stroll to county land from federal property. County officials could do nothing because they lacked a strong anti nude ordinance.

Confusion at Black's Beach is just as great. And what happens there, eventually, could determine what happens at nude beaches that are bound to spring up around the country.

Most of the average 4,000 who daily frequent Black's like the atmosphere raw and rugged. They don't want the comforts of La Jolla Shores at their out-of-the-way spot.

The only convenience now available at the beach is a portable rent-a-restroom. Twice last summer those units were burned by vandals.

County voters in 1973 defeated a \$25-million bond issue that would have provided funds to make Black's Beach accessible. Lifeguard towers, restrooms, access and added patrols were to have been added.

There is no indication, officials say, that a similar issue would pass this year, or next.

And a city report says it would take about \$500,000 to improve access alone to Black's. Paved parking would cost \$35,000. Another \$500,000 may be needed for restrooms and lifeguard

towers.

Lifeguards deny that Black's is the scene of heavy drug use or sexual activity. Although the guards have the power to arrest, they rarely do.

"We have had some lewd behavior cases," says Lt. Mico. "But not a lot of it."

County lifeguards agree they have seen little lewd behavior on the north coast beaches that were used for nude sunbathing before the county's new law was established.

"We did have a problem of people without swimsuits wandering into areas public areas where people were suited," said lifeguard Capt. Jim Lathers.

But arrests were not made because the old county ordinance said the person had to be "observed disrobing" before he could be taken into custody.

The new antinude ordinance is stronger and lifeguards and the sheriff's department say they will enforce it.

San Diego police patrol Black's once a day in their white beach wagon. They say most problems involve illegal parking, drug use and dogs off leashes.





**TORTUOUS ROUTE** — It's a long way down and the path is uncertain but up to 4,000 sunbathers wend their way daily over

dangerous cliffs to swimsuit-optional zone on Black's Beach, opening shot of nude revolution. —Tribune staff photo by Tony Doubek

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SAN DIEGO EVENING TRIBUNE

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# Beach-nudity issue still rages in county, nation

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**BATTLE ZONE** — Sign marks one boundary of Black's Beach, where swimwear has been optional since a controversial

City Council decision 18 months ago. County supervisors have been unsuccessful in their search for a swimsuit-optional

zone on a beach in an unincorporated area. A county ordinance prohibiting public nudity becomes effective tomorrow.

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## Pendleton bus station opens

CAMP PENDLETON — Camp Pendleton's new Greyhound Bus Station opens Friday.

The new station, just inside the main gate, will begin operations with a 9:50 a.m. ribbon cutting in which a bus will slice the tape.

At the same time, Greyhound will open its new ticket office — one offering ducats to everywhere in the United States.

A similar Continental Trailways' service will open at the same main gate location about one week from now.

The stations will serve a two-fold purpose. First they will make it easier for Pendleton personnel to arrange leave and liberty travel and, secondly, the stations will help relieve congestion in the downtown Oceanside area.

A ticket office, in the bus stations, will be open daily from

9:45 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., except holidays. One-way tickets to San Diego and Los Angeles cost Pendleton travelers \$2.24 and \$5.02 respectively. Roundtrip tickets between the two cities and CamPen cost \$4.26 (San Diego) and \$9.54 (L.A.).

Special buses have been scheduled from the Main Gate to the two cities as leads accumulate on Friday evening. Special buses will also return to Base from San Diego and L.A. as needed on Sunday evenings.

# New Service Starts To L.A., S.D.

By ROGER SHOWLEY  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON —** Maj. Gen. Carl W. Hoffman, base commander, opened special bus terminals here yesterday, saying Marines have been "victims of certain hoodlums" in the downtown area.

"Furthermore, there was a feeling in the minds of many Oceanside citizens that the Marines contributed to part of the (crime) problem there (downtown), which I'm sure we did," Hoffman told a midmorning gathering at the main base gate.

"So it occurred to many of us that it would be better for the Marines and for everyone if we could have bus service right here at Camp Pendleton."

Moments after Hoffman and other dignitaries spoke, servicemen boarded two buses bound for Los Angeles and one for San Diego in the inaugural service that is intended to make it unnecessary for Marines to go to Oceanside.

A further incentive to stay away from the downtown area will be concession stands and a laundry drop-off service in between the Greyhound and Continental Trailways ticket buildings on base, Hoffman told the troops, Marine band and city and bus company officials.

One Marine said while waiting in line to buy his ticket that because of this service "we will have no reason to go to Oceanside."

## CITIZEN SUPPORT

Mayor Howard T. Richardson said at the half-hour dedication of the terminals that Oceanside citizens are fully behind the new service.

"I'm sure you with we, the people of Oceanside, are less than proud of many things that have arisen in that (downtown) area," Richardson said, "and we give our wholehearted support to any endeavor to correct that situation."

Bus officials said service will be adjusted as demand increases. According to the schedules issued yesterday, the two companies will make 10 stops at the base on the Camp Pendleton to San Diego line and 11 in the reverse direction.

There will also be nine stops at the base on the Camp Pendleton to Los Angeles route and seven in the return direction.

This daily service also will include special, unscheduled buses on Friday and Sunday evenings.

## \$15,000 SO FAR

Lt. Col. Dan Brown, base spokesman, said the Marine Corps has spent, by preliminary estimates, \$15,000 to install the bus terminals — including hookups to sewer, water and electrical lines, installation of heating and air conditioning systems and outdoor lights. No funds have come from the bus companies so far, he said.

The concession stands and laundry facilities will be added at the cost of the base's exchange, he said.

The terminal buildings were purchased three years ago at \$18,000 each, Brown said, to be used as classrooms. When Hoffman decided to install the terminals earlier this month, the then-unused modular buildings were moved several miles to their new location at the entrance to Camp Pendleton off Hill Street.

## EXTEND SERVICE

The City of Oceanside has been trying for years to get the downtown terminal moved to a less sensitive location or at least to extend service to the base.

This sudden change of bus company policies occurred after the city police chief was suspended, resigning soon afterwards, monthly discussions between city and base officials commenced and the City Council ordered various measures to crack down on crime.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

B

PG.

2

DATE:

25 OCT 1975



**FIRST BASE BUS** — Maj. Gen. Carl W. Hoffman, Camp Pendleton base commander, was on hand this morning as the first bus loaded passengers at the new

base terminal. Both Trailways and Greyhound, which also began service today, began the operation designed to reduce street traffic and hopefully lower

the crime rate in downtown Oceanside. The base bus station, long sought by city officials, was achieved through the efforts of Gen. Hoffman. **Romero photo**

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. *A* PG. 1

DATE: *24 Oct. 1975*

## Top Marine Will Inspect Pendleton

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

OCEANSIDE — Gen. Louis H. Wilson Jr., commandant of the Marine Corps, will inspect Camp Pendleton Friday and Saturday during a four-day visit to Southern California.

Camp Pendleton officials said the commandant will confer with ranking officers and staff noncommissioned officers attached to units at the military base.

Wilson, in his first trip to Southern California since his appointment as commandant, will be briefed on the activities of Camp Pendleton, the world's largest amphibious military base, and the activities of the 1st and 4th Marine divisions and the 1st Force Service Regiment.

The general's visit will include an inspection of the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station on Thursday and attendance at a Los Angeles banquet on Wednesday where he will be presented the "Man of the Year" award by the Los Angeles Philanthropic Society. He also will be guest of honor at the Southern California Bicentennial Ball in Los Angeles Saturday night.

THE SAN DIEGO UNION

SECT.

B

PG.

3

DATE:

27 Oct 1964

## Gen. Louis Wilson to Receive Outstanding American Award

The Los Angeles Philanthropic Foundation's "Outstanding American Award" will be presented to Gen. Louis H. Wilson, commandant, USMC, during the group's annual fall dinner Wednesday in the International Ballroom of the Beverly Hilton.

The event will also honor the 200th anniversary of the Marine Corps and Gen. Wilson will speak on "The Marines: Stepping Off Into Their Third Century."

Los Angeles Times

SEC. IV B 17

Date: 26 OCT 75

## JUDGE HITS 'EMOTION'

# Mom Gets 2 Years In Viet Tot's Death

CONYERS, Ga. (AP)— "Oh, no! no!" screamed Cathy Maltbie after she was sentenced to two years in prison for abuse in the death of a 9-month-old Vietnamese orphan.

Mrs. Maltbie fell into her husband's arms and wept uncontrollably in the courtroom after Superior Court Judge William T. Dean sentenced her Friday.

Dean ordered the 22-year-old mother to undergo psychiatric examination before going to prison. She remains free on bond.

Her lawyer, Charles Read, said he would appeal both the conviction and the sentence.

Mrs. Maltbie was acquitted on a murder charge in the death of Nguyen Thi Maltbie. The child, whom the Maltbies were trying to adopt, died last July 11 after suffering a fractured skull, broken collarbone,

burns and other injuries.

Before he sentenced Mrs. Maltbie, Dean commented from the bench that "emotion has run rampant in this case." He said some jurors had complained of harassment since their verdict and that some of the investigators in the case had been "subject to some abuse."

"This will not be tolerated by the court," Dean declared. "Any such report to the court will be investigated and dealt with properly and promptly."



# Only 700 Refugees Remain At Camp Pen

**CAMP PENDLETON** — The population of the once-sprawling refugee city here was down to 700 today, as the massive resettlement operation entered its final week.

Some 344 Thai Dam refugees left Camp Pendleton both Friday and today for Iowa, where sponsors await them. And almost all of the remaining 700 Vietnamese and Cambodians in camp are expected to leave by Friday.

Wednesday will make it exactly six months since the first of more than 50,000 Indochina war refugees set foot on Camp Pendleton.

Homes all over the United States

(predominantly in California) have been found for almost all of them. Most of those few who remain are expected to find homes this week.

But any refugees who do not have sponsors by Friday (except medical cases or other special circumstances) will be flown to Ft. Chaffee, Arkansas. There they will live until sponsors can be found.

Among the few who will go to Ft. Chaffee are 125 Cambodians who have asked to be returned to their homeland. They have reportedly received assurances from representatives of Cambodia's new communist government that they will be welcome in Phnom Penh. But there has been no word on when they can go home.

Some 1,500 Vietnamese repatriates are already on their way home aboard a ship that sailed from Guam a week ago. The new South Vietnamese communist government has agreed to accept them.

When the Camp Pendleton refugee city closes Friday, the only remaining operations will consist of paperwork to finalize the program.

The reason the camp is being closed is because of the onset of colder and possibly rainy weather in Southern California. At Ft. Chaffee the weather is not a problem, since the refugees are all housed indoors rather than mostly in tents.

Camp Pendleton spokesmen said today that they expect only a few of the remaining refugees to have to go to Ft. Chaffee unsponsored. In recent weeks, 540 have been transferred from Camp Pendleton to Ft. Chaffee, but the vast majority of these were refugees who are either going to a third country to live or are awaiting reunification here with relatives from overseas.

The 344 Thai Dams who left Friday and today arrived at Camp Pendleton last week. Even before they arrived here, they already had sponsorship in Iowa.

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN POST

A-2

DATE

27 OCT 75

# *Last Refugees To Leave By Friday*

By JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — The last Vietnamese refugees will leave Camp Pendleton by Friday.

According to Maj. Sally Pritchett, the plan to obtain sponsors for all the refugees remaining at Camp Pendleton by Oct. 31 has been successful.

Camp Pendleton, she said, will have handled a total of 51,500 refugees by the time the last ones depart.

She said the clear majority of the remaining refugees who want sponsors will likely be sponsored.

There are between 700 and 800 refugees still in camp.

She said the refugees have been leaving the camp at an average rate of more than 300 per day since Oct. 17. This figure includes those refugees who were sponsored in large groups. A total of 373 left camp Sunday.

More than 2,000 refugees have found sponsors in San Diego county, the majority of these inside the City of San Diego.

Pritchett said stories that a large number of refugees are on "welfare" are

misleading because the figures are based partly on the number which have signed up for state medical assistance. She said the sponsors are charged with the responsibility of taking care of the refugees until they can support themselves and that most sponsors are trying to accomplish this goal.

Pritchett reported earlier that the effort to find sponsors as time ran out was concentrated in part on attracting large group sponsors. One group of 350 was sponsored by the state of Iowa. Pritchett said this group is doing fine.

Another large group of 138, however, was sponsored by a Sacramento farmer who wanted to use them as cheap labor. This group has run into housing and employment problems, largely because the sponsor took on too great a burden.

Refugees who are not sponsored by Friday will be flown to Fort Chaffee, Ark., where recently "winterized" barracks will house them until they are sponsored.

Approximately 500 have already gone to Fort Chaffee, including a group of 300 which has been flown there to await visas for sponsorships outside the United States.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. / PG. /

DATE: 27 Oct 75

### *More Refugees Due*

HONG KONG (UPI) — A group of 341 Vietnamese refugees, including a newly born girl, left Hong Kong today for the United States aboard a chartered aircraft, an official announcement said.

The refugees were among the nearly 4,000 South Vietnamese who fled to this colony after their country fell to the Communists last April.

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OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. / PG.

3

DATE: 27 OCT. 75

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## *Viets Accept Refugees*

SAIGON (UPI) — A spokesman for South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government said Sunday his government has agreed to take back 1,546 Vietnamese refugees from the United States and Guam.

The spokesman, however, gave no details of the preparations for the refugees' landing from the ship *Thuong Tin*, which sailed from Guam Oct. 16 without permission from the PRG and against the advice of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

According to some reports, the ship has entered Vietnam waters south of Saigon.

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SON POST

A-2

DATE

27 OCT. 75

## Viets to receive recent refugees

SAIGON (UPI) — A spokesman for South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government said Sunday his government has agreed to take back 1,540 Vietnamese refugees repatriated from the United States and Guam.

The spokesman, however, gave no details of the preparations for the refugees' landing from the ship *Thuong Tin*, which sailed from Guam Oct. 16 without permission from the PRG and against the advice of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

According to some reports, the ship has entered Vietnam waters south of Saigon.

The South Vietnamese spokesman said the decision to permit the return of the refugees was based on "humanitarian reasons".

He said other refugees evacuated by the United States at the height of the Vietnam war in April must apply for their return and each application would be dealt with separately.

He criticized the United States for its "unilateral action" in repatriating the refugees and warned it would be held responsible for any consequences arising from a repetition of such "illegal action."

## Vietnam Taking Back Refugees

SAIGON (UPI) — A spokesman for South Vietnam's Provisional Revolutionary Government said Sunday his government has agreed to take back 1,546 Vietnamese refugees repatriated from the United States and Guam.

The spokesman, however, gave no details of the preparations for the refugees' landing from the ship Thuong Tin, which sailed from Guam Oct. 16 without permission from the PRG and against the advise of the U.N. High Commission for Refugees.

According to some reports, the ship has entered Vietnam waters south of Saigon.

The South Vietnamese spokesman said the decision to permit the return of the refugees was based on "humanitarian reasons".

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 1 PG. 12

DATE: 87 OCT. 25

# War refugees facing death, group warns

By BOB DIETRICH

An estimated 55,000 Indochina war victims now in Thailand face death by disease or starvation unless they are evacuated to this country or other nations, the head of a Chula Vista-based refugee aid organization said yesterday.

Michael Hansen, president of the Agapi Foundation, Inc., said the refugees in Thai camps include 32,000 anticommunist Meo tribesmen from Laos and 20,000 Cambodians.

Hansen returned Sunday from a two-month tour of refugee camps in Thailand and Hong Kong. He blamed the Thai situation on theft of refugee funds by government officials.

"For most of the refugees in Thailand, life in refugee camps is more like a slow sentence of death," he said. "I plan to go to Washington later this week to talk to federal refugee officials and to senators and members of Congress."

The U.S., Hansen said, can accept no more refugees from Southeast Asia unless Congress enacts new legislation. The 137,000 already in this country, or awaiting passage, have already exceeded the 130,000 special refugee quota authorized by Congress in the spring.

Hansen said he would also contact United Nations officials in an attempt to seek resettlement in other countries.

"Canada and France currently rank next to the U.S. in numbers of refugees accepted," he said.

The plight of the refugees in Thailand, Hansen said, is primarily the result of corruption among provincial government officials who keep back a large part of the 30 cents a day the central government provides for the care of each refugee.

"In one of the camps in northeastern Thailand, the daily ration was one very small can of rice and a small piece of dried fish."

Hansen said 70 to 80 per cent of the Meo tribesmen have malaria and are not being treated. He was not able to get an estimate of deaths from malnutrition and diseases.

"It is not the fault of the central government. There is one camp — for about 800 Vietnamese refugees — operated by the central government. It is run very well."

"The reason Bangkok cannot put pressure on the provincial government is fear of revolt. The political tensions in that country are tremendous."

Hansen brought back copies of an English-language Bangkok newspaper reporting the shooting deaths of 15 Cambodians and the wounding of others in camp riots. He said he is making arrangements to sponsor a youth who was wounded in the rioting.

"The situation reached the point that provincial officials banned reporters from the camps. I was not permitted to take a camera inside them."

The refugee camps in Hong Kong, Hansen said, are, by contrast, better run than even those in the U.S. There are currently 2,000 Vietnamese in the British colony.

"The British colonial authorities forced the Vietnamese to look after themselves with only a minimum of supervision," he said.

"By minimum, I mean exactly one British civil servant as camp commander and a few Gurkha soldiers." They are feeding the refugees on 76 cents a day and the meals are ample and nourishing."

He said the British forced the refugees to become self-reliant quickly.

"Their morale is much higher than refugees in U.S. camps. The British used a no-nonsense approach."

"One camp, for example became a pig sty because the refugees expected someone to clean up after them. The British issued an ultimatum — no food until the camp passes a military-style sanitation inspection."

"That was the end of that problem. The British also used military-type methods to make the refugees look after each other. They realized that they are going to have to do that once they are resettled."

## Refugees May Return

CAMP PENDLETON  
(AP) — The new Cambodian government welcomes the return of 125 refugees now at Camp Pendleton and "is not going to exclude anyone who wants to come back," their leader was quoted Monday.

Norng Sam Oeurn, 29, made the statement after meeting with two Cambodian diplomats in New York City.

No timetable was set but "It is enough for us that they agreed," Sam said in an interview.

The plight of the Cambodians is being discussed with the Khmer Rouge government by the U.N. high commissioner for refugees, said Nick Thorne, who heads the U.S. resettlement task force.

None of them will be sent to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., when the Camp Pendleton relocation center shuts down by Friday, he said.

"Perhaps they will be going (back to Cambodia) from here," Thorne said.

There were 650 refugees of the Indochina war still at Camp Pendleton, and Marine Maj. Sally Pritchard said none would be forced to move to Ft. Chaffee.

The last of 344 Thai Dam refugees left by airplane earlier Monday for new homes in Iowa. Forty of them went Friday under the state's sponsorship arrangement.

Sam, a former Cambodian petty officer, was at Great Lakes, Ill., attending a service school, when the war ended.



## Refugee 'Guests' Multiply

MONTCLAIR, Colo. (AP)

— When Bev and Ron Meyers recently purchased an old 19-room house, they thought about sponsoring a Vietnamese refugee family. "Maybe three or four" people would be about right, they thought.

They are now awaiting the arrival of a Vietnamese couple and their 10 children.

They had just started renovating their new home when they decided they had room to spare. They wrote the government informally, without filing a formal sponsorship application.

In Camp Pendleton, Calif., an enterprising Vietnamese who had fled Saigon, turned the Meyers' letter into an invitation.

Through his job at the refugee center, the Vietnamese, named Toan, found the Meyers' letter indicating they "might" be interested in sponsoring a family.

"We didn't pick Toan, Toan picked us," Mrs. Meyers said over the weekend. "Toan called my husband and said, 'I'd love to come live with you ... me, my wife and eight kids.'"

Later, they explained, Toan called back and "said he had two more kids" who earlier had been placed in San Francisco.

"We said fine. At that point, it didn't really matter," said Mrs. Meyers.

## Financing a Problem, U.S. Says

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. officials say they do not oppose Dr. Phan Quang Dan's idea of group resettlement of refugees from the Indochina war — but they are not able to finance it.

A spokesman for the Interagency Task Force for Indochina Refugees here said none of the remaining Vietnamese or Cambodians in U.S. camps is considered "unsponsorable."

All such refugees, he said, are expected to

have been resettled by the end of the year or shortly after (the Eglin camp was two weeks late in closing, and the others may be late also — "give us a little leeway.")

The spokesman said many refugees who speak no English already have been sponsored, and while the agency is not attempting to discourage the group-resettlement proposal, "we just don't finance anything like that."

HERALD EXAMINER

DATE

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22 OCT. 75

HERALD EXAMINER

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DATE 22 OCT 75

# Group Resettling Urged For Hard-Core Refugees

Dr. Phan Quang Dan, the author of this report, is a former South Vietnamese politician who was imprisoned during the regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem. He later served in several cabinet posts. He has been involved in resettlement programs in his own country and recently spent three months counseling refugees at Camp Pendleton.

By PHAN QUANG DAN  
Christian Science Monitor News Service

CAMP PENDLETON — Upward of 25,000 Vietnamese and Cambodians are still waiting in U.S. refugee camps, and they have one deep wish — group resettlement.

So far nearly 100,000 Indochinese have been resettled in the United States, and the program is fast closing in on the so-called hard-core refugees. Most of them speak little or no English, have large families, and have never been abroad before. The novelty of arrival in the United States has long since worn off.

As this group waits — and worries — the sunny and warm days at Camp Pendleton and at the other two remaining centers, Indiantown Gap Military Reservation in Pennsylvania and Fort Chaffee, Ark., are dwindling.

Camp Pendleton, with its huge "tent city," is due to close Oct. 31; camps at Indiantown Gap and Fort Chaffee are scheduled to shut down by Dec. 31. Already the fourth U.S. center, at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., has been shut down.

Traditionally each new group of refugees or immigrants to the United States has tended to cluster together, at least for the first few years.

It has tended to lead to communities in which all available skills are put to use, achieving as close to full employment as possible in the shortest time and helping elderly persons to lead useful lives. Individual resettlement in a new environment, on the other hand, tends to make refugees feel completely uprooted.

Many of the Indochina refugees who remain in camps are farmers, fishermen, and small-business people. Although sometimes labeled unskilled, they are in fact highly skilled in their own ways. Their traditional experience often has been updated by exposure to modern technology and could be fully mobilized in group-resettlement projects.

The fishermen, for example, are equally experienced in fish breeding. Many also have experience in fish processing and manufacture of fish sauces. These fishermen are capable of becoming self-supporting after they are provided with boats and equipment.

The farmers are all experienced at growing rice, corn, soybeans, and fruit trees. They, too, are capable of becoming self-supporting.

The first problem to solve in organizing a group-resettlement program would be to find and survey enough land. Such a project, based on farming, would require two to four acres per family (half that many for fishermen), provided soil quality and water resources were adequate. Sites for such projects should be selected in consultation with representatives of the refugees themselves.

The cost of the land, of course, would have to be budgeted for, in addition to transporta-

cont



tion of the refugees to the resettlement sites, building of housing, opening access routes, clearing land, a year's food support, and such community services as schools, markets and health clinics.

But most of these items already are being provided in the refugee camps. The difference is that while the Vietnamese and Cambodians are idling away their time in the camps, they could be working, producing, and supporting themselves—contributing new economic and cultural ingredients to the host country into which they are to integrate.

There has been little complaint about the living conditions in these camps. Shelters—whether tents, quonsets, or barracks—have been comfortable. Whenever it has been cold, enough blankets and jackets have been distributed.

There have been well-organized religious services for Buddhists, Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. There also have been play schools for children, adult English classes, driving lessons, and orientation-to-American-life courses. Films, athletic and other recreational events, and artistic performances have been frequent.

The main complaint has been that the refugees were strictly confined to the camps until they were processed out, which did not give them an opportunity to learn about their new social environment or to look for employment by themselves.

From a practical point of view, letting the refugees move in and out freely would make it impossible to run the huge reception centers. On the other hand, it is never pleasant to

**A spokesman for Southeast Asian refugees says they—and the United States—would be better off if a group resettlement program were launched.**

have to line up for food or to gaze out only at lonely hills day in and day out—no matter how well-organized camp life might be otherwise.

There need be no fears that the refugees might be tempted to stay in the camps indefinitely, even if the camps were to be continued past Dec. 31. The Vietnamese and Cambodians are strongly work-oriented and are anxious to stand on their own feet and become economically self-supporting.

They realize that they are latecomers to an economy that is not booming. They are willing to take the harder jobs at lower pay that are not generally wanted, and they are prepared to go to places that have less appeal to the earlier comers.

However, unlike earlier groups of refugees who had relatives or friends in the United States to help them out of the camps, those people must rely entirely on voluntary agencies. And now even this sector is drying up, despite the efforts of church groups and other agencies to keep it alive. Their appeal has been to parishes, dioceses, and local chapters to involve many more Americans in the resettlement program.

MORE



LOS ANGELES HERALD - EXHIBIT

A - 6

DATE: 02 OCT. 75

WILL CLOSE FRIDAY

# Pendleton Refugee Camp

## Cost Put At \$17 Million

By DONALD H. HARRISON  
Staff Writer  
The San Diego Union

**CAMP PENDLETON —**

When this refugee camp closes its gates Friday, an estimated \$17 million will have been spent to feed, clothe and resettle the 50,417 refugees who were processed through here.

That figure includes \$2 million to set up the camp as well as the salaries of the government officials charged with looking after the refugees' welfare, said Nick Thorne, head of the civilian Interagency Task Force.

Today marks six months since Camp Pendleton's establishment as a refugee camp, and there were fewer than 400 refugees on hand to observe the occasion.

Movement of refugees to sponsors has been so successful in the last few days that some officials found themselves with little to do other than think about Friday's night party to celebrate closing of the camp.

**396 REMAIN**

Yesterday afternoon, the refugee population had dwindled to 396 persons, including about 125 Cambodians who are waiting as a group for word that they have been accepted for repatriation by the new rulers of their country.

On Sunday and Monday, 923 persons were moved from Camp Pendleton to sponsors or to Ft. Chaffee, Ark. Thorne said the movement was so rapid because all sponsorship offers have been going directly to Camp Pendleton recently, rather

than being divided among this installation, Ft. Indian-town Gap, Pa., and Ft. Chaffee.

There were barely any refugees for a delegation of Iranian doctors and government officials to meet with on their arrival yesterday.

**RECRUITING TRIP**

Fereidoun Nasser, Iran's vice minister of labor and social affairs, said the delegation was here to recruit persons with training in medicine and related fields as well as persons with skills in construction engineering.

The delegation recruited about 50 heads of refugee families from the Indian-town Gap and Ft. Chaffee installations and arrange-

ments are being made to fly them to Iran before the end of November, Nasser said.

He said Iran has a manpower shortage of 60,000 persons, and is importing skilled labor. He said he has advised refugees who hesitate to accept a job in Iran to find an American sponsor, then contact the Iranian embassy or consulate near them if they subsequently change their minds.

**WORLDWIDE DRIVE**

The recruitment program among refugees is part of a worldwide drive to import labor to Iran, he said. He said advertisements for U.S. skilled workers have been appearing for some time in American newspapers.

Thorne said the refugees who remain mainly are unskilled workers who do not want to be settled in the United States or who are afraid to be settled.

If they cannot be matched with sponsors, he said, they will be transferred to Ft. Chaffee.

Among persons already moved to Ft. Chaffee was a former warrant officer in the North Vietnamese army, who defected to the West. The man, who asked to be identified in a recent San Diego Union interview as Nguyen Thanh Cong, has been recommended for settlement in another country, an official of the Immigration and Naturalization Service said yesterday.

Verne Jervis, the spokesman, said he was not authorized to say why the United States wishes to exclude the man, who has asked to make a new life in this country.

Also in  
PRESS  
29 Oct. 75  
see A. B. 1

33 pgs.



NGUYEN CAO KY

## Ky urges U.S. return to Saigon

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (UPI) — Former South Vietnamese premier Nguyen Cao Ky believes U.S. troops should return to Vietnam to serve as a "rally point" for Vietnamese who want to resist the current Communist government.

Ky also told a University of Alabama audience last night that a number of atrocities by U.S., South Vietnamese and Communist troops in Vietnam still have not been revealed to the American public.

The former premier told some cheering and some jeering students that "American involvement in Vietnam was not a mistake."

"The basic mistake," he said, "was to go to war with a no-win policy."

Ky expressed sorrow for the "much blood and many tears shed during the war," but said he believed U.S. troops should be returned to his native land.

"Vietnam was the first defeat for America and the government officials, particularly, had to try and forget about it," he said. "Americans have a bad conscience about Vietnam and want to forget the current political situation in Southeast Asia."

"We non-Communist Vietnamese shall never forget," Ky said.

Ky also said Americans should not have been surprised to learn that Vietnamese civilians were killed by American soldiers at My Lai.

"Errors by American officials in South Vietnam and My Lai-type atrocities by both sides still have not been revealed to the American public," he said during an afternoon news conference.

About 50 pickets paraded outside the university auditorium where Ky spoke, distributing leaflets which labeled him a fascist. However, the former premier received a standing ovation from many of the 400 persons who were inside the auditorium.

Also 29 Oct 75  
ONAN 318E  
GRADE TRIBUNE  
SEC. A. B. 2



Fred Neegles Photos

**SOMETHING NEW** — Skateboards are probably unknown in Southeast Asia, and rollerskates can't be all that common. You see plenty of both at Camp Pendleton's refugee city, and the kids ride with a style all their own.

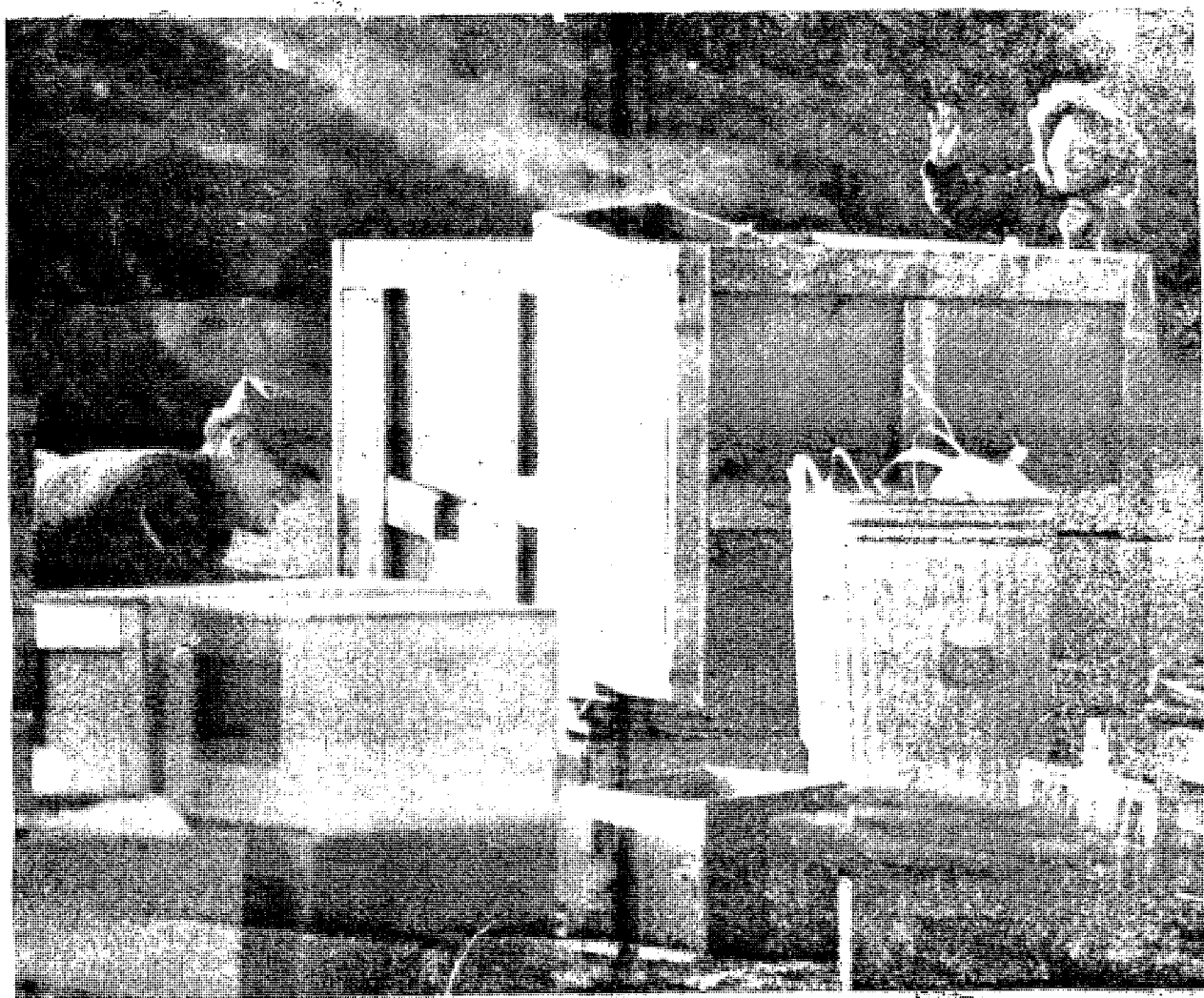
SAN CLIMATE DAILY SUN POST

A-2

DATE

20 OCT 75





**TENT "WARFARE"** — Piles of disassembled tents at Camp Pendleton's refugee city provided the scenario for this playful battle Sunday

between a young marine and an even younger Vietnamese refugee. A telephoto lens was able to catch the dynamic duo in the act as they

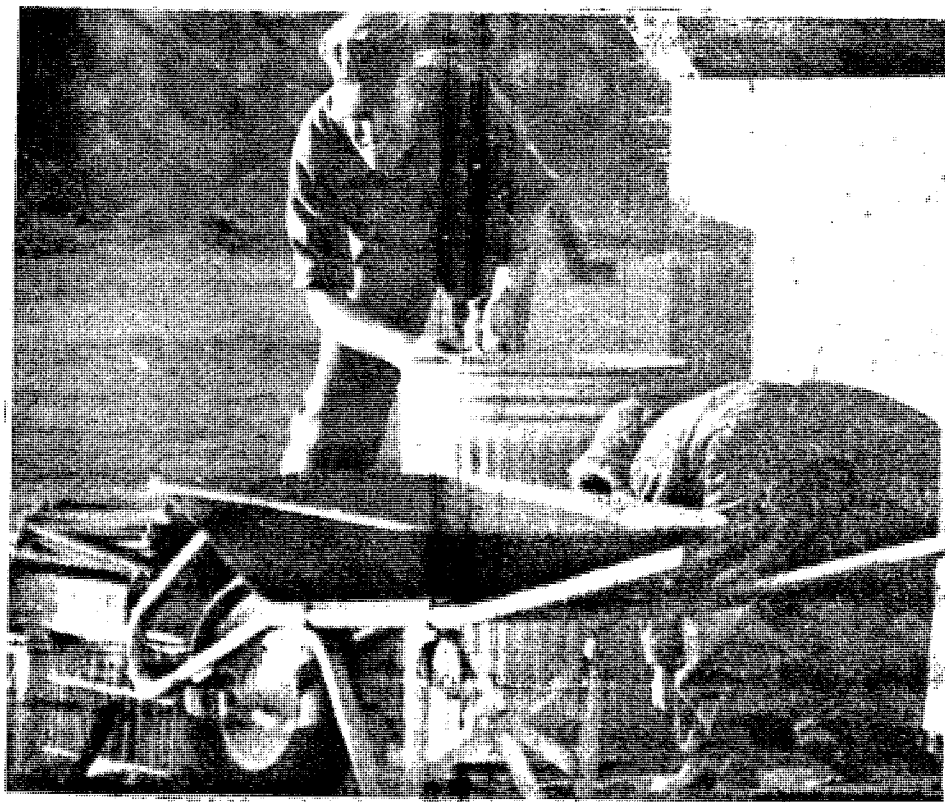
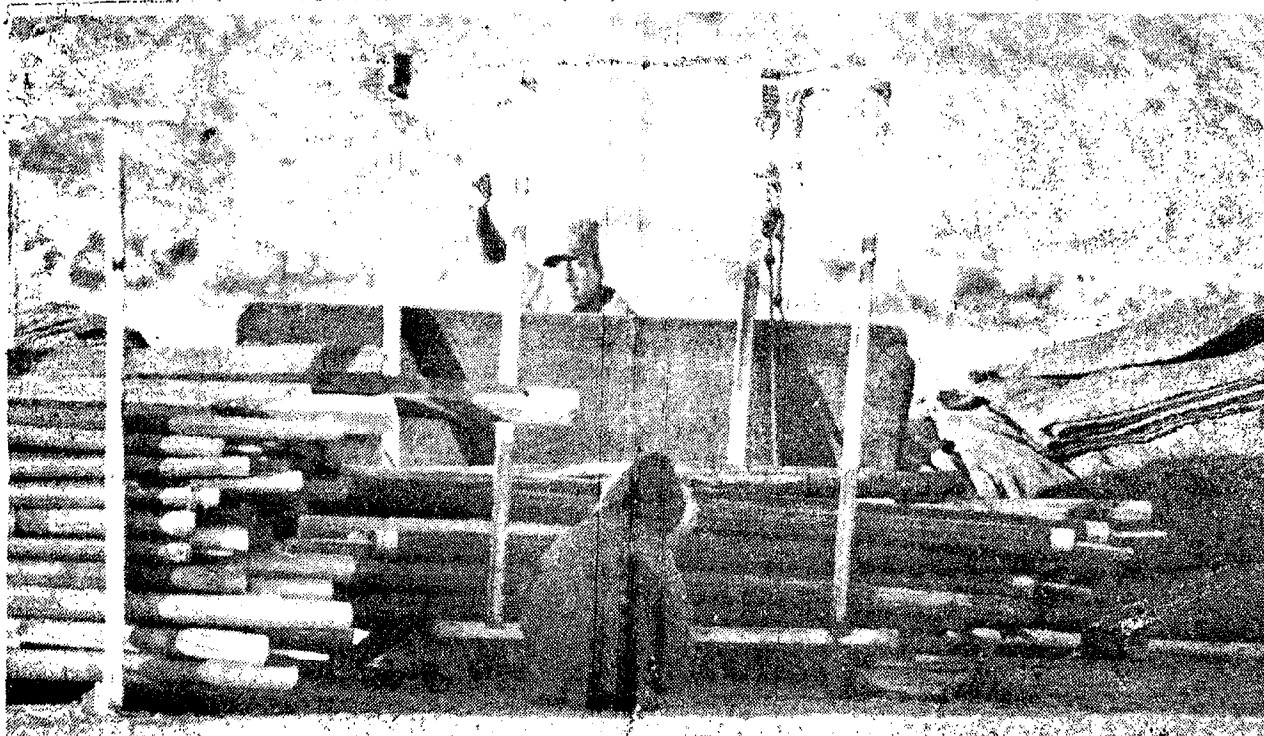
laughed, tossed tiny pebbles, ran from each other and hid among the "trenches" at Camp Talega. (Fred Swegles Photos)

SAN CLEMENTE DAILY SUN POST

A-3

DATE

2 Oct. 75

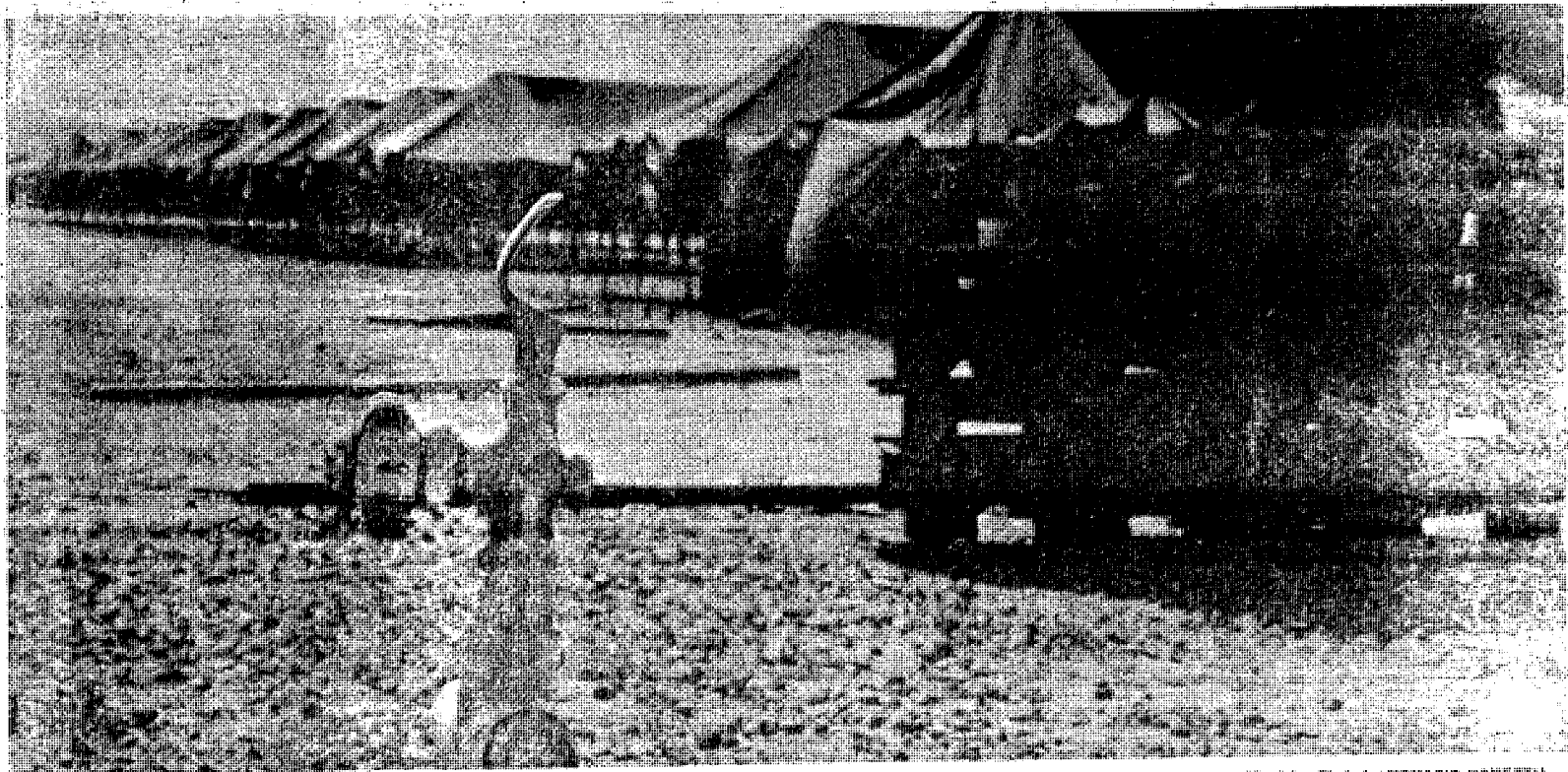


DAY COMPLETE DAILY SUN 700

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(Register Photo by YGNACIO KANETTI)

**LITTLE SAIGON COMES TO A GOOD END** — Row on row of silent, empty tents mark the end of Camp Pendleton's Little Saigon refugee camp as the end of an era approaches. See Page B1 for details on the clos-

ing of the camp that has housed 50,000 Indochina refugees since April 29.

THE REGISTER

A-1

DATE:

27 OCT 77

MORE

# Pendleton Tent City Folds

By FOREST KIMLER

Register Staff Writer

**CAMP PENDLETON**—It was as humble as the fortunes of war and an unprepared host could arrange it, but Camp Pendleton's Little Saigon tent city was all that 50,000 Vietnamese refugees fleeing their country could call home in America.

It was cold at night when the chill from the nearby ocean settled like a damp rag between the hills where the unheated tents offered little protection against the vagaries of the Southern California climate.

And it was as dusty by day as a tank track in a bivouac area, which the site had been before the Marines retreated in the face of the influx of refugees and surrendered it to them for six long months.

It all began with the fall of Saigon April 29 and the first wave of evacuation planes landing at El Toro.

It will end here Friday when

the last tent that avenge-called homes will be struck by dozers.

Black-eyed children with expectant expressions clutch their toys as if they, too, might be collected by the men in the trucks if left unattended.

Women sit by the flaps of their tents listening to the announcements on the few loudspeakers still connected to bring news to the refugees of what is yet to befall them.

The men stand in the dusty paths of the sun, waiting as they have become used to waiting, looking about them at what is left of the only American lifestyle they have known.

Actually, there will be few refugees from Little Saigon going to Fort Chaffee on the jets trying to outrun the winter that is descending on Camp Pendleton.

Officials here say that 300 a day are being turned over to sponsors who are coming forth at the final hour. By Friday, it

is expected that, possibly, only 500 refugees will be left for the flight to the new camp in Arkansas.

Fort Chaffee, itself, will close Dec. 31, and will house all the remaining refugees from all the camps—Camp Pendleton, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and Indian Town Gap—until that date.

More than 130,000 refugees fled Indochina when the Communists took over and, except for those who have asked for repatriation and have been flown to Guam, it is possible that all will be with sponsors in America by the end of the year.

Those that will be housed in Chaffee—possibly less than 5,000—will be given heated indoor quarters to await being matched up with sponsors before the camp closes.

It was a traumatic experience, at best a sideshow, for both Americans and refugees during the coming and the stay in such camps as Little Saigon.



MARINES FOLD TENTS AS REFUGEES FADE AWAY WITH SPONSORS OR LIFE IN A NEW CAMP

THE REGISTER

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MORE

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EMPTY TENTS THAT HOUSED REFUGEES AWAIT MARINES WHO WILL FOLD THEM AWAY.



TO FOREVER END THE SAGA OF LITTLE SAIGON  
(Register Photos by YONACIO MARSHALL)

THE REGISTER

B-1

DATE:

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27 Oct. 75



HAPPINESS IS A WARM-HEARTED SPONSOR  
Vietnamese Find Last-Minute Home In U.S.

MORE

THE REGISTER

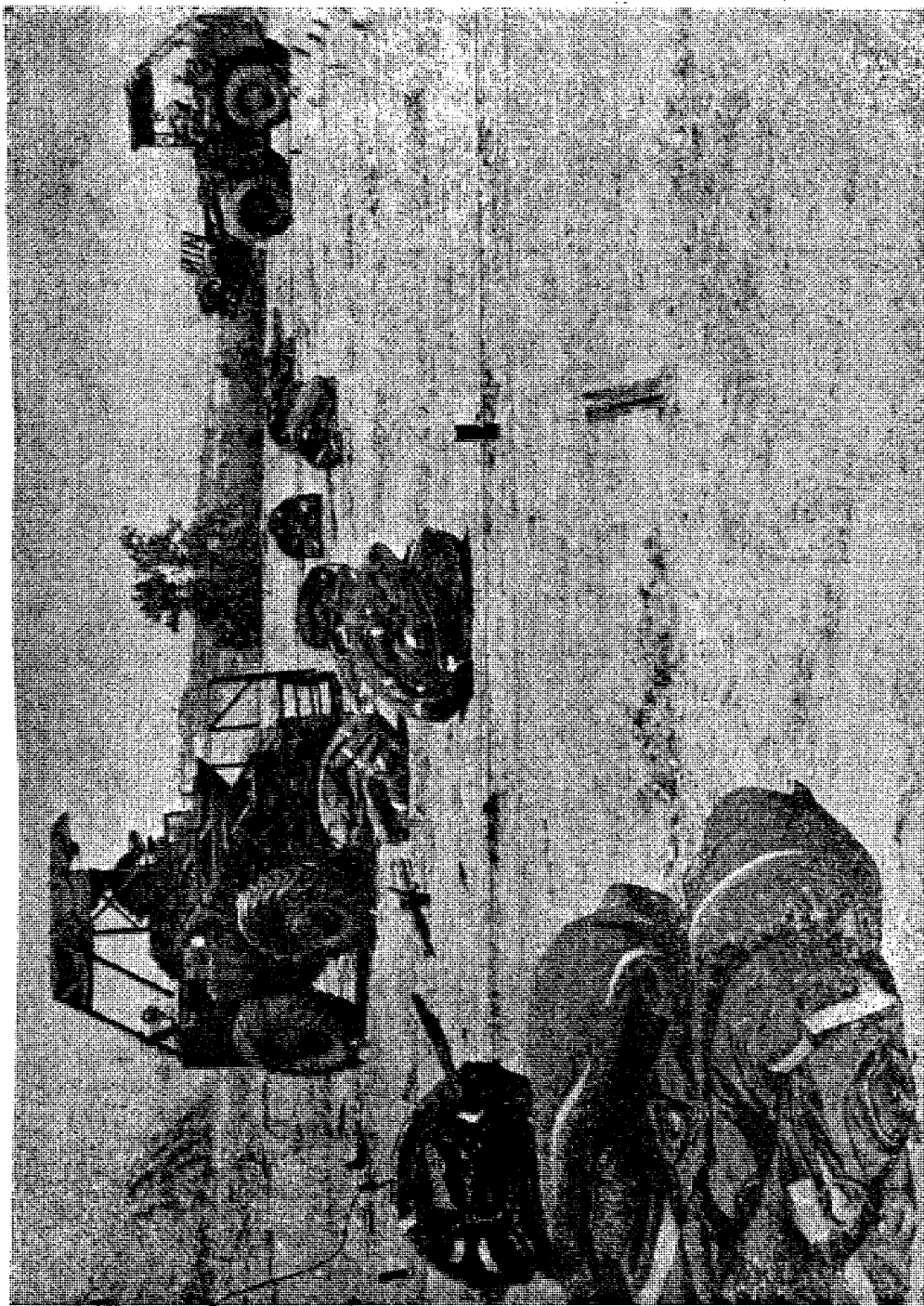
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TENTS FRAMED BY SWINGS WHERE CHILDREN PLAYED

Ghost Town Aura Prevails In Little Saigon

DATE: 27 Oct. 75



MILITARY VEHICLES CARRY AWAY TENTS FROM THE EMPTY CAMP GROUNDS AT CAMP PENDLETON

THE REGISTER

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DATE: 27 Oct. 75

## A CAMP PENDLETON SECURITY RISK?

**Officials Debate N. Viet Defector's Fate**

CAMP PENDLETON (AP) — A North Vietnamese defector is being held in special quarters while American officials decide whether to let him stay in the United States, the San Diego Union reported in Friday's edition.

The defector, using the alias Nguyen Thanh Cong, said he was an administrator for a 100-man North Vietnamese army unit until he jumped to the South Vietnamese side last year.

Cong, 33, said he knows of at least two other defectors who have been placed with sponsors.

But his case may be different, he said, because he told American officials that he would never take up arms against his former homeland.

"I do not want to hold a gun again," he said through a translator. "I do not want to kill."

Camp Pendleton officials referred all questions about Cong to immigration officials in Washington, the paper said.

Cong, using the alias to protect his wife and 14-year-old son, said he was drafted into the army and went via the Ho Chi Minh Trail into South Vietnam's Binh Duong province in 1966.

He stayed there in civilian disguise until March 23, 1974, when he walked into a South Vietnamese army camp. After questioning by South Vietnamese and American intelligence officers, he was resettled in the

(Please Turn To A3, Col 3)

**N. Viet Defector At Pendleton**

(Continued From Page A1)

fishing village of Phuoc Tinh, 70 miles northeast of Saigon.

When the South Vietnamese government fell to the Communists in April, Cong said he and 22 other villagers fled to sea in a boat. An American merchant ship picked them up and took them to Guam, where they joined the "refugee pipeline" to the U.S.

Cong said he showed authorities on Guam his South Vietnamese identification with a special number indicating he was a defector.

"I never tried to hide my past," he said.

He said he defected out of disillusionment with the war.

"They (the North Vietnamese) said it was to help the Vietnamese against the Americans, yet after the Americans left, we were still fighting Vietnamese," he said.

"We were taught that Americans were our enemy. But in South Vietnam, I saw the true situation. I do not think the United States is the enemy anymore."

From Guam, he was taken to the refugee center at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa. and finally to Camp Pendleton, where officials are trying to determine whether he is a security risk.

29 pgs.

K



## Refugees

Thinking about the Vietnamese who are returning to their country reminds me of myself 13 years ago, when I came to the United States from Cuba as a "refugee."

Changing your way of living is not easy; different customs, no money, no friends, no family and poor English or none at all are a most difficult situation for a person.

I hope those who are choosing to return to Vietnam will not be sorry later. You can live without enough money, food, or other things that we call "middle class comfort," but if you think like a free person you will never freely accept living in a Communist country.

I say thanks to God, to the U.S. government, and to my Cuban and American friends for helping me to feel happy in this country.

RAFAELA R. RAMIREZ  
Santa Ana

Los Angeles Times

B - 4

3/20/78

# *Few Refugees At Pendleton*

Exactly six months after the first U.S. refugee camp was set up for Southeast Asian war refugees, fewer than 400 of the homeless were still at Camp Pendleton today.

There were barely enough to meet with a delegation of Iranian doctors and government officials who arrived to recruit persons with skills in medicine and construction.

The delegation, headed by Fereidoun Nasseri, Iran's vice minister of labor and social affairs, had already recruited about 50 heads of refugee families from relocation centers at Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Ft. Chaffee, Ark. They will be flown

to Iran by the end of November, Nasseri said.

There have been advertisements in U.S. newspapers asking for skilled persons to go to Iran.

The refugee center at Camp Pendleton folds up Friday. At a news conference Nick Thorne, who heads the civilian Interagency Task Force, said it cost an estimated \$17 million to feed, clothe and resettle the 50,417 homeless who were processed at the big Marine base.

Thorne said that figure includes \$2 million to set up the camp and pay salaries of government officials.

Among the few still left were 125 refugees from Cambodia who waited as a group for word that their country's new government would accept them back.

# Refugee Camp Closing

BY JIM HENDON  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — The few remaining Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton will be leaving today and Friday.

Well, almost all of them.

Maj. Sally Pritchett reported this morning that one of the refugees gave birth to a son late last night.

The family, which now includes the mother, father and two sons, will stay at Camp Pendleton until mother and baby are ready to leave.

The deadline for closing Camp Pendleton as a refugee center is Oct. 31. As of 8 a.m. today there were still 133 refugees awaiting their sponsors.

They will leave the camp as their sponsors arrive, or will be bused to their sponsors. The last busload of refugees leaves tonight at 7 p.m.

There may be some left tomorrow, but Pritchett said she expects them all to be gone by noon.

A group of 117 Cambodians left camp this morning at 6 a.m. They are bound for Fort Chaffey, Ark., and will await final processing there before returning to their native land.

The family which will stay behind is also Cambodian, and will eventually go to Fort Chaffey.

Fort Chaffey will provide "winterized" barracks for the refugees until they can leave the United States. The tents at Camp Pendleton do not provide enough shelter, even in comparatively mild California winters.

The refugee camp at Camp Pendleton handled a total of 51,418 (51,417 before last night's birth) refugees in its sixth month as a processing center. At one point there were 18,500 in camp.

The clear majority of these refugees have been absorbed into American society. Some have been sponsored in foreign countries and some have returned to Vietnam. At least 2,000 have settled in San Diego County, the majority of these within the city of San Diego.

Pritchett reported earlier that the effort to find sponsors as time ran out was concentrated in part on attracting large group sponsors.

Part of the problem was getting the refugees to accept the sponsorships available to them. Initially, there was a shortage of sponsors.

*MORE*

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 1 PG. 1

DATE: 30 Oct. 75



ONE OF LAST refugee families at Camp Pendleton prepares to leave today. Staff Photo.

*W*

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 1 PG. 1

DATE: 30 Oct. 45

'U.S. Generosity Proves Itself'

# Pendleton's 'Little Saigon'

## Quietly Folds Its Tents

By ANN SALISBURY  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — Weeds grow in neat rows where Vietnamese refugee tents used to be. Squirrels search for crumbs, scampering along the cement foundations of dismantled quonset huts.

All is quiet in tent city.

Marines carrying large plastic litter bags groom the campsites through which more than 50,000 war victims passed during the last five months. Now tractors are bulldozing the fields where they lived.

For most of the refugees, the wait for a sponsor and the beginnings of a new life are over.

A large upturned cement hand on which two children are depicted playing — a sculptured expression of thanks — will be the only reminder of a community that vanished almost as instantly as it emerged.

Tent city officially closes tomorrow.

In his final press conference Tuesday, Nick Thorne, the



state department's senior civil coordinator, termed the war refugee program "a howling success."

Thorne reported that although American reception of the refugees initially seemed cool, that attitude changed.

"I can tell from the correspondence I've gotten and the phone calls I've received that the generosity of the American people has proven itself," he stressed. "Less than one per cent of the sponsorship relationships have broken down . . . and I've been impressed with the gentleness of the Marines toward the refugees and the efficiency of the Red Cross in dealing with some of these people who were illiterate, frightened and in despair."

Despite all, however, he said "a lot of people have come up to me and expressed regrets that this is over."

Thorne isn't really sure it is.

"I had a nightmare last night," he said. "I had this vision that I might be picked to coordinate repatriation efforts for thousands of refugees who might want to go home."

HERALD EXAMINER

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"The Vietnamese personality is very wary," Thorne emphasized. "After living with war for decades, the Vietnamese people have learned to be very suspicious and to hedge all their bets. That trait is well advanced in people who have abandoned their country and their culture."

"Even now as people are waiting in the departure center, there is tremendous insecurity among them. There are a large number of split families and people who are still wondering if they've done the right thing."

Among the last out of the camp were 244 refugees who were sent to Fort Chaffee, Ark., after refusing sponsors. Some of these may want to go home, Thorne said. And there are an additional 126 Cambodian refugees who want to return. Word is expected to arrive soon on how they'll be handled.

Others remaining in the camp this week are people with special problems . . . people who hung on until the last minute in hopes of finding their relatives or people who didn't know where they wanted to go.

Le Thien Huong, 14, was one of them.

Speaking in English she learned at camp schools, she told of her family's dilemma.

"I have two brothers and a sister. We had to leave without my father. He made it to France and has found a job there, but the American government won't let him immigrate unless he can be certain to find a job here.

"We can't go to France because it would be too expensive — for us to live there, so we have a sponsor here now."

A big white bus bearing a blue banner "First Baptist Church of Thousand Oaks," and carrying four smiling young women pulled up to the departure point.

Ha The Ruyet rushed out to meet it. Ha's newborn baby is in the hospital with his wife and his family of nine had trouble finding a sponsor.

"We're sure happy to have you," one of the women told him. "We have a big house for you."

During the hustle and commotion in the days when Little Saigon was filled with nearly 20,000 refugees, there were structured activities to keep everyone busy.

There were church services, volleyball games, English and Geography classes and food lines.

For more than 10,000 families, the months spent here were a period of uncertainty and anxiety, hopefulness and frustration.

There were the antics of youngsters who poured water down ground squirrel burrows and caught the animals for playthings.

There were the joys of finding lost relatives and making new friends.

And then, there was the endless cycle of birth and death. But now the pace has slowed. The background noise is now silent.

The streets are empty except for a diaperless baby prancing about in innocent eagerness. And large blankets stuffed with military laundry stand guard over the remaining tents.

Nguyen Van Minh, 14, sat on the steps of the immigration processing center reading a fifth grade geography book.

Minh and his family were separated from his father during the confusion of the evacuation of Saigon. Now his father is lost, but Marine Private First Class Darryl Goodman, 20, a handsome black from New York City, has made friends with him and treated him like a brother.

"We have a sponsor family in Santa Ana," Minh tells him.

And Goodman promises, "I will come to see you when you go."

HERALD EXAMINER



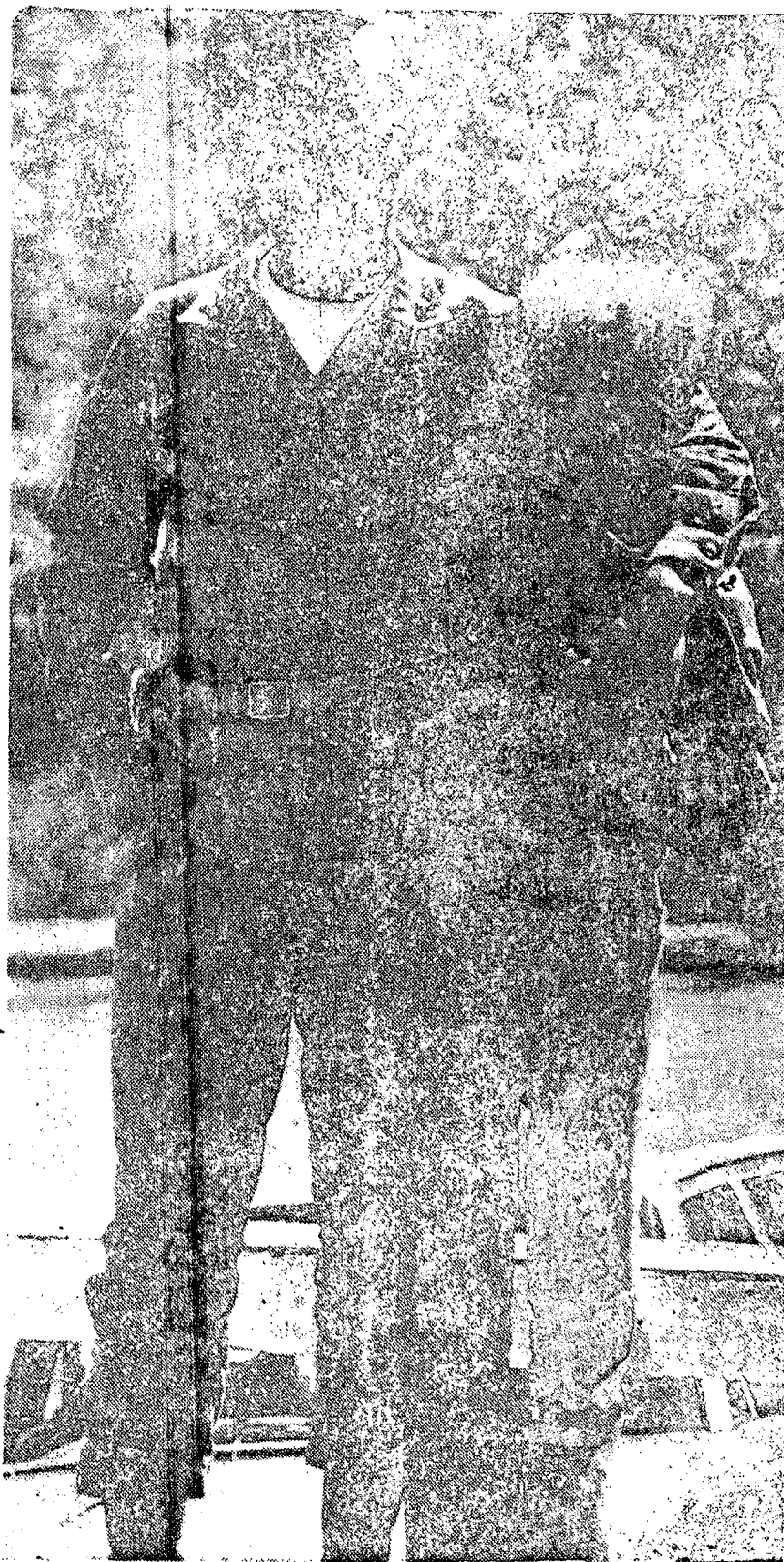
Marine carries a load of pillows from one of the refugee tents. More than 50,000 Southeast Asians passed through camp since it was opened as a processing center five months ago.

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Closing of Camp Pendleton's tent city is a bittersweet experience for Nguyen Van Minh, 14, who found a "big brother" in Marine Pfc. Darryl Goodman. Nguyen's new home will be in Santa Ana.

HERALD EXAMINER

DATE

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Their worldly goods packed in cardboard boxes, the last of Camp Pendleton's refugees wait for their sponsors to pick

them up. A few who haven't found homes are being transferred to Fort Chaffee, Ark.

HERALD EXAMINER

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# Operation SER Teaches

It's a long way from Quang Ngai to Queretaro, yet natives of both places find themselves crossing paths today in San Diego County.

There, in Operation SER's English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) classes, America's oldest nationality is meeting America's newest.

Since August, 14 Vietnamese refugees have been learning survival-oriented, job-related English — 11 at the North County branch office in San Marcos.

To better handle what is anticipated to be a considerable influx of Vietnamese into the area, SER has already hired its first Vietnamese instructor, Thong Le, 33, a graduate of the University of New Zealand.

The Vietnamese classes reflect SER's changing pattern in dealing with an increasingly multi-ethnic community in the San Diego Area. In one ESL class alone, side by side are: Khanh Cong Vu, a former bicycle mechanic from Saigon; Maria del Carmen Lopez, formerly of Cinco de Mayo High School in Tijuana; Carlos Reyes from Santiago, Chile; Manuel Roxas from Manila, P.I.; and Hyon Sook Lim from Seoul, Korea.

According to SER's executive director, Gil Abeyta, SER must "recognize the fact of ongoing change affecting ESL programs. This change, along with affirmative action standards, attempts to guarantee equal ESL

opportunity to all segments in our community. While, in spirit, SER wholeheartedly agrees with and endorses this concept, the priority and thrust of our ESL remains, of course, with the Spanish-speaking."

SER training began to pay off for the Vietnamese students early; four of them are already working and one has entered Palomar Junior College in San Marcos.

Nearly all the Vietnamese students had some knowledge of English, much of it sprinkled with colloquialisms they had

picked up from listening to English-language radio and TV in Vietnam. But to be able to search for and hold jobs, considerably more was needed.

Arriving in America in May, most of them had struggled their way through the crowds that had besieged every form of outgoing transport in the last days before the fall of the Republic of Vietnam.

Two of the students were on active duty in the military at the time. One, Lap Van Luu, had previously been to the U.S. for pilot's training. All

ultimately found themselves at the giant refugee center at Camp Pendleton. Today, most of them live in North County's towns — Oceanside, San Marcos, Escondido — some with their sponsors, some now on their own.

To use public transportation in the sprawling North County, many of the students must rise before dawn in order to make the bus connections that will take them to SER's classes.

The Vietnamese differ from the majority of SER's Spanish-speaking clientele in that many

## English To Vietnamese

of them had been skilled professionals in their own country. Mastery of English and professional licensing will set these men on the road to building new lives in America — but even then, they will still face the twin hurdles to familiar to the Spanish-speaking: a depressed economy and racial discrimination on the part of some employers.

By now, having already studied English for three months at the side of students with names like Morales, Orozco, and Salazar, the

Vietnamese have picked up a few Spanish phrases. "Como esta?" and "Gracias" may be heard from Nguyen Tam Duy and Vu Binh Quoc, who are coming to realize that, in the Southwest, Spanish is an extraordinarily useful language, second only to English.

The Vietnamese have expressed their gratitude to SER, saying that, up to now, it has been the only agency other than Welfare that has helped them in their bid to begin their lives over in America.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. A PG. 9

DATE: 29 Oct.

# Bahamian Would Rather Switch Than Fight

A funny thing happened to Jeanne Thompson, the second woman ever to practice law in the Bahamas, after her country obtained independence in 1973.

She became a full-time journalist.

Miss Thompson's uncle, the senior law partner, became leader of the opposition party. The junior law partner became ambassador to the United States.

Rather than assuming the position of senior partner of the firm, Miss Thompson turned to another love: writing. She had been contributing a weekly column to the Nassau Guardian, and at the publisher's request signed on as a reporter.

## BIG ASSIGNMENT

Her assignment: covering the Bahamian parliament, writing a satirical column on the news and covering day-to-day events.

Miss Thompson, 35, is working for 10 days at The San Diego Union as part of a 90-day journalistic tour of the United States sponsored by the U.S. State Department.

She also worked at the Atlanta Constitution, where she accompanied reporters on the court beat, the police beat and the state Capitol beat.

## AREA VISITS

Here, she has gone to Camp Pendleton to observe the refugees, to various locales around San Diego such as the world-reknowned Zoo, and will travel in Mexico to compare that country's relations with the United States

to Bahamian-U.S. relations.

As a parliamentary reporter in the Bahamas, Miss Thompson has reported on a dispute between the Bahamian government and Florida-based Cuban refugee fishermen, who have been fishing in Atlantic waters for the spiny lobster.

Bahamas considers the spiny lobster an endangered species and has declared them "creatures of the continental shelf," thereby extending Bahamian protection to them even though the lobsters are in waters outside Bahamian territorial limits.

The law, she said, was patterned after one adopted by the United States at the request of Maine fishermen.

## WATER PROJECT

Another dispute Miss Thompson has been writing about concerns allegations by the opposition party that one of the government's ministers has been receiving kickbacks from a U.S. company involved in a Bahamas water project.

With her legal background, Miss Thompson said her satirical column often deals with quirks in Bahamian laws. One law she recently lampooned requires a finding of adultery before a couple can be divorced. She said physical cruelty is not considered acceptable grounds for divorce in her country.

The law still is on the books, she said, but there is a growing movement to liberalize it.

Besides her newspaper



— Staff Photo

Jeanne Thompson, a reporter of the Nassau, Bahamas, Guardian, meets refugee children at Camp Pendleton during a 90-day tour of the United States, which includes 10 days in the San Diego area.

writing, Miss Thompson occasionally takes a law case for a friend, is a drama devotee, and writes plays for a theatrical group and soap operas for Bahamian radio listeners.

She has been in the United States before, in Miami and in New York for vacations. She said she spent her entire time in New York running from matinee to evening performances on Broadway.

The current tour has taken Miss Thompson throughout the United States, and she says to her surprise, Atlanta is one of her favorite cities.

She said she had expected Atlanta to be unpleasant because she is black and Atlanta is in the South.

"Atlanta was the first city I wasn't made to feel conscious of the fact that I am black," she said. "I felt like just any person there."

## NORTHERN CITIES

By contrast, in various northern cities, "people would always allude to the fact. They would ask me things saying 'as a black person, how do you feel...'"

Her impressions of other cities?

Detroit: "I didn't like the feel of the city. There was nobody on the streets, it was dull and gloomy and looked like it should be washed down."

Boston: "Lovely, it reminded me of Britain." Miss Thompson obtained her legal training in London.

New Orleans: "I liked it. It looks very Caribbean."

Houston: "Everything is so big, the roads, the buildings, the cars."

Santa Fe: "I saw more Indians in town than I did at the Indian pueblos."

San Diego: "Beautiful, but very spread out. You need a car to get around here, don't you?"

## Marine Loss Hurts Oceanside

### EDITOR:

In the 1930's, Oceanside was a sleepy little beach town, with not much more than a couple of second-rate hotels and one decent motel.

In the early 1940's, Camp Pendleton was commissioned. The businesses took a sharp upsweep. The city of Oceanside began to grow more businesses and build more homes for the larger population, which meant more tax dollars for the city and for the promotion of more tourist's trade.

The war was in full swing, and business was booming, with not much more trouble than there is now. (It's just more publicized now than before).

A year or so ago, we, the citizens were told that our city treasury was about \$2 million to the good. Our city council, however, decided to remedy that situation in a hurry:

1. A hopeless golf course was constructed, or at least started, then left unfinished and unused, because of the city's legal problems, (the city council's fault.)

2. Tax paying auto agencies were encouraged to re-locate in Carlsbad, due to more favorable lease conditions (tax dollars lost).

3. Three supermarkets, representing two chains, were closed or re-located, forcing their patrons to shop elsewhere (more tax dollars lost).

4. The crime rate in Oceanside, I believe, was extremely over-publicized, causing our very livelihood, the United States Marine Corp, to be attacked!

"Let's get them out of town, and keep them out!" our city council cried. Thus causing our city police force to drastically increase. (More tax dollars.) Had the Military increased their M.P. forces to better control their own people, and God knows they have the manpower; our taxes could possibly have been decreased.

Then they, the city council, begin to cry about the homosexual activities that were supposed to have been the primary reason behind several of the downtown businesses being put-off limits. However, the primary regular customers were, in fact, marines:

Now the marines are being bused out of town direct from Camp Pendleton, costing our city more revenue. Our city council have been given raises and increased expense accounts, for what, we are not sure.

However, now we are being told that our city is nearing bankruptcy. If this is true, we really don't have much to worry about. We can always receive aid from Congress, if there is anything left after New York City is finished.

Is Oceanside finished?

NAME WITHHELD

Oceanside

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The quotation attributed to the city council is not substantiated by fact.)

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 1

PG. 5

DATE:

30 Oct 75

# Oceanside Policeman Reports Street Crime Down Sharply

By WAYMAN DUNLAP  
Staff Writer

OCEANSIDE — Crime on downtown streets has declined to a point where last weekend "we couldn't find anybody to arrest," a police sergeant told chamber officials Tuesday.

Sgt. George Cramer, supervisor of the Crime Control Unit, said concentrated anti-crime activities had resulted in 429 downtown arrests (for 558 violations) by the CCU from its inception in early August to Oct. 10.

Those figures included 165 alcoholic

beverage violations (but not including drunks), 68 arrests for prostitution and 191 for narcotics offenses.

About half those arrested were military connected, he said.

And the effect has been measurable, Cramer told a combined meeting of the Chamber of Commerces' board of directors, the crime prevention education committee and the military affairs committee.

One of the patrol officers remarked in his daily log that he observed families walking on downtown streets and on the pier one evening, the sergeant said.

"I kind of drive around downtown with pride now," Cramer said. "It's changed a lot."

However, he said, the department does not intend to slack up on its efforts. He outlined for the luncheon gathering at the MiraMar Restaurant the reinstitution of the department's Special Enforcement Detail, which will concentrate on vice and narcotics activity as well as "criminal intelligence gathering." It will succeed the CCU, which is to be disbanded the first of next month.

Cramer and Lt. Bob Smith, training and press relations officer, appeared in place of Acting Chief Rolf Henze, who was ill with influenza.

Smith said during the department's anti-street crime operations, they learned that several of the prostitution suspects and their pimps had previous records from

other cities across the country that are located next to military bases.

Those persons have moved on to other locations, Smith said.

In answer to a question, Smith said the department was presently studying the community relations officers concept and he expected it would take four to five months to implement.

Asked if he thought the current intensity of the anti-crime activities would continue, Smith said, "I think there is a danger of it dying off, a very real danger, but you can't keep it up here (at a peak) all the time."

Also appearing on the program was Major Michael Healey, deputy provost marshal, who reiterated Maj. Gen. Carl Hoffman's "desire to keep up the momentum."

Healey said the base had embarked on a concentrated education program as "one of the most important prongs in our multi-pronged attack" on crime.

The PMO's office also has noticed a substantial decline in arrests on its military police blotter, Healey added.

He also praised the city and the police department for their efforts in assisting Camp Pendleton in "putting these unsavory places off limits."

Four bars were put off limits by Gen. Hoffman, the base commander, but three have subsequently been removed from the restriction for 90-day observation periods.

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. / PG. /

DATE: 30 Oct 75

HQMC

CAMP PENDLETON

CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE

CLIPS

DATE

PAGES

## Report tells plight of refugees

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — A group of 200 Vietnamese refugees sponsored by the head of a suburban gardening company are not living under conditions similar to "sharecroppers in the South in the 1880s," county officials say.

According to a report released yesterday, their living conditions "are at least as good as can be found for welfare recipients."

The report was based on an investigation into allegations that refugees sponsored by the president of the Golden State Gardening Co. and housed in two apartment houses in the suburb of Pomona were living in intolerable surroundings.

The firm plans to employ 31 heads of households in the group as gardeners.

The report also indicated that 6,500 Southeast Asian refugees so far have settled in Los Angeles County, and nearly 1,000 more are expected to locate here.

More than 3,000 refugees have applied for welfare assistance, the report said.

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29Pg's

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# Refugee Gets Chance

NEW YORK (UPI) — At 111, Mrika Mrnacaj's hope of living in a free country has become a reality.

The stooped, tiny woman, who fled the Communists in her native Albania 16 years ago, took one of the last of several long awaited steps Monday to becoming a United States citizen.

"Do you swear to tell the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?" asked the immigration examiner.

Mrs. Mrnacaj (pronounced Mur-nek-kay), who neither speaks nor understands English, smiled and nodded "yes."

For most of her life, Mrika and her husband, Nus, lived the simple life of shepherds in the Albanian countryside. But then came the Communists. A son, one of seven surviving among her 13 children, has been in prison there for 25 years.

In December, 1959, the Mrnacajs, both 95, and three sons fled into Yugoslavia at night through seven miles of woods and under barbed wire.

Two sons emigrated to America in the 1930s. Mrika stayed behind with her husband, who died in 1972.

Though happy in Yugoslavia, Mrs. Mrnacaj eventually wanted to leave.

"She tells me it was her desire to die in a free country — and live in a free country," said immigration lawyer J. Michael Greenberg.

She settled in New York, living alternately with son, Marash, 54, and Peter, 46.

(The immigration officials accepted as valid Yugoslavian

## At Citizenship

documents giving her year of birth as 1864. Though this would make her 64 when Peter was born, Greenberg said such late births "are not that unusual in that part of the world.")

And now, having lived the life of a refugee for many years, Mrs. Mrnacaj is trying to become an American citizen.

She arrived at the Immigration and Naturalization Service offices accompanied by her sons and lawyer.

"I offered to interview her at her home, but she insisted on coming here," said Maurice Kiley, head of the INS New York office. "That's the spirit — it's why she's lived to be 111."

Wearing a long black dress, a babushka and a gaily colored scarf, she stepped slowly with the help of a tattered cane to the office. She smiled, showing her gold teeth, when photographers

asked her to pose with other immigrants — some 106 years her junior.

She then went into a private office for an interview with immigration officials and emerged with a new "green card" — certifying her as a permanent resident alien.

"I'm so glad," she said, while son Peter translated. "What I see here I have never seen before in any other country."

Greenberg said it normally would take Mrs. Mrnacaj about five years to qualify for citizenship, but he hopes to persuade a congressman to introduce a bill speeding up the procedure.

"She's a very beautiful and a healthy lady," Greenberg said, "but I don't know if she can wait five years."

## Tent city now ghost town

What was once a thriving tent city is now a ghost town as the days of Camp Pendleton's "Operation New Arrivals" have drawn to a close.

The American National Red Cross was on the job for 25 consecutive weeks giving assistance to refugees. Volunteers from the San Diego County Chapter gave approximately 40,000 hours in the following areas: canteen, supply, locating and communication services, casework, health services, phone bank, motor ser-

vice, sewing centers and play schools.

In the North County area, volunteers from Poway, Escondido, Fallbrook, Vista, San Marcos, Valley Center, and Rancho Bernardo gave approximately 15,000 hours, making 90 trips to Camp Pendleton to assist in the refugee program.

The Red Cross helped over 38,000 refugees through its family Service unit at Camp Pendleton. When Family Services was first organized in ear-

ly May, the unit worked primarily to keep communications open between refugees and their relatives and potential sponsors. Later, its role was expanded to include help for those desiring third country transfer, assistance to unaccompanied children and reuniting of separated families.

Red Cross assistance did not end with the closing of operations at Camp Pendleton. On Oct. 20 the San Diego Chapter put on a "Meet Your Good Neighbor Night" at

Montezuma Hall, San Diego University. The purpose of the evening was to provide both refugees and their sponsors with information on the services available in San Diego County, answer questions, provide resource materials and generally help foster a sense of community among San Diegan South East Asian residents. The event was a tremendous success with 2,000 new South East Asian residents in attendance.

In addition, the Red Cross and the Vietnamese Community Foundation have set up a South East Asian Resource Center with a phone referral service and information center for new refugee residents.

FALLBROOK ENTERPRISE

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# Many Human Dramas

BY FRED SWEGLES  
Sun-Post Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON — In Saigon, a mother handed her young daughter to a fleeing refugee with a note naming the child's American father.

"Find him," the mother implored as she sent her part-American little girl off to what hopefully would be a better life in the United States.

That was in April, just as the communists were overrunning South Vietnam. Today the six-year-old girl is living with her father and her stepmother in North Carolina.

The Red Cross, using a morsel of in-

formation, was able to locate the child's father while she was living a lonely and uncertain life as a refugee at Camp Pendleton.

The father, who already had an American wife in the United States when he fathered the girl in Vietnam, accepted her into his home. So did the man's American wife and their two children.

This is just one of hundreds of dramatic stories that are being filed into the caseloads of the American Red Cross now that the six-month Camp Pendleton refugee resettlement program has ended.

As the drama is transformed into statistics, Red Cross workers at Camp Pendleton can still remember particularly

touching cases among the thousands they handled.

The six-year-old girl, for example, was just one of 1,943 cases where the Red Cross was able to reunify refugee families. Many of these families had been split up during their flight from Southeast Asia, only to find each other in America.

Still unresolved are some 700 additional family reunification requests that were made to the Red Cross at Camp Pendleton. Now that the camp has closed, many refugees already living with sponsors in the United States still want to locate their relatives who may or may not be here.

The Red Cross is still working on all these 700 cases, even though the Red Cross

## Pendleton, CA. 92055 Surounded Refugee Program

refugee program at Camp Pendleton ended October 31.

During six months, the Red Cross maintained some 200 to 300 employees and volunteers at the Camp Pendleton refugee city on a daily basis.

They offered 24-hour health services in each of the refugee camps; distribution centers handing out needy items like soap and toothpaste; play school centers in each camp; a telephone bank; a refreshment canteen for arriving and departing refugees; a travel arrangements bureau; and a "Family Services Unit."

The Family Services Unit was involved with family reunifications, help for unaccompanied minors, and support for

refugees wishing to settle in another country.

Bill Pardue, who took over family services at Camp Pendleton in July after spending three months helping hurricane disaster victims in Honduras, recalls many types of services the Family Service Unit offered to needy refugees.

Family Services was a sort of general social service agency offering everything from marital counseling to legal aid or location of lost luggage, Pardue says.

In one case, he remembers the Family Services Unit was asked to obtain a birth certificate for a refugee child born on a U.S. evacuation ship.

The Red Cross traced the name of the

ship, located it, communicated with the ship's officers, and verified the baby's birth in the ship's log so a birth certificate could be made.

"For awhile we thought it was a Norwegian ship," says Pardue. "That would've caused problems, because we'd have had to go to the Norwegian government and ask them to issue a birth certificate."

But it turned out to be a U.S. ship, thus making the newborn refugee a U.S. citizen.

Other cases were no less complex for the Red Cross to solve. One Vietnamese

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 2)

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## Many Refugee Dramas . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

woman sent her six young children out of Saigon in the March baby lift to become war orphans. After they were adopted into American homes around the country, the woman managed to flee South Vietnam in April and begged the Red Cross to find her babies. It took awhile, but the family was finally reunited.

Patrick Guibao, public relations officer for the Red Cross refugee operation at Camp Pendleton, recalls a flood of similar heartening stories.

Guibao, who lived in San Clemente for six months while disseminating refugee information and photographs nationwide, was most heartened when he saw "what could be considered an anti-refugee opinion change to an America with open arms."

"I saw Americans time and time again — Americans who'd never volunteered for anything in their lives — coming out to Camp Pendleton and being completely overwhelmed by these people," Guibao says.

He also remembers cooperation the Red Cross received from residents and merchants in San Clemente, where agency workers lived and did business during the six-month humanitarian effort.

Guibao, who for five years has handled

Red Cross information services at various natural disasters all over the nation, says San Clemente has been an outstanding community to work in. He recalls positive business attitudes, community attitudes, and numerous San Clemente volunteers for the refugee program.

Among the San Clementeans Guibao will remember were Lynn and Pearl Sanders, two retirees who served refreshments to some 44,000 refugees at the Red Cross arrival and departure canteen.

The Sanders' themselves were touched indelibly by individual memories among the thousands of refugees they mingled with at Camp Pendleton. They saw day-to-day dramas unfold outside their refreshment stand, as busloads of new refugees would arrive on base and others would board buses to leave for a new home.

One of the Sanders' memories stands out — the daily drama that would mount as refugees from nearby Camp 8 would gather behind a fence to watch new busloads arrive.

Tensions would rise as incoming refugees would step off the buses. A sea of faces from Camp 8 would scrutinize each newcomer, looking for a familiar face.

Suddenly a refugee would burst through the makeshift fence and run to embrace a long-lost loved one. Another family reunification would be accomplished.

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# Refugees Find Education Costly

By LAURIE KASPER  
Of the Daily Pilot Staff

The lack of money, incomplete records and inability to speak and write English fluently may be combining to block some Vietnamese refugees from getting a college education needed to move into the American mainstream.

These obstacles make education difficult but not impossible for the uprooted Vietnamese, according to several area college administrators.

There are about 17 refugee students attending regular classes at Golden West College, 12 at Orange Coast College and seven at Saddleback College.

Most of the Asian students appear to be taking occupational courses to retrain themselves in a marketable skill. Some are taking English courses to improve their language ability.

One graduate engineering student at UC Irvine technically is a refugee, but he had been living, working and studying in this country as a foreign student for several years prior to the evacuation from Vietnam.

More Vietnamese students are expected to enroll at the colleges next year, after they've fulfilled the state's one-year residency requirement for the low fees at

public institutions.

Money is the biggest problem faced by the Vietnamese students, according to Duyen Do, a Saddleback College student who had been a sophomore in science at the University of Saigon.

She was able to take two English courses during the summer session on a loan from her sponsor, the San Clemente Presbyterian Church.

And she has a grant for the current quarter, but doesn't know

where the money will come from to pay for her next quarter.

She and the other Vietnamese pay \$29 a unit for academic courses at Saddleback and \$31 a unit in the Orange Coast Community College District.

UC Irvine's tuition for an undergraduate, out-of-state student is \$709 a quarter, \$500 more than that paid by residents.

But admissions officers point out that the fees don't bar the Vietnamese from attendance at

the colleges because all federal financial assistance is available.

Depending on the individual's needs and resources—including the income of the parents, whether they are in this country or Vietnam—some package consisting of work on campus, grants and loans will be designed for each student.

The colleges say they have enough of these funds for both the

(See REFUGEES, Page A2)

MORE

English classes for Vietnamese.

However, college officials note that since much of the assistance comes in the form of loans, the Vietnamese could be accumulating debts higher than those of the average student.

College officials and counselors seem impressed with the Vietnamese they've met so far. They describe them as articulate, intelligent, polite, motivated and conscientious about their studies.

Duyen Do brushes aside the A grades she earned in the summer English classes. They were relatively simple classes, she explained.

But she also reports having little difficulty in her present classes, even an intermediate chemistry course. The terminology is different and the science labs are strange with all the modern equipment, but teachers and other students have been "very nice" and helped her out.

The system of education is different here too, she said. In Vietnam, she would take one course for an entire year and be examined at the end of it.

Now, she faces the quarter system and periodic tests. "It's a little difficult," she admitted. "But I think you can adapt easily."

A committee was formed at Golden West College to help the students adjust to the new system. Few of the students attended the initial meeting but Fred Garcia, director of admissions and guidance, said the students appear to be adjusting well to this country as well as the college.

Most of the students in regular classes at the colleges, speak, read and write English fairly well.

Many more students, some who had completed or were in the midst of a university education are in "English as a second language" classes offered throughout the Orange Coast area.

Lack of fluency in the English language is a problem they share with many other people in this country, said Rolena Black, a training director for the Orange

County Office of Education. A major factor of money and language, however, is the lack of records.

Students need only be 18 years or older to attend the community colleges but they must meet certain eligibility requirements for the state's colleges and universities.

At least 25 Vietnamese have expressed an interest in attending UC Irvine, according to Sharon Kuag, supervisor of the undergraduate admissions counselors at UC Irvine.

She said it doesn't seem to discourage the students, even those who were attending a university in Vietnam.

"They're intent," she said. "They have a good feeling of where they want to go."



Daily Pilot Staff Photo

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE STUDENT DUYEN DO  
Even With Aid, Tuition Can Present Problems

NEWSPAPER

Daily Pilot

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DATE 9 Nov 78

## Pendleton Tent City Deserted

Special to The Herald-Examiner

**CAMP PENDLETON —** Like the Vietnam war, little more than ghosts of memories remain here of a tent city that mushroomed from grassy fields 25 weeks ago and served as a temporary home for 50,000 Southeast Asian refugees at a cost of \$17 million.

The refugee camp officially closed Friday, but the last to leave was a family of Cambodians who stayed behind because a son was born last week.

Included in the \$17-million cost of the camp were \$2 million to set it up, salaries for military and civilian personnel assigned to it, and 7 million meals and 8,000 pairs of shoes for the refugees.

Most refugees have been placed with sponsors and begun new lives in the U.S. according to Nick Thorne, senior coordinator of the Interagency Task Force, which coordinated activities for the "Little Saigon" tent city.

Other refugees still are awaiting security clearance at other centers in the country, are being resettled in other countries or are seeking repatriation.

## Red Cross Aids Refugees

**CAMP PENDLETON** — In six months of refugee assistance efforts at Camp Pendleton, the American National Red Cross conducted 20 programs to aid Southeast Asians during their stay at the Marine Corps Base.

William H. Budd, Director of Red Cross refugee activities here, said 1,995 volunteers carried out the various responsibilities. Volunteers were from Red Cross Chapters and military installations in San Diego, Los Angeles and Orange Counties, as well as from other Chapters and Divisions throughout the West.

Refugee volunteers from camp worked with U.S. volunteers and staff. Supporting the volunteer efforts were 441 staff personnel.

One of the major Red Cross actions was the Family Service

Unit, which conducted counseling and communications assistance; family reunification; help for unaccompanied children and professional staff for the Department of Consular Services; the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and an information and referral section.

Another part of Red Cross aid was the Health Services station, carried out by Red Cross nurses. Working under the direction of the Navy Medical Corps, nursing personnel helped refugees with daily tent visits to check for illness and injury; assisted at the Warm Baby Trailer, took part in the

corrective vision program and kept a watchful eye of staff health.

In support projects, the Red Cross operated or assisted with volunteers and staff at the Phone Bank, Canteen Services for arriving and departing refugees and worked with the Travelers Aid Society in helping departing refugees with travel. They also recruited teachers for the Department of Health, Education & Welfare's Survival English training, and transported persons receiving medical services not available at Camp Pendleton. A referral service for those seeking to volunteer with the project and the distribution of essential sundry items was also operated.

## Last Indochinese Depart Pendleton

Seven million meals and 25 weeks later, the last of more than 50,000 Southeast Asian refugees has left the encampment of tents at Camp Pendleton.

A Marine spokesman said the last refugee to leave Tuesday were a family of Cambodians who had stayed behind after the refugee center closed officially Friday because a son was born last week.

The Cambodian family was flown to Ft. Chaffee, Ark., to join 120 other Cambodian refugees awaiting word on repatriation from Cambodia's new government.

The Marine spokesman said the entire refugee operation at Camp Pendleton cost a total of \$17 million, including \$2 million

to set up the refugee center.

The \$17 million figure also included the cost of salaries for military and civilian personnel assigned to the refugee center and the price of some 8,000 pairs of shoes distributed among the refugees, many of whom were hastily evacuated as communist forces overran their countries earlier this year.

Nick Thorne, senior coordinator of the Interagency Task Force, said most of the refugees were placed with sponsors and have begun their new lives in the United States.

The few exceptions included some refugees who are still awaiting security clearance, others waiting to be resettled in third countries and some seeking repatriation.

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CAMP PENDLETON CALIFORNIA

REFUGEE CLIPS

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## *O'side School District May Get Refugee Aid*

OCEANSIDE — Oceanside's school district will be eligible for \$16,500 in public funds to help educate Vietnamese children under a resolution approved Tuesday night.

Dr. Jack Green, director of instruction, explained that the district currently has 55 refugee children enrolled in various schools. Under the Refugee Assistance Act of 1975, districts are eligible to be compensated once in the amount of \$300 for each identified child.

The money will be reimbursed after Jan. 1, 1976, Green said.

Supt. Roderic V. Moore also told the board that there is legislation pending to substantially increase the \$300-per-child rate, but it also is a one-time-only allowance.

Green said the money will be used for support services such as English language instruction, Vietnamese speaking aides-tutors, special instructional materials and in-service training for teachers.

The program will begin Nov. 24.

According to a survey accompanying the request, Libby Elementary School with 12 students has the most Vietnamese refugees, followed by San Luis Rey with 11, Ditmar with seven, and Garrison with five.

All other schools have three or fewer.

Of the 55 students, all but nine are in elementary schools. Three attend Jefferson Junior High, and there are three each at each high school campus.

Only six of the refugees are 15 or older.

In other action Tuesday night, the board also approved a proposal to retain Julian and Associates of San Juan Capistrano to represent them in negotiations with the various employee groups at a cost of \$1,100 per month.

The head of the firm, Dr. Bruce Julian, acted as the board's representative this year in salary negotiations with the Certificated Employees Council.

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**Refugee Resettlement  
Program To End Soon**

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (AP)  
— The refugee resettlement program started after the fall of Vietnam and Cambodia should end about Dec. 31, a State Department official said.

Donald G. MacDonald, senior civilian coordinator of the program here, said Ft. Chaffee would close about Dec. 30 and Indianapolis, Ind., about Dec. 31.

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### Refugee center to close

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (UPI) — Officials say this refugee relocation center should close on schedule at the end of the year, even if the city of Honolulu rejects a proposal to sponsor 800 Vietnamese refugees.

But Donald G. MacDonald, senior civil coordinator at the relocation center, said Sunday the plans could be hampered if the 800 refugees could not go to Hawaii.

According to reports published in Honolulu, the city council and the governor of Hawaii are reluctant to accept additional refugees, many of whom have settled in the Islands.

Government plans originally called for most, if not all, of the 800 refugees that were to go to Honolulu to be sent from Ft. Chaffee. The group was to be comprised of farmers and fishermen.

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## Viet Chief Now Sorts Trash

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — A former regional commander for the South Vietnamese army is now sorting trash for Charleston County.

For eight hours a day, at \$2.44 an hour, Le Cong Chinh stands by a conveyor belt piled high with trash of all shapes, sizes and smell. He extracts large pieces of metal which cannot be processed.

Le Cong Chinh, who had seven years of seminary training and then served in the army for another 24 years, says he is grateful for his job. He says his salary is high by Vietnamese standards.

But he admits to being bored, describing his working environment as "noisy, smelly and dusty."

This is the first time in his life he has lived out of the shadow of death. Asked how he and his family like the United States, he answered: "We are very happy — we get good sleep at night."

Flown to the United States, he and his family were brought to Charleston through the efforts of the Catholic Diocese.

HERALD EXAMINER

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# *CMA Operation Heartbeat continues work*

## Sponsors still providing social guidance

By CAROL WEAVER  
T-A Staff Writer

Operation Heartbeat, a ministry of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Churches in America begun April 30 to help Vietnamese refugees, still is providing aid, according to Rev. Frank West, pastor of Washington Avenue Alliance Church in Escondido. His church, together with others in the U.S. and Canada, sponsored CMA refugees, providing them with shelter, food and clothing and helping them find jobs to make them self-supporting.

"To a large degree, one area of sponsorship still continuing is giving guidance with social and economic problems that come up for consideration," West said. "For example, one of the men our church sponsored got

hurt in the back of his ear. First of all, he was quite sad he was involved in an accident, but he really didn't know what to do. He had to get estimates and it is really difficult for him to communicate. That's where Operation Heartbeat can still help. It would be hard for a person from another country to cope with such things by himself."

Sponsorship, West noted, was not originally intended to be a long-range physical help program. "All the people we agreed to sponsor currently are working and have individual living arrangements," he said. "They also have their own automobiles and are quite comfortable and self-sufficient in

a physical sense. Our job now is to provide social and other supportive care that appears necessary."

West said that his church has helped, among other things, find doctors for their refugees. "Where does one on limited means look for help in solving health problems? Also, where are the companies that will insure new drivers from another country? And where can one go to learn English? This has been a learning process for the sponsors as well as the people we sponsor as we found answers to these and other questions," he said.

Operation Heartbeat had the initial

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ESCONDIDO TIMES ADVOCATE

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MORE

## Refugee help has new form

Cont. From Page C-2

cross the lines. The people here worry about families at home and are thus unhappy — they don't know what's going on at home and they can't go back themselves. The CMA does manage to find out some things, but more often the refugees here only wonder if their families are eating, still have jobs, live in the same place — are alive even."

West stressed the real concern of Operation Heartbeat for the emotional trials the refugees are going through. "Physically, they can survive well, but some have deep psychological problems," he added.

CMA pastors and members feel Operation Heartbeat has done a good job. "We've had over 99 per cent success rate," West said. "That means that 99 per cent of the people the CMA sponsored have made the expected adjustments."

A real triumph for the CMA came at the end of October

when five CMA missionaries detained in Vietnam since the fall of South Vietnam were released. Betty Mitchell, Rev. and Mrs. Norman Johnson and Dr. and Mrs. Richard Phillips were met at the Bangkok airport by Dr. Nathan Bailey, president of the alliance and originator of Operation Heartbeat. Mrs. Mitchell's husband, Rev. Archie Mitchell, still is missing. Officials of the alliance will continue to seek information about him.

"We know it is best to let their own people guide them, so a national committee composed of Vietnamese people has been organized to give general oversight and help to the refugees," West said. "Truong-Van-Tot, who lives in Chula Vista, is chairman."

Also, Operation Heartbeat is in charge of setting up a fishing village on Guam for the 200 Vietnamese who remained there.

objective of identifying and sponsoring all the people who were a part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Vietnam. The estimate of 600 people rose to 1,755 people by the time all CMA refugees, including those who became Christians as a result of the missionary activity conducted on various bases, found sponsors and the sponsorship offices closed on Sept. 30.

Another way Operation Heartbeat will be working is in planting Vietnamese churches in North America and supporting their pastors. "In a local city, CMA has established a church in a Diego and one in El Cajon," West said. "Operation Heartbeat now is help-

ing primarily in the area of pastoral salaries."

Refugees are being directed to American churches in areas, such as Escondido, where a Vietnamese church has not been formed.

Another major area in which Operation Heartbeat is working is the printing of literature for the Vietnamese.

"No Vietnamese bibles were available for purchase and 3,000 have since been printed," West said. West has personally been involved in the printing of the bibles as well as thousands of tract and vocabulary cards. Some of the cards are available in as

forms in both Escondido and San Diego. Along the same line, Operation Heartbeat is making materials — such as English-Vietnamese dictionaries — for both sponsors and refugees in order to ease transitions and help with adjustments.

Perhaps one of the most vital services Operation Heartbeat is involved in currently is maintaining close contact with the state department and other diplomatic channels to get as much information as possible to and from Vietnam.

The main problem for Vietnamese refugees is the complete breakdown of communication to Vietnam," West said. "We have to have service at all times and have to have a communication channel open to all."

## Protests Refugee Supply Dumping

### EDITOR:

I wish to protest the dumping of supplies such as bedding and all other items used by refugees at Camp Pendleton in a dump area and having bulldozers cover hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of merchandise that could be used by needy people.

If their reason is that they feared the spread of disease, please ask them what the person who buys supplies in thrift store risks!

The expensive woolen blankets, jackets et al could be cleaned and reused.

Typical freight dump waste by the military.

Can we have them dig these things up and the DAV have them cleaned and sell them, or some similar plan?

MRS. P. SHANKLIN

Oceanside

OCEANSIDE BLADE-TRIBUNE

SECT. 4 PG. 5

DATE: 16 NOV 75

## Missing Vietnamese Boy Found After Stowaway Flight to S.F.

A 13-year-old Vietnamese boy missing for a week from his Pomona home was reunited Friday with his stepfather in San Francisco, where the boy had flown as a stowaway aboard an airliner.

The father, E. V. Lorbieski, identified the boy as his son, Hai Vo, from a wirephoto received at the offices of the Pomona Progress-Bulletin newspaper. Lorbieski flew to San Francisco to get his son.

Pomona police Det. Mike Berry said the boy, who speaks English, did not come home from school Nov. 7 and his parents notified police. Berry

said police suspected the boy had run away from home because he was having "school problems" at Simons Junior High School.

According to Berry, Hai Vo stowed away aboard a PSA flight that left from Ontario Airport, about six miles from his home. He arrived in San Francisco and was discovered, but gave a false name and other false information.

Berry said the boy finally told an interpreter Friday at the Asian Refugee Center, where he was staying, that he lived in Southern California.

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Los Angeles Times

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He'd like to continue...

# Helping the Viet refugees

By JANETTE COREY

When the thousands of war displaced Vietnamese refugees who huddled in Camp Pendleton tents for months finally received sponsorship and moved on to new lives, they were scattered in every conceivable direction.

Many of them had no English language skills or poorly developed skills — and Chuck Strain speculates — many also wound up staying in and around the San Dieguito area.

Strain is looking for those people.

The former real estate man who retired "at the ripe old age of 49" was a volunteer English language teacher at Camp Pendleton and believes many of the refugees still need language help.

He envisions starting a school for those who would like to continue studying English with an interpreter from their own country to help out. The interpreter — Pham Van Hong — is a man Strain met and worked with at Pendleton.

Strain said he's tried to trace down those living locally so he could contact them directly about the possibility of forming the English classes, but wasn't able to obtain information regarding their whereabouts.

"I thought the newspapers would be about the best way to reach them," Strain said.

He asked that those who'd like to take a class or know someone who might be interested to call him at 755-0776 or to contact Pham Van Hong at 755-9062.

Although language is Strain's major concern because it's so essential for daily living, he's also worried about numbers of Vietnamese who are unable to find jobs.

Hong is a case in point. Strain said he speaks excellent English and was an administrator with the United States Embassy in Vietnam. He

might need some re-training, but could learn a new field very easily.

Others are even more employment handicapped because of language barriers, but would be willing to take jobs where language skills are not essential. Strain asked that anyone having information about possible employment or anyone who would be willing to offer some kind of work get in touch with him.

What prompted a man who retired from a successful career at such a young age to want to become an English teacher when he'd never had any experience along those lines?

"God has been good to me," Strain said. "So I decided I'd like to do something for someone else."

He taught English at Pendleton several nights a week from July through October and depending on whether he was teaching basic reading, English for practical living or some other proficiency level, classes would have between 20 and 200 students.

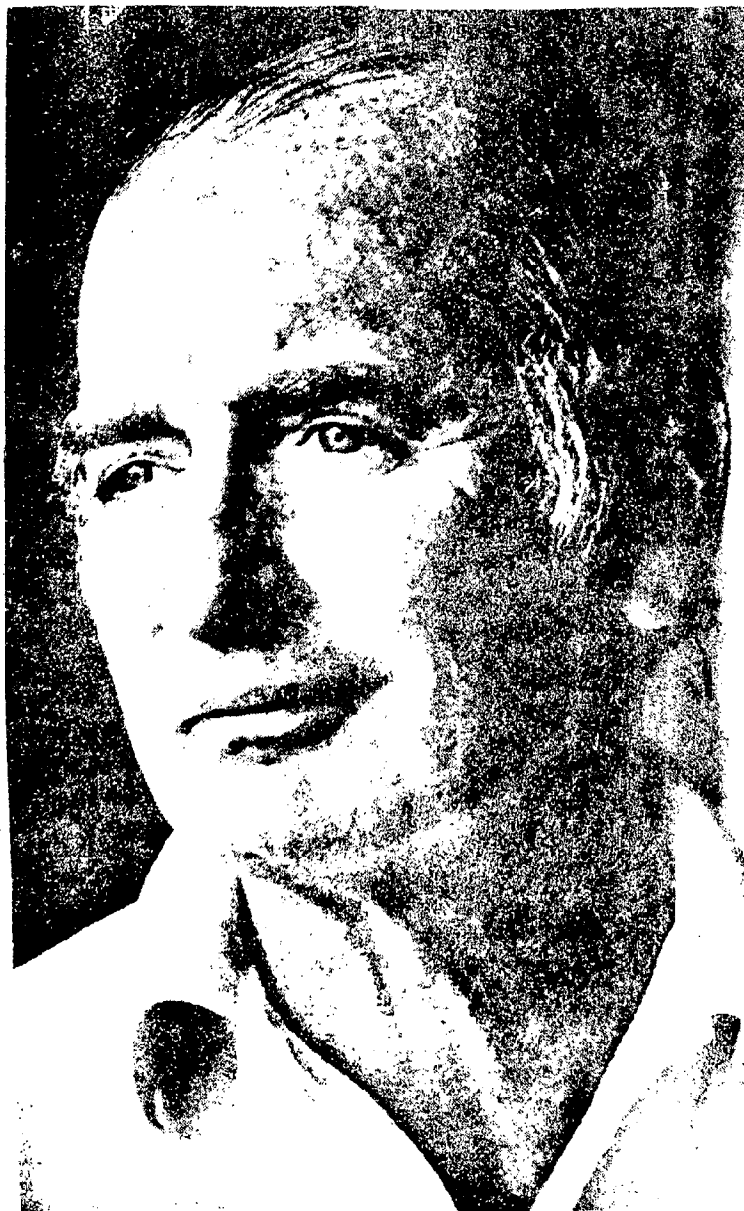
Students attended the evening English sessions under very adverse conditions, Strain said, but were always eager to learn and remained "wonderfully good natured."

He said despite being crowded into tents with five or six families, being cold and going through difficult emotional pressures, the refugees were able to keep their "sense of balance and their sense of humor."

Strain's respect for the Vietnamese people and their spirit apparently was not entirely one-sided. Kelly De Sare, in charge of evening recruitment, training and curriculum in the county Education Department's English program at Pendleton, had high praise for Strain's work.

"He has become a favorite instructor to all his Vietnamese students," De Sare said.

And, like so many teachers who've enjoyed the respect of their students, Strain's interest in the well-being of his pupils didn't end when his classes did.



Chuck Strain

ENCINITAS COAST DISPATCH

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## 130,000 Refugees Find Sponsors

By The Associated Press

Seven months after the fall of Vietnam, more than 130,000 refugees who fled in search of a new life in the United States have found sponsors and the two remaining resettlement camps will be closed by the end of the year.

The 5,759 refugees still housed at Ft. Chaffee, Ark. and the 731 living at Ft. Indiantown Gap near Harrisburg, Pa., have found sponsors but are waiting for the necessary paperwork to be completed.

"All we are doing now is matching up the refugees to the sponsors and figuring out transportation," said Phylliss Young, a spokeswoman at Ft. Chaffee. "By the end of this week who should have all the matchups completed."

The last refugee is scheduled to leave Indiantown Gap on Dec. 15.

"We actually have more sponsors than refugees," said Larry Flood, a spokesman at Indiantown Gap. "It's just a matter of going through the throes of paperwork."

The refugee center at

Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., was closed Sept. 15 after handling 8,688 refugees. The center at Camp Pendleton, Calif., shut down Oct. 31 after processing 48,411 refugees.

A spokesman for the Inter-Agency Task Force for Indochina Refugees in Washington said 140,729 persons left Vietnam and Cambodia as refugees. Of that figure, 130,170 have found sponsors in the United States. The others either moved to other countries or have been repatriated. Seventy-six refugees have died since leaving Indochina.

When the relationship fails between the refugee and the sponsor, the refugee is required to work out the problems with one of the 10 volunteer agencies which coordinated the sponsorships, said Miss Young.

Very few of the refugees returned to the resettlement camps after finding a new home.

HERALD EXAMINER

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## 3 refugees face trial for 'melee'

BETHLEHEM, Pa. (UPI) — Sponsors of three Vietnamese refugees arrested for fighting with policemen believe a "lack of understanding" of police methods in this country contributed to the incident.

The three, all with Vietnamese military experience, were held in lieu of \$10,000 bail each on charges of criminal attempt to commit murder and aggravated assault and battery.

Dia Van Nguyen, 24, Dung Van Nguyen, 22, and Theo Van Phan, 18, were arrested Monday following what Police Capt. Francis Gyorek described as a "big melee" in which eight policemen, the suspects and a complainant were injured.

Gyorek said knives and bottles were used in the fight which started when the owner of an apartment building where the three suspects and another refugee lived complained about noise.

Gyorek said the building owner, Henry Rodenburg, "called for police to go over with him and it broke into a big melee." He said the fourth refugee, who he would not identify, was not involved and "tried to cool the incident."

All of the injured were treated at a hospital and released.

The Rev. Alexander Zabriskie, pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church, which sponsored the four refugees, said two of the suspects had been drinking and "there was a fracas."

Gyorek said the "basic problem with these men was mostly due to alcohol and strangeness to the country."

Deborah Sieger, director

of the Lutheran Chaplaincy Service in nearby Easton, said the reason "the young men reacted the way they did was because of cultural differences."

"Police were understanding of this," she said, "but it was still an impediment."

"There wasn't enough good communication to be able to explain to the young men that our police situation was different than Vietnam. That's part of the reason why they panicked and why they behaved the way they did," she said.

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# Refugee official given Sinai post

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The man who coordinated the resettlement of Indochina refugees on the West Coast will lead the American technicians assigned to monitor the Egyptian-Israeli agreement signed this fall.

It was learned Monday that Nick Thorne will head the 200 Americans who will monitor the Sinai Desert for incursions by either side. The appointment was confirmed by State Department spokesman John Trattner.

Thorne, a member of the State Department since 1962, was in charge of the civilian Ind teragency Task Force at Camp Pendleton.

Working out of a Marine Corps classroom building surrounded by rows of refugee tents, he oversaw the processing which hastily placed some 50,000 Vietnamese, Cambodians and Laotians into American life.

He quickly became known among newsmen for his walrus moustache and his informal, straightforward way of handling queries.

The Sinai Field Mission's sole task will be to scan the barren Sinai for signs of Egyptian or Israeli troop movement, using sophisticated electronic surveillance gear. Thorne left for Washington D.C. today for a 10-day Middle East tour to plan where he will locate the technicians in the Sinai.

On his return, he said he would then select the members of the observer force.

Both nations have agreed to protect



NICK THORNE

the Americans, who are to work unarmed. But the Palestinian Liberation Organization is violently opposed to the plan and has called for the assassination of the Americans who take part.

However, Thorne said in an interview Monday that he had been on so-called "death lists" before, particularly in South Vietnam, where he headed several civilian operations.

"It's something you get used to," he said.

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**U.S. Refugee Aide to Head Sinai Team**

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Nick Thorne, who coordinated the Indochina refugee center at Camp Pendleton, will head the American technicians who will monitor the Sinai Desert between Egypt and Israel, it was learned Monday.

State Department spokesman John Tratner confirmed Thorne's appointment as director of the Sinai field mission.

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## Refugee Rolls At Chaffee Dip To 6,128

FT. CHAFFEE, Ark. (AP) — Nearly 1,200 Vietnamese refugees were processed out of the Ft. Chaffee relocation center last week.

The refugee population at Chaffee yesterday stood at 6,128, down from 7,305 a week ago.

Since the camp opened in May, 43,974 refugees have been processed. Camp Pendleton, Calif., processed 48,411 while it served as a refugee relocation center, and Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., processed 8,688 before that center closed.

The target date for closing Chaffee is Dec. 20.

The only other relocation center still operating, Indiantown Gap, Pa., had 1,271 refugees yesterday. Indiantown, which is expected to close soon, has processed 20,440 refugees.

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**FIRST THANKSGIVING** — A Vietnamese family of 11 persons sits down to their first

OCEANSIDE BLADE TRIBUNE

Thanksgiving meal at the refugee camp at Indiantown Gap, Ind. They dined on paper plates in the

mess hall, but had the traditional turkey with all the trimmings.

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## Viet Refugees Celebrating Thanksggiving

GREEN BAY, Wis. (UPI) — "We know about Thanksgiving and how the first people came over," said Tran of his new homeland.

But his family, among the thousands of Vietnamese refugees resettled in the United States, may not sit down to a normal, first Thanksgiving meal.

"We like hamburgers, pizza, meatballs and chicken," said the 21-year-old refugee.

Their first Thanksgiving may be a white one and they love it.

"I dreamed of the snow the first night I was here," said Tran. "I dreamed of the snow...and I could feel the cold in my dream."

That was in September when the family arrived in Green Bay from Camp Pendleton in California. Tran expected snow then because he was told it was cold in Wisconsin. But it was sunny and green when he arrived.

"I saw snow for the first time at a Saigon movie house during Dr. Zhivago," he said.

The snow finally came this week.

The family includes his brother, Thaun, 22; sisters Uan, 18, and Lan, 15; and his parents, Nhung and Nhuy Tran.

The senior Tran was a colonel in the South Vietnamese army and he feared execution or exile because he had been friendly and helpful to American officers as commander of Saigon's Fourth Transportation Unit. But because of his position, he was able to negotiate for his family and several hundred other refugees to escape by boat to Malaysia.

The Trans were aided in settling in Green Bay by the Trinity Lutheran Church. They are among 100 Vietnamese families who have been relocated in northeastern Wisconsin.

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## Vietnam Refugee Likes Snow, But Not Cold

HOPKINS, Minn. (UPI) — "Snow is beautiful," said Nguyen Kim Thanh, a refugee from usually steamy South Vietnam who now makes his living plowing snow in this suburban Minneapolis community.

"The snow just kept falling," Thanh recalled of the first blizzard of the year which struck Minnesota this week. "Snow is beautiful. I like snow, but I don't like the

cold weather."

Thanh said he was anxious to discover snow when he and his wife arrived in Minnesota two months ago. During a brief snowfall earlier this fall, they tried to gather the snow before it melted.

Driving the snowplow has mellowed some of that enthusiasm, he said.

Thanh faced both cold and snow Thursday and Friday on his job as a snowplow

driver for the Minnesota Highway Department. He said he towed a few motorists out of snow banks as he cleared the streets in Hopkins. Skidding cars and heavy traffic are the biggest job hazards, he said.

"The snow just kept falling," Thanh said. "I had to be careful. It was difficult to drive (the plow)."

Thanh said he left Vietnam because he feared for

his life. He was an officer in the South Vietnamese Navy, but wasn't too choosy about employment in the United States.

Thanh said he and his wife left without goodbys to their relatives and friends.

Despite the weather, Thanh said he plans to remain in Minnesota. His wife, Jiot Dai, is expecting a child and both plan to enroll at the University of Minnesota.

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## Refugee Seeks Aid 2nd Time

ENCINO (AP) — For the second time in two weeks, a 51-year-old Vietnamese woman refugee has found herself without a home, money, or means of communication with those around her.

And for the second time, Rosario Onesto, 61, of Encino, came to her aid.

Lien Thi Hoang, fired from her second job as a domestic helper, was found Sunday in the Northridge Plaza Shopping Center, seeking shelter from the cold.

Two weeks earlier, after being fired from a similar job, Onesto had found the confused and frightened refugee trying to find shelter at a San Fernando Valley service station, and arranged for her next job.

Onesto said Sunday that neither of the woman's two employers would say why they dismissed her. But he said he would arrange housing and food for her until a placement agency could find another position for her.

# **Refugee Unit Move**

Offices of the Migration and Refugee Services of the United States Catholic Conference have moved to 100 S. Ola Vista, San Clemente.

The service formerly was based at Camp Pendleton.

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*SOME ARE LIKE SONS, DAUGHTERS TO US*

# 10,000 refugees

## still call San Diego home

By ROBERT DIETRICH

"They were like daughters to us," reflects Mrs. Mary Klute. "Bright spots in our lives."

She was recalling the three months Tinh, 28, and Thanh, 19, South Vietnamese refugees, shared the Klute family's Spring Valley mobile home.

Mrs. Klute and her husband, Frank, were among the first San Diego County residents to sponsor Southeast Asian war victims.

For them it was a human experience that evolved from introduction to American society to lasting friendships.

But for 10 to 15 per cent of the 137,000 refugees who poured into U.S. resettlement camps in April and May it was an introduction to poverty, exploitation, loneliness and discouragement.

That is the current estimate by volunteer agencies (VOLAGS) under contract to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare of the proportion of sponsorship breakdowns.

Among the causes: inability of the sponsors to meet food, clothing and shelter costs, use of refugees as unpaid workers and personality conflicts.

The San Diego Refugee Coalition, formed during the summer to coordinate assimilation of displaced Southeast Asians, estimates the refugee population in the county at 10,000. More than half that number are thought to be "migrant refugees" who left sponsors in other states.

Y Earl Schwartz, director of the local office of Jewish Family Services and vice chairman of the refugee coalition, said the organization is developing a plan to use volunteer workers to make periodic checks on refugees.

"We want to be in a position to act immediately in the case of a sponsorship breakdown," he said. "It's the sponsorship problems that we don't know about that concerns us."

Mrs. Jan Byerly, a refugee aid specialist with the county Department of Public Welfare, said 1,210 refugees in the county are now receiving financial assistance and another 230 have applied for money aid.

"A substantial number of refugees migrate to the county, leaving their original sponsors," she said. "They may remember that the weather at Camp Pendleton was pleasant or have received word that the county has a sizeable refugee population."

The Klute's sponsorship experience closely followed patterns conceived by the federal interagency refugee task force.

The "daughters" now live in the Fresno area in what is their first phase of independence in this country. Tinh, the 28-year-old, married her fiancé, also a Vietnamese refugee, after he was sponsored by a Fresno family. They now have jobs.

Thanh, the younger woman, lives with the newlyweds and takes English language lessons at a high school. She was the first of the two to join the Klute household.

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"We intended to sponsor only one refugee," Mrs. Klute said, "but Thanh — we called her 'Tussy' — knew only a few words of English, she was ill with hepatitis and she cried so much for the family she left behind in Vietnam.

"She pleaded with us to also sponsor Tinh, her friend.

"She needed a sister, I think. They were so close, so helpful. They took care of each other. They were on a previous list to visit us."

Sponsorship guidelines in May, when the "daughters" moved from the Camp Pendleton refugee center to Spring Valley, were vague.

Refugee task force literature in those days defined sponsorship as a "moral, not a legal, obligation" to provide food, clothing and shelter, introduce refugees to American lifestyles and laws and help them find employment.

There was no cost information that outlined the financial impact on the sponsor in the early months of the resettlement program.

Later, VOLAGS began telling potential sponsors that the minimal cost of feeding one refugee for one month is \$40.

The shaky U.S. economic climate was also an unknown factor — as Mrs. Kiem, whose lieutenant colonel husband stayed in Vietnam to fight, discovered.

She and her seven children were sponsored by a Chula Vista family about a month after the Klute's took in Tinh and Thanh.

A few weeks later, the head of the sponsoring family lost his job.

Mrs. Kiem and her children now reside in a two-bedroom motel suite which has a small kitchen. They are being supported by welfare. They have been in the motel for more than three months.

They were matched with their sponsor by the U.S. Catholic Conference, one of the 10 VOLAGS under federal contract.

Catholic Community Services is the San Diego representative for that VOLAG and is responsible for seeking a new sponsor. The agency is not optimistic about the Kiem's case.

"It's extremely hard right now to find a sponsor for a family that

(Cont. on page B-4, col. 1)

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## 10,000 JOIN COMMUNITY

**Refugees call San Diego home**

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size," a spokesman said. "We recently had a sponsorship breakdown involving a refugee family of 16 persons.

"We had to get them to split into five groups and were fortunate to find sponsors."

What happens to refugees who are cast out, voluntarily leave their sponsors or migrate here to escape cold weather and find friends?

"Usually," said Mrs. Byerly, "they are put up in a hotel or a motel at public expense and we contact the VOLAG that handled the sponsorship."

In other cases, refugees who have become self-supporting have squeezed distant relatives or war comrades into already-crowded households.

Several American sponsors have seen their temporary families more than double in size.

Mel Lindheim, a San Diego housecleaning contractor, sponsored two Vietnamese bachelors and gave them jobs in his firm.

He soon met a young former South Vietnamese navy officer who was ejected by his sponsor. Two other breakdown victims also moved into Lindheim's home.

"We worry about our spirits, not beds," said the doubly displaced officer.

Lindheim found jobs for all three and they plan to move into their own apartment.

New American friends of two ex-South Vietnamese air force men who are working for minimum \$2.10-an-hour wages discovered one was paying his sponsor \$60 a week for meals and was obliged to baby sit for the sponsor's children; the other was charged \$120 monthly for room and board.

Advised by their friends that required payments were not within the spirit of sponsorship, the two refugee men decided to pool their pay and live independently.

A young, widowed Vietnamese mother was extracted from a servitude situation when fellow refugees wondered why she dropped out of an English-as-a-second-language course.

"The sponsor didn't want her to learn too much English," said one of her ex-classmates. "They wanted her to be a housemaid — for free."

The woman and her young child have since been responsored.

The Agapi Foundation, Inc., of Chula Vista, one of the first refugee-oriented organizations to begin the complex work of matching refugees with sponsors who would be compatible as well as financially able to handle the responsibility, resettled more than 800 refugees in the county and provided emergency quarters for breakdown victims.

Agapi officials recently signed a two-year lease with the City of San Diego for an unused Brown Field dormitory complex once used to house commercial aviation students.

It will be turned into a resettlement house for as many as 200 refugees at a time. The Tolstoy Foundation, one of the VOLAGS under U.S. contract, will be the principle source of funds.

"What we plan," said Agapi president Michael Hansen, who is also

chairman of the San Diego Refugee Coalition, "is a six-week transition program for unsponsored single refugees.

"That would include intensive English language training, employment preparation courses, some on-the-job training and basics of American laws and customs."

Hansen said he hopes to open the resettlement house by the end of this month. It will have a secondary use as temporary quarters for families that have broken with their sponsors.

The VOLAGS receive \$500 for each refugee sponsored. The money comes out of \$505 million in federal resettlement funds, \$305 million of that authorized by Congress in May. The balance represents unspent Southeast Asia aid money.

The money is intended to give refugees a head start or to cover emergencies — including sponsorship breakdowns. The VOLAGS are permitted to distribute the \$500-per-refugee as they see fit.

The International Rescue Committee, for example, gives each refugee departing a resettlement camp \$110 and keeps the balance for future needs of the refugee. The U.S. Catholic Conference gives departing refugees \$10, keeps \$200 for administrative expenses and holds the balance for emergencies.

Southern California chapters of the Chinese Benevolent Assn., which works with Southeast Asians who are ethnic Chinese, gives the entire \$500 to departing refugees and places them with Chinese-American communities.

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One worker for a VOLAG that keeps some of the money in what she termed "escrow," said, "we dispense the money on the basis of need. One refugee might need no financial support at all, another might be in desperate need for \$1,800. That has happened."

Less than 12,000 Indochina refugees are still unsponsored. They are in two remaining camps, Indiantown Gap, Pa., which is scheduled to close at the end of December, and Fort Chaffee, Ark., which will remain a holding facility until the last refugee finds a home.

Meanwhile, disparity in the way sponsorship was handled by the VOLAGS is a major topic of ongoing studies of what was termed "Operation New Life" in April and May.

Dr. Patricia Feulner, a University of San Diego sociologist working on a resettlement study in conjunction with Dr. Ronald K. Goodenow of the State University of New York, said the differences led many refugees "to shop around the VOLAGS" for the best arrangement.

Her preliminary findings suggest a different approach would be taken by federal officials should the U.S. again become involved in a massive refugee resettlement program.

"I think the initial policy to disperse the refugees was found not to work, judging by the migrations of refugees back to the West Coast," she said. "Assimilation into a society does not necessarily happen.

"We're having difficulty doing case studies because many of the VOLAGS did not keep complete records."

Dr. Joyce Justice, a professor of anthropology at UCSD, is working on

a resettlement study under a Smithsonian Institution grant.

"I would say that the program was not properly prepared," she said. "The large concentrations of refugees in Southern California is largely due to congregation economics."

She defines "congregation economics" as a pooling of income by large groups of relatives.

"In a high unemployment situation they can use their cultural tendency toward large family groups to have the best of both worlds," she said.

"I would not be surprised to find as many as 40,000 refugees in San Diego County within a year."

A number of refugees here are directing their talents toward community involvement in their new society.

At North Island Naval Air Station, former South Vietnamese fighter pilot Nguyen Quoc Dat, who shared captivity with Americans in the "Hanoi Hilton" prisoner of war complex, is an instructor in the Pacific Fleet's Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school.

His sponsors are Navy Capt. Mel Moore, an ex-POW, and several hundred other U.S. military men who were prisoners of the North Vietnamese.

In Chula Vista, 83-year-old widow Go Vo Thi Truong, who was a translator for the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, attends nursing classes at Southwestern College, and helps keep house and teach English at the Agapi Foundation center.

Fifteen South Vietnamese physicians are attending classes five nights a week at University Hospital in preparation for state medical examinations next year.

The head of the special refugee physician training program is Dr. Vu Dinh Minh, a Vietnamese-American on the UCSD medical school faculty. He has five other alien physicians in his class, one of them a woman who emigrated from the Soviet Union.

Nguyen Dang and his pregnant wife, Phan, and their son, Minh, sponsored by a San Diego psychologist, live in a section of a new house in Ramona which is both shelter and place of employment.

They are housekeepers for six retarded American children enrolled in a program designed to overcome their handicaps.

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**BEARDED SURPRISE** — John Blewett, dressed as Santa Claus, pays an early visit to Vietnamese

refugee children at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.—  
AP Wirephoto

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