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ADOPTION INFORMATION
U.S. EMBASSY SAIGON

Americans interested in adopting children in Vietnam should contact one of the agencies listed on the attached sheet. Each of these agencies has been licensed here to conduct intercountry adoptions. The agencies will provide information concerning the requirements to be met as a potential adoptive parent. Only after these requirements have been met will you be offered a child for potential placement in your home.

Americans residing in Vietnam should contact either Holt Children's Services, 441 Vo Tanh, Gia Dinh or International Social Services, 51 Mac Dinh Chi, Saigon. These two agencies are prepared to assist persons residing here.

Under recent procedural changes promulgated by the Ministry of Social Welfare, all adoptions must be handled by one of the approved agencies. So your first step is to contact an agency for assistance.

You will find attached a summary of the Vietnamese and American regulations governing adoption and immigration of children for adoption. The agencies operating here are also familiar with the Vietnamese laws concerning adoption, United States immigration regulations, and special administrative procedures relating to Vietnamese adoptions. Your agency will be your guide through the entire process.

Many Americans adopting Vietnamese children in the past have found it a time-consuming and frustrating experience. While recent changes in administrative procedures here have made it possible for most children to depart for their adoptive homes in from two to four months of their placement, you will still find patience a necessity. There are many more American families seeking to adopt Vietnamese children than there are Vietnamese children available for adoption. Many children in Vietnamese orphanages are not legally available for adoption, and some orphanages are still hesitant about placing children for adoption in a foreign country. By following carefully the instruction of the agency with which you choose to work, you will reduce your own frustration and speed the arrival of the child in the United States.