

Wynnewood, Pa. - 5 July

Marion —

Teddy's nap-times aren't designed to allow time for a long-ish letter, so I'll resort to another aerogram in order to ensure a snappy reply to your latest. There have been a few good glimmers of information since my last letter in your direction: Kerry's mother wrote from Florida that she'd been contacted several times by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva — once with a report that Kerry was in good shape and working for them in Saigon, later with a request for biographical data about Kerry (who'd lost his passport in the melee of those final evacuation days). Later there was a message from Kerry himself, gotten out by way of Paris to his friend Jeff Sanders (who visited us for a while in Kontum, remember?) — this stated that Kerry was together with wife & stepson in Saigon, which to me was really wonderful news in view of the fact that both dependents had earlier been reported killed in the BanMeThuot action. A few days after Mrs. "Cubert's" note I got in touch with a Quaker fellow in Philadelphia who is in contact with various Americans now in Vietnam (or wanting to return to Vietnam). He mentioned among other things that it was not good to approach North Vietnamese delegations with inquiries for permission to do welfare work in South Vietnam, that the appropriate agency for this was the PRG or their appointed representatives in any given country. I don't want to throw cold water on your reporter's exchanges with the Yugoslav folks there in H. Zealand, but he commented that in his experience the offices or agencies 'on the fringes' tended to bewarn & discourage foreigners expressing a desire to return to South Vietnam; but when approaches were made to the South Vietnamese officials themselves there was a much more stand-off-ish-wait-and-see attitude. (Phyllis sent a letter from Laos which reinforced this observation — she sounded kind of discouraged in fact, and mentioned the prospect of returning to the USA if she couldn't get more enticement to return to VN at an early date). The above-mentioned Quaker person gave the name & number of a US State Dept official who was knowledgeable & concerned about Americans missing or unaccounted for in Vietnam; I phoned this man in Washington, mentioning the situations of George Christian & Kerry. He was already aware of these, and said that George had registered with the International Committee of the Red Cross and that as of 17 June he was in Kontum — which I for one found most reassuring! He said too that the SVN gov't now seemed disposed to repatriate all foreigners, and was in the process of arranging outward-bound flights. One such planeload had already arrived in Bangkok (containing foreigners but no Americans) and another was expected very shortly. I told him of a report I'd received via Therese to the effect that George Christian & Edric were in a work camp in Pleiku — he thought this was very unlikely, and that in all probability Therese's friend had confused George & Edric with a group of US missionaries & USAID workers who have definitely been reported under detention (but in good health) in Pleiku.

So as you can see it's still a scramble to try & get reliable information from out of South Vietnam; but the scraps of data that have emerged have tended to be hopeful, and I think this is grounds for optimism — in a way. At least for the people we're concerned about who stayed behind. But how about the indigenous population — how do you suppose they're faring under the new regime? One hopes that at long last the tribal folks will be able to return to their original villages now that the fighting's over — it was reported that those captured in Dak To in the '72 offensive were resettled in their original homelands in the northern districts, which is what the Montagnards really want anyhow regardless of which gov't is on top. One hopes too that under peaceful conditions they'll be able to expand their agriculture & food production — which is the other basic thing they need... Incidentally there was an interesting scrap of news in our local paper to the effect that a group of Montagnard refugees will be settled in a remote mountain area of Washington State: no identifying information as to tribe or place of origin (I would speculate they'd probably be from BanMeThuot, but this is a guess). If it's true this is one of the most sensible things our gov't has done on behalf of VN refugees — we still

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June- 1975						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2	3	4	5	6	
	BOARD MEETING		Rest			SUPPER AT COYLES
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
MONTHLY MEETING	15	16	17	18	19	20
FATHER'S DAY RITA LAMBERT	1ST DAY OF SUMMER SESSION	FRIENDS - CRIMINAL JUSTICE MR	LEAA PUBLIC HEARINGS	PLAYGROUND CONSTRUCTION 8:30 AM		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4