

AMERICAN MEDICAL BUILDINGS

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ELMO R. ZUMWALT, JR.
PRESIDENT

August 24, 1979

Mr. Frank A. Sieverts
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Refugee and Migration Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Frank:

I attach a list of Vietnamese living in Vietnam whom
I would hope it would be possible to bring to the
United States when the situation permits.

Could you advise me whether it is possible for their
names to be put on a list of prospective immigrants
at this time.

Many thanks for your continuing interest in the prob-
lems of these refugees.

Sincerely,



E. R. Zumwalt, Jr.

Attachment



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

I am responding to your letter concerning the new program for legal departures from Vietnam of persons who have qualified for immigration status. Arrangements for this program are being made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), on the basis of an agreement reached with the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV).

While we recognize that many Vietnamese nationals would like legally to leave Vietnam to come to the United States, those accepted by the U.S. will be limited to applicants who are eligible for immigrant or fiance(e) status under U.S. immigration law, on the basis of petitions filed in the applicants' behalf which accord them immigration status. With the assistance of the UNHCR, and subject to the SRV's agreement, we anticipate that U.S. consular officers will be in Ho Chi Minh Ville in the near future, as part of the UNHCR delegation, to process such U.S. immigrant visa applications.

Under the arrangements now planned, the U.S. consular staff in Vietnam will not process or accept applications for admission to the U.S. except from those who are eligible for immigrant visas. They will not process refugee cases, nor will they be able to search or assist in the search for missing relatives or friends. The attached information sheet describes the categories of those entitled to immigrant or fiance(e) status. If a petition has already been filed and approved for the person(s) about whom you inquire, your letter and any attachments are being sent to the American Embassy, Vietnamese Processing Unit, Bangkok, Thailand (APO San Francisco 96346. You should be hearing directly from them.

Sincerely,

Lloyd De Witt
Acting Director
Office of Public and
Diplomatic Liaison
Visa Services Directorate