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STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
OLYMPIA



DANIEL J. EVANS
GOVERNOR

VIETNAMESE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

In late April, Governor Daniel Evans was contacted by the United States State Department about the possible relocation of up to 500 Vietnamese refugees in the State of Washington. The refugees were among several thousand being temporarily housed at Camp Pendleton, California. The Governor had previously indicated the state's willingness to participate in the resettlement effort and, at a scheduled news briefing on May 8, 1975, announced his intention to bring the refugees gradually into the State of Washington.

Before making the formal public announcement, Governor Evans appointed Tom Pryor, director of the State Department of Emergency Services, overall coordinator of the newly created Washington State Vietnamese Refugee Resettlement Project. A Vietnamese Assistance Center was immediately established in the Camp Murray National Guard Armory near Tacoma, Washington. Temporary living units for the refugees were made available at the National Guard facility by refurbishing 10 cottages, designed to house a maximum of 100 refugees, on the 300-acre site. Within days after the Governor's announcement to the people of the State of Washington, the Vietnamese Assistance Center was prepared to house the first group of refugees from Camp Pendleton.

Three Washington State agencies became directly involved in the resettlement of the refugees. The Department of Emergency Services assumed

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the responsibility for maintaining and coordinating activities at the Vietnamese Assistance Center and the cluster of cottages that became the refugee camp. The Department of Social and Health Services was designated to recruit, screen and assign American sponsors to each refugee family, and DSHS personnel were temporarily assigned to the center to determine the specific social and economic needs of each refugee family as well. The Department of Employment Security was called upon to interview the head of each refugee household for complete employment history evaluation and possible job placement once housing was secured.

L. Dean Brown, director of the President's Indochina Interagency Task Force, informed the Governor by telegram that all costs to the state for resettlement, to include health, income maintenance and social services, would be reimbursed by the federal government.

Washington State Department of Emergency Services

Once the formal announcement of refugee resettlement was made by the Governor, Pryor detached a staff representative from his office and a representative from the Department of Social and Health Services to Camp Pendleton to assist in the processing of the 500 refugees that would gradually be arriving in the state. An invitation was issued by the state's representatives to refugees quartered in one of the eight "tent cities" established at Camp Pendleton. Within two hours well over 1,000 refugees applied for permanent placement in Washington State. The selection of 500 of the 1,000 applicants was made at random and transportation plans were made to bring them to the state in groups of 100.

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Personnel from Emergency Services, working in cooperation with the Office of the Governor, the Salvation Army, Washington National Guard, American Red Cross and other community agencies, supply the refugees temporarily housed at Camp Murray with food, laundry facilities, recreation equipment, transportation, security, staff support, medical assistance and general resettlement counseling.

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

Each Vietnamese family receives an American sponsoring family or organization before its departure from Camp Murray. Sponsors are being recruited to meet specific needs of adjustment for the Vietnamese as they settle permanently in the state. Social and Health Services personnel in public assistance offices were alerted to process inquiries for sponsorship from individuals and organizations (church, community and civic groups).

The types of sponsorships needed are as follows:

1. Those that provide complete support; i.e., subsistence, housing assistance and employment;
2. Moral support -- taking the role of a friend in helping to locate employment, housing and community resources;
3. Contributions of specific goods and/or services.

Refugees with insufficient incomes or resources to meet their needs can apply for direct assistance (financial, medical and related social services) in the Vietnamese Center at Camp Murray. Once the refugee family is placed with a sponsor, all records are transferred to the public assistance office nearest their new permanent home and

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sponsor. Each office has also designated a caseworker to work with sponsors and refugee families throughout the resettlement process. In all cases it has been made very clear that a sponsor has no legal responsibility for the refugee. Sponsors may also designate a time frame during which sponsorship will be assumed. A significant majority of the refugees currently at the camp and those who are awaiting transfer from Camp Pendleton are skilled administrators, craftsmen, professionals and clerical support personnel. It is not anticipated that they will remain on assistance for an extended period of time.

Washington State Department of Employment Security

Refugees who were employed while in Vietnam are being thoroughly interviewed by Employment Security counselors assigned to the Assistance Center during the resettlement program. A complete history is developed for each refugee interviewed to determine past employment experience and specific job skills. Counselors at the center also assist refugees with professional backgrounds in compiling resumes and help them prepare for job interviews.

Minority employment organizations, such as the Asian Placement Service, and volunteers are soliciting employers for jobs. Employment Security counselors are making every effort to match refugee skills with existing job listings and encouraging industrial employers to make positions available to qualified refugees.

Employment Security staff representatives estimate that approximately 90 jobs will be needed to support the 500 refugees coming to the state.

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Washington State Vietnamese Refugee Resettlement Progress

From May 20 to June 7 there have been 40 Vietnamese families (150 refugees) placed in communities across Washington State. As a general rule, a family is placed in close proximity to another Vietnamese family for comfort and security. The news media have been particularly cooperative in the recruitment of potential sponsors and employment for the refugees through public service announcements and news coverage.

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UP DATE AS OF 6/19

75 in camp
338 placed w/ sponsors
413 total arrivals



[June 1975]

EDUCATION

1. Language Training at the Reception Centers

Language training is presently being provided by personnel of the voluntary agencies at the centers, other volunteers, and by Federal and State education personnel. In instances where a State does not have the capability of mounting a complete program or where it is otherwise inappropriate for the State to do so, the Department will provide language training directly through a private contractor.

2. Other Education and Training Activities at the Reception Centers

The Department of Labor in cooperation with State and local manpower/employment agencies is presently providing job counseling to all heads of households desiring such assistance. The counselors advise on needed retraining or updating of job credentials. This service also includes information on employment possibilities in the areas to which they will be moving, using the Department of Labor's Job Bank which lists job openings nationwide categorized by geographical skill and type of job.

3. School Districts Enrolling Large Numbers of Refugee Children

In order to provide transitional assistance to school districts enrolling high concentrations of refugees, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is developing procedures to help defray special costs which may be incurred, particularly for English language instruction. These procedures will be developed in the very near future, in time to assist local school districts in their planning for the coming school year.

4. Services for School Districts

A national clearinghouse for information on special teaching resources and materials is now being established. It will disseminate information to States and school districts describing materials and resources which are particularly appropriate for the language instruction and cultural orientation of the refugee children. In instances

where teaching materials have been designed especially to meet the needs of these children, the clearinghouse will distribute these materials directly to the States and school districts.

5. Student Assistance to Refugees Wishing to Pursue Postsecondary Education

The Basic Educational Opportunity Grants (BEOG) program and the Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) program, which provide direct financial assistance to college, university, and postsecondary vocational students pursuing their studies at accredited institutions, will be available to refugees who meet the requirements of the programs. These funding opportunities will also be available for Vietnamese and Cambodian students who were studying in this country at the time of the fall of their respective governments and who wish to remain here.

HEALTH

Health problems which exceed the capabilities of on-site medical resources are the responsibility of the Public Health Service. Public Health Service Hospitals and Clinics have been designated to provide or arrange and pay for necessary off-site health care, and specific Public Health Service Hospitals at San Francisco, New Orleans, and Baltimore have been designated as the referral units for the reception centers. When required services are not available in Public Health Service facilities or when other considerations, such as separation of a family unit are involved, care may be authorized by Public Health Service contract or in other community facilities.

Upon release from the reception centers and resettlement in communities, direct responsibility for medical services to the Indochinese refugees by the Department of Defense and Public Health Services terminates, and health care must be obtained through community resources and facilities.

In those cases where the refugees with the help of their sponsors are unable to obtain health insurance, State Medical Assistance is available to cover medical

services. Sponsors can assist the refugee in registering for medical assistance at local agencies where existing State eligibility criteria regarding the income and assets of the refugee will be applied.

WELFARE AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare encourages maximum coordination between State agencies, private organizations, and sponsors in the resettlement effort. In this way, coordinated efforts can be developed and maximum utilization made of private and voluntary efforts to help the refugees become self-supporting residents of the State. However, in order to meet the emergency needs of refugees if sponsorship arrangements do not work out, and to avoid a burden on State or local resources, welfare and medical assistance will be made available to refugees with little or no income or resources regardless of the composition of the family.

Under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975, the Social and Rehabilitation Service of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will provide States with 100 percent reimbursement for welfare and medical assistance to needy Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. Full reimbursement will also be provided for administrative costs incurred by State welfare agencies in the provision of such assistance. In addition, within limitations to be defined, 100 percent reimbursement will be provided for social services which are intended to enable refugees to become self-supporting.

To avoid complete breakdowns in the sponsorship of refugees, medical assistance will be made available to needy refugees even though they do not receive financial assistance. This will enable a sponsor who may not be able to meet major medical needs which occur to continue to provide food, maintenance, shelter, and help in securing employment for a refugee family.

In general, the eligibility of refugees for welfare and medical assistance will be based on the same standards of need as apply to other residents of the State, and the amount of assistance provided will be based on the levels

of payments made under the State's program of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC).

Full guidelines on welfare and medical assistance will be provided to the States early next week.

SPONSORSHIP

With certain exceptions, refugees require sponsors to assist in ensuring that the refugees do not become public charges and to help each refugee make the transition from refugee to a self-sufficient member of his community.

Sponsorship can take the form of an offer of support, employment or both. However, the sponsor must also be ready to help the refugee with some of the less tangible aspects of resettlement such as adjustment to a new culture and a new way of life. Sponsorship is not a formal, legal commitment. However, the sponsor undertakes a clear moral commitment to help the refugee to the best of his ability.

A sponsor, working through an appropriate voluntary agency, state or local government unit will be expected to:

1. Receive the refugee and his family;
 2. Provide shelter and food, until the refugee becomes self-sufficient. Shelter need not be in the residence of the sponsor but must be adequate;
 3. Provide clothing and pocket money;
 4. Provide assistance in finding employment and in school enrollment for children;
 5. Cover ordinary medical costs or medical insurance.
- In order to meet emergency needs, refugee families who are eligible may obtain medical assistance through state Medicaid programs. This assistance, however, in no way abrogates a sponsor's moral obligation to provide normal health assistance for refugee families.

Once employment is obtained, the sponsor will assist the refugee to locate permanent housing, acquire minimal furniture and arrange for other necessities.

MODEL FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT GROUP SPONSORSHIPS

1. AGREEMENT TO INITIATE GROUP SPONSORSHIP

As a first step, State and local governments interested in undertaking group sponsorship should bring together political, business, union, church and voluntary leadership to decide:

- if group sponsorship is desirable,
- what numbers of refugees can best be absorbed into the area or community (e.g. some considerations are labor market, housing availability, and community services),
- how to organize a task force or appropriate mechanism to coordinate the group sponsorship.

If there is enough leadership consensus to move forward, an initial contact should be made with the President's Interagency Task Force (202-632-3172).

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A REFUGEE TASK FORCE

Having agreed to initiate group sponsorship, and after preliminary discussions with the Task Force, an operational coordinating body, representative of public and private sector organizations, should be established to set up procedures in the context of a proposal to be discussed in person with the civil

coordinator of the resettlement center nearest you.

3. PROPOSAL DISCUSSION WITH TASK FORCE

The proposal will be reviewed and discussed with the Chief Civilian Coordinator and his senior staff at the resettlement center. If approved by this group the State or local representative returns to his or her homesite.

4. IDENTIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION OF SPONSORSHIP

The State or local Task Force should set up a system to solicit sponsorships. Such offers need to be checked in order to certify the ability of sponsor volunteers to perform sponsorship responsibilities. Once an adequate number of certified sponsorship offers are certified a Task Force representative should return to the Resettlement Center.

5. SIGN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Memorandum between the State or local official and the three Interagency Task Force officials will be signed confirming the terms of the group sponsorship policies and procedures.

6. SELECT REFUGEES AND ASSIST IN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

With the assistance of the Civil Coordinator Staff, the State/local representative will select refugees to participate in the group sponsorship and arrange for transportation. The costs of transportation of refugee families from the Resettlement Center to the sponsors' locations will be borne by the Federal Government.

7. SUGGESTIONS

--State or local governments may wish to consider formation of a non-profit organization to administer the resettlement program. The possibility of receiving tax-deductible contributions to defray non-reimbursable administrative expenses might be explored with the Internal Revenue Service.

-- In calling for sponsorship offers, the State or local organization should concentrate on identifying actual family sponsors, but should encourage individual offers of housing, employment, clothing, etc. as part of the total sponsorship program. These latter types of offers can be matched with possible requirements of individual family sponsors.

MODEL FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORSHIP

Organizations who wish to sponsor a number of refugees may wish to use the following procedure and checklist in preparing a program.

A. Undertake a survey to determine the number and kinds of jobs available in the community for the refugees.

B. Determine the approximate number of families who will undertake the temporary housing and feeding of the newly arrived families. This may also be done on a community basis where two or three families living in adjacent houses could handle a large family by splitting the housing and support burden. Another plan could utilize public and private facilities such as unused college housing and messing facilities or other centrally located buildings for group support maintenance.

C. Sub-committees should be formed to handle on the single-point of contact basis the following logistics.

1. Contact with the local voluntary agency being asked to process the families (Tab A list).

Liaison with the relocation center providing the refugees.

Meeting refugees at airports or bus stations and providing transport to sponsoring family.

2. General orientation to refugee families such as the "welcome wagon" concept.

Collection of clothing and other life support items donated by the community.

3. Central point of contact for refugees seeking employment. Telephone assistance for appointments, etc.

4. Briefings and assistance regarding taxes - deductions - medical insurance, etc. Obtaining driving permits - enrollment of children in schools.

5. Permanent housing assistance. When employment is secured by the refugee and he begins to have an income, the securing of permanent housing is a major step on his road to self-sufficiency. HUD projects, FHA support, and/or community-supported loans or rentals may be considered.

When your organization has familiarized itself with the above requirements soon to be needed by the refugee it is then time to contact one or more of the volunteer organizations. Your

local chapter of a voluntary organization is the place to start. Discuss with this local office the type of individuals, skills and quantity of refugees your organization is capable of handling. We suggest your organization picks out a planning figure based on your survey. If say, 100 families are possible to resettle in your area, start with 10 families until you gain experience. You can always go back for more.

Major objective of your efforts must be to assist the refugee to become self-sufficient and prevent him from becoming a public charge.

TO:

As of 06/05/75

US Catholic Conference
Migration and Refugee Services
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202/659-6631

American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees
1790 Broadway
Room 513
New York, NY 10019
212/265-1919

Church World Services
Immigration and Refugee Program
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10027
212/870-2061

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
315 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10010
212/677-3950

Tolstoy Foundation, Incorporated
250 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
212/247-2922

International Rescue Committee
386 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016
212/679-0010

American Council for Nationalities Service
20 West 40th Street
New York, NY 10018
212/279-2715

Traveler's AID-International Social Services
345 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017
212/687-2747

United Hias Service, Incorporated
200 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003
212/674-6800

YMCA
International Division
291 Broadway
New York, New York 10007
212/374-2188

GUIDELINES ON INS CLEARANCES

MAY 26 1971

The following was provided by INS as clarification of INS security procedures:

Effective immediately and superceding all previous instructions regarding security clearance, the following definitions are applicable and refugees meeting the definitions are eligible for parole under the Vicom Program.

"Relatives" are the spouse, child, parent, or parent of a spouse of a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident alien.

"Extended relations" are also within the program, and include any person regardless of age or sex who is related to a qualified "relative" and is traveling with the qualified "relative".

Return of security checks need not be awaited for "relatives" or for "extended relatives". Furthermore, return of security checks need not be awaited for a former United States government employee where former United States government employment has been verified by a United States government agency and the United States government agency has certified that security checks were conducted during or prior to such United States government employment. Also, return of security checks need not be awaited for "extended relatives" of such former USG employees. "Extended relatives", here, are persons regardless of age or sex who are related to such former USG employees and who are traveling with the former USG employee. Form G-325 and the affidavit form G-646 must be executed for every refugee 14 years of age.

Refugee who meet the foregoing definitions, however, may be released immediately provided that they have the required assurances and the security returns may be received at a later date.

All other persons must await the return of security checks unless under age 17. Unusual cases involving humanitarian factors, may be phoned to central office INS for guidance, coordinated with Deputy Commissioner Green.

Summary for Civil Coordinator:

IATF interprets foregoing instruction as follows: members of following five groups may leave camp before completion of security clearance.

- A) Spouse, child, parent, or parent of spouse of AMCIT.
- B) Spouse, child, parent, or parent of spouse of lawful permanent resident alien.
- C) Former U.S. or VN U.S. government employees who have had U.S. security check verified by employer.
- D) People related in any way to member of any of above categories and who are traveling with them.
- E) People under 17.

Prior to departure of these people from camps, all other processing, including verified sponsorship, must be completed.

PROCESSING OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

This message establishes guidelines and procedures for processing Indochinese refugees quickly through the reception areas in the United States while still insuring that the refugees are properly resettled and that the possibility of their becoming a public charge is reduced. The goal is to make Indochinese refugees self-supporting members of their communities in the shortest possible time.

GENERAL:

The guidelines and procedures set forth in this message should be followed at each processing center. However, the Senior Civil Coordinator may modify these procedures to fit his particular needs. He should notify the Inter-Agency Task Force, Washington, D.C., of major changes.

Processing should be accomplished expeditiously. Arriving refugees should begin processing as soon as practicable. The elements of processing are: (A) Reception; (B) Immigration and Naturalization Service In-Processing; (C) Issuance of Social Security Numbers; (D) Health, Education Welfare, Health and Social Services Counselling; (E) Sponsorship Verification; (F) INS Final Processing (Security Check Verification); (G) Final Outprocessing and Travel.

SECURITY CLEARANCES:

Results of security checks are required before release from refugee camps for all refugees 17 and over except: (A) relatives of either American citizens or permanent resident aliens; and (B) former U.S. Government employees having had valid security clearances. Security checks on persons in these categories will be performed after they have arrived at their final destination.

SPONSORSHIP- (SEE ANNEX D ALSO):

With certain exceptions, refugees require sponsors to assist in insuring that the refugees do not become public charges and to help each refugee make the transition from refugee status to status as a self-sufficient member of his community.

Continued - Processing of Indochinese Refugees

Sponsorship can take the form of an offer of support, employment or both. However, the sponsor must also be ready to help the refugee with some of the less tangible aspects of resettlement such as adjustment to a new culture, acquainting the refugee with American law and requirements. Sponsorship is not a formal, legal commitment. However, the sponsor undertakes a clear moral commitment to help the refugee to the best of his ability.

SPONSORSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

A sponsor, in conjunction with an appropriate Volag, will be expected to:

1. Receive the refugee and his family;
2. Provide shelter and food, until the refugee becomes self-sufficient. Shelter need not be in the residence of the sponsor but must be adequate;
3. Provide clothing and pocket money;
4. Provide assistance in finding employment and in school enrollment for children;
5. Cover ordinary medical costs or medical insurance.

Once employment is obtained, the sponsor will assist the refugee to locate permanent housing, acquire minimal furniture and arrange for utilities.

PROCESSING OF REFUGEES BY CATEGORY:

The following procedures will apply for the processing of various refugee categories:

1. Refugees without sponsors:

Voluntary agencies will play the major role in resettling refugees by matching them with specific sponsors by obtaining the pledges of individuals, churches or community groups to resettle the refugees and by matching other offers of sponsorship that are not specific as to persons or family. (ANNEX A).

Continued - Processing of Indochinese Refugees

The Department of State has received a number of offers for sponsorship, employment, housing and material assistance. These offers will be made available to the Volags for verification and follow-up. Similar offers received at the reception centers should be referred to Voluntary Agency representatives at the centers.

2. Refugees specifically named by a sponsor:

Offers to sponsor a named individual or family which can be matched with refugees of the same name at the camps should be referred to a Volag for verification. Because of the similarity of Vietnamese names, the Volag should first verify that the correct refugees have been located. In cases where a sponsor has named a specific family or the refugee has named a proposed sponsor, the Volag will make appropriate inquiries of the sponsor to confirm his willingness to help the refugee and to verify the plans for resettling the refugee. The responsibilities the sponsor is assuming will be explained to the sponsor. As required, the Volag will arrange for a local check to determine insofar as possible whether the sponsor has the means needed for sponsorship.

Prospective sponsors should be requested to send a statement or telegram to the individual refugee in care of the American Red Cross at the local camp or to certify to the Volag representative in the sponsor's locality that he understands the obligations of sponsorship and will make every effort to provide or assist the named refugees in obtaining housing, employment and other assistance which will lead to self-sufficiency. Statement should be signed and contain address and telephone number of sponsor. We are asking the Volags to publicize the availability of their direct-name sponsorship service. (ANNEX B).

If the sponsor is determined to be responsible by the Volag, INS will authorize the release of the refugee from camp. Those cases considered doubtful by the Volag will be rejected and the refugee will be resettled by other voluntary agency efforts.

3. Refugees with independent means.

Certain refugees may have access to personal resources which will enable them to be self-sustaining. These refugees may require only brief counselling to direct them to a resettlement location. A single adult or family with

Continued - Processing of Indochinese Refugees

at least one adult with facility in English, vocational skills and a general idea of a resettlement location can meet the self-sustaining test if the family has average resources of \$4000 per capita, exclusive of transportation. A board at each camp comprised of officials of State, INS and HEW will make the determination of self-sufficiency and authorize release from camp. Refugees determined to have adequate personal funds should not be maintained at camps at USG expense once security checks are completed.

The board will interview the refugee and determine whether he can adequately meet the above test of self-sufficiency. If he does, he will be certified for departure from camp without referral to a Voluntary Agency and without the requirement for sponsorship.

4. Relatives of American citizens and permanent aliens:

HEW, with the assistance of the Red Cross, will verify the willingness and ability of the named relative to "sponsor" and resettle the refugee. Once confirmed, INS will release those refugees without an additional sponsorship requirement. If HEW decides the sponsor is unable to care for the refugees, the case will be passed to an accredited Voluntary Agency for processing. "Relatives" of U.S. citizens includes spouse, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, unmarried siblings and handicapped dependents.

5. Offers by former employers:

If sponsorship is offered by a former employer, the offer will be reviewed by the board established under Section 3, and if the former employer is deemed to be responsible - a major corporation, charitable group or USG - the refugee will be released to the employer without Voluntary Agency assistance. If the employer cannot offer the full range of sponsor services, he should be put in touch with an approved resettlement Voluntary Agency.

If an employer proposes to send the refugee outside the United States to work, the refugee should consult with INS to ensure that appropriate travel and re-entry documents are issued.

6. Travel:

The refugee may travel at his own expense, the expense of his sponsor, or government expense. Government-paid travel should not be relied upon and at a minimum, partial payment by the sponsor or refugee should be attempted. However, government-paid travel is preferred over jeopardizing sponsorship or depriving the refugee of essential funds required for resettlement. In order to determine eligibility for government travel expenses, the assets of the refugee or sponsor should be verified by HEW before travel is authorized at government expense. Documentation of the lack of ability of the refugee or sponsor to finance travel is required. Attached at ANNEX C is a sample form which may be used by the refugee or sponsor to authenticate the requirement for travel at government expense.

CLEARANCES:

This message has been cleared with the appropriate government agencies and has been discussed with the Voluntary Agencies.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS -- AND THEIR ANSWERS

Q. How long will the reception centers be in operation?

A. Those in the Western Pacific will close out as the last refugees leave for the United States, third countries or, at their own request, return to Indochina.

The four reception centers in the continental U. S. are planned as flow-through facilities through which the refugees may be properly security-checked and processed before joining their sponsors. The time involved is currently taking longer than it should, a problem the Task Force is working hard to resolve. If we are successful, the reception centers' life span may range from 90 days to perhaps 6 months.

Eglin Air Force Base in Florida will have the shortest use; it will be phased out just as soon as the speed-up in processing permits.

Q. Will there be a fifth reception site in the U. S.?

A. We do not envision that the necessity will arise. In fact, we are planning to phase out Eglin AFB as early as it may prove feasible and to continue to refine our procedures at Pendleton, Chaffee, and Indiantown Gap so as to be able to manage with three reception centers only.

Q. Will one camp be established for "residual" refugees -- hard-to-place, unskilled, illiterate, or even excludable by INS?

A. No such facility is envisioned or planned. The voluntary agencies will continue to seek sponsors for all refugee families. The search may take longer for some families than for others, but it is extremely doubtful that the numbers will be high enough to require the indefinite management of a Defense Department installation.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service will be judging each excludable refugee on a case-by-case basis and will determine its own requirements. It should be noted that INS has found fewer than 30 refugees to be undesirable out of the first approximately 50,000 that have been checked.

Q. What is a Sponsor? What are his responsibilities?

A. A sponsor may be an individual, a family, a church, a service or other organization, or a business firm which has made a moral commitment to do everything possible to help a refugee family from the moment it arrives in the community until such time as the family is self-supporting. The Sponsor provides or arranges for shelter, food, counselling, job-seeking, and assimilation into American life. In so doing, the Sponsor has the cooperation of a Voluntary Agency.

Q. What is the role of the Voluntary Agencies?

A. The traditional voluntary agencies (see attached list) are responsible for the actual resettlement of the refugee families. They locate sponsors, investigate the willingness and capability of sponsors to undertake the necessary commitment, interview families and attempt to match sponsors and families in the most felicitous arrangement. Voluntary Agencies also stand ready to assist sponsors financially (with funds made available to them under the terms of their contracts with the U. S. Government) and to find secondary sponsors in the unhappy event that the original choices do not work out.

Q. What is the role of State and Local Governments?

A. State and local governments may act as sponsors by applying directly to the IATF and indicating how many refugee families they believe they are in a position to assist. Funds will be made available for this purpose by the IATF, which will reimburse the state or local government's resettlement expenses up to a total of \$500 per each refugee successfully resettled.

Q. What about those who want to go home?

A. The United States believes in freedom of movement; those Vietnamese or Cambodians who indicate a desire to return to Indochina are free to do so. Since the USG is not in a position to fly repatriates back to Indochina, it has called upon the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to assume his traditional role in these instances. The IATF is providing the UNHCR with the names and locations of all refugees who have expressed a wish to return.

The UNHCR, or its assigned representative, will interview each one to insure that the decision has been made voluntarily. The UNHCR requires that each refugee seeking repatriation fill out a questionnaire which it will submit to the authorities in Vietnam. UNHCR will arrange flights for those who are accepted back through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and/or the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), each of whom is also taking up its traditional role.

Q. What about refugees who may prefer to go to third countries?

A. Even before April 29, the USG had begun to internationalize the resettlement of the refugees, through bilateral discussions and through the UNHCR and ICEM. Several countries, notably Canada and France, have sent immigration officers to Guam and/or the reception centers. As of May 26, more than 2,000 refugees have gone to other countries, Canada, Australia, France, the Philippines, and Okinawa taking the largest numbers.

Q. What is the legal status of a refugee in the U. S.?

A. The Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees are entering as "parolees" under Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Naturalization Service is issuing each one an I-94 which identifies the holder as a Vietnamese refugee who has been paroled into the United States under Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act with authority to work.

The refugee may later seek to change his status to lawful permanent resident of the United States under Section 245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act if eligible for such adjustment or under such subsequent legislation as may be enacted by the Congress. Thereafter, he may begin the procedure leading to citizenship. The Vietnamese and Cambodians who were already in this country when their governments fell, and who wish to remain, may also seek an adjustment of status from that under which they entered (such as students or visitors) to the above. Pending the availability of this remedy, Immigration and Naturalization Service will not forcibly require them to return to their homelands. Their status will be that of aliens in "indefinite voluntary departure"

and they will be permitted to remain indefinitely and accept full-time employment.

Q. To what public assistance benefits are the refugees entitled?

A. All benefits to which U. S. citizens are entitled, provided they meet the same eligibility requirements. The assistance would include financial and medical assistance and related social services. The Federal Government (HEW) will reimburse the States 100% for any sums spent in this manner.

Q. Is there a locator?

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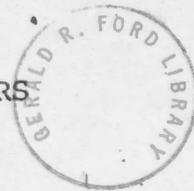
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Inter-Agency Indo-China Task Force

06/04/75

REST NOT COPIED

(SAME DOCS)

J.E.

Oct. 2009

it is

Major problems include expediting removal of refugees (with the possible exception of those seeking repatriation) from the Pacific area; mounting of an intensive educational effort as to ~~what is~~ ^{potential} a sponsor's role and responsibilities; augmenting volunteer agency efforts as needed; contracts with Volags have not been finalized.



The attached material has
been selected from that provided
by the President's Advisory Committee
~~by the~~ on Refugees by the
Interdepartmental Task Force on Refugees.
~~with the~~

2 Cambodian refugees have
been in fact resettled.

~~As to problems:~~ It is
widely
generally predicted that some
of those yet to be resettled
will be found more difficult,
~~is to~~



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 7, 1975

NOTE TO DR. MARRS

The material we discussed this morning for Governor Evans is attached. This package contains:

1. Talking Points
2. Individual Sponsorship Guidance
3. State and Local Sponsorship Guidance
4. Local Organization Sponsorship Guidance
5. Updated Q & A's

Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

David A. Ford
David A. Ford
IATF

Dear Senator Scott:

~~You are familiar with the~~

After your recent visits on the
subject of funding for ~~the Bicentennial~~
Philadelphia Bicentennial, I am
pleased to advise you that ~~the~~ the
column of total Federal funds
authorized ~~there is~~ now

Problems are

- Those seeking repatriation are being processed by UN - may be a problem due to slow system. They are not separated from others in camps & this appears to be no problem now.

- Cambodian-Vietnamese relationships ~~are~~ require separated questioning. No significant problems ~~other than this~~ have surfaced

- ~~The~~ security clearance was initially fine concerning & was faulted by media as an obstruction to resettlement. This is no longer a problem.

- The volunteer agencies which traditionally handle refugee matters have been able to get into high gear rather slowly but have reached an impressive current rate of 800/day moving from camps. ~~Off~~ ~~and~~ ~~responsible~~ ~~agency~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~refugees~~ ~~going~~ ~~to~~ ~~Germany~~

Contracts with ~~all~~ ~~these~~ ~~agencies~~ have ^{not yet} been completely settled. ^{if necessary} We will go to ~~selected~~ ~~Governors~~ for direct contracts & state ~~subject to~~ ~~approval~~ & ~~state~~ ~~approval~~ was the matter

Commitment - to give special
handling - as affirmative
as possible - to Philadelphia
applications for programmed
funds up to the level of 100,000,000.00

There have been ^{several} numerous lists
totaling > 100,000,000.00

As of 4 weeks ago Phila '76
admitted to having ~~received~~
^{received} ~~in~~ Fed funds
^{mentioned} ~~in~~ Fed funds 21,000,000.00

There ~~is~~ documented ~~under~~
Fed funds of 87,618,741.00

Phila '76 has elected
to no longer count
the following on the basis
of their being "underway".
~~They have however~~
~~been in~~
~~the~~

Phila has indicated a willingness
to ~~forfeit~~ ^{modify} the 100,000,000 commitment
in exchange for ~~70~~ funds
and funds for ~~various~~ services
and amenities. This total 30.5M
included are such items as

"mental health & mental retardation" 2.8M

It will be appreciated
if you will use every
opportunity to disseminate
this information and, ^{otherwise} support
the President's Committee on
Refugees which is chaired
by Ambassador Eisenhower

7

Check on

o. Walloguin action —

[June 1975]

EDUCATION



1. Language Training at the Reception Centers

Language training is presently being provided by personnel of the voluntary agencies at the centers, other volunteers, and by Federal and State education personnel. In instances where a State does not have the capability of mounting a complete program or where it is otherwise inappropriate for the State to do so, the Department will provide language training directly through a private contractor.

2. Other Education and Training Activities at the Reception Centers

The Department of Labor in cooperation with State and local manpower/employment agencies is presently providing job counseling to all heads of households desiring such assistance. The counselors advise on needed retraining or updating of job credentials. This service also includes information on employment possibilities in the areas to which they will be moving, using the Department of Labor's Job Bank which lists job openings nationwide categorized by geographical skill and type of job.

3. School Districts Enrolling Large Numbers of Refugee Children

In order to provide transitional assistance to school districts enrolling high concentrations of refugees, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is developing procedures to help defray special costs which may be incurred, particularly for English language instruction. These procedures will be developed in the very near future, in time to assist local school districts in their planning for the coming school year.

4. Services for School Districts

A national clearinghouse for information on special teaching resources and materials is now being established. It will disseminate information to States and school districts describing materials and resources which are particularly appropriate for the language instruction and cultural orientation of the refugee children. In instances

where teaching materials have been designed especially to meet the needs of these children, the clearinghouse will distribute these materials directly to the States and school districts.

5. Student Assistance to Refugees Wishing to Pursue Postsecondary Education

The Basic Educational Opportunity Grants (BEOG) program and the Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) program, which provide direct financial assistance to college, university, and postsecondary vocational students pursuing their studies at accredited institutions, will be available to refugees who meet the requirements of the programs. These funding opportunities will also be available for Vietnamese and Cambodian students who were studying in this country at the time of the fall of their respective governments and who wish to remain here.

HEALTH

Health problems which exceed the capabilities of on-site medical resources are the responsibility of the Public Health Service. Public Health Service Hospitals and Clinics have been designated to provide or arrange and pay for necessary off-site health care, and specific Public Health Service Hospitals at San Francisco, New Orleans, and Baltimore have been designated as the referral units for the reception centers. When required services are not available in Public Health Service facilities or when other considerations, such as separation of a family unit are involved, care may be authorized by Public Health Service contract or in other community facilities.

Upon release from the reception centers and resettlement in communities, direct responsibility for medical services to the Indochinese refugees by the Department of Defense and Public Health Services terminates, and health care must be obtained through community resources and facilities.

In those cases where the refugees with the help of their sponsors are unable to obtain health insurance, State Medical Assistance is available to cover medical

services. Sponsors can assist the refugee in registering for medical assistance at local agencies where existing State eligibility criteria regarding the income and assets of the refugee will be applied.

WELFARE AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare encourages maximum coordination between State agencies, private organizations, and sponsors in the resettlement effort. In this way, coordinated efforts can be developed and maximum utilization made of private and voluntary efforts to help the refugees become self-supporting residents of the State. However, in order to meet the emergency needs of refugees if sponsorship arrangements do not work out, and to avoid a burden on State or local resources, welfare and medical assistance will be made available to refugees with little or no income or resources regardless of the composition of the family.

Under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975, the Social and Rehabilitation Service of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare will provide States with 100 percent reimbursement for welfare and medical assistance to needy Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. Full reimbursement will also be provided for administrative costs incurred by State welfare agencies in the provision of such assistance. In addition, within limitations to be defined, 100 percent reimbursement will be provided for social services which are intended to enable refugees to become self-supporting.

To avoid complete breakdowns in the sponsorship of refugees, medical assistance will be made available to needy refugees even though they do not receive financial assistance. This will enable a sponsor who may not be able to meet major medical needs which occur to continue to provide food, maintenance, shelter, and help in securing employment for a refugee family.

In general, the eligibility of refugees for welfare and medical assistance will be based on the same standards of need as apply to other residents of the State, and the amount of assistance provided will be based on the levels

of payments made under the State's program of aid to families with dependent children (AFDC).

Full guidelines on welfare and medical assistance will be provided to the States early next week.

SPONSORSHIP

With certain exceptions, refugees require sponsors to assist in ensuring that the refugees do not become public charges and to help each refugee make the transition from refugee to a self-sufficient member of his community.

Sponsorship can take the form of an offer of support, employment or both. However, the sponsor must also be ready to help the refugee with some of the less tangible aspects of resettlement such as adjustment to a new culture and a new way of life. Sponsorship is not a formal, legal commitment. However, the sponsor undertakes a clear moral commitment to help the refugee to the best of his ability.

A sponsor, working through an appropriate voluntary agency, state or local government unit will be expected to:

1. Receive the refugee and his family;
 2. Provide shelter and food, until the refugee becomes self-sufficient. Shelter need not be in the residence of the sponsor but must be adequate;
 3. Provide clothing and pocket money;
 4. Provide assistance in finding employment and in school enrollment for children;
 5. Cover ordinary medical costs or medical insurance.
- In order to meet emergency needs, refugee families who are eligible may obtain medical assistance through state Medicaid programs. This assistance, however, in no way abrogates a sponsor's moral obligation to provide normal health assistance for refugee families.

Once employment is obtained, the sponsor will assist the refugee to locate permanent housing, acquire minimal furniture and arrange for other necessities.

MODEL FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT GROUP SPONSORSHIPS

1. AGREEMENT TO INITIATE GROUP SPONSORSHIP

As a first step, State and local governments interested in undertaking group sponsorship should bring together political, business, union, church and voluntary leadership to decide:

- if group sponsorship is desirable,
- what numbers of refugees can best be absorbed into the area or community (e.g. some considerations are labor market, housing availability, and community services),
- how to organize a task force or appropriate mechanism to coordinate the group sponsorship.

If there is enough leadership consensus to move forward, an initial contact should be made with the President's Interagency Task Force (202-632-3172).

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A REFUGEE TASK FORCE

Having agreed to initiate group sponsorship, and after preliminary discussions with the Task Force, an operational coordinating body, representative of public and private sector organizations, should be established to set up procedures in the context of a proposal to be discussed in person with the civil

coordinator of the resettlement center nearest you.

3. PROPOSAL DISCUSSION WITH TASK FORCE

The proposal will be reviewed and discussed with the Chief Civilian Coordinator and his senior staff at the resettlement center. If approved by this group the State or local representative returns to his or her homesite.

4. IDENTIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION OF SPONSORSHIP

The State or local Task Force should set up a system to solicit sponsorships. Such offers need to be checked in order to certify the ability of sponsor volunteers to perform sponsorship responsibilities. Once an adequate number of certified sponsorship offers are certified a Task Force representative should return to the Resettlement Center.

5. SIGN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Memorandum between the State or local official and the three Interagency Task Force officials will be signed confirming the terms of the group sponsorship policies and procedures.

6. SELECT REFUGEES AND ASSIST IN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

With the assistance of the Civil Coordinator Staff, the State/local representative will select refugees to participate in the group sponsorship and arrange for transportation. The costs of transportation of refugee families from the Resettlement Center to the sponsors' locations will be borne by the Federal Government.

7. SUGGESTIONS

- State or local governments may wish to consider formation of a non-profit organization to administer the resettlement program. The possibility of receiving tax-deductible contributions to defray non-reimbursable administrative expenses might be explored with the Internal Revenue Service.
- In calling for sponsorship offers, the State or local organization should concentrate on identifying actual family sponsors, but should encourage individual offers of housing, employment, clothing, etc. as part of the total sponsorship program. These latter types of offers can be matched with possible requirements of individual family sponsors.

MODEL FOR LOCAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORSHIP

Organizations who wish to sponsor a number of refugees may wish to use the following procedure and checklist in preparing a program.

- A. Undertake a survey to determine the number and kinds of jobs available in the community for the refugees.
- B. Determine the approximate number of families who will undertake the temporary housing and feeding of the newly arrived families. This may also be done on a community basis where two or three families living in adjacent houses could handle a large family by splitting the housing and support burden. Another plan could utilize public and private facilities such as unused college housing and messing facilities or other centrally located buildings for group support maintenance.

C. Sub-committees should be formed to handle on the single-point of contact basis the following logistics.

1. Contact with the local voluntary agency being asked to process the families (Tab A list).

Liaison with the relocation center providing the refugees.

Meeting refugees at airports or bus stations and providing transport to sponsoring family.

2. General orientation to refugee families such as the "welcome wagon" concept.

Collection of clothing and other life support items donated by the community.

3. Central point of contact for refugees seeking employment. Telephone assistance for appointments, etc.

4. Briefings and assistance regarding taxes - deductions - medical insurance, etc. Obtaining driving permits - enrollment of children in schools.

5. Permanent housing assistance. When employment is secured by the refugee and he begins to have an income, the securing of permanent housing is a major step on his road to self-sufficiency. HUD projects, FHA support, and/or community-supported loans or rentals may be considered.

When your organization has familiarized itself with the above requirements soon to be needed by the refugee it is then time to contact one or more of the volunteer organizations. Your

local chapter of a voluntary organization is the place to start. Discuss with this local office the type of individuals, skills and quantity of refugees your organization is capable of handling. We suggest your organization picks out a planning figure based on your survey. If say, 100 families are possible to resettle in your area, start with 10 families until you gain experience. You can always go back for more.

Major objective of your efforts must be to assist the refugee to become self-sufficient and prevent him from becoming a public charge.

TO:

As of 06/05/75

US Catholic Conference
Migration and Refugee Services
1312 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202/659-6631

American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees
1790 Broadway
Room 513
New York, NY 10019
212/265-1919

Church World Services
Immigration and Refugee Program
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10027
212/870-2061

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
315 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10010
212/677-3950

Tolstoy Foundation, Incorporated
250 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
212/247-2922

International Rescue Committee
386 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016
212/679-0010

American Council for Nationalities Service
20 West 40th Street
New York, NY 10018
212/279-2715

Traveler's AID-International Social Services
345 East 46th Street
New York, NY 10017
212/687-2747

United Hias Service, Incorporated
200 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003
212/674-6800



YMCA
International Division
291 Broadway
New York, New York 10007
212/374-2188

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NATIONAL DENOMINATIONAL RESETTLEMENT OFFICERS
FOR REFUGEE/EVACUEES -- 1975

Dr. James Thomas
United Methodist Committee for Relief
Room 1470
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027
(212) 678-6283

Mrs. Isis Brown
Episcopal Church
815 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) TN 7-8400

Mr. McKinley Coffman
World Ministries Commission of
The Church of the Brethren
New Windsor, Maryland 21776
(301) NE 5-3131

Mr. Matthew Giuffrida
American Baptist Churches
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481
(215) 768-2425

Mrs. Ella Grimes
Christian Church (Disciples)
222 South Downey Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46207
(317) FL 3-1491

Mrs. Elfriede Kohl
United Church of Christ,
Room 1643
475 Riverside Drive
New York, New York 10027
(212) 870-2701

Rev. John Muyskens
Reformed Church in America
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