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# REPORT TO THE CONGRESS



## HEW REFUGEE TASK FORCE

**MARCH 15, 1976**



HEW TASK FORCE FOR INDOCHINA REFUGEES

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Report to the Congress

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# HEW TASK FORCE FOR INDOCHINA REFUGEES

## REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

March 15, 1976

This is the Fourth Report to the Congress on the Indochina Refugee Assistance Program. The Interagency Task Force (IATF) disbanded with the closing of the last Resettlement Center in December 1975. As of January 1, 1976, a Task Force in the Office of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare assumed responsibility for coordination of domestic activities in support of Indochina refugee resettlement. Responsibility for the international aspects of the program returned to the Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs in the Department of State.

To assure a smooth transition from the IATF and appropriate coordination and monitoring of resettlement for the widely dispersed refugees, HEW has augmented the headquarters Task Force in the Office of the Secretary and the ten HEW Regional Offices with many of the Agency for International Development (AID) and Indochina refugee employees used by the IATF during the placement phase of the program. This headquarters and regional staff is comprised of temporary employees and federal employees on reimbursable details to HEW. Congress authorized domestic resettlement activities for the Indochinese refugee program through September, 1977. The President's budget for fiscal year 1977 includes a request for 50 million dollars and authorization to make presently appropriated funds available through September 1977 for financial and medical assistance and social services for needy Indochinese refugees. During the next 4 to 6 months the HEW Refugee Task Force will begin to transfer some of its activities to appropriate units within HEW to assure their continued support and attention to the long-term domestic resettlement program.

With the closing of the last Refugee Reception Center in December, the primary effort regarding the Indochina refugee population has shifted from a concern for finding sponsors and arranging placement to the task of assisting the refugees to participate fully in the privileges and responsibilities of life in the United States.

There are approximately 130,000 refugees from Indochina now living in this country; they have settled in all 50 states, plus Guam; Samoa, and Puerto Rico. Approximately 55,000 or roughly 42% live in California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Florida or the Washington, D. C. metropolitan area.

In order to assess the overall progress of the domestic resettlement aspects of the program, HEW has contracted with a private firm to interview a sample of refugees through a telephone survey. This survey, summarized below, is based on interviews with 1424 heads of households for families containing 7500 refugees.\*

\* "Second Wave Report Vietnam Resettlement Operational Feedback" January, 1976. Contract No. HEW-100-76-0042.

The telephone survey mentioned above shows that 79% of male refugees surveyed, 16 years or older, were in the labor force, and 21% were not in the labor force. Of those in the labor force, 82% were employed, and 18% were unemployed but seeking work. Approximately 40% of the females, 16 years or older, were in the labor force, 70% were employed and 30% unemployed but seeking work.

Wage rates for those working full-time put over half of them into an annual earnings category between \$5000 and \$10,000 a year. Of course, most of them had not been working for a year. About 60 per cent of the full-time workers were making between \$100 and \$200 a week. Most of the rest were making less than that, as were the less than full-time workers who made up about a quarter of all workers. Many households have more than one job-holder (some part-time) and may also receive other income from sponsors, federal financial assistance, and so forth. The following tabulation shows the proportion of households at various levels of total money income per month and what it would amount to per year (if it continues for a year):

	<u>% of households with various levels of money income.</u>
Under \$200/mo (\$2400/yr)	18%
\$200 - \$399/mo (\$2400-\$4799/yr)	15%
\$400-\$599/mo (\$4800-\$7199/yr)	21%
\$600-\$799/mo (\$7200-\$9599/yr)	14%
Over \$800/mo (\$9600+/yr)	32%
	<hr/> 100%

Number of sample households = (1424)

Thus, about a third of the households report income which, on an annual basis, would be less than \$5000 a year, a third are between \$5000 and \$10,000, and a third are near or above \$10,000. Many refugees' households are large so that even \$10,000 is not a comfortable income. A breakdown of income by family size is not now available.

The foregoing income figures include not only wages earned by family members but also federal cash assistance from welfare departments and money from sponsors or voluntary resettlement agencies. They do not include non-cash income, such as free housing, which refugees may be getting from sponsors or federal support in the form of food stamps or Medicaid. The proportion of refugees receiving various kinds of federal support (including welfare but also in-kind support) is shown in the following tabulation:

	<u>% of households receiving various kinds of federal support</u>
Financial assistance	13%
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	3%
Food Stamps	26%
Medical aid	24%
None received	58%
Number of sample households = (1424)	

The 13% receiving financial assistance among the surveyed compares to a figure of 19% calculated from claims for reimbursement from the States as of December 1, 1975. This indicates a larger proportion of refugees receiving assistance than found in the survey. The orders of magnitude, however, are similar. Later data from the States indicates the use of financial assistance is rising somewhat. As of February 29, 1976 the figure was 24% receiving financial assistance.

It should be noted that 58% of the refugees surveyed received no federal assistance of any kind, while some of the 42% that received assistance received more than one type.

A special effort to survey a sample of those not responding to the survey is now going on to estimate the extent of possible bias in the survey results due to non-response. The difference between the survey results and figures reported from the states suggests that refugees answering their mail and having access to a phone are somewhat less likely to be on financial assistance than refugees as a whole, but that this bias is not large.

Almost all of the school-age children were reported attending school. About half were said to be repeating the last year they had in Vietnam, due to "English difficulty." Persons in their late teens and early 20's have few years left to develop language and other skills prior to entering the American labor market. Hence, it is of particular interest to note how many of them are getting training and how many are not. Among those 17-19 years of age, 40 percent were attending secondary school and 9 percent were attending college. Another 25 percent were taking some kind of course, mostly to improve their English. The remaining 25 percent of this age group were not enrolled in any kind of training.

Among those 20 to 24 years of age, 7 percent were attending college and just over 40 percent were enrolled for adult education, mostly language training. About half were not enrolled in any formal training. About a third of the adults between 25 to 45 were attending English classes; two-thirds were not. The oldest people were least likely to be attending. Only 4 percent of all those over 20 were taking any formal technical, on-the-job, or apprenticeship training.

About half the households in the survey have gained housing self-sufficiency, mostly by renting, a very few (2%) by buying homes. The other half are still getting help with their housing either through free or reduced rent in separate housing (about 12%), living in a house lent by a friend (6%), having moved in with relatives (1%), or still being in the home of the sponsor (about 30%). Overall, 40 percent are making no housing payments out of their own pockets, 13 percent spend less than \$100 a month, 33 percent spend \$100 to \$200 a month, and 14 percent spend more than that. Most refugees live either in detached homes or in apartments, with detached homes (including those of sponsors) predominating. Only a few live in other types of housing such as duplexes, row houses or mobile homes.

Medical problems other than dental were reported for 12 percent of the refugees. They were most common among the very young (under 5) and the old (over 55) and more frequent among the women than the men. Ninety percent of the illnesses were reported treated; 10 percent remained untreated. Most treatment was via visits to the doctor; about 15 percent involved hospitalization. The major sources of payment for doctor and hospital bills were Medicaid (36%), sponsors (25%) and the refugee himself (17%). Dental problems were more common than other kinds of sickness, with 18 percent of the refugees reporting such problems. About 20 percent of these problems - some of which are of long standing - remain untreated. There was not much overlap between the 18 percent reporting dental problems and the 12 percent reporting other medical problems, so a total of about 30 percent of the refugees had been sick since leaving camp.

The picture that emerges when the employment and assistance data are analyzed suggests that the refugee population is one which has a strong work ethic. A high percentage of Indochina refugees is in the labor force. The high number of females in the labor force is significant, because the refugees have come from societies where women traditionally have not worked outside the home. This further suggests a strong desire among refugee families to become self-supporting.

One of the major responsibilities of the HEW Refugee Task Force is to facilitate progress toward economic self-sufficiency among the Indochina refugees. The principal ingredients toward attaining this objective are English-speaking ability and marketable job skills. The HEW Task Force and the resettlement agencies have therefore initiated a policy to channel their resources into providing work related English language training, job development, and vocational services to potentially employable refugees presently on cash assistance.

The central office of the HEW Refugee Task Force carries on its operations through four sections. One is responsible for liaison with the resettlement agencies on contract with the federal government. Of the approximately 130,000 refugees who passed through the reception centers and into American communities, national private voluntary agencies (VOLAGs) were responsible for arranging the sponsorship of over 114,000. State and local public and private resettlement agencies were responsible for 4,720 placements.

The nine VOLAGs initially called upon by the Task Force to take first line responsibility for resettlement of the Indochina refugees all had proved their effectiveness in earlier refugee programs -- those having their roots in World War II, and in the more recent Hungarian and Cuban refugee movements. Most of these voluntary agencies have a network of local or regional offices or affiliates that enable them to follow-up on the refugees that they placed.

All of the resettlement agencies contracted with the Task Force for resettlement in the long-term sense, and they are the first recourse of refugees and sponsors if and when questions or problems arise. To provide direction and leadership to the domestic resettlement phase, a number of VOLAGs and state and local resettlement agencies have held conferences and seminars with federal, state and local public and private officials to maximize the resources available to the refugees. HEW Regional Offices maintain liaison with local resettlement offices to assist in the development of follow-up programs to ensure completion of a successful resettlement.

Another section, staffed by American, Vietnamese, and Cambodian personnel, assesses refugee resettlement throughout the country. Since January, assessment teams have visited 14 sites in 7 states. Reports are prepared and submitted to appropriate resettlement agencies and HEW Regional Offices for follow-up.

A third section, staffed by personnel fluent in English, Vietnamese, Cambodian, French, Lao, and Thai, man a nationwide toll-free line to answer questions and refer callers to the proper sources of help or information. During the first two months of 1976, 2582 calls were received, approximately half of which dealt with family reunification, education or training, or requests for Task Force publications.

The fourth section of the Task Force is in charge of publications. It puts out a monthly trilingual newsletter, and publishes and distributes handbooks and pamphlets for refugees, sponsors, and persons assisting the resettlement program. The primary purpose of these publications is to make available to refugees, in their own language, information that can help them adjust to life in the United States.

In addition to the Task Force staff in Washington, there are Task Force employees in each of HEW's ten Regional Offices. Depending on the size of the refugee population in a given region, there are from two to seven Task Force staff members, consisting of both American and Indochinese personnel. In general their task is to ensure that the process of refugee resettlement and adjustment continues at a steady pace. To this end, they are responsible for coordinating HEW services within a region; attempting to provide additional services from other agencies; and for ensuring that all of these efforts are focused on the task at hand. While the initial thrust of the efforts of these regional office staff members was and, to some extent, must continue to be assisting in resolving individual and family refugee problems, the strategy now is towards focusing on finding and applying remedies for the two issues that have surfaced as the predominant needs of most refugees - vocational services and the finding of jobs consistent with the capabilities and the needs of the refugees.

In discharging these responsibilities, Regional Offices conduct site visits, remain in continuous liaison with the regional and local offices of the voluntary agencies, and are alert to other resources which may be utilized to broaden resettlement services to refugees. They also work with the permanent HEW regional staff members so that they will be able to take over after the Task Force is disbanded.

The Office of Education's Refugee Assistance Task Force was established late in August 1975 to administer the refugee education program as part of HEW's responsibility under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975. During this quarter the last reception centers closed and state and local school districts began to receive transition grants for supplementary language instruction for refugee students and adults. Approximately \$25 million has been authorized for the education program. The major item of expenditure -- \$15 million -- covers grants to state and local education agencies for an estimated 40,000 school age children; another \$5 million has been made available to states for providing special English language instruction to the adult refugee population, estimated to consist of approximately 70,000 persons.

National professional and voluntary associations have provided support services including regional workshops and nationwide information services. Two hot lines have been established, one at the Center for Applied Linguistics and one at Georgetown University for refugees interested in attending post-secondary institutions.

With its work in the resettlement centers finished, the Public Health Service, through the Center for Disease Control, is monitoring state and local agency follow-up programs for refugees who left the centers with diagnosed and stabilized communicable diseases under medication to ensure that they continue to receive proper treatment. The Center for Disease Control is also conducting a study on the nature and extent of refugee health problems and any difficulties refugees are encountering in obtaining medical care.

The Public Health Service is administering a special program to prepare Indochinese physicians for the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates examination (ECFMG), a prerequisite to medical practice in the United States for foreign medical graduates. Contracts have been awarded to seven medical schools and ECFMG courses are underway. There are approximately 660 physicians among the refugee population. Information obtained from questionnaires sent to physicians shows that ten have met the licensing requirements for practice in the United States and an additional forty have passed the ECFMG examination.

The Social and Rehabilitation Service has agreements with the states authorizing financial and medical assistance and social services to refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia. The states receive 100% reimbursement for expenditures made in carrying out this responsibility. As of February 29, 1976, of the total population of 130,072 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees in the United States, 31,189 (24%) were receiving Federal cash assistance and 21,310 (16%) were authorized to receive medical assistance. SRS has issued instructions on how this program is to be administered and is providing continuing guidance in the interpretation of the program.

A continuing concern of SRS and the HEW Task Force has been the unaccompanied children that were identified on the Resettlement Centers. An unaccompanied Indochinese refugee child is a child under age 18 who left the reception center without an adult relative and: 1) was resettled with an unrelated Indochinese family; 2) was placed in foster care (foster family, group home or child care institution); or 3) was resettled with a sponsoring (American) family.

A total of 645 children meet the definition outlined above and were placed from the following Resettlement Centers:

Indiantown Gap	108
Pendleton	176
Eglin	58
Fort Chaffee	<u>303</u>
Total:	645

Planning for the placement of these unaccompanied children was carried out on an individual basis by professional staff of public child welfare agencies who worked on-site at the reception centers. State and local public child welfare agencies were notified of children placed in their communities so that follow-up visits could be made in accordance with each State's regular child welfare standards, practices, and procedures.

The INS investigation of 2043 children brought to the United States in "Operation Baby Lift" has been completed. The majority of the babies have been declared to be eligible orphans. In 312 cases, the question of inaccurate documentation has been raised. On February 13, 1976 the United States District Court in the Northern District of California denied a plaintiff's motion to institute a class action suit in behalf of all such Baby Lift children. The judge also ordered the findings of the INS to be reviewed by two court appointed attorneys and this review is currently underway.

HEW has signed a contract with the American Red Cross to share the costs of a family reunification locator service for refugees from Indochina. Because of the circumstances surrounding that evacuation from Indochina, many families became separated, and refugees are still trying to find out whether other family members succeeded in reaching the United States. There is also a contract with the American Bar Association (ABA) Young Lawyers Section to share the cost of a nationwide toll-free telephone line for refugees seeking legal advice. The caller's name is given to a volunteer ABA member who lives in the caller's area, and who provides legal assistance free of charge.

As part of its support function, HEW maintains the refugee data files and is working with the Department of State on the input of data for the VOLAG billing and program progress reports.

The Department of State, Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs, is responsible for the international aspects of the refugee program. As of February 23, 1976, a total of 403 Vietnamese and 182 Cambodians now in the United States had requested repatriation. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is working with Vietnamese and Cambodian authorities on this issue.

The State Department is working with the voluntary resettlement agencies to parole into the United States 3,466 Laotian refugees. As of February 29, 1976, 1,271 Laotians had been paroled into the United States. Bills have been introduced in the Senate and House to amend the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Authorization and Appropriation Acts, which cover Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, to include the Laotians as well.

Since November 1, 1975 when the reception centers stopped accepting Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, no more refugees have been admitted under the special parole authority. But the United States is continuing to admit a few Vietnamese and Cambodians when compelling humanitarian reasons are present. Each case is considered jointly by the Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs and the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice. Of the 280 people who have been accepted on this restricted basis, most have been spouses, parents, children or young dependent siblings of refugees who are already in the United States.

About 80,000 Indochina refugees remain in Thailand, and the Department of State has recommended to the Attorney General that up to 11,000 be paroled into the United States. Those admitted would be Vietnamese, Cambodians, and Laotians who have a special relationship with the United States -- former U.S. Government employees, people with close relatives in the United States, and those who had such associations with the United States that they would be in serious jeopardy should they return to their homelands. It appears that no additional funding would be required based on projections of expenditures under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act.

The Department of Labor (DOL), through its State Employment Security Agencies (SESA), continues to provide employment to Indochina refugees, either directly or through sponsors or resettlement agencies. A total of 27,671 refugees have registered at SESA offices; 5,507 (19.90%) have been placed in jobs; 6,909 (24.96%) were referred to training or other services; and 13,566 are listed in active files where they will receive consideration as job requests are received. Reports continue to show that many

refugees are working at lower skill levels than their qualifications would warrant, a trend that reflects the willingness of the refugees to accept employment.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs for low-income families are available to refugees who qualify. These programs include HUD-held properties (single and multi-family) for sale to non-profit organizations; low-rent public housing and rental assistance available through the local public housing authority (PHA); new mobile homes available to non-profit organizations; and properties currently available for rent in cities where the inventory is high and the turnover low. A special survey in Los Angeles on February 12 and 13 shows that 151 HUD-assisted multi-family units and 4 low rent public housing units are occupied by refugees. Cities expecting a large number of refugees were given estimates of the number of families they might receive. Thus, these cities can revise their second year Housing Assistance Plans to reflect increased housing assistance needs.

Personnel from the Small Business Administration (SBA), including a refugee consultant, conducted workshops in each of the resettlement centers. A total of 4,600 refugees were briefed on the assistance available from the SBA including courses, problem clinics, conferences, and individual counseling. A Small Business Investment Corporation whose principal officers are Vietnamese has been funded by SBA to make loans to refugees who wish to start small businesses.

The Federal Regional Council (FRC) -- with members from ten U.S. Government agencies -- serves as a coordinator of activities of federal, state, and local governments. Its work at the local level involves advising corporate leaders, businessmen, churches, and other groups of the needs and progress of refugees in their communities. FRC attention is now directed toward long-term issues of resettlement -- English language training, job training, housing, and transportation.

In the last report to Congress, 19% of the refugees resettled as of December 1, 1975 were on cash assistance. As of February 29, 1976, after all refugees have been resettled, a total of 24% are receiving federal cash assistance. Figures for a large Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) with a high concentration of Indochinese refugees indicate something further. Of the refugees receiving cash assistance, only a very small number of individuals (less than 1% of the cash assistance caseload) were receiving any form of supportive social services. This suggests, at least in the SMSA surveyed, that the refugees are being put on the cash assistance rolls and left to their own devices with regard to moving toward self-sufficiency. In addition, the telephone survey mentioned earlier indicates that about 20% of the refugees out of the reception centers 6 months or more are receiving Public Cash Assistance, as compared to 10% of those out less than that time.

When refugees from the sample survey were asked to indicate why they were not in the labor force, 34% indicated that they were in school and 19% indicated that they were not seeking employment because they could not speak English. It is significant that a large number of those refugees not contained in the labor force are either attempting to improve themselves and their job marketability by attending school or feel impeded in terms of access to the labor market by virtue of their language disabilities.

For these reasons the HEW Refugee Task Force, its Regional counterparts, the national voluntary resettlement agencies (VOLAGs), and state and local resettlement agencies have instituted a policy to attempt to reduce the number of refugees presently on cash assistance by focusing on presently unemployed adult refugees and immediately directing all available resources to employment seeking and employment enhancing activities, intensive job development programs, and occupationally related English language instruction leading toward a job and a start toward self-sufficiency.

One of the major concerns expressed by many refugees through personal interviews, telephone calls and letters is their parole status. As parolees in indefinite voluntary departure status, they are not able to compete for some jobs, are often denied entrance into a number of occupations because of state and union regulations, are at times denied in-state tuition and are excluded from a wide range of other benefits available to permanent resident aliens. Since the Indochina refugees came to the United States because they were endangered or unwelcome in Vietnam and Cambodia, the offer of a change in status would provide a beneficial emotional uplift and, most important, would assist in their efforts to prepare for their new lives in this country. The HEW Task Force supports legislation which would authorize the change of status from that of parolee to that of resident alien and urges Congressional action in this important area.

Funding Status

Total funding availability to the Indochina Evacuation and Resettlement Program is \$505,277,454. As of February 29, 1976 total obligations were \$393,120,087. The largest portions have been obligated as follows: The Department of Defense for facilities and maintenance of the reception centers \$123,601,000, the Department of Defense for air and ship transportation \$100,231,000, contracts with resettlement agencies \$70,303,500 and HEW for education, health, financial and medical assistance and social services \$58,961,386. An analysis of the source of funds and their obligations follows:

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total Available</u>	<u>Obligations As of 2/29/76</u>	<u>Amount Available</u>
AID Funded by Presidential Determination	2,277,454	2,277,454	-0-
AID Funded by Indochina Postwar Reconstruction	98,000,000	98,000,000	-0-
State Portion of Refugee Act of 1975 (includes DOD & INS portions) *	305,000,000	233,881,247	71,118,753
HEW Portion of Refugee Act of 1975*	100,000,000	58,961,386	41,038,614
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$505,277,454</b>	<b>\$393,120,087</b>	<b>\$112,157,367</b>
	=====	=====	=====

\*Represents amount appropriated in PL 94-24.



**A. HISTORICAL**

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- April 8 through April 15 State Department officials consult with House and Senate Committees regarding use of Attorney General's "parole" authority for evacuees from Indochina.
- April 12 U. S. Embassy, Phnom Penh closes. Last Americans are evacuated in operation "Eagle Pull".
- April 12 through April 17 U. S. Mission, Geneva, is asked to request assistance from UNHCR and ICEM in locating third countries willing to accept refugees from Indochina.
- April 14 Parole is authorized for dependents of American citizens currently in Vietnam.
- April 18 The President asks twelve Federal agencies "to coordinate... all U. S. Government activities concerning evacuation of U. S. citizens, Vietnamese citizens, and third country nationals from Vietnam and refugee and resettlement problems relating to the Vietnam conflict" and names Ambassador L. Dean Brown as his Special Representative and Director of the Special Interagency Task Force.
- April 19 Parole is extended to include categories of relatives of American citizens or permanent resident aliens who are petition holders.
- April 22 The Interagency Task Force asks civil and military authorities on Guam to prepare a safe haven estimated to be required for 90 days in order to provide care and maintenance for an estimated 50,000 refugees. The first to pass through the area arrive the following day.
- April 25 The Attorney General authorizes parole for additional categories of relatives, Cambodians in third countries and up to 50,000 "high-risk" Vietnamese.

- April 27 The Task Force requests all American missions overseas to take up the possible resettlement of refugees as a matter of urgency.
- April 29 U. S. Embassy, Saigon, closes. Operation Frequent Wind removes last Americans and Vietnamese by helicopter from staging sites in Saigon. The sea-lift and self-evacuation continue. Camp Pendleton, California opens as a refugee center prepared to care for 18,000 refugees.
- May 2 Fort Chaffee, Arkansas opens as a refugee reception center prepared to care for 24,000 refugees.
- May 4 Eglin Air Force Base, Florida opens as a refugee reception center prepared to accept 2,500 refugees (a figure later increased to 5,000).
- May 5 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.
- Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee in connection with the Administration's request for \$507 million to run the refugee program.
- May 7 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the House International Relations Committee.
- May 8 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the House Judiciary Committee
- May 12 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

- May 13 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Refugees.
- May 14 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law.
- May 19 The White House announces the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, with Chairman John Eisenhower heading a distinguished list of members.
- May 22 Ambassador Brown and senior Task Force officials testify before the House Judiciary Subcommittee.
- A House and Senate conference committee agrees on the language of the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975, appropriating \$405 million for the Administration's refugee program.
- May 24 The Act becomes PL 94-23 as the President signs it into law.
- May 27 Ambassador Brown returns to his post at the Middle East Institute and the President asks Mrs. Julia Vadala Taft, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for Human Development, to act as Director of the Interagency Task Force until arrangements are completed for organizing the Government's efforts for the longer term.
- May 28 A fourth Stateside reception center is opened at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, and receives its first refugees.
- May 29 The UNHCR sends a representative to Stateside reception center, (Fort Chaffee) to interview individuals who have indicated a desire to return to Vietnam and whose names had been furnished earlier. Representatives of the UNHCR have been working similarly on Guam for several weeks, will go to Pendleton and Indiantown Gap next week and to Eglin thereafter.

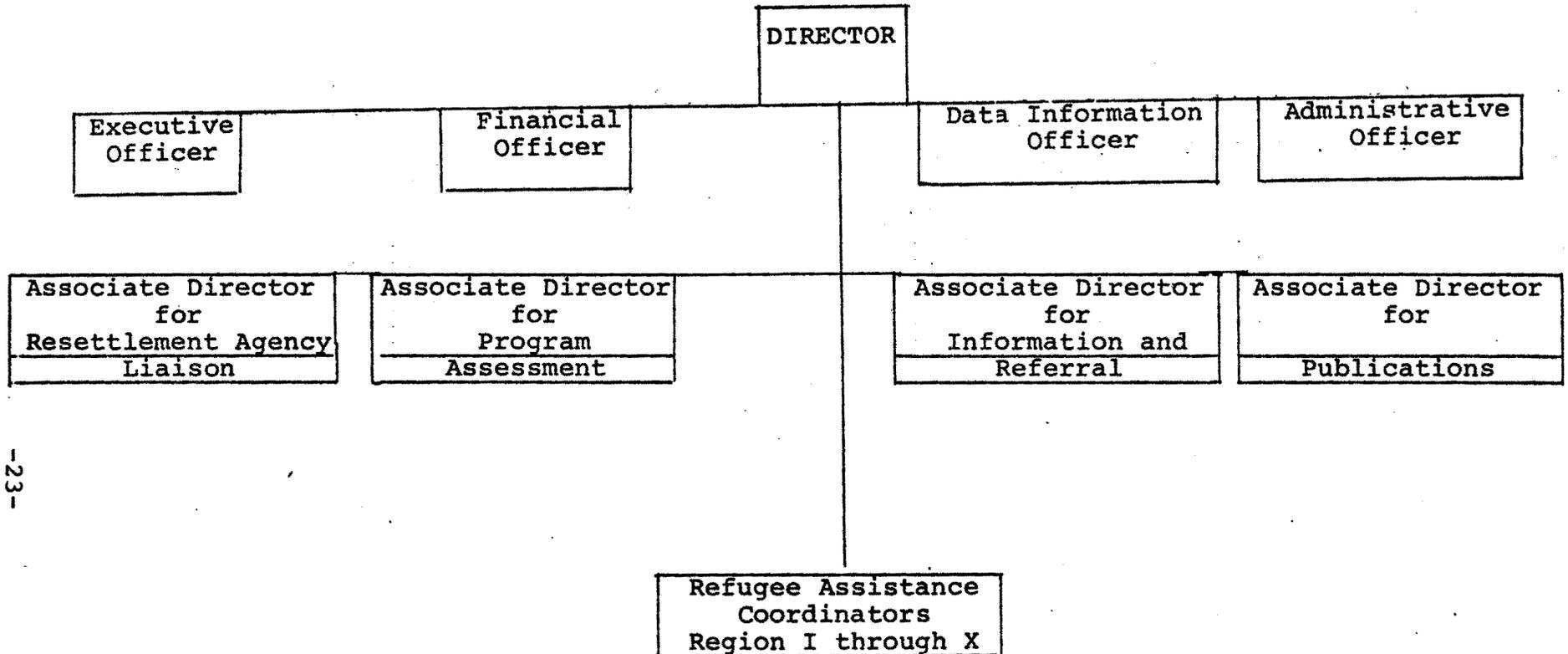
- June 6 HEW establishes a special Task Force with representatives of the American Medical Association, the American Association of Medical Colleges, the Educational Commission on Foreign Medical Graduates, and a number of programs within HEW that deal with training and placement of physicians in the U.S.
- June 15 The President sends a Report to the Congress as required by PL 94-23.
- June 16 General Accounting Office issues its initial report to Congress on the refugee program.
- June 23 State of Washington contracts with the Task Force to resettle more than 1,000 refugees.  
City of Indianapolis contracts with the Task Force to resettle 200 refugees.
- July 5 First of a series of regional meetings with local government officials and representatives of resettlement agencies held in New York City.
- July 6 Subic Bay, Philippines refugee reception center closes.
- July 9 State of Maine contracts with the Task Force to resettle 300 refugees.
- July 14 Jackson County, Missouri contracts with the Task Force to resettle 250 refugees.
- July 17 Task Force Director (et al) testifies before the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law.
- July 21 Principal operational responsibility for the Task Force is transferred from the Department of State to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Julia Vadala Taft is named as Director of the Task Force.

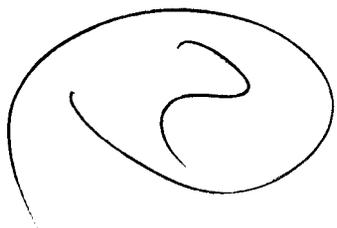
- July 21 Representatives of the voluntary resettlement agencies testify before the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law.
- July 24 Task Force Director, representatives of the voluntary resettlement agencies, et al, testify before the Senate Subcommittee on Refugees and Escapees.
- July 30 Second regional meeting held in Boston.
- July 31 Tentative planning summary for phasedown of Task Force operations released.
- August 1 Wake Island reception center closes.
- Attorney General extends parole authority to additional Indochina refugees stranded in "third countries."
- August 10 President Ford visits resettlement center at Fort Chaffee.
- August 15 Regional meeting in San Francisco.
- August 21 Regional meetings held in Chicago and Philadelphia.
- August 22 State of Oklahoma contracts with the Task Force to resettle 1,000 refugees including 414 students at Southeastern Oklahoma State and Connors College.
- Sept. 3 State of Iowa contracts with the Task Force to resettle at least 500 refugees, most of whom will be Thai Dam or "Black Thai."
- Sept. 9 Chinese Benevolent Association of Los Angeles contracts with the Task Force to resettle more than 2,000 Indochina refugees of Chinese descent.
- Sept. 12 Regional Meeting in Denver.
- Sept. 15 Eglin Air Force Base, Florida refugee reception center closes.

- Sept. 23 The President transmits the Second Report to the Congress on the activities of the Inter-agency Task Force.
- Sept. 30 Decision made to accede to demands of repatriates on Guam for a ship to be sailed by them to Vietnam.
- Oct. 8 Task Force Director testifies before the House Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and International Law.
- Oct. 11 Public Broadcasting System airs a one hour television program on the Indochina Refugee Resettlement Program.
- Oct. 16 The Vietnamese freighter, Vietnam Thuong Tin I, sails from Guam bound for Vietnam with 1,546 repatriates aboard.
- Oct. 31 Last date for movement of Indochina refugees stranded in third countries into the U. S. refugee system. Henceforth, admission of refugees into the United States is the responsibility of the Department of State.
- Oct. 31 UN High Commissioner for Refugees meets with Task Force and State Department officials. UNHCR agrees to accept responsibility for Cambodian refugees who do not wish to accept sponsorship offers and desire to be repatriated.
- Oct. 31 Reception centers on Guam and at Camp Pendleton, California close.
- Nov. 12 UN High Commissioner for Refugees visits reception center at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania.
- Nov. 18 State of New Mexico contracts with the Task Force to resettle 300 refugees.
- Nov. 20 Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New York contracts with the Task Force to resettle 300 Indochina refugees of Chinese descent.
- Dec. 15 Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania, refugee reception center closes.
- Dec. 17 Memorandum of Agreement signed by HEW and Department of State concerning the resettlement aspects of the Indochina Program.

- Dec. 20 Last 24 refugees leave Fort Chaffee resettlement center to join sponsors, and this center, the last to remain in operation, is officially closed.
- Dec. 31 Interagency Task Force operations are terminated, ending first phase of refugee program - evacuation and resettlement.
- 1976
- Jan. 1 HEW Refugee Task Force assumes responsibility for domestic resettlement.
- Jan. 9 United States Catholic Conference (USCC) inaugurates series of regional conferences with local counterparts to plan new year's resettlement program.
- Jan. 22-23 Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) holds initial regional meeting in Chicago.
- Jan. 27 Church World Service (CWS) begins series of regional conferences in Atlanta.
- Jan. 30 Vietnamese celebrate Tet (New Year).
- Feb. 6 State Department and Attorney General's office consult with Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship and International Law (Joshua Eilberg, Chairman) on issuance of parole authority to admit to the U. S. 11,000 Indochina refugees now in camps in Thailand.
- Feb. 12 HEW Refugee Task Force and voluntary resettlement agencies (VOLAGS) meet in Washington, to examine methods for a coordinated effort to assure opportunities for self-sufficiency among the new immigrants.
- Feb. 18-19 Conference for HEW Regional Refugee Assistance Coordinators held in Washington to discuss domestic resettlement priorities.
- Feb. 23-26 HEW Refugee Task Force Director and Deputy Regional Director attend a series of meetings with State of California, local county officials, and a number of Volag executive directors to discuss refugee resettlement issues.

HEW REFUGEE TASK FORCE



A handwritten mark or signature consisting of a large, loopy 'S' shape with a tail extending downwards and to the left.

**B. REFUGEE PROFILE**



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

BASED ON A SAMPLE OF 124,457 REFUGEES OF WHOM  
123,301 PROVIDED RELIABLE AGE INFORMATION

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

AGE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
0- 5	10,572	8.6%	9,817	8.0%	20,389	16.6%
6-11	9,704	7.9	8,611	7.0	18,315	14.9
12-17	9,519	7.7	8,296	6.7	17,815	14.4
18-24	13,591	11.0	9,105	7.4	22,696	18.4
25-34	12,063	9.8	8,821	7.2	20,884	17.0
35-44	6,364	5.1	5,068	4.1	11,432	9.2
45-62	4,706	3.8	4,569	3.7	9,275	7.5
63 & Over	980	.8	1,515	1.2	2,495	2.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67,499</b>	<b>54.7%</b>	<b>55,802</b>	<b>45.3%</b>	<b>123,301</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

MALES

17 and under 44.3%

Over 17 55.7%

TOTAL 100.0%

FEMALES

17 and under 48.1%

Over 17 51.9%

TOTAL 100.0%

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF 30,628 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD

(Based on sample of 124,457 people)

None	407	1.3%
Elementary	5,120	16.7
Secondary	14,632	47.8
University	7,004	22.9
Post-graduate	1,375	4.5
Data not available	<u>2,090</u>	<u>6.8</u>
TOTAL	30,628	100.0%

HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF 67,033 EVACUEES 18 YEARS  
OF AGE AND OVER

(Based on sample of 124,457 people)

None	1,384	2.1%
Elementary	11,979	17.9
Secondary	25,432	37.9
University	11,150	16.6
Post-graduate	1,955	2.9
Data not available	<u>15,133</u>	<u>22.6</u>
TOTAL	67,033	100.0%

PRIMARY EMPLOYMENT SKILLS OF

30,628 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLD

(Based on Sample of 124,457 Records)

001.099	Medical Professions	2,210	7.2%
100.199	Professional, technical & managerial	7,368	24.0
200.299	Clerical and sales	3,572	11.7
300.399	Service	2,324	7.6
400.499	Farming, fishing, forestry and related	1,491	4.9
500.599	Agricultural processing	128	0.4
600.699	Machine trades	2,670	8.7
700.799	Benchwork, assembly and repair	1,249	4.1
800.899	Structural and construction	2,026	6.6
900.999	Transportation and miscellaneous	5,165	16.9
000	Did not indicate	<u>2,425</u>	<u>7.9</u>
	TOTAL	30,628	100.0%

NUMBER OF REFUGEES RESETTLED BY STATE

December 31, 1975

<u>STATE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Alabama	1,262	New Hampshire	161
Alaska	81	New Jersey	1,515
Arkansas	2,042	New Mexico	1,040
Arizona	1,059	New York	3,806
California	27,199	North Carolina	1,261
Colorado	1,790	North Dakota	448
Connecticut	1,175	Ohio	2,924
Delaware	155	Oklahoma	3,689
District of Columbia	1,254	Oregon	2,063
Florida	5,322	Pennsylvania	7,159
Georgia	1,331	Rhode Island	223
Hawaii	2,039	South Carolina	759
Idaho	412	South Dakota	545
Illinois	3,696	Tennessee	922
Indiana	1,785	Texas	9,130
Iowa	2,593	Utah	559
Kansas	1,897	Vermont	150
Kentucky	967	Virginia	3,733
Louisiana	3,602	Washington	4,182
Maine	375	West Virginia	195
Maryland	2,319	Wisconsin	1,821
Massachusetts	1,169	Wyoming	115
Michigan	2,200	Guam	778
Minnesota	3,802	American Samoa	1
Mississippi	488	Puerto Rico	1
Missouri	2,669		
Montana	198	Unknown	8,182
Nebraska	1,211		
Nevada	338		

TOTAL: 129,792 (\*)

(\*) Includes (1) Vietnamese and 114) Cambodians at "Halfway House" in Philadelphia. Does not include 822 children born to refugees in the U.S.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES RESETTLED FROM U.S. SYSTEM IN THIRD COUNTRIES

<u>COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>COUNTRY OF RESETTLEMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Australia	161	Korea	4
Bahrain	2	Laos	27
Bangladesh	3	New Caledonia	29
Belgium	80	New Hebrides	2
Cambodia	88*	New Zealand	21
Canada	3,926	Philippines	115
France	1,877	Saudi Arabia	8
Germany	31	Singapore	18
Holland	4	Spain	2
Hong Kong	11	Switzerland	2
Iran	41	Taiwan	120
Italy	1	Thailand	16
Ivory Coast	10	United Kingdom	30
Japan	1	Unknown	2
		TOTAL	6,632

\*Crossed the Cambodian border on foot from Thailand on May 29, 1975.

NUMBER OF REFUGEES PROCESSED  
THROUGH SYSTEM

December 31, 1975

Refugees Resettled to Known U.S. Locations	121,610
Refugees Resettled to Unknown U.S. Locations	<u>8,182</u>
Total Resettled in U.S.	129,792*
Refugees Resettled into Third Countries	6,632
Refugees Repatriated to Vietnam	1,546
Births	822
Deaths	<u>77</u>
Total Refugees Processed	138,869**
Repatriation Requests: Vietnamese	403
Cambodians	<u>182</u>
	585

(\*) Includes (1) Vietnamese and (114) Cambodians at Repatriates "Halfway House" in Philadelphia.

(\*\*) Does not include 280 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees entering U.S. Society under Humanitarian Parole during January and February 1976.

C. RESETTLEMENT

**C. RESETTLEMENT**

## WASHINGTON OFFICE

Since the HEW Refugee Task Force began operations on January 1, 1976, it has been primarily concerned with coordinating the federally-financed programs that exist to help the refugees from Indochina adjust to and become productive members of American society.

The HEW Task Force consists of a central staff in the HEW headquarters in Washington, and a refugee assistance staff in each of the ten regional offices of HEW.

The Washington staff is divided into four units:

- 1) liaison with the resettlement agencies on contract with the federal government;
- 2) assessment of resettlement programs;
- 3) information and referral;
- 4) publications.

The focus for the Resettlement Liaison Unit of the Task Force has been on consolidating working relationships and establishing follow-up channels with the voluntary, state, and local resettlement agencies.

This is manifested on a day-to-day basis through contact with these agencies precipitated by referrals of callers on the Task Force toll-free telephone, calls from the HEW Regional Offices, and incoming correspondence. In other words, this ongoing contact comprises the individual casework through which collective problem-solving is used to assist Indochinese as they seek to adjust to life within the United States.

More important, however, emphasis is being placed on developing coordinated use of the resources available within both the federal sector and the voluntary resettlement agencies to mount intensive, immediate program efforts to strengthen the potential for self-sufficiency among the Indochinese. Specifically, this involves examining alternatives in areas of high Indochinese concentration, moving employable adults -- particularly those receiving cash assistance -- into jobs as closely commensurate with their skills as possible, and to providing the requisite job-related language and short-term skills training to others whose transferable employment skills are not compatible with available job market opportunities. The Task Force will concentrate on working with the four major voluntary agencies which have resettled more than 100,000 Indochinese in this context, guided by the fact that coordination of resources and

efforts as envisioned will best be accomplished where the resources do, in fact, exist and where a strong local presence is maintained by the voluntary agencies.

Much of the preliminary work in this undertaking has been formalized through a series of national and regional conferences in which the United States Catholic Conference, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Church World Service together with representatives of the HEW Task Force, both central and regional, and regional representatives of the other federal agencies, have discussed respective inventories of resources and their coordinated allocation.

Consistent with this approach, the Task Force is examining possibilities for supporting locally developed Indochinese resettlement programs within each of the regions. These efforts are visualized as instrumental to the overall focus of finding jobs and necessary training to increase employment opportunities for the Indochinese. Where existing programs and services in the public sector can be utilized, coupled with local voluntary agency capability, these modest program initiatives will help to provide extra language training programs when existing training institutions are filled to capacity.

During the Inter-Agency Task Force's resettlement of refugees from the reception centers into local communities through sponsorships arranged by state and voluntary organizations, assessment studies focused on the adequacy of the initial placement and resettlement plans for the newly-arrived refugees. Now that all refugees have been resettled, the HEW Refugee Task Force's assessment studies are focusing on the long-term resettlement of the refugees. These assessments are made to determine the effects of initial resettlement on the refugees and to identify additional efforts which can and need to be made by the public and private agencies. For long-term resettlement, these efforts must concentrate on enabling the refugees to obtain employment which will provide income adequate to the financial needs of the family unit.

Since refugees have resettled into thousands of communities through numerous sponsoring organizations, it became necessary to develop an instrument by which to assess refugee resettlement within specific geographic areas. The assessment teams obtain information from local agency staff as well as from refugees. Assessment teams include Indochinese refugee staff who contact

resettled refugees to obtain their perceptions of resettlement and their continuing needs. Recommendations for the post-resettlement period are generated from variations found in resettlement organizations, local community resources and resettled refugee characteristics.

During the on-site visits, the assessment team gathers information regarding the following:

1. The extent to which local service systems are providing services necessary for achieving self-sufficiency.
2. The degree to which refugees are aware of and utilize the social service systems.
3. Refugee and community perceptions of and adjustments to resettlement needs.
4. The problems resulting from refugee and sponsor maladjustments or breakdowns.
5. The degree of refugee progress towards self-sufficiency.
6. The additional service resources and limitations of the local community, other than the initial resettlement organizations.

Information is also obtained from public and private agencies which provide social welfare, housing, employment, educational and medical services. The assessment teams contact agencies with direct and indirect responsibility for an interest in the local resettlement effort. Refugees and individual sponsors provide feedback on the effects of the services provided.

The Interagency Task Force assessment teams, beginning in October, 1975, monitored areas where many refugees were concentrated, such as California and Louisiana. Since January 1, 1976, assessment teams have been to: Florida (Pensacola and Niceville); New Mexico (Albuquerque and Las Cruces); Texas (Port Arthur and Beaumont); Virginia (Fairfax and Falls Church); Maryland (Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County); Kansas (Kansas City); Massachusetts (Boston and Worcester).

Below is a Summary of Assessment findings to date:

1. The influx of refugees into local communities within a short time span strained local community and resettlement agency resources and manpower.
2. The church and civic organizations' sponsorship efforts have been more successful than those of the individual sponsors. These organizations can provide greater assistance in meeting the multiple needs of newly-arrived immigrants.
3. Within each community, the refugees' educational and occupational backgrounds vary widely. In order to utilize their previous educational backgrounds and work skills the refugees need access to language and employment services. The urban areas provide a greater variety of these services than suburban or rural areas.
4. Most refugees need some English language training. School-age children, for the most part, are learning English through their contacts in school. Older refugees and housewives are not gaining language ability because of their lack of contact with the community.
5. The health of the refugees, in general, is good. Major medical needs have been minimal. The greatest unmet need has been preventive and therapeutic dental services.
6. Housing problems are frequently encountered due to the high cost of housing in relation to the refugee family income. Most refugees are underemployed and working in minimum wage positions. Many refugees have resorted to sharing inadequate housing with other refugee families.
7. The local social service systems have distinct, separate responsibilities. Meeting the needs of individual refugees requires close coordination of services. Greater service effectiveness has resulted where the agency is using bilingual staff.
8. Most refugees are able to assimilate. In some areas, self-help groups have developed, such as social organizations and newspapers. These seem to assist the refugees in their period of cultural transition.

9. Available employment tends to be concentrated in temporary positions or occupations subject to seasonal fluctuations. The refugees' "parolee" status prohibits them from securing governmental positions or other positions which require at least "resident alien" status.

The Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees are, on the whole, utilizing all available services to increase their ability to become self-sufficient. They have been accepting employment which under-utilizes their skills, which pays the minimum wage, and which is temporary in nature. They desire educational and vocational training which will enable them to obtain better jobs as quickly as possible. While they appreciate the financial support of sponsors and public agencies, their history of employment and self-reliance makes them anxious to become self-reliant again.

The assessments will continue as an important part of the HEW Refugee Task Force effort. Future assessments will continue to monitor the efforts of the agencies involved with resettlement and will also make recommendations concerning the needs of the refugees after the Task Force effort has been terminated.

The information and referral unit operates a toll-free telephone line to meet the continuing post-resettlement needs of refugees and their sponsors. Staffed with personnel fluent in English, Vietnamese, Cambodian, French, Lao, Thai, and Black Thai, the unit provides a variety of information to an average of 63 people per day. Sixty-five to seventy percent of the calls are from refugees. Many inquiries are received by mail and are answered in the appropriate language.

From January 2 to February 27, 1976, 2,582 calls have been received. The calls received during this period are broken down as follows:

Locator/family reunification	630
Education/training	396
Publications	204
VOLAG assistance	170
Refugees in third countries	151
Government assistance	139
Refugee/sponsor problem	60
(other than breakdowns)	
VOLAG/sponsor functions	53
Employment	48

Refugee desires relocation (other than sponsorship difficulties)	42
Job offers	35
Interpreter/translation	20
Repatriation/translation	19
Housing	10
Breakdowns	2
Misc.	603
	<u>2,582</u>

The majority of the inquiries are handled by referring refugees to locally-available sources of assistance. Specialized information, not available locally, can also be provided. Examples include: students and professionals needing credentials translated and evaluated, a doctor needing a refugees's health records, a refugee wanting his sister brought to the United States from Thailand, a sponsor wanting to take a refugee on a holiday to Canada.

Serious resettlement problems are referred to the appropriate agencies, such as the voluntary agencies, HEW Regional Offices, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the American Bar Association. Problems between refugees and their sponsors or employers resulting from language and cultural barriers are often solved by the bilingual staff.

Another function of the unit is the referral of employment opportunities. Offers of sponsorship and employment continue to come in on the toll-free line. These offers are brought to the attention of voluntary agencies and the jobs are often filled by refugees.

An analysis of the types of calls received indicates that education is one of the primary concerns of the refugees. They realize that they must improve their English skills and receive training before they will be able to find good jobs.

The relatively few calls concerning sponsorship problems and breakdowns indicate that these problems are being handled by the voluntary agencies at the local level. The majority of the sponsorship problem calls that are received come from refugees who have not yet contacted their voluntary agencies. During the last two months calls from refugees desiring to relocate for reasons other than sponsorship difficulties have increased. These are indicative of the secondary migration that is taking place.

While the primary function of this unit is to serve as an information source for refugees and their sponsors, the calls that come in on the toll-free line enable the Task Force to identify the major areas of current concern to refugees and to know whether any agencies are experiencing a high incidence of resettlement problems.

The publications unit publishes a monthly trilingual newsletter, New Life, for refugees, sponsors and others assisting the resettlement program. Thirty-five thousand copies of this English/Vietnamese/Cambodian newsletter are distributed each month, and requests are still coming in at the rate of about 500 per week from people who want their names added to the mailing list.

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to make available to refugees, in their own language, information that can help them adjust to life in the United States and become productive members of American society. It contains news of programs and services in both the public and private sectors. The newsletter also serves as a channel for the federal government to communicate directly and regularly with the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee population in their native language. For example, refugees were reminded that all aliens must register annually with the Department of Immigration and Naturalization, and several articles have been published on the subject of federal income taxes. Other articles have contained information about how to find a job, how to enroll children in school, how to get a driver's license, and how to go about renting a place to live.

In addition to the newsletter, the publications unit also distributes the following handbooks and pamphlets:

Information for Sponsors of Indochinese Refugees  
(English)

The Indochinese Refugee Program: Questions and Answers  
(English)

An Organization and Welcome Guide for Groups Sponsoring Indochinese Refugees  
(English)

Cambodian/English--English/Cambodian Glossary

Vietnamese Refugee Orientation Handbook  
(English/Vietnamese)

Refugee Orientation Handbook (Cambodian edition)

United States Map (National Geological Survey)

A Guide to Two Cultures: Indochinese... American...  
(English/Vietnamese)

Compares and contrasts cultural attitudes and behavior of the two cultures

"Dear New Immigrant"

(English/Vietnamese)

Letter explaining the legal assistance "hotline" and program for Indo-Chinese refugees

New Life

(English/Vietnamese/Cambodian)

Monthly trilingual newsletter

We, the Asian Americans

(Vietnamese)

A statistical profile of Asian immigrants in the United States

Finding Your Way

(English/Vietnamese/Cambodian)

Lists federal services available to Indo-Chinese refugees

English-Vietnamese Dictionary

Information for Sponsors of Indochinese Refugees  
(Vietnamese translation of Publications 1 & 2)

The Americans

(Cambodian edition of "A Guide to Two Cultures")

We, the Asian Americans

(Cambodian translation)

The publications unit receives an average of 1,300 letters per week, many generated by information that appeared in the newsletter. The unit also handles liaison with the HEW Offices of the Assistant Secretary for Legislation and of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

HEW has signed a contract with the American Red Cross to share the costs of a family locator service for Indochina refugees. This service had been provided by the Red Cross previously under a contract with the Interagency Task Force. The Red Cross performs this function as part of its normal programs, but because of the extraordinary volume created by the Indochina situation, the federal government agreed to share the costs of this humanitarian effort.

## REGIONAL OFFICES

The ten Regional Offices of HEW have developed active refugee assistance programs concentrating on the work of furthering refugee resettlement and the goal of self-sufficiency. These staffs are in daily touch with refugees, sponsors, voluntary resettlement agencies, state, local and federal governmental offices and with various groups engaged in providing assistance to the refugees. While there are some regional differences due to varying local factors such as the number of refugees in a given locality and Volag or resettlement agency organizational structures in place, an overall general pattern of resettlement activities is discernible.

### 1. Trends and Progress:

The refugees have now overcome their initial concern regarding relocation and are concentrating on adapting to a new style of life. Some migration of refugees is beginning to be noted. In some cases this appears to be due to climatic conditions but more frequently there are other reasons. Some seem to feel that they will manage better in another area because of proximity to relatives, friends or real or imagined better job markets.

The thousands of sponsors who took on themselves the responsibilities of assisting refugees through the initial stages of life in the U. S. are performing their tasks faithfully. There are, however, some signs that some sponsors are finding the slow progress of adaptation of the refugees to the language and culture of the U. S. an increasing burden. This is less apparent where there are group arrangements such as sponsorship by a religious congregation. In this type of sponsorship burdens are divided, and more and diverse resources are available.

On the other hand, while the weight of sponsorship is heavy in some cases, the support being given by the Volags, Resettlement Agencies, and various groups committed to the aid of refugees is not waning but actually increasing, with a few exceptions. The aid to refugees is better coordinated, increasingly better staffed, and public and private agencies are using their resources in a more effective manner.

It has become clear that the main items of concern are English language training, unemployment and underemployment. While there are problems of other types, such as housing, health, some sense of isolation, some weakening of the family

unit, these are either of an isolated nature or are directly or indirectly related, in most cases, to language and marketable skills. In areas of concentration there is a trend to develop refugee initiated self-help groups with a number of purposes - social, cultural, and economic.

## 2. Cooperation and Coordination of Refugee Assistance Activities

There are numerous groups, agencies and individuals, governmental and non-governmental, involved in the resettlement effort. The coordination and cooperation between these groups has been growing from the earlier stages of just finding each other, discovering common problems, and sharing expertness to more structurally developed forums, informational and referral mechanisms, and task forces with specifically defined objectives. This is not universal due to the fact that the need for those organizations varies according to the concentrations of refugees. In the regions with the heaviest concentrations of refugees the people involved are developing task forces aimed clearly at the problems of training and adequate employment. Several regions are proceeding in the direction of encouraging strong State Refugee Assistance Offices as the focal points of the total resettlement effort. Some States and Governors have responded actively to this approach. Generally, the trend is away from simply rushing aid to individual needy refugees towards the defining and coordination of all efforts toward the longer-range aspects of the refugee problems.

## 3. Significant Problems

All Regional Offices indicate in some form that the primary refugee problems now are learning English related to occupational skill development and obtaining adequate employment. Directly related to these problems is the increasing number of refugees going on public assistance.

The quality of English training varies a good deal from State to State. The areas where the refugees are present in larger concentrations or where the community has had extensive experience with foreign speakers tend to have the better English programs. Where the public sector has not provided adequate English training, many local offices of the national voluntary agencies or private groups have sought to fill the gap. The major defects in the training programs tend to be the lack of sufficient intensiveness, and programs not tailored specifically to the needs of the refugees.

There are some instances of reluctance on the part of refugees to take advantage of educational offerings. This may be due to transportation difficulties, inadequate instruction and, in some cases, discouragement at what has turned out to be more demanding and difficult tasks than were anticipated.

Another growing concern is the follow-up care of the refugees who have settled in areas where their particular voluntary resettlement agency does not have local offices. Arrangements have been made in some cases between voluntary agencies to service refugees of agencies not represented locally in a certain region. Refugee migration is compounding the problem to some extent; and some agencies are receiving a large share of refugees who are not assigned to them. As far as possible these agencies have sought to provide help.

#### 4. Regional Response and Corrective Action

The Regions' approaches to the refugees' needs have taken different emphases. Where the refugees are dispersed, the work of the regional staff has involved extensive travel, handling of individual case problems and efforts to muster local group involvement. To achieve the most effective use of resources in the areas with larger concentrations the trend is to concentrate on forming umbrella organizations to bring together the various agencies and groups which work with the refugees. These umbrella groups are at varying stages of development among the Regions.

#### 5. Refugee and Sponsor Contacts

During January and February the Regional Offices had some 5,629 contacts initiated by the refugees in the form of telephone calls, interviews and conferences. The problems discussed dealt mainly with voluntary agency information, sponsorships, education, employment and language training. Some 1,436 sponsors communicated with the regional offices. Again the primary concerns were education, employment, language training, requests for copies of HEW Task Force publications and general information questions about the refugee program.

HEW REGIONAL OFFICES

Refugee Assistance Coordinators

REGION I

Bob Gilson  
Room 2411, HEW Regional Office  
John F. Kennedy Federal Building  
Government Center  
Boston, MA 02203  
(617) 223-5184

REGION II

Mel Chatman  
Room 3835 HEW Regional Office  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, N.Y. 10007  
(212) 264-3618

REGION III

Ed Sprague  
Room 5020, HEW Regional Office  
3535 Market Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19101  
(215) 596-6615

REGION IV

Terry Barker  
Room 434, HEW Regional Office  
50 Seventh Street NE  
Atlanta, GA 30323  
(404) 526-5106

REGION V

Bob Ianigan  
35th Floor, HEW Regional Office  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 353-1671

REGION VI

William Crawford  
Room 935, HEW Regional Office  
1200 Main Tower Building  
Dallas, TX 75202  
(214) 655-3258

REGION VII

Jerry Nell  
Room 607, HEW Regional Office  
601 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64106  
(816) 374-3687

REGION VIII

Gene Ewing  
10th Floor, HEW Regional Office  
1961 Stout Street  
Denver, CO 80202  
(303) 837-2831

REGION IX

John Ford  
Room 480, HEW Regional Office  
Federal Office Building  
50 Fulton Street  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415) 556-8582

REGION X

Joe Langlois  
Room 6090, HEW Regional Office  
Arcade Plaza  
1321 Second Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101  
(206) 442-1290

## SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE

### A. Policy

An Action Transmittal (SRS-AT-76-11, January 15, 1976) was issued by the Social and Rehabilitation Service to clarify that eligibility under the refugee assistance program is not limited to Vietnamese and Cambodian nationals but may include aliens of other nationalities who fled from Vietnam or Cambodia and are in the United States as refugees. The transmittal also clarified, in response to questions received from the States, that refugees who fled from Laos are not eligible for assistance under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975 (Public Law 94-23).

While specific questions of policy interpretation and application to particular cases have continued to arise -- reflecting the complexity of the regular financial and medical assistance and social service programs upon which the refugee assistance program is based -- all states have implemented refugee assistance programs. With the completion of the resettlement operation, SRS has worked closely with the HEW Refugee Task Force toward the development of employment/training efforts which can bring to bear the combined efforts of welfare agencies and the national voluntary resettlement agencies.

### B. Unaccompanied Children

645 Indochina refugee children without adult relatives were placed in foster care or, in some instances resettled with unrelated Indochinese families. Planning for these unaccompanied children was carried out on an individual basis by professional staff of public child welfare agencies who worked on site at the reception centers. State and local public child welfare agencies were notified of children placed in their communities so that followup visits could be made in accordance with each state's regular child welfare standards, practices, and procedures.

A master list of unaccompanied children is being developed, and states will be asked to confirm the making of followup visits to assist children and families with any problems that may develop.

In cases where unaccompanied children ask about how to return to Vietnam, they are referred to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Room C301 United Nations Building, New York, New York 10017. UNHCR is responsible for trying to arrange for repatriation to Vietnam since it has already agreed on procedures for this with Vietnamese authorities. The Vietnamese have not given their approval for any refugees to return, however, and have indicated that they will not do so in the near future. Unaccompanied children from Cambodia who ask to be repatriated are also to be referred to UNHCR, which will explain the procedures for them to follow.

For these reasons, counseling of such children on the realities of their situation is very important. They should understand that the probability of their return is very limited at this time.

At the time of filing dependency petitions in Juvenile Court for unaccompanied Indochinese refugee minors, some states and counties are attempting to send Notices of Hearing to the children's parents in Southeast Asia. This is in accord with the requirements in some states that appropriate efforts be made to inform the parents of abandoned children of their children's whereabouts and to assist in their return if appropriate. However, it is being recommended wherever possible that HEW Regional Offices request that these notifications be sent instead to the HEW Refugee Task Force in Washington, D. C. where a central repository of information concerning unaccompanied refugee minors is being established. HEW will in turn continue working with the Department of State in determining the appropriate way to communicate with the children's parents in Southeast Asia. In this way the rights of all concerned persons can be protected.

Baby Lift: While not directly related to the unaccompanied children since with Baby Lift we are speaking of much younger children, it should be noted that in the court action in the U. S. District Court in San Francisco brought by three Vietnamese children "on their own behalf and on the behalf of all others similarly situated by their guardian ad litem", the presiding judge on February 13, 1976 denied further hearings on the Petition for a Class Action. The U. S. Attorney in San Francisco has asked that adoptions be delayed another 30 days in order to determine if there will be any appeal by the plaintiff.

### SRS Obligations

Obligations through February 29, 1976, total \$38,068,811. This figure represents agreements with the States, the District of Columbia, and Guam for funding financial and medical assistance and social services.

The following chart represents reports from States on caseloads and persons receiving financial and medical assistance as of February 29, 1976. Of the total populations of 128,186 refugees released into American society following completion of the resettlement operation, 31,189, or 24.3 percent were receiving cash assistance as of February 29, 1976.

WELFARE AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

(Reports from States as of February 29, 1976.)

State	Financial Assistance				Medical Assistance (Only)		
	Applications Authorized (currently receiving)		Applications Pending		Authorized	Pending	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Persons	Cases	Persons
Alabama.....	32	97	n/a	n/a	99	n/a	n/a
Alaska .....	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Arizona.....	8	27	0	0	0	0	0
Arkansas.....	34	102	34*	122*	117	0	0
California.....	4,102	9,829	563	n/a	9,462	884	n/a
Colorado.....	255	835	11	n/a	45	8	n/a
Connecticut....	64	195	16	20	248	12	28
Delaware.....	11	60	0	0	50	0	0
Dist. of Col...	171	251	22	33	91	0	0
Florida.....	462	1,119	119*	350*	134	0	0
Georgia.....	59	149	0	0	132	0	0
Hawaii.....	471	1,256	19	30	6	0	0
Idaho.....	12	30	2	11	73	0	0
Illinois.....	409	960	23	57	609	10	16
Indiana.....	164	633	15	22	222	3	24
Iowa.....	163	620	2	n/a	215	21	n/a
Kansas.....	100	355	12	n/a	160	28	n/a
Kentucky.....	183	548	26	87	43	6	22
Louisiana.....	56	195	105	469	112	8	40
Maine.....	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maryland.....	335	669	30	57	900	28	35
Massachusetts..	152	351	17	25	327	6	6
Michigan.....	414	1,433	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Minnesota.....	125	420	1	n/a	1,210	33	n/a
Mississippi....	9	29	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a
Missouri.....	166	195	0	0	197	0	0
Montana.....	10	40	n/a	n/a	61	n/a	n/a
Nebraska.....	74	283	14*	37*	74	0	0
Nevada.....	127	168	0	0	57	0	0
New Hampshire..	6	18	1	5	12	3	5

na = not available.  
\* Medical and cash.

WELFARE AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

(Reports from States as of February 29, 1976.)

State	Financial Assistance				Medical Assistance (Only)		
	Applications Authorized (currently receiving)		Applications Pending		Authorized	Pending	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Persons	Cases	Persons
New Jersey.....	189	692	7	19	272	5	15
New Mexico.....	32	106	12	54	283	27	126
New York.....	211	585	n/a	n/a	150	n/a	n/a
North Carolina.	80	235	0	0	55	0	0
North Dakota...	20	109	2	2	68	3	7
Ohio.....	160	495	25	57	341	22	84
Oklahoma.....	149	258	40	123	288	83	217
Oregon.....	454	1,302	14	14	419	8	19
Pennsylvania...	351	1,140	39	59	2,270	33	73
Rhode Island...	20	66	1	1	32	1	1
South Carolina.	18	74	14	52	35	9	28
South Dakota...	13	73	0	0	254	2	2
Tennessee.....	18	69	24	n/a	34	8	n/a
Texas.....	538	1,455	134	402	243	64	259
Utah.....	29	76	n/a	n/a	126	n/a	n/a
Vermont.....	10	16	0	0	26	0	0
Virginia.....	311	1,004	73	226	949	124	260
Washington.....	932	2,044	21	53	780	2	2
West Virginia..	24	101	0	0	29	3	9
Wisconsin.....	96	400	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wyoming.....	5	21	0	0	0	0	0
Guam.....	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>31,189</b>	<b>1,432</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>21,310</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>1,278</b>

na = not available



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20201

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION

ACTION TRANSMITTAL

SRS-AT-76-11

January 15, 1976

TO: STATE ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHER INTERESTED ORGANIZATIONS  
AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: Definition of a Refugee

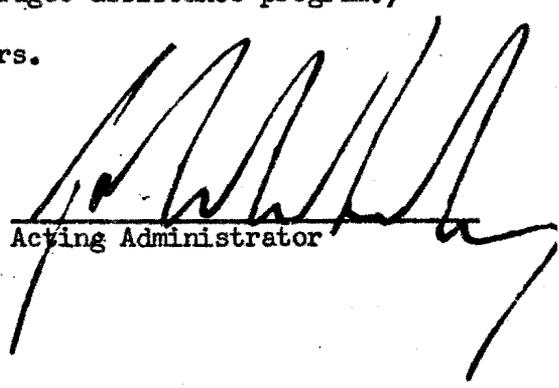
BACKGROUND: Attached is a revised page 7, to be substituted for  
page 7 in Action Transmittal SRS-AT-75-27, June 9,  
1975, which modifies the section on "Definition of  
a Refugee."

CONTENT: The first paragraph of page 7 has been revised to  
clarify that eligibility under the refugee assistance  
program is not limited to Vietnamese and Cambodian  
nationals but may include aliens of other nationalities  
who fled from Vietnam or Cambodia and are in the  
United States as refugees.

Note: The present authorizing legislation, the Indo-  
china Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975  
(Public Law 94-23) applies only to refugees who fled  
from Cambodia and Vietnam. It does not apply to ref-  
ugees who fled from other parts of Indochina, such as  
the 3,400 refugees who fled from Laos and are expected  
to enter the United States, who are not eligible under  
the refugee assistance program. (Legislation to cover  
refugees from Laos has been introduced in Congress,  
and States will be advised if it is enacted.)

EFFECTIVE: Upon receipt. (The definition contained in the revised  
page 7 is also acceptable retroactively in determining  
eligibility under the refugee assistance program.)

INQUIRIES TO: SRS Regional Commissioners.

  
Acting Administrator

- 7 -

Definition of a Refugee

For the purpose of the refugee assistance program, a refugee is defined as: An alien who has fled from and cannot return to Cambodia or Vietnam because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, and has been paroled into the United States by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) as a refugee, or cannot return to Vietnam or Cambodia and has been granted voluntary departure by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) as a refugee. (Parole is granted only prior to or at entry into the United States. Voluntary departure is granted only when a refugee had entered as a non-immigrant or entered without inspection.)

Excluded from this definition of refugees are those persons who are dependents of repatriated U.S. citizens and would be included under the Repatriate Program. Such persons are those who are actually dependent on the U.S. citizen and meet one of the following categories of relationship to such citizen: Spouse; parents; grandparents; unmarried minor (as defined by State law) children, including adopted children and stepchildren; unmarried adult children who are dependent because they are handicapped, including adopted children and stepchildren; spouse's parents; spouse's grandparents; and minor siblings of the repatriate and spouse.\*

In order to be eligible under the refugee assistance program, the refugee must possess a Form I-94 issued by INS indicating that the person either has been paroled into the United States or has been granted "voluntary departure" status.

Since a dependent of a U.S. citizen may also possess a Form I-94, the State agency must inquire whether the person entered the U.S. as a dependent of a U.S. citizen and whether the relationship to the U.S. citizen is such that the person would be included under the Repatriate Program rather than the refugee assistance program.

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\* Following the first 90 days after their arrival in the United States (the period of eligibility under the Repatriate Program), those dependents of U.S. citizens who qualify as refugees, in accordance with the definition contained in this section, would be eligible to apply under the refugee assistance program.

## OFFICE OF EDUCATION

The Office of Education's Refugee Assistance Task Force, which began operation late in August 1975, has continued during this period to administer the funds allocated to HEW for education programs under the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975. The Task Force, in cooperation with the Interagency Task Force for Indochina Refugees and the HEW Refugee Task Force, has sought to assist the refugees in making the transition from crisis situations of a temporary, emergency nature to a more stable period of adjustment to their new lives as integral parts of American communities.

Members of the Task Force have worked with Government representatives and nongovernmental organizations at all levels - local, State, regional, and national - to provide necessary services for the Indochinese refugees. During this quarter the last reception centers closed their "survival" English and orientation programs, and State and local school districts began to receive transition grants enabling them to provide supplementary language instruction for refugee students and adults. National professional and voluntary associations have been active in providing support services and in dealing with various aspects of the refugees' personal and professional problems. Nationwide information services, including two hotlines established primarily for (a) teachers and school administrators; and (b) refugee students interested in attending postsecondary institutions, continued to serve many urgent needs by answering thousands of requests for information and materials. Regional offices of HEW and five regional bilingual centers have provided technical assistance in cooperation with State and local school systems to help teachers develop an understanding of the cultural background of students in their classes, learn some of the principles of teaching English as a second language to the extent necessary, and find out where to obtain special curriculum materials for use with the new students.

### EDUCATION IN THE RECEPTION CENTERS

The only one of the four original reception centers still in operation during the period covered by this report was Camp Chaffee in Arkansas, since the center at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, had closed in August; Camp Pendleton,

California, closed in October; and the Center at Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, closed in November.

Attendance at the beginning of the education program at Camp Chaffee rose to a peak of 11,000 and then gradually declined to only 112 by December 12, as the sponsorship program succeeded in arranging placement in American communities for the refugees. English classes involved a staff of 70 teachers, including six experienced TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) specialists who conducted daily training sessions with groups of five to ten teachers. The teaching staff was reduced to 20 by the final week, and the program ended completely on December 22.

Midway through its first contract, Westark Community College received copies of language materials that had been developed by the San Diego Public Schools for a "Survival English" course of 12 lessons divided into four levels of difficulty for children and for adults of beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. In addition, educational television was used: the "Electric Company" series for children; "Turn on to English" for beginning students, and "Speak for Yourself" for intermediate students. The television staff also taped 33 Encyclopedia Britannica films with voice-over translations and produced three documentaries in Vietnamese showing various aspects of refugees' lives after they left Fort Chaffee - different life styles, shopping, and getting a job, for example - also a documentary in English, showing the history of the Fort Chaffee program.

Among the features of the education program were six media centers that operated from 8 AM to 10 PM six days a week, for a time serving approximately 4,000 students a day. This represented about a fourth of the total camp population. One specialized center served about 100 families who were illiterate in their own language and therefore were taught exclusively with tapes and oral interpretation rather than written material. Another specialized center provided Khmer-English study materials for Cambodian refugees.

Tests of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) were administered on three dates, to test the English proficiency of 107 professional and college-bound people whose possible entry into a college or university was thus expedited.

The final report from Westark, pointing out that their staff had offered a massive educational program of English language instruction to almost 60,000 Indochinese refugees over a period of 6 months, included numerous detailed recommendations for school systems based on their experience.

## ADULT EDUCATION

The widespread original distribution of the refugees was tracked by officials at the reception centers and the offices of the Interagency Task Force on Indochina. Computerized records indicating the number resettled in each State were used as the basis for determining the amount to be reserved for the adult education program.

The State of initial resettlement was known for 62,339 of the original refugee population of 67,166 adults over age 18 who had gone through the relocation camps. Since the location for 4,827 could not be determined, the percentage of each State's portion of the "unknowns" was added to that of the "known" residents and funds set aside for the adjusted total, multiplied by a per capita rate of \$74.44 - the \$5 million available for the program divided by the number of refugees in the adult (age 18 and over) resettlement population. The table indicating the distribution by State is included at the end of this report.

According to the regulations published in the Federal Register on October 22, 1975, funds would be made available to assist states in including refugees from Cambodia and Vietnam in programs of instruction in speaking, understanding, reading and writing English. States were invited to submit revised State Plans for Adult Education, to be forwarded for approval through the regional Office of Education HEW offices. This program does not require matching funds, as is the case of the usual adult education programs.

As of March 17, 1976, State Plan amendments had been submitted to OE's Division of Adult Education and approved by the Commissioner of Education for the following States:

<u>STATE, BY REGION</u>	<u>DOLLAR ALLOTMENT</u>	<u>STATE, BY REGION</u>	<u>DOLLAR ALLOTMENT</u>
<b>REGION I</b>		<b>REGION VI</b>	
Maine	20,545	Arkansas	137,342
Massachusetts	49,503	Louisiana	149,476
New Hampshire	7,444	New Mexico	38,188
Vermont	5,434	Oklahoma	160,567
		Texas	377,039
<b>REGION II</b>		<b>REGION VII</b>	
New Jersey	71,388	Iowa	93,273
		Kansas	67,666
		Missouri	120,369
		Nebraska	45,706
<b>REGION III</b>		<b>REGION VIII</b>	
Delaware	5,583	Wyoming	6,179
Virginia	173,290	Colorado	75,036
Maryland	102,653	South Dakota	22,853
<b>REGION IV</b>		<b>REGION IX</b>	
Alabama	58,287	Nevada	14,590
Florida	231,062	California	1,027,644
Georgia	62,083		
Mississippi	18,312		
South Carolina	31,786		
Tennessee	41,091		
<b>REGION V</b>		<b>REGION X</b>	
Indiana	70,048	Alaska	3,871
Minnesota	149,029	Idaho	12,208
Ohio	121,858		
Illinois	161,684		

The total amount obligated for the above submitting States is \$3,733,087.00.

Most other States have indicated their projected dates for submitting amended plans. Since adult refugees were eligible for participation in programs of adult education under Adult Education Act, many local school districts permitted them to enroll in existing classes without waiting for reimbursement under this special formula grant.

States that have not yet submitted Adult Education Plans for which \$1,266,745 have been obligated are as follows:

Arizona	52,852
Connecticut	45,483
Hawaii	34,987
Kentucky	34,019
Michigan	92,306
Montana	8,486
New York	175,902
North Carolina	53,076
North Dakota	16,377
Oregon	73,770
Pennsylvania	326,047
Rhode Island	12,208
Utah	26,277
Washington	161,684
W. Virginia	9,007
Wisconsin	76,748
D.C.	41,016
Guam	26,203
Puerto Rico	74
Virgin Islands	223

Total Amount obligated to these States: 1,266,745.

## EDUCATION OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

In addition to the 37,551 children of school age reported by the reception centers, roughly 3,000 were estimated to have left the reception centers before the tracking system was established. The tracking system accounted for a total of 118,585 refugees of all ages: under age 5, 16,081 children; in the 18-and-over age group, 62,339. An additional 2,614 could not be identified by age. Of the school-age (5-17) group, the distribution by State was as follows:

STATE	NUMBER	STATE	NUMBER
1. ALABAMA.....	415	27. MONTANA.....	61
2. ALASKA.....	16	28. NEBRASKA.....	426
3. ARIZONA.....	358	29. NEVADA.....	107
4. ARKANSAS.....	1,043	30. NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	36
5. CALIFORNIA.....	7,625	31. NEW JERSEY.....	427
6. COLORADO.....	623	32. NEW MEXICO.....	388
7. CONNECTICUT.....	342	33. NEW YORK.....	1,163
8. DELAWARE.....	53	34. NORTH CAROLINA.....	421
9. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.....	234	35. NORTH DAKOTA.....	142
10. FLORIDA.....	1,524	36. OHIO.....	900
11. GEORGIA.....	351	37. OKLAHOMA.....	1,103
12. HAWAII.....	217	38. OREGON.....	671
13. IDAHO.....	94	39. PENNSYLVANIA.....	2,286
14. ILLINOIS.....	1,168	40. RHODE ISLAND.....	43
15. INDIANA.....	616	41. SOUTH CAROLINA.....	237
16. IOWA.....	960	42. SOUTH DAKOTA.....	171
17. KANSAS.....	596	43. TENNESSEE.....	328
18. KENTUCKY.....	304	44. TEXAS.....	3,035
19. LOUISIANA.....	1,451	45. UTAH.....	186
20. MAINE.....	72	46. VERMONT.....	23
21. MARYLAND.....	654	47. VIRGINIA.....	1,225
22. MASSACHUSETTS.....	329	48. WASHINGTON.....	1,334
23. MICHIGAN.....	744	49. WEST VIRGINIA.....	69
24. MINNESOTA.....	1,276	50. WISCONSIN.....	570
25. MISSISSIPPI.....	113	51. WYOMING.....	38
26. MISSOURI.....	945	52. GUAM.....	28

On January 20, letters were sent to State departments of education enclosing computer lists for all applications approved from local education agencies in their State. Also enclosed was a 1-page application for a grant to provide technical assistance and leadership to local school districts serving Indochinese refugee students. The initial grant to each State was to be based on 5 percent of the funds obligated to the local school districts as of that date. Adjustments will be made after all applications from LEAs within the State are received and approved.

The deadline for all applications is March 31, 1976; however, the State funds may be used beyond the current school year.

As of February 24, applications had been received for \$326,850 from the District of Columbia and the following 31 States:

ALABAMA	HAWAII	MISSOURI	SOUTH DAKOTA
ARKANSAS	IOWA	NEW HAMPSHIRE	TENNESSEE
CALIFORNIA	KENTUCKY	NEW JERSEY	TEXAS
COLORADO	LOUISIANA	NEW YORK	UTAH
CONNECTICUT	MARYLAND	NORTH DAKOTA	VERMONT
DELAWARE	MASSACHUSETTS	OHIO	WASHINGTON
FLORIDA	MICHIGAN	OKLAHOMA	WEST VIRGINIA
GEORGIA	MINNESOTA	SOUTH CAROLINA	

By the end of February, applications were approved from nearly 1,800 local school districts for funds to provide for supplementary English language instruction for refugee children from Cambodia and Vietnam. These grants amounted to approximately \$9.5 million, with an anticipated total of \$15 million to be obligated by the deadline date of March 31, 1976. According to the formula adopted, a school district receives \$300 per student for the first 100 or 1 percent of the enrollment, whichever is less, and \$600 per student for the number above the threshold level. By far the greatest number of districts -- 1,595 out of the first 1,734 -- claimed reimbursement well below that threshold level. In 94 comparatively small school districts, fewer than 100 students comprised more than 1 percent of the enrollment; 40 districts reported that an enrollment of more than 100 refugee students was still under the 1 percent level; in only five of the first 1,734 districts did the refugee student population amount to more than 100 and more than 1 percent of the enrollment. (See tabulation at the end of the report.)

#### SUPPORT SERVICES

Members of the Office of Education's Refugee Assistance Task Force have been working closely with designated coordinators of the refugee programs in State and regional offices (see lists at the end of this report) and with representatives of many voluntary associations and other national associations providing services in the resettlement and education programs.

One of the major support services to the State and local programs has been the sponsoring of regional workshops by five bilingual resource centers which received grants of \$100,000 each for technical assistance through centers located in Berkeley and San Diego, California; Arlington Heights, Illinois; Lafayette, Louisiana; and New York City. The first phase of the technical assistance program consisted of the training of staff specialists in these five bilingual centers; then during

December and January, workshops held by the Centers were attended by approximately 250 education leaders, chiefly specialists from the resource centers, the OE regional offices, and State departments of education.

The most urgent educational needs of teachers who have students from Indochina in their classes are for curriculum materials and for understanding the linguistic and cultural problems of the refugees. The refugees also have a great need for bilingual materials and orientation in the American education system. On-site training of teachers is to be emphasized in follow-up workshops within the various States. For example, approximately 250 teachers in various parts of New York State are expected to participate in four workshops during the first week in March. Boston, Massachusetts, also will be the site of a workshop. The Midwest States have been particularly active in offering some 15 workshops that have reached over 700 teachers.

Two special workshops for the Thai Dam refugees (often referred to as Black Thais because of the color of the traditional dresses worn by the women) were held at Iowa City and Des Moines under the leadership of the University of Iowa and the State department of education. Approximately 75 teachers participated in orientation concerning the Thai Dam culture and language. They received information on possible materials and methods of teaching this special group of nearly 700 refugees, whose latest resettlement in Iowa follows a series of earlier moves from North Vietnam to Laos.

The information network established early in the resettlement program continued to provide much-needed services. The Georgetown University hotline (800-424-2790), which was funded to provide information to Cambodian and Vietnamese students in their own language concerning financial aid programs and admissions procedures for postsecondary institutions, responded to an average of 800 calls per month, for an estimated total of about 4,400 inquiries to date. The Indochinese Clearinghouse of the Center for Applied Linguistics by the end of January had a mailing list of almost 9,000 names. Approximately 1,500 letters were received in January, most of them to be answered by Refugee Education Guides, of which approximately 45,500 had been distributed. The Center's hotline (800-336-3040) calls had averaged about 200 a day until January, when they tapered off somewhat, to about 100 a day. Members of the staff were active in the State and regional workshop activities and were continuing to collect and analyze new materials.

## POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Student Financial Assistance -- Early in the refugee education program, qualified Vietnamese and Cambodian students were declared eligible to apply on the same basis as native American students for federally funded student aid programs such as Basic Educational Opportunity Grants and Guaranteed Student Loans. Vietnamese and Cambodian translations of a fact sheet explaining requirements and application procedures have been widely distributed in response to individual requests from students and requests for bulk supplies from colleges and universities. Although there are no special funds for the postsecondary education of Indochinese college or university students, many institutions have managed to extend scholarships for students who had come to their campuses prior to the general airlift, and several institutions in cooperation with their State government have made group sponsorship arrangements to offer study opportunities to qualified refugees.

Evaluation of Academic Credentials -- A national project for the evaluation of educational credentials has been established by the Office of Education in cooperation with California State University at Long Beach. Director of the project is Mr. George La Due, Chairman of the Intersegmental Committee of California Postsecondary Institutions. The project has been funded in response to requests from several national associations and organizations including those forming the National Liaison Committee on Foreign Student Admissions. To assist postsecondary institutions in making decisions concerning the admission and suitable placement of an applicant, a student's academic records will be translated, verified, or reconstituted to the extent possible and then converted into American equivalencies. There will be no charge for the service, which will be continued through calendar year 1976, but it must be at the request of the academic institution and must be on behalf of the Vietnamese or Cambodian refugee having the status of "indefinite refugee VICAM" on his or her Form I-94 (INS Arrival/Departure Record). It is estimated that some 7,000 to 10,000 refugees may seek admission to colleges and universities as soon as their fluency in English and their financial resources make it possible.

English Proficiency Tests -- Under an arrangement which the Office of Education has made with Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey, the Test of English as a Foreign

Language (TOEFL) will be administered free of charge to qualified Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee students applying for college or university admission. The tests are administered as a regular part of the ETS nationwide testing program, at the usual selected sites according to an announced schedule. The waiver of charges for the Indo-chinese refugees will be effective through December 31, 1976 and will be authorized by ETS in Princeton only at the request of the Admissions Office of the institution the student is attending or hopes to attend. Request forms and Fee Voucher Cards are available from TOEFL, Box 889, Princeton, New Jersey 08540. The only refugees for whom this waiver of fees will be authorized are those who have not previously taken the test and whose Immigration and Naturalization Form I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record) contains the statement "Indefinite Refugee VICAM."

Guidelines on Admission and Placement -- As a part of its effort to facilitate the admission and placement of qualified Indochinese refugees in colleges and universities in this country, and in response to needs expressed by a number of national associations and academic institutions, the Office of Education has issued Guidelines on the Admission and Placement of Indochinese Refugee Students in Postsecondary Education and has distributed 7,000 copies to professional organizations, Foreign Student Advisors, and Admissions Officers.

#### PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

During the next quarter the OE Task Force will endeavor to adjust the preliminary grants to local and State school systems to make provision for additional students as the refugee population shifts to accommodate those seeking employment in different areas, or relatives rejoining scattered family members. The technical training workshops will continue, and staff members will continue to attend numerous meetings of voluntary organizations and other groups in order to provide information on the educational programs in operation and to learn about problems faced by the organizations and individuals affected by the programs. Reports will also be received concerning the State and local refugee education programs, and the task force will work with representatives of the areas of greatest impact, to help in the adjustment of the refugees. Since one of the greatest needs of adults will be for additional job training or retraining, efforts will be made to obtain support for appropriate programs.

ADULT EDUCATION REGIONAL PROGRAM OFFICERS

REGION I

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REGION III

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P.O. Box 13716  
3535 Market Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101  
(215) 596-1011

REGION IV

Mr. Ted B. Freeman  
Senior Program Officer  
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U.S. Office of Education, DHEW  
50 Seventh Street, N.E.  
Room 545  
Atlanta, Georgia 30323  
(404) 526-5311

REGION V

Mr. M. Eldon Schultz  
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300 S. Wacker Dr., 32nd Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
(312) 353-6843

REGION VI

Mr. George H. Blassingame  
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1114 Commerce Street  
Dallas, Texas 75202  
(214) 749-2341

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601 E. 12th Street, Room 458  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106  
(816) 758-3976

REGION VIII

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Adult Education Programs  
U.S. Office of Education, DHEW  
11037 Federal Office Building  
19th & Stout Streets  
Denver, Colorado 80202  
(303) 837-4957

REGION IX

Mr. Raymond M. Lawrenson  
Senior Program Officer  
Adult Education Programs  
U.S. Office of Education, DHEW  
Federal Office Building  
50 Fulton Street, Room 351  
San Francisco, California 94102  
(415) 556-4504/5

REGION X

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1321 Second Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 442-0456



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

Regional Office Representatives

Providing Liaison Services for Refugee Education Programs

- REGION I--(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont)  
Arlene Hope, Library Services Program Officer.....(617) 223-6548
- REGION II--(New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)  
Ward Sinclair, Assistant Regional Director.....(212) 264-4424
- REGION III--(Delaware, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)  
Robert Smallwood, Assistant Regional Commissioner.....(215) 596-1018
- REGION IV--(Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North & South Carolina, Tennessee)  
Polly McIntosh, Assistant Regional Commissioner.....(404) 526-5996  
(FTS) 8-285-5996
- REGION V--(Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin)  
H. Robert Hewlett, Assistant Regional Commissioner.....(312) 353-1263
- REGION VI--(Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas)  
Earl Schubert, Assistant Regional Commissioner.....(214) 655-3626  
(FTS) 8-729-3626  
George Blassingame, Program Officer, BOAE.....(214) 655-3641  
(FTS) 8-729-3641
- REGION VII--(Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)  
Bud Tummy, Director, Division of Planning.....(816) 374-5875  
(FTS) 8-758-5875
- REGION VIII--(Colorado, Montana, North & South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming)  
Al Marcias, Program Manager, EEO.....(303) 837-4844  
(FTS) 8-327-4844
- REGION IX--(Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam, American Samoa)  
Sam Kermoian, Assistant Commissioner of Education.....(415) 556-6750
- REGION X--(Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington)  
David Leavitt, Program Officer, BOAE.....(206) 442-0456  
(FTS) 8-399-0456
- CENTRAL  
OFFICE Bill Bowers, OE Refugee Assistance Task Force.....(202) 245-3081  
(FTS) 8-245-3081

CHARACTERISTICS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS  
FOR THE EDUCATION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL AGED INDOCHINESE REFUGEE CHILDREN

States	No. School Districts Enrolling More Than 1% But Less Than 100	No. School Districts Enrolling More Than 1% And More Than 100	No. School Districts Enrolling More Than 100 But Less Than 1%	No. School Districts Enrolling Less Than 100 And Less Than 1%
TOTAL	94	5	40	1,595
ALABAMA	0	0	0	17
ALASKA	0	0	0	1
ARIZONA	2	0	0	15
ARKANSAS	5	1	0	27
CALIFORNIA	12	2	10	229
COLORADO	0	0	0	22
CONNECTICUT	0	0	0	31
DELAWARE	0	0	0	7
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	0	0	0	1
FLORIDA	0	0	0	20
GEORGIA	0	0	0	32
HAWAII	0	0	1	0
IDAHO	0	0	0	5
ILLINOIS	3	0	1	50
INDIANA	0	0	0	35
IOWA	8	0	0	63
KANSAS	5	0	0	32
KENTUCKY	0	0	0	21
LOUISIANA	0	0	2	19
MAINE	0	0	0	3
MARYLAND	0	0	2	12
MASSACHUSETTS	4	0	0	24
MICHIGAN	1	0	1	51
MINNESOTA	8	0	2	86
MISSISSIPPI	0	0	0	7
MISSOURI	1	0	0	43
MONTANA	1	0	0	7
NEBRASKA	0	0	0	21
NEVADA	0	0	0	3
NEW HAMPSHIRE	0	0	0	5
NEW JERSEY	2	0	0	25
NEW MEXICO	0	0	1	4
NEW YORK	2	0	0	84
NORTH CAROLINA	0	0	0	16
NORTH DAKOTA	2	0	0	16
OHIO	0	0	0	78
OKLAHOMA	9	1	1	38
OREGON	5	0	1	39
PENNSYLVANIA	1	0	1	137
RHODE ISLAND	0	0	0	5
SOUTH CAROLINA	0	0	0	11
SOUTH DAKOTA	2	0	0	13
TENNESSEE	0	0	0	26
TEXAS	7	0	3	44
UTAH	1	0	0	7
VERMONT	2	0	0	4
VIRGINIA	0	1	2	34
WASHINGTON	2	0	3	61
WEST VIRGINIA	0	0	0	8
WISCONSIN	1	0	0	54
WYOMING	0	0	0	2
GUAM	0	0	1	

TOTAL APPLICATIONS = 1,734

Discrepancies reflect time lag from request to review and approval of application from LEAs. As of this date, a total of 1,722 applications had been received and 1,361 approved.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

OE REFUGEE ASSISTANCE TASK FORCE  
Room 3319-B, 7th & D Streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202

Educational Assistance for Cambodian and Vietnamese Refugees  
January 21, 1976

The OE Refugee Assistance Task Force was established late in August 1975, after authority for the implementation of refugee education programs had been delegated to the Office of Education by Dr. Virginia Trotter, Assistant Secretary for Education, and then in turn assigned to the Bureau of School Systems within OE. General oversight responsibility for the program rests with Dick Hays, Associate Deputy Commissioner in BSS; Director of the Task Force is Dr. Lee E. Wickline. Major areas of activity are listed below. To discuss specific programs, please contact the appropriate member of the task force, as follows. All can be reached at the same telephone number: (202) 245-3081.

William Bowers-- Liaison with regional offices and  
adult/vocational programs  
Mary Ellen Flynn--State and local education programs  
Joan Hearn--Contracts and grants processing procedures  
Beryl Parke--General information  
Al Storm--Bilingual and postsecondary education; liaison  
with information hotlines

1. Office of Education Programs. Refugee students are eligible on the same basis as American citizens--provided that they meet other program criteria, such as handicapped, disadvantaged, etc.--to participate in practically all programs administered by the Office of Education.
2. Grants to State and Local Education Agencies. One-time-only grants to school districts are being made to help defray the emergency costs of special English language instruction for refugee students, K-12: \$300 for each student up to 100, or one percent of the enrollment, whichever is less, and \$600 for each student above that threshold level. States will receive up to five percent of the amount available to local districts for inservice training, development of special curriculum materials, and related activities.
3. Clearinghouse. A national information clearinghouse is being operated by the Center for Applied Linguistics (1611 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia, 22209) to provide information for school districts on personnel and materials available for teaching English to Indochinese students. The toll-free hotline number is (800) 336-3040. For local calls, or to call Allene Grognet, the director, the number is (703) 528-4321.

4. Bilingual Education Centers. Technical assistance to local school districts for curriculum development and in-service teacher training is being made available through the five bilingual centers listed on the next page. For general policy information, contact Dr. John Molina of the OE Office of Bilingual Education: (202) 245-9579.
5. Post-secondary Financial Aid. Refugee students holding an Immigration Form I-94 containing the phrase, "indefinite voluntary departure" are eligible in principle on the same basis as American students for federally funded programs. However, they must understand that until an application is actually processed, on the specific form required in each case, no one can be assured of receiving a grant. Refugee students may also be eligible for campus-based programs to the extent that funds are available at the college they plan to attend. The federally funded programs are:
  - a. Basic Educational Opportunity Grants
  - b. Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants
  - c. College Work-Study Program
  - d. National Direct Student Loan Program
  - e. Guaranteed Student Loan Program
6. Post-secondary Information. A national information center staffed by Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee students is being operated at Georgetown University to answer questions about post-secondary educational opportunities and resources available to refugees. The special "hotline" number is (800) 424-2790. For local calls in Washington, D.C. or to call Pete Bradford, the director, the number is: (202) 625-4387.
7. Credentials Evaluation Project. A credentials evaluation project has been established to provide comprehensive translation and evaluation of academic records for Vietnamese and Cambodian students. Reconstruction of missing documents is also being undertaken. Requests for this service must come through institutions rather than from individuals. For further information contact: Mr. George LaDue, Admissions Officer, California State University at Long Beach, Long Beach, California, 90840.
8. TOEFL Tests. Arrangements with Educational Testing Services have been made to allow for one free TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) to be administered to refugee students seeking college admissions. For specific information and inquiries contact:

TOEFL, Box 899, Princeton, New Jersey, 08540
9. Adult Basic Education. Supplemental grants will be made to States to provide special assistance for adult basic education, primarily instruction in English as a second language, for Indochinese refugees. For information contact Paul Delker, Director, Division of Adult Education, at (202) 245-22; or the appropriate State director of vocational education or OE regional office representative.
10. Regional Office Information. HEW regional offices can provide a variety of services, general information, and technical assistance.

U.S. Office of Education  
Office of Bilingual Education

Bilingual Resource Centers

Providing Technical Assistance for Refugee Education Programs

Center

States Included in Service Area

Berkeley, California

Dr. Robert Cruz (415) 644-6255  
BABEL Vietnamese Bilingual  
Education Center  
1414 Walnut Street  
Berkeley, California 94709

Alaska  
Colorado  
Hawaii  
Idaho  
Montana  
Nevada

Northern California  
Oregon  
Utah  
Washington  
Wyoming

Lafayette, Louisiana

Dr. Robert Fonttenot (318) 233-3850  
Director, Bilingual/Bicultural  
Resource Center  
Univ. of Southwestern Louisiana  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Florida  
Georgia  
Louisiana  
Mississippi

North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas

Mt. Pleasant, Illinois

Ms. Maria Swanson (312) 255-9820  
Northwest Educational Cooperative  
500 South Dwyer Avenue  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

Illinois  
Indiana  
Iowa  
Michigan  
Minnesota

Missouri  
Nebraska  
North Dakota  
Ohio  
South Dakota

New York City, New York

Ms. Carmen Velkas (212) 858-5505  
N.Y.C. Board of Education  
Regional Cross-Cultural Training  
and Resource Center  
110 Livingston Street, Room 224  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Connecticut  
Delaware  
District of Col.  
Kentucky  
Maine  
Maryland  
Massachusetts  
New Hampshire

New Jersey  
New York  
Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island  
Vermont  
Virginia  
West Virginia

San Diego, California

Dr. M. Reyes Mazon (714) 286-5193  
Bilingual/Bicultural Resource  
Center  
Institute for Cultural Pluralism  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, California 92182

Arizona  
New Mexico  
Southern California

## PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

With its work in the Reception Centers of screening and establishing medical records on the refugees finished and with the termination of Public Health Services for the refugees as of January 22, 1976, the involvement of PHS with the refugees is now concentrated on the control of communicable diseases and the training of refugee physicians.

### Communicable Diseases

State and local control follow-up programs are continuing with identified refugees to ensure that the administration of proper medications is carried out and, wherever necessary, treatment is administered. Refugees and sponsors are contacted to ensure that proper medications are administered, the closest PHS treatment center is identified, the treating clinics are notified, and when necessary, a yearly evaluation is arranged at the PHS facilities. This care is part of a separate PHS authority which applies to all United States residents.

### Follow-up Study on Indochinese Refugee Medical Program

The Center for Disease Control is conducting a study of refugee health problems. This study will be on the nature and extent of refugee problems after resettlement and any problems refugees are facing in securing entrance into medical care systems in their communities.

A protocol has been designed for interviewing both sponsor and refugee. The approach will seek to determine the type and extent of medical services utilized by the refugees since resettlement. The sponsor will be asked the type and provider of medical care that was initiated for the refugee. The refugee head of household will be asked medical questions to determine met and unmet health problems. Study sites will be selected for not only the concentration of refugees, but also the type of medical

care services available in the area. There will be a pre-test of the study protocol in the Atlanta area during March. The study sites will be completed in April. Results will be compiled in May.

### Indochinese Refugee Physicians Training Program

#### Background Information:

The most recent count identified approximately 660 physicians among the refugees. The count remains approximate because of the resettlement problems. Mobility is a related problem due to the urgency of relocating individuals and families, and creates further difficulties in regard to tracking the physicians.

Nevertheless, information on the specifics of their training has been collected through use of a questionnaire. Analysis of the questionnaire material indicates that fewer than 10 of the physicians have met the licensure requirements for practice in the United States and only an additional 40 have passed the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) examination.

The attached tables summarize state-by-state information on the refugee physicians identified to date within our register.

#### Placement of Physicians Holding ECFMG Certificates:

Incoming inquiries have been answered in coordination with the National Health Service Corps. Attention has been given to providing information responsive to the individual needs of the refugee physicians.

#### Physicians Without ECFMG Certificates:

The Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975 was authorized by Congress to provide a wide range of relief measures for the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. Initially, the State Department assumed responsibility for implementing the Refugee Act but in late June, when resettlement became largely a domestic rather than a foreign affairs problem, the President shifted the responsibility to a Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Task Force under the direction of a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. On July 31, 1975, the Secretary of HEW signed a decision memorandum authorizing

the expenditure of \$1.3 million in special refugee funds to help the Indochina refugee physicians prepare for entry into the U. S. health care delivery system.

Proposals for the conduct of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) preparatory courses from seven institutions have been accepted and contracts have been awarded.

The information contained in the attached tables indicate to the best of our knowledge the number of prospective eligible candidates for the courses from each state encompassed by the specific area, the total for the area, and the name of the institution serving the area. The following list correlates institution, area, and tentative starting date.

Area I: Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Starting Date - February 2, 1976.

Area II: University of Miami School of Medicine, Office of International Medical Education in Miami, Florida. Starting Date - March 15, 1976.

Area III: University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Starting Date - March 1, 1976.

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock, Arkansas. Starting Date - Curriculum started December 1, 1975. Twenty refugee physicians are already enrolled and represent the maximum number the institution is able to handle.

University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Medicine in Omaha, Nebraska. Thirty refugee physicians are already enrolled and thirty-five enrolees represent the maximum number the institution is able to handle.

Area IV: University of California School of Medicine in San Diego, California. Starting Date - March 15, 1976.

Loma Linda University School of Medicine in Loma Linda, California. Starting Date - March 15, 1976.

Programs for ensuring that each eligible candidate has an opportunity to participate in the course have been developed by the International Programs Staff of the Division of Medicine, Bureau of Health Manpower, Health Resources Administration. The Division maintains a roster of refugee physicians and their current addresses. Each candidate has been notified of the name of the institution, its location, and the starting date of the course open to him. Directions for making application have been provided. Each candidate has been given instructions on how and when to apply for financial assistance. The Universities are administering the candidates' financial assistance programs.

Financial assistance for the course candidates consists of a stipend of \$250 per month, not to exceed four months, and reimbursement of travel expenditure from home address to the institution and return for one trip only. Not all physicians will be eligible for financial assistance. Only those who are able to demonstrate a need for assistance may receive it. To apply for a stipend, the candidate and his sponsor must submit a written statement describing the need for financial help. The courses are tuition-free.

To be sure that each course has a reasonable quota of trainees, the Division of Medicine provided lists of potential registrants from its register to each of the Universities. Permission to submit his/her name was requested from each candidate for this purpose. The number of permission slips returned, requests for registration materials, and actual registrations for the course to date are summarized below:

	<u>PERMISSION</u>	<u>REQUESTS</u>	<u>REGISTRANTS</u>
I Hahnemann	74	83	76 (Total of 78 as of March 1)
II University of Miami	74	73	74
III University of Oklahoma	98	130	130
IV University of California	57	60	46
Loma Linda University	70	56	64

Medical Students:

The Division of Medicine assisted in the assembly of an expatriate faculty from the Dai-Hoc Y-Khoa Saigon. This faculty Council in Exile of the University of Saigon Faculty of Medicine met in late September at the American Medical

Association Headquarters. They reviewed over 190 medical students near the completion of their studies plus others without full credentials in their possession. Approximately 170 received certificates of completion of studies or verification of their medical credentials, thus allowing them to be eligible for the ECFMG examination and, if qualified, for graduate medical training.

Medical students below the sixth-year level will be permitted to take the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) examination, Part I. This has been accomplished through an agreement between the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the NBME. Students passing the NBME, Part I will be eligible for advanced standing in medical schools with available space.

A letter from the Division of Medicine was given to each eligible medical student with an outline of the options open to refugee medical students under which they may be able to continue careers in the health services. Complete directions for making application for AAMC sponsorship for Part I of the NBME examination were appended to the letter.

SERVICES FOR INDOCHINA REFUGEES  
through the

March 9, 1976

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

These are HEW services which are most likely to be available to Indochinese once they are resettled at the community level. Special note is made of services which will be found only in limited locations.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
<p>Medical Services General Health Services</p>	<p>Physical or mental illness and emergency treatment.</p>	<p>Depending on specific illness.</p>	<p>Doctors, hospitals, community health centers, community mental health centers, public welfare offices, State Health Departments, and public schools can all be of assistance in either treating or referral of patients to appropriate treatment facilities and sources of financial assistance as available.</p>
<p>Services for Crippled Children</p>	<p>Medical, surgical, corrective and other services for diagnosis, hospitalization, and after care for crippled children.</p>	<p>Services generally are for children under 21 years of age who are crippled or are suffering from conditions which lead to crippling. The specific conditions which are covered may vary from State to State. 45 States consider hemophila as a crippling disease.</p>	<p>Local public welfare office or State Health Department.</p>

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Medical Care (limited availability)	Routine medical care is given at the Community Health Centers; referral is then made for more extensive care, as needed.	These centers exist only in medically underserved areas.	Contact the local Health Department to find out if there is a local Community Health Center.
Mental Health Services, Drug Abuse, Alcoholism Prevention and Control.	Typical services include in-patient care, out-patient care, intermediate care, emergency medical, psychiatric and social services, consultation and education.	Designed for persons residing in the geographic area where such programs are provided.	Local alcoholism, drug abuse or mental health treatment facilities. Community Mental Health Centers. Local Welfare Offices.
<u>Education Services</u> Adult Basic Education	Consists of instruction in computational skills, speaking, reading, and writing the English language.	For adults age 16 and above who function at 8th grade level and below.	At local public school; if non-existent, make inquiry to State Education Agency for name of nearest school.
Bi-lingual education	Elementary, and Secondary school programs to meet the educational needs of children of limited English-speaking ability.	Children ages 5-18 with limited English-speaking ability from low income families.	At local public school, though not available in every school district. Enquire at local public school or State Education Department for nearest school where service is available.

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SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Basic Educational Opportunity Grants	Financial assistance to undergraduate students with financial need. This includes colleges, universities, vocational schools, and hospital schools of nursing. Amounts of grants are determined by family contributions and the cost of education but will not exceed half the need; therefore additional supplementation must be found.	Financial need must exist.	To the Student Financial Aid Officer at the school the student plans to attend.
National Direct Student Loans	Loan assistance to assist graduate and undergraduate students in meeting educational expenses.	Financial need must exist.	Same as above.
Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants	Financial assistance to undergraduate students to pursue higher education.	Exceptional financial need must exist.	Same as above.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Higher education work-study program	Assists students who have great financial need through part-time employment up to 40 hours per week while attending college.	Must be a student who is accepted or enrolled on at least a half-time basis, whose resources (including parental contributions) are inadequate to enable him to attend.	To the Student Financial Aid Officer at the school the student plans to attend.
Guaranteed Student Loan Program	Loans for educational expenses to vocational, undergraduate, and graduate students. Repayment must be made over a 5 to 10 year period after student leaves school.	The loan must be used to attend an eligible institution.	To the Student Financial Aid Officer at the school the student plans to attend.
Vocational Education	Training for a trade (occupation) in a vocational school for persons at high school age or older.	In some states there is a nominal fee for this service. In others it is free depending on the particular courses.	Local school district for high school level. Above high school, apply to the school itself.
Services for handicapped children	Many services are provided for a wide variety of handicapped and crippling disorders.	In most cases, the person responsible for special education in the local public school identifies and implements programs for handicapped children. (Closer look/the Special Education Information Center, Box 1492, Washington, D.C. 20013 specializes in helping parents & others find services for	Special education person in local public school, Family Rehabilitation Services Office or County Vocational Rehabilitation Office. State Director of Special Education. City, County or State Health Department.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Services for handicapped children (continued)		children with mental, physical, emotional, and learning handicaps).	
<p><u>DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</u></p> <p>Project Head Start</p>	<p>Comprehensive child development program. Services include educational, nutritional, medical and dental, mental health and Social Services.</p>	<p>Preschool children of low income families. Budgetary limitations at present time do not permit great expansion of enrollment in this program.</p>	<p>Local public welfare office should be able to advise of nearest Head Start Agency.</p>
<p>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</p>	<p>Rehabilitation services include diagnosis, comprehensive evaluation, counseling, training, reader services for the blind, interpreter services for the deaf, and employment placement. Also assist with payment for medical &amp; related services &amp; prosthetic &amp; orthopedic devices, transportation to services, maintenance during rehabilitation, tools, licenses, equipment, supplies, and other</p>	<p>Persons with mental and/or physical handicaps. Priority is placed on persons with the most severe disabilities. Eligibility is based on the presence of a physical or mental disability, the existence of a substantial handicap to employment, and reasonable expectation that these services will enable the person to work.</p>	<p>Local office of the Rehabilitation Service of Vocational Rehabilitation Office.</p>

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Vocational Rehabilitation Services (continued)	goods and services. Emphasis of this program is on the severely disabled.		
Aging Programs	These are comprehensive and coordinated service systems providing social services such as: transportation, escort, counseling, health screening, recreational, chore services, friendly visiting, telephone reassurance, protective services, continuing education, legal services, information & referral services, nutrition services, employment services, and others.	Services are available to older persons; qualifications may vary from community to community.	At the Area Agency on Aging or the local Information and Referral Agency.
Services to the developmentally disabled	These projects are designed to improve the habilitation & vocational rehabilitation of developmentally disabled persons.	Services are for persons who have a disability resulting from autism, dyslexia, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or other neurological condition which originates before age 18, and is a substantial handicap.	Local or State Mental Health/Mental Retardation Agency.

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
<p><u>Financial Assistance</u></p> <p>Social Services</p>	<p>Services which will help the refugee obtain or retain a job. Services designed to protect the rights of children who are unaccompanied by a legally responsible relative. Services to prevent abuse and neglect, and certain other related services may be available in some States.</p>	<p>Eligibility will be in accordance with each states Social Services Plan under Title XX of the Social Security Act.</p>	<p>Local public welfare office.</p>
<p>Financial Assistance</p>	<p>Supplementary Security Income Program.</p>	<p>Must be aged 65 or over, blind, or disabled, and in need as determined by the Social Security Administration.</p>	<p>District or Branch Office of Social Security Administration.</p>
<p>Financial Assistance</p>	<p>Social security payments to workers or their dependents when the worker retires, becomes severely disabled, or dies.</p>	<p>A specific number of calendar quarters of work credit under social security coverage is required; however, there may be instances in which a Vietnamese has worked a number of years in the U.S., returned to Vietnam, and now has returned as a refugee, and may be eligible.</p>	<p>District or Branch Office of the Social Security Administration.</p>

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION	SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR CONDITIONS NECESSARY TO QUALIFY	WHERE TO APPLY
Financial Assistance	Money payment in same amounts as the State's program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC).	To be eligible, welfare office must determine financial need exists, which is based on state standards for AFDC.	Local public welfare office.
Medical Assistance	Scope of services, and amount paid based on State medicaid programs. These generally include at least. physicians services, hospital care, lab and X-ray, nursing home care, family planning, and in some states dental services.	If person is receiving financial assistance from public welfare, eligibility for medical assistance is automatic, otherwise the medical costs which may be paid for the refugee is determined by the welfare office based on income and size of medical bills.	Local public welfare office.

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

### STATE-HEW Relations

On December 18, 1975, a memorandum of Agreement was signed between the State Department and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare delineating the division of responsibilities for the refugee resettlement program.

The State Department agreed to continue its support to HEW in the domestic phase of the resettlement, to manage repatriation of any refugees who may wish to return to their countries of origin, to handle requests and actions concerning refugees in third countries who wish to immigrate to the United States and to administer the \$305 million appropriation to State for resettlement.

HEW will administer directly domestic resettlement activities, including operational coordination with Voluntary Agencies (VOLAG's) and other organizations involved in domestic resettlement, maintenance of data systems, and the providing of information to other governmental units and the public.

### Repatriation

As of February 23, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees representative in New York had received requests for repatriation from 403 Vietnamese and 182 Cambodians in the U.S. Under an agreement between the UNHCR and Vietnamese authorities, the UNHCR has forwarded the Vietnamese requests to the Vietnamese authorities for approval at the district level. The Vietnamese authorities have indicated, however, that they do not expect to accept these repatriates in the near future.

All but one of the Vietnamese in the U.S. who have applied for repatriation have been sponsored out into American society. The one exception is living at a "half-way house" at the Philadelphia YMCA.

There are also 114 Cambodians at this same halfway house which is being run by an American voluntary agency under an agreement with the UNHCR. The UNHCR has not reached an agreement with the Cambodian authorities to handle repatriation but has learned from the Cambodian mission in Paris that Cambodians desiring repatriation should write directly to the mission. The UNHCR has given this information to the 114 Cambodians in Philadelphia who have written to the mission. The UNHCR also is providing the same information to the remaining 68 Cambodians in the U.S. who have applied for repatriation to the UNHCR but have been sponsored out into U.S. society while awaiting repatriation.

## Lao Program

Bills have been introduced in the Senate and House to amend the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Authorization and Appropriation Acts, which now cover only Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees, to include the Lao as well. If the acts are amended, the Lao would receive the same education and public assistance benefits as the Cambodians and Vietnamese. The Senate bill to amend the Authorization Act has already passed the Senate; another bill to amend the Appropriations Act is before a Senate Committee; two bills to amend the Authorization and Appropriation Acts are being considered by two Committees in the House. The Administration has indicated its support of these bills.

Meanwhile, the State Department is working with the voluntary resettlement agencies to parole into the U.S. about 3,400 Lao. While closely related to the larger program for Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees, the Lao program remains quite distinct. Lao refugees are brought directly from abroad to their sponsor without passing through U.S. Reception Centers. The funding for the program for transportation and voluntary resettlement agency assistance is provided by Presidential Determination from emergency refugee funds. Some 1,200 Lao refugees have already arrived, and another 1,000 for whom the voluntary agencies have found sponsors have been approved for travel to the United States.

## Humanitarian Parole of Vietnamese and Cambodian Refugees

Since November 1, 1975, when the Reception Centers in the U.S. stopped accepting Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees no more have been admitted under the special parole authority. A few continue to be granted admission when compelling humanitarian reasons are present. Each individual case is considered jointly by the Department of State's Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs and the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice. Of the 350 people who have already arrived or will arrive very soon in the U.S. on this restricted basis, most have been spouses, parents, children, or young dependent siblings of refugees who had already been admitted to the United States. Some of these close relatives had been separated in the evacuation last spring and moved in different directions from those who reached America by the end of October; others did not escape Vietnam or Cambodia until recently.

These Vietnamese and Khmer are moving directly from Thailand (or other third countries) to their sponsors in America, with the U.S. Government, through the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM), funding travel in those cases where the refugee has only limited resources. The voluntary agencies, under

contract with the Department of State, find or verify sponsors or assist the refugee in resettlement; the Federal government provides a \$500 grant to the voluntary agency for each refugee so assisted, under extensions of contracts signed for the general program.

#### Request for Additional Parole Authority

IATF Director Julia Taft in her Report to the Congress on December 15, 1975, pointed to the remaining problem of some 80,000 Indochinese refugees in Thailand, and the Department of State has now recommended to the Attorney General that up to 11,000 of these refugees be paroled into the United States. The Attorney General is currently consulting with the appropriate committees of the Congress on whether he should exercise his parole authority in this matter.

Under this program those Vietnamese, Khmer, and Lao refugees with no opportunity to resettle elsewhere, who have close relatives in the U.S., who were employees occupying meaningful positions in U.S. Government missions in Indochina, or who had such associations with the U.S. or positions in the former governments in Indochina that they would be in serious jeopardy should they return to their homelands, would be paroled to the U.S. if security and health checks proved satisfactory. This number will not encompass all those refugees in Thailand who wish to come to America, but should enable us to meet the obligations we have toward those refugees who have a special relationship with the United States.

The 11,000 additional refugees would bring the total of Indochinese resettled in the United States between May 1, 1975, and June 30, 1976, to approximately 144,000. Based on present budgetary projections, it appears that no additional funds need be requested to resettle these additional refugees.

Memorandum of Agreement  
Between  
Department of Health, Education and Welfare  
and  
Department of State  
Concerning the Indo-Chinese Refugee Program

1. This memorandum of agreement delineates the duties and responsibilities of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and of the Office of Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs, Office of Refugee Migration (D/HA/ORM), Department of State in bringing the Indo-Chinese refugee resettlement program to a successful conclusion. This agreement is for the period of January 1, 1976 through September 30, 1977, unless terminated earlier because of the nonavailability of funds or by agreement of both parties.

2. D/HA/ORM, Department of State will be responsible for:

(a) Administering and monitoring Voluntary Agency, State and Local entity contracts and channeling to HEW periodic reports called for in the contracts to enable DHEW to carry out its responsibilities under the resettlement program.

(b) Continued budgeting and financial management of the \$305 million appropriation for the resettlement of refugees from Cambodia and Vietnam. The Department of State (D/HA/ORM) will consult with DHEW before making any major re-programming decisions regarding this appropriation subsequent to this agreement.

(c) Inputs to DHEW for the Quarterly Reports to Congress required under the enabling legislation.

(d) Implementation of a D/HA/ORM program with respect to the repatriation of any refugees from Cambodia and Vietnam who wish to return from the United States to their homelands including in this category any refugees who may already have been resettled within the United States under the resettlement program.

(e) Developing and implementing family reunification and third country resettlement programs.

(f) Resettlement arrangements for Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees in third countries eligible for entry into the United States who did not meet the October 31, 1975 cut-off-date for transfer to CONUS Centers.

(g) Liaison with SCA, INS, ICEM/UNHCR/VOLAGS in connection with (d), (e), and (f) above.

(h) Provide appropriate support to DHEW in its efforts to obtain from the Voluntary Agencies current feed back of refugee resettlement conditions.

3. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare will be responsible for:

(a) Overall direction of activities designed to bring the Vietnamese and Cambodian refugee resettlement program to a successful conclusion, including the coordination of support efforts by Federal agencies and private groups acting in the interest of resettlement and long-term involvement in education and social services after initial resettlement.

(b) Development and dissemination of policy; or policy refinements as required to insure that DHEW programs are geared to the evolving needs of the refugee resettlement program.

(c) Contingency planning in relation to sponsorship breakdowns and hard-to-place refugees in the interest of advancing and accelerating their self-reliance capability.

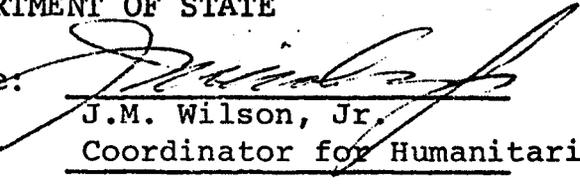
(d) Operational coordination with Voluntary Agencies, State, and Local entity contractors in connection with (a), (b), and (c) above.

(e) Maintenance of data systems, and accumulation and evaluation of data relevant to the Vietnamese-Cambodian refugee resettlement program operations, including automated data system support of D/HA responsibilities for financial management.

(f) Provision of information to the President, the Congress, other cooperating agencies, and the public and the preparation of the President's Report to Congress required by the enabling legislation.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Signature:

  
J.M. Wilson, Jr.

Title:

Coordinator for Humanitarian Affairs

Date:

December 18, 1975

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

Signature:

  
Dan J. Walsh

Title:

Director, HEW Refugee Task Force

Date:

December 17, 1975



## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520

### FACTS ABOUT THE \$500 FOR RESETTLEMENT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

The HEW Refugee Task Force in Washington, D.C. and the ten HEW Regional Offices continue to receive inquiries from refugees, sponsors, and interested individuals about the use of the money which has been provided to Voluntary and State and local resettlement agencies by the federal government to support refugee resettlement.

The information that the Task Force is receiving indicates that there is much confusion and misunderstanding about how this money will be specifically used by the voluntary and State and local resettlement agencies to support refugee resettlement. To clarify this matter and eliminate the confusion and misunderstanding, the following facts are presented.

In the spring and summer of 1975 the U.S. Government, on behalf of its Indo-Chinese refugee program, requested the assistance of a number of voluntary agencies who traditionally have resettled refugees throughout the world in their role of expressing American concern for the needy and the homeless. In addition, State and local resettlement agencies were enlisted to help in this effort, and did so under contract with the government. In reaching agreements with the voluntary and State and local agencies, the U.S. Government awarded contracts or grants under which each resettlement agency would be paid \$500 per capita for the expenses incurred by the resettlement agencies to resettle refugees. Because individual refugee circumstances vary in areas of need such as English language ability, health and occupational skills, the costs of services to meet these needs vary, and the \$500 grant in many instances may represent only a portion of the total resettlement cost incurred by the voluntary agency. All contracts are subject to a U.S. Government audit and unused funds will be returned to the U.S. Government.

The U.S. Government did not specifically state in the contractual arrangements the types of expenditures for which the funds could be used. It was the intent, however, of the Government that these funds would be used to cover expenses incurred by resettlement agencies in the physical resettlement

of the refugees and that any funds left over after the actual resettlement would be used in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the refugees.

Therefore, the determination as to the types of expenditures was left to the best judgment of the resettling agencies as long as the funds were used in support of the refugees. Although some of the voluntary and State and local agencies have, in fact, provided direct payment of money to refugees, there is no requirement that this be done. The fact of the matter is that no refugee is entitled to a total of \$500 or to any specific amount of direct financial assistance. Those refugees who did receive cash payments received them only because the voluntary or resettlement agency determined there was a need to provide direct cash assistance as part of the process of supporting their resettlement.

The federal government's expectation is that resettlement of Indo-Chinese refugees will be accomplished by a combination of activities, which may include the direct payment of money to refugees by the agency through which they were sponsored, and will include services and programs, as needed, and to be financed by funds made available to the resettlement agencies.

## RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES

By December 29, 1975, the resettlement agencies under contract with the federal government had helped to arrange sponsorship and placement for all of the refugees, and the process of helping refugees adjust to life in the United States had begun. Approximately 130,000 refugees had passed through the reception centers and into American communities. National private voluntary agencies (VOLAGs) were responsible for arranging the sponsorship of over 114,000 refugees. State and local agencies also helped to arrange sponsorships.

The nine voluntary agencies initially called upon by the Task Force to take first line responsibility for resettlement of the Indochina refugees all had proved their effectiveness in earlier refugee programs -- those having their roots in World War II, and in the more recent Hungarian and Cuban refugee movements. Most of these voluntary agencies have a network of local or regional offices or affiliates that enables them to follow up on the refugees that they placed.

The five state governments, two local governments and three private non-profit groups which volunteered to handle resettlement within their communities continue, generally, successful efforts. The governmental units have mobilized the services available within their boundaries to bring them to bear upon the needs of the new immigrants. They have been especially cognizant of the value of social services.

The private non-profit associations, such as the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA), have used the resources and special knowledge within their communities.

All of these resettlement agencies contracted with the Task Force for resettlement in the long-term sense and they are the first recourse of refugees and sponsors if and when questions or problems arise. HEW maintains a liaison with the resettlement agencies, both centrally and through regional offices, to assist in the development of follow-up programs to facilitate refugee adjustment and to ensure completion of successful resettlement of the refugees.

VOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES (VOLAGs)

Refugees Resettled

United States Catholic Conference Migration and Refugee Services 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202) 659-6625	52,100
International Rescue Committee 386 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10016 Telephone (212) 679-0010	18,600
Church World Service Immigration & Refugee Program 475 Riverside Drive New York, New York 10027 Telephone (212) 870-2164	17,864
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service 315 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10010 Telephone (212) 677-3950	15,897
United HIAS Service, Inc. 200 Park Avenue South New York, New York 10003 Telephone (212) 667-3850	3,531
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc. 250 West 57th Street New York, New York 10019 Telephone (212) 247-2922	3,270
American Council for Nationalities Service 20 West 40th Street New York, New York 10018 Telephone (212) 279-2715	2,200
American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees 1790 Broadway, Room 513 New York, New York 10019 Telephone (212) 265-1919	832
Travelers-Aid International Social Services 345 East 46th Street New York, New York 10017 Telephone (212) 687-2747	577

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TOTALS: 114,871

## UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE (USCC)

United States Catholic Conference is currently reinterviewing all of the 52,000 plus refugees it helped to resettle throughout the United States, in an effort to assure that each of the new immigrants is an integrated, productive and contributing member of his new community.

Through its network of 169 resettlement offices, USCC is working with local churches and civic institutions to provide intensive programs of language training and cultural orientation.

USCC has established extensive counseling services, orientation and education programs for job upgrading. This basic program has been made possible by making use of space, staff and teaching facilities in the majority of the dioceses across the country.

USCC continues to hold regional meetings involving diocesan resettlement staff and representatives of state, local and federal agencies. These meetings allow local refugee program administrators to develop programs in such a way that they will not duplicate existing state or federal programs, but will be used where such federal programs are non-existent or cannot be used by refugees due to hours of employment or place of residence.

Approximately 800 USCC staff members in supervisory positions are working to make the current phase of the resettlement program as efficient as possible.

## INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)

With the closing of the last refugee reception center in late December, the International Rescue Committee turned its attention to the special needs of each of the more than 18,000 refugees it helped to sponsor. Particular emphasis is given to job placement, job training, direct financial aid and personal counseling.

Each IRC refugee was provided a transitional allowance of \$100 per person upon departure from camp. Additional financial assistance is provided as needs arise -- for rent, household furnishings, winter clothing, emergency medical expenses and, sometimes, for a used car if an automobile is essential to get to work. When a breakdown of sponsorship is total, IRC assumes responsibility for housing and maintaining a refugee until new resettlement plans are worked out.

IRC is providing full support to families of medical doctors studying for the qualifying examination to be given in July by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates. The per capita expenditures for those and many other families substantially exceed the \$500 per person grant from the federal government. As of December 31, 1975, IRC had spent \$4,500,000 for the Indochinese resettlement program -- almost 90% of this amount in direct allocations to needy refugees.

While discouraging public assistance, IRC does encourage refugees to register for Medicaid and for Food Stamps, as a safeguard against major medical costs and as a supplement to income.

IRC has ten regional and area offices -- four in California, two in Texas, and one each in Florida, Washington, D. C., New York City, and Seattle, Washington. This IRC network is reinforced through collaboration agreements with the United States Catholic Conference, the American Council for Nationalities Services, and the Travelers Aid International Social Services. Under these agreements, local agencies of all these organizations can provide resettlement services and financial assistance to IRC cases on a reimbursable basis.

Despite the decline in the U. S. economy and the difficult adjustments required, the Indochina refugees as a whole have shown a remarkable resilience to adversity and a determination to become self-sufficient. The most serious problems continue to be unemployment, underemployment, and lack of transferable skills.

#### CHURCH WORLD SERVICE (CWS)

Church World Service, through its Protestant and Orthodox denominations and local churches, has helped to resettle 17,864 refugees in 49 States, the District of Columbia, and Guam. In its resettlement program, CWS is concerned with the refugee as an individual seeking to find a permanent solution to his plight. While the major thrust of sponsorship is to help the refugee become a self-sufficient and independent member of his or her new community, CWS also focuses its attention on the refugee's adjustment to climate, adjustment to food, and adjustment to the folkways and mores of American life.

CWS is well aware of the problems faced by both the sponsor and the refugee as the process of resettlement takes place in hundreds of communities, large and small, across the United States. Where there are unusual or

emergency resettlement costs which are beyond the financial capabilities of the sponsor and/or the refugee, CWS funds are provided to help meet these costs. CWS also supports ecumenical/community projects designed to further assist Indochina refugee resettlement. Every effort is made to prevent CWS-sponsored refugees from becoming public charges.

As more and more refugees resettled in California, it became apparent that a Church World Service presence there was necessary. Accordingly, two regional consultant offices have been established, one in San Francisco to serve Northern California and neighboring States and one in Los Angeles to serve Southern California and neighboring States. CWS is considering the need for regional consultant offices in other sections of the country where there are large settlements of CWS-sponsored refugees.

During the past three months, CWS has held a dozen regional conferences in strategically located cities throughout the United States. These conferences have brought together CWS-related churches, sponsors, and refugees with representatives of Federal, State, and local governments whose responsibilities entail the operation of publicly-financed programs affecting the health, welfare, and security of the refugees. Representatives of private social welfare agencies also participated. The conferences provided a forum for individual refugees and sponsors to share their ideas and experiences in resettlement. The professional organization representatives, as well as the refugees and sponsors, found the conferences both stimulating and informative.

#### LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE (LIRS)

The Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is concentrating on a long-range, three-to-five-year follow-up program with particular emphasis on the first year of resettlement. Twenty-three local Lutheran Social Service Agencies have been designated to supplement the support activities of the 3,000 congregations and 800 families providing refugee sponsorship. These agencies will intercede when a congregation sponsor requires additional resources, information or support.

During the first phase of the resettlement program LIRS has spent approximately \$2.2 million. LIRS relies upon the judgement of the congregation and sponsor in determining the need for financial assistance and has responded positively to most of the requests received. The amount of financial

aid often exceeded the \$500 per refugee granted under the government contract. Aid has been given for short-term housing rental; down payments for housing for especially large families; winter clothing; medical and dental costs not covered by Medicaid or private insurance; vocational training; special transportation and a number of other items which meet the basic needs of individual refugees and refugee families.

LIRS has established a revolving loan fund of \$500,000 to make maximum use of the resettlement funds. The loan fund will make it possible to serve more people for a longer period of time with the same funds. The benefit of the loans is that the repayment process enables the refugee to maintain his or her pride and dignity and to move toward self-sufficiency.

#### UNITED HIAS SERVICE, INC.

Of the 3,531 Indochina refugees who left the reception centers the auspices of HIAS, 2,180 were resettled by Jewish Family Services in cities across the country, and 1,351 by individual sponsors in rural and urban areas. The highest concentrations of HIAS-sponsored refugees is in four cities: Los Angeles, 379; Philadelphia, 310; Chicago, 270; New York City, 191.

The Jewish Family Service Agencies (JFS), established in the 1930's to assist Jewish immigrants, make use of professional social workers to counsel families and individuals and provide the social services necessary to help refugees integrate into a community as easily as possible. In the Indochina refugee program, JFS has worked with vocational counselors and volunteers to assist and maintain contact with the refugees. A per capita grant of \$450 per person was given to the Jewish Family Service from HIAS to assist in the initial resettlement of Indochinese families.

Refugees assisted by individual sponsors received a \$100 grant upon leaving the reception centers. Additional monies are being distributed by the Indochina Unit at HIAS Offices in New York City, after an evaluation is made as to the appropriateness of the request. Of a total of 500 refugee families, 262 have already received additional funds of up to \$400.

This unit responds to requests for assistance by providing financial assistance, referrals to agencies (Jewish Family Service if there is no JFS in the locale, the purchase of services from other professional service agencies), referrals to employment services, information on obtaining education grants or loans, MEDICAID, etc.

Data compiled from HIAS questionnaires completed by 187 refugee families comprised of 362 adults (persons over 18 years of age) settled by individual sponsors show that: 144 are employed full time, 44 are employed part-time and 130 are unemployed. Many adults responding to the questionnaire are unemployable because of age, young children, etc. 54 adults are attending a university or trade school full-time; 62, part time. 156 adults are attending English classes.

It is estimated that 80 heads of household are receiving public assistance in the form of MEDICAID and food stamps, but not cash assistance. There are approximately 55 heads of households receiving cash assistance in addition to MEDICAID and Food Stamps.

We can conclude that there are many adults who are still seeking employment. The salary levels of the employed are barely sufficient to enable a family to subsist without supplemental assistance.

Another figure to note is the relatively small number of persons attending English classes. The reasons for this may be that these classes are not readily available in the smaller community.

HIAS has observed that the refugee population is highly mobile. Many refugees have moved to join friends in other places; others have moved because of climate or the unavailability of good jobs. Refugees living in small communities often do not have access to services which are readily available to those living in larger communities, specifically, language classes, universities or local college programs, jobs, vocational training and social services.

The major problems in the follow-up program appear to be high unemployment, low paying jobs which make supplemental public assistance necessary, inadequate housing, insufficient English language courses, a lack of vocational training programs and job development banks.

## AMERICAN FUND FOR CZECHOSLOVAK REFUGEES (AFCR)

The American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees helped resettle 832 refugees in small communities and in large cities around the United States.

AFCR has emphasized to the sponsors the importance of arranging English language instruction so that the refugees can better use their own previous education, training, and experience. Many church groups and other sponsors have arranged for English classes and individual tutors. Local boards of education have sent informational materials to the refugees.

Since the closing of the reception centers, AFRCR has increased its staff and office space in order to better serve its refugees, their sponsors, and employers. Personal visits are made to areas where large groups of AFRCR-sponsored refugees need special attention.

The AFRCR has provided material assistance for essential needs of 30-35% of its refugees. By maintaining close contact with Regional Offices of HEW, with county welfare departments, with state offices of Human Resources, and with other voluntary resettlement agencies, AFRCR can give information about specific programs to its refugees.

Projects recently undertaken by the AFRCR include an English language program in Houston, and its counseling in New York City.

### TOLSTOY FOUNDATION

When the refugee resettlement center at Camp Pendleton closed, the Tolstoy Foundation opened two offices in California for counseling of the many refugees in that state -- one in San Francisco, and one in Pomona. The San Francisco staff includes a Vietnamese and a Cambodian. The Tolstoy Foundation also supports refugee resettlement activities through seven affiliates located in California, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Florida, and Washington, D. C. A ten-person tri-lingual team facilitates interchange with refugees.

Early in January, 1976, Tolstoy Foundation mailed Immigration and Naturalization alien address cards to all Indochina refugees the foundation had resettled. An accompanying letter in English, Vietnamese, and Cambodian explained the procedure for filling out and returning the

card. This mailing was done as a service to resettled refugees, but it also served to update Tolstoy Foundation address files, since many refugees had moved without first informing Tolstoy Foundation offices.

Despite the length of the program, public interest has not waned, and Tolstoy Foundation has a long list of potential sponsors available as replacements in any future breakdowns of sponsorships.

#### AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR NATIONALITIES SERVICE (ACNS)

American Council for Nationalities Service is currently assisting nearly 3800 Indochina refugees through its thirty member agencies. These agencies provide English language training and assistance in finding housing and employment plus a number of other services. Many member agencies have developed their own, independent English language training facilities and courses. The casework staff employed by the member agencies usually includes trained Indo-Chinese. ACNS has been active in working with the 114 Cambodians and one Vietnamese in Philadelphia who desire repatriation. The largest ACNS caseload is in the Los Angeles area.

#### TRAVELERS AID INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE OF AMERICA (TAISSA)

Travelers Aid International Social Service of America has helped sponsor 577 refugees: 49 single individuals and 159 family groups. Local Travelers Aid societies recruit sponsors in their communities, provide counseling for the refugees, and maintain a supportive role through regular home studies of every refugee family. TAISSA's refugee population is concentrated in six states: California (176 persons), Alabama (76), Washington, D.C. (64), Oklahoma (63), New York (36), and Texas (32).

Cooperation at the local level among TAISSA member agencies and the other voluntary agencies is quite effective. Emergency assistance is readily provided by TAISSA affiliates to refugees whenever the need arises and the refugees' own

VOLAG offices are closed. At the national level, TAISSA has placed its highest priority on English language instruction.

Travelers Aid Society recently established an ad hoc committee of VOLAGS and local government agencies which cooperatively counsels refugees in the Mobile area. The Mobile office has a refugee translator/interpreter on its staff. The Norfolk, Virginia Travelers Aid Society joined with the local chapter of the American Red Cross to organize a community-based refugee advisory committee. Television and newspaper coverage has been very favorable. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, the local Travelers Aid office concentrated on finding housing for refugees. In each of these cities, the TAISSA affiliates conceived and carried out their programs according to the needs of the communities.

STATE AND LOCAL RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES

Refugees Resettled

Department of Emergency Services State of Washington 4220 East Martin Way Olympia, Washington 98504 Telephone (206) 753-5255	1,570
Governor's Task Force for Indo-Chinese Resettlement Employment Security Commission State of Iowa 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Telephone (515) 281-5361	633
Department of Institutions, Social Aid Rehabilitative Services State of Oklahoma P.O. Box 25352 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73125 Telephone (405) 521-3076	362
Division of Community Services State of Maine 193 State Street The State House Augusta, Maine 04333	167
Governor's Cabinet Secretariat State of New Mexico Planning Office 403 Executive-Legislative Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501 Telephone (505) 827-2996	184
Jackson County, Missouri Don Bosco Community Center 526 Campbell Street Kansas City, Missouri 64106 Telephone (816) 421-5825	234
City of Indianapolis Indianapolis Red Cross American Red Cross 441 East Tenth Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46202 Telephone (317) 634-1441	80

Refugees Resettled

Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Los Angeles 923-925 North Broadway Los Angeles, California 90012 Telephone (213) 626-1646	838
Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New York 62 Mott Street New York, New York 10013 Telephone (212) 226-5078	72
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints 50 East North Temple Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 Telephone (801) 531-2644	580
	<hr/>
TOTALS:	4,720

## WASHINGTON STATE

Under the direction of Governor Daniel J. Evans, Washington has moved from the role of a resettlement agency to that of an active participant in assisting the over 4,000 new immigrants settled in the state. A variety of programs has been initiated to cover such areas as employment, English language training and cultural adjustment. The Department of Emergency Services is in charge of the effort and acts to coordinate the work of the other state agencies involved.

The state is in the process of amending its Title XX plan to cover English as a Second Language (ESL) training courses, employment related casework and an information/referral service. It is hoped that these services will boost the percentage of employed refugees.

The Department of Employment has been holding resume-writing workshops at various locations throughout the state. The resumes will be sent to businesses by the Department, and the Governor has sent letters to businesses asking them to hire new immigrants.

Tuition rates in the state have prevented a number of new immigrants from attending college or post-secondary schools. A bill has been introduced in the state legislature which would permit refugees to attend the schools under in-state tuition schedules.

Washington has begun an extensive driver education program in both Seattle and Olympia. The classes emphasize safety, rules of the road and the importance of insurance coverage.

The state has recently initiated a mental health program to help with the cultural adjustment of the refugees and to fight cases of depression, alienation and withdrawal which result from culture shock. The Asian Counseling and Referral Service in Seattle is under contract to provide one-on-one counseling where required and to hold informal discussions with community mental health professionals.

Washington is continuing to operate its two Indochinese Refugee Service Centers, in Spokane and in Seattle. These centers are staffed by refugees and are involved in a variety of information and referral activities. The centers publish a newspaper for the refugees and have recently added an outreach capacity with center workers traveling to smaller communities to identify problem areas.

## IOWA

The State of Iowa, which sponsored 633 Thai Dam (Black Thai) refugees, has become the new locus of Thai Dam culture. Although ethnically Vietnamese, the Thai Dam migrated to Laos after the defeat of the French in Vietnam in 1954, and all younger Thai Dam speak Lao.

The Iowa resettlement office has worked hard to provide bilingual educational materials in English and Lao. Unlike the Vietnamese, few Thai Dam are well-educated and none are currently enrolled in college. Instructional materials, therefore, have been developed for vocational high schools. In addition, the University of Iowa and several community colleges recently conducted teacher-training workshops oriented toward secondary school curriculums. The State's resettlement program itself publishes a bilingual newspaper, the Iowa Thai Dam Newsletter, which is circulated to the 76 Thai Dam heads of family, their American sponsors, and other interested Iowans.

The employment picture is bright for the Thai Dam in Iowa. All 69 Employment Security Commission offices are working hard to provide maximum job opportunities and counseling for the refugees. Several refugee sheet metal workers in Council Bluffs are earning \$4.50 per hour. Thai Dam are also working as carpenters in Story City, as turkey processors and exterminators in Keokuk, as a leather-tanner in Waterloo, and as a municipal utility employee in Cedar Falls. An assistant service station manager in Stuart is a Thai Dam, as are an artist in a graphics firm and a tractor parts assemblyman in Sac City. Refugees in Des Moines work as inventory control clerks in Mercy Hospital, as auto and motorcycle mechanics, and as metal fabricators for airplanes. One is a plumber's apprentice. In all, 20 Thai Dam families live in and around Des Moines.

Native Iowans have been very gracious to the refugees and intergroup relations are excellent. Thai Dam were welcomed into many American homes for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Work-related injuries prompted two refugee families to apply for welfare but the State resettlement office quickly stepped in to find new, less physically demanding jobs for the injured wage-earners. Medicaid is provided to Thai Dam as needed when a family's employee health insurance is insufficient.

## OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma has a high percentage of college students among the new immigrants resettled by that state. Eighty-five percent of the 360 state-sponsored refugees are in college. The Vietnamese students are adjusting extremely well to their campus environments. No uniquely Vietnamese problems have developed, only "people problems," such as how to stretch the paycheck from a part-time job.

Southeastern Oklahoma State University in Durant is charging its 223 refugee students out-of-state tuition fees while Connors State Junior College in Warner has generously waived the charges for its 67 refugees. In September, all refugees will become officially domiciled in Oklahoma, thereby eliminating the out-of-state tuition problem.

The most popular subjects among the refugee students are engineering, chemistry, industrial education, electronics, drafting, business, and music. Social studies courses have been shunned. Last fall's English language instruction was so successful that of 300 students, only 2 required remedial reading help this winter. One refugee is a disc jockey at Southeastern's all-English language campus radio station. Another is a maintenance supervisor at Panhandle State College. All of the refugees live in university housing; quite a few have American roommates. Only a handful of students has left Oklahoma, some because they were homesick for their families elsewhere in the United States.

In the Oklahoma program, 56 refugees belong to working families scattered throughout the state. This group has been especially confident of the future. At first, the refugees were reluctant to live in small towns. Stores, television, good public schools and friendly neighbors have changed their opinions. One family with four wage-earners has already purchased a home in Enid, Oklahoma. A pharmacist from Saigon is now a salesman for a pharmaceutical firm, with a company car, and a \$9,300 guaranteed base salary with commissions. Other refugee family members work in stores, nursing homes, a clothing factory and a quarry.

To help overcome transportation problems, the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety has translated its multiple choice driver's license examination into Vietnamese. Every family now has at least one licensed driver. Two refugees have purchased their own used cars.

None of the Oklahoma-sponsored refugees are on welfare. Dental care has been a problem, however, and local dentists are trying hard to improve the situation.

## MAINE

Maine's newest residents are adjusting well to their new surroundings, despite a bitterly cold winter. Seven Indochinese students are now attending college at the University of Maine, Ricker College, and Huffon College. Most work part-time as well, including one who is a management trainee for a franchised restaurant. Another young refugee is a lab technician at the Mid-Maine Medical Center. Two refugees at a textile mill in Augusta have been selected for supervisors' training; all refugee employees of the mill, incidentally, are members of the union there. Several of the 16 refugees working in a chicken-processing plant have now learned enough English to begin looking for jobs as auto mechanics in service stations and car dealerships. The Bangor Daily News is training an English-speaking refugee as an apprentice reporter.

The state resettlement office works closely with the Employment Security department to provide thorough job counseling for all Indochinese who need it. The state program's housing component is well-developed, with up-to-date listings of furnished apartments maintained by neighborhood. Indochina refugees are referred only to housing near laundromats, food stores, and other social services. Local public high schools offer English language instruction to interested refugees in day and evening classes.

Of the 167 refugees initially enrolled in Maine's program, 21 have left the state, all to be reunited with family or friends. Medical problems for the remaining 146 refugees are generally covered by job-connected Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans. Medicaid is also available where needed. Only two of the state-sponsored refugee families have gone on welfare. One is a disability case where cash assistance is expected to terminate when a Supplemental Security Income application is processed. The other case, now off welfare, involved a 16-member family.

## NEW MEXICO

The resettlement program undertaken by the State of New Mexico, headquartered in Albuquerque, is aggressively seeking to overcome the transportation, language, and employment problems facing its 184 state-sponsored refugees. Other VOLAG-sponsored refugees are also assisted by the Albuquerque office if the need arises.

A massive driver's education and automobile purchase program has been developed. One Saturday each month, a group of 27 refugees is given the New Mexico Learner's Permit examination in Vietnamese. On the next three Saturdays, on-the-road instruction and classroom work with the driver's training manual (which has been translated into Vietnamese) are provided. After completing the course and the successfully passing the licensed operator's examination, the refugees are escorted to various auto dealerships. There, the state resettlement officers assign the refugees into car pools by place of residence. Then, one refugee from each car pool is sold an \$1800 to \$2000 used car. No down payment is required, nor is a co-signer solicited. Instead, the refugee pays for his car over 24 to 30 months with fares collected from the other members of his car pool. Should a refugee miss a car payment, his installment is provided from a \$3000 revolving fund set up by the New Mexico state resettlement office. The state then collects from the refugee without causing any loss of transportation to the car poolers.

New Mexico has also established an intensive English language program which is linked to technical-vocational training. Classes of 24 working heads of families meet on weekday nights for language/vocational training totalling 6 hours each week over a 6-month period. Slow learners are put into groups of 15 and given 4 to 6 months of additional instruction on Saturdays and Sundays. Vietnamese teachers' aides assist the American instructors. Additional night classes in welding and carpentry are planned for this summer.

Refugees' occupations vary considerably. Two refugee doctors are serving as interns in the University of New Mexico Medical School's family planning unit. They perform routine physical examinations and give pregnancy tests to refugees and to American Indians as well. 18 refugees nearby earn from \$2.30 to \$2.55 per hour in a meat-packing plant. In Santa Fe some refugees are employed making plastic moldings. One refugee has become a successful portrait painter. Half a dozen refugees work in an electronic assembly factory in Albuquerque while several others utilize their skills at a research firm near White Sands. One Vietnamese in Roswell



teaches school; five others pick cotton and grow their own food on a farm. Several refugees manufacture Indian jewelry; another 16 earn free meals and minimum wages at a cafeteria. A uranium laboratory assistant earns \$4.50 per hour doing mineral analyses. In summary, every adult refugee in New Mexico's program holds a job but the type of work varies with his or her language abilities and skills.

## DON BOSCO SOCIETY

The Don Bosco Society in Columbus Park, Missouri, which had been active in resettling Hungarian and Cuban refugees, was one of the first local groups to offer its assistance in resettling refugees from Indochina. In July, 1975, the society and Jackson County jointly signed a contract with the U. S. Department of State.

This program does not involve intermediate sponsors, in contrast to the programs of most other resettlement agencies. Instead, Don Bosco acts as a group sponsor for all of the refugees. Also, in contrast with most other programs, the refugees are being housed together in the same area of the community. While this approach does have certain advantages, the large concentration of refugees in a single group apparently exacerbated problems of cultural adjustment and communications.

A number of serious difficulties resulted, and at one time all but 10 of the 234 Don Bosco-sponsored refugees were receiving direct cash assistance or food stamps. These problems have since been largely overcome and well over half of the 34 families now have at least one member employed (a total of 30 refugees have jobs). Don Bosco believes that an additional 10 to 15 people are employable and is actively pursuing work opportunities for them.

English language ability is seen as the key to successful resettlement. English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are now being offered through the Adult Basic Education program. Classes with an enrollment of about 25 refugees are held twice a week for 2 1/2 hours. Don Bosco plans to supplement these courses with volunteers and hopes that up to 70 refugees will attend.

## CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Indianapolis chapter of the American Red Cross accepted the request of the Mayor of Indianapolis to act as the city's agent in providing resettlement services to Indochinese refugees. Beginning work on June 30, 1975, the Indianapolis chapter sought to identify especially good sponsors who were willing to assume primary responsibility for finding jobs, housing, furnishing the house, assisting with education, and giving the supportive services necessary to make the refugees self-sufficient. In return, the chapter agreed to provide financial assistance in a generous manner. All monies received from the federal government have been made available for direct financial assistance to refugee families. Administrative expenses are borne by the Indianapolis Red Cross. In addition, the local chapter offers counseling services to the refugees and performs an information and referral role for sponsors.

The Indianapolis program has 80 individual refugees - three of them are single men, the remainder are families ranging in size from two to nine persons. There are 20 sponsoring groups. Of the 80 refugees, 40 are under the age of 18 and enrolled in school. 34 of the refugees are fairly competent in speaking English. 18 of the refugees, including 10 adults, are attending language classes offered by the Indianapolis Public Schools. 10 of the refugee families have become totally independent, financially, from their sponsors.

The Indianapolis refugees' employment situation is encouraging. 22 refugees hold permanent full-time jobs and 13 others work part-time. Most have kept the jobs they started with, earned salary raises, and found potential for advancement. One Vietnamese, a social worker, earns \$12,000 per year working for the Indiana State Department of Public Welfare. Three of the refugees work in banks, four are janitorial or maintenance employees, two are mechanics, and another is a technician for an electronics firm. Other refugees work as a seamstress, a tailor, a sales clerk, an assembler, a spray painter, and a busboy. The busboy, incidentally, is so satisfied with his job that he has resisted the urging of his employer and his sponsor to accept a promotion.

None of the refugees have had major adjustment problems. Every head of household is employed. Application for public assistance is discouraged except where serious medical needs exist. Two refugees are receiving food stamps; one is receiving medical assistance and cash; and one receives food stamps, medical assistance, and cash. One gentleman is 76, the patriarch of a family group of 6.

CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES  
(CCBA-LA)

The CCBA was established over 50 years ago to assist people of Chinese ethnic origin. The CCBA-LA consists of representatives of 34 Chinese family associations. Each association, such as Li, Woo, Chang, etc., has the task of assisting Chinese with the same family name.

In October, 1975, the CCBA contracted with the U. S. Department of State to resettle the refugees of Chinese ethnic origin out of Camp Pendleton.

Under the CCBA-LA resettlement program, the entire \$500 per person it received under the contract with the U.S. government is given to the refugee as a direct cash payment. Each refugee received \$100 upon leaving Camp Pendleton; the remaining funds are released in \$100 per person installments every three months.

The CCBA approach has proven to have certain disadvantages. The pass-through of the full \$500 per person does not leave any funds for emergencies or administrative expenses which makes follow-up resettlement assistance impractical. On the other hand, the level of refugee complaints concerning the CCBA program has been low. This may result from a desire to keep disputes within the Chinese community. Alternatively, the full pass-through, despite its disadvantages, may be perceived by the refugees as essentially fair and just.

CCBA-LA has a number of large group sponsorships. One, in Los Angeles, under Rev. Stephen Ma, Church of Christ, consists of about 300 refugees and has reportedly been highly successful. Another group of 146 persons, also doing quite well, was placed with California Best Hydrofarm, Inc. The enterprise involves growing tomatoes in hothouses and is, therefore, full time and not seasonal work. A third group sponsorship in Sacramento of 138 persons ran into serious difficulties because the employment opportunities on which the sponsorship was based were largely seasonal. Many of these refugees are now on welfare.

CHINESE CONSOLIDATED BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK  
(CCBA-NY)

The CCBA-NY, like its sister organization in Los Angeles, volunteered to assist in resettling refugees of Chinese ethnic origin. A contract between the CCBA-NY and the U. S. Department of State was signed on November 16, 1976, and the CCBA set up operations at Fort Indian-town Gap, Pennsylvania, shortly thereafter.

The CCBA-NY program is similar to the one in Los Angeles but with one major exception. At the suggestion of the Task Force the CCBA-NY decided to retain \$50 of the \$500 per person resettlement allowance to provide a fund for possible emergencies. It is hoped that this fund will permit the CCBA to respond in a more flexible manner to resettlement difficulties.

Forty of the CCBA refugees have been resettled in Detroit. The Chinese community there has offered housing, employment, and other necessities. Most of the employment is in Chinese restaurants. The remaining 30 or so CCBA-NY refugees have been resettled in Chinese communities in New York and other east coast cities.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS (LDS)

In May, the State Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Service recognized LDS as a resettlement agency. During the period from May through November, LDS sponsored 581 refugees, some of whom were members of the LDS Church in Vietnam. The charitable resources of LDS completely funded its resettlement project. No reimbursement contract was signed with the State Department.

**D. OTHER FEDERAL  
PROGRAMS**

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

A review of the services provided to the refugee resettlement process by the Department of Labor (DOL) shows that DOL was primarily involved with (1) identifying refugee skills and how they relate to the American job market, (2) assessing the validity of job offers attached to sponsorship offers and (3) exploring local labor markets' potential for employment so that sponsors could have some assurance that the refugees would be able to obtain employment.

Frequently, issues arose relating to organized labor, such as alleged strike breaking and replacing union workers with refugees. A primary concern was to assure that the existing labor market in a specific area would not be crowded with refugees whose skills were not needed. It was also necessary to be continually sensitive to the desires of some employers to replace their current labor force with refugees who would perform at a lower wage.

Current tables supplied here give updated data on services provided the Indochina refugees by State Employment Security Agencies.

Tables 1 and 2 show that a total of 27,671 refugees came to the local offices of SESA seeking assistance in finding employment. Of these 5,507 or 19.10% were placed in jobs and 6,909 or 24.96% were referred to training or other services.

The tables also show the distribution by occupational skills. The trend noted in earlier reports continue. Whereas slightly over one-third of the refugees coming into the offices were classified in the professional, technical and management, clerical and sales skill groups, only about 16% found jobs at those skill levels. This indicates that many are accepting employment at lower skill levels than their stated skill level and also reflects the willingness of the refugees to accept employment.

Registration cards for 13,566 refugees, out of 27,671 seeking services, are still in local employment offices active files where they receive continuing consideration as job offerings are received.

REFUGEES PLACED BY SESA'S

Table 2

Occupational Skills of Indochina Refugees Placed in Jobs By SESA Local Offices as of 12-31-75  
Cumulative

Digit Code	Reg. I	Reg. II	Reg. III	Reg. IV	Reg. V	Reg. VI	Reg. VII	Reg. VIII	Reg. IX	Reg. X	Totals	% Distribution
0-1 Professional Technical Managerial	24	37	73	70	116	104	226	25	138	61	874	15.87
2 Clerical & Sales	29	18	68	67	131	101	159	41	158	55	827	15.02
3 Service	57	24	70	110	79	108	158	69	231	87	993	18.03
4 Farming Fishery Forestry & Related	6		18	20	52	14	10	1	27	11	159	2.88
5 Processing	10	2	23	29	9	33	34	6	31	9	186	3.38
6 Machine Trades	28	12	51	47	72	99	90	22	44	38	503	9.14
7 Bench Work	25	21	79	58	67	93	76	29	222	27	697	12.65
8 Structural Work	68	5	42	43	31	62	111	15	52	13	442	8.03
9 Miscellaneous	93	47	105	88	108	64	115	47	105	54	826	15.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>5,507</b>	<b>100.00</b>

# REFUGEES SERVED BY SESA'S

Table

Occupational Skills of Indochina Refugees Requesting Services Within SESA Local Offices as of 12-31-75  
Applicants Served in Local Offices by Region - Cumulative

Digit  
Code

	Reg. I	Reg. II	Reg. III	Reg. IV	Reg. V	Reg. VI	Reg. VII	Reg. VIII	Reg. IX	Reg. X	Totals	% Distribution
0-1 Professional Technical Managerial	206	167	639	674	435	1,144	841	190	1,605	559	6,460	23.35
2 Clerical & Sales	153	178	569	510	382	1,129	373	200	1,460	476	5,430	19.63
3 Service	135	98	358	509	310	593	619	170	1,603	381	4,776	17.25
4 Farming Fishery Forestry & Related	13	6	29	50	44	48	33	18	104	30	375	1.35
5 Processing	4	7	33	48	28	115	5	19	70	29	358	1.29
6 Machine Trades	68	68	232	233	196	463	259	73	432	166	2,190	7.92
7 Bench Work	125	72	274	186	171	441	252	77	608	141	2,347	8.49
8 Structural Work	95	46	266	232	166	372	193	67	347	144	1,928	6.97
9 Miscellaneous	216	180	375	397	288	467	553	108	876	347	3,807	13.75
<b>TOTALS</b>	1,015	822	2,775	2,839	2,020	4,772	3,128	922	7,105	2,273	27,671	100.00

Total number of applicants served: Past Month Male 2,393 Female 811 Total Past Month 3,204  
Total to Date 19,749 7,922 Total Served 27,671

Total referred to training and

## HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development is continuing to make the following government-assisted housing available to refugees on the same basis as to other low-income groups.

### HUD-Held properties

- o Single family properties are available for sale under the "bulk sales" program. Non-profit organizations can negotiate the purchase of 5 or more properties in an unrepaired condition and subsequently rent them to low income families.
- o Acquired multi-family properties are available for sale to non-profit organizations which could then rent units to low-income households.

### Rental Assistance

- o Low rent public housing is available through the local public housing authority (PHA). To receive assistance, families must register and be certified as income-eligible by the public housing agency in their locality.
- o Rental assistance through the Section 8 program is also available through the public housing authority. Under this program, the PHA makes payments to the recipient family's landlord to reduce the amount of rent paid by the participants. Interested families should contact the local public housing agency to be certified as income eligible for Section 8 assistance.

### Mobile Homes

- o Non-profit organizations may be able to purchase new mobile home units with a HUD insured loan.

### Rental of HUD Units

- o Secretary-held properties are currently available for rent in those cities where the inventory is high and turnover slow. (Attached is a statement of HUD rental policy and a list of cities where HUD-owned properties are being rented.)

Cities in which HUD-owned property may be available for rent

Boston, Massachusetts  
Newark, New Jersey  
New York, New York  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Jackson, Mississippi  
Chicago, Illinois  
Detroit, Michigan  
Dallas, Texas  
Houston, Texas  
Los Angeles, California  
Seattle, Washington

Cities expecting an influx of refugees were given estimates of the number of families that might come to their area. These cities can now revise their second year Housing Assistance Plans to reflect the increased housing assistance needs.

HUD's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity will assure that fair housing laws are observed with respect to refugee families.

Data as of February 18, 1976 show:

	Housing Units
Low Rent Public Housing	7
HUD-Acquired Home Properties	4 (2 sold)
HUD-Assisted Multi-Family Projects	297
	<u>308</u>

In the Los Angeles Area Office jurisdiction a special survey made on February 12th and 13th shows:

Low Rent Public Housing	4
HUD-Assisted Multi-Family	151
	<u>155</u>

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Personnel from the Small Business Administration (SBA), including a refugee consultant, conducted general sessions plus seminars in each of the reception camps. At these sessions 4600 new immigrants were briefed about the assistance available from SBA.

A Small Business Investment Corporation has been funded with \$500,000 from SBA plus \$500,000 invested by refugees. This corporation intends to make business loans to refugees to enable them to start small businesses.



**E. BUDGETARY DATA**

OBLIGATIONS FOR EVACUATION  
MAINTENANCE AND RESETTLEMENT OF  
VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

Authorized by PL 94-23

	<u>AID Funded</u> <u>Pres. Deter.</u>	<u>AID/IPR</u> <u>Funded</u>	<u>State Funded</u> <u>Cong. Appr.</u>	<u>Total All</u> <u>Funds</u>
Available Funds	\$2,277,454	\$98,000,000	\$305,000,000	\$405,277,454
Obligations - 2/29/76				
<u>Evacuation &amp; Movement</u>				
Shipping (CINCPAC Fleet)		7,277,000		7,277,000
		6,401,084	1,952,916	8,354,000
		61,462,385	23,137,615	84,600,000
<u>Camp Establishment and Refugee</u> <u>Maintenance and Processing</u>				
Camp Set-up		12,923,000		12,923,000
Camp Close-out			1,375,000	1,375,000
Daily Maintenance		2,766,364	102,236,636	105,003,000
Medical		1,300,000	3,000,000	4,300,000
Immigration and Nat. Ser. (Justice)		2,100,000	927,000	3,027,000
American Red Cross		1,500,000	3,920,387	5,420,387
Customs		12,470	25,000	37,470
Bangkok-Canberra Refugee Care	260,000		300,000	560,000
YMCA			303,360	303,360
Baptists			33,500	33,500
Washington International Center			7,900	7,900
Marshal Service (Justice)			984,000	984,000
Salvation Army, Guam and others			401,845	401,845

OBLIGATIONS FOR EVACUATION  
MAINTENANCE AND RESETTLEMENT OF  
VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

Authorized by PL 94-23

	<u>AID Funded</u> <u>Pres. Deter.</u>	<u>AID/IPR</u> <u>Funded</u>	<u>State Funded</u> <u>Cong. Appr.</u>	<u>Total All</u> <u>Funds</u>
<u>Placement of Refugees</u>				
Voluntary Agencies	\$ 720,000		\$ 66,117,000	\$ 66,837,000
State and Local Governments			3,466,500	3,466,500
Inland Transportation	197,454		7,093,819	7,291,273
ICEM	1,100,000		6,300,000	7,400,000
UNHCR			3,130,000	3,130,000
Travelers Aid (Meet Prog.)			300,000	300,000
Repatriation Ship			780,000	780,000
<u>Admin (including camp sites)</u>				
National Adv. Comm.			35,000	35,000
State (Task Force Activities)		\$ 655,676	1,687,940	2,343,616
AID		1,572,721	3,907,932	5,480,653
USIA		29,300	52,350	81,650
AID (Disaster Relief)			202,551	202,551
Labor			227,854	227,854
HEW (Including Residual Activities)			1,915,142	1,915,142
Other Government Agencies			60,000	60,000
Total Obligations	<u>\$ 2,277,454</u>	<u>\$98,000,000</u>	<u>\$233,881,247</u>	<u>\$334,158,701</u>
Remaining Availability*	-0-	-0-	71,118,753	71,118.753

\*Deferred for contingencies - \$28,492,695.

HEW OBLIGATIONS

Authorized by PL 94-23  
(Through February 29, 1976)

APPROPRIATION	\$100,000,000
OBLIGATIONS	
Public Health Service	3,600,000
Center for Disease Control	525,000
Educational Activities	16,767,575
Social and Rehabilitation Service	38,068,811
	<hr/>
TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	\$ 58,961,386
TOTAL AVAILABLE	\$ 41,038,614

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**F. RETRIEVALS**

## Supplementary Reports on Retrievals

The following reports of the Department of Defense and the Agency for International Development provide updated data on the retrieval of funds previously authorized and appropriated for assistance to South Vietnam and Cambodia, but not expended, as required by Section 4(c) of the Indochina Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1975. The appropriations covered are "Military Assistance, South Vietnamese Forces," appropriated to the Secretary of Defense, and "Indochina Postwar Reconstruction Assistance (IPR)," appropriated to the President.

### Military Assistance, South Vietnamese Forces

On April 21, 1975, the \$20.9 million balance of the \$700 million appropriated for Military Assistance South Vietnamese Forces for Fiscal Year 1975 was released for obligation against requirements specified by the Defense Attache Office, Saigon and CINCPAC. On April 29, 1975, the Secretary of Defense directed that all Defense assistance to South Vietnam be suspended and on May 2, 1975, the Defense Security Assistance Agency provided guidance and procedures to the Military Departments for closing out the program.

So far, \$29,053,843 has been returned to the Treasury. This is the amount deobligated by June 30, 1975. During the period July through February, 1975, an additional \$49,378,934 has been deobligated.

There are still quantities of equipment and materiel originally funded by this account, located in the United States and at overseas locations, which are being screened for condition and suitability to fulfill requirements by the Military Departments or other government agencies. The actual value of this equipment and materiel will not be known until ultimate disposition is determined. The current estimate of total potential recoupments, including the \$75,730,879 already realized, approximates \$100,000,000.

Report to Congress, Section 4(B) (3)

"The Indochina Migration Assistance Act of 1975"

A total of \$100,176,000 is unobligated and unallotted and is now estimated as retrievals from Vietnam and Cambodia Indochina Postwar reconstruction assistance funds. A total of \$91,018,000 has been deobligated through February 29, 1976 and additional \$9,158,000 is projected for deobligation through June 30, 1976.

Contract Settlements

Of the 141\* contracts cancelled at the termination of AID programs in Vietnam and Cambodia, 130 claims totaling \$11.9 million have been received. A total of 29 claims for \$490,340 have been settled thus far.

A task force consisting of contracting officers, the General Counsel and the Auditor General was established to adjudicate and process these claims. In addition, a contract settlement board was established. Contractors have 12 months from the date of termination to submit final claims. Due to the time required to make claims, it is anticipated that contract settlement will be the last to be resolved in the close out process.

Commodity Import Program

No change from December report.

\*Note that the December 1975 quarterly report figure of 145 is adjusted to reflect current records in AID.