

April 5, 1975

POOL REPORT

**Palm Springs to San Francisco  
International Airport**

Air Force One took off at 8 p. m. Pacific time. About 15 minutes later Ron Nessen came back with the following information:

The 747 chartered Pan American Airways plane bringing 325 orphans started out in Saigon, stopped in Yokota, Japan, then from Japan on to San Francisco International Airport.

Ron said he was not sure how many adults were on board -- between 11 and 22. Two of the adult escorts were Christine Liverman and (no first name) Fornfisall. Both survived the C-5A crash. The other adult escorts are volunteers.

The host organization for bringing these orphans or for receiving the orphans is an ad hoc group called The Society for Protection of Vietnamese Orphans. It is a group composed of doctors, army personnel, Red Cross personnel, and adoption agencies. This group buys medical supplies, provides medical examinations, takes charge of the orphans upon arrival, and distributes them to the adopting parents.

The flight itself, that is the charter of this airplane, is by a private individual, Robert Macaulay. He is the President of the American Fiber Company, a company that makes carpeting. Cost of this 747 flight was \$200,000, which was paid for by Macaulay out of his pocket.

The plane will land in San Francisco and will be met by a series of bus composed of one doctor, one nurse, one registrar, and 20 Red Cross volunteers. There will be 18 of these teams. Each will go aboard the plane. Each doctor will check out 20 orphans. Each of the volunteers will take one orphan off the plane. The registrars will register each orphan. The children will be placed aboard buses and taken to The Presidio for medical examination.

The President and Mrs. Ford will arrive 15 minutes before the plane lands and will talk to the volunteers and be given a briefing on the procedure. The President will enter the 747 with the first bus team and help with the processing, possibly deplaning with one of the orphans. The President and Mrs. Ford will be met at the San Francisco Airport by Dr. Alex Stalcup. He is the Pediatrics Director of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Also meeting the President and Mrs. Ford will be Dr. Mark Oscherwitz. He is the Director of Internal Medicine for the organization. And also at planeside will be Mr. Macaulay. Mrs. Ford will not be able to get near the children. Thirteen or 14 of the children have chickenpox and the chemotherapy she is taking destroys her immunity, therefore she will stay back and not get near the children.

Russ Ward  
John Osborne  
Jim Large

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