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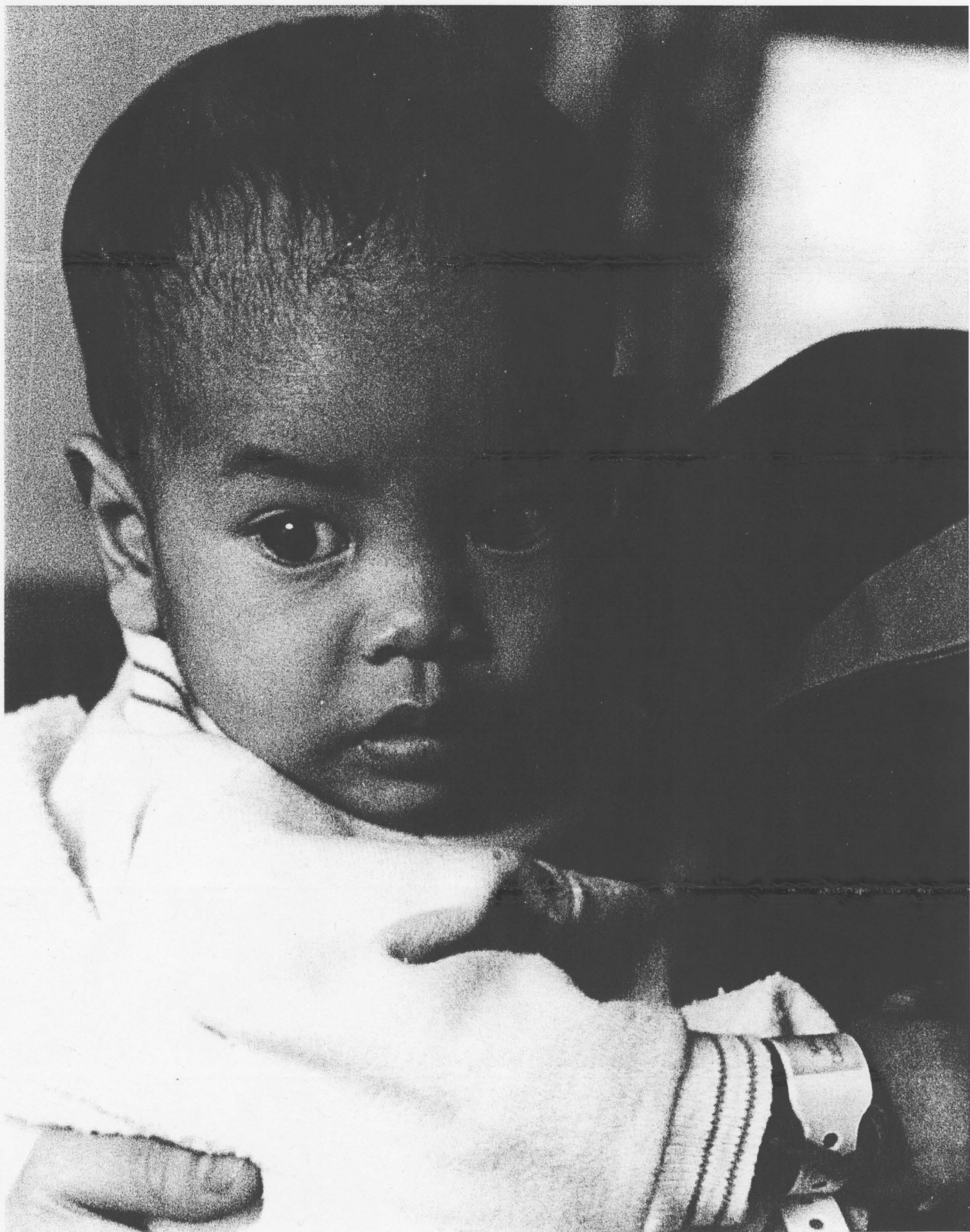
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Box 2

Folder James P. McGarry

Initials/Date TMH 3/25/14



Easy-going little Jimmy McGorry escaped worst traumas of Vietnam



This is the last of three stories about the lives of Vietnamese refugees in the Lehigh Valley.

By JOHN H. KOCH
Of The Morning Call

Jimmy McGorry is a Vietnam refugee of a sort.

He's the 21-month-old adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. James R. McGorry, who arrived in the United States in April as

floor of the dining room of the McGorry home.

The young McGorry seemed fascinated with a reporter's hat — a size 7½, which covered the little boy's entire head.

Jimmy, whose Vietnamese name was Pham Minh Hung, came by way of the Pearl Buck Foundation.

The McGorrys had made inquiries about adoption at the Catholic Social Agency, through which they adopted Jeanne

care of Jimmy.

"She has a son 10 months younger than Jimmy and they're great together," Mrs. McGorry said.

Jeanne has adjusted to her new brother, Mrs. McGorry said. This was not easy, she said, because "she was used to being the only child."

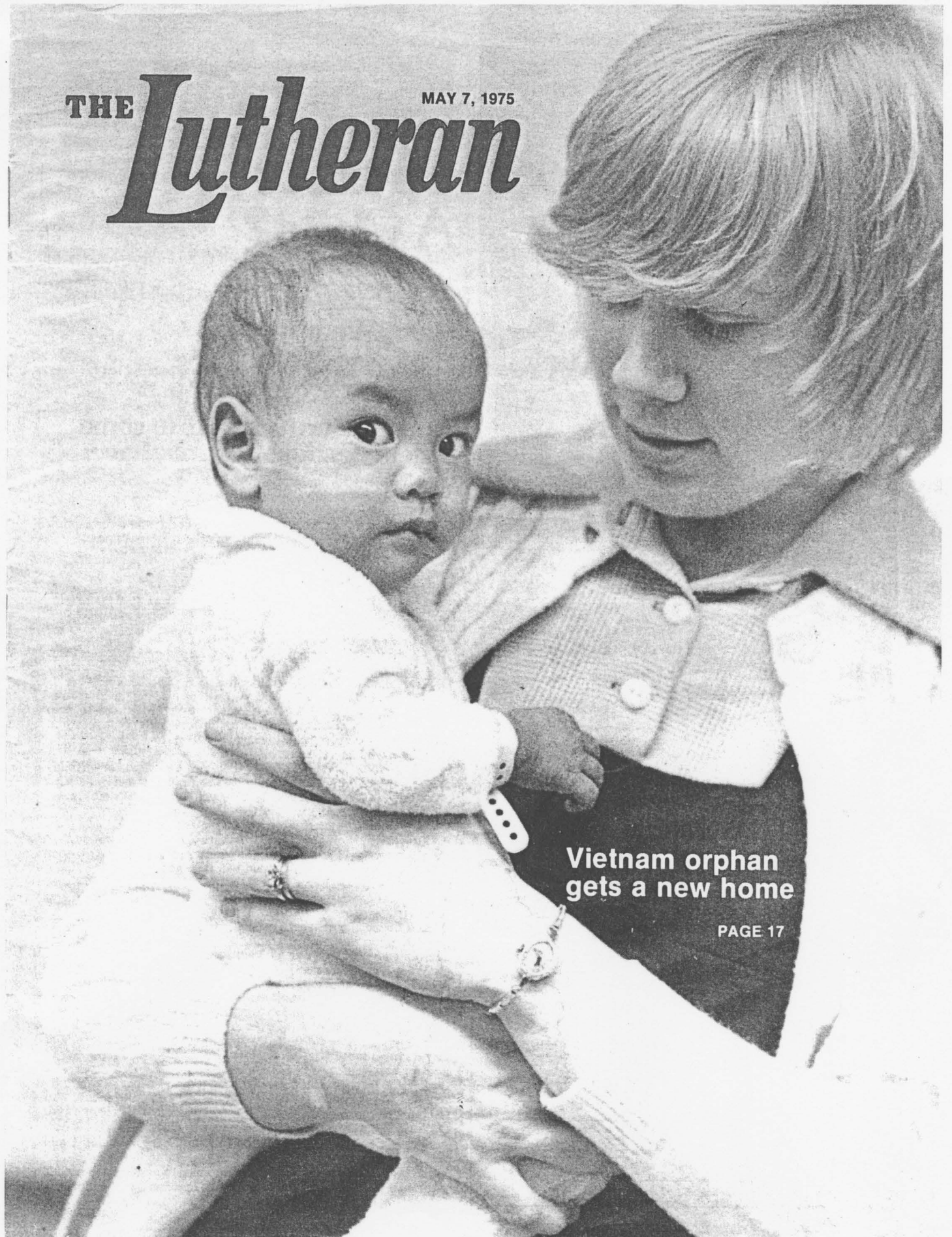
In January, the McGorrys hope to be given final and permanent custody of their son.

As the father and mother talked to a reporter, Jimmy played with a pair of



THE *Lutheran*

MAY 7, 1975



Vietnam orphan
gets a new home

PAGE 17

Welcoming tots from Vietnam

A Lutheran church in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, became the first American home for 16 Vietnamese children on a Sunday night in early April. The children had been airlifted from Saigon to Seattle, then on to Kennedy Airport in New York. They completed their 9,000-mile journey on a Pennridge school bus, reaching St. Matthew Church, Kellers Church, Pa., at about 10:30 p.m. Members of the congregation and staff persons from the Pearl S. Buck Foundation, which had arranged for the trip, accompanied the children from the airport to the church.



The Globe Times - Allentown/Lehigh County - June 17, 1982

New Citizens Told to Honor Origins, Live by U.S. Ideals

Enjoy Liberty, Education, Citizens Told

Former Commonwealth Court Judge Madaline Palladino, herself a daughter of an Italian immigrant, told 145 new citizens to get an education and enjoy the freedoms the United States.

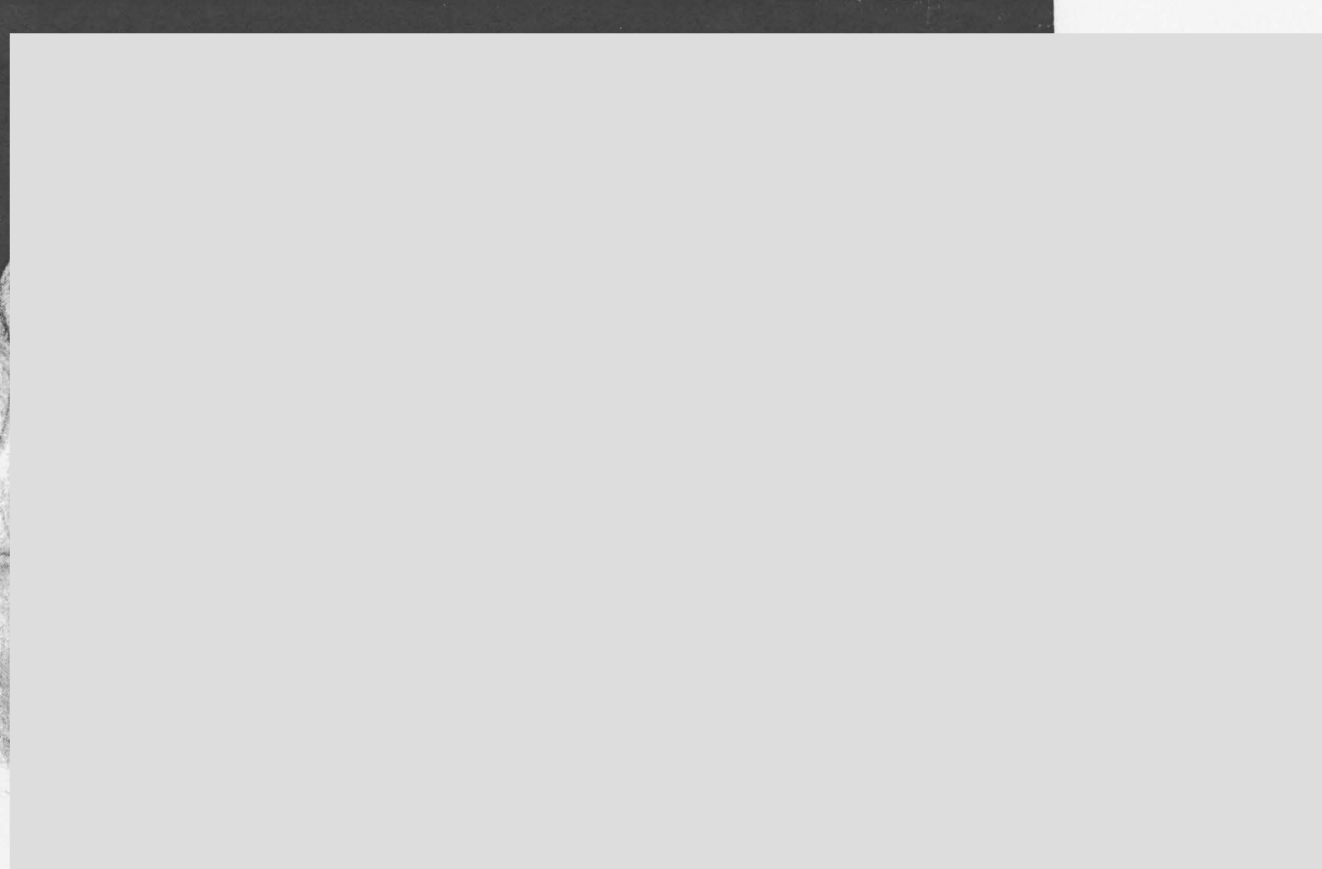
"This is the only place where freedom — real freedom — still exists," she told the former residents of 41 countries packed into the humid Gold Courtroom of the Old Lehigh County Courthouse.

She also advised, in the words of her father, "It's never enough to know a little. Get as much education as possible."

The program was sponsored by the Herbert Paul Lentz American Legion Post 29 and its auxiliary.

Attorney Craig DeBernardis, U.S. naturalization examiner, moved for the admission of the new citizens and Lehigh County Judge James N. Diefenderfer administered the oath of citizenship.

The new citizens ranged in age from 1½ — Rebecca Eileen Leister, a native of Korea and daughter of Raymond and Rhonda Lei-



(Globe-Times Photo)

Continued on Page B-2, Col. 4

New Americans Take Oath of Allegiance in Old Lehigh County Courthouse

Evening Chronicle



ALLENTOWN PA., MONDAY, APRIL 7, 1975



Chronicle photo by Dick Mantz

Allentown pair adopts a dream

By DICK JOHNSON
Of the Chronicle Staff

A two-year-old dream finally came true today for Mr. and Mrs. James R. McGorry of Allentown.

The couple were united with a Vietnamese war orphan — their second adopted child — at Kellers Church near Perkasio.

Thirteen-month-old Jimmy, whose small dark eyes darted about the room as flashbulbs popped and newsmen asked questions, is the newest member of the McGorry family.

"I just can't believe it's true. It's finally happened," smiled a joyful Mrs. Louise McGorry, as she held the tiny Vietnamese infant on her lap.

"We filed the papers over two years ago, received the approved immigration papers last Wednesday, and here he is today," she said.

"I just can't put words on it. It's a terrific experience," said her husband, an insurance agent for the Glenn Moyer Agency in Allentown.

McGorry, of 1752 Linden St., said the snowballing events in South Vietnam last week meant a lot of frustration and suspended hope for his family.

"We didn't know for about three hours after the C-5A crash whether he (young Jimmy) was on it. But he wasn't aboard, thank God. I have great sympathy for the adoptive parents of those kids who were killed in the crash."

Young Jimmy's airlift to America was arranged by the Pearl S. Buck foundation, whose officers supervised the joyful adoption proceedings in the nursery of St. Mathew's Evangelical Lutheran Church today.

Fifteen other Vietnamese orphans, ranging in age from 3 months to 8 years, arrived at Kellers Church yesterday after a long Pan American Airways flight which terminated in New York.

For the McGorries, the Vietnamese child is the second adopted member of the household. An animated, almost-exuberant Jeanne, 5, was with her parents today.

The Allentown couple was the third set of parents to be introduced to their newest charges this morning. Earlier, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Anders Jr. of Fairport, N.Y., and their two sons were united with six-month old Elissa, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Peters and family, of Waterloo, N.Y., met 11-month-old Sarah.

Jeanne McGorry, who was adopted by her Allentown parents through the auspices of the Catholic Social Agency, was delighted to meet her new brother today.

McGorry noted that young Jeanne, not

Jimmy starts a new life in Allentown

The long journey of a young Vietnamese war orphan finally ended yesterday when his adoptive parents, Mr. and Mrs. James R. McGorry, brought him home to Allentown.

The couple was united with 13-month-old Jimmy (whose Vietnamese name is Pham Minh Hung) at Kellers Church near Perkasio. He is their second adopted child.

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Editorial on Page 18

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McGorry family: J

ALLENTOWN, PA.,
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 1985 •

Sunday

CALL-CHRONICLE

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Many Vietnamese refugees find life in Lehigh Valley is good

By DAVID M. ERDMAN
Of the Call-Chronicle

VIETNAM LEGACY

10 YEARS LATER



Jimmy, another Vietnam baby, was 13 months old when a 9,000-mile journey from the Viet Hoa orphanage ended in the basement of St. Matthew's Church near Perkasio.

His airlift was arranged through the Pearl S. Buck Foundation in Perkasio, which was founded in 1964.

Jimmy's plane touched down at Kennedy airport at 5:30 p.m. April 26, 1975. He was taken to the church

Louise and James McGorry of Allentown hadn't been expecting Jimmy until September. Events in Vietnam escalated and the decision was made to send the babies through in April.

Mrs. McGorry recalled the scene

448 E. 20th Street
Apt 7D
New York, NY 10009
January 22, 2002

Dear President Ford,

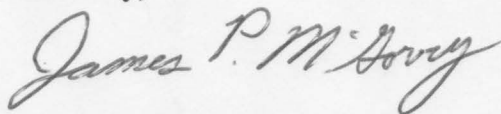
I am writing to you today because I have recently started reading a book about 'Operation Baby Lift' and wanted to thank you for your assistance. I was one of the children who were on a flight that the Pearl S. Buck Foundation sponsored. I came to the United States in April of 1975, when I was thirteen months and weighed thirteen pounds. I was adopted by Jim and Louise McGorry from Allentown, Pennsylvania. Not only did I have new parents but I also had a new sister Jeanne Margaret who was five years older than me and also adopted.

I grew up surrounded by a loving family and I have never been overly concerned about the details of my adoption. However, as I got older I did start to sense some different views of the events that went on during the Vietnam War. I do know there were times when my dad was offended by how people viewed the Vietnamese, our involvement in the war and the aftermath. However, as a family we were not political and I was not treated as though I were different. I find myself lucky to have been placed in the United States with such a loving family and I know this was made possible because of your sanctioning of 'Operation Baby Lift'.

Growing up in white suburbia I enjoyed all the advantages of the average American child. I never felt that I was any different, but then this was the only life that I knew. Throughout my childhood I went to school and played sports with all my friends from the neighborhood. I played baseball, football and started wrestling at a young age, which has given me the opportunity to attend Moravian College. After graduation I moved to New York City where I started working for an investment firm in their computer department. I am still with this company after three years and enjoy my work. I also enjoy the energy of New York City and by living here I am close to my sister, who also lives in New York, and my mother who still lives in Allentown, less than two hours away.

I am lucky to have been afforded many opportunities in the life that 'Operation Baby Lift' opened for me. Again, I would like to thank you for making my life here in the United States possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James P. McGorry". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

James P. McGorry