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COLORADO DAILY 10 Apr 75

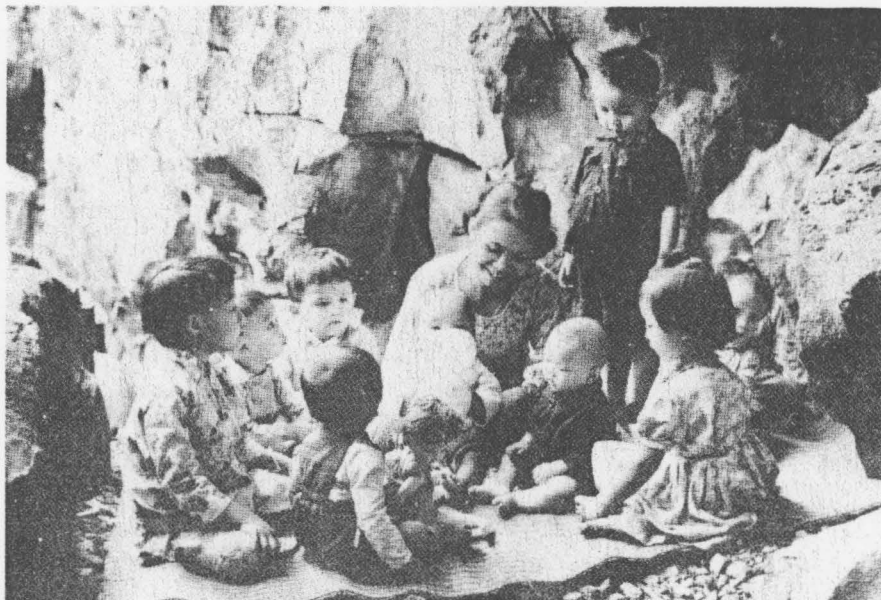
Vietnamese orphans: help them find a life in their own country

name woman currently living in the United States, feel that American efforts would be better put to working on a political settlement of the war.

By MRS. TRAN TUONG NHU

Interest in the plight of Vietnamese orphans grows rapidly in the United States, but is this another example of well-intentioned Americans rushing into another Vietnamese miasma?

For the most part, Americans who want to adopt a Vietnamese orphan are genuinely concerned over the lack of care and love from which these wretched innocents suffer. They feel that they can pro-



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vide a suitable home, love and care that all little children deserve. These are fine intentions but may result in more harm than good to the orphans themselves and Vietnamese society.

People have been led to believe that racially mixed children will suffer in Vietnam because they have been told that Vietnamese are racist. While racism exists, it is more for political reasons than cultural ones. The child with foreign blood serves as a constant reminder of the bitter experience of foreign intervention which still exists, but this will most certainly decline when the war is ended, as it did after the French left.

Black-fathered children are said to suffer the most. This is true, but in my research work in Vietnam, I have seen a number of instances where Vietnamese families have successfully adopted such children, and even cases where Vietnamese men take care of the half-black children their wives had borne.

Adoption is common in Vietnam by the Vietnamese, but it is done largely outside the archaic colonial-created legal barriers to adoption that are now applied dis-



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criminatingly to foreigners. Chil-
dren who lost their parents have
traditionally been taken in by rela-
tives, and if there are no nearby
relatives then the neighbors look
after them. It has been a common
practice for childless couples to
adopt a niece or nephew. All of this
has been done without resorting to
going to court or establishing or-
phanages, which were established
by the French. The war has, of
course, broken down the tradi-
tional system, but Vietnamese
people still help each other and
should be encouraged to continue
to do so.

In contrast to the ease with
which Vietnamese adopt, frustrat-
ing bureaucratic difficulties have
arisen, on both the Vietnamese and
American sides, as a result of pres-
sure for inter-country adoption.
Paperwork is very slow in Vietnam.
Civil servants are underpaid, tend
to be venal and find it not worth-
while to be efficient, particularly
when pressured.

Further complications have ar-
isen when the Vietnamese Ministry
of Social Welfare set up a Child
Welfare Bureau which has the task
of overseeing each adoption, treat-
ing each application individually
— an agonizingly slow task. The
head of this bureau is especially

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interested in placing handicapped children with families. She does not wish to give preferential treatment to American children which represent a small minority of the orphans.

Another complication is the matter of orphanage policy. Catholic orphanages are reluctant to allow non-Catholics to adopt, and Buddhist orphanages do not allow

the children in orphanages have a parent or relative. The obvious solution is to reunite the parent with the child, instead of bringing the child half-way around the world. This could be effected through day care centers which would allow the parent or relative to work and keep the child. In 1972 there were 250 such centers in South Vietnam, but that is not nearly enough to handle the overwhelming



adoptions at all.

The main obstacle to inter-country adoption is that two-thirds of the children described as "orphans" have living relatives, and 50 per cent have one living parent. These children have been placed in orphanages because their parents and relatives cannot afford to care for them. Obviously they cannot be adopted without the consent of the parents or kin. In some cases the relatives do not visit the children, nor do they ever return for them, but the orphanages cannot, legally, give the children away.

Because of the great foreign interest in adoption, some of the less scrupulous orphanages, and this is quite prevalent, exact payments for orphans. A baby market has already been created, and it is a lucrative business for some. It is astounding for Vietnamese to learn of the exorbitant prices that foreigners will pay for a child, when they can adopt one themselves for nothing.

The power of the dollar amid the poverty and insecurity of Vietnam has the same destructive effect on Vietnamese society with respect to the baby business that it has had in other areas throughout the war. The same problem was created in Korea — and continues today — due to well-

number of "orphans."

If more attention were focused on this area it would greatly alleviate the burden on orphanages which could be completely dismantled with a program to place remaining children without relatives in foster homes. In addition, there are thousands of runaway and abandoned children roaming throughout Vietnam who could receive homes and attention in this way.

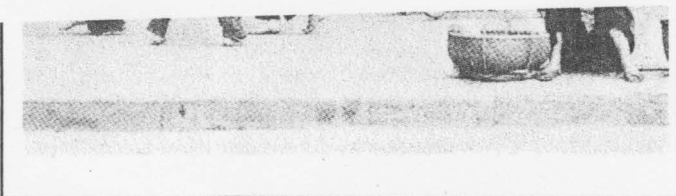
In the Provisional Revolutionary Government areas of South Vietnam and in North Vietnam, parentless children have been totally reabsorbed into the society without any foreign adoption or placement in institutions for other than short periods of time.

There are certainly some children, the handicapped, the black children who might well benefit from inter-country adoption, but the vast majority of Vietnamese orphans should, for their own sake, and for the sake of Vietnam, remain in their own country. Vietnam needs its children. It is not up to the foreigners, especially Americans, to intervene at this time to deplete Vietnam of its children.

If Americans wish to help, they

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The power of the dollar amid the poverty and insecurity of Vietnam has the same destructive effect on Vietnamese society with respect to the baby business that it has had in other areas throughout the war. The same problem was created in Korea — and continues today — due to well-intentioned American largesse.

Most of the children waiting for adoption in Saigon have been "voluntarily" relinquished by their mothers to the only foreign agency licensed for inter-country adoption. This is most reprehensible — in a country where hundreds of thousands of children are languishing for lack of attention, the agency should dissuade mothers from giving up their children.

Furthermore, while this agency places children in Vietnamese foster homes while waiting for adoption instead of allowing them to die a slow death in orphanages, this often results in the family, having nursed the child back to health, not wanting to give the child up. And why should they? But for the foreign adoption pressure, perhaps this agency and others might support the wiser practice of finding homes for children in Vietnam. Rather than allowing mothers to give up their children, new programs should be initiated to counsel and assist mothers to keep their children. Such programs have been started at three maternity hospitals in Saigon.

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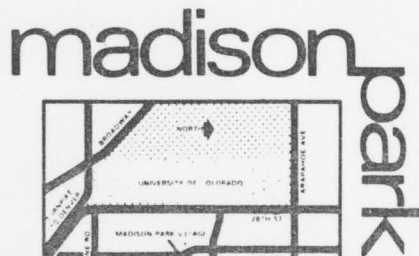
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Marxist Andre Gorz in the late 60s
and adopted by many New Left

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should consider the alternatives of supporting day care centers or foster homes so that the children need not suffer the loss of their country

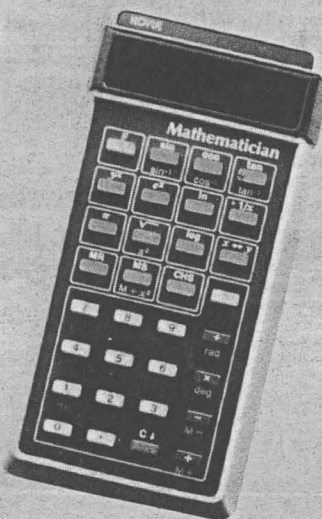
to gratify well-meaning people. Beyond this, one should not forget that the worst obstacle to helping the children is the war itself, which daily adds to the endless stream of orphans and continues to destroy Vietnamese society.

Lastly, and most importantly, it is hard to convey to Americans how deeply Vietnamese are attached to their country. Granted that little children can adapt to a new culture, but as they grow up in a foreign country, as I have, they discover an undeniable affinity for their motherland, and it is a long journey back. The American way of life is so seductive that the poor material quality of Vietnamese life pales beside it. Yet there are so many other aspects of Vietnamese life which are so rich and meaningful that it is unfair to deprive a Vietnamese of these rights.

It is not for Americans to decide for Vietnamese children what sort of life they should live. If they want to help, help them find a life in their own context, in their own country, where they mean something not only to others around them, but to themselves. It is not time to rescue the Vietnamese from other Vietnamese, but to enable them to live together in peace.

This article was provided by the American Friends Service Committee, 2801 East Colfax Avenue, #304 in Denver.

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Operation Babylift Another Expression of U.S. Arrogance

By BOB GREENE

THE SO-CALLED OPERATION BABYLIFT out of Vietnam is being hailed as a wonderful and noble gesture on the part of the United States. It is not. Instead, it is an appalling contribution of the overwhelming American arrogance that has made Vietnam a tragedy for our country from the day we arrived there.

I realize that this is going to be an unpopular notion. Judging from the wet-eyed reports from newscasters and reporters, the U.S.-sponsored flights of orphans from Saigon to the United States are widely being viewed as positive evidence of Americans' humanitarianism and decency. It is easy to get good press when you can use babies as props.

But before this goes too far, it is time to stop for a moment and admit the real thinking that lies behind the taking of babies out of Asia: the theory that the American way of life is the only good way of life, and that we are doing the Vietnamese a favor by allowing them to try to be like us.

WE WENT OVER there to win hearts and minds. We failed miserably. Now it seems that every person in Southeast Asia who is old enough to talk is busy proclaiming hatred for the United States. So what do we do? Still refusing to learn, we start grabbing the only Asians who are too young to talk back to us, and we bring them over here and announce plans to make them American citizens.

No one could object to evacuation of the children from Saigon now that an attack on the city seems imminent. Throughout the history of warfare, efforts have been made to get children out of the line of fire until the danger has passed.

But this is different. We are not taking the babies to a safe zone until the threat of bombing is over. We are picking them up out of their homeland, and flying them halfway around the world to our own country, where we have determined that their new home should be.

It is a very easy and convenient way to alleviate American guilt over what has happened in Vietnam. To show an American president cradling a Vietnamese baby in his arms is to comfort a nation. But where was the concern for Asian infants when we were conducting saturation drops of fragment bombs all over the Vietnamese countryside? Where was the concern for Asian infants when we were dropping napalm as a matter of course?

For a time the South Vietnamese tried to cease the taking of Asian babies out of Asia, but our own country protested, and so the flights were resumed. Will no one stop to ask what right we have to be doing this? Will no one stop to wonder how we are so sure that a Vietnamese child will be happier growing up in Illinois or Alabama than in Vietnam?

The news film has shown Vietnamese foster mothers weeping as plane loads of the babies lift off from Saigon. Can anyone blame the foster mothers? Our country is still so smugly confident that it knows best, that it has all of the answers to the mysteries of life in Southeast Asia. We have been proven wrong again and again and again, and yet we will not hesitate to blame the Vietnamese if they see Operation Babylift to be nothing more than kidnapping.

TO SAY THAT we have homes and parents available for the Vietnamese children here in the United States is simply not enough. To say that Americans feel profound and genuine sympathy for the Vietnamese children is simply not enough. It is not our right to determine that the Vietnamese children will be happier as Americans.

Joseph H. Reid, executive director of the Child Welfare League of America, has addressed himself to this question. This is what he said: "Vietnamese, like all people, do not want to lose their children. All Vietnamese have a strong sense of family obligation, and they have shown

themselves willing and capable of caring for their own children. Our great moral responsibility is to enable them, in their time of great tragedy, to do so. . . . Wouldn't it be far better for the children of Vietnam to be cared for in their own highly civilized culture—whether Communist or non-Communist—than to destroy that culture further by exporting tens of thousands of them to alien homes? Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese men, women and children have died during decades of war. Do we further deplete their population by 'rescuing' their children through flight to the United States?"

THE UNSPOKEN THOUGHT behind the taking of the children from their homeland is that we are saving them from a life growing up under communism. But are we so certain that a Vietnamese child will be less able to adjust to a North Vietnamese government than to a foreign life in the United States? The war is a civil war, and there is no reason to believe that, in its aftermath, North Vietnamese soldiers would do purposeful harm to Vietnamese infants. My Lai was an American atrocity, not a Communist atrocity.

But we will not listen, of course. Instead we will bring plane load after plane load of Vietnamese children to the United States, where we will give them to American parents and change their names to American names.

And they will grow up, outsiders in a land not their own, and as they approach adulthood they will read the history of what happened in the land where they were born. They will read of the American adventure in Vietnam, and they will wonder how it ever developed that they ended up here. But they will know the answer. They are here because they are the final chapter of an American blindness and an American shame that we still will not admit is real.

Chicago Sun-Times

Move Sought For Orphanage

Saigon, South Vietnam — "I'm watching the map as IAP — A Georgia mother with the Communist forces keep five children of her own and coming I can't see Saigon survive adopted Vietnamese orphans started a campaign living as an island as Hong Wednesday to move an entire government is inevitable." She said she didn't think the youngsters to the United States to save them from "godless communism."

Betty Tisdale of Columbus is in her late 40s and is the wife of a retired U.S. Army pediatrician. She arrived Tuesday night from the United States. Mrs. Tisdale said she had raised \$123,000 in two days in the United States to transport the children from the An Lac — or Happy Haven — orphanage set up by the late Dr. Tom Dooley. She has been helping to support the orphanage since 1961.

Foster parents await the children in America, she said. She now must persuade South Vietnamese officials to grant visas to the children, who range from infants to teenagers. She said an official of the U.S. Agency for International Development assured her "they would have planes for the children" if the Saigon government gave them exit visas.

The government halted large-scale airlifts of orphans after last weekend's evacuation of more than 1,700 touched off criticism in Saigon and abroad. "All I've done for 14 years is raise money for An Lac so that the children could grow up in their own country to be better-educated citizens of their own country," said Mrs. Tisdale. "But I don't want them to lose their minds and souls to what I call a godless society."

Orphan airlift described as propaganda

SAIGON (AP) — Opposition politicians made public Sunday a letter from a top government official which quotes U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin as saying the evacuation of orphans "will help create a shift in American public opinion in favor" of South Vietnam.

The politicians, headed by neutralist Tran Ngoc Lieng, called the orphan airlift an inhumane propaganda campaign for more U.S. war aid. They demanded it be stopped immediately.

When asked about the letter written by Dr. Phan Quang Dan, deputy premier for social welfare, a U.S. embassy spokesman said Martin "has had as his overriding concern the welfare of the orphans."

The spokesman said Dan and Martin met last week on the orphan airlift and that Dan said the evacuation "might also have some effect on U.S. public opinion."

The letter was written Wednesday to Tran Thien Khiem, then premier, requesting prompt clearance for evacuation of about 1,400 Vietnamese orphans. The clearance was quickly granted by the South Vietnamese government and the airlift of orphans began the same day.

Dan confirmed the letter was authentic but denied quoting the American ambassador directly or indirectly. He said the letter's comment on creating favorable publicity for the South Vietnamese gov-

ernment "was my own opinion and that of my friends in the United States and Australia."

An unofficial translation of Dan's letter, however, clearly refers to the U.S. ambassador and his intervening "directly with me to ask for permission to evacuate these children en masse abroad."

"He stressed that this evacuation along with the millions of refugees abandoning Communist-controlled zones, will help create a shift in American public opinion in favor of the Republic of Vietnam. Especially when these children land in the United States, they will be subject to television, radio and press agency coverage and the effect will be tremendous."



President Ford comforts one of the Vietnam orphans which arrived by jet on the West Coast at the close of the

President's nine day working vacation. The President and Mrs. Ford were on hand to greet one of the planes



Tran Van Jones

It is my good fortune to spend my Saturday mornings with the children of St. Ann's, a Catholic-run orphanage across the district line in Maryland. I do not claim to have been fully reformed as yet by the example of their bravery and cheer. But I am learning. We read, play, argue and tell each other lies, and sometimes—although there is hell to pay with my Granola-minded friends—I spring for their favorite luncheon of hot dogs, French fries and root beer, topped off, I regret to say, with a faceful of bubble gum. The children are 5 and 6 years old and “orphans” only in the loosest modern meaning of that term. Abandoned, neglected, abused in ways you don't want to hear about, or simply born to people who long to care for them and can't, they are entrusted to the nuns, while the authorities decide what will come next.

If it weren't for the Vietnam “baby lift”, I would not write about these children. And if it weren't for these children, I would surely not wade into the emotional controversy over the baby lift itself—especially since the original program of evacuating genuinely homeless small children to adoptive parents here predictably soon degenerated into something else. But in important ways I think we are talking about similar children and similar dilemmas so far as most of the originally evacuated babies are concerned. And much of what I have seen at St. Ann's tells me that we make a mistake in dismissing the baby lift out of hand as something wholly inhumane or politically cheap or culturally arrogant.

VICTIMIZED

When I say these are similar children, I mean more than that both groups have been victimized by the vagaries of an adult world or that both have known pain, fear, violence, instability and loss beyond what we can imagine. I mean that the bearing and expressions I saw on television were hauntingly familiar to me. These are children who will walk into the arms of any stranger, who have become stoical and accepting and oddly tearless about their fate as they are carted from one place to another. They look like babies but do not seem like babies except—as we saw in those televised arrivals—in their utter yielding to a moment of embrace. Did you notice how relatively little *crying* was associated with their ordeal? At St. Ann's we consider it a victory when a somber child laughs, but a positive triumph when one who has forgotten how to cry—no matter how badly

skinned the knee or keen the sense of outrage—gives way to his first sobs.

These are children, in other words, with enormous immediate needs, and that is the problem. They are terrible candidates for further risk and delay, since their growing older and suffering more will not wait on the bureaucratic clock or the hope of finding a better solution or the laudable intention of working out something that will simultaneously help more children—and that is the source of the controversy.

'ROOT CAUSES'

I have heard most of the arguments now being made against the whole concept of the baby lift in the context of the children at St. Ann's. Some I reject out of hand, principally the “instead of” arguments and their “drop-in-the-bucket” corollaries. That there are other children needing aid or that there are “root causes” to be addressed do not seem to me adequate reasons for failing to help a single child. Those objections concerning exploitation of the children I would stipulate as true, inevitable and ultimately irrelevant. For on the basis of my observation of the political and bureaucratic forces at work in my own community, I have come to regard it as a given that until such children are finally settled they are continually at risk, that the warring agents and exploiters of their rescue can pretty well be counted on to enhance their misery for a time.

But nothing suggests to me that the truly lost and alone among these children would have been spared the agonies adults are so good at generating had they remained in unreconstructed postwar Vietnam. I am talking of time here, not politics or ideology: I do not for a moment believe the presumptive inheritors of South Vietnam mean harm to their small children. I do believe that in the wake of the general bloodshed and displacement, these particular children would have small claim on the resources of recovery and small chance of finding personal havens such as they have now found in the period of time that matters.

One reaches here the really hard question—that of the wisdom of removing these children *at all* from their cultural milieu, of so drastically altering their identity. I grant without argument the enormous claim of a child's historical and cultural sense of self. I have become uncomfortably familiar with it. In Washington, where the issues are not Asian-Western but black-white, the emotions

are equally keen and the judgments equally difficult to make. At what point do you remove a black child to the custody of white nuns or foster parents? What degree of hardship or danger is sufficient to outweigh the value of his remaining in his home, his cultural world? What if, for an abandoned or severely distressed black child, there is the chance of a white haven *now* as against the *hope* of a black haven later? You can reverse the roles of the races, and the question stays the same: what do you do when there is no “best” or even “better” solution at hand?

IDENTITY

The touchstone, it seems to me, must be the well-being of a small and tortured child. And here I would invoke a value that I think transcends even the importance of cultural identity—the universal human value of learning that there can be order and stability and an absence of terror in relationships among people, that there are others who can be trusted not to betray or desert or do grievous harm to a child, that the roof will still be on the building tomorrow morning and that love can be sustained even through anger. The nuns at St. Ann's do not indoctrinate or convert or impose alien values. As important, they do not give in to that understandable impulse to overindulge the children in their care by way of “making up” for what has gone before. Rather they convey to them the knowledge that there is a generous, humane and durable personal order possible among people, one in which they have a part. And in this circumstance I have seen children who were regarded as dull or defective or physically impaired flower, and I have come in a way to understand the meaning of “miracles” and their essential simplicity.

Surely it is not wholly misguided to think that at least hundreds of those babies so indecorously carted in from Saigon and from a terrible past and a future that was at best uncertain will experience something similar in the care of their adoptive parents. In the best of worlds or even a better one none of this would have happened. But it did. Why should people be made to feel ashamed of a necessarily sad and imperfect effort to rescue a lonely child? It's not as if we had a shortage of things to be ashamed of.



(NY26) NEW YORK, April 4--'SHE IS EVERYTHING WE EVER WANTED'--Adele Kolinsky of Spring Valley, N.Y., holds Nguyen Thi My Huong, the three-year-old Vietnamese girl she has adopted, on the youngster's arrival at New York's La Guardia Airport Friday. At right is Mrs. Kolinsky's husband, Ben. "She is everything we ever wanted," said Mrs. Kolinsky. The girl, whose new name will be Robyn Lan, was one of more than 50 children who arrived safely in this country Thursday after a World Airways flight from Saigon. (AP Wirephoto) (see AP AAA wire story) (pr

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—Story in Col. 1—

Bartow Named New Bruin Coach

See Sports, Page C-1

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THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1975

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THURSDAY
LATEST
NEWS
SPORTS

THE DIAPER FLIGHT

57 Viet Orphans Arrive in U.S.

**Terrorists Watson Tells
Take Credit for
Blasts**

**Children
Greeted
In Oakland**

**Of Role in
Sub Secrecy**

NEW YORK (AP) — Four explosions echoed through mid Manhattan late Wednesday night and early Thursday, police reported. Officers said that one person was slightly injured.

Two of the explosions occurred at insurance company

By LES GOLDBERG

Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

The Central Intelligence Agency apparently tried to keep secret the now famous Soviet submarine recovery operation by asking County Tax Assessor Philip E. Watson last January to keep a specially

him the ship, with a market value of \$300 million, was an oceanographic vessel and subject to a one per cent tax assessment, instead of the usual 25 per cent levied against privately owned ships.

Watson said his office was

By PETER ARNETT
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)

A plane carrying 57 orphaned Vietnamese children to new homes in the United States landed here Wednesday night after making a dash for freedom from threatened Saigon without official clearance.

The children were greeted by doctors, nurses and numerous well-wishers as the plane landed at Oakland International Airport.



Credit for Blasts

NEW YORK (AP) — Four explosions echoed through mid Manhattan late Wednesday night and early Thursday, police reported. Officers said that one person was slightly injured.

Two of the explosions occurred at insurance company buildings, a third at a bank and the fourth at a Japanese restaurant.

One man was cut by flying glass caused by one of the explosions and four firemen were injured while knocking remnants from broken plate windows, police said.

A young man claiming to represent a Puerto Rican nationalist organization calling itself the FALN (Armed Forces of National Liberation), called The Associated Press at 12:53 a.m. and said:

"This is the FALN. We just threw bombs. You will find a communication in a telephone booth at 88th Street and Lexington Avenue." The caller then hung up.

The FALN is the group that claimed responsibility for the Fraunces Tavern explosion in the Wall Street financial district Jan. 24 which killed four persons and injured scores.

The latest blasts were spaced over a 35-minute period, with the first coming at 16 minutes to midnight and the last at 19 minutes after midnight.

Police said one of the explosions occurred at a Bankers Trust branch at 280 Park Ave. near East 49th Street. The bomb, apparently placed in the grille-work outside the bank in the courtyard, blew out plate glass windows.

Temperature to Drop

Skies will be fair today but afternoon temperatures will be lower throughout the Los Angeles Basin, forecasters said.

According to the National Weather Service, peak temperatures will dip into the mid-60s at Civic Center today, and there will be increasing cloudiness tonight and tomorrow

Sub Secrecy

By LES GOLDBERG
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

The Central Intelligence Agency apparently tried to keep secret the now famous Soviet submarine recovery operation by asking County Tax Assessor Philip E. Watson last January to keep a specially built deep sea salvage ship off the tax rolls, it has been revealed here.

The vessel, "Glomar Explorer," moored in Long Beach Harbor, was constructed for the CIA in 1971 by a Howard Hughes-owned company to recover atomic warhead missiles, and codes from a sunken Soviet submarine in the Pacific Ocean.

Watson yesterday said he was visited in January by four men, purporting to be CIA agents, seeking to change the tax status of the "Explorer."

Watson said the agents told

him the ship, with a market value of \$300 million, was an oceanographic vessel and subject to a one per cent tax assessment, instead of the usual 25 per cent levied against privately owned ships.

Watson said his office was aware of the ship's presence in the harbor but placed a \$40 million market value on it.

"When the CIA agents were in my office, however, we talked about a \$300 million figure because of all the electronic equipment on board," the assessor said.

Watson said he was told the ship was built for mining manganese ore from the ocean's floor but the CIA was using it for another mission. The agents did not mention the Soviet submarine operation in their discussions, but did refer

(Continued on Page A-2 Col. 5)

Rickover Charges Defense Waste

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adm. Hyman G. Rickover testified Wednesday that hundreds of millions of dollars in excessive profits have been made on defense contracts.

But, Rickover told a Senate-House Economic Committee, the Renegotiation Board which is supposed to recover excess profits from such contractors is inept and ineffective.

Rickover, the Navy's top expert on nuclear-powered ships, said defense firms are constantly filing unjustified claims

for extra payments from the Pentagon. He estimated at least 30 per cent of such claims are excessive.

The admiral also had some unkind words for workmen in shipyards which build Navy vessels. He said they spend one-third of their time loafing, driving up costs drastically.

Rickover offered a number of suggestions as to how to prevent some of the excess profits:

—Put the Renegotiation Board under control of Congress, taking it away from the President.

—Settle all claims for extra payments strictly on their legal merits, and not on the basis of what might be needed to keep a company with large military business operating.

—Enforce the law against false claims strictly, with prison terms for company officials convicted of making them.

Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., a long-time critic of the

(Continued on Page A-2 Col. 7)

By PETER ARNETT
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)

A plane carrying 57 orphaned Vietnamese children to new homes in the United States landed here Wednesday night after making a dash for freedom from threatened Saigon without official clearance.

The children were greeted by doctors, nurses and numerous well wishers as the plane landed at Oakland International Airport.

It was almost totally dark when we boarded the World Airways DC8 jet because Saigon's Tan Son Nhut airport was on full alert.

The children, many of them babies in diapers and most already spoken for by new parents, were laid out on the blanketed cabin floor with a pillow for each. Some of the older ones chattered with excitement on Vietnamese. Others lay back with their eyes wide with wonder.

Within a few minutes of the orphans' boarding, a stewardess called from the rear of the cabin. "Any Pampers? It's diaper service time already for this one."

Ed Daly, the feisty, pistol-packing aerial wildcatter who heads the charter airline, went to lend a hand with the diapering—something he said he had not done in 25 years.

As the jet prepared to take off for the 25-hour flight to Oakland, Calif., via Tokyo, the airport was closed down because of an anticipated Viet Cong attack and all nonmilitary people were ordered off the base.

"Don't take off. Don't take off. You have no clearance," the pilot Ken Healy said, he was told by Tan Son Nhut airport tower.

Healy — who flew refugees out of mainland China in the late 1940s and made the chaotic last flight out of Da Nang last week — put the plane into the air anyway.

"I just didn't get the message in time," he said later with a smile. Healey is from San Leandro, Calif.

The babies rolled on their backs in surprise as the plane took off. About 20 adult passengers, including two physicians, watched over them as the plane rose. Originally, before leaving Saigon, it was announced

(Continued on Page A-2 Col. 7)



Vietnamese orphans bound for America huddle in the cabin of a DC8 jet during stop-over at

Yokota U.S. Air Base near Tokyo after cliff-hanger dash for freedom from Saigon.

Viets Urge New Leadership

Panic spreads to Saigon: Page A-4.

South Vietnam senators demand new leadership: A-4.

Program to evacuate a million refugees studied: A-4.

Other developments: Page A-2.

er equipment this week to replace some of the material lost, left behind or destroyed in the South Vietnamese army's retreat from most of the country.

The 17 105-millimeter howitzers and 70 recoilless rifles in the second C5 load were taken out of army depot stocks, Pentagon sources said.

A third C5 is expected to leave for South Vietnam within a few days carrying armored personnel carriers, machine

guns and other equipment.

The fall of Dalat and Tuy Hoa gave the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong control of two more provinces, Phu Yen and Tuyen Duc. About half of South Vietnam's 20 million population now are in the 17 of the country's 44 provinces conceded to the Communists or in areas contested by both Saigon and the Communist command.

Accusing Thieu of "an abuse of power, corruption and social

injustice," the previously pro-government Senate said Thieu was "counting exclusively on a military solution ... in solving a war with many political characteristics."

The Senate, which has no real power, also charged the United States with failing to respect its "commitments" to South Vietnam. Saigon's ambassador in Washington leveled a similar charge in a television interview, saying the world probably would conclude it was safer to be an ally of the Communists than the Americans.

In other Indochina developments:

—The Viet Cong said life has "returned to normal" in several locations under their control, including the old imperial capital of Hue and the central provincial capital of Quang Ngai, and that nearly 100 government workers and officers have joined their side.

—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger was reported asking other countries to urge

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News Briefing

Foreign

Turks, Greeks Agree To Talk

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders have agreed to resume their interrupted peace talks April 25 in Vienna, diplomatic sources said Wednesday.

The Greek Cypriots called off the talks to protest the Turkish Cypriot proclamation Feb. 13 of a separate federal state in the 40 per cent of the island occupied by Turkish troops.

The sources said the main difficulty preventing resumption was overcome when the Turkish side agreed the talks should be held "under the personal auspices" of United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and "with his direction as appropriate."

Oil Hit Off Scottish Islands

LONDON (AP) — Two British oil companies, Shell and Siebens Oil and Gas, announced new oil strikes Wednesday in the North Sea off Scotland's Shetland Islands.

Industry sources said the two strikes, along with some other recent discoveries, could boost estimated total reserves in the British sector of the North Sea to around 14 billion barrels.

Earlier official estimates pegged the reserves at nine billion barrels.

Shell and Siebens were cautious about the potential of their strikes, but industry sources noted that Shell has already named its find the Tern field. They said naming the field indicated Shell believes the strike will prove commercially worthwhile.

The Nation

Heater Keeps Seven Alive

MEDORA, N.D. (AP) — A rural North Dakota family of seven huddled in one room around a tiny space heater Wednesday, hoping disaster officials could get a truck through to them with fuel for the furnace.

The Kermit Kruger family has been without fuel for a week, most of it during North Dakota's ferocious spring blizzard. The heater is the only warmth in their mobile home 22 miles north of Medora in the sparsely populated western region of the state.

Attempts by a four-wheel drive emergency vehicle have failed. The family was still awaiting help Wednesday.

Fuel Dumping Questioned

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Rep. G. William Whitehurst said Wednesday that he has asked the commander of the Navy's Atlantic Fleet to explain why a carrier dumped 9,000 gallons

Orphan Rescue Latest Trip

Real Flier Gets Jobs Done

OAKLAND, (AP) — What kind of man uses his personal wealth to fly orphans from war-ravaged South Vietnam to give them a new lease on life in the United States?

The same 53-year-old man who sends 5,000 disadvantaged children to the circus each year and throws in \$2 in pocket money for the children to buy popcorn and goodies.

The same World War II Army Air Corps sergeant who bought one surplus plane after the war and built himself what is now called the world's larg-

est charter operation.

Ed Daly, the pistol-packing millionaire president of World Airways, is the man who hoped to rescue 1,500 Vietnamese infants from shrinking South Vietnam and fly them to safety in Australia and the United States. But late reports from Saigon say he may only have been able to take 57 babies in his DC8 jet.

Born in Chicago in 1922, Daly was a semiprofessional boxer in his younger days. He lives in Orinda, a comfortable Oakland suburb where his air freight and charter service is headquartered.

"He really is an interesting humanitarian," said one friend of Daly's. "That kind of wealth is hard to understand unless you have it."

"He doesn't like to publicize what he does," said the friend, who asked that his name be withheld. "I wouldn't call him modest or shy, but he's not boastful. He's gregarious, an outgoing, good party guy who will gather up a planeload of friends and fly off to Europe for a weekend."

He also is a guy who gathers up 1,000 children each Christmas and sends them to the

Oakland Symphony to hear the Nutcracker Suite. And when he heard that a home for young county wards of the court did not have swimming facilities, he built them a swimming pool.

He was a close friend of President Lyndon B. Johnson and served as the Oakland chairman of the National Alliance of Businessmen under the Johnson and Nixon administrations.

Daly is a personal friend of Jordan's King Hussein, who just sent him two prize Arabian horses from the royal stables.

Embassy Workers Leaving

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — The U.S. Embassy will begin evacuating 15 per cent of its 200 American staffers to Bangkok, Thailand, today following the bloody fall of Neal Luong, the government's last stronghold on the Mekong River.

The withdrawal was announced as the Nationalist Chinese Embassy evacuated its staff, fierce fighting raged 10 miles south of the capital and five miles to the northeast, and as the U.S. airlift continued despite shelling that damaged one plane and wounded one American civilian pilot.

Battambang, the country's second-largest city 180 miles northwest of Phnom Penh, was also under rebel pressure, with the insurgents reported tightening their stranglehold around the city.

The "temporary" withdrawal of 25 to 30 "nonessen-



AP photo

U.S. Joins Orphan Airlift

WASHINGTON (AP) — Some 2,000 Vietnamese orphans will be flown from the threatened city of Saigon to the United States in an airlift scheduled to begin in the next two days, the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) announced Wednesday night.

Announcement of the plan by AID Administrator Daniel Parker came as a chartered World Airways jetliner was flying from Japan to the U.S. West Coast with 57 other Vietnamese children. The plane had left Saigon earlier in the day in apparent defiance of officials at Tan Son Nhut Airport.

Parker said seven agencies which operate orphanages or children's relief services in South Vietnam would have children aboard chartered planes in the new airlift. Several airlines have indicated they will make planes available, officials said.



AP photo

World Airways President Ed Daly, right, describes airlift of Vietnamese orphans to U.S.

57 Viet Orphans Arrive in Oakland

(Continued from Page A-1)

ced there were 60 babies on board.

There was no crying on the flight to Yokota, a big U.S. air base on Tokyo's western outskirts where the jet was refueled. Most babies slept most of the way. But at Yokota, some scrambled to the windows to look at the bright lights.

Rickover

It was the first time any had flown.

Daly, who said he was paying for the \$70,000 journey with his own money, had loaded milk, soft drinks, baby food and paper diapers aboard the plane.

Among those on the plane was Mary Fisher from Loma Linda, Calif., the wife of a Seventh Day Adventist minister, who was carrying six babies, three of them for clients of Hollywood lawyer Durand Cook.

One of the toddlers with Mrs. Fisher was 11-month-old

The Littlest Refugees



4/3/75

Pause in Flight



Little refugees from Saigon at Yokota AB.

Clockwise from top left, Mrs. Mary Fisher, the wife of a Seventh Day Adventist Church minister, who escorted six babies, holds one at the aircraft's window.

Sister Nancy Ceyotte, Friends of All Children aide, comforts a tot.

Excited kids play around inside the craft.

Ed Daly, in a subdued moment, puffs on a cigarette.

Daly during his news conference.

Dr. Elaine Shankel carries a sick child as Daly, with his hand in bandages, points the way.

Mrs. Fisher changes diapers as other children sleep peacefully.

S&S Photos by
CPO CHIP MAURY and
S. SGT. BOB WICKLEY





Denver Post Photo by David Cupp

DENVER SCHOOLGIRLS ACQUAINT VIETNAMESE ORPHAN WITH SIGHTS AT CITY PARK

Nguyen Thi Kin Lein, 10, second from left, visits with Nicole Murray, 10, left, Lisa Kirk, 11, and Kathy Torres, 12, at a Denver City Park picnic. A fifth-grade class at

Bromwell Elementary School hosted the picnic for 15 Vietnamese orphans, including Lein, staying at the Continental Care Center in Denver en route to new homes.

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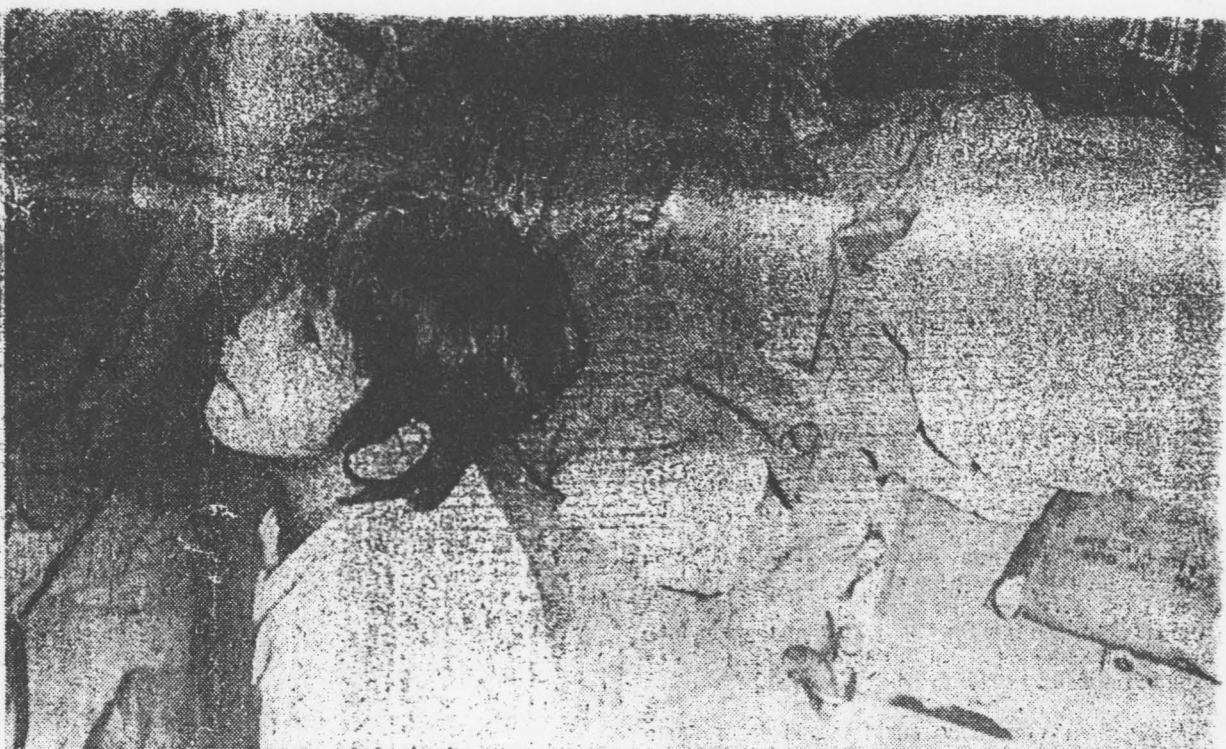
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(Continued on Page A-2 Col. 7)



Vietnamese orphans bound for America huddle in the cabin of a DC8 jet during stop-over at

Yokota U.S. Air Base near Tokyo after cliffhanger dash for freedom from Saigon.

Viets Urge New Leadership

SAIGON (AP).—The South Vietnamese Senate on Wednesday assailed President Nguyen Van Thieu's regime and called unanimously for "a new leadership" to end the war. The declaration came with three-quarters of the country swept up by the Communist-led offensive and orphaned babies being airlifted from possible turmoil in Saigon.

Five more enclaves in the central part of the country fell without a fight on Wednesday, including Tuy Hoa, Phan Rang, Phan Thiet, Dalat and Cam Ranh, the big \$250 million U.S.-built base. Anarchy and panic gripped the cities, and relief sources said the appearance of North Vietnamese forces at the fallen coastal city of Nha Trang halted the U.S. sealift of 60,000 refugees there.

Meanwhile a second C5 transport plane was en route to South Vietnam Wednesday with a cargo of 87 artillery pieces for the South Vietnamese army.

This is the second huge transport plane to be sent to South Vietnam with artillery and other

Panic spreads to Saigon: Page A-4.

South Vietnam senators demand new leadership: A-4.

Program to evacuate a million refugees studied: A-4.

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er equipment this week to replace some of the material lost, left behind or destroyed in the South Vietnamese army's retreat from most of the country. The 17 105-millimeter howitzers and 70 recoilless rifles in the second C5 load were taken out of army depot stocks, Pentagon sources said.

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Accusing Thieu of "an abuse of power, corruption and social

injustice," the previous government. Senate said was "counting exclusive military solution... in so war with many political characteristics."

The Senate, which has real power, also charged United States with failure to respect its "commitment" to South Vietnam. Saigon's ambassador in Washington leveled a similar charge in a television interview, saying the world probably would find it was safer to be an ally of the Communists than Americans.

In other Indochina matters:

—The Viet Cong said "returned to normal" several locations under their control, including the old capital of Hue and the provincial capital of Ngai, and that nearly 100,000 government workers and have joined their side.

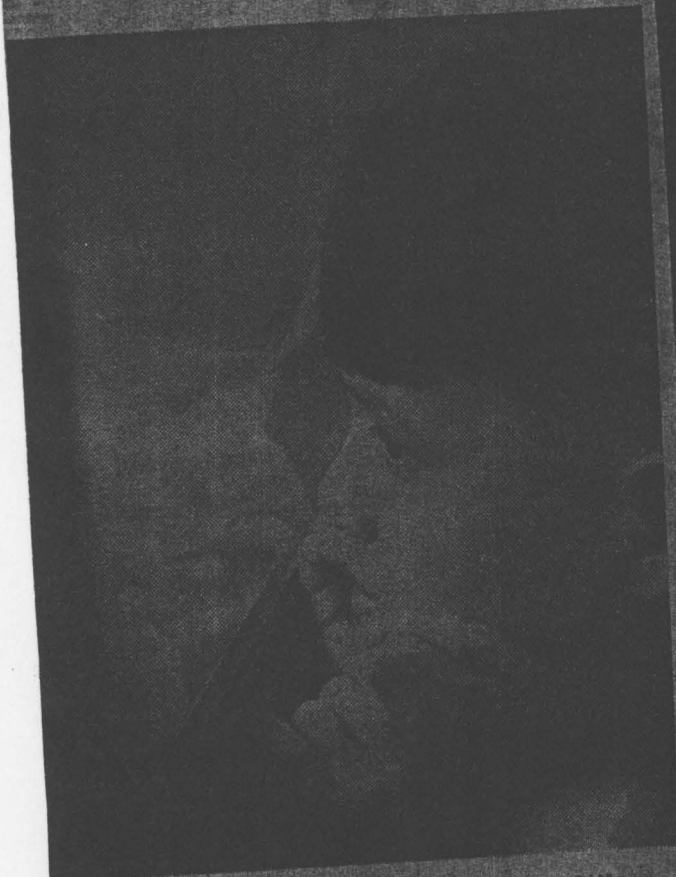
—Secretary of State A. Kissinger was asking other countries

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Thanh-Long Watches



THANH-LONG STARES OUT BUS WINDOW
He looks over California on trip to the Presidio.

ORPHANS SLEEP IN BOXES INSIDE PLANE
Infants flew from Saigon three to a box.

45 S. Vietnamese Orphans Arrive on Two Flights

Forty-five South Vietnamese orphans arrived in Denver late Sunday night on two commercial airline flights according to the Denver-based adoption agency Friends of Children of Vietnam.

The agency isn't expecting any additional children Monday and has no confirmed information on arrivals the rest of the week, executive director Mrs. Cheryl Markson said Monday.

She said the latest arrivals — part of a group that had been hospitalized in the Philippines, Okinawa and Hawaii —

were taken to the Continental Care Center in Denver where they will stay until united with their adopted parents.

She said three of the children had to be taken to Denver hospitals to be treated for dehydration.

In a related matter, Mrs. Markson said agency officials will appear in Denver Juvenile Court Monday for a determination on whether the agency can authorize medical treatment for the South Vietnamese children. She said the court action is a preventive measure to protect doctors and the agency.

T.L.C. was the standard prescription for the hundreds of Vietnamese orphans who arrived in Denver last week. Lowry personnel became directly involved as male and female, student and permanent party alike volunteered their spare time to become temporary parents to more than 300 orphans who stayed at three Denver centers before traveling on to their new homes.

The response to an appeal from the Red Cross was dramatic. Lowry's Red Cross Field Director, Eugene Marks, said, "Many organizations on base responded with offers to help. Members of the 3320th Retraining Group cleaned up the Continental facility on Downing Street. The Officer's Wives Club and Family Services also provided support for the orphans with donations of clothing and other baby items."

But it was the student squadrons who took on the task of caring for the infants. Lowry volunteers have been working at the Life Care Center at 8th and Ivey, and at the Continental Care Center round the clock for the past ten days. For many it was their first experience with small infants, some weighing as little as 3 pounds.

"You know, I've never taken care of a baby before," said one airman. Eight hours and twenty diapers later, she was an expert.



Eugene Marks, Lowry's Red Cross Field director, meets a new arrival at Stapleton.



Years of Effort in Aiding Viet Children

The Denver Post:

I HAVE WAITED in vain for a response to the letters of criticism concerning "Operation Babylift." Only today did I realize that the local people directly involved in this effort, though Friends For All Children or Friends of the Children in Vietnam, are so busy with the business of saving lives and orderly processing the incoming children, that they may have no time to reply, but I do not even know such opposition exists! I am not a member of either organization nor an adoptive parent of a Vietnamese child, but I am moved to respond on their behalf. The people of the United States and the people of South Vietnam deserve to know the reasons behind the babylift. Although it is considered a recent tactical move spurred by motions of guilt, the real efforts on behalf of these children are in the hearts of a handful of people in the Boulder-Denver area more than six years ago. Friends of the Children in Vietnam was not founded as an adoption agency. It was specifically founded to give life support in the forms of clothing, food and money for those children living in orphanages in South Vietnam. FCVN and its sister organization, Friends For All Children, continue to work toward the end; many individuals and families sacrificing amazing amounts of money and per-

sonal effort to give a few more children the opportunity to grow up—in Vietnam or elsewhere.

The appalling deathrate, 80 per cent of the children brought in, has been significantly reduced in those orphanages under FCVN or FFAC sponsorship. Both groups also encourage Americans to support specific children through their foster care programs.

That brings me to the secondary effort of these groups; that is, providing homes for some of the children in the United States and other countries.

This has been done and is still being done under the auspices of regular, licensed adoption agencies and the South Vietnamese government. The small percentage of children adopted could hardly be considered "robbing a nation of its youth." It definitely can be considered an effort to save lives.

It is true that the concept of the "extended family" is a real one in Asia. The harsh reality is that these children have not and are not being taken care of by any family; nor is there a chance that they will be. Tragically, the war has destroyed much of the structure of the Vietnamese family. And adoption as we know it is not part of the Asian cultures.

Recently published statistics indicate that there are as many as 1.5 million homeless children in Vietnam. Between 15,000 and 40,000 of these children are the offspring of American soldiers; therefore as much American as Vietnamese. Following historical precedent, the United States should have long ago granted these children dual citizenship and assumed the responsibility of their care.

"Operation Babylift" is a token effort, maybe. But it is a welcome response to years of appeals on behalf of these children. The above statistics are dramatic enough to illustrate that the few thousand children brought to this country recently are but a handful of those in need of our concern

and support. Our efforts on their behalf should not end with the babylift, but neither should "Operation Babylift" cease.

There are many families in our area who have adopted Vietnamese children over the past six years. To see the unbelievable progress that has been made with these youngsters, physically and emotionally, is to witness a miracle. To see sickly, malnourished, despondent babies develop into healthy, responsive children underscores daily the "right" to help them. And the unselfish sacrifices of their parents are repaid daily by the love those children have learned to give. Arrogance? Hardly. Compassion? Absolutely!

I suggest critics of this effort spend several weeks working in the Vietnamese orphanages and witness the agony; just as so many members of FFAC and FCVN have done in the past five years. Then let them complain.

NANCY FOSTER
Lakewood

THURSDAY

APRIL 3, 1975

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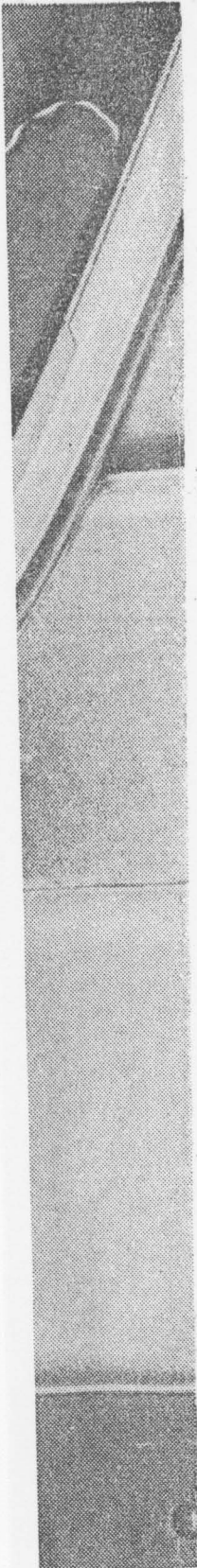
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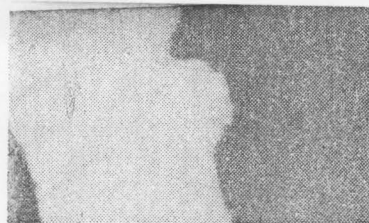
FINAL STOCKS
GGF HANDICAP
25c Daily



ORPHANS' NEW HOME

**Saigon: A City
Awaits Its Doom**

**Pickets Post Lines
At Eastbay Parks**



...sps the hands of welcome

Death Blow

Panic and disorder threaten in Saigon, which is jammed with thousands of civilian refugees from captured areas in the north and with armed military stragglers who slipped into the city without reporting to the army.

Saigon's military commander forbade mass assemblies, demonstrations and the carrying of weapons without a permit. He announced:

"Local authorities have orders to shoot and kill on the spot those violators who try to resist or flee."

Strength of the "dump Thieu" movement was demonstrated yesterday when the formerly pro-government Senate broke with him and called for a "new leadership" to end the war.

Ford: Airlift Not Blocked by U.S.

Special to The Tribune

SAN DIEGO — President Ford said today he was not aware of any interference by U.S. Embassy or foreign aid officials in World Airways president Ed Daly's aborted plan to bring hundreds of orphans to the United States from Vietnam.

"I am not aware of any specifics," he said at a private breakfast here for newspaper and broadcast executives. "There are certain laws applicable, laws passed by Congress concerning refugees. I understand the attorney general has under consideration a broad waiver to help South Vietnamese refugees."

He said how much the United States can do to help refugees will depend in part on the attitude of the North Vietnamese government. "I hope they would be receptive to whatever we try and other nations try," the President added.

"You can't fight your way in. In the first place, Congress won't let us."

Of the immigration regulations he added, "I can assure you that within the law we will be very humanitarian."

Orphans 'At Home' in S.F.

Fifty-eight Vietnamese and Eurasian war orphans, over half of them the children of American soldiers and Vietnamese women they left behind, were resting today at San Francisco's Presidio, half a world away from the charnel house that Vietnam has become.

They landed at Oakland International Airport last night after a 14-hour dash across 7,000 miles of the Pacific that started when their DC8 jet left a closed airport at Saigon without official clearance.

More on Airlift, Page 4

ance in the face of an expected Viet Cong attack.

Today they await new lives with adopted parents in the United States. Only the oldest among them will remember the horrors that left them homeless in Vietnam and brought them here.

Some of the orphans were on their way to their new homes this morning, but most were playing on mattresses on the floor of a gymnasium-type building at the Presidio.

"It was like a giant playground," Army Sgt. Ronald Renouf said. "I never

saw so many happy kids in my life."

Four of the 58 were hospitalized for pneumonia, fever or body sores.

Several hundred people were on hand to meet the World Airways air freightliner when it touched down shortly before 11 p.m., including medical and social service volunteers, Vietnamese students and immigrants living in the Bay Area, federal officials and a legion of reporters.

"I came to see my countrymen," said Tran Nhung, a student at San Jose State College who volunteered to be an interpreter. "It gave me a good feeling when I saw the children. It was very kind of the Americans to take the children."

The number that finally reached Oakland was pitifully small compared with the 1,500 orphans World Airways president Ed Daly offered last weekend to fly to adopted homes in America and Australia.

The project was scaled down several times as the days passed, first because the Australian government decided to use air force planes to fly 200 orphans there, and then because an adoption agency decided against sending 500 chil-

Continued Back Page, Col. 1

Children Here; a Time For Smiles and Tears

By BILL FISET

It was a nasty foreign war people were sick of, but when the residue of the war became children—young children, orphaned and homeless—and when an Oakland airline president decided he could rescue some of them from the ravaged streets of South Vietnam, it became a big story, indeed, for Oakland.

The "mercy flight" of World Airways Flight 805, a special run of a "stretch" DC8 jet, was due into Oakland Airport at 10:45 last night, some 14 hours elapsed air time from Saigon with precious cargo, and when the glistening white plane set down at the exact minute the huge airline hangar was filled with 200 waiting press, radio and TV people, floodlights, cameras, tape recorders, microphones and the feeling of excitement newspeople exude when a big, human story is at hand.

On the offloading ramp outside World's big hangar and in an inside waiting room an almost carnival atmosphere prevailed, people massed on load-

ing ramps to have a vantage point, a platoon of sheriff's deputies, Red Cross women, Oakland police, highway patrol officers, five chartered buses waiting, a crowd outside the fenced area watching from atop parked cars, and none was disappointed.

The aircraft, its jet engines hissing, coasted along the runway after touchdown, circled the outer perimeters of the field and glided to a stop in the appointed spot, its "World Airways" insignia almost fluorescent in the lights, a mercy mission completed, a public relations dream. At the windows along the fuselage were small Oriental faces, wide-eyed, of children literally given a new lease on life, children snatched from whatever uncertain future South Vietnam may have, at this precise moment getting their first glimpses of a strange America, a blacktop tarmac under floodlights at night, a mass of Caucasian

Continued Back Page, Col. 4

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58 Viet Orphans Safe in Bay Area

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dren on the long flight in an airplane without seats.

But the small human cargo was the first of more than 2,000 Vietnamese orphans expected to arrive in this country in the next few days. The State Department is considering plans for what might become a mass evacuation of a million refugees from the threatened capital of Saigon.

In addition to the crew, there were 14 adults on board last night's flight — eight U.S. citizens and six Vietnamese who did not have proper immigration papers. The six were taken to the Presidio with the children and were issued 90-day immigration paroles in order to establish their identities and claims that they had married U.S. citizens.

World Airways senior vice president Charles Patterson, who returned to Oakland from Saigon aboard the airlift

They Covered Orphan Airlift

Today's coverage of the flight of the orphans from Saigon to Oakland was prepared by staff writers Jeff Morgan, Doug Eaton and Harry Harris. The pictures were made by photographers Howard Erker and Ron Riesterer.

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All of them came from orphanages, he said, and many had been listed for adoption in the United States for months.

"You have to bear in mind that when a child has been in an orphanage for 12 to 18 months, you have to assume he's an orphan and not just temporarily separated from his family," Patterson said at a press conference today.

He said he finds it unbelievable that many of Saigon's homeless children will ever be reunited with relatives, and said it is commonplace to see them in the gutters and wandering the streets aimlessly.

Patterson lauded Daly's unorthodox methods, saying he cut through bureaucratic inactivity and apathy in the Vietnamese government.

Daly, who has been in Saigon for two weeks directing his charter airline's airlift activities in Vietnam and Cambodia, left the Oakland-bound plane in Japan when it stopped at Yokota air base to refuel.

After the aircraft, flown by World chief pilot William Keating and opera-

nance hangar, federal health and immigration officials went on board briefly.

Then the children — some crying, some smiling, all bewildered — were unloaded and put into buses that took them, under highway patrol escort, to Harmon Hall at the Presidio.

More than 80 doctors, nurses and volunteers from the Friends for All Children relief organization met them at the Army base, where they will remain a couple of days before being united with their new parents. All had been previously adopted by American families.

Mrs. Charlotte Behrendt, Daly's daughter, who coordinated the efforts in the Bay Area to receive, house, feed and clothe the orphans, said preparations had been made to handle as many as 600.

"I think the response of the people of the Bay Area has been overwhelmingly wonderful," she said at a press conference before the plane landed. "All of us involved are very appreciative of every offer we have had for money, donations of goods, and I am only sorry we have not been able to follow through and talk with the people who have offered."

As soon as they reached the Presidio in the early hours today the orphans were given sponge baths, quick medical examinations, toys and a snack of bananas, apples, rice and soy sauce before they were tucked in for their first night's sleep in the United States.

"The children looked like they fared quite well," Red Cross worker Glenda Ganny said. "Everyone was really excited."

Although Friends for All Children was the same organization that canceled Daly's planned airlift of hundreds of babies, it was helping to coordinate last night's operation. Most of the children came from an orphanage run by Friends of Children of Vietnam and one operated by the Seventh Day Adventist church. There were 120 youngsters at Tan Son Nhut airport ready to board the plane yesterday, but only 60 were allowed by airport officials to leave under a blanket exit visa. The others could not be cleared, the Vietnamese said, because it was after 6 p.m. in Saigon and government offices were closed.

Two of the children suffering from dehydration were taken from the plane in Japan to remain a few days for rest before coming on to the United States.

The children, most of them infants, were loaded on the seatless plane in Saigon and laid out on the blanketed cabin floor, a pillow for each. Earlier yesterday, it appeared there would not be enough blankets, so Daly reportedly



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Continued from
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Then, at 11 down the ramp uniforms. Chief Operations Veterans of a soldiers of aer the dramatic this night touch hearts by the i they had airlift disembarked plauded. Other More applause

Then the ch a volunteer wh They were inf: sleepy-eyed, w in furnished bl cal aides throu strobe lights to the plane in tu 15 or so childre quota police p allow the bus dwarfing airlin the scene was

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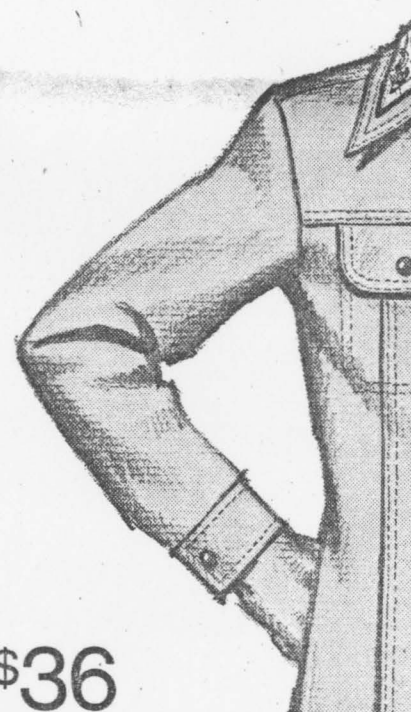
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in furnished blankets, whisked by medical aides through the crush of press and strobe lights to buses, pulled up close to the plane in turn. Five buses, each with 15 or so children, and as each bus got its quota police pushed the press back to allow the bus to back away from the dwarfing airliner. Over and over again the scene was repeated: A very small

came him home on last night. "It's too bad the U.S. Embassy screwed up. That whole plane has been FULL of kids!"

It still did not end. At 1 World's president, Ed Daly, with long-distance phone from Japan departed the flight there with taken off suffering malnutrition.

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TWIN

Airlift Brings Smiles, Tears

Continued from Page 1

humanity outside their temporary cocoon staring up at them with smiles and love.

And, as the children peered from the plane's windows, the inevitable wait, seemingly long but short in reality because of advance agreements that Immigration, Customs and Public Health would expedite matters. The officials climbed the ramp and boarded the plane, stayed only minutes, but it was an eternity for TV newscasters, caught at 11:15 p.m. in the middle of their late shows with nothing definitive to report as time slipped away.

Then, at 11:18 p.m., the pilots came down the ramp, crisp in pressed brown uniforms. Chief Pilot Bill Keating and Operations Vice President Ken Healy, veterans of a thousand exploits, civilian soldiers of aerial fortune who had flown the dramatic airlifts of Indochina, but this night touched to the bottoms of their hearts by the infants and young children they had airlifted to a new life. As they disembarked the gathered crowd applauded. Other crew members got off. More applause.

Then the children, each carried off by a volunteer who had climbed the ramp. They were infants and the very young, sleepy-eyed, without coats but wrapped in furnished blankets, whisked by medical aides through the crush of press and strobe lights to buses, pulled up close to the plane in turn. Five buses, each with 15 or so children, and as each bus got its quota police pushed the press back to allow the bus to back away from the dwarfing airliner. Over and over again the scene was repeated: A very small

child handed from the plane's interior to the outstretched arms of a medical volunteer. One little boy wore a baseball cap. Then a second with another baseball cap. One little girl, perhaps 4, awed by her surroundings, held up a hand and flexed her fingers in a small child's wave to the crowd.

It was a gratifying and happy scene—as the salvage of human life always is—but more than one adult in the crowd massed around the plane was in tears. When the last child was "off-loaded," in the vernacular of airline people, the buses, lined up and with a highway patrol car escort, pulled out. It was 11:50 p.m., and the operation had been expeditious.

Even then it did not end. With the children en route to quarters at the Presidio, the press, radio and TV newsmen cornered Keating and Healy in the ready room and made the two pilots relive the long flight home, then made them relive their 80 or so "rice runs" from Saigon into Phnom Penh that preceded the mercy airlift. As attention focussed on the two men, Joe Hzero, the World flight attache pulled aboard the loading ramp in that famous last flight out of Da Nang a week ago, asided to another World employee who had welcomed him home on last night's flight: "It's too bad the U.S. Embassy in Saigon screwed up. That whole plane could have been FULL of kids!"

It still did not end. At 12:30 a.m. World's president, Ed Daly, was on the long-distance phone from Japan. He had departed the flight there with two infants taken off suffering malnutrition. Daly

was concerned about the plane's safe arrival and his voice boomed over a speaker phone in an upstairs office. "I want to go to bed finally tonight not worrying about the rule books, about whether the FAA is upset or about the State Department. Was our aircraft safe and airworthy on its return?" Keating, Healy and some FAA men assured him it was in top condition. "Good," snapped Daly from 4,800 miles away. "Let the whole world know that. We could have carried more kids if they'd let us."

An hour later Keating and Healy had finished their paperwork and were off. They were still buzzed up from their long session in Cambodia and Vietnam, and over their first drink in days, at 1:30 in the morning, they grinned about the cargo they had just finished transporting. "The plane was like a big playpen," said Healy. "The children were tense and nervous at first, but they travel well." They relaxed and the stewardesses kept them happy with constant food service. They drew pictures, if they were old enough, and looked out the windows. Each one of those little children was a treasure."

And what kind of future would one of the children have staying in South Vietnam? "Who knows?" said Keating. "Except the country is falling so fast you can't imagine. A lot of these children are part Caucasian, and what the Viet Cong would do we don't know."

"Still, right now there are eight to ten thousand Americans in Saigon. How they'll get out is anyone's guess."

That may be tomorrow's mercy airlift.



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World Airways Airlift Pilots Are No Strangers to Danger



The pilots that flew 55 orphans from Saigon to Oakland yesterday are no strangers to harrowing flights.

Captain William Keating, chief pilot for World Airways, made 80 trips carrying rice to the embattled Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, and landed there March 5 with 68 holes in his plane, two made with captured American 105 mm cannon.

Operations vice president Ken Healy flew the last plane out of Da Nang in Vietnam last Saturday, and limped at low altitude to Saigon with more than 340 refugees, many of them mutinous soldiers, in a plane heavily damaged by a grenade.

Early today, reunited with their families and relaxing after a one-stop flight of 6,993



Volunteers help orphans from World Airways cargoline



PILOTS TALK TO REPORTERS AT AIRPORT

William Keating (left) and Ken Healy ignored orders

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"We were informed that there was a hold on our departure, and then we were informed that the Viet Cong were in the airport," Keating said.

"As soon as we started the engines, they turned the lights out and they wouldn't give us clearance. We moved away against their orders to hold position," he continued, referring to Vietnamese ground controllers.

"We turned and took off. After we were airborne we informed the ground that we had our radios back."

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they left.

"If they can get control of the situation over there, I would be happy to go back and do what we can," said the veteran pilot, who has flown rescue missions all over Asia in the last 30 years.

World Airways senior vice president Charles Patterson also was on yesterday's flight. "It took eight hours to get the children that were on the plane," he said.

"Originally we thought we had made arrangements with another organization that was going to bring out between 400 and 500 children," Patterson said. "A whole series of things happened."

He said government officials felt the seatless cargo plane was unsafe for the large group of children, and that

the adoption agency cancelled the flight on their advice.

"We felt the aircraft was safe, and we knew the kids needed to be taken out..." he said.

Keating, who said tower personnel at Tan Son Nhut airport abandoned their posts when the attack alert came, reported the airport was reopened and closed again after the departure.

"We don't know what the situation is over there now," he said. "After leaving Saigon the flight was routine."

"If we hadn't ignored the instructions we would have been delayed an interminable amount of time and with the possibility of enemy action closing in on the field."

"There was only one thing to do, and that was go."

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rmany (AP) — ny's ceremonial , President Wal- ill visit the Unit- ne 2 to 7 at the President Ford, ce announced.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Increased defense spending and a stronger U.S. foreign policy are needed to counter Soviet diplomatic successes and a U.S. trend "toward military vulnerability and political timidity," a task force of Democrats argues.

Reviewing defense and foreign policy problems facing the United States, the group said yesterday that "in the face of the Soviet military build-up, and Soviet foreign policy, our defense budget is an invitation to disaster.

The task force was headed by Eugene V. Rostow, under-secretary of state during the administration of President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Calling for a tighter alliance with Western Europe and a renewed commitment to counter Soviet advances in the Middle East, it warned:

"Unless we set a new and responsible course, the next two years may see the military balance shift decisively toward the Soviet Union and its allies; an irreversible deterioration of our alliance network; the conquest or destruction of many small nations whose existence we and others have guaranteed — among them the embattled state of Israel."

"The best diplomatic signal we could give at this time would be a sharp increase in defense expenditures, in defense capability, to achieve a balance of power, to minimize the risk of general war, to build a system of peace," Rostow said.

Betty Ford Feels Tragedy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—First Lady Betty Ford says she is so touched by the plight of Vietnamese refugee children fleeing the armies sweeping through South Vietnam that she would like to adopt them.

Mrs. Ford, in a brief news conference after a luncheon yesterday at the Music Center, said "I feel as everyone does that it's tragic and there's no question in my mind that the whole world is touched by it."

The First Lady, vacationing with her husband in Palm Springs, flew to Los Angeles for the luncheon.

She defended the President for vacationing while large sections of South Vietnam are being overrun by the North Vietnam army. She said it was a "working" va-

cation, but he "is trying to take a couple of hours off each day."

Asked if the President weren't playing golf while Saigon, figuratively, was burning, she said, "I happen to know my husband is working very hard on the problem."

She said, "I feel these children are children that have to be given the opportunity to grow like the rest of us."

She added, however, she had not talked to her husband about adopting a Vietnamese child.

"I don't think it would go too well," she said.

Mrs. Ford, wearing a three-piece white knit suit with a matching scarf in warm spring weather, had lunched with the Music Center Blue Ribbon 400 women's group.

She flew from Palm Springs to the Hollywood-Burbank airport in a small Air Force jet, then was driven to the downtown Music Center in Los Angeles.

The Blue Ribbon 400 is a group of 400 social and civic leaders organized in 1968 by Mrs. Norman Chandler, assistant to the chairman of the board of the Times Mirror Co. So far, the group has raised approximately \$4 million to support the Music Center.

After a luncheon of chicken salad almondine and asparagus, whipped lemon snow pudding and fresh strawberries and Pinot Chardonnay California white wine, Mrs. Chandler presented the First Lady with a lithograph of "Peace on Earth."



MRS. BETTY FORD IS SADDENED
At L.A. Music Center yesterday

Code of Ethics for White House Employees

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Ford has had a new ethical code drawn up for all White House employees and they have been asked to attend 90-minute briefing sessions to assure they understand it.

The eight-page code spells out ethical concepts and legal restrictions in such areas as conflicts of interests, accept-

ties and contact with regulatory agencies.

After the code and a packet of federal statutes were distributed to White House employees, staffers were asked to attend one of several 90-minute briefings initiated by chief of staff Donald Rumsfeld and the White House counsel's office. Rumsfeld has spoken at

Among other rules, the code cautions staffers that they may not participate in decisions in which they have a financial interest, that they

may not accept anything of monetary value from a corporation or person dealing with the Executive branch, and that they cannot promise em-

ployment or a reward for political activity. Nor may staffers accept free air travel or free lodging when traveling on official business.

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Save Vietnamese
Children

Editorial on Page 12A

Suburban news after 7A

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Ford Warns 'Any Adversaries' Americans Will Defend Freedom

By PAUL HEALY
Globe-Democrat - New York News Service

SAN DIEGO. — President Ford has issued a stern warning to "any adversaries" that the United States will stand by its allies and that the tragedy of Vietnam has not destroyed the will of the American people to defend freedom anywhere in the world.

The President told a press conference here Thursday that while the developing collapse of South Vietnam's military forces and the loss of the northern provinces is "a tragedy unbelievable in its ramifications," he still believes South Vietnam may hold firm.

"AT THE MOMENT," Mr. Ford said, "I do not anticipate the fall of South Vietnam."

The President's warning came in these words: "I am convinced that this country is going to continue its leadership. We will stand by our allies."

"And I specifically warn any adversaries that they should not under any circumstances feel that the tragedy of Vietnam is an indication that the American people have lost their will or their desire to stand up for freedom any place in the world."

Mr. Ford turned directly to the European allies in continuing his remarks, saying: "We are going to stand by our commitments to NATO."

After he had expressed his "frustration" with Congress for cutting economic, humani-

July end for recession? . . . 6B

tarian and military aid to South Vietnam and for enacting limitations on presidential actions in the War Powers Act, Mr. Ford was asked about use of troops if necessary to evacuate 7,000 Americans in Saigon.

HE SAID "I will abide totally by the War Powers Act," but he assured his audience that the United States has adequate contingency plans for the evacuation of its citizens if necessary. While he did not mention the fact, the War Powers Act gives him authority to use troops for this purpose.

Asked if he still believes in the domino theory for successive absorption of the Southeast Asian nations by the Communists, Mr. Ford said he believes there is a great

deal of credibility in the premise. But he said he hopes the nations on the periphery of Indochina do not believe the United States is going to abandon its oft-stated support. "We are going to stand by them," he said.

In another reference to the War Powers Act, Mr. Ford was asked if he personally would like to send American forces by air, sea or land to help South Vietnam. Mr. Ford said there are no plans whatever for any American involvement in the fighting. But, he said, history has proved that if authority existed to commit forces in such circumstances it serves as a deterrent to aggression.

The President was asked bluntly if, with the threatened and perhaps imminent collapse of all South Vietnam, he believes the enormous American sacrifices in men and money were worth the cost.

Mr. Ford said he believes the programs of the last four or five presidents for Vietnam were aimed in the right direction, that "we should help people who will fight for freedom." He said he still believes the policies

were right if the United States had carried out its commitment in the Paris peace accords of replacing supplies and equipment.

THE PRESIDENT said he was not blaming Congress, not assessing blame. But he reminded that Congress cut Vietnam aid appropriations in the last two years.

"I think it is up to the American people to make a judgment where the blame lies," Mr. Ford said. "I think it is a great tragedy. I think it could have been avoided."

Then, launching into an upbeat note with which he wound up the press conference, Mr. Ford said this is no time to talk of blame, but "It is up to us to meet the problems of the future." He said he would go more than halfway to cooperate with Congress.

"I think we have the capability and the will to overcome the tragedy in Vietnam," he said.

"I think we do face a crisis, but if Congress joins with me we can overcome it."

Asked the reasons for his optimism, Mr. Ford replied: "The historical character of the American people."

U.S. WELCOME

The Orphan Airlift: War's Human Side

BY DARYL LEMBKE

Times Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO—David seemed to be having a great time. The television floodlights and reporters scrambling about in search of a human-interest angle didn't throw him off stride.

On his first day in his adopted homeland, Thursday, he just kept playing catch with a basketball. It's his favorite sport.

David is a wiry 8-year-old who was one of 52 Vietnamese orphans flown to the United States from Saigon Wednesday to find new homes with adoptive parents. The movement was the vanguard of an extensive orphan airlift from beleaguered South Vietnam.

President Ford, saying "this is the least we can do," announced Thursday that 2,000 more will be flown out of Saigon in the next few days.

If they all like it as well as David, the operation could at least add an upbeat postscript to the otherwise depressing saga of the Vietnam war.

Asked through an interpreter how he liked the United States, David replied with an enthusiastic flurry of words in Vietnamese. The interpreter, Berkeley high school student Tai Nguyen, 14, said the gist of it was "It's a good place to live!"

When asked if he had left any relatives in Vietnam, David answered soberly that four brothers had stayed behind. They apparently are living in an orphanage in Na Chang, outside Saigon, where David had been cared for.

And his new parents in America? David said he did not know who they were or where they lived. By now, however, he is on his way to them.

Across the nation Thursday, thousands of Americans opened their hearts to the orphans and flooded adoption agencies and the State Department with pleas to take one or more.

Many orphans already had been spoken for and were waiting in Saigon for planes to take them out.

In answer to frantic families who feared that their new charges would be lost in the growing chaos of war, Mr. Ford ordered giant C-5 Air Force

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Los Angeles

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Ballylift

5

U.S. Opens Heart to Orphans

Continued from First Page

red tape and other bureaucratic obstacles preventing these children from coming to the United States."

"This is the least we can do, and we will do much, much more," the President said at a noon news conference in San Diego. He said the airlift would begin in "36 to 48 hours" and carry the 2,000 children to Travis Air Force Base in the Bay Area and to other West Coast airfields.

The Pentagon announced the first C-5 was due in Saigon Thursday night from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines.

As the Communists thrust deeper

Friends of Children of Vietnam which arranged for Wednesday's airlift. "We don't know how long we'll continue to get cooperation from the South Vietnamese government.

"I'm sure they (the North Vietnamese) would stop our support of the children. What they would do after that, I don't know."

From coast to coast, families sat down together to decide if they could manage with another child.

In Peterborough, N.H., John and Dorothy Evans, with three children of their own and a foster child they are supporting in Guatemala, said they are trying to adopt a South Vietnamese orphan.

"Where the situation is so immediate, we decided to look into it right away," Mrs. Evans said.

In Washington, Vernon Lyons, an Agency for International Development official in the disaster relief center, said personnel were working around the clock trying to handle the thousands of offers of adoption and aid to refugees.

He urged people to donate money to "local relief organizations" or churches and termed the public response "unprecedented."

"We had big responses from the American public when the Hungarians and Czechs and Cubans had their cases," Lyon said, "but this has been the biggest response in my 30 years experience."

He said persons who want to know how to help should either call local adoption agencies or the toll-free aid number 800-424-1180.

Elsewhere in Washington government officials were reported considering plans for what could become an evacuation of one million refugees from Saigon, according to the Associated Press.

Officials are reluctant to talk about the subject, apparently for fear of adding to the tense atmosphere in the threatened South Vietnamese capital, AP reported. But it said a State Department task force was studying refugee evacuation proposals, including ways in which a cease-fire might be arranged to allow safe conduct for as many as one million persons from South Vietnam should the Communists take over.

In Rochester, Minn., a \$3-an-hour supermarket cashier sent her \$1,100 in vacation savings to a California man who wants to get his wife and two sons out of Vietnam.

Diana Myhrom, 25, said she had her bank wire the money to Randy Carson, an unemployed Vietnam veteran whose wife, unborn son and adopted son are in South Vietnam.

Mrs. Myron said she had set the money aside to visit a girlfriend in Australia next fall.

"I can't really explain why I sent Carson the money," she said.

"I can't really explain why I sent Carson the money," she said. "I just know that he wants to get his family out and to do that he needs money to cut through the red tape. Money talks, so that's what he needs."

"I have a funny feeling that if I'm



HE LIKES IT IN U.S.—David, 8, commenting—through an interpreter—on the United States. He said, "It's a good place to live."

Times photo

into South Vietnam, the attempt to save the children has become almost an hour-by-hour agony.

At the United Nations, South Vietnam officials issued an appeal to the American people: "For God's sake, don't close your heart to the human tragedy of Vietnam."

"The situation is desperate," said Sally Bergner, a coordinator of



REFRESHMENT—A boy drinking milk after arrival with 51 others.

AP Wirephoto

meant to take that vacation, I'll get there anyway."

Carson's plight came to her attention when the 28-year-old Watsonville man offered to sell one of his eyes to raise money.

Carol Westlake, adoptions director of the Denver-based Friends of Children of Vietnam, which held the placements for David and 46 of the other children who arrived in Oak

(Please Turn to Page 32 Col. 1)

4-4-75 Los Angeles Continued

U.S. Hearts and Homes Opened to War Orphans

Continued from Third Page

land Wednesday night, said staff members of various airlines would escort all 47 to their new homes by today. They were being flown to destinations all over the United States.

Five other orphans who came on the 17-hour World Airways flight from Saigon were met on arrival at Oakland International Airport by other organizations and individuals handling their adoptions. (Other reports put the number of orphans aboard the flight at 58 or 60, but the U.S. Immigration Service said there were 52. Thirty more were in San Francisco Thursday night aboard a scheduled Pan American World Airways flight.) Those traveling under the auspices of Mrs. Westlake's group were put up temporarily at Harmon Hall, a white concrete block armory at the Presidio, an Army post beside the Golden Gate Bridge.

From the time they were carried off the DC-8 stretch jet to buses which took them to the Presidio about midnight, the children were treated to loving care by about 100 volunteer nurses, physicians and aides recruited by the American Red Cross.

Three of the youngsters were hospitalized briefly for treatment of colds, but Mrs. Westlake said all the others were in good shape. The arrivals ranged in age from a few months to 10 years. Many were partially black or Caucasian, obviously the offspring of American GI fathers.

World Airways stewardess Jan Wollett said that on the flight from Saigon, the plane floor, stripped of seats, resembled "one giant playpen."

"They slept, played with crayons and did everything children do," she said.

At the Presidio, mattresses were stretched out across the armory floor, but many of the children were in no mood to go to bed.

"We had some very active kids for a while, because it was daytime (Vietnam time) to them," explained Red Cross official Robert Howard.

Formulas were prepared for bottle-feeding throughout the night, and fresh fruit and other snacks were available. A breakfast of scrambled

eggs and sausage was served, plus ample helpings of rice to help the future U.S. citizens adjust by degrees.

David has a grin that takes a little coaxing and a small but growing English vocabulary. He studied English for two months at the orphanage. He can tell you his name and how old he is but little more.

Through the interpreter, the boy explained at midmorning Thursday that he was full, having been awake all night and having loaded up on snacks from time to time. But he could still move nimbly when a volunteer bounced him a basketball.

4-4-75

Los Angeles
Continued

4-2-

Adopted children can become citizens

United Press International

WASHINGTON — The South Vietnamese Children being brought into this country as refugees will have no problem becoming permanent legal alien residents, a spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service said today.

If they are adopted into American homes, they can apply for citizenship after 3 years, the official said.

Unlike the 40,000 refugees who arrived from Hungary in 1956 and the 675,000 who fled Fidel Castro's Cuba in the 1960s, the spokesman said the Vietnamese children do not need a protective order of Congress. The law makes provision for children under 14 who enter the country with prospects for adoption, which these children

When the Hungarian refugees poured into this country in the 1950s after the Soviet Union had crushed their uprising, Congress had to pass a special law to permit them to stay.

This was also true of the Cuban refugees brought in by airlifts after President Johnson invited them to flee to this country.

In all three situations — the Hungarians, the Cubans, and the Vietnamese children — the refugees have come in first as parolees under a law that gives the U.S. Attorney General emergency powers to admit them.

Attorney General Edward Levi said yesterday he had used this power to admit the first flight of 60 South Vietnamese children who arrived in the United States Wednesday night.

(956
40,000
from Hungary

675,000 from
Cuba '60's

Ford May Greet Group Of Orphans At Travis



Nurses Myrna Fisher, left, and her cousin, Mary Fisher, hold six of 55 Vietnamese orphans who were flown into Oakland late Wednesday night. The picture was made Thursday morning at the home of Myrna Fisher's sister in

Sacramento. Two of the babies will stay in Sacramento and the other four will be taken to the Los Angeles area.—AP Wirephoto.

Military Officers Held In Reported Thieu Plot

SAIGON, South Vietnam — The South Vietnamese government said Friday it had arrested several military officers for allegedly plotting to overthrow President Nguyen Van Thieu.

Calls for Thieu's downfall have swept Saigon as South Vietnam's military situation worsened. With 50,000 Communist-led troops massed only 45 to 55 miles away from Saigon, Thieu's

It was the second such roundup of alleged coup plotters in a week. One week ago, the Interior Ministry said eight persons were arrested for plotting against the president.

In San Diego, Calif., President Ford said Thieu had ordered an "improper and unnecessary withdrawal" of his troops from the central provinces. Ford made the comment at a private meeting with news and broadcast executives, but word leaked to newsmen

Index In Sharp Wholesale Rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wholesale prices in March fell six-tenths of a percent, resulting in the sharpest four-month price drop in 24 years, the government reported Thursday.

The Labor Department report was further evidence that inflation is moderating even though the declines at wholesale have not been fully passed through to consumers at the retail level.

Farm and food prices fell 2.5 percent to lead the over-all decline in wholesale prices last month. Industrial

Tentative Meeting Outlined

Pictures, Stories Page 3

President and Mrs. Ford next week may meet one of the Air Force planes ferrying orphans from South Vietnam when it lands at Travis Air Force Base, press secretary Ron Nessen said Thursday night.

The announcement, carried by wire services, was made at Palm Springs where the presidential party is vacationing.

Nessen said plans were not firm, but there was a chance a C5A jet carrying orphans would arrive at Travis AFB on Monday.

President Ford is scheduled to end his nine-day Palm Springs vacation Monday and return to Washington, stopping en route in Las Vegas to speak to the National Association of Broadcasters.

Nessen said if it works out, Ford could make the Las Vegas speech and then fly to Travis before returning to Washington.

Meanwhile more Vietnamese orphans were headed to the San Francisco Bay Area by commercial jetliner, first of 2,000 headed to the United States.

The first contingent of 50 orphans who landed in Oakland Wednesday night gazed with wide-eyed fascination as volunteers fussed over them in several places in the Bay Area.

Just two days ago, the children were in endangered Saigon where a World Airways jet defied orders and took off with them to a new life.

Charles J. Patterson, senior vice president of World Airways, said the plane which arrived Thursday carried 55 children — 52 of them orphans and three accompanied by their mothers. However, there was confusion about

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Vallejo, Calif.
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the exact number among volunteer workers and Army officials, who said 58 children had been on the flight.

President Ford told a news conference in San Diego funds totaling \$2 million will be diverted from a special

See **BABYLIFT** Page 2

BABYLIFT

From **PAGE ONE**

children's fund to fly the 2,000 orphans to the West Coast on Air Force planes.

Pan American airlines said 30 Vietnamese orphans had been flown out of Saigon en route to the United States, but the commercial liner was grounded at Guam with mechanical problems Thursday night.

Meanwhile, a giant C5 cargo plane from Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines was designated to carry a load of orphans from South Vietnam to the West Coast. It was not expected to arrive on the West Coast before Friday night.

Sources said another C5 was being readied to fly to Saigon to pick up orphans. The C5s will be equipped with special seats and carry up to 350 children each. Nurses and medicine will be aboard.

Bill Marsh, a Pan Am spokesman, stated that his Saigon office said the 30 children who were en route to the United States on Thursday were aboard the regularly scheduled Pan Am flight which stops at Manila, Guam and Honolulu before arriving in San Francisco.

Marsh said the orphans were sponsored by five different adoption agencies, which would have representatives to meet the plane. He said flight arrangements had been made by the agencies, including payment for tickets. He said U.S. government regulations prohibited the airline from offering free seats.

Two of the children who arrived on the World Airways jet Wednesday night were left at the U.S. Air Force base in Yokota, Japan, because they were malnourished and dehydrated.

Times-Herald, Vallejo, 4/4/75

Tot Lift Answer 'To My Prayers'

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The baby lift from Vietnam was an "answer to my prayers," the wife of a Seventh-day Adventist missionary to Vietnam said Thursday.

Mary Fisher was holding one of six infants she had brought on the plane from Saigon as she was interviewed in the home of her sister here. The other five tots were sleeping on the floor in another room.

The four girls and two boys range in age from 2 months to 14 months.

"We had been told we were being transferred to another country," said Mrs. Fisher, who was with her husband in Saigon for almost two years.

A nurse with three children of her own, she had taken the six Vietnamese infants from an orphanage into her Saigon home. They were in poor condition, she said, and she nursed them back to health.

"When they told me I had to leave them behind, I said, 'No, I can't do that, they're like my own.'"

Then she got a phone call from Ed Daly, president of World Airways, saying he was planning to take a plane

load of orphans to the United States, and would she go along as a nurse.

"When this came up I knew it was an answer to my prayers," she said. "There was just no other way to get the babies out."

Four of the six children she brought have been adopted by American couples. She was indefinite about the other two, but implied they too were spoken for.

Mrs. Fisher planned to take three children by plane Thursday evening to Los Angeles, where their adoptive parents were to be waiting. She identified the couples as Mr. and Mrs. Harold Norberg, Mr. and Mrs. Dean G. Christy and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Marchitello.

On Friday, she expects a Chinese-American couple from Berrien Springs, Mich., to fly here to pick up another of the orphans, a bright little girl named Ohnma Lisa.

Mrs. Fisher said she didn't plan to adopt any children herself.

"I would love to," she said, "but we have three of our own, and there are so many families who can't have children who would be delighted to have them."



Vietnamese orphans crowd the windows of a World Airways DC8 as it flies them to their new homes in the United States.

Fifty-five of the children were airlifted from Saigon to Oakland.—AP Wirephoto.

Massive Airlift Of Orphans Asked

SAIGON, South Vietnam (AP) — Voluntary adoption agencies appealed to the United States on Thursday for an airlift of jumbo jets to get hundreds of Vietnamese orphans to safety in America, welfare sources said.

In San Diego, Calif., President Ford told a news conference he has ordered the U.S. Embassy in Saigon to "cut red tape" in the way of evacuating Vietnamese orphans. Ford said a special program is under way to bring 2,000 orphans to the United States.

"It is the least we can do and we will do much, much more," Ford said.

The Saigon welfare sources said Daniel Parker, head of the Agency for International Development (AID), authorized \$2 million for an airlift of the 2,000 orphans within two days for adoption in the United States. They said U. S. officials in Saigon have asked

for a clarification of his statement.

One voluntary agency, the Friends of Vietnamese Children, sent a van to foster homes dotting the Saigon area on Thursday to pick up 110 of its 350 children to prepare them for departure.

"Everybody has asked for the jumbo jets," said Leann Thiernonn, 25, of Iowa City, Iowa, a graduate nurse who arrived in Saigon on Wednesday to convoy the orphans back to the United States.

"All the adoption agencies have asked for the jumbo jets to come over one at a time," she said. On Wednesday, a World Airways DC8 jet carried 58 Vietnamese orphans to the United States, but it was a wildcat effort, not part of an official evacuation.

Mrs. Thiernonn said the Friends of Vietnamese Children staff was working through the night to prepare dossiers to get exit visas for the children in their care. She said the organization hoped to get its shipment of children out by Sunday.

More than 6,000 persons in Britain also were reported to have offered to take in Vietnamese orphans, and there were moves in Australia and New Zealand to adopt them.

Director Victor Srinivasan of the Vietnamese American Children's Fund, an adoption agency in Saigon, said Vietnamese mothers flocked to his office willing to give up their children if they could be sent to the United States for adoption and safety.

One of the mothers, 28-year-old Nguyen Thi Liem, cried, "I don't want my babies to die" when asked why she was willing to sign a waiver giving up her claim to the children in the hope they might be taken to the United States.

She said she feared a Viet Cong attack on Saigon.

Rainfall

Season July 1 - June 30

VSFCD last 24 hours Tr.
Season total to date 16.62
This date last year 24.60
Total rainfall last year 26.19

Flaming Hill last 24 hours02
Season total to date 14.22
This date last year 23.19
Total rainfall last year 24.43

American Canyon last 24 hours00
Season total to date 18.59
This date last year 24.55
Total rainfall last year 25.78

Benicia last 24 hours00
Season total to date 15.60
This date last year 22.80
Total rainfall last year 24.12

Napa last 24 hours00
Season total to date 22.37
This date last year 30.60
Total rainfall last year 31.45

Mare Island last 24 hours01
Season total to date 16.64
This date last year 24.05
Avg. in date since 1878 16.16
Total rainfall last year 25.62

Fairfield last 24 hours00
Season total to date 20.97
This date last year 22.75
Total rainfall last year 33.53

Vacaville last 24 hours00
Season total to date 21.26
This date last year 28.57
Total rainfall last year 29.17

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Vallejo
4/4/75

3 — Times-Herald, Vallejo, Friday, April 4, 1975



A Vietnamese orphan is a study in concentration at the Presidio in San Francisco Thursday following a 25-hour airplane dash across the Pacific from endangered Saigon. The youngster is one of 58 Vietnamese orphans brought to the United States on a World Airways plane. — AP Wirephoto.

Times-Herald
Vallejo

4/4/75

Mother Weeps Losing 3 Babies

SAIGON, South Vietnam (AP) — "I don't want my babies to die," Nguyen Thi Liem said Thursday and burst into tears after signing a waiver giving up her three children in hopes they will be taken to the United States for adoption and safety.

"I scared," the 28-year-old mother said in halting English learned in a decade of living with Americans. Two of her children were fathered by Americans.

"Maybe someday, the VC — Viet Cong — be here. My children die. I like stay. But

I worry, too much with VC here. Maybe rocket. Maybe bomb. Maybe they kill.

"It hard very hard. I don't know. I never see my babies anymore. I don't know what I do. Maybe someday I die."

The waiver turned custody of the three children over to the Vietnam-American Children's Fund — FAF — an organization backed by an American adoption agency, Welcome House, of Doylestown, Pa. VACF runs two children's homes in Saigon, Hope I and Hope II, where Liem's children and

350 others live. About half of them were fathered by Americans.

Victor Srinivasan, an Indian from Madras but a permanent resident of the United States, directs the two homes. Though VACF is not licensed to process adoptions, the approach of the Communist-led Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces has sent mothers flocking to the homes, ever since news spread of a \$2 million American-sponsored airlift to fly 2,000 orphans to the United States, Srinivasan said.

After dash to U.S., orphans explore the wonders of toys

By DARYL LEMBKE
Globe-Democrat - Los Angeles
Times News Service

SAN FRANCISCO. — David seemed to be having a great time Thursday on his first day in his adopted homeland.

The television floodlights and reporters scrambling about in search of the human interest angle didn't throw him off stride. He just kept tossing and catching the basketball.

That's his favorite sport.

DAVID IS a wiry 8-year-old who was one of the 58 Vietnamese orphans flown to the United States from Saigon Wednesday to find new homes with adopted parents. The movement was apparently the vanguard of an extensive airlift of children from the beleaguered capital.

President Ford announced Thursday that 2,000 more orphans will be flown to the United States from Saigon.

If they all like it as well as David, the operation could at least add an upbeat postscript to the otherwise depressing saga of the Vietnam war.

Asked through an interpreter if he liked it so far in the United States, David replied with an enthusiastic flurry of words in Vietnamese. The interpreter, Berkeley high school student Tai Nguyen, 14, said the gist of it was: "It's a good place to live."

WHEN ASKED if he had any relatives that he knew in Vietnam, David answered soberly that he had four brothers left behind there. They are apparently living in an orphanage for 40 youngsters where David also resided in Na Chang, outside of Saigon.

And his new parents in America? David didn't immediately know who they are or where they live. By now, however, he is on his way to them.

Mrs. Carol Westlake, adop-



A Vietnamese orphan holds her bunny after arriving in San Francisco from Saigon.
—AP Wirephoto

tions director of the Denver-based Friends of Children of Viet Nam, which held the placements for David and 46 of the other children, said staff members of various airlines would escort all 47 to their new homes by Friday. They were being flown to destinations all over the United States.

The other orphans who came on the same 17-hour World Airways flight from Saigon Wednesday were met on arrival at Oakland Interna-

tional Airport by various organizations and individuals handling the adoptions.

THOSE LIKE David who were traveling under the auspices of Mrs. Westlake's group were put up temporarily at Harmon Hall, a white concrete block armory on the Army's Presidio post near the Golden Gate Bridge.

From the time they were carried off the DC-8 jet to buses which took them to the Presidio about midnight Wednesday, the children were

treated to tender loving care. The care was provided by about 100 volunteer nurses, physicians and aides recruited by the American Red Cross.

Three of the youngsters were hospitalized briefly for treatment of colds, but Mrs. Westlake said all the others were in good shape. The arrivals ranged in age from a few months to 10 years. Many were partially black or Caucasian, obviously the offspring of American fathers.

Two area groups seek aid

Hanoi pledges respect for lives and property



A NEW LIFE: Nurses Myrna Fisher and her cousin, Mary Fisher, hold six of the 58 Vietnamese orphans who were flown to California from Saigon. Two of the baby refugees will live in Sacramento and the other four will have new homes in the Los Angeles area. Stories on 6A.

—AP Wirephoto



Ha Thi Cam Juong cried as she stood outside the An Lac orphanage after her son, Ha Mai Khoi (right) boarded a plane to fly to the U.S. A stewardess stands behind her.

Her 'Orphan' Son Flies to U.S.

Saigon

Ha Thi Cam Huong stood across the street from an orphanage yesterday watching her 9-year-old son leave for the United States. In her hand, she clutched a bag of bread.

"I hope my boy not hungry," she said in halting English.

The boy, Ha Mai Khoi, lightly freckled across the nose, wearing a scout hat and carrying all his belongings

in a brown satchel, climbed aboard a bus to join a group of more than 250 Vietnamese children who flew to the United States aboard two U.S. Air Force C-141 cargo jets.

His mother did not approach him with the bread, although she had waited almost four hours for a glimpse of the boy as he walked out through the An Lac orphanage gate with its fringe of barbed wire.

"When we learned yesterday

he go, he jump up and down he so happy, while I cried," she said. "Maybe he come back when he is 20 years old and a student."

The boy's father was an American, she said, with whom she lived ten years ago at Lai Khe, 30 miles from Saigon. He was an artilleryman and died in Vietnam. She said the father's last name was McCoy, hence her boy's curious Vietnamese name — Mai Khoi.

"I am scared," she said,

explaining why she sent off her son. "The VC will come and kill those American babies."

Like many people here, she had heard of such stories but knew of no such killing. Other Vietnamese claim American-fathered children were murdered by the Viet Cong during the Tet offensive in Hue in 1968.

The mother didn't know it, but inside the orphanage, Ha Mai Khoi had an anxious moment.

Two buses were loaded for the ride to the airport, and the boy was left alone outside. He sat with his satchel, his eyes reddened, then bent his head to his knees and cried.

"He doesn't have a number," someone said. American film actress Ina Balin who helped with the evacuation folded him in her arms until his proper number was found. He scampered aboard.

Betty Tisdale, who organ-

ized the days of liberation from the Vietnamese, the boy was home in his home town.

She said Billy Newman, a Vietnamese war correspondent, said a son of his came.



AP Wirephotos

ied as she stood outside the An Lac orphanage after her son, Ha Mai Khoi (right) boarded a plane to fly to the U.S. A stewardess stands behind him

er 'Orphan' Son Flies to U.S.

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Betty Tisdale, who organ-

ized the airlift after two days of lobbying for permission from the South Vietnamese government, said the boy would have a good home in Columbus, Ga., her home town.

She said he would go to Billy Newsome and his Vietnamese wife, Hoai of Columbus. They have one other child, a daughter, and she said a son would be welcome.

Associated Press

2 More Orphans Find New Families, Lives

By PETE GORDON and
MARK IVANCIC
Sun-Sentinel Writers

Two more Vietnamese orphans were united with their adoptive American families yesterday as a Boca Raton couple and a Pompano Beach family met a plane carrying two infants at the Miami International Airport.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Rhodes of 274 NW 46th St., Boca Raton, and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Oddo of 251 SE Sixth St., Pompano Beach, were united for the first time with the orphans they've been waiting more than a year to hold.

Ron and Judy Rhodes brought their 3-week-old son home to a new name — Jason Allen Rhodes.

"I was so happy all I could was cry a lot when I took off the plane at Miami,"

Rhodes said as she

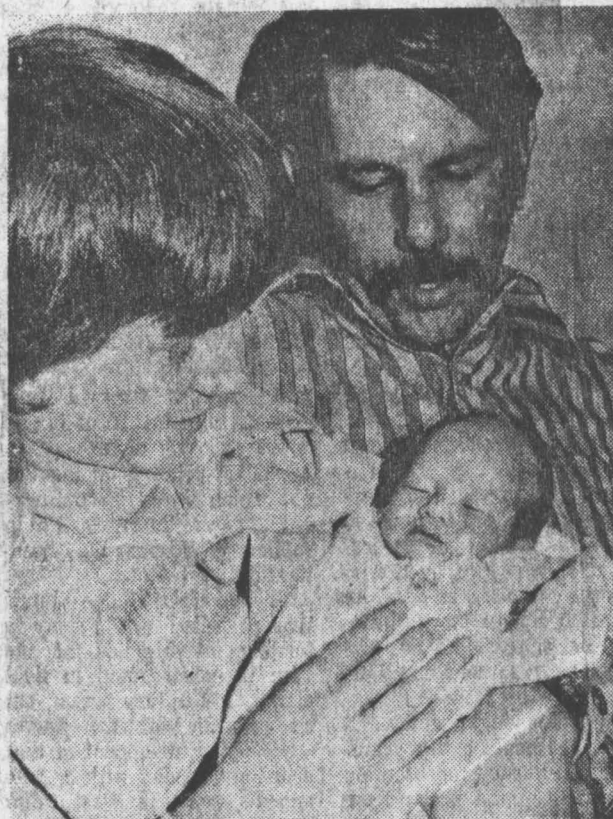
rocked her five and a half pound infant.

"He eats well and there is hardly a blemish on him," she said. "There were no surprises except I expected a three-month baby."

Her husband thinks he must have misunderstood the age when he was told over the phone that their son was to be flown in from Denver.

The child has been at the headquarters of the Friends of the Children of Vietnam in Denver since he was baby-lifted out of Saigon April 8.

Jason Allen will get his first taste of American social life Sunday when his new Godmother, Lynette Hostetter, will host a baby shower. Until then, the blue-eyed, black-haired youngster will have to make do with "about \$300 worth of baby things ...



Staff photo by Nick Von Staden

3-WEEK-OLD JASON MEETS NEW PARENTS

... he'll be Dad's fishing partner

Area hearthsides warmed by new arrivals

Viet children find security

Four-year-old Thomas Lane Moritz, a Vietnamese orphan, tightly clutched the hand of a puppet and toy car as if he were afraid to let go of his new-found security.

The child, adopted by Larry and Linda Moritz of Loveland, even slept with the toy his first day in his new home. He slept on the floor, not wanting to use a bed.

Thomas was one of 17 orphans flown into Denver Friday as part of a dramatic airlift of 55 children out of Saigon earlier in the week.

"I cried when I saw him," Mrs. Moritz said. "And I took him home and we played until 5 a.m."

The Moritz family and about 200 other persons greeted the Vietnamese orphans in a surprisingly quiet meeting at Stapleton International Airport at 1 a.m.

The children, five of them going to families in Colorado and Wyoming, shyly paraded off the Western Airlines jet, holding colorful balloons. They were greeted by television cameras and strange faces.

IT'S A MIRACLE

"It's a miracle," said Denise Ingram of Casper, Wyo. Tears streamed down her face as she held her adopted daughter, Camille.

"We didn't get her picture until two weeks ago and we didn't think we'd be able to get her out of Vietnam because of the fighting," Mrs. Ingram said.

Anthony Ingram and his wife already had two adopted Vietnamese children and two "home-

made sons," as Ingram calls them. "This rounds out the Ingram family," he said.

At one point during the reception a group of new parents and their children gathered to pose for a picture. Behind them was a backdrop of newspapers stands whose headlines shouted about refugees fleeing Saigon and orphans being airlifted.

The children not going to Colorado area families were taken to private homes in the Denver area until they could be flown to their new homes in other states.

TOY PUPPET

Mrs. Moritz said her son is fine now, still holding onto the toy car and hand puppet.

But her happiness is also mixed with sorrow for the almost 200 orphans who were killed in the crash of a C5 transport plane shortly after its takeoff from Saigon Friday.

"I feel like crying everytime I hear the news of the orphans dying and I look at ours and thank God he's alive," she said. "But for those parents, waiting is agony, not knowing if it is one of your children that died in the crash. It makes you want to stream."

Two days ago the David Johnson home in Berthoud was relatively quiet, but now with the addition of three adopted Vietnamese children who came into Denver Friday morning the house is in a "shambles," Johnson said laughing.

Johnson and his wife Bobbie, married six years, found they couldn't have children so de-

(Continued on page 12)

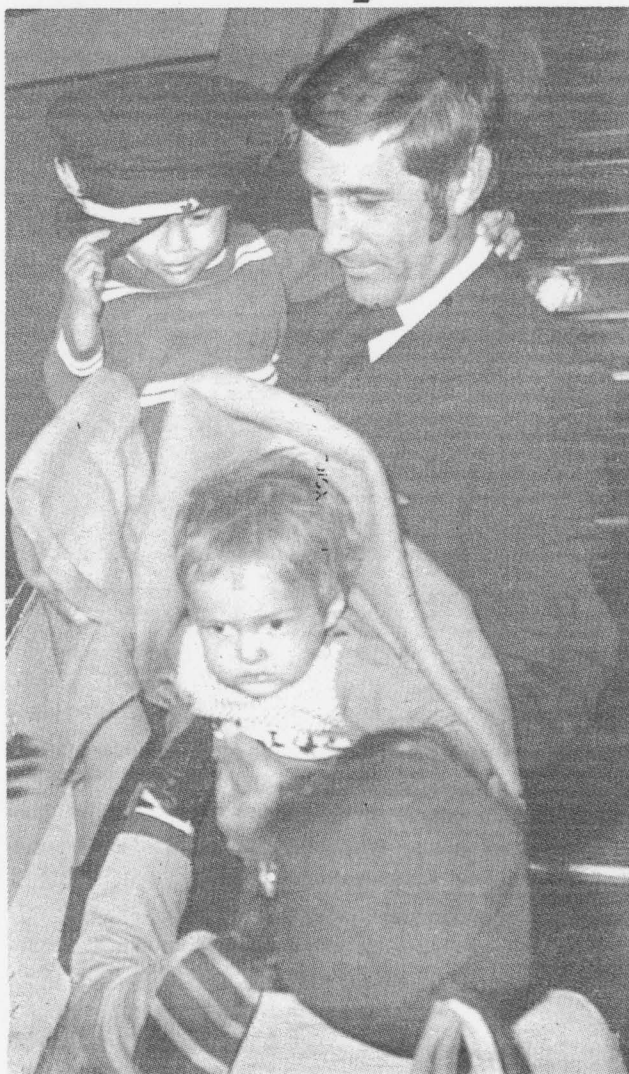


Seventeen tired Vietnamese orphans arrived at Stapleton International Airport early Friday. Only five were adopted by Colorado and Wyoming families; the others will continue to homes in the East after resting a day or two. Above, Mrs. Linda Moritz of Loveland tearfully hugs her new son, Thomas, 4.

UPI PHOTOS BY JOE MARQUETTE

Not Everyone's Cheering the Orphan Lift

Pacific Stars and Stripes
Vol. 31, No. 98
4/9/75



An airline worker carries Vietnamese orphans from a plane at London's Heathrow Airport. A hundred orphans were flown to Britain from Saigon in a plane chartered by the Daily Mail newspaper. (AP)

List Demands

Tenn. Prisoners Free 6 Hostages

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A congressman, accompanied by three Vietnamese children and their tearful American parents, ran into surprise opposition Monday when he tried to rally support of congressional aides for stepped-up "babylifts."

A black woman wanted to know why she didn't see black Americans adopting the children of mixed black and Vietnamese parentage. A black man inquired what guarantee there is the orphans will be treated better in the United States than in Vietnam.

A Vietnamese woman said all the people involved in the "babylifts" are on "a guilt trip." Another woman asked why only the orphans in Saigon, and not the ones in Da Nang, are being helped.

Another congressman wanted to know "what the hell are you going to do for those kids in Vietnam who desperately need some help and understanding?"

Other questions concerned the evacuation of 18,000 Vietnamese children in orphanages but not one million wandering around without orphanage care, and whether some children are being given up by Vietnamese parents who would raise them themselves if they had the money being spent on the "babylifts."

Rep. Paul E. Tsongas, D-Mass., organized the rally in a cavernous House meeting room to urge "administration officials to make an immediate commitment for the evacuation of additional Vietnamese orphans."

The other congressman, Rep. William A. Steiger, R-Wis., shouted from the audience that to merely urge going beyond what is being done now "and simply bring out every god-damned child" is not good enough.

Steiger, asking what would be done to help those in need in Saigon, accused Tsongas of using the baby issue as a "political football."

Tsongas brought back with him from the Easter recess three Vietnamese children and their adoptive parents from the Boston area.

Mrs. Carol Brandt of Concord, who adopted a Vietnamese girl, Lan, two years ago and had arranged to adopt one of the children killed in last week's C5 crash in Saigon, wept as she accused the United States of refusing "to accept special responsibility for Amer-Asian children" —the offspring of American soldier fathers and Vietnamese women.

Mary Alice Williams of Nitack stood behind Jessamyn, her half-black adopted child found in the Saigon streets 18 months ago. She wept as she said, "There are at least 18,000



Maria Nakian sits at her Stamford, Conn., home holding the Vietnamese orphan she and her husband Paul have adopted. The 16-month-old boy, whom they have named Christopher, was among 53 children flown to New York Sunday. (AP)

Not All Are Infants

Life Begins at 8 For Matthew Ray

London's Heathrow Airport. A hundred orphans were flown to Britain from Saigon in a plane chartered by the Daily Mail newspaper. (AP)

List Demands

Tenn. Prisoners Free 6 Hostages

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Three counselors for the State Prison were released unharmed late Monday after being held as hostages by a small group of inmates armed with homemade knives and billy clubs, State Corrections Commissioner Herman Yeatman said.

Another counselor who had been captured had been released earlier in the day.

The prisoners had presented prison officials with a list of 12 demands. There was no immediate word on how many, if any, had been granted.

The counselors — identified by authorities as Jesse Tucker, Michael White, William Randolph and Paul Campbell — were taken prisoner as they entered their office in the prison about 9 a.m. A group of about 12 inmates who did not participate were also held by the rebellious inmates.

Randolph and two of the prisoners were released in early afternoon.

Prison authorities said the inmates who held the hostages were all dangerous. But after Randolph was released, Gov. Ray Blanton said, "We don't feel that it is that dangerous, and we're basing that on a judgement passed to us by the hostage (Randolph) just released."

"His report is that no strong threats have been made and there is no danger of real harm," said Blanton.

The rebellious inmates were identified as Doc Walker, 28, serving a 100-year prison term for robbery with a deadly weapon; Gabbie Mitchell, 22, serving 10 to 15 years on conviction for second degree murder and assault with intent to commit murder; and Melvin Lockett, 25, serving life on a first degree murder conviction.

About 2,500 inmates are housed at the prison, officials said. They said the facility was designed to house about 1,800 men.

ago and had arranged to adopt one of the children killed in last week's C5 crash in Saigon, wept as she accused the United States of refusing "to accept special responsibility for American children" — the offspring of American soldier fathers and Vietnamese women.

Mary Alice Williams of Nitack stood behind Jessamyn, her half-black adopted child found in the Saigon streets 18 months ago. She wept as she said, "There are at least 18,000 homeless children in the Saigon area, masses of them have American fathers."

The third child, on crutches as the result of a polio-connected operation, was accompanied by her new father, Tom Wordell of Boston. The daughter of Montagnard parents, she was christened Catharine when adopted two years ago.

Private 'Lift' Falls Short

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) — A weekend attempt to raise \$100,000 here for a privately sponsored babylift flight of orphans from South Vietnam had raised only \$3,700 by late Sunday, a spokesman said.

The New Girl in Yul Brynner's Life

BOSTON (UPI) — "I'm going to be a father once again," actor Yul Brynner said Monday upon learning that his adopted Vietnamese child was in San Francisco.

Chuckling and not even trying to conceal his glee, Brynner said, "My wife Jacqueline and I have been up half the night. With each telephone call, we're holding our breaths."

"We know our little daughter is in San Francisco because all

of the children in the whole orphanage I've been working with arrived there yesterday. We're overjoyed! We're very happy," he said.

Brynner said there has been some difficulty getting the right child with the right name because "all the papers were lost" in the plane crash outside of Saigon Friday. He said his daughter was not on the plane that crashed, but her adoption and birth papers were.

Maria Italian sits at her Stamford, Conn., home holding the Vietnamese orphan she and her husband Paul have adopted. The 16-month-old boy, whom they have named Christopher, was among 53 children flown to New York Sunday. (AP)

Not All Are Infants

Life Begins at 8 For Matthew Ray

CHICAGO (UPI) — Dr. James Steiner and his family from West Liberty, Ohio, met their newest family member Sunday, a handsome 8-year-old who said he is "very happy to be in the U.S. and to have a family."

Matthew Ray, as he is now known, was one of 76 South Vietnamese orphans to land in Chicago to meet their new parents. He's studied English, but his response Sunday came through an interpreter.

The Steiners got news of their new son some time before the other families when a UPI correspondent in Saigon, Charles Smith, wrote them an

open letter describing the boy, who turns 9 next month. Smith talked to the youngster on the steps of the orphanage before Matthew left for the U.S.

Asked about the letter Sunday, Steiner said, "I was glad to hear about it, to hear he was okay. I still haven't gotten the letter."

He said the UPI story was read to his family over the phone by a local newspaper reporter.

"It had us crying when he read it to us. It was some letter," Steiner said.

Matt now goes back to the Steiner home in West Liberty, a small community of 1,500.

week in a pre-Broadway tryout of the new musical comedy "Odyssey."

"We're going to call her Melody. She's only an infant. We don't know how old she is. But we have a picture of her," Mrs. Brynner said. "We applied several months ago so Mia will have a sister."

Pacific Stars & Stripes 5
Wednesday, April 9, 1975

50th Victory

BALTIMORE SUN, APRIL 11, 1975

Viet refugee has second thoughts about Communist foes

By MATTHEW J. SEIDEN

Sun Staff Correspondent

Saigon—"For nine years I worked for the Americans and fought in the South Vietnam Army," the discharged corporal said. "For all that time I never saw a Communist, except for their dead bodies. They were the enemy."

"Now I have seen them and talked to them and seen how they operate and I think they are not as bad as the image we have been told about," Mr. Tam said thoughtfully.

"I only saw them for a few days and it was just as they were beginning to establish control in one area, so I know I don't have the complete picture," said Mr. Tam, who has worked as an interpreter for the Americans. "But from what I have seen, I can only say honestly that I am impressed and respect them."

Late last month, when news of the fall of nearby provinces swept through Quang Ngai, 300 miles north of Saigon, Mr. Tam and his wife and child joined the flight from the advancing Communists.

"First the officials took off, then the soldiers, then the police," Mr. Tam said. "Everyone was running, so we ran too."

"Now I regret very much that I fled," said Mr. Tam, who thinks his wife and child were killed in the panicky flight. "I can't go back to my home, but I am afraid the government police and I don't know how to get a pass from the Communists to re-enter the area."

In many respects, Mr. Tam's story is typical of the experiences of hundreds of thousands of refugees who fled south in panic late last month. Like Mr. Tam, many of these refugees tell firsthand accounts of shootings, robbing, raping and looting committed by government troops, and some speak with cautious, apparently newfound respect for the Communists.

"The convoy [out of Quang Ngai] was soon caught in a battle," Mr. Tam said. "I was on my motorcycle and got wounded. When I looked back, the trucks were all on fire. My

wife and daughter were in one of the trucks."

Separated from the convoy, unable to find his family, wounded in the leg and abdomen, Mr. Tam said he walked on until he was stopped at a bridge by three Communist soldiers.

"They made me raise my hands like a prisoner and searched me. Took my knapsack and asked me for my identification card," Mr. Tam said.

"I told them I was a civilian and they asked me why I ran away. I said I ran to get away from fighting, which wasn't true, but I was afraid to say I just ran because everybody was running."

"I told them I was wounded, and they bandaged my wound. We had a brief talk back and forth, not friendly, but frank. They suspected maybe I was an enemy, and I was still scared of them."

"I asked them if they were ready to come down here and take over. They said not yet, that they were still waiting for orders."

"One of them was a guer-

rilla from Quang Ngai. I could tell by his accent. The others were North Vietnamese. They didn't talk much."

"They told me to rest for a couple of hours. During that time I saw them check many others who were fleeing down the same road. If the refugees were officers or officials they told them to stay there and said they would be granted amnesty. Everybody else was allowed to go down the road. They didn't do anything bad to anyone, except they took rice from some people."

"Later they said the road was safe and I could go. When I moved on, I saw that many officers and officials had gotten through."

"At the next checkpoint was a boy who was my English student. He had an armband on. It turned out he was a Communist cadre."

"At this checkpoint they told everyone to go home and gave us handwritten passes."

"They warned us not to break into abandoned houses. I asked for a new bandage and

they sent me to a clinic they had set up along the road. The medic turned out to be someone I know from Quang Ngai."

"When I was ready to move on they said to wait because there was fighting ahead on the road. Then a government bomber came towards us and they told us to run for cover, while they fired at the plane."

Eventually, Mr. Tam reached a town still controlled by South Vietnamese Army. The government soldiers took his Communist pass. He spent the night there, but awoke to find the people in that town also fleeing, along with the troops stationed there.

He boarded an evacuation boat and ended up in Cam Ranh, where he took buses and walked to Saigon. Along the latter half of the trip, he said he saw many acts of violence committed by fleeing government soldiers on helpless civilians.

He said he was deeply impressed and troubled by the contrast between the Communist and government soldiers. "Maybe later, they will be-

come harsh too, but what I saw there and here makes me want to go back."

Mr. Tam said he heard from other Quang Ngai refugees on the road that there were no big changes, few arrests and no executions in Quang Ngai when the Communists arrived.

"They tell me the Communists say to open the schools and shops and hospitals and go on as usual. The husband of the lady who used to sell tickets at the Air Vietnam Office is now mayor, they say."

It is not impossible that Mr. Tam, and people like him, are Communist agents, sent south to spread such stories.

However, Mr. Tam is well-known and trusted by a group of American social workers who lived in Quang Ngai. They say it is true that he worked as an interpreter for the United States Agency for International Development from 1965 to 1969 and was assigned to work with the American military as a corporal in the South Vietnamese Army from 1969 to 1974.

Watertown (SD) Public Opinion

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RUTHANNE GASPER

	Friday	Hi	Lo	Prc	Offk
Albany	49	24	..	clr	
Albuquerque	57	37	..	cdy	
Amarillo	54	39	..	cdy	
Anchorage	40	32	..	rn	
Asheville	67	44	..	cdy	
Atlanta	66	51	..	cdy	
Birmingham	71	54	..	cdy	
Bismarck	39	24	..	cdy	
Boise	52	32	..	clr	
Boston	54	35	..	clr	
Brownsville	90	70	..	cdy	
Buffalo	40	26	..	clr	
Charleston	65	39	..	clr	
Charlotte	70	53	..	cdy	
Chicago	38	34	..	cdy	
Cincinnati	61	38	..	cdy	
Cleveland	40	26	..	cdy	
Denver	46	33	..	sn	
Des Moines	39	30	..	clr	
Detroit	47	24	..	cdy	
Duluth	33	14	..	clr	
Fairbanks	37	28	..	cdy	
Fort Worth	63	52	..	cdy	
Green Bay	44	25	..	clr	
Helena	36	16	..	clr	
Honolulu	79	65	..	cdy	
Houston	71	58	..	cdy	
Indianapolis	66	44	..	clr	
Jacksonville	72	62	..	rn	
Juneau	46	39	..	rn	
Kansas City	46	30	..	cdy	
Las Vegas	52	40	..	rn	
Little Rock	75	47	..	clr	
Los Angeles	63	50	..	cdy	
Louisville	67	44	..	cdy	
Marquette	34	9	..	cdy	
Memphis	73	48	..	cdy	
Miami	82	74	..	cdy	
Milwaukee	38	28	..	clr	
Minneapolis-St. P.	44	22	..	clr	
New Orleans	73	62	..	cdy	
New York	58	35	..	clr	
Oklahoma City	59	38	..	cdy	
Omaha	43	27	..	clr	
Orlando	90	68	..	cdy	
Philadelphia	49	31	..	cdy	
Phoenix	64	46	..	cdy	
Pittsburgh	52	27	..	clr	
Portland, Ore.	64	37	..	clr	
Portland, Me.	47	28	..	cdy	
Rapid City	45	29	..	cdy	
Richmond	57	38	..	cdy	
St. Louis	58	36	..	cdy	
Salt Lake	50	32	..	cdy	
San Diego	62	55	..	cdy	
San Francisco	55	40	..	clr	
Seattle	41	29	..	clr	

RUTHANNE GASPER

Woman's death confirmed by telegram

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Gasper, 1031 1st Ave. SE, parents of Ruthanne Gasper, 23, have received a telegram confirming the death of their daughter who was a passenger on the C-5A orphan flight which crashed shortly after take-off April 4 near Saigon, South Vietnam.

Miss Gasper was born July 29, 1946, at Watertown. She graduated from the Castlewood High School. She later attended a secretarial school at Omaha, Neb., and then moved to San Diego, Calif., where she was employed by the Federal Civil Service. She had worked for the federal government at North Island in San Diego, Guam and Hawaii.

In March 1973 she volunteered to go to Saigon where she had since been employed at the Defense Attache Office, U.S. Embassy.

In June 1973 she received a certificate of appreciation and a plaque awarded civilians for outstanding service and devotion to duty. She received a Second Class Staff Medal and Certificate from General Vien, a Vietnamese official, in November 1974 for her service there.

Miss Gasper is survived by her parents; a sister, Mrs. Dale (Joyce) Henkelman, Willmar, Minn.; a brother, David, Watertown; and her grandmother, Mrs. Bertine Amundson, Brandt.

Funeral services will be held at the Immaculate Conception Church and will be announced later by the Mathiesen, Gergen, Rhodes and Wight Funeral Chapel.



births

will be David Mors, Dean Mors, Hendrick Lange, Kermit Hansen, Warren Falk and Wayne Mors.

The Emanuel Funeral Home of Milbank is in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Anderson was born Nov. 10, 1904, at Stockholm to Mr. and Mrs. Chris Mors. She attended schools, north of Stockholm and married Charley Anderson Nov. 16, 1921, at Stockholm. He died July 2, 1962.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson farmed northeast of Stockholm until 1956 when they retired and moved to Watertown. For the past few years Mrs. Anderson has been spending some time each winter with her son, Duane, at Phoenix.

She was baptized in the Elim Covenant Church and was a member of that church.

Surviving are one son, Duane M. Anderson, Phoenix, Ariz.; one daughter, Mrs. Richard (LaVonne) Mayer, St. Paul; two grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. George (Emily) Anderson, Brookings, Mrs. Walter (Marion) Anderson, Stockholm, and Mrs. Glenn (Esther) Ennis, Brooklyn Park, Minn.; and three brothers, John Mors, South Shore, Paul Mors, Watertown, and Andrew Mors, Milbank.

Jacobson service at Sisseton

SISSETON — Julius Jacobson, 80, lifetime resident of the Sisseton area, died Thursday in a Sisseton hospital.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Assembly of God Church with the Rev. Ted Heaston officiating. Burial will be in the Concordia Lutheran Cemetery. Visitation will be all day today (Friday) and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the Cahill Funeral Chapel in Sisseton and from 12:30 p.m. until time of services at the church.

Pallbearers will be Carl Solin, Wesley Erdahl, Merle Ready, Arthur Erickson, Joseph

BRIBERY CHARGES DENIED

Viet Officials' Children Not in Airlift, Aide Says

BY GRAHAME L. JONES

Times Staff Writer

Charges that political and military officials in South Vietnam are using blackmail and bribery to have their own children airlifted to the United States as orphans were denied Sunday by an official of one of the adoption agencies involved in the airlift.

Bernard Powell, a spokesman for Orphans Airlift, one of the groups active in the evacuation, said in a telephone interview from San Francisco that while such charges "are coming from all quarters," in no instance have they been proved correct.

Powell admitted that it is possible that some of the children being flown into this country "are not orphans in the real sense of the term." Instead, he said, they are children who have been abandoned by parents no longer capable of looking after them.

He said adoption agencies in the United States have no way of checking how each and every child came to be aboard the refugee flights. He said they have to rely on information provided by similar agencies working in South Vietnam.

~~Even if they are not real orphans, what do you want to do with them? he asked. Send them back?~~

Powell cited the case of one 5-year-old whose parents and relatives are still living in Vietnam.

"The child was dying," he said. "She has 12 brothers and sisters and the whole family was starving to death. Her parents brought her to an or-

phanage in the hope of saving her.

"Who is going to make the moral judgment on whether this child will be kept by her parents and allowed to die or placed up for adoption and given a chance for life?"

Powell said there are more cases such as this, but added he had heard

Please Turn to Page 13, Col. 4.

Continued from Third Page

of none where the children airlifted to this country had been proven to be the sons and daughters of military or political officials in South Vietnam.

An earlier report carried by United Press International stated that the wealthy families of some South Vietnamese children may have used bribes or pressure to have their own children flown to safety in place of orphans.

Meanwhile, in Los Angeles, another controversy involving the refugee children surfaced Sunday.

Doctors aboard the World Airways jet which brought 330 orphans to Los Angeles Saturday and Los Angeles County health officials angrily blamed each other for the confusion at the airport which delayed medical treatment being given to some of the war orphans.

The children, including a 3-month-old girl who died en route, were suffering from a variety of disorders ranging from pneumonia and tuberculosis to malnutrition and dehydration. Many of them required immediate hospitalization.

The doctors and nurses aboard the aircraft had worked out their own plan for taking the children from the plane and into the waiting ambulances.

At the same time, several hundred local volunteers led by a team of doctors and nurses from the Los Angeles County Medical Alert Center were waiting on the ground with their own plan to take charge of the chil-

dren.

Once the aircraft had touched down, those at the scene said there was mass confusion as the two groups converged and each tried to carry out its own plan. As a result, witnesses said, it took at least 20 minutes for the first infant to reach an ambulance.

"It was very damn confusing," said Dr. Richard Scott, director of the county's Medical Alert Center. He placed the blame for the airport confusion and delay on personnel aboard the aircraft.

Many of those aboard the plane, he said, "were so jealous and distraught they would hardly let us look at the kids."

However, doctors aboard the flight blamed officials on the ground for causing the problems which developed.

"We had it all organized but they (the persons on the ground) weren't interested in our organization," said Dr. Bert Sabo, organizer of the evacuation flight.

Dr. Fred Burkle, medical director of the flight, said a series of specific instructions for military and civilian officials on the ground had been radioed ahead to the airport.

James Hayes, county Board of Supervisors chairman, who was at the airport Saturday with other political figures, including Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, said the confusion "was on both sides of the fence."

Hayes said it seemed unclear as to "who was supposed to be doing what."

4-14-75
Los Angeles

A2

Vietnam: Why the Refugees?

by Ed Block

"The fact that almost the entire population tried to get away from the Communists is an extraordinary indication of their belief in freedom, of the fact that they don't want to live under a Communist regime." -- V.P. Nelson Rockefeller, 4/2/75

There are many here in the U.S. who may find the flow of civilians into Sai Gon-controlled areas difficult to understand, or may even accept the Administration's explanation of why people do not remain in Provisional Revolutionary Government zones.

Based on my own personal experiences working with refugees as an A.I.D. official in south Viet-Nam, I discovered that this notion of a political motivation for the movement of refugees was pure propaganda, contrived to win U.S. public support for Administration policies in Indochina. In fact, after speaking personally with hundreds of refugees over a period of close to two years, I met very few who had left their homes due to a fear or dislike of the Communists.

A major reason for such massive civilians movements is fear of the fighting and a desire to find relative safety within the Sai Gon-controlled enclaves. Refugees are afraid that once the Sai Gon forces are gone, the PRG-controlled areas will be subjected to massive bombing attacks and artillery fire. Indeed, in the past few days, their fears appear justified. Earl Martin, a Mennonite missionary, reports from Quang Ngai that two-thirds of Ban Me Thuot, the capital of Dar Lac province, has been destroyed by Sai Gon bombing. Press reports indicate that Pleiku, Kontum, and other former Sai Gon areas are receiving the same treatment.

The PRG and north Vietnamese have no air force to bomb or burn villages and cities -- and never have. It is primarily the impact of massive air bombardment in rural areas by the U.S. and Sai Gon air forces which has caused the huge population displacements we have witnessed over the past ten years. And it is this fear that Sai Gon will destroy Hue, Pleiku, Kontum, Ban Me Thuot, Da Nang and other areas from which its troops are withdrawing that is now causing people to flee.

In the past, the U.S. and Sai Gon governments have frequently bombed or shelled populated cities and villages after their troops have been removed. The continuous Sai Gon air raids over the PRG city of Loc Ninh is one of the most recent examples of this strategy, but there are many other instances which can be cited.

In Tet 1968, much of the city of Hue was destroyed during the U.S.-Sai Gon counter-attack to recapture areas they had lost in the initial fighting. Thousands of civilians who had stayed in their homes when the U.S.-Sai Gon forces retreated were subsequently killed or injured during this counter-attack. Certainly, the people of Hue have not forgotten that tragic experience, and are now leaving the city to escape from being caught in another Sai Gon air blitz.

In 1972, Quang Tri was completely destroyed by U.S. B-52 bombs and Sai Gon artillery fire, killing more than 25,000 civilians who had remained in the city when it was taken over by the PRG/NVA. Those who were able to escape were not running from the Communists, but from the rain of death and destruction that was being poured on them by the U.S.-Sai Gon military forces. After inspecting the rubble of what had once been his home, the Quang Tri Red Cross Director told me that many people from his province firmly believe the Americans are attempting to commit genocide in Viet-Nam.

Also in 1972, a picture was internationally published showing a young girl running away from her village with her back aflame from burning napalm jelly, that had been dropped by the Sai Gon air force. That girl was somehow brought to a Sai Gon hospital for treatment. Do we then infer that she was "fleeing from Communist aggression to the south," as the U.S. and Sai Gon governments have so often described the movement of refugees?

Numerous studies, mostly carried out under the sponsorship of the U.S. Embassy in Sai Gon, indicate that a great majority of refugees have not fled out of fear of the Communists, but from the dangers of war. This was confirmed once again in a New York Times (March 26) survey of hundreds of refugees now fleeing into Da Nang. According to the article, refugees "appear to be fleeing in panic rather than for political reasons Not one (refugee) said it was because he or she feared or hated the Communists."

Another reason for the current refugee movement is the destruction of food supplies and fresh water facilities by retreating Sai Gon troops. Recent news reports tell of a "scorched earth" policy, whereby Sai Gon military officials ordered everything destroyed prior to their withdrawal. Much of the city of Pleiku for example, was reportedly burned to the ground as the Sai Gon troops retreated.

*Not Cong
would use for
any purpose*

Finally, it should be kept in mind that there is good reason to be skeptical of the refugee figures now being cited by the Sai Gon government. The Sai Gon estimates of 900,000 refugees are based on a false assumption that the entire population of cities from which it is withdrawing has now become "refugees from Communism." However, the New York Times reports that approximately 70,000 people or one-third of Hue's population still remains in the city. Observers in Quang Ngai report that most residents of the province capital are not moving to Da Nang but rather to safehaven areas in the mountains and villages controlled by the PRG.

In the Central Highlands, press accounts indicate that the mountain tribesmen have joined forces with the PRG/NVA to drive the Sai Gon government out of their territory. It is primarily the Vietnamese officials, troops and collaborators of the Sai Gon government who are now making a hasty retreat from the Highlands. Most of the original inhabitants, over one million Montagnards, are staying behind to recover their homelands, brutally taken from them by U.S.-Sai Gon forces during the Sai Gon "pacification" program of 1968-1972. The Vietnamese "convoy of tears" along Highway 7 is, for most Montagnards in the Central Highlands, a "convoy of hope."

I have found through my experiences that the U.S. and Sai Gon governments have never really attempted to deal with the plight of refugees in Vietnam; rather, civilian war victims have been manipulated to suit governments' own military, political, and economic objectives. The myth of refugees "voting with their feet" is a perfect illustration of this type of activity. If the Administration is truly sincere about providing humanitarian aid rather than political aid, then it should be made available to all refugees, including those who choose to remain in or return to PRG areas. I urge you to write your Congresspeople suggesting that this be required for any future U.S. humanitarian aid appropriation to Viet Nam.

(Ed Block served as a Refugee and Rehabilitation Officer, USAID, South Vietnam from 1972-1973. He is now a teaching assistant in the Dept. of Political Science, Northern Illinois University, and working as a consultant for NARNIC.)

Torrent of Refugees in South Vietnam Laid to Fear of War, Not of Communism

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1975

PANIC IS BELIEVED TO DOMINATE FLOW

People Seem Afraid Mostly of Being Left Behind as 'Everyone Else' Goes

Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, March 25 —The hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese streaming from their homes to the rapidly shrinking Government-controlled areas appear to be fleeing in panic rather than for political reasons.

Some Western observers are comparing the movement with that of 1954, when the division of Vietnam into a Communist north and a non-Communist south resulted in the flow of a million or so people. Now, as then, it is being said that "they are voting with their feet."

In the last few weeks, New York Times correspondents in South Vietnam have interviewed hundreds of refugees from different parts of the country. Each refugee has been asked why he or she chose to join the human tide, abandoning home, possessions and livelihood.

"Because everyone else is going," was a typical reply. Not one said it was because he or she feared or hated Communism.

Minority Stay Behind

Many are afraid that to stay behind would mean exposure to killing and destruction. Some—including probably almost one-third the population of Hue—chose to stay, but most have been fleeing.

"My people stayed back at Quang Tri last time, in 1972," a woman said as she nursed a baby. "There was bombing and shelling all the time, many killed. It's better to go to the Saigon side, because the Communists have no airplanes."

But fear of the unknown appears at the moment to be a greater driving force than fear of any specific physical danger.

The evacuation of Hue seemed to typify this.

"We began to realize that government offices were moving away and that the army was moving out, an elderly woman said. "So the people just started to move, too — government and soldiers' families first, and then many others. People just didn't want to be left behind, with everyone else going."

"We don't know what will happen, but there are rumors that the former Vietnamese Emperor is returning to the throne in Hue. Maybe that's good, maybe it's bad. Who knows. But whenever things change, poor people suffer."

The former Emperor, Bao Dai, lives in exile in France.

'No Good to Be Caught'

"I think the Communists maybe will be all right," a fleeing taxi driver said. "But it's no good to be caught in the war zone between one side and the other. That's where you can be killed."

Some are afraid that if they stay behind they may starve or run out of water. Some cannot face the prospect, if they stay behind, of never being able to see relatives and friends in the government zone.

For the rich and the middle class, for storekeepers and businessmen, and especially for those who appreciate the Western-style urban luxuries, there has been a special incentive to flee the Communists.

Said a businessman from Da Lat after he arrived in Saigon:

"Life in Hanoi and in Communist Vietnam generally may efficiently protect the poorest people from disaster. But it is brutally controlled, it is as closed-in as a vacuum flask and it is drab, drab, drab."

Communist Permission

In some areas, Communist authorities have been permitting some residents to leave. Such has apparently been the case at Ban Me Thuot, which fell two weeks ago, and at northern towns in South Vietnam this week.

"I don't think people would care very much about leaving if they knew they could move from one side to the other," a farmer said. "In fact it would be better to stay, to take care of my house and fields. But right now nobody knows

whether we could continue to move."

People do not talk much about why they are moving, unless asked by outsiders. They seem caught up in the chaotic momentum of escape, in which families are divided, children are lost and life is changed

forever.

"Since I left my village I have been putting one foot in front of the other for four days," a man said as he dragged his cart into Da Nang. "Why do we go? We go because it is time to go, that's all."

"I'm not as afraid of the North Vietnamese as I am of our own soldiers," the owner of Nha Trang's fashionable La Frigate Hotel told the Chicago Tribune's Ronald Yates.

"That's why I'm clearing out tomorrow. I don't want to be robbed, beaten or killed by President Thieu's crazy soldiers."

Phila.
Inquirer
4/1/75

Danang Still Haunts 'Last Man' to Flee

Agence France-Presse

SAIGON, March 31 — Sergeant Linh may have been the last man out of Danang, but he can't stop crying.

He cannot understand why he left his wife and six children behind in the panic when South Vietnam's second-largest city fell to the Communists.

He cannot sleep. If he closes his eyes, he sees the terror-stricken faces of his comrades who died hanging onto the landing gear as the last World Airways 727 climbed into the skies.

Linh is a native of Danang, where he lived with his family in Hoang Dieu Road while working as an air force mechanic at the airbase. He was on duty Saturday morning when his captain screeched to a halt in a civilian car, accompanied by his family and some other officers, and said it was time to abandon ship.

Linh and his comrades jumped into an American car that had been left at the entrance to the airport and followed their unit commander as he careened through careened through refugees, corpses, and abandoned baggage.

A direct hit by a shell or rocket blew the captain's car to smithereens. Linh zig-zagged around the wreck onto a runway, racing with men on Honda motorcycles also headed for the Boeing 727.

As the jet began to roll, Linh scrambled into the wheel assembly, pushed from behind by his companions. Soldiers who could not clamber aboard were knocked down, and fired their carbines or threw grenades after the taxiing airliner.

As the plane picked up speed and altitude, five or six men fell off. Boots and uniforms ripped off others who were only partially inside the wheel assembly. Then their faces began to swell like monstrous balloons and their skin shredded away in tatters.

Huddled right inside the assembly, Sergeant Linh was "saved."

Washington Post, April 1, 1975