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Aid to least developed nations urged

LONDON, September 8: A forty-day State President, Mr. authority with s, which will tions for war" agreement with ab unity.

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ber 8: The Egyptian Mr. Ismail Fahmy, ypt was purposely States deeper into ict as a mediator,

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me since the out- tell hostilities we to get the U.S. in the conflict", tober war victory moves that have solving the con-

ded the accord latest step in to lead to an ment, including Palestinian pro-

LONDON, September 8: India has proposed before the interparliamentary conference now in session here that in giving development aid special consideration should be given to most seriously affected and least developed countries, reports PTL.

The proposal was made in the form of an amendment to a resolution on world economic order which, among other things, calls upon industrialised countries to increase their public aid

US kidnapped children, says Madam Binh

MEXICO CITY, September 8: The Foreign Relations Minister, Madame Nuygen Thi Binh of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam has accused the U.S. of kidnapping children during its massive refugee evacuation programme earlier this year, reports AP.

"The world is going to see a little clearer this pretended generosity that for us is a simple case of kidnapping", Madame Binh said in an interview published here yesterday. She was in the Mexican capital last week.

"We had an institution for war orphans in South Viet Nam and some of those taken came from there," she continued. "But others were not orphans, just children that in the turbulence of war were separated from their parents. We have received many letters from parents asking for news of their children."

She said that sources in the U.S.A. have said that many of the children brought to families have been oppressed and others have died.

"We will get those children returned to their families and their country," she promised.

Schools to be taken over in Saigon

SAIGON, September 8: All private, primary and secondary schools will be nationalised before the next term begins, the Deputy National Education director, Mr. Phan Trong Tan, told the daily "Saigon Giai Phong", reports AFP.

He said the 1,059 institutes would acquire the status of establishments of public teaching. An estimated 600,000 high school students enrolling for the scholastic year 1975-76 would receive free schooling.

which favourable to conditions of financial aid combined with opportunities.

The Indian ambassador by Mr. C. M. S. reiterated the war Dakar conference tries that these c imined to take th the matter of s of the world.

Mr. Stephen s tion had been lai international econ and for developn countries. What w political will of and determined eff follow up the m sion or relaxation

Mr. Stephen s fundamental res world economic stantial and frui operation on gl better than ever.

Philippin missile

MANILA, Sep Ferdinand Marco that the Philipp an experiment in of ballistic miss government's sel programme, the agency reported,

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The agency dubbed as 'bong fired some 10 to from launches m vehicle along the that the unit c mobile defence ble invasion fro the air.

"There are o armaments we an cos said, "This series."

Wilson agree 25 more Sov

LONDON, Septe tish Prime Minister son, has overruled and agreed to a officials into the to the present e 40, the London ported today,

The newsp had also pro ers that he deration te mission to deen, Sco vent-

Ms. May

9/1975

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e Were Strong Enough To Kill the Parents in Vietnam. Does That Make Us Good Enough To Raise the Orphans?

Our national grief at the thought of Vietnamese children who would be homeless after the American war seemed somehow more bearable during the war when all our know-how was being used in making orphans. There did exist a history of homeless children and their wars, which could have been helpful, but we paid little attention to it. It was indeed offered to the country during the "Babylift" last April, in public newspaper statements by social workers, historians, educators, religious leaders, and doctors, and in political street demonstrations on both coasts.

According to Joseph Reid of the Child Welfare League of America, there were 50,000 homeless children after the Nigerian Biafran War. The United States (and other countries) thought these children should be offered for adoption. The Nigerians and Biafrans would not permit it. With the help of the International Union for Child Welfare in Geneva, all but 27 of the children were reunited with family or village communities within two years.

Here is another lesson from

By Grace Paley

history: my friend Karin DiGia was a displaced child in Germany after the Second World War. That is, she was lost in one direction and her parents, if alive, were lost in another direction, far from home. Here, the Red Cross helped. It took a year and a half before Karin DiGia's living father was found and they were brought together. She was only one child among hundreds of thousands. Had she been adopted away into Italy or the United States or Japan in some well-meaning child consumers' project, her records filed and sealed, they would have never met; she would have become an orphan and he the father of a dead child.

Karin told me that the streets of German cities were full of pictures of children. "Have you seen this child, Anna Marie, she was wearing a blue smock, she wandered away from our camp..." Translated for Americans today, whose kind hearts and open purses intend to take Vietnamese children into the finality of adoption, there may well be pictures posted on the walls in Saigon or Danang. "Has anyone seen

Phuoung, last seen in a blue smock, she let go of my hand for a minute...."

In Vietnam there is a saying: "If Mother is lost, there is Auntie; if Father is lost, there is Uncle." The parentless child becomes the child of the large household, the village, old aunts who may not even be blood relatives, but who share the natural responsibility of all adults for all the young. This has already happened in North Vietnam, where there is only one "home" for orphans. This is happening now in South Vietnam—grown-up refugees and children in the tens of thousands are returning to their villages in what the Provisional Revolutionary Government called the "Campaign for the Return to the Homelands."

Well, how did the orphan airlift happen, then, considering these histories, these facts? I have to say it coldly. The war in Vietnam, which began in ignorance, self-congratulation, and the slaughter of innocents, ended in much the same way. The orphan airlift last April was a balloon of sentiment that raised some 2,600 Vietnamese children and floated them across 12,000 miles of sky. The groups most responsible for that sky of flying/dying babies were the following:

1. Adoption agencies, with contracts begun in professional decorum a year earlier. The agencies panicked when it appeared that the war would end and the subject matter of their contracts, Vietnamese children, would disappear, absorbed into the life of their own country. These agencies, determined to meet those contracts, lost their businesslike cool and allowed themselves to be helped by...

2. World Airways. Anxious to add love of children to its reputation as one of the world's largest charter airlines, World Airways, in the person of Ed Daley who owned 81 percent of its stock, leaped into the early April headlines and news photographs as the first of the baby transporters (although the U.S. government stepped in immediately and halted future World Airways baby flights). World Airways stock rose from 4 1/8 to 6 1/2 in one week; Ed Daley held the babies in his arms; and the company applied to the Civil Aeronautics Board for a license to fly coast-to-coast domestically.* The New York Times tells the story of a \$300 million to \$400 million fortune amassed during the war years, when, under a contract with the Defense Department, World Airways planes carried cargo while military planes often flew empty.

3. The adoption agencies were also helped by a cynical political decision by the Ford administration to use the children in order to dig military aid for Thieu out of Congress. The language by which the kindness of American families was mocked does exist: U.S. Ambassador to South Vietnam Graham Martin, according to the New York Times, told President Thieu's Deputy Prime Minister Phan Quang Dan, "...the collective shipment abroad of these orphans should help swing American public opinion to the

advantage of the Republic of Vietnam...."

People who argued in favor of the airlift described the squalid, impoverished, unhealthy conditions of the orphan asylums in wartime Saigon, the possibilities of prejudice against mixed-blood children and handicapped children, and the superior opportunities in the United States in years to come.

Actually, lovers of children have had every opportunity to help *all* the children of South Vietnam (but without direct ownership)—the 30,000 in orphan homes, the million or so who have lost one or both parents. Legislated aid could have gone from our own Congress to be distributed through international organizations like Medical Aid for Vietnam, the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, American Friends Service Committee, or the International Children's Fund. Private contributions can also be given to these organizations and earmarked for Vietnam. As of this writing, however, despite the fact that the Paris peace accords obligate the United States to provide postwar assistance to the country we devastated, no aid has ever been considered. The destruction of that small country in the last 10 years cost Americans, at the government's lowest estimate, \$150 billion. Lovers of children, we should be able to persuade Congress to offer one reconstructing billion for food, medicines, hospitals.

Still, it's the iron-hearted god of irony who points out that children who *may* be subjected to racial prejudice were being sent to the United States, the fever center of that pathology; that handicapped, war-mutilated children had been taken from a country where it would be the responsibility of family and community to keep

them functioning in the ordinary life of the world. They were brought into a society which specializes in institutions, dumping grounds for the handicapped and the old, whose own Vietnam veterans are hidden in the recesses of Veterans Administration hospitals, whose black or handicapped orphans are unadoptable (and there may be as many as 100,000 of these children).

That same iron-hearted god of irony (who usually works in literature) spoke even louder, for we have the moral deafness of self-congratulators. A C5 A, a plane that had at other times suffered structural problems (and was actually grounded for these problems once in 1970), was stuffed with weapons, howitzers, sent to Vietnam where it deposited the howitzers intact at the airport, then had its bare compartments filled with Vietnamese babies and older children "orphans," took off for the United States, and crashed in flames.

Years ago—1966 or 1967—people in the peace movement carried a poster of a well-dressed young man holding a cigarette against the arm of a child. On the poster, the question was asked, *Would you burn a child?* In the next poster, the man applied the burning cigarette, and the answer was given, *When necessary*. The third poster showed a child burned and crippled by American napalm. There may be a fourth now, that plane crashing, the children burning, the war ending.

Who are these orphans?

Some *are* orphans, little persons who enter into a normal American procedure planned for the benefit of children, carrying the true papers of orphans. American parents had been waiting for them for a long time. Many are already being loved and cuddled behind the "adoption curtain," as Betty Jean Lifton, writer and author of the forth-

(continued on page 95)

*As of this writing, the CAB has made no decision on the license.

OTHER PEOPLE'S CHILDREN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 70

These children are the "young shoots" of Vietnam.

coming *Memoirs of an Adopted Daughter* (McGraw-Hill), has called it. Their records are sealed, their past no longer exists.

But some are not orphans at all.

When the first children were flown into San Francisco, they were kept briefly in the Presidio, an army base just outside the city. Two young Vietnamese women and a third who spoke excellent Vietnamese visited the Presidio to talk to the children. These women were Jane Barton, an AFSC worker who had lived and worked in hospitals of South Vietnam for three years; Muoi McConnell, who was a nurse in Danang; and Trang Tuong Nhu, a Vietnamese woman born in Hue, who is Indochina Coordinator of the International Children's Fund.

I talked to them and to Don Luce of the Clergy and Laity Concerned and Doug Hostetter of the United Methodist office of the United Nations, both of whom spent years with voluntary organizations in Vietnam and spoke Vietnamese and knew the cruel city of Saigon. And I understood that the orphan asylums there were not necessarily full of orphans, but the streets often were.

Children were brought to these institutions during the war by parents who thought it would be safe. They were brought by women or men who were unable to care for their babies, and who believed they would have a better chance at a couple of meals a day in such a place. According to Judith Coburn, a journalist reporting in the *Village Voice*, they were also brought by Saigon bargirls who wanted their mixed-blood kids kept out of the hard life. Or there were children who, at the age of two, were deposited in orphanages by government people, having been taken away from their mothers who were political prisoners. Any of these parents may have signed papers—papers that are supposed to prove the children's legal availability for adoption, papers that the poor in any country are often persuaded to sign in fear and despair for their kids. All these people might well expect or hope to reclaim their kids at the end of the war.

Then there are children who had not come from orphan asylums, who didn't know how they had been gathered up or from where, to arrive at what place?—a child who'd survived the C-5A crash but lost his mother's map and address; an 11-year old who later ran away from his foster parents in California, crying to go home to Vietnam; a boy who'd been in a refugee group from Danang and who had been separated from his mother; and the 29 Cambodian children who arrived, mysteriously and without papers, on the east coast of the United States. (The hard work of Congresswoman Elizabeth Holtzman [D.-N.Y.] and her staff has kept these Cambodian children in foster care, safe from immediate adoption, while efforts are made to learn who they are and where they are from. The first thing

You'll never know how much good you can do until you do it.



Volunteer Candy Richards knows how much good she can do. She's doing it for the children at a neighborhood day care center.

You can help people.

In fact, there's a crying need for you. Your talents. Your training. Your concerns. They can make you priceless as a volunteer in your community.

There are probably several local organizations hard at work doing things you'd be proud to be part of. We'll put you in touch with them. Join one. Or, if you see the need, start a new one.

If you can spare even a few hours a week, call the Voluntary Action Center in your town. Or write: "Volunteer," Washington D.C. 20013.

It'll do you good to see how much good you can do.

Volunteer.

The National Center for Voluntary Action



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learned was that 21 children had one living parent. The U.S. Immigration Service was forced by Congressional pressure to send a letter to foster parents advising them that the children's identity was being investigated and adoption would be delayed.)

A class action suit has been brought in California by the Center for Constitutional Rights, asking that the adoption of all these children be held up, that they remain in foster care with their records open and their short lives unsealed, while Vietnam reorders itself and time without war brings families forward to reclaim and renew their lives. At this writing, the case is in court. Witnesses are describing the confusion and exchange of children's names, not from unkindness, just carelessness and pressure where rigor was particularly required. One woman, who had received a six-year-old Vietnamese girl for adoption, tes-

tified that the child was not an orphan, and that she wanted to return to Vietnam. In addition, there should have been immediate photographing of each baby and child, in its own clothes, with its special characteristics—birthmarks and war wounds—described and recorded. In late June, a federal judge in San Francisco ordered the Immigration and Naturalization Service to determine within three months whether or not the 2,600 children are orphans.

I must say that I don't believe women could have invented the insane idea of transporting these children. I haven't met one woman who is not passionate on the subject—against or in favor—which is quite different from the cynicism and manic energy required for its invention and enactment. Many women truly believed that the American care and ownership of these babies would be the only way

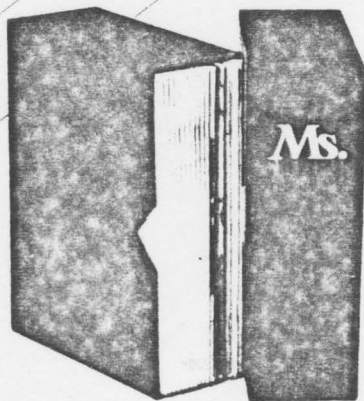
their lives would be saved. But most women were wild at the thought of the pain to those other mothers, the grief of the lost children. They felt it was a blow to all women, and to their natural political rights. It was a shock to see that world still functioning madly, the world in which the father, the husband, the man owned state can make legal inventions and take the mother's child.

The Vietnamese have protested again and again, calmly at first, in the way they have of trying to explain to ignorant or innocent people their methods of caring for children, their view of family life, the extended family, the natural responsibility of community. Then in anger, Dan Ba Thi, Provisional Revolutionary Government Ambassador to the Peace Talks had to say: "This is an outrageous attack on our sovereignty; the 1954 Geneva Convention forbids this kind of kidnapping. We demand the return of our Vietnamese children." And on May 19, Pham Van Ba, PRG Ambassador in Paris, wired the U.S. District Court in California: "We demand that U.S. government return to South Vietnam children illegally removed by Americans. We will assist placement of these children in their family or foster homes."

These children are after all, the "young strays" of Vietnam. Surely all the parents and grandparents, the "aunties" who have suffered and fought for 30 years in horror and continuous loss of dear family, under French oppression and the napalm and bombs of the United States, who have seen the murder of their living earth—surely they will demand to be reunited in years of peace with the hopeful children. They must believe passionately that those small survivors are not to be deprived of the fruits of so many years of revolutionary and patriotic struggle.

Grace Paley is a writer and teacher at Sarah Lawrence College.

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unemotional & as I
am - you can imagine
how I reacted to
this. I requested to
please? Cher*

Operator _____

In South Vietnam

Reprisals Against Dissidents Rising

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. intelligence reports indicate that repressive measures against dissidents in South Vietnam are more intense now than at any time since the Communist takeover almost six months ago.

According to American officials, a tightening of Communist control is believed to be the explanation for increasing reports that persons associated with the U.S.-backed regime have disappeared.

Officials here have no clue as to how many persons have been affected by the reported crackdown. But they say there has been a marked increase over the past month in reports of executions, of dissidents killed in "automobile accidents" and of persons not returning from Communist re-education classes.

There were widespread fears late last April that the Communist takeover would lead to

a "bloodbath" against anti-Communist dissidents. Soon after the collapse of the regime, American officials said they were surprised at the apparent tolerance of the new regime.

This was in sharp contrast to the situation in Cambodia where, according to reports, thousands died as the new Khmer Rouge government evacuated cities and large towns and people were marched, often at gunpoint, into the countryside.

"There is no doubt control has been tightened in South Vietnam," one senior U.S. official said. One reason for this may be found in continued resistance to the regime by elements of former President Nguyen Van Thieu's army, he said.

He said one possible explanation for the delay in the start of the reported crackdown is that the Vietnamese govern-

ment had more massive problems than the Cambodian Communists in consolidating its power. This is partially attributable to the fact that South Vietnam's population is more than three times that of Cambodia.

Although South Vietnam officially is listed as a separate

state, U.S. officials say the country largely is under North Vietnamese control.

One official said there is little evidence that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam, the indigenous Communist force in that country, has much influence over the government.

Weather Around The Nation

By The Associated Press
Friday

	HI	LO	PRC	Otk
Albany	62	47	..	cdy
Albuquerque	73	42	..	clr
Amarillo	79	42	..	clr
Anchorage	45	32	..	cdy
Asheville	73	59	37	rn
Atlanta	79	66	1.11	rn
Birmingham	71	68	1.61	rn
Bismarck	54	40	..	cdy
Boise	69	50	..	cdy
Boston	72	50	..	cdy
Brownsville	85	65	..	clr
Buffalo	59	38	..	cdy
Charleston	84	68	44	rn
Charlotte	82	66	..	rn
Chicago	52	51	..	cdy
Cincinnati	62	49	26	rn
Cleveland	56	43	..	rn
Denver	61	29	..	clr
Des Moines	65	39	..	clr
Detroit	62	44	..	cdy
Duluth	45	39	..	cdy
Fairbanks	34	21	..	M
Fort Worth	78	53	..	clr
Green Bay	53	35	..	clr
Helena	55	33	..	clr
Honolulu	87	73	..	clr
Houston	75	62	..	clr
Ind'apolis	62	51	..	rn
Jacks'ville	85	73	..	rn
Juneau	48	43	07	rn
Kansas City	63	45	..	cdy
Las Vegas	81	52	..	clr
Little Rock	69	54	..	cdy
Los Angeles	88	59	..	clr
Louisville	65	54	89	rn
Marquette	44	28	..	T cdy
Memphis	73	57	59	cdy
Miami	85	79	..	cdy
Milwaukee	53	45	..	cdy
Mpls-St. P.	56	42	..	cdy
New Orleans	76	67	2.04	cdy
New York	72	53	..	rn
Okla. City H	69	47	..	clr
Omaha	68	47	..	cdy

Orlando	89	72	.01	rn
Philad'phia	76	55	..	rn
Phoenix	90	57	..	clr
Pittsburgh	60	47	..	rn
P'tland, Me.	67	35	..	cdy
P'tland, Ore.	62	57	..	rn
Rapid City	58	29	..	clr
Richmond	86	57	1.04	rn
St. Louis	66	47	..	cdy
Salt Lake	66	41	..	clr
San Diego	82	58	..	cdy
San Fran	73	52	..	clr
Seattle	60	56	.31	rn
Spokane	55	44	..	rn
Tampa	90	77	.02	rn
Washington	74	59	..	rn

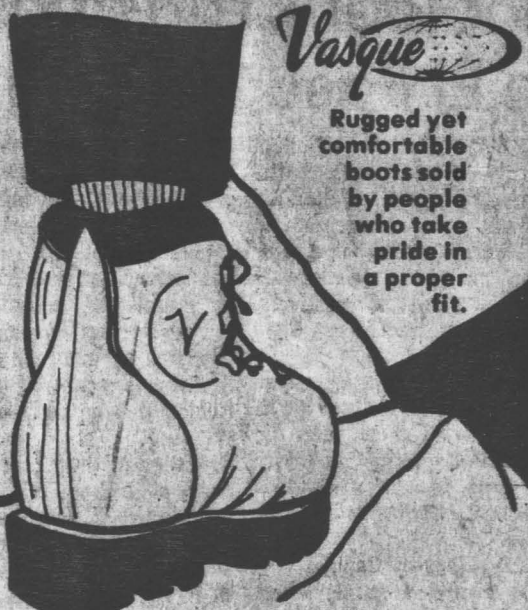
Around Colorado

Akron	57	29	..	cdy
Alamosa	61	21	..	cdy
Canon City	72	37	..	cdy
Cheyenne	53	27	..	cdy
Colo Spgs	64	33	..	cdy
Denver	61	29	..	cdy
Durango	67	30	..	cdy
Estes Park	55	27	..	cdy
Ft Collins	M	M	..	cdy
Grand Jet	67	40	..	cdy
Gunnison	60	18	..	cdy
La Junta	74	34	..	cdy
Pueblo	73	30	..	cdy
Trinidad	68	33	..	cdy

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Lost day - Danie

the WELCOMER

"One Picture Is Worth One Thousand Words"



This issue of "The Welcomer" is dedicated to those very "special" people who rallied to the cause prior to the fall of Saigon. And to the literally hundreds of adoptive couples, friends, strangers, staff of Welcome House and whole communities who responded to our calls for help in caring for the 67 Vietnamese children until placed with their adoptive families. The roll call is far too long to include, much as we would have dearly loved to. People from New York [L.I.], Pennsylvania [Media], Delaware [Wilmington], New Jersey, Connecticut, Alaska, Washington, Washington, D.C., Texas, Massachusetts. We will never forget your efforts. They will live on in the lives of the children.

FALL-WINTER

Page 1 - 7 - Joan & Guy Powers Photos Page 8 - Eli Jaffe

1975

Dear Friends,

This brings you all, our greetings and best wishes.

Just before writing this letter I took out an old issue of 'The Welcomer', the special issue of November 1973 on Vietnam very kindly dedicated by you all to our work in Saigon on behalf of VACF. Thankfully, today VACF is an integral part of WHAPG. I tried to close my eyes and recollect all that had happened between then and now, a dream came through and a dream shattered.

The meeting between Miss Mary Graves, Mrs. Alberta Cohen and myself in the late spring of 1973 in a friend's apartment in NY is still very vivid in my memory. The outcome of the meeting was HOPE, life and a future for a number of unfortunate little people. Miss Graves and Mrs. Cohen were God sent, in answer to my prayers, as were each and everyone of you, who with your noble dedication, concern and love for children helped us sustain what were rated as the two best children's homes in Saigon, and by your un-selfish and tireless efforts, bring safety and a secure future for 85 children to England [6], Holland [6] and the USA [73].

I said, "a dream shattered", yes, in the spring of 1973, it was a beautiful dream come true and in the spring of 1975, it was shattered to pieces. To witness the whole thing collapsing like a house of cards was heart breaking.

After my meeting with Miss Graves and Mrs. Cohen I returned to Saigon to get the HOPE home off the ground and the first home, HOPE I, was born in the summer of 1973 with 17 children in residence on the first day. It was a normal summer day in Saigon; the temperature in the higher nineties, atmosphere saturated with exhaust fumes, humidity in the 80 and 90%. The seventeen children, 15 of them mixed blood, came within the gates of Hope I with their few earthly possessions clutched in their tiny hands. By the spring of 1974 HOPE II opened with over 200 children. Slowly and steadily the Hope family grew in size to 400 children by the spring of 1975. The motto was "Every child was the 'ONLY' child". It was a happy and closely knit family. Then it all started.

First, one province north east of Saigon fell after a month long battle and bloodshed in January, 1975. Then three provinces surrendered without a single shot being fired, but not without loss of life. Thousands of refugees, among them children, trying to flee occupied areas, died on the roadsides due to starvation, dehydration and exposure. By the second week in April, rockets and shells started coming into Saigon.

Life in Hope I & II became a 24 hour routine. Concerned mothers came in all the time, some begging that their children be evacuated to the US or any country for safety. Mostly they were mothers of mixed blood children. New children were brought families who wanted to out, pleaded to be evacuated. The telephone rang incessantly. It was either Mr. Charles Summers, Mr.

Brian Winsor of Alaska, Mr. David Seltzer of California or one of so many concerned friends who were terribly concerned about our safety. Yet, there was no way out. The only way out was if the US Government would provide us with a MAC flight, since all commercial flights stopped operating in and out of Saigon. Saigon's Tan Son Nhut airport was closed and heavily barricaded. The GVN wouldn't approve our list of children to be evacuated because we were not licensed to process children for overseas adoption, and the AID wouldn't help without GVN's approval. I was running from one agency to the other [who were privileged to take out children] but they couldn't help. They were backed up with some of their own children and the GVN wouldn't permit them either. By then 1,400 children had been evacuated under President Ford's 'Baby Lift' plan, so, no more. At the same time, we were aware that a score of our friends, here in the US mainland and in Alaska were doing everything in their power to get our children out. They made telephone calls to the department of State, Chief of staff and everyone they could think of. Yet, back in Saigon, as of April 27, all we could do was to pray and leave the rest in HIS merciful hands. Both Malini and myself vowed not to leave Saigon without the children. We were also aware, it was not only us, but so many of our friends in the US and other parts of the world who were praying for us. In a situation like that our only hope always seems to be the good Lord.

So it went on; the NVAS were moving closer to Saigon every day and by the 24th of April they had taken Xuan Loc, after bitter fighting, since the GVN tried to make a last minute stand and moved within one mile of the northern outskirts of Saigon

while their troops were within striking distance in the southeast, Bien Hoa. In Hope I & II we gave up hope of getting out and prepared for a siege and gathered enough food and other essentials to last us for over four months. The Vietnamese staff were wonderful, especially Mr. Nguyen Van Sau, the house manager and Miss Trieu, secretary, working round the clock attending to every need. The 67 children who became our total responsibility were unaware of what was going on, except to ask, "Uncle Victor, when I go America?", I didn't know if we were ever going to America!

Saigon streets became streets of panic and confusion. Everyone seemed to be wanting to get out. People I had never seen before came to Hope I to beg, plead and even threatened that I must somehow get them out. "You are an American agency, you can get me/us out." It was either "please get us out or if you don't I will kill you". Curfew hours were extended each day, from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. It came down to 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. People who came to Hope I could not get back to their homes before curfew. We had to shelter them and feed them, a round the clock affair.

Then God did work a miracle, the efforts of our friends did not go in vain. Barely 24 hours before the fall of Saigon, on April 28, the AID telephoned me and said "we are trying to get a plane today to get you, your wife and your children out, standby." After an hour they called again to say "at 14:30 the Embassy busses will come to pick you all up, stand by". Just three hours to prepare, we grabbed what we could and were ready by 14:15. The Embassy buses pulled up, few mothers who were present hugged and kissed their children goodbye. Closest friends were on hand to say

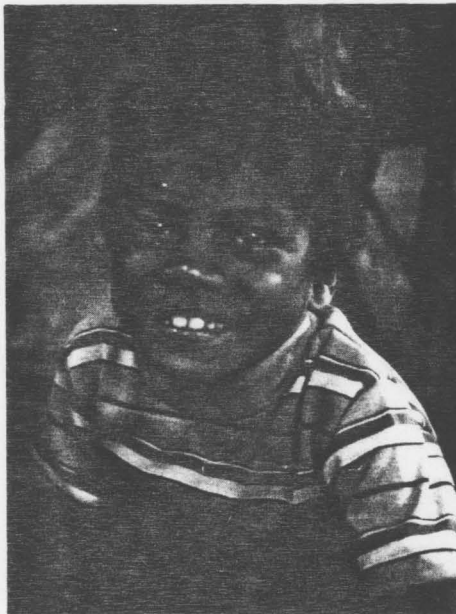




ACTION PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CHILD WELFARE AGENCY IN THE FAR EAST BY THE WELCOME HOUSE ADOPTIVE PARENTS GROUP, INC.

- A. Type of program to be established
 1. Foster care (Sponsorship)
 2. Day Care
 3. Family Assistance
 4. Assistance to other child welfare agencies
 - a. Financial assistance to hire workers
 - b. Food, clothing, medical supplies
 5. Field training facilities for local social welfare students
 6. Adoption
- B. Criteria for selecting a country; we need to select a place which will be favorable in as many aspects as possible
 1. Need
 2. A country which is friendly to the U.S., where an American agency will be welcomed, and allowed to operate with relatively little hindrance
 3. A country with a relatively stable government (areas where Communism has already gotten a foothold will not be conducive irrespective of need--could be another Saigon)
 4. Favorable tax structure; every cent we spend needs to be spent constructively to ensure providing child benefits, not to feed the coffers of the national government or the lower echelons
 5. Local conditions
 - a. Cooperation of local government
 - b. Cultural and religious sentiments regarding the programs functions; i.e., dietary restrictions, etc.
- C. Indonesia and Malaysia are in Victor's judgement two of the more likely places to start
- D. Procedure for fact finding and gathering background information about Indonesia and Thailand
 1. Contact their embassies in Washington, D.C.; determine how completely they meet the criteria
 2. Contact U.S.A.I.D. in Washington, D.C.; determine if grants are available to American agencies in these countries
 3. Contact other institutions (universities, churches, etc.) that have existing programs in these countries; obtain such pertinent information they will share
 4. On the basis of the information thus gathered, go to the country selected as the better choice, complete fact-finding, negotiate a contract with its government, and start the program.
- E. Welcome House will be formally requested to help in the following ways
 1. Allow Mary Graves to assist in the execution of the action plan
 2. Continue financial assistance
 3. Formalize a sister agency relationship with our fledging agency, and as such, assist in policy formulation
- F. *The Welcome House Board has formally decided to actively & fully participate in this exploratory & investigative phase.*

July 28, 1975



"THE WELCOMER"

PUBLISHED IN JANUARY, MAY
AND OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR BY
THE WELCOME HOUSE ADOPTIVE
PARENT GROUP, INC.

EDITOR: ALBERTA COHEN

R.D. NO. 4 BOX 152A
QUAKERTOWN, PA. 18
ANNUAL DUES \$5.00
(INCLUDES SUBSCRIP
"THE WELCOMER")

Friends Of The Children of Vietnam
600 Gilpin St.
Denver, CO 80218

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To the Board of Directors
Welcome House Adoptive Parents Group, Inc.
Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901

Dear Board Members:

We have examined the balance sheet of the Welcome House Adoptive Parents Group, Inc. at March 31, 1975 and the related statement of receipts and disbursements for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and other auditing procedures considered necessary in the circumstances. Our examination of receipts was limited to amounts recorded as being received since it is impractical to apply other auditing procedures to solicited funds.

In our opinion, subject to the above limitation, the accompanying balance sheet and related statement of receipts and disbursements in excess of receipts for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with the prior year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sullivan, Booz & Co.

WELCOME HOUSE ADOPTIVE PARENTS GROUP, INC. STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1975

RECEIPTS		
General Dues & Donations	\$ 6 316	
Vietnam Fund	31 568	
Interest Income	490	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$38 374
FUND DISBURSEMENTS		
Donations Vietnam American Children's Fund	\$21 472	
Newsletter	2 688	
Picnic Expense	2 257	
TOTAL FUND DISBURSEMENTS		26 417
NET CASH BEFORE OPERATING EXPENSES		\$11 957
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Advertising	\$ 6 540	
Printing & Stationery	1 469	
Travel	1 399	
Office Expense, Postage	1 093	
Telephone	822	
Legal & Accounting	775	
Publicity	343	
Insurance	326	
Medical Expense	209	
Registration Fees	100	
General Expense	60	
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		13 136
NET DECREASE OR CASH RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(\$ 1 179)
TOTAL CASH APRIL 1, 1974		\$10 767
Less: Net Decrease in Cash		1 179
TOTAL CASH MARCH 31, 1975		\$ 9 588

WELCOME HOUSE ADOPTIVE PARENTS GROUP
BOX 265
DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18901

U.S. Postage Paid
1 oz.
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Reading, Pa.

FIRST CLASS

S. Viet Refugee-Ship Captain Hopeful--Long Way From Sea

By GLENN TROELSTRUP
Denver Post Staff Writer

When the 6,200-ton VN Thuong Tin left Guam in mid-October for Vietnam with 1,546 returning refugees aboard, it went without the captain who first agreed to command it.

Instead, 47-year-old Nguyen Truc—a veteran officer of the French and South Vietnamese navies—was quietly helping process products that day at Denver Seafoods, Inc., 3315 Walnut St.

"I'm like a fish on the sand now," he smiles.

NOT CERTAIN

Truc doesn't know whether he would have been received by the new Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) in Saigon as a people's hero or a dangerous element.

He doesn't know if he would have found his wife and six children still in the middle-class home he owned in Saigon. Truc's heard nothing of or from them.

What he does know, and talks about without embarrassment, is the sadness, the loneliness of resettling without his family in a nation whose language he is struggling to master.

He also knows he's hailed by some 4,500 refugees now scattered throughout the United States and Canada for skipping them on an epic, weeklong voyage in a 1,000-ton, shallow-draft coastal freighter, the MV Anh Tuan, from Saigon port to Subic Bay in the Philippines six months ago.

LETTERS WRITTEN

Many of those refugees have traced him to Denver and written of their admiration for his courage and leadership at that time. One of them is the last mayor of Saigon, Do Kien Nhieu, a former brigadier general now resettled in Colorado Springs.

"I don't know the future," Truc said through a translator recently in the home of a friend. "I accept my situation and have left the repatriation matter behind me. My concern now is my new life. I'm happy to have gotten a job to support myself and not depend on my sponsor."

Truc spoke of eventually finding a job in the radio communications field or captaining a fishing vessel.

'WRONG PLACE'

"This is the wrong place to get work aboard a ship. I may have to go to a coastal city once I have enough saved up," he said. "But, so far, I have no contacts for such work."



Denver Post Photo by Ernie Leyba
FORMER VIETNAM NAVY CAPT. NGUYEN TRUC BY MAP
Refugee hero led 4,500 on weeklong voyage from Saigon to Philippines.

reversed gears and took on 4,500 refugees, intending to offload them on U.S. 7th Fleet ships standing by off the coast in international waters. There was no time to get his own family, trapped by a curfew.

SHORT ON FUEL

"I was afraid the ship would capsize," Truc recalled. "She was packed from fore to aft. We were short on fuel and carried only a little water and rice . . . But the American ships would us off

militant returnees demanded to leave for South Vietnam immediately. They ignored PRG warnings they wouldn't be accepted. Demonstrators burned tent buildings and assaulted Marine security guards.

MEETING CALLED

The distressed Truc called a meeting of returnees.

"I told them that if they would wait patiently until the ship is cleared for depart-

to port.

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Truc also talked wistfully of either visiting and remaining with his family in South Vietnam "two or three years from now" or, if possible, bringing them out to rejoin him.

He knows the odds. He earns \$260 a month net and spends \$180 of that for food and lodging. The rest goes for other necessities and to a former navy colleague who's now a jobless refugee in France.

"I'm in the middle of a three-way street. I hope someone will light a candle to direct me what way to go," said the Catholic refugee. "Maybe it'll take a miracle!"

He paused.

'HELPED A LOT'

"Americans have been especially nice and friendly to me. My boss and co-workers help me a lot," he continued. "Americans saved 130,000 of us. Despite resettlement problems, I hope they'll continue helping us find jobs so we can settle down to useful and happy lives."

Truc, a native North Vietnamese from Quang Binh, was a second lieutenant in the French navy when Vietnam was split in the Geneva Agreement of 1954. He elected to go to the new Republic of Vietnam in the south, married in 1956 and rejoined the navy two years later.

He commanded coastal patrol boats until he was wounded while intercepting a Communist arms runner near Nha Trang in 1966. Then he also moved into command of various cargo vessels. One, the tiny Anh Tuan, had unloaded refugees from northern provinces at the port of Saigon the day before the Thieu government collapsed last April 29. Truc quickly



FORMER VIETNAM NAVY CAPT. NGUYEN TRUC BY MAP
Refugee hero led 4,500 on weeklong voyage from Saigon to Philippines.

reversed gears and took on 4,500 refugees, intending to offload them on U.S. 7th Fleet ships standing by off the coast in international waters. There was no time to get his own family, trapped by a curfew.

SHORT ON FUEL

"I was afraid the ship would capsize," Truc recalled. "She was packed from fore to aft. We were short on fuel and carried only a little water and rice. . . . But the American ships waved us off when they saw how many we had on board! They advised me to head for any of a dozen friendly ports."

Truc set a course for Thailand only to be persuaded several hours later that the refugees might be interned there and forcibly returned to South Vietnam. So he headed the other way—toward Taiwan. Meantime, Truc worried about dwindling fuel as those squeezed into the cargo bays and available deck space continued to live on rations of two handfuls of rice and two cups of water a day.

"On May 4, we picked up a British Broadcasting Corp. report that the Philippines was receiving refugee ships," Truc said. Again the dangerously overloaded ship changed course—and barely made it to Subic Bay two days later. The Anh Tuan was impounded and now lies rusting in Manila Bay.

MOVED TO GUAM

Truc and the others were moved to Guam on the U.S. air lift. While proving himself at Orde Point the reluctant-refugee captain heard that United Nations representatives were accepting applications from those desiring to return to their families in South Vietnam.

Truc signed up and eventually was transferred to the Asan returnee camp on Aug. 15. There he was asked by senior American officials to captain the repatriation ship Thuong Tin. He agreed.

"To me, my job was to be captain," Truc explained. "I saved those who wanted to leave South Vietnam and it was my duty to help those who wanted to return to rejoin their families. . . ."

But Truc said he didn't foresee violence. And that's what began as the more

militant returnees demanded to leave for South Vietnam immediately. They ignored PRG warnings they wouldn't be accepted. Demonstrators burned tent buildings and assaulted Marine security guards.

MEETING CALLED

The distressed Truc called a meeting of returnees.

"I told them that if they would wait patiently until the ship is cleared for departure I'd bring them home safely," Truc said. "But I added that if the violence continued, I'd go to the United States instead. They didn't listen. The violence continued. So I declared that I wouldn't captain the ship."

Truc was moved to Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he tried to apply for passage to France or Morocco since he's fluent in French. But he lacked a sponsor in either country.

When a new friend at Camp Pendleton, Vu Van Hung, a former municipal treasurer, asked him to come to Arvada under his sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Hafling of 6065 Johnson Way, Truc did so.

TWO GOT JOBS

The two arrived in Denver Sept. 30. Within a week Truc had his seafoods job, and Hung was a waiter in the Pavilion East Restaurant in Wheat Ridge.

For Truc, it was the third beginning. Somehow, he believes, this one is going to end happily.

Denver Post Photo by Ernie Layba

S. V. Hop

By GLENN
Denver

When the 6,200-ton MV Anh Tuan was shipwrecked in mid-October 1975, 1,546 returning refugees were left without the captain's command.

Instead, 47-year-old veteran officer of the Vietnamese navy, Truc, took command. He processed products from Seafoods, Inc., 3301 E. Colfax Ave., Denver. "I'm like a fisherman," he smiles.

NOT CERTAIN

Truc doesn't know if he has been receiving a Revolutionary War pension as a people's element.

He doesn't know his wife and six children are home. Truc's heard nothing.

What he does know is without embarrassment the loneliness of a family in a nation struggling to make it.

He also knows refugees now in the United States are on an epic journey. The 1,000-ton, shallow-draft MV Anh Tuan was in Subic Bay in the Philippines last year.

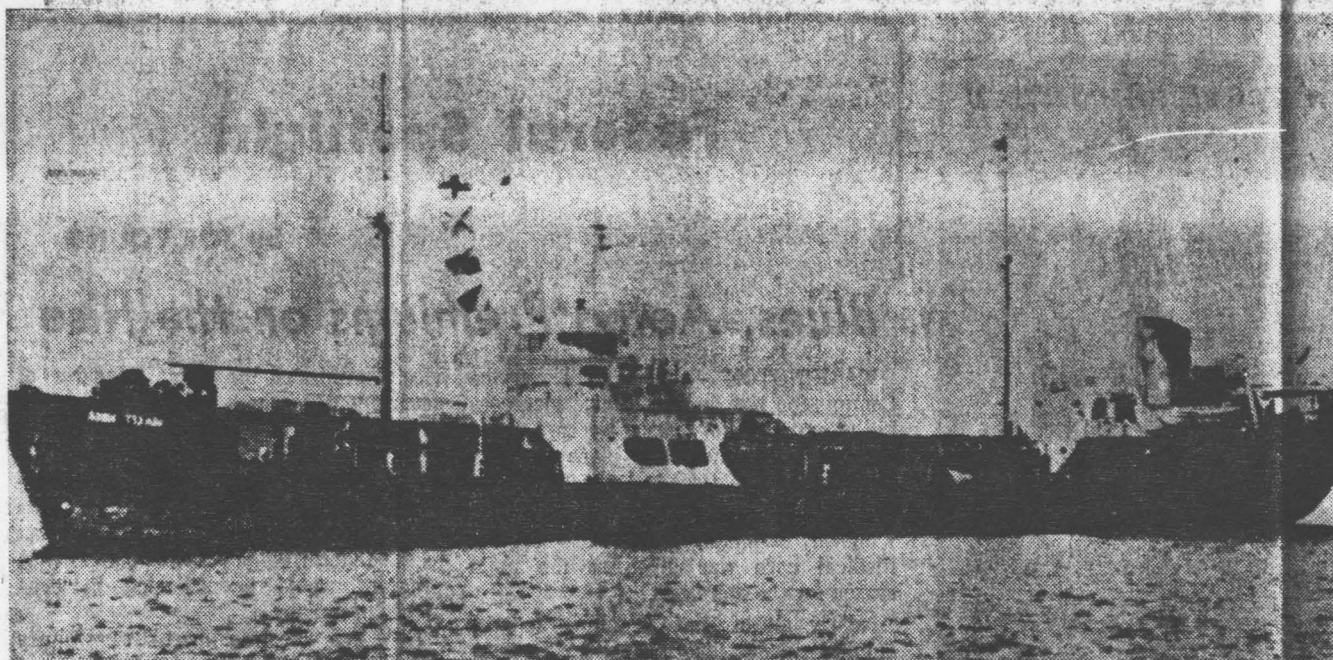
LETTERS WRITTEN

Many of those who wrote him to Denver were for his courage at that time. One of Saigon, Do Ki, a general in the U.S. Army, wrote him.

"I don't know how to write through a translator," he said. "I have left the rest to you. My concern is to be happy to have myself and not."

Truc spoke of his time in the radio containing a fishing boat. "WRONG PLACE," he said.

"This is the first time I'm aboard a ship. I'm a coastal city on the water," he said. "I don't know for such a long time. Truc also is visiting and returning."



THE 1,000-TON ANH TUAN WAS SHIP TRUC SKIPPED DURING FALL OF SAIGON
Truc was afraid ship would capsize when he quickly reversed gears in port of Saigon April 29.



PORTRAIT OF TRUC AS PATROL-BOAT COMMANDER COMES FROM HIS LOGBOOK

His poem, written over cover of popular song, equates his wife to lighthouse guiding him safely to port.

12-6-75

CALIFORNIA LAWSUIT

Airlift Children Face Return to Vietnam

By CHRIS WHITBECK
Denver Post Staff Writer

A Lakewood woman is appealing to those who adopted airlifted Vietnamese children to fight a California lawsuit which threatens to return some to Vietnam.

Mrs. Robert Summers of 1826 S. Welch Circle took in one child, Miki, now a little over a year old. She is urging support for Adoptive Parents of Airlift Children.

The California suit was filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco by a New York-based group called the Center for Constitutional Rights. The lawsuit was brought in behalf of three children flown here on the airlift.

The suit alleges that the three children were brought here illegally — against the will of their parents. It seeks to represent all children brought on the airlift under similar circumstances and have them returned to Vietnam.

Neither the parents of the children or the adoptive agencies which handled their placements were named as defendants. The lawsuit named the U.S. secretary of state, the secretary of defense, the attorney general and other federal officials.

INTERVENORS IN SUIT

However, two adoptive agencies, Friends of All Children, and the Friends of the Children of Vietnam, have intervened.

"We don't think the vested interest of the children is being considered at all," protested Mrs. Summers. The plaintiffs, she said "would suggest we tore the children out of the arms of their loving parents. That's not true."

She noted that when Miki arrived last April the child weighed only 7 pounds, and suffered from severe malnutrition and pneumonia.

Last April, she said, parents were as-

sured by adoptive agencies that "Nobody's going to take your baby away."

"Now all of a sudden, they're saying, 'We're losing, and they might take your baby away'."

She noted that Wendy Grant, director of Friends For All Children, wrote parents last week, advising them that the suit is going poorly and suggesting they might want to find their own lawyers.

Mrs. Summers said a major problem is that confidentiality provisions in adoption laws prevent parents from obtaining the names of other parents.

Apparently "the courts in California have seen fit to hand over all our names to the plaintiffs," she said bitterly. "So they know who we are, but we don't know each other."

And, she added, "They have all the information they need on Miki."

Sarah Jane Cowen, attorney for Friends for All Children, confirmed that the case isn't going well.

FILES OPENED

She said the federal district court and federal appeals court in San Francisco have permitted the plaintiffs to see files on all children, with the proviso that the district court may issue appropriate protective orders removing irrelevant confidential material about the parents.

She also noted that the attorneys for the adoption agencies legally can't represent the parents.

All we can do for the parents, she said, is say, "see a lawyer. It's not much of an answer."

Mrs. Joanne Thompson, 7553 E. Costilla Blvd., Englewood, helping to organize Adoptive Parents of Airlift Children, said one of her primary concerns is the effect the suit will have upon all foreign adoptions.

"This ruling is going to scare people off."

Mrs. Summers said the goals of the new organization are "to hire our own attorney," to raise funds to fight the law suit; and to keep the parents informed of what happens in the suit.

If all fails, said Mrs. Thompson, the parents will at least have "other people to call on in case someone from immigration comes and tries to take our child away."

Mrs. Summers and Mrs. Thompson said anyone interested in joining the new

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Mrs. Summers and Mrs. Thompson said anyone interested in joining the new group should contact them.

Lawyer blasts court delay on Babylift

By DAVID GREENBERG

News Staff

Hundreds of families wishing to adopt children brought to the United States in Operation Babylift have been kept in a legal state of limbo and risk having details of their private lives brought into open court, an attorney for a Denver-based adoption agency charged Tuesday.

Carl Eklund, lawyer for the Friends of Children in Vietnam, a volunteer group that brought 435 children into the country, said a suit filed in California is causing the problems.

Eklund and attorneys for another Colorado agency, Friends for All Children, are seeking to intervene in the suit in behalf of the affected families.

The suit was filed on April 30, 1975, in U.S. District Court for Northern California on behalf of three children brought to this country during Operation Babylift. Named as defendants were Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, Atty. Gen. Edward Levi and other government and military officials.

The complaint charged the children were brought here "against their will and that of their Vietnamese parents or nearest of kin" and asked that efforts be made to reunite the children with their families in Vietnam.

The suit was submitted as a "class action," which means that it sought to represent all children brought to this country in Operation Babylift in violation of American, South Vietnamese or international law.

In order to determine which children fit the designated class, the suit asked that the "full and complete records of each and every Vietnamese child" be examined to determine if the child was properly brought into the country.

The suit is now in its eighth month, and has yet to go to trial on the real issues in the case. But according to Eklund it has caused considerable emotional distress to many families who fear they risk seeing their adoptive children deported.

That isn't an immediate prospect, but Eklund said he is disturbed by a recent court decision that ordered that U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service files be turned over to the plaintiffs so they can determine which children fall into the designated class.

The order was issued by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals with the proviso that information not pertinent to the issue be screened from the files.

Included in these files, Eklund said, is intimate and personal information about the families wishing to adopt the children. The information originally was gathered under a promise of strict confidentiality. The files include information on marital relations within the families as well as financial disclosures and tax reports.

Eklund said a number of these files have already been turned over to the plaintiffs. He said that none of this information is pertinent to the case and was exactly the type of information

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Included in these files, Eklund said, is intimate and personal information about the families wishing to adopt the children. The information originally was gathered under a promise of strict confidentiality. The files include information on marital relations within the families as well as financial disclosures and tax reports.

Eklund said a number of these files have already been turned over to the plaintiffs. He said that none of this information is pertinent to the case and was exactly the type of information the court had ordered to be screened.

Eklund estimated that between 70 and 86 Vietnamese children brought in by Operation Babylift now live in the Colorado-Wyoming area and are potential subjects of the suit.

Baby Lift row touches Lakewood family



NEWS PHOTO BY JOHN GORDON

Susan Summers watches her 13-month-old child, Miki Hyvong, as she wonders whether he will be returned to Vietnam.

A Lakewood mother is one of hundreds throughout the country caught in an international dispute that may decide whether she can keep her Vietnamese child.

Mrs. Susan Summers' 13-month-old "adopted" child, Miki Hyvong, was brought to the United States from Vietnam eight months ago in Operation Baby Lift.

Whether the child is allowed to stay may depend on the outcome of a suit being argued now in San Francisco U.S. District Court.

Neither Miki nor his parents are named in the suit, even though the child's fate may rest on the outcome.

Miki, of course, is oblivious to the entire controversy. Last Friday, during the most recent hearing, he was sitting in his baby-tender in the living room, pensively munching a Cheerio.

"When Miki came here he was 6 months old and weighed 7 pounds. He had rickets and some other diseases," Mrs. Summers said. "No mother would have treated him that way," she said in stating her belief the child was an orphan.

Nevertheless, attorneys are arguing whether the babies were brought here in violation of international law and should be returned — and whether many of them were put in orphanages in South Vietnam by their true parents just before the Communist takeover.

CLOSER TOGETHER

Meanwhile, Miki and other Vietnamese children adopted by American families are becoming increasingly attached to their adoptive parents.

Dubbed the "baby lift case," its resolution will take months.

Involved in the case are:

—The U.S. government, specifically Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger, Atty. Gen. Edward Levi and other government and military officials who participated in Operation Baby Lift. They are the defendants.

—Muoi McConnell, a former nurse who had worked in American hospitals in Vietnam. Versed in Vietnamese, she was among the group that initially took care of the Baby Lift children when they disembarked in San Francisco and were quartered in the Presidio compound. She is the plaintiff.

—The Center for Constitutional Rights, whose most famous member is radical lawyer William Kunstler, is handling the case.

week allowed them to intervene as interested parties.

—North Vietnam, not really involved in the suit, but involved in the controversy. It has charged the U.S. action in executing Operation Baby Lift was tantamount to kidnaping and a violation of international law.

—The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, charged by the court to investigate the background of each Vietnamese child.

—Several international organizations, including the International Union for Child Welfare, which have been suggested as the intermediaries in tracing the children's backgrounds in Vietnam.

HUMANITARIAN MOVE

The controversy is the result of what the government billed a humanitarian gesture at the end of the Vietnam War — bringing orphans and abandoned children from Vietnam to the U.S. for adoption.

Critics charged, however, it was a propaganda move aimed at swinging American public opinion toward helping the collapsing South Vietnam regime.

Although the program was marred by tragedy when a C-54 transport plane crashed and killed more than 200 children, more than 2,100 were brought into the country.

Seven adoption and relief agencies supervised the placement of the children with American families. Three weeks after Operation Baby Lift was over, Miss McConnell filed suit challenging its legality.

Miss McConnell apparently spoke to many of the newly arrived children, who reportedly told her they had been taken from Vietnam without their parents' knowledge and wanted to go home.

Miss McConnell told her attorney that when Saigon was collapsing, many children who were neither orphans nor abandoned were placed by their parents in orphanages for safekeeping.

The orphanages were like "daycare centers," Miss McConnell's attorney said. But during Operation Baby Lift the orphanages were emptied in a wholesale manner.

UNRESPONSIVE

Miss McConnell contacted U.S. officials about the problem, but they were unresponsive, according to her attorney.

The complaint charged the children were brought to the United States against their will and that of their Vietnamese parents and rela-

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al at the hospital at 1:20 p.m., hospital officials said.

Wilder was brought from his Hamden, Conn., home by ambulance, hospital spokesman Paul Taylor said. The cause of death was not immediately known.

Taylor said a medical examiner would examine the body Monday.

Wilder won three Pulitzer prizes. The first was in 1928 for the novel "The Bridge of San Luis Rey." The others were for the plays "Our Town" in 1938 and "The Skin of Our Teeth" in 1943.

Renewed interest focused on Wilder in 1963 when he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, highest civilian citation by the federal government.

In 1964 "Hello Dolly" arrived on Broadway, increasing Wilder's fame. Based on his 1954 play "The Matchmaker," it eventually became Broadway's longest running musical.

His book "The Eighth Day" was published in 1967.

Wilder was born in 1897 at Madison, Wis., where his father, Amos, was editor of a newspaper.

When he was 9, his father was named consul general in Hong Kong, and later Shanghai, and Wilder attended German and English schools in China. He later went to schools in California.

He studied at Oberlin College and spent a year in the Coast Guard before graduating from Yale in 1920. He taught French for several years before obtaining a masters degree from Princeton in 1926.

Wilder's first novel, "The Cabala," was published in 1926, the same year his first play, "The Trumpet Shall Sound," was produced.

Wilder later taught at the University of Chicago, from 1930 to 1936, and held an honorary professorship of poetry at Harvard in 1950-51.

During World War II, Wilder served with the U.S. Army Air Forces Intelligence in North Africa.

Wilder didn't believe a man should spend much time in his own personal past, he said in a 1958 interview.

"I erase as I go along," he said. "I look forward so much I have only an imperfect memory for the past."

to interest the community."

"I am interested in the drives that operate in society and in every man," he said in 1961. "Pride, avarice and envy are in every home."

"Because we live in the 20th Century, overhung by very real anxiety" he added, "we have to use the comic spirit. No statement of gravity can be adequate to the gravity of the age in which we live."

He complained in 1962 that the Soviet government had

Marxist knows war is only the work of capitalists.

"Wars and human disasters come from the ugly unresolved things in us, just as earthquakes come from ugly unresolved things in nature, the cooling of the earth's crust."

"I have no patience with people who say they love nature and go out to look at a field on Sunday afternoon. Our families, the way we live with our fellow men, are a part of nature, too."



Thornton

Baby Lift dispute affects hundreds

(Continued from page 5)

frivolous by the adoption agencies, the court didn't drop it.

The Immigration Service found 1,460 Baby Lift children eligible for adoption under U.S. law. However, 225 children couldn't be proven to be orphans. About 60 have yet to be investigated.

But both the adoption agencies and the attorney for Miss McConnell, Nancy Stearns, have been critical of the Immigration Service findings.

The service has moved too slowly in processing the children, thereby increasing the anguish of those who must return, according to Mrs. Stearns.

The attorney representing the government in the case, John Kooney, agrees the trial should

proceed as fast as possible by Immigration Service.

"They were trying to investigate ground of children coming from countries no longer have diplomatic relations."

The agencies allowed to Friends for All Children, Frier Vietnam, and the Holt Adoption Agency, Ore., representing a children.

Meanwhile, the government strategy, which had centered on any of the children were brought.

It now appears that the question about tracing the children's central issue of the trial. Will him continue to grow in their tiny unaware of the forces decided.

Refugee Tax Claims Spelled Out by IRS

By BOB JAIN

Denver Post Staff Writer

Can a Vietnamese refugee claim a U.S. income tax deduction for personal assets left behind when he fled?

The answer is "no," according to the Internal Revenue Service, (IRS) which has put out a list of answers to questions commonly asked by the refugees and by their American sponsors.

Denver is one of 17 American cities receiving the heaviest concentrations of Vietnamese refugees. As of Oct. 29, ac-

cording to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1,964 had been relocated in Colorado, with 478 families settling in Denver.

There is no tax on U.S. currency brought from Vietnam, the IRS says, and taxes on income from sale of gold, jewelry and other times will be only on excess of income over cost.

Refugees, the IRS says, have the legal status of resident aliens—that is, aliens who intend to establish residence in the United States. They are subject to federal income and Social Security taxes and for such state and local taxes as may be levied on U.S. citizens.

Income taxes for refugees are applicable to all income, whether received from domestic sources or from abroad, the IRS says. Refugees who find gainful employment must have Social Security numbers and in 1976, Social Security taxes will be deducted from their wages up to \$14,100.

SAME BASIS

Refugees must file federal income tax returns on the same basis as citizens, the IRS says.

Conditions under which sponsors of refugees may deduct expenses on their federal income tax returns are somewhat involved.

A refugee who is unrelated to his sponsor may be claimed as a dependent if he:

—Lived as a member of the household for the entire calendar year.

—Had gross income for the year of less than \$750.

—Didn't file a joint return with his or her spouse.

—Received more than half his total support for the calendar year from the sponsor.

If the refugee is related to the sponsor by marriage, only the last three requirements must be met.

Medical expenses paid by a sponsor for an unrelated refugee may be deducted only if the first and fourth conditions are met and the expenses are itemized.

Contributions given to a church that sponsors refugees may be deducted at their fair market value.

Refugees don't have to pay taxes on contributions they receive as gifts. However, the IRS cautions, if those gifts are "substantial," the donor himself may be subject to a gift tax.

Other questions pertaining to refugees and their sponsors may be answered at local IRS offices.

HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY

State's Viet Refugees Aided

By GLENN TROELSTRUP
Denver Post Staff Writer

A human-services agency for the estimated 6,500 Vietnamese refugees in Colorado has been set up by a group of refugees and their sponsors, headed by Denver Realtor Dick Meyers.

The new, nonpolitical Colorado Association for Refugees and sponsors will provide day-to-day services for troubled refugees. About 5,000 of them are in the Denver metropolitan area.

Such services haven't been available through Catholic Community Services or the Lutheran Services Society. Both agencies have been involved in moving refugees from camps to communities but haven't had the personnel or funding to get involved in social-adjustment matters.

8 ON COMMITTEE

The association already has an eight-member steering com-

mittee headed by Meyers. The eight also serve on tentative communications and organizations committees to contact the refugees in Colorado, inform them of the association's activities and gather data on available services for them.

Meyers stressed that steering committee members are acting as individuals and not representatives of other agencies or professions with which they are employed or affiliated.

The members: Meyers, REMAX realty; Sister Mary Nellie Gage, Lutheran Services Society; Mrs. Barbara Movin-go, a sponsor; Le Thi Bach Thuy, staff coordinator, Friends of Children of Vietnam; Tran Quoc Thai, a former police chief in Bien Hoa Province, and his son, Tran Dinh Dinh, a university student, and Prof. and Mrs. Chu Cong. Cong is a former University of Danang

teacher and refugees' English-language adviser for Adams County School Districts, 1, 12, 14 and 50.

'SUDDEN EXILE'

Meyers said Wednesday the association's sole purpose is to "aid and guide Vietnamese and their sponsors in obtaining those things necessary to become productive American citizens."

Bach Thuy added that "the pain of sudden exile" strongly affects each refugee and their sponsors. "The refugees have looked around for a good human-services facility and have found one."

"One girl committed suicide in Boulder a month ago," she continued. "Another young woman attempted to kill herself. Refugee children have problems at school. Other refugees are sick in hospitals but don't have a good translator so doctors can understand their sicknesses . . . When refugees have emotional problems with other family members they don't have any domestic coun-

seling available."

FEAR COMMUNISTS

The refugees from communism in their own country also are fearful of harassment by pro-Communist elements in the United States. Meyers noted that two Communist Vietnamese-language newspapers published in Washington, D.C. and Santa Monica, Calif., were clandestinely distributed during a Thanksgiving party for more than 200 of the refugees sponsored by the two church agencies.

"That almost caused a walk-out by a majority of the refugees," Meyers said, "until we were able to get them to realize the two agencies didn't know the content of the publications and hadn't authorized their distribution."

The incident has forced the association "to take precautions to avoid any political or religious overtones or affiliations," Meyers stressed. But it will cooperate with both Catholic and Lutheran agencies informally.



Denver Post Photo by Bill Johnson

REALTOR RICHARD MEYERS

is new agency for some 6,500 Vietnamese.

Postwar Problems Vietnam Reds Struggle With Economic Woes, Corruption, Resistance

They Also Face a Long Task
Of Developing Country;
First Aim: Reunification

U.S. 'Atrocities' on Display

By SETH LIPSKY

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

HONG KONG—Nearly eight months after seizing Saigon, the Vietnamese Communists are struggling with postwar problems almost as agonizing as the war itself.

The victors in the long, bloody war in Indochina still struggle with scattered armed resistance. They struggle with massive unemployment in the cities, with monetary turmoil and with an embarrassing spread of the region's traditional petty corruption to their own troops. And, like many another underdeveloped country, they struggle with the intractable problems of long-range economic development.

But they aren't letting these problems divert them from a cherished goal: the early reunification of the relatively rich and easy-going South with the more-Spartan North.

Such are the impressions brought out of Saigon in recent weeks by foreigners who either remained or were trapped there during the Communist takeover or who have visited the city since then. Their impressions are reinforced by the opinions of diplomats, newsmen and corporate Indochina watchers and by Communist news releases and broadcasts from Vietnam.

"American Atrocities" Museum

Visitors to the city say the visible signs of the long American presence are fading fast. The American embassy, of course, is closed and deserted; not far away, a museum of "American atrocities" has opened. The girlie bars along Tu Do Street are closed. Along the road to the airport, the sign that once proclaimed that the "noble sacrifice of allied soldiers will never be forgotten" now proclaims devotion to independence and liberty.

In some ways the city still clings to its colorful past, of course, but with a grip that is slowly slipping. While nostalgic Saigonese cafe-goers trade farfetched rumors about former premier Nguyen Cao Ky returning to retake the country, the new political commissars in the presidential palace chart a socialist course that probably is irreversible.

To ensure its irreversibility, the Communists are pushing a campaign to curb opposition, the reports of travelers and others indicate. Although the instant bloodbath that so

nurse who later left says she treated suicide attempts at a Saigon hospital.

Despite the tough moves, monetary turmoil continues to plague the government. Only last month, a Saigon broadcast denounced "bourgeois and reactionary elements" that it said were "releasing many groundless rumors" as part of a scheme to "discredit the people's revolutionary currency," an apparent reference to the new bank notes.

And amid the major economic problems, the petty corruption that lingers on comes partly from a source that embarrasses the Communists—their own forces. Some travelers say North Vietnamese soldiers in Saigon have been trafficking in canned milk, cigarettes and cement at black-market prices. Some suggest that well-connected individuals can purchase exit papers. To some visitors, Hanoi officials have acknowledged what they call "mistakes" by lower-ranking aides in Saigon, and such corruption—a favorite Communist accusation against the old regime—is what the officials seemed to have in mind.

Despite the economic woes, however, politics apparently preoccupies official thinking; the Communists' first priority is reunification of the country. Last month—sooner than many observers had expected—reunification talks were convened in Saigon. After a week of zealous speeches, the delegates agreed unanimously that in the first half of 1976 elections would be held to choose a "common national assembly for the whole country" that would devise a constitution for a "unified Vietnam."

The conference, one skeptical American says, was the "ceremonial burial of the puppet"—the puppet being the provisional revolutionary government of South Vietnam that had been established in 1969 to participate in the Paris peace talks. Key decisions now, as all along, are being made by the Vietnam Workers Party, the Communist party that controls the Hanoi government.

Possible Help at UN

Although reunification seems unlikely to provide quick solutions to economic problems, it could remove one difficulty in Vietnam's effort to gain admission to the United Nations. The country had been seeking two seats, one for the North and one for the South, but last August the U.S. vetoed the application. How the U.S. would react to a Vietnamese bid for a single seat hasn't been made clear, however.

Reunification also could have far more important political effects throughout Southeast Asia. North Vietnam already controls the second-largest army in the area (after China's), and non-Communist neighboring nations are wary even though North Vietnam hasn't posed any new threats to them. (Earlier this month, Laos became a "people's republic" under a Communist government that owes much to Hanoi, but the changeover was long expected, long discounted and bloodless.) A unified Vietnam of 45 million people could become within five years the dominant power in Southeast Asia, many observers believe, as well as a leading example of successful revolution.

Perhaps in fear of being so eclipsed, China—a key wartime backer of North Vietnam—is showing a cooler attitude, especially as Hanoi-Moscow relations grow warmer.

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1975

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To ensure its irreversibility, the Communists are pushing a campaign to curb opposition, the reports of travelers and others indicate. Although the instant bloodbath that so many observers had feared apparently hasn't occurred, the Communists are said to be sending thousands of low-ranking soldiers and officials of the former government to "re-education" camps, presumably for questioning and instruction on future behavior. Many of these involuntary students have been allowed to return home to the countryside, the Communists say.

Higher-ranking officials, however, apparently are being kept in what one Communist official called "collective camps" for longer periods. Hanoi seems to fear that higher-ranking officers of the old army could try to lead a resistance movement.

Occasional Fighting

The current scattered resistance by remnants of the South Vietnamese army isn't likely to threaten the new regime seriously, but they probably will badger the Communists for months or even years. Recently foreigners leaving Saigon have reported talk that such soldiers have cut the road from Dalat, a mountainous agricultural area that helps provision Saigon. And occasional fighting has been reported in the Mekong Delta and in some provinces near Saigon.

Probably a more serious threat to the stability of the Communist regime is posed by its economic difficulties. Particularly threatening is massive unemployment in the cities, although precise statistics on the jobless aren't available. The problem is aggravated by the surge in the urban population during 30 years of war, as people fled the countryside to get out of the way of the fighting.

"The day American aid stopped," says a foreign diplomat who remained in Vietnam some months after the takeover, "Saigon couldn't sustain itself. There was a surplus of at least two million people" in the capital.

So now the government is struggling to move city dwellers back to the countryside. It is being more selective than the neighboring Cambodian Communists, who, upon taking Phnom Penh, harshly drove hundreds of thousands of frightened people into the hinterlands and nearly emptied the capital in a matter of days. Vietnam's authorities are establishing what they called "new economic zones." But many Saigonese don't want to go; the very mention of the zones, says a New Zealander who taught English in Vietnam for eight years and left last month, "makes the Vietnamese shudder."

Troubles With Money

The population problems are accompanied by monetary woes. After the takeover, the new government announced that for the time being the currency of the former regime would remain in force in the South. And, foreigners there at the time say, a semblance of normal trade eventually resumed, although prices were erratic.

Then, without warning, the government made a dramatic move. On Sept. 22, Saigon's loudspeakers blared an announcement that the former currency was no longer valid. Traffic in and out of the city was halted. Residents were told to declare their currency holdings in preparation for turning in their old money for new bank notes. In the meantime, people were allowed to keep only minimal amounts of money. Additional holdings could be banked, but not withdrawn.

The move electrified Saigon, and particularly the wealthy Chinese. Rumors of suicides swept the city.

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To a surprising degree, Hanoi shows signs of wanting to avoid the rigid introversion of such Communist regimes as North Korea and, more recently, Cambodia. It is seeking trade with Western nations and is said to be trying to borrow money in Paris. There are even indications that Hanoi would like to deal with the United States as well as with Russia and China, at least to get post-war reconstruction aid by playing the three powers off against each other.

"Three-Cushion Diplomacy"

The U.S., however, is understandably unenthusiastic about Vietnam playing what one diplomat calls "three-cushion diplomacy." President Ford said in Hawaii after his latest Asian journey, "In Indochina, the healing effects of time are required."

There are signs that Hanoi's officials are a bit perplexed, and even frustrated, by how quickly the U.S., which for so many years had been so consumed by the subject of Vietnam, suddenly has become so aloof and even apathetic.

The frustration springs in part from their realization that Vietnam needs aid in the long task of economic development that lies ahead. But the Hanoi leaders are unusually resourceful and tough, to a degree that even their enemies have admired over the years. And their current statements on the problems of long-range development are frequently soberly realistic.

When a group of Mennonites and Quakers who had been sending humanitarian aid were in Hanoi recently, they talked with Hoang Quang Tung, editor of Hanoi's official newspaper. Vietnam, Mr. Tung said, is "a country neither large nor small." But, he added, "in terms of economy, we are still small with small-scale production. It takes time for a small country to become rich."

Baby Lift row touches Lakewood family



NEWS PHOTO BY JOHN GORDON

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Whether the child is allowed to stay may depend on the outcome of a suit being argued now in San Francisco U.S. District Court.

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Susan Summers watches her 13-month-old adopted child, Miki Hyvong, as she plays. Miki was brought to U.S. eight months ago.

Baby Lift row touches Lakewood family



NEWS PHOTO BY JOHN GORDON

A Lakewood mother is one of hundreds throughout the country caught in an international dispute that may decide whether she can keep her Vietnamese child.

Mrs. Susan Summers' 13-month-old "adopted" child, Miki Hyvong, was brought to the United States from Vietnam eight months ago in Operation Baby Lift.

Whether the child is allowed to stay may depend on the outcome of a suit being argued now in San Francisco U.S. District Court.

Neither Miki nor his parents are named in the suit, even though the child's fate may rest on the outcome.

Miki, of course, is oblivious to the entire controversy. Last Friday, during the most recent hearing, he was sitting in his baby-tender in the living room, pensively munching a Cheerio.

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Nevertheless, attorneys are arguing whether the babies were brought here in violation of international law and should be returned — and whether many of them were put in orphanages in South Vietnam by their true parents just before the Communist takeover.

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(Continued from page 5)

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But both the adoption agencies and the attorney for Miss McConnell, Nancy Stearns, have been critical of the Immigration Service findings.

The service has moved too slowly in processing the children, thereby increasing the anguish of those who must return, according to Mrs. Stearns.

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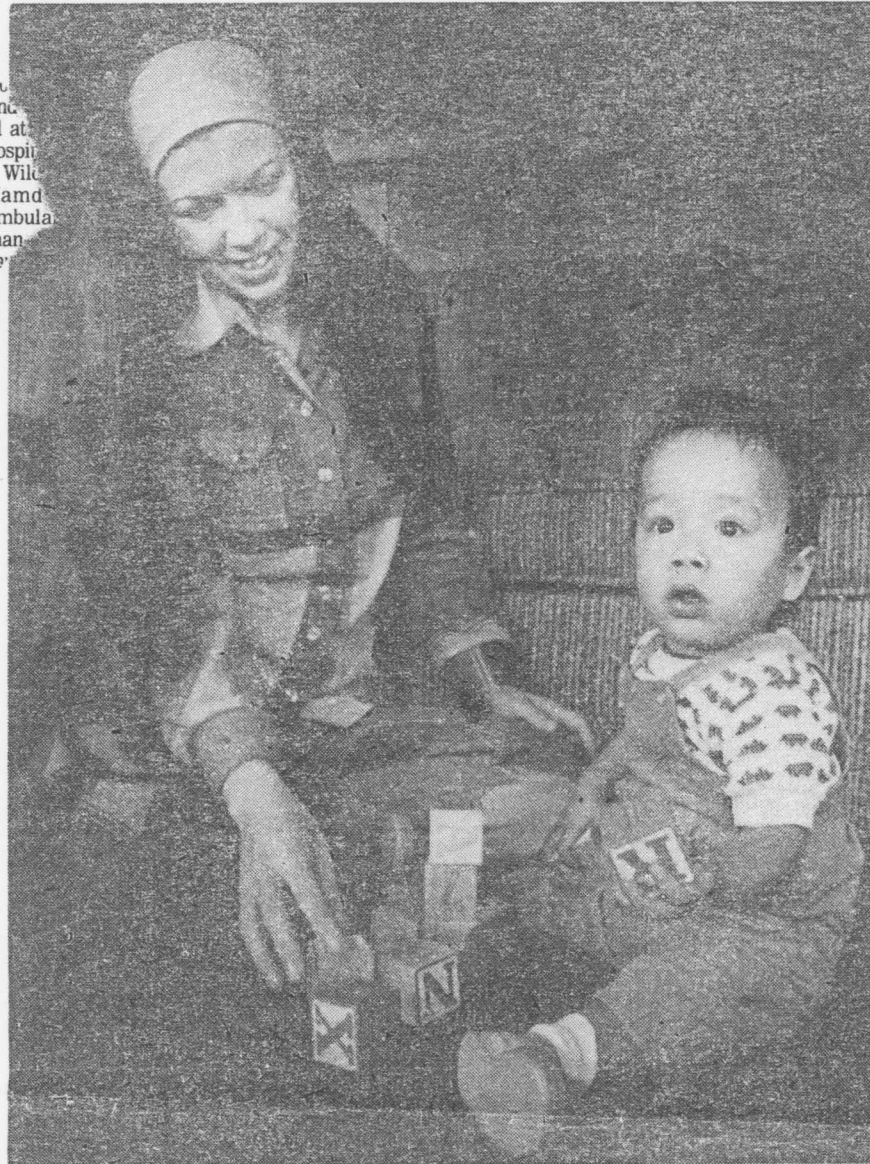
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The agencies allowed to intervene are Friends for All Children, Friends of Children in Vietnam, and the Holt Adoption Agency of Eugene, Ore., representing a total of 1,203 children.

Meanwhile, the government has reversed its strategy, which had centered on denying that any of the children were brought here illegally.

It now appears that the question of how to go about tracing the children's past will be the central issue of the trial. Miki and others like him continue to grow in their new-found security unaware of the forces deciding their fate.

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Harvesting a Yule tree is rugged ritual

the novel "The Bridge of San Luis Rey." The others were for the plays "Our Town" in 1938 and "The Skin of Our Teeth" in 1943.

Renewed interest focused on Wilder in 1963 when he received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, highest civilian citation by the federal government.

In 1964 "Hello Dolly" arrived on Broadway, increasing Wilder's fame. Based on his 1954 play "The Matchmaker," it eventually became Broadway's longest running musical.

His book "The Eighth Day" was published in 1967.

Wilder was born in 1897 at Madison, Wis., where his father, Amos, was editor of a newspaper.

When he was 9, his father was named consul general in Hong Kong, and later Shanghai, and Wilder attended German and English schools in China. He later went to schools in California.

He studied at Oberlin College and spent a year in the Coast Guard before graduating from Yale in 1920. He taught French for several years before obtaining a masters degree from Princeton in 1926.

Wilder's first novel, "The Cabala," was published in 1926, the same year his first play, "The Trumpet Shall Sound," was produced.

Wilder later taught at the University of Chicago, from 1930 to 1936, and held an honorary professorship of poetry at Harvard in 1950-51.

During World War II, Wilder served with the U.S. Army Air Forces Intelligence in North Africa.

Wilder didn't believe a man should spend much time in his own personal past, he said in a 1958 interview.

"I erase as I go along," he said. "I look forward so much I have only an imperfect memory for the past."

Meeting to probe threat to oceans

MIAMI (UPI) — Forty-six scientists from 11 countries will gather at the University of Miami Monday to examine the threat of pollution being transferred from the atmosphere to the world's oceans.

Most of those involved in the meeting at the university's

age in which he lives. He complained in 1962 that the Soviet government had fellow men, are a part of nature, too."

Thornton Wilder

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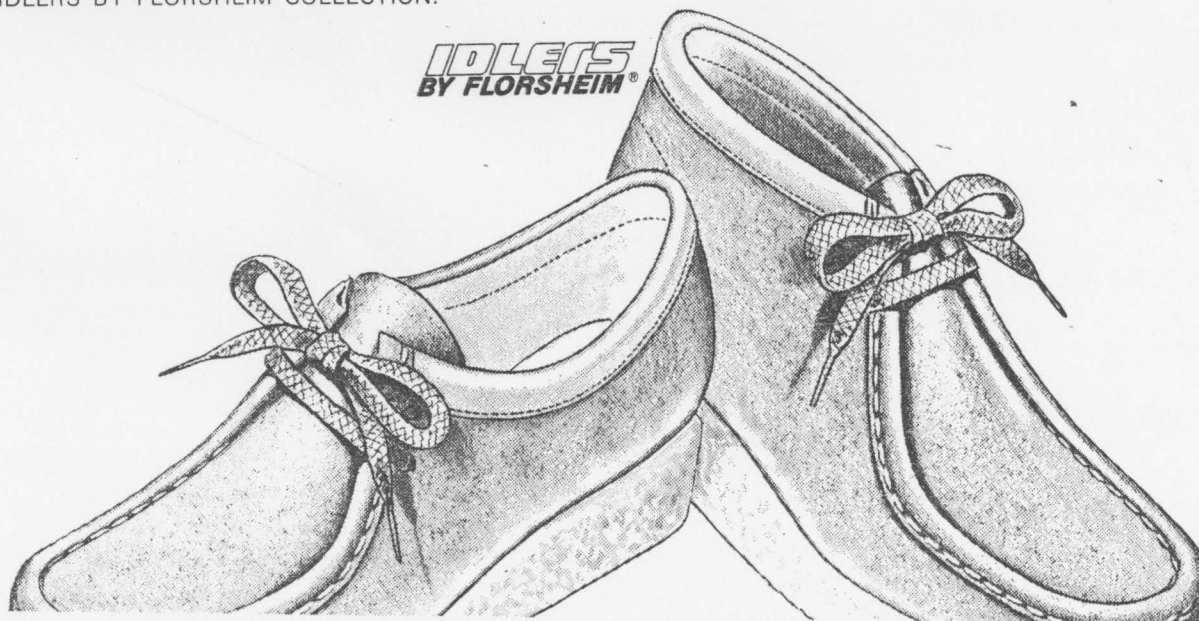
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** Cherry Creek Open Sunday 11-5 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11-8:30

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Lawyer blasts court delay on Babylift

By DAVID GREENBERG

News Staff

Hundreds of families wishing to adopt children brought to the United States in Operation Babylift have been kept in a legal state of limbo and risk having details of their private lives brought into open court, an attorney for a Denver-based adoption agency charged Tuesday.

Carl Eklund, lawyer for the Friends of Children in Vietnam, a volunteer group that brought 435 children into the country, said a suit filed in California is causing the problems.

Eklund and attorneys for another Colorado agency, Friends for All Children, are seeking to intervene in the suit in behalf of the affected families.

The suit was filed on April 30, 1975, in U.S. District Court for Northern California on behalf of three children brought to this country during Operation Babylift. Named as defendants were Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger, Atty. Gen. Edward Levi and other government and military officials.

The complaint charged the children were brought here "against their will and that of their Vietnamese parents or nearest of kin" and asked that efforts be made to reunite the children with their families in Vietnam.

The suit was submitted as a "class action," which means that it sought to represent all children brought to this country in Operation Babylift in violation of American, South Vietnamese or international law.

In order to determine which children fit the designated class, the suit asked that the "full and complete records of each and every Vietnamese child" be examined to determine if the child was properly brought into the country.

The suit is now in its eighth month, and has yet to go to trial on the real issues in the case. But according to Eklund it has caused considerable emotional distress to many families who fear they risk seeing their adoptive children deported.

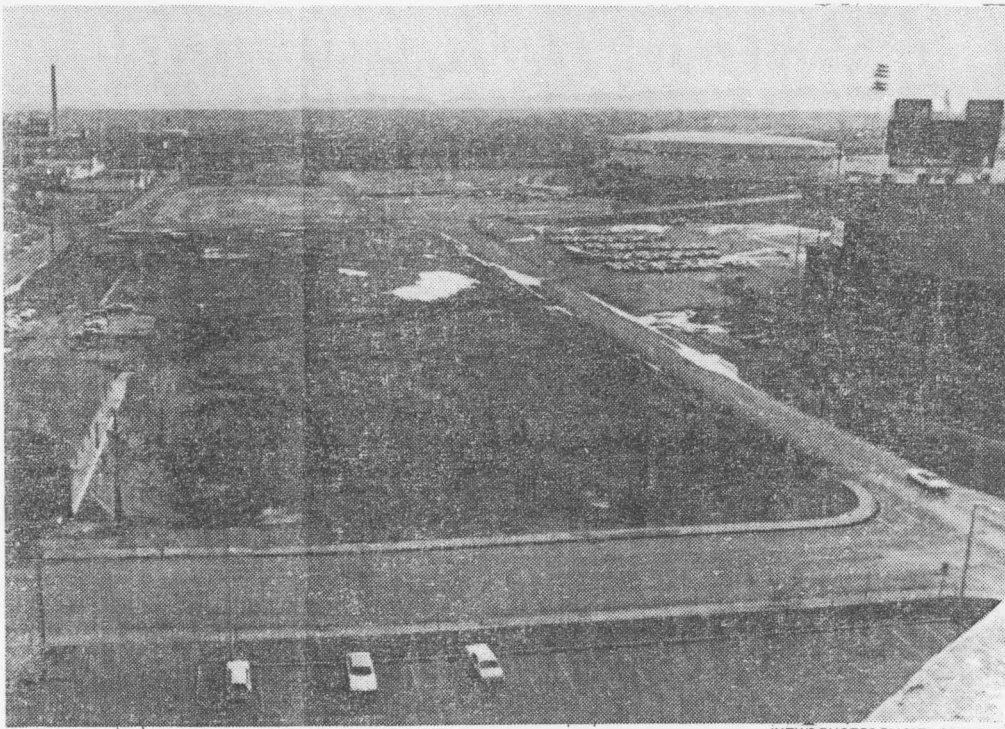
That isn't an immediate prospect, but Eklund said he is disturbed by a recent court decision that ordered that U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service files be turned over to the plaintiffs so they can determine which children fall into the designated class.

The order was issued by the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals with the proviso that information not pertinent to the issue be screened from the files.

Included in these files, Eklund said, is intimate and personal information about the families wishing to adopt the children. The information originally was gathered under a promise of strict confidentiality. The files include information on marital relations within the families as well as financial disclosures and tax reports.

Eklund said a number of these files have already been turned over to the plaintiffs. He said that none of this information is pertinent to the case and was exactly the type of information the court had ordered to be screened.

Eklund estimated that between 70 and 86 Vietnamese children brought in by Operation Babylift now live in the Colorado-Wyoming area and are potential subjects of the suit.



NEWS PHOTOS BY MEL SCHIELTZ

new Parks and Recreation Department headquarters. Right, a corner of Mile High Stadium.

new headquarters

1 bonds buy parks office

The 13,178-square-foot building and property immediately surrounding it which will be used by Ciancio's operation represent a little more than 10 per cent of the Bryant Street tract.

About \$30,000 in general fund money has been spent on remodeling the building to accommodate Ciancio's staff, which formerly was housed in a City Hall annex downtown.

The remodeling money was part of an allocation to the city's general services department earmarked by the city administration for relocating city agencies this year.

Expansion of state courts has forced the city to vacate some space at City Hall to make

room for new courtrooms and seek leased space for housing the displaced agencies.

Richard C. Thomas, director of program development for the public works department, said the space shortage was a key factor in deciding to leave the Bryant Street office building standing.

It would have cost an estimated \$10,000 above the purchase price to demolish the structure, Thomas said Tuesday.

Thomas said that allowing the building to stand would mean the loss of about 40 parking spaces on the Bryant Street land.

(Continued on page 17)

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Parks and recreation director Joe Ciancio in his new office