

**The original documents are located in Box 11, folder “Indochina Refugees - President's Advisory Committee: Announcement” of the Theodore C. Marrs Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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*Velma*  
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: May 12, 1975  
FROM: Ted Marris  
THRU: Bill Baroody  
VIA: Warren Rustand

MEETING: Address a group of 150 distinguished Americans, Announce the Advisory Committee on Refugees, and Reception.

DATE: May 16, 1975  
May 19, 1975  
May 21, 1975

PURPOSE: Encourage private sector support for the refugee resettlement programs; announce, with signing ceremony, the establishment of an Advisory Committee on Refugees.

FORMAT: Location-The East Room. (15 minutes)  
Participants-20 member Advisory Committee, 130 citizens representing a cross section of the country. (To be provided by Ted Marris.)

CABINET PARTICIPATION: Secretary Kissinger

SPEECH MATERIAL: To be prepared by Paul Theis.

PRESS COVERAGE: Full press coverage.

STAFF: Ted Marris

RECOMMEND: Mr. Buchen  
Mr. Marsh  
Mr. Baroody  
NSC  
Mr. Cavanaugh

BACKGROUND: The Interagency Task Force on Refugees is meeting its operational role in regard to movement and care of refugees. To complement its role, the President has decided to establish an Advisory Committee on Refugees.

Recognizing that a broad spectrum of this country's interests will best attract private sector support and encourage a positive, national mental attitude, the 20 member Committee will be announced in the presence of 150 distinguished Americans representing all walks of life.

This large group will receive briefings on welcoming refugees and the current situation by Ambassador Brown and the Commanding Officer, Camp Pendleton. The President will address the group, announce the Advisory Committee, sign the Executive Order, recognize the Co-Chairpersons, and a reception will follow.

This event is intended to be a major catalyst to get the refugees out of the camps and into society.

APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_



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APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVE \_\_\_\_\_

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 14, 1975



MEMORANDUM FOR:

MRS. NANCY RUWE

FROM:

✓ MR. WILLIAM J. BAROODY, JR.  
MR. REX SCOUTEN  
WARREN RUSTAND *WSR*

SUBJECT:

Approved Presidential Activity

Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes by 4:00 p. m. of the preceding day.

Meeting: Address 150 distinguished Americans, announce the Advisory Committee on Refugees and Reception

Date: Monday, May 19, 1975      Time: 12:00 Noon      Duration: 15 Minutes

Location: The East Room

Press Coverage: Press Photo

Purpose: FORMAT: President would address the group, announce The Committee, and sign Executive Order, establishing the Committee. Reception would follow.

REMARKS TO BE PREPARED BY PAUL THEIS IN CONJUNCTION WITH YOUR OFFICE AND NSC IF NECESSARY. PLEASE WORK WITH MR. O'DONNELL ON ARRANGEMENTS, ETC.

CC: Mr. Hartmann  
Mr. Marsh  
Mr. Cheney  
Dr. Connor  
Dr. Hoopes  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Marrs  
Mr. O'Donnell  
Mrs. Yates  
Dr. Cavanaugh  
General Scowcroft  
Mrs. Davis

Nancy: per our conversation



From the House - Rodino  
Fish  
Eilberg  
Cohen  
Burgener

From the Senate - Case  
Javitts  
Pell  
Kennedy  
Fong

~~Velma~~

Meeting to begin at 12:00 <sup>sharp</sup>, Monday, 19 May

East Room, Presidential remarks, signing ceremony  
Advisory Committee on Refugees, <sup>(still unnamed)</sup> Ambassador Dean Brown  
brief refugee situation, reception.

Please invite the above, advise on  
protocol.

John Harding  
X 7004

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 17, 1975



BRIEFING AND RECEPTION  
TO ANNOUNCE  
THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

Monday, May 19, 1975  
12:00 - 12:15 p. m. (15 minutes)  
Briefings in the East Room  
Reception on the State Floor

From: William J. Barody, Jr.  
Theodore C. Marrs

I. PURPOSE

To address a select group of distinguished Americans, to announce the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, and to encourage private sector support for refugee resettlement programs.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background:

1. The Interagency Task Force is meeting its operational role in regard to initial movement and care of refugees. To date over 100,000 refugees have been received on Guam and over 55,000 have been airlifted out to Camp Pendleton (26,000), Fort Chaffee (25,000), and Eglin Air Force Base. Over 10,000 have departed those locations for new homes throughout the country.
2. You have decided to form an Advisory Committee on Refugees to complement the work of the Task Force, advise on the orientation and resettlement of refugees and enlist the support of the private sector to assist in the resettlement effort.



3. The Advisory Committee will establish lines of communication with governmental agencies, voluntary agencies, the Vietnamese-American community and the American public at large. Relating to resettlement, it will advise on health and environmental factors, inter-relationship of government and volunteer roles, and educational and cultural adjustment. It will seek to facilitate the process of obtaining private resources for resettlement efforts.
4. John Eisenhower is the Chairman of this bipartisan, 17 member committee which includes George Meany, Governor Evans (will not be present), Mayor Alioto, Mayor Ferre, Dr. Malcomb Todd, President of the American Medical Association, and Bill Kuhfuss, President of the American Farm Bureau. (Full Advisory Committee) TAB A.
5. Congressional representatives will be present at the event, TAB B. The audience will consist of 150 to 200 people representing a cross section of America - business, labor, education, voluntary organizations, veterans and military associations, church groups, etc., TAB C.
6. The Advisory Committee and Congressional representatives will await the President's arrival in the Blue Room. At noon the President will individually greet this group. They will be escorted to the stage in the East Room and stand behind the podium as the President delivers remarks and signs the Executive Order.

(NOTE: As the group departs the Blue Room, the President will move to the Green Room where he will return a flag to Mr. Edward E. Meek of St. Claire Shores, Michigan. When the clemency board was announced, Mr. Meek, in protest, sent the flag that had covered the coffin of his son, USMC Lance Corporal Charles Meek, killed-in-action November 12, 1966. Ted Marrs received a number of flags from distressed parents and wives. After much effort he has returned all but one. After the Mayaquez incident, Mr. Meek called and asked if he could come to

get his flag, as he was so proud of his country. The President will give him the flag - "We have been keeping this honored flag for you and I am honored to return it.")

B. Participants:

TAB A - The President's Advisory Committee on Refugees

TAB B - Congressional Representatives

TAB C - Invitees (to be submitted Monday morning).

C. Press Plan: Full press coverage.

III. TALKING POINTS - To be provided by Paul Theis.

Attachments

~~2/15~~

THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

Meeting, May 19, 1975

CHAIRMAN

Ambassador John Eisenhower *Trip*

Will attend

Joseph Alioto  
Mayor, San Francisco *X*

Will attend

Archbishop Joseph Bernardin  
President  
U. S. Catholic Conference *X*

Will be represented by *Trip*  
Monsignor George Higgins  
Archbishop of Cincinnati

Ashby Boyle  
National Youth Chairman *Trip*  
March of Dimes

Will attend

Dr. W. Sterling Cary  
President  
National Council of Churches

Will be represented by *Trip*  
Dr. Eugene L. Stockwell  
Associate General Secretary for  
Overseas

John Denver  
Popular Singer *Wisher*

Cannot attend  
No representative designated

Mrs. Gaetana Enders  
Wife of Assistant Secretary of State *X*

Will attend

Dan Evans  
Governor  
State of Washington

Will be represented by  
Mr. Ralph Munro and  
Mr. Thomas Pryor

Maurice Ferre  
Mayor of Miami, Florida *Trip*

Will attend

Minor George  
~~Heritage Leader~~ *Trip*

Will attend

Edgar Kaiser  
President  
Kaiser Industries

Will be represented by *Trip*  
Mr. Carl R. Pagter  
Director, Governmental Affairs

6715  
- 0530

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*von Machol*  
*Mr. Ray DuBoni*  
*Mr. Greene*

Philip Klutznick  
Past President  
B'nai Brith

Will attend

~~William J. Kuhfuss~~  
President of the American Farm Bureau

Will attend

*Trump*

George Meany  
AFL-CIO

Will attend

~~Clarke Reed~~  
~~Republican National Chairman,~~  
Mississippi

Will attend

Dr. Malcolm Todd  
President  
American Medical Association

Will attend

*Larry Burton* *Larry Burton*

~~Elder A. Theodore Tuttle~~  
Church of Jesus Christ of the  
Latter Day Saints

Will attend

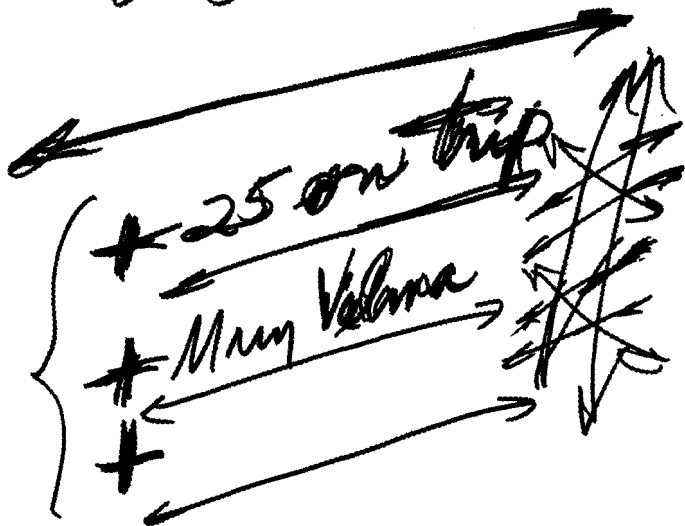
*Trump*

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

Senators -           Hiram L. Fong (Hawaii)  
                      Edward M. Kennedy (Massachusetts)  
                      John Sparkman (Alabama)

Representatives -  
                      Clair W. Burgener (California)  
                      William S. Cohen (Maine)  
                      Hamilton Fish, Jr. (New York)  
                      Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (New Jersey)

Mayor John E. ... +



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+  
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May 17, 1975



TALKING POINTS: ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES, MONDAY, MAY 19, 1975

1. Welcome to the White House. I appreciate your coming to Washington on such short notice to participate in this ceremony.

2. I have asked you to come because your involvement is important to the success of the project we are about to begin. Some of the Nation's

*first*  
~~most outstanding~~ citizens have agreed to serve as members of this new Advisory Committee on Refugees. And I am most grateful for your involvement and your help.

3. I want to recognize at this time the chairman of the committee -- John Eisenhower -- and to say a special word of thanks to him. I know John will do an outstanding job, as he always does, and want to say how deeply I appreciate his taking on this assignment.

4. I am *Extremely* pleased to see George Meany here, whose *statements* ~~eloquent plea~~

*concerning*  
~~for aid~~ to the South *east Asian* Vietnamese refugees *were* was timely and in the finest  
*Insert ①*  
And  
American tradition. /I want to add a personal word of praise for Dean Brown

Interagency  
↑  
-2-

and his associates on the ~~Interdepartmental~~ Task Force who have worked

with such diligence and skill in the initial relocation of <sup>these</sup> ~~the Vietnamese~~

refugees. The efforts of dedicated public servants like these who serve

on this task force should be applauded by all Americans. <sup>being</sup> I envision the  
Advisory Committee complementing the fine work done by the Task Force.

5. The task that lies before us now is even more demanding:

We must now bring these new arrivals into the mainstream of American

life. This is an endeavor that requires more than the government alone

can do. Accordingly, I have created this Advisory Committee, <sup>including</sup> ~~composed~~

~~of~~ outstanding men and women from the private sector, to help us.

6. Ladies and gentlemen, your mission is to open lines of

communication for these refugees within the private sector ~~to locate or~~

~~create employment opportunities; to work on the special educational~~ <sup>and to meet the unique</sup> needs

of the many thousands of children who make up the largest portion of the

refugees.



7. Your job is to give our new friends guidance in the ways of American life and to call communities to action in preparing for these new arrivals. Through your churches, unions, businesses, professions, and institutions -- and your compassion -- I know you will make these newcomers welcome in America.

8. The integration of our ~~Vietnamese~~ <sup>from Southeast Asia</sup> friends into American society poses special, but certainly not insurmountable, problems. Their cultural background is different than that of most Americans. Integration will not be easy. But it can and will be done. We should all remember that the American culture is unique only because it represents the blending of so many cultures.

9. We are a Nation of immigrants. Our heritage is rich with the contributions of many lands and many peoples. Our greatest strength is diversity. Our new countrymen will add to that strength and make their own contributions to American society.

10. There could be no more appropriate time than this year, as we begin our Bicentennial celebration, to renew our old and valued tradition of welcoming strangers to our shores and offering them the same opportunities our immigrant forebears came here to claim.

11. America is great because its people are great. I know Americans will demonstrate again the compassion and the generosity which have characterized the people of this land for two hundred years. All these new citizens want is a hand up -- not a hand out. I am sure my fellow citizens will join us in reaching out to these new arrivals in our midst.

12. We are a big country. The refugees are only a few. If there is room in the American heart for compassion -- and I know there is -- there is room enough in this great Nation for immigrants for a few more.

And I wish the members of the committee much success. And I thank you all very much for what you are about to achieve.

# # #

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Meeting, May 19, 1975

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Archbishop Joseph Bernardin President U. S. Catholic Conference	Will be represented by Monsignor George Higgins Archbishop of Cincinnati
Ashby Boyle National Youth Chairman March of Dimes	Will attend
Dr. W. Sterling Cary President National Council of Churches	Will be represented by Dr. Eugene L. Stockwell Associate General Secretary for Overseas
John Denver Popular Singer	Cannot attend No representative designated
Mrs. Gaetana Enders Wife of Assistant Secretary of State	Will attend
Dan Evans Governor State of Washington	Will be represented by Mr. Ralph Munro and Mr. Thomas Pryor
Maurice Ferre Mayor of Miami, Florida	Will attend
Minor George Republican Heritage Leader	Will attend
Edgar Kaiser President Kaiser Industries	Will be represented by Mr. Carl R. Pagter Director, Governmental Affairs



Philip Klutznick Past President B'nai Brith	Will attend
William J. Kuhfuss President of the American Farm Bureau	Will attend
George Meany AFL-CIO	Will attend
Clarke Reed Republican National Chairman, Mississippi	Will attend
Dr. Malcolm Todd President American Medical Association	Will attend
Elder A. Theodore Tuttle Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints	Will attend



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                      William S. Cohen (Maine)  
                      Hamilton Fish, Jr. (New York)  
                      Peter W. Rodino, Jr. (New Jersey)





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FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
List	List of People Attending the Reception for the President's Advisory Committee on Refuges (29 Pages)	c. 5/19/1975	C

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Theodore Marrs Papers, Box 11, Indochina Refugees - President's Advisory Committee: Announcement / TMH / 07/15/2015

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