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PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

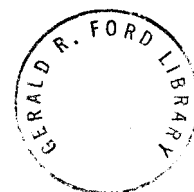
MEETING # 4

July 23, 1975, 10:00 a.m.

Room 4203 NEOB

AGENDA

- A. Introduction by Chairman Eisenhower
- B. Administrative Matters
- C. Dr. Theodore Marris, Special Assistant to the President
- D. Report by the Interagency Task Force -- Julia Taft
- E. Staff Reports
 - 1. Refugee Military Service -- J. Delaney
 - 2. Labor/Management -- J. Delaney
 - 3. Employment Opportunities -- W. Kallaur
 - 4. Red Cross Proposal -- W. Kallaur
- F. Project Friendship -- Ashby Boyle
Staff: D. Morin
- G. Report from the Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group
 - Dr. Tran Dinh De
 - Mrs. Li Thi Anh
 - Mr. Pan Sothi
 - Staff: W. Kallaur
- H. Public Relations Activities -- Roger D. Semerad
- I. Reports from Committee Members
- J. American Association of State Colleges and Universities
 - Dr. Gregory Wolfe
- K. Adjournment



*JFK
1/25/75*

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12. Memorandum for Committee Members
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THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

MINUTES OF MEETING #3

Wednesday, June 25, 1975
Room 4203, New Executive Office Building

The Committee meeting convened at 10:00 a.m., Ambassador John Eisenhower, Committee Chairman, presiding.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Ambassador John S. D. Eisenhower
Elder A. Theodore Tuttle
Governor Daniel Evans
Mr. Minor George
Mr. Clarke Reed
Mr. Ashby D. Boyle, II
Mrs. Gaetana Enders
Mr. William J. Kuhfuss
" Mr. Philip Klutznick

REFUGEE ADVISORY GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

Nguyen Quo Hoa
Pan Sothi
Nguyen Nghy Thu
Dr. Tran Dinh De

ALTERNATES

Mr. Larry Boston (for Dr. Malcolm C. Todd)
Mr. Henry Cunningham (for Edgar F. Kaiser)
Mr. John McCarthy (for Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin)
Mr. Leo Perlis (for George Meany)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Hon. Maurice A. Ferre
Mr. John Denver
Mr. George Meany
Archbishop Joseph L. Bernardin
Mr. Edgar F. Kaiser
Dr. Malcolm C. Todd
Hon. Joseph L. Alioto
Dr. W. Sterling Cary



Chairman Eisenhower gave a brief report on the status of refugee resettlement. There have been more than 41,000 refugees resettled in the United States and in third countries. He further stated that he perceived the greatest problem of resettlement to be lack of sponsors. More emphasis should be placed on group sponsorships: churches, organizations, groups of families, etc. A new function of the Committee members would be to generate national interests in sponsorship. He added that in addition to the Volags contracts with the Interagency Task Force, we should examine the possibility of expanding the contract base to include other organizations such as has already been done with the State of Washington, to participate and expedite resettlement.

The minutes of the second meeting of June 3, 1975, were examined and accepted by the Committee. Future meetings of the Committee were scheduled for July 23, August 20 and September 24.

DR. THEODORE MARRS: (Special Assistant to the President). The President has transmitted the report of the Interagency Task Force to Congress and believes that a good job has been done to date in the refugee program. He stated that the President is extremely interested in resettlement and integration of the refugees into the economy as quickly as possible. Dr. Marrs commented most favorably on the Labor/Management meeting, sponsored by the Committee, which took place in the White House the previous day, June 24th.

AMBASSADOR EISENHOWER: Stated a concern for increased publicity. He believes that very few people actually know what is expected of a sponsor. Further, a determination of the legal and moral responsibility of a sponsor should be made as quickly as possible. He also requested a clarification of the new regulations concerning Medicaid and welfare payments to the Indochina refugees.

MR. MINOR GEORGE: Mr. George expanded on Ambassador Eisenhower's statement concerning medical care and insurance. He questioned the details of guaranteed medical care.

MR. BERNARD KELLY: (Associate Director for Refugee Resettlement). Mr. Kelly stated that the issue of entitlement for welfare and medical care has been resolved by DHEW policy statements. These new regulations have been



published and distributed to all states. Essentially, the refugees are entitled to the same Medicaid coverage as United States citizens. Mr. Kelly further explained the definition of Medicaid as a program of joint Federal/ State participation to provide medical coverage for people who meet certain requirements for eligibility. The Federal Government and the state share in the cost. This means that the sponsor need not be concerned about assuming financial responsibility for the necessity of taking out medical insurance for a refugee family. The most significant aspect of the DHEW regulation is that in the case of the Indochina refugees, the Federal Government will fund 100% of the cost of Medicaid. The sponsor will not have to enter into the bill paying process for this program. All medical bills will be submitted by the health provider to the state for payment.

AMBASSADOR EISENHOWER stated that it is essential that this information receive the widest publicity.

MR. GEORGE questioned if a requirement exists for the sponsor to take out an insurance policy for the refugee family.

DR. MARRS stated that there is no requirement for a sponsor or any other individual to take out any type of insurance. Such action would be on the individual option of the refugee family just as for any other citizen.

MR. JAMES DELANEY (Committee Staff) stated that the major health organizations were examining methods to sponsor physicians, dentists, and various health professions. Of particular note was the cooperation of the American Nurses Association who have arranged sponsorship for those Vietnamese student nurses who are in this country for nurses training. If they had not been sponsored by June 30th, they would have been placed in the refugee camps, however, this problem no longer exists.

MR. ASHBY BOYLE explained the provisions of Project FRIENDSHIP. This project initiated by both Mr. Boyle and Mr. David Morin (Committee Staff) concerns itself with the involvement of youth groups across the country in assisting the assimilation of the refugees.

The Committee unanimously accepted the motion for approval of Project FRIENDSHIP and directed that Mr. Boyle and Mr. Morin immediately proceed with its implementation.

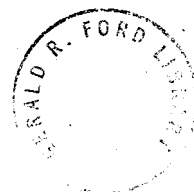


MR. PERLIS gave a summary of the Labor/Management meeting conducted at the White House on June 24th. Attending the meeting were top level executives of the major unions in the United States and management organizations. Representation is as follows:

Theodore Marrs, M.D. (Special Assistant to the President)
 Mr. Leo Perlis (AFL-CIO)
 Mr. Donald J. Kroes (Chamber of Commerce)
 Mr. Thomas P. Walsh (Chamber of Commerce)
 Major General John P. Condon (Ret.) (National Alliance of Businessmen)
 Mr. Forest I. Rettgers (National Association of Manufacturers)
 Mr. Frank E. Fitzsimmons (International Brotherhood of Teamsters)
 Mr. Walter J. Shea (International Brotherhood of Teamsters)
 " Mr. Stephen Schlossberg (United Auto Workers)
 Mr. William B. Seebeck (Grace Company)
 Mr. Roger Semerad (PACR)
 Mr. James Delaney (PACR)

MR. PERLIS further stated that the most important item discussed was finding employment for the refugee. During the 1950 and 60's, labor and business communities responded to the call for job placement for the refugees, however, unemployment was not a significant problem. The most significant accomplishment of the Labor/Management meeting was the unanimous recommendation that management and unions work jointly at the local level to make available jobs for the refugees. The Chamber of Commerce volunteers to take the lead to develop a letter which would be sent to all of their local chapters in cities which did not have high unemployment. This letter would encourage a similar meeting at the local level between both management and unions so that together they could find a manner to best assimilate the refugees. Simultaneously with the mail-out from the Chamber of Commerce, the attending organizations would also send a similar letter to their local groups.

MR. GEORGE AND MRS. GAETANA ENDERS questioned Mr. Perlis as to the availability of union membership to refugees. Mr. Perlis replied that he knew of no restrictions on refugees



and if any specific instances of membership refusal could be cited, he would investigate as quickly as possible. However, he did state that union seniority was a principle that could not be waived.

MR. WALTER KALLAUR (Committee Staff) explained a recommendation for an alternate mechanism for sponsorships. In the proposal outlined he explained the American Red Cross would serve as an additional sponsorship agency. Chapters of the American Red Cross throughout the country will act as facilitators or organizations that wish to sponsor. They will facilitate group or individual sponsor certification and suitability. Mr. Kallaur introduced Mr. Enso V. Bighinatti, National Director, Disaster Services, of the American National Red Cross, who explained that while the Red Cross could not act as a voluntary agency, it would be available to assist in other ways.

MR. MCCARTHY stated that it appeared that Volags were being criticized and said that the Volags were not only doing a good job but in many cases were using their own funds.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER assured Mr. McCarthy that there was no criticism meant in this discussion.

MR. PERLIS stated the more agency involvement the better for this would expedite the resettlement of refugees and their final assimilation.

MR. REED was most supportive of the involvement of more groups and further stated that if this were to occur, the ultimate mission of the Advisory Committee would be completed much sooner.

MRS. ENDERS agreed with Mr. Reed. She added that many Asian-American groups have offered to help the Volags in the resettlement effort. She felt that by cooperating and coordinating with these other groups, the resettlement program could be expedited.

A motion was presented and carried out by the Committee encouraging the Interagency Task Force to use the services of increased numbers of interested organizations, including the Red Cross, to expedite refugee resettlement.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER complimented the State of Washington on its accomplishments as a Volag and requested Governor Evans to brief the Committee on the State's program.



GOVERNOR EVANS stated that the program was not intended to replace the efforts of the Volags. He circulated background material on the State's efforts to all Committee members. The refugees which were under the control of the State of Washington were temporarily housed at Camp Murray. The average length of stay was six-nine days. He organized leaders of church groups and organizations to encourage sponsorship and gave wide publicity of the refugee program. He also met community organizations and service clubs of the State for their support in the placement of large families. He further stated that there was a heavy preponderance of supportive letters while there were very few adverse reactions.

MR. PERLIS recommended that the Committee draft and send a letter to all Governors informing them of the actions of the State of Washington.

The Committee passed a motion that a letter be drafted and sent to all Governors as expeditiously as possible.

AMBASSADOR EISENHOWER introduced Colonel Kennedy, U.S. Army Reserve, who heads the Joint Refugee Information Clearing Office in the Pentagon. This is an organization within the Department of Defense, represented by the four services, whose mission is to serve as a clearing house for members of the armed forces who wish to either assist or sponsor their Vietnamese friends.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER discussed the subject of increased publicity for the program. A possible public relations campaign. It was recommended, and carried by the Committee, that a series of television spot announcements encouraging sponsorship was made. These spot announcements would be made by possibly Mrs. Ford and members of the Committee, in addition to other national personalities. In making these TV spot announcements, the Committee further directed staff to determine how best to address this task and move immediately toward its accomplishments.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 12:15 for lunch.

Ambassador Eisenhower called the Committee meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.



AMBASSADOR EISENHOWER introduced Mr. Kallaur who explained briefly the first meeting of the Refugee Advisory Group. He then introduced members of the group who were to give a short presentation. Representing the members of the Refugee Advisory Group were:

Dr. Tran Dinh De
Nguyen Nghy Thu
Pan Sothi
Nguyen Qu Hoa

DR. DE addressed the Committee and explained concern over the lack of opportunity to enter the U.S. Armed Services of highly trained former servicemen of South Vietnam. He also expressed that it appeared to be far easier for groups to sponsor families than for an individual family to act as a sponsor. He believed that group sponsorship would tend to relieve the financial burden on any one person. He further expressed concern on the actual assimilation of Vietnamese medical professionals into the health industry of the United States. The Committee accepted Dr. De's report and the motion was carried that staff investigate and provide to the members of the Committee the actual policy on refugee enlistment in the U.S. Armed Forces.

MR. THU expressed concern over lack of education opportunities both continuing education and also learning English. A breakdown of communication between the Volags and the refugees in the camps was also commented upon. The concern was also expressed over the disparity between the Volags of actual financial assistance to a refugee upon leaving the camp, i.e., some Volags gave the refugee and sponsor a considerable amount of money while others provided no cash assistance to either the refugee or the sponsor.

MRS. PAN SOTHI questioned if Medicaid would pay for maternity benefits. The major concern was that even if a family is self-sufficient, their recently purchased health insurance would not cover maternity benefits in the case of the wife becoming pregnant prior to acquiring the insurance.

MR. KELLY replied even though the refugee family would be self-supporting, in the case of a large medical bill such as this, Medicaid would definitely cover the maternity costs.

The Refugee Advisory Group further reiterated their concern equal opportunity employment. The Committee



accepted the groups' report and carried the motion that all Federal agencies be notified of the equal employment opportunities and minority priorities for the refugee if they so qualified for Federal employment.

MISS HOA discussed her work at the University of Wisconsin and also felt that even though the United States military were doing a fine job in attempting to teach the Vietnamese English, more positive steps should be taken. She stated that the University of Wisconsin has offered to contact publishers regarding text books and dictionaries for the English language. She also commented that the camps contain many boy and girl scouts and they can be of great assistance in arranging for youth activities until sponsorship and resettlement occurs.

MR. KELLY stated that contracts were currently being let for the printing of a Vietnamese-English dictionary and they would be distributed as soon as possible.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER requested a report of Committee members activities.

MR. KALLAUR introduced Ernestine Friedel, President of the American Anthropological Association.

DR. FRIEDEL explained her proposal which each member had received prior to the meeting.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER thanked her for her time and stated that the proposal would be considered with others and transmitted to the Task Force.

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on July 23rd.



STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am today formally announcing the transfer of principal operational responsibility of the Interagency Task Force for the resettlement of refugees from Indochina from the Department of State to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Since I formed the Task Force in April, the resettlement of refugees has become primarily a domestic rather than foreign affairs concern. A great deal has been accomplished in evacuating, caring for, and resettling refugees from Indochina. However, much remains to be done. I ask all Americans to open their hearts to these refugees as we have to others throughout our history.

Mrs. Julia Taft, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, who has been acting as Director of the Task Force since the departure of Ambassador Dean Brown, will continue as Director. All decisions and activities regarding the domestic and international resettlement of refugees from Indochina will be coordinated by her. She will act under my direction and in close coordination with the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare and the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees. Mrs. Taft's responsibilities will continue to involve numerous governmental departments, and I am directing each of them to offer her their full cooperation and support in this important task.



Gerald R. Ford



COMPTROLLER

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

16 JUL 1975

Mr. Roger D. Semerad
Executive Director
The President's Advisory Committee
on Refugees
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Roger:

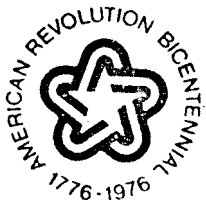
This is in response to your letter of July 7, 1975 requesting clarification of the Department of Defense policy with regard to Indochina refugees entering the Armed Forces.

I have queried our staff and produced the attached paper. I trust it will provide you the necessary information on this DoD position.

Sincerely yours,

Erich F. von Marbod
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary

Attachment
a/s





ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

16 JUL 1975

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Comptroller)

This is in reply to your 9 July memorandum requesting clarifying information concerning our policies with respect to employment and recruitment of Indochina refugees.

Federal statutes and Civil Service Commission regulations governing the recruitment and employment of aliens will not permit the Department to recruit or employ those evacuees who are admitted to the United States in a parolee status. Individuals admitted as permanent residents are eligible for enlistment in the Regular and Reserve forces and for appointment as officers in the Reserve forces. Appointment as regular officers is limited to United States citizens while appointment to most Civil Service positions is limited to United States citizens and individuals who owe permanent allegiance to the United States.

Enclosures 1 and 2 provide detailed information on the situation with respect to military recruitment and civilian employment of Cambodian and Vietnamese evacuees.



Donald W. Srull

Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Manpower Requirements and Analysis)



Enclosures - 2



Enclosure 1

Military Recruitment

The statutory provisions governing the citizenship requirements for enlistment or appointment in the armed forces are summarized in Tab A.

Guidance furnished the Military Departments (Tab B) provides that former members of the Cambodian and Vietnamese armed forces who have been trained by the American military and who meet current Service enlistment standards (including immigration status) will be given enlistment preference over other applicants who have not been previously trained by the United States Armed Forces.

Department of Labor personnel have indicated that they would not be able to certify military service opportunities as qualifying employment for issuance of permanent residence status. The Labor staff indicated that they would consider recruitment of trained personnel as a change in our normal recruitment procedure.

We believe that the citizenship requirement for enlistment should be uniform for all four Services and, therefore, do not believe any change should be made to the Navy regulations which require Navy and Marine Corps enlistees to meet the statutory requirements established for Army and Air Force Regulars and Reserve Forces of all Services.

The opportunity for evacuees to enter the Active Forces as officers is limited because current strength reductions have resulted



in involuntary separation of Regular and Reserve officers currently on active duty and reduced procurement of qualified United States citizens. (About one-third of Army's ROTC graduates in FY 1975 were assigned to the Reserve Force rather than the Active Duty Force. The FY 1976 program shows about 20% of the ROTC graduates will be assigned to the Reserve Force. Army reports that it was not able to offer active duty to all of the ROTC graduates seeking such duty.) Policy guidance permits the Services to offer Reserve commissions to those evacuees who can successfully compete on the basis of their skills and training with American citizens. However, status as a resident alien is required.

Enclosure 2

Civilian Employment

Civil Service Commission regulations govern the employment of non-citizens and, with very few exceptions, virtually preclude the employment of Indochina refugees by the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency.

Chapter 338, Federal Personnel Manual, Subchapter 1 states that, except as specified, only a United States citizen or one who owes permanent allegiance to the United States may be appointed in the competitive civil service. This citizenship requirement does not apply to 30 day special needs appointments and it may be waived by the Civil Service Commission when they approve appointments without examination in rare cases. Since almost all DoD positions are in the competitive service, this restriction virtually precludes the employment of Indo-China refugees.

There are no citizenship requirements for positions in the excepted service and Indo-China refugees can be employed in any position for which excepted appointing authority exists. One of these authorities permits the employment of non-citizens in the absence of a qualified U. S. citizen and could be used by the Department of Defense activities in those rare cases when a qualified U. S. citizen could not be found for a job. Another of their excepted authorities, which was just issued by the Civil Service Commission, permits the appointment of a non-citizen formerly employed by a U. S. Government



agency in Vietnam or Cambodia to assist in the refugee resettlement effort. This can be used to provide for employment of former non-citizen employees for a period not to exceed two years in positions providing direct services to Indo-Chinese refugees or directly aiding the resettlement program. Since the Department of Defense involvement in the resettlement program is limited, this authority will be rarely used.

Section 5342(c), Title 5, U. S. C. provides that each prevailing rate employee within any of the several states or the District of Columbia must be a United States citizen or a bona fide resident of one of the several states or the District of Columbia unless the Secretary of Labor certifies that no United States citizen or bona fide resident of one of the several states or the District of Columbia is available to fill the particular position. Since the Vietnamese refugees are not bona fide residents... according to the Civil Service Commission, they cannot be employed as prevailing rate employees unless the Secretary of Labor has certified that no U. S. citizen or bona fide resident is available. This bar on employment in prevailing rate positions applies to both appropriated fund and non-appropriated fund positions. We are encouraging the employment of former DoD Vietnamese employees in non-prevailing rate nonappropriated fund activities.

Tab A

July 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Eligibility of Vietnamese and Cambodian Refugees for Enlistment or Appointment in the Armed Forces

Eligibility for Enlistment

Regulars

Army

10 U.S.C. 3253(c)--To be eligible for an original enlistment in the Regular Army, applicant must be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

Navy and Marine Corps

No Applicable Statute--There is no statute in the Navy requiring citizenship as a condition for enlistment. Accordingly, under the law, the Navy could enlist aliens. However, the Secretary of the Navy by regulation has the same rule as the Army--i. e., applicant must either be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence--except with respect to Filipino citizens, who are admitted under an existing treaty obligation.

Air Force

10 U.S.C. 8253--To be eligible for original enlistment in the Regular Air Force, applicant must be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

Conclusion: To be eligible for enlistment in the Regular components, except for the Navy and Marine Corps, applicant must either be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.



Reserves

10 U. S. C. 510--Governs all Services with regard to eligibility for original enlistment in the Reserves. It provides that, in order to be eligible to enlist as a Reserve of any Service, applicant must either be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

Eligibility for Appointment As An OfficerRegularsArmy

10 U. S. C. 3285--To be eligible for original appointment in the Regular Army, except in the Medical or Dental Corps, applicant must be a citizen.

10 U. S. C. 3294--To be eligible for original appointment in the Regular Army in the Medical and Dental Corps, applicant must be a citizen.

Navy and Marine Corps

10 U. S. C. 5571--To be eligible for original appointment in the Regular Navy or Marine Corps, including the Medical and Dental Corps, applicant must be a citizen.

Air Force

10 U. S. C. 8285--To be eligible for original appointment in the Regular Air Force, except medical or dental officers, applicant must be a citizen.

10 U. S. C. 8294--To be eligible for original appointment in the Regular Air Force as a medical or dental officer, applicant must be a citizen.

Reserves--All Services

10 U. S. C. 591--To be eligible for original appointment as a Reserve officer of any Service, applicant must be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.



Medical and Dental Officers--Selective Service Act

Section 5(a)(1) of the Military Selective Service Act, as amended (50 U.S. C. App. 455(a)(1)) - When the draft was in effect, this provision permitted alien physicians and dentists to be drafted into, or voluntarily be commissioned in, the armed forces. However, this provision lost its legal effect along with the authority to induct on July 1, 1973, and no longer provides authority for aliens to become doctors in the armed forces (see attached memo dated August 21, 1973).

Conclusion: In order to be eligible for original appointment in a Regular component of any Service, the applicant must be a citizen. In order to be eligible for appointment as a Reserve officer in any Service, applicant must either be a citizen or lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

Carole L. Frings
Office, Assistant General Counsel
(Manpower, Health & Public Affairs)

Enclosure

General Counsel

Subject File - Military Personnel - Enlisted

CLFrings/bw/3E 977/53657

Chron

J. Nelson

August 21, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR Colonel Billy F. Simmons, OASD (R&E)

SUBJECT: Commissioning of Alien Medical and Dental Officers

This is in response to your request as to whether section 5 of the Military Selective Service Act authorized the commissioning of alien physicians and dentists after July 1, 1973. The answer is no. However, 10 U.S.C. 591 does authorize the commissioning of alien physicians and dentists as Reserve officers, providing they have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.

Section 5 of the Military Selective Service Act did not expire on July 1, 1973; only the authority to induct, under section 17(c) of the Act, expired on that date. However, the provision in section 5 allowing the commissioning of alien physicians and dentists applies only to persons who are "liable for induction under section 4 of this title." Since there is no longer any authority to induct persons under the Act (except for those previously deferred under the Act), there are no longer any new people "liable for induction." A person subject to the Act is liable after July 1, 1973, only for registering, taking his physical, and being classified (unless he was previously deferred).

Accordingly, with regard to Regular commissioned officers, there is no longer authority in the Military Selective Service Act or elsewhere to commission alien medical and dental officers as Regulars. In the absence of that provision, the permanent statutes in title 10 governing the qualifications for medical and dental officers in the Regular components become applicable. Those provisions require, with respect to Regular commissioned officers in all of the military departments, that the applicant be a citizen of the United States (10 U.S.C. 3294, 5571, and 6294).

However, there is still authority in title 10 to commission alien physicians and dentists as Reserve officers. 10 U.S.C. 591 provides



that an applicant for a Reserve commission must either be a citizen of the United States or else have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence under chapter 12 of title 8. Alien physicians and dentists in the latter category are therefore eligible for Reserve commissions.

Carole L. Frings
Office, Assistant General Counsel
(Manpower, Reserve Affairs,
Health & Environment)

cc: General Counsel
Subject: H&M (AGC 2106)
✓ L. Frings / 3E977 / 53657 / is
Chron
Reading



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

20 JUN 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR Assistant Secretaries of the Military Departments
(Manpower and Reserve Affairs)

SUBJECT: Service of Cambodian and Vietnamese Volunteers in the
United States Armed Forces

This memorandum establishes the policies to be followed in recruiting
Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees into the Military Services.

Enlistment eligibility is limited to U. S. citizens and aliens admitted
for permanent residency. Evacuees must obtain permanent residency
status either as refugees or through prescribed immigration procedures.

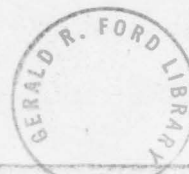
The Services are authorized to screen those evacuees who have been
previously trained by our Armed Forces as well as those in training
in the United States when their governments fell. Those militarily
qualified (mental, physical, and moral standards as well as security)
and also qualified as resident aliens will be given enlistment preference
over non-prior service United States citizen applicants. All other evacuees
without prior U. S. military training who attain permanent residency status
will compete with resident United States applicants for enlistment.

Those applying for Reserve Commission must lawfully qualify for perma-
nent residency and have a skill or ability which enables them to compete
successfully against U. S. citizen applicants. Regular officer applicants
must be American citizens.

William K. Brehm

William K. Brehm

Enclosure



6/9 c

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON THE RECRUITMENT OF CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE VOLUNTEERS

Status of Evacuees

It is anticipated that the vast majority of Cambodian and Vietnamese evacuees will be admitted to the United States on "parole." Aliens who enter the United States on "parole" are not eligible for enlistment until such time as their status is changed to that of permanent residents.

Aliens seeking permanent residence status who are not eligible for such status as refugees or on the basis of family relationship must, among other things, have a job offer that is certified by the Department of Labor as acceptable and not unfairly depriving employment to a qualified American citizen. Staff at the Department of Labor indicate that military service does not qualify for certification. Therefore, it would not be appropriate to cite the Military Services as the prospective employer in any petition action for permanent residence status.

Eligibility

Evacuees lawfully admitted for permanent residence (possess an Immigration and Naturalization Service Form I-151 or other documentary evidence issued by the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service) are eligible for enlistment in all four Military Services and for commissioning in the Reserve Components. The authority to commission non-resident aliens as temporary officers in time of war or national emergency will not be utilized.

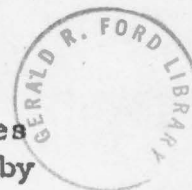
Cambodian and South Vietnamese applicants for enlistment must meet current Service physical, mental and moral standards and have an ability to understand and speak English to the same extent required of other enlistees whose native tongue is other than English (i. e., Puerto Ricans, etc.).

Security

Volunteers for enlistment will be screened through a background investigation using the Immigration and Naturalization Service files, supplemented, where necessary, by other sources.

Implementation

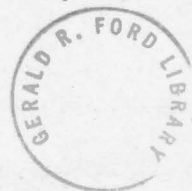
Former members of the Cambodian and South Vietnamese armed forces currently in a training status, as well as evacuees previously trained by



our Services, who are qualified in all respects - including their admission for permanent residency - will be given priority for enlistment in the occupation for which they have been trained. This will permit each Service to acquire trained individuals at minimum cost. Determination of the enlistment qualifications of these individuals may be accomplished prior to their admission as permanent residents. However, the individuals should be informed that this action will in no way affect their application for admission as permanent residents. All other evacuees applying for enlistment will be processed in the same manner as other enlistment applicants. However, they cannot be considered for enlistment until they have been admitted to the United States as permanent residents.

Reports

Each Service should be prepared on request to report the number of evacuees who: (1) apply for enlistment; (2) are examined; (3) fail to meet (a) physical, (b) mental, and (c) moral standards; (4) qualify; (5) enlisted; and (6) whose enlistment is pending resolution of immigration status. Separate counts should be maintained for individuals who have had prior training with American forces and those who have not had such training.



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DR. RICHARD L. LESHER
PRESIDENT

July 22, 1975

1615 H STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20062
202/659-6207

X
X
X
X
X



Dear Mr. _____:

I am sure you will agree that success in finding employment for Vietnamese refugees depends on the support of the business community. This letter is to ask your leadership in working with your members and other organizations to help these refugees find their way in our society and economy.

Specifically, I would like to ask you to get in touch with local government officials, labor union leaders, and other business leaders to consider organizing an informal labor-management-government committee as a means of developing a cooperative approach to this problem now affecting many communities.

I make this request following a White House meeting sponsored by The President's Advisory Committee on Refugees. The meeting consisted of spokesmen for the National Association of Manufacturers, National Alliance of Businessmen, AFL-CIO, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, United Auto Workers, and the United Mine Workers. These organizations are urging their local leaders to cooperate with you in such an effort, if at all possible.

We are aware that many Americans cannot find suitable employment. The refugees will be seeking, for the main part, entry-level jobs or other positions which often go unfilled, or have high turnover rates. These positions are, therefore, frequently available, even in areas of rather high unemployment.

It may be helpful to understand the size of this task on a national basis. There were originally 131,000 persons to be resettled. Some are professional people, such as doctors and nurses, who are in demand and need no special help. About 5,000 will return to Vietnam. Some are expected to enlist in the U. S. military service. And over 60

percent of the refugees are women and children. This breakdown means, according to the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, that only about 35,000 persons must have help in finding employment. This works out to about 10 jobs for each county though, of course, some counties will receive more families than others. Even so, it is expected that finding jobs will be a major problem primarily in areas of severe unemployment, and efforts are being made to locate families in more favorable areas.

I am enclosing material provided by President Ford's Inter-Agency Refugee Task Force, and hope that you will make this information available to your business leaders and leaders of other organizations. You will notice on pages 1 and 2 a list of the national voluntary agencies participating in this effort. These agencies are assuming primary responsibility for locating American families that will house Vietnamese families for the first few months. For additional information, you may want to call any of these national organizations, or their state or local chapter, or the toll-free number listed. You may also want to call your governor's office to learn which state government department is working with the voluntary agencies.

A question often asked is the status of Vietnamese with respect to affirmative action and other EEOC requirements. The Department of Labor has officially declared the Vietnamese as Oriental and, therefore, their employment may be in furtherance of an affirmative action program.

The AFL-CIO has asked its local councils to try to find employment for the refugees, but arrangements will have to be worked out on an individual basis by labor and management representatives. This can be one task of a labor-management-government committee.

Please let me know if there is more we can do to assist you from here. I will be interested in learning of your successes and problems.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Leshner

Enclosure



July 22, 1975

Dear Sir and Brother:

Here is a copy of a letter from the U. S. Chamber of Commerce to their local organizations.

This letter was sent to communities with an unemployment rate of 9 percent and less.

At a recent meeting in the White House of labor and management representatives, the Chamber was asked to initiate this move, nationally and locally.

The reason is that the heart of the Vietnamese refugee resettlement program is jobs - and jobs are the responsibility of management.

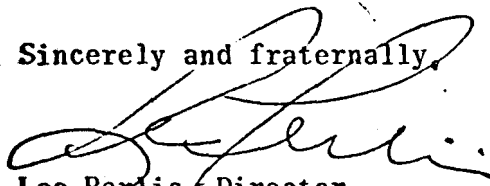
We can help, of course. We hope, therefore, that you will participate in developing a community coalition to find jobs for the refugees. Lists of available jobs and skills will be matched so that resettlement efforts can be expedited.

You will be invited by the Chamber to attend a meeting for this purpose - and we hope that you and your representatives will attend.

I am asking our John McManus to follow through.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely and fraternally,



Leo Perlis, Director
Department of Community Services

LP:ma

Attachment



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

July 15, 1975

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

AMBASSADOR JOHN EISENHOWER
CHAIRMAN

MAYOR JOSEPH ALIOTO
ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH BERNARDIN

MR. ASHBY BOYLE

DR. W. STERLING CARY

MR. JOHN DENVER

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GOVERNOR DANIEL EVANS

MAYOR MAURICE FERRE

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MR. PHILIP KLUTZNICK

MR. WILLIAM J. KUHFUSS

MR. GEORGE MEANY

MR. CLARKE REED

DR. MALCOLM TODD

ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

RECENT STATEMENTS ON REFUGEES

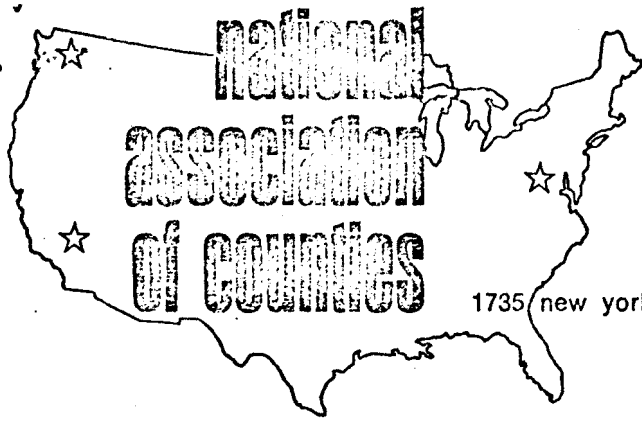
National Association of Counties

The National Association of Counties has adopted a resolution on refugee sponsorship, effective June 25, 1975. The Association recommends that counties participate in sponsorship efforts on a voluntary basis by working through their local community organizations. In addition to this recommendation, NACo. also suggests strongly that the counties be actively involved in any federal decisions on local costs and reimbursement.

Policy Statement on Lao Refugees-- from State Dept.

There is no blanket authorization for Lao refugees, as with Vietnamese and Cambodians. The procedure is that those Lao seeking to reside in the US are being asked to first obtain some kind of international assistance. If these attempts fail they may be welcome in the US. This policy is in accordance with that followed around the world in regard to people seeking asylum in the United States.





1735 new york avenue, n.w., washington, d.c. 20006

(202) 785-9577

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

RESOLUTION

ADOPTED BY

NACo MEMBERSHIP

June 25, 1975
Honolulu, Hawaii

The recent evacuation of large numbers of refugees from Indochina and their resettlement in the United States should be completed as rapidly as possible to minimize the disruption of their lives. County governments can assist in this effort by acting as sponsoring agencies for coordinating the placement of refugees through local voluntary community organizations.

Similarly, since county governments must bear a large share of the direct and indirect costs of refugee resettlement, they must be actively involved in any federal decisions respecting reimbursement.

Accordingly, the Health Steering Committee urges NACo to:

- (1) recommend that counties, on a voluntary basis, participate in the sponsorship of Indochina refugees, working through their local community organizations for their placement.
- (2) request that the federal government seek meaningful input from county officials, acting through NACo, into federal decisions on the determination of local costs and the method of reimbursement by the federal government for these costs.





DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

NSC # 7504233

June 24, 1975

Mr. William W. Sage
USAID/LAOS
APO 96352 San Francisco

Dear Mr. Sage:

Your letter of June 5 requesting information about Lao refugees has been sent to this office for a reply. You are correct in stating that there is no blanket authorization to accept Lao refugees as there is for Cambodians and Vietnamese. This is because the laws passed by Congress specifically mention only Cambodian and Vietnamese, not Lao, refugees.

At the present time, Lao seeking asylum in the United States are not being rejected; they are being advised first to try to obtain asylum in the countries in which they are living or to obtain assistance from international organizations, such as the United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees, to resettle in third countries. If they are unsuccessful in these efforts, they may then seek asylum in the U.S. This is essentially the same procedure which has been applied to Cambodians and Vietnamese who left their countries by their own means or who were living in third countries at the time of the fall of the governments in Phnom Penh and Saigon. This procedure is in accordance with the policy followed previously around the world in the case of persons seeking asylum in the U.S. and, in the case of the Cambodians and Vietnamese living abroad, was adhered to in accordance with the expressed views of Congress.

We anticipate, however, that like many of the Cambodians and Vietnamese around the world, many of the Lao who have sought asylum in the U.S. will eventually be admitted, if they are unable to obtain asylum in the countries in which they are living or to get assistance from international organizations to resettle in third countries.

I hope this information will be helpful to you and that you will not hesitate to write if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

James D. Rosenthal
Director for Laos
and Cambodia



JUL 7 1975

Dear Mr. Hampton:

This letter is to request information on an issue concerning the settlement of the refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia.

At a meeting of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, it was reported that individuals admitted in the United States as "parolees" are excluded from employment in a number of industries, may not receive certain licenses or certifications and are otherwise prohibited from certain career fields.

If this is true then the bars to employment would appear to pose an obstacle to the successful integration of the refugees into American society.

In order for this question to be discussed and evaluated by the Committee, it is essential that additional information be made available concerning this question. For example: How widespread is this practice? Which industries, occupational groups, professional groups, or labor organizations are directly affected or involved? What is the legal basis for this practice?

Accordingly, I am requesting that you explore this question and advise me of your findings. If you determine that this is a widespread practice, I request that you also advise of your recommendations, including any steps that can be taken to correct or mitigate this practice. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for July 23rd and I would be very grateful if you could furnish this information in time for that meeting.



In view of the brief period available, this information could be in the form of a progress report, preliminary findings, or even an oral presentation to the Advisory Committee. I have asked Mr. Walter Kallaur of the Advisory Committee staff to work with your agency in this matter.

Your assistance and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

John S. D. Eisenhower
Chairman
President's Advisory Committee
on Refugees

Honorable Robert E. Hampton
Chairman
Civil Service Commission
1900 E Street
Washington, D. C. 20415





UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415

JUL 22 1975

YOUR REFERENCE

Honorable John S. D. Eisenhower
Chairman, President's Advisory Committee
on Refugees
Washington, D.C. 20506

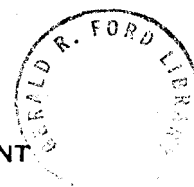
Dear Mr. Chairman:

This will confirm information provided to Mr. Kallaur by Mr. O'Connor of my staff, in response to your July 7 letter seeking information about employment obstacles which Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees in the United States may encounter.

The Commission can only speak to employment requirements within the Federal civil service. The Departments of Commerce and Labor would be in the best position to provide a general picture of employment requirements in private business and industry. Within the Federal service, the head of each agency has general authority to select and appoint his employees, subject to various statutes and regulations. When an agency appointing official wishes to employ a national of Cambodia or Vietnam, or any other noncitizen, there are two special requirements he must consider which do not apply to United States citizens--a general appropriation act pay restriction and a Civil Service Commission regulation.

The general appropriation act restriction, reenacted annually since the late 1930's, prohibits Federal agencies from using appropriated funds to pay the salaries of noncitizen employees if their post of duty is in the continental United States. Certain exceptions are provided to agencies in the appropriation act, for instance, nationals of countries allied with the United States in the current defense effort, translators for temporary periods, and emergency appointments not exceeding 60 days in the field service. Further, provisions in specific statutes directly grant certain agencies full or partial exemptions from the general appropriation act pay restriction. Exemptions include all positions in the Department of Defense, and expert, scientific, technical, or professional positions in the Energy Research and Development Administration. Each agency head is responsible for complying with the appropriation act restriction and related exceptions.

THE MERIT SYSTEM—A GOOD INVESTMENT IN GOOD GOVERNMENT



The other requirement a Federal official must consider before employing a noncitizen is the Civil Service Commission's longstanding regulation which prohibits noncitizens from admission to competitive examinations and, except in emergencies or other special circumstances, from appointment to jobs in the competitive civil service. The Commission is responsible for regulating employment in the competitive service, which comprises over 60 percent of the jobs in the total Federal civil service. The remainder, called the excepted service, is not subject to the Commission's employment regulations. Our regulations, including the one on citizenship, do not apply to the Postal Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, or other agencies excepted by or under statute from the competitive service. Agencies with positions in the excepted service determine their own appointing policies subject, of course, to appropriation act pay restrictions. The Postal Service, for example, has decided to permit its post offices to hire aliens in the absence of qualified citizens.

Under our regulations, employment of noncitizens is possible if no qualified citizens are available. Hiring an alien under this authority temporarily removes the position in which he is placed from the competitive to the excepted service during his occupancy. Under our regulations, we also can administratively except appointments from the usual competitive examining requirements when it is not practical to hold competitive examinations for certain types of employment.

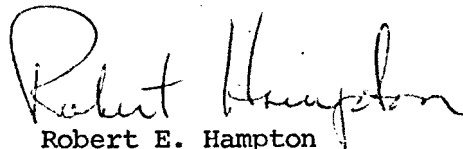
After considering the needs of Federal agencies responsible for directly assisting the Indochina refugee program, we have authorized an exemption from competitive examination to permit those agencies to appoint for up to 2 years noncitizens previously employed by Federal agencies in Vietnam or Cambodia for work directly assisting the refugee program. In addition, we are exploring with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare that agency's proposal to hire up to 25 Vietnamese physicians in the absence of qualified citizens.

With one possible exception, I do not anticipate any further change in the near future in the Commission's policy on employment of aliens in the Federal competitive service. There is a case, Hampton v. Wong, which the Supreme Court plans to hear in the fall, concerning the constitutionality of our citizenship regulation for the competitive service. An unfavorable decision could significantly affect our policy. However, the general appropriation act restriction would remain since it is not at issue in the case.



The circumstances in which aliens can be employed in the Federal civil service are restricted by law and by regulation, but such employment is permitted under specific conditions. I hope the answers provided here will be sufficient to satisfy the Committee's need for information from the Commission for your July 23 meeting.

Sincerely yours,



Robert E. Hampton
Chairman



July 14, 1975

Dear Bill,

This letter is to request information on an issue concerning the settlement of the refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia.

At a meeting of The President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, it was reported that individuals admitted in the United States as "parolees" are excluded from employment in a number of industries, may not receive certain licenses or certifications and are otherwise prohibited from certain career fields.

If this is true then the bars to employment would appear to pose an obstacle to the successful integration of the refugees into American society.

In order for this question to be discussed and evaluated by the Committee, it is essential that additional information be made available concerning this question. For example: How widespread is this practice? Which industries, occupational groups, professional groups, or labor organizations are directly affected or involved? What is the legal basis for this practice?

Accordingly, could you explore these questions and advise me of your findings? If you determine that this is a widespread practice, your recommendations, including any steps that can be taken to correct or mitigate this practice, would be appreciated. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for July 23rd and I would be very grateful if you could furnish this information in time for that meeting.



2

In view of the brief period available, perhaps this information could be in the form of a progress report, preliminary findings, or even an oral presentation to the Advisory Committee. I have asked Mr. Walter Kallaur of my staff to work with your people in this matter.

Your assistance and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

Roger D. Semerad

Mr. William H. Kolberg
Assistant Secretary for Manpower
Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20210



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

AMBASSADOR JOHN EISENHOWER
CHAIRMAN

MAYOR JOSEPH ALIOTO

ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH BERNARDIN

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DR. MALCOLM TODD

ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

July 8, 1975

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JULIA V. TAFT

FROM:

ROGER D. SEMERAD *RDS*

SUBJECT:

TASK FORCE REPORTS ON REFUGEE
STATUS

In the daily report on refugee status of July 7, 1975, it was indicated that 44,062 refugees have been released into the U.S. It would be very helpful to the Committee to know what categories are included in this number. Specifically, how many refugees have been sponsored out of camps through volunteer agencies; how many have been sponsored out of camps through state and local governments; how many refugees were of independent means and released without sponsors; how many were American citizens or dependents of American citizens; and any other significant groups that I may have omitted.

I am concerned over this issue since it seems that the daily release rates over the opening period include the bulk of the easy cases and projections based on these early figures could be very misleading.

Additionally, I note in the UPI story carried in the Post on July 8, 1975, that you expect the Chaffee Camp to be open throughout the winter. I would be grateful if you would explain this apparent change in policy since in your letter to Representative Eilberg you indicated that "resettlement will be finished by Thanksgiving." Several members of the Advisory Committee have expressed concern over these new projections. Your prompt response will be appreciated.

cc: Dr. Marrs



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

AMBASSADOR JOHN EISENHOWER
CHAIRMAN

MAYOR JOSEPH ALIOTO
ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH BERNARDIN
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DR. W. STERLING CARY
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MR. EDGAR KAISER
MR. PHILIP KLUTZNICK
MR. WILLIAM J. KUHFUSS
MR. GEORGE MEANY
MR. CLARKE REED
DR. MALCOLM TODD
ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

Dear Julia:

At the June 25th meeting of the Advisory Committee, the question of sponsorship was discussed at length. The utilization of state and local governments in a sponsorship role offers should help but may not be sufficient to meet the sponsorship requirements.

The consensus of the Committee is that alternatives to the current sponsorship system must be developed to permit greater utilization of sponsorship initiations by local organizations, service clubs, and other bona fide groups. The recommendation of the staff that the Red Cross as an additional sponsor identifying agency was endorsed by the Committee (memorandum attached).

Before reporting to President Ford on the meeting of the Committee and the recommendations developed, I would appreciate your views on this subject.

Sincerely,

John S. D. Eisenhower
Chairman
President's Advisory
Committee on Refugees

Mrs. Julia Taft
Interagency Task Force
Room 7516
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Attachments

cc: Dr. Ted Marrs



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

CHAIRMAN EISENHOWER
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FROM:

ROGER D. SEMERAD *RS*

SUBJECT:

AN APPROACH AT EXPANDING
SPONSORSHIP

Proposal

That the Task Force authorize direct sponsorship by individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations by utilizing the American Red Cross to verify or screen sponsorship offers.

Explanations

This approach envisions the utilization of the American Red Cross to perform verification of sponsorship offers. This could be accomplished without disruption of the current operation of the Volunteer Agencies.

This approach would acknowledge that some individuals who wish to sponsor a family cannot in all cases accomplish the sponsorship alone. However, if an individual wanted to participate as a sponsor he or she would be encouraged to

(1) organize a group of friends or business associates in order to collectively offer sponsorship, or,

(2) make his or her individual or specialized offer known to the Red Cross chapter so that the Red Cross could attempt to assemble the necessary parts of a sponsorship package.

In the case of sponsorship offer from an individual or a group, the Red Cross would verify:

1. The good character and reputation of the sponsor(s).
2. That the sponsor(s) is aware of the implications and requirements of sponsorship.



If the local Red Cross chapter is satisfied that the individual or group is capable of a successful sponsorship effort, it would notify the Interagency Task Force of the valid sponsorship offer including:

1. Size of family that could be sponsored.
2. Characteristics of family.
3. Employment (a specific offer--or employment opportunities in the community).
4. Other information as required by the Task Force.

This information could be made available to the Camp Civil Coordinators in order for the match to be made. Once the match is made notification could be made through the Red Cross.

In case of incomplete or partial offers, the local Red Cross chapter could collect offers of assistance until a complete sponsorship offer could be developed. Then the offer would be processed as outlined earlier.

This procedure has the strength of developing and utilizing comprehensive sponsorship offers at the local level.

Role of the Advisory Committee

The Committee may take a lead role in explaining the need for additional sponsors by:

1. Emphasizing that the designated volunteer agencies need the additional support and,
2. Offering the alternative approach through the Red Cross.

This approach has been discussed and tentatively approved by the Red Cross.



PROJECT FRIENDSHIP: be a friend

Fact Sheet

1. THE NEED

140,000 Southeast Asian refugees who have lost their homeland have come to the United States to escape from the tragic takeover of their own land. All of them have left friends behind. All of them now face a new world, a new way of life. In order to make the transition into America's way of life, they too need to feel a sense of belonging. Only by having a friend can they feel this sense of belonging. And the best way they can have a friend is if we extend ourselves to be a friend.

2. THE TARGET

President Ford has stated: "Sixty-five percent of those who are coming are young people...they deserve the warmth and the friendship which are typical of America." Project FRIENDSHIP is looking to the youth of America to be aware of the sixty-five percent of the refugees who are also in their youth. One young person can reach another better than anyone else. It is, therefore, up to the young people of America to reach out to the young refugees in their own way of warmth and friendship.

3. THE MECHANISM

The United States has some forty national youth organizations all of which have individual state and local chapters and have a total membership in excess of 2.5 million. These youth groups are the mechanisms with which Project FRIENDSHIP has to work. By contacting the national leaders of these groups, and they in turn by contacting their own state and local chapters, a massive nationwide awareness effort can be accomplished. The responsibility then rests on the young people of America to make Project FRIENDSHIP successful in their own communities.

4. THE IDEA

The hope is that each youth group will formulate programs, on a group or individual basis, aimed at creating a bond of friendship between America's youth and these new young refugees. The refugees need friends to acquaint them with America's culture, customs, and language. The youth groups of America, by extending their hospitality and memberships, can give the refugees the helping hand they need in making a smooth transition into America.



5. THE GOAL

Everyone can attain the goal of Project FRIENDSHIP: to be a friend. The President's Advisory Committee on Refugees has initiated Project FRIENDSHIP to help the resettlement of the Southeast Asian refugees. Project FRIENDSHIP asks the young people of America as well as all Americans to help make the lives of these new neighbors a lot easier simply by extending a hand. How to be the best kind of a friend is something each of us must decide.



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

July 18, 1975

AMBASSADOR JOHN EISENHOWER
CHAIRMAN

MAYOR JOSEPH ALIOTO
ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH BERNARDIN

MR. ASHBY BOYLE
DR. W. STERLING CARY

MR. JOHN DENVER
MRS. GAETANA ENDERS
GOVERNOR DANIEL EVANS

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MR. GEORGE MEANY
MR. CLARKE REED

DR. MALCOLM TODD
ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

Dear

I would like to take this occasion to introduce you to "Project FRIENDSHIP," which focuses on the role of American youth in the Southeast Asian refugee resettlement program.

Project FRIENDSHIP is a cooperative national project of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees and various American youth organizations. It is a channel through which the young people of America can help in our efforts to assist in the general well-being of young Vietnamese/Cambodian refugees as they leave the resettlement centers to join their new American communities.

By extending hospitality and encouraging group acceptance, youth groups, such as yours, can give the newly settled young Southeast Asians a sense of belonging. You can also provide a circle of friends and acquaintances these youths will need for navigating their way into the culture of young America.

On the occasion of signing the Executive Order establishing the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, President Ford stated: "Sixty-five percent of those who are coming are young people... they deserve the warmth and the friendship which are typical of America."

Project FRIENDSHIP has been recommended as a possible activity for secondary school youth by the President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, Allan D. Walker, and the Director of Student Activities of the National Association of Student Councils, Terry Giroux.



Project FRIENDSHIP is a twofold program; to make the youth of America aware of the refugees' needs to have friends to introduce them to our culture and customs, and to teach them our language; and to assist the national youth organizations across the country in how to develop friendship drives as well as other assimilation programs. Some possible activities by your organization in various communities might include an article on Project FRIENDSHIP in your monthly publications, extending membership to these young people, special language and other educational tutoring programs, and communications to your state and local chapters on the need to reach out to the refugees.

To get Project FRIENDSHIP launched, we need to have your help as well. Presidential Committee Member, Ashby Boyle, and staff member, David Morin, are developing this project and are interested in learning of your support.

More information on Project FRIENDSHIP will be forwarded to you in the near future. We look forward to hearing of your organization's interest in participating in this effort.

Sincerely,

Roger D. Semerad



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

July 22, 1974

AMBASSADOR JOHN EISENHOWER
CHAIRMAN

MAYOR JOSEPH ALIOTO

ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH BERNARDIN

MR. ASHBY BOYLE

DR. W. STERLING CARY

MR. JOHN DENVER

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MR. CLARKE REED

DR. MALCOLM TODD

ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

MEMORANDUM FOR:

CHAIRMAN JOHN EISENHOWER
MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

FROM:

ROGER D. SEMERAD *RDS*

SUBJECT:

REPORT OF THE CAMBODIAN/
VIETNAMESE ADVISORY GROUP
MEETING, JULY 17, 1975

The second meeting of the Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group focused on the problems of the refugees after departure from camp. Cultural adjustment, social problems, employment problems and eligibility for various Federal assistance programs were discussed. Representatives of various Federal Agencies explained and discussed the scope and eligibility of those governmental programs pertinent to the resettlement effort.

I. PROBLEMS OF TRANSITION FROM CAMP LIFE

The Vietnamese and Cambodian Advisory Group identified the lack of information dealing with what the refugees may expect to encounter upon release from a camp as a particularly significant problem. The Advisory Group contended that refugees are particularly vulnerable to rumors and misinformation since no authoritative source of information has been identified for the refugees. Additionally, problems of information are of greater significance for those refugees who are not resettled in areas containing concentrations of refugees.

A The Vietnamese and Cambodian Advisory Committee recommended that a partial solution to the problems of isolation, misinformation, and cultural adjustment could be made if the



following three courses of action were endorsed by the Government:

1. Vietnamese and Cambodian Telephone Information Hot Line. The Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group recommended that a toll-free telephone information number be established with Vietnamese and Cambodian operators available to provide general information concerning Government programs, other types of assistance, and contact with the voluntary agencies. If such a telephone number were available then any refugee who was stranded or found themselves in some manner of trouble would have an immediate resource to contact in order to find out what should be done, and possibly preclude these categories of problems or abuses which arise from linguistic difficulties.
2. Visits to the Camps. The Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group recommended that the Federal Government both encourage and take an active role in sponsoring visits to the camps by refugees who have been resettled. The fears and apprehensions of those refugees still in camp may be lessened by contact with others who have gone through the resettlement system, have been well treated, have found employment, and have otherwise become established.
3. Cultural Centers. The Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group recommended that the Federal Government encourage the establishment of cultural and information centers in areas with significant concentrations of refugees. (These centers could serve as a focal point for the exchange of ideas and information.) It is believed that contact with other refugees should be encouraged to minimize the social and cultural isolation common to any abrupt change in life.



B. At the conclusion of the session, the Vietnamese and Cambodian Advisory Group selected three representatives to represent the Advisory Group at this meeting of the President's Advisory Committee. The individuals selected were: Dr. Tran Dinh De, Miss Le Thi Ahn, and Mrs. Pan Sothi.

II. FEDERAL AGENCY PARTICIPATION.

Representatives of eleven Federal Agencies or Administrations made presentations to the Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group concerning the assistance programs available to resident aliens and parolees. The Advisory Group was particularly interested in a number of the programs and indicated that the presentations of the Federal Agency representatives were very helpful in understanding what forms of assistance could be available to the refugees. The fact-sheets and other documents provided by the Federal Agencies were made available to the editors of several of the Vietnamese and Cambodian periodicals, to be translated and distributed within the refugee community. Additionally, arrangements have been made to provide the Inter-agency Task Force with the same documents and materials so that an abstract of the various Federal Agency programs may be prepared for distribution within the camps.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

A. That the Committee endorse the continuation of the Vietnamese/Cambodian Advisory Group and authorize such staff support as required.

B. That the Committee authorize the payment of travel and other expenses for Vietnamese and Cambodian nationals engaged in public information activities or other appropriate activities, as directed by the Committee.



THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20506

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DR. MALCOLM TODD

ELDER A. THEODORE TUTTLE

July 16, 1975

MR. ROGER D. SEMERAD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
(202) 456-7034

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM:

ROGER D. SEMERAD

SUBJECT:

EVENTS LEADING TO CESSATION OF
THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON REFUGEES PUBLIC RELATIONS/TV
PROJECT BY INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE

June 10

Delaney contacted The Advertising Council (TAC) on a national TV support campaign on sponsorship.

June 11

TAC submitted material and proposal to Delaney. Campaign would not be ready until mid-September (most optimistic).

June 25

Motion made and carried by The President's Advisory Committee on Refugees to implement TV media spot.

June 26

Request made to the Interagency Task Force for TV spot funding (Semerad to Ford) - no reply. Proposals from Airlie House/ESC/Tampene (unsolicited) received.

June 27

Request from Semerad to R. DuBois, IATF (DOD) for TV spot funding - no reply.

June 30

- (a) PACR staff locate year-end funds at SRS, DHEW.
- (b) Educational Systems Corp (ESC) selected as contractor.
- (c) ASE, DHEW agree to let contract.



- (d) All approvals secured and firm fixed price contract negotiated for \$225,000.
- (e) Year-end funds changed from S&E to Special Refugee Appropriation.

July 1

DHEW (Wortman) - Project now requires clearance by Mrs. Taft. No problems expected.

July 2

Wortman to Semerad and Delaney. Mrs. Taft still had not cleared contract.

July 3

(a) (Noon) J. Taft and Semerad agree on TV spot contract. Mrs. Taft will "sign off on contract on recommendation of PACR." PACR staff will assume contract responsibility; however, program development and contract will be closely coordinated with the IATF.

(b) (6:00 p.m.) Delaney met with J. Taft and Gordon King (ESC) on the clearance of the contract. J. Taft requested a detailed budget and a demonstration of previous ESC filming accomplishments. J. Taft expressed concern over coordination with the IATF. Delaney assured her that this would be done.

July 7

J. Taft informed Semerad that IATF has second thoughts on contract and requires detailed budget and demonstration of ESC capabilities.

July 10

IATF meeting with J. Taft, F. Weisner, E. Green, J. Brady, Semerad and Delaney at State Department. TV spots pushing sponsorship is premature per J. Taft. IATF must develop a comprehensive public affairs plan prior to any P.A. campaign.



Many Refugees Are Reluctant to Leave the Security of 4 Camps and Get Resettled



The New York Times

Nguyen Luan, an interpreter, pointing out a location on a poster at Camp Pendleton, Calif., to a refugee family. The billboard gives information on Colombia for people who may wish to settle there.



Hugh Scott, Refugee Sponsor

Sen. Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) is believed to be the first member of the U.S. Senate to sponsor a family of Vietnamese refugees.

The Senate minority leader has hired Phan Thi Yen in his Harrisburg office. Her main task is to find sponsors for her 15,000 fellow Vietnamese refugees at Ft. Indiantown Gap, near Harrisburg. In Saigon, she

Personalities

worked for the U.S. embassy and is credited with saving more than 100 American lives during the evacuation at the end of the war in Vietnam this spring.

Her husband is Tran Dan Ry, and they have three small children, ranging from 3 to 7 years old. They live in an apartment in Harrisburg. Tran is trying to get medical-school training to implement his medical aid experience in Saigon.

Farm families can help refugees by being sponsors, Kuhfuss says

Farm families can help refugees from Viet Nam and Cambodia by serving as sponsors, according to William J. Kuhfuss, a member of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees and president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"A SPONSOR'S role," Kuhfuss said, "is to help a refugee family make the transition from refugee status to that of a self-sufficient member of the community."

Sponsorship can take the form of an offer of support, employment, or both. A sponsor also must be ready to help the refugee with such things as adjustment to a new culture and acquaintance with American law and requirements.

"WHILE SPONSORSHIP is not a formal, legal commitment," Kuhfuss said, "the sponsor undertakes a clear moral commitment to help the refugee to the best of his ability."

Kuhfuss added that a sponsor is expected to

(1) receive the refugee and his family in his community after processing is completed at one of the U.S. reception centers; (2) provide shelter and food until the refugee becomes self-sufficient, (3) provide clothing and pocket money, (4) provide assistance in finding employment and in school enrollment for children, and (5) cover ordinary medical costs or medical insurance.

Once employment is obtained, the sponsor is expected to assist the refugee to locate permanent housing, acquire minimal furniture, and arrange for utilities,

BY DIALING the toll-free number of 800-368-1180, one can obtain complete information on becoming a sponsor.

Kuhfuss said, "Although less than five percent of the nearly 140,000 refugees are from food and fiber production occupations, the rural areas of our nation offer much in helping any of these displaced persons to learn and adjust to the American way of life."



Friday, July 11, 1975

The Washington Star

Refugee Aid In a 'Mess,' Help on Way

*Headquarters Staff,
Controls Beefed Up*

By Henry S. Bradsher
Washington Star Staff Writer

Problems within the Vietnamese

clined to attribute the me to the chaotic nature of the huge, sudden refugee problem rather than to an individual's administrative shortcomings.

Nonetheless, when deficiencies in the program began to become obvious the Ford administration had to decide how to deal with them.

RATHER THAN removing Taft from the most publicly visible job that the administration has given

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 13, 1975

Boredom Lengthens Refugees' Days on Army Base

By JAMES T. WOOTEN

Special to The New York Times

FORT INDIANTOWN, GAR

English classes, organized games, movies and meals are all available—advertised dai-

They wash and mend the clothes and clean the rooms in the barracks and in their

moment at the mountains to the west, they sit at the

THE WASHINGTON POST *Wednesday, July 9, 1975*
...R

Sponsor Abuses, Failings Cited

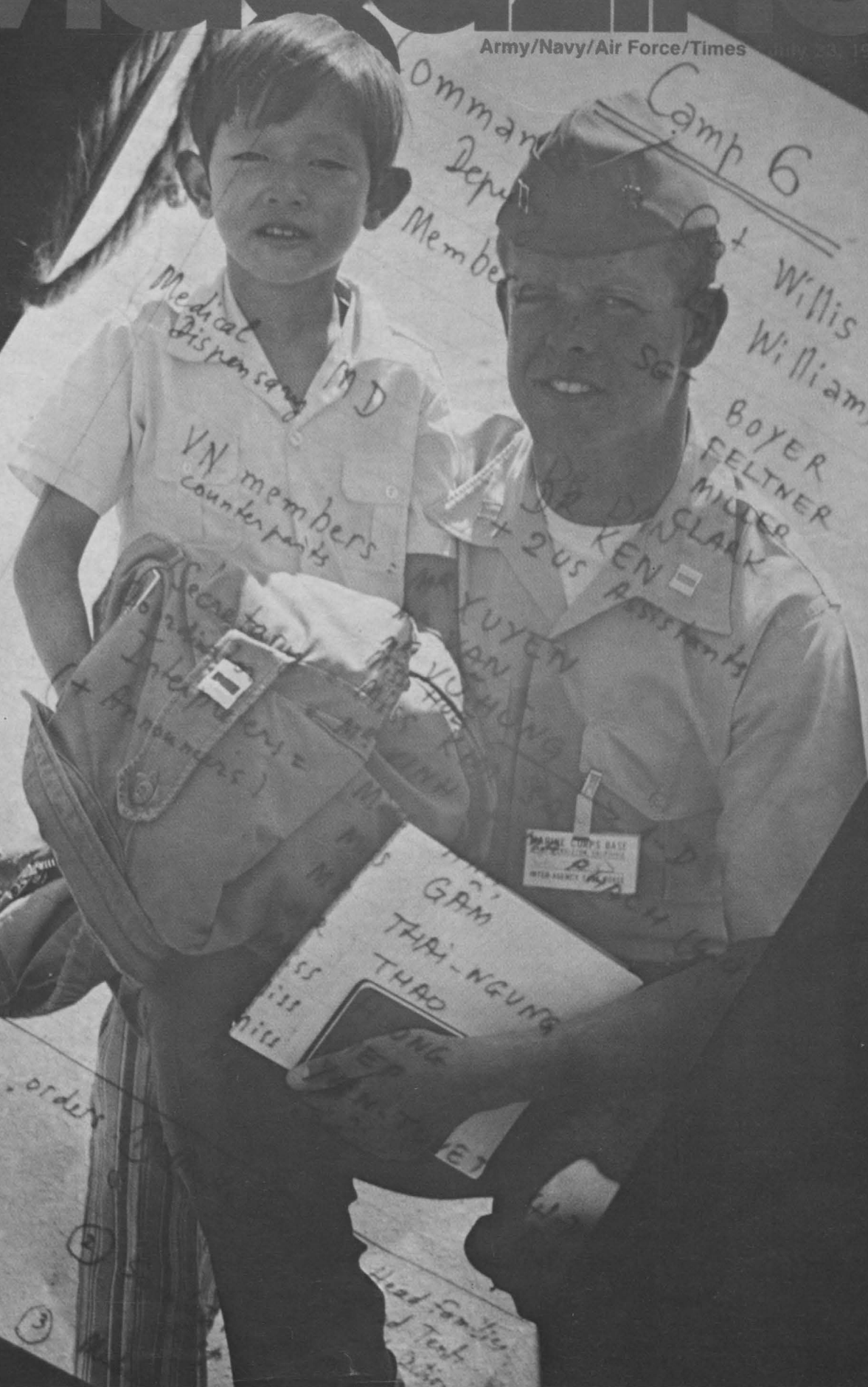
Refugee Problems Mounting

By Bill Richards and Austin Scott
Washington Post Staff Writers

placement I've never seen a breakdown rate like this."

MAGAZINE THE TIMES

Army/Navy/Air Force/Times July 23, 1975



Medical Dispensary M.D.

VN members Counterparts

Commander Camp 6

Willis Williams

Boyer
FELTNER
MIEDER

Slack
Ken

XUYEN

THAP-NGUNG
THAD

②
③