

The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “Clippings: 1940 - Feb. 1975” of the Shirley Peck Barnes Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

CHILDREN FLEE—TO STARVE AND DIE

Tragedy That Must Never Happen Here

By *MARY WELSH,*

*Sunday Dispatch Woman Reporter who was
one of the last to leave Paris*

WHAT price will your children pay for the love you have for them?

Because of this love—and the pleasure they give you—will they pay with their lives? Will they pay with an arm, or both legs, or with digestive and nervous systems so shattered that they must live for ever weaklings? Would you, through "love" and torpor, sentence them to starvation so that they might pick up a bone from the dust and gnaw at it like a dog?

I saw one child do that in France. It was one of a hundred reminders that love and brutality narrow down almost to the same thing in active warfare.

After 20 hours back home here on our green and gentle island, these sights I saw in France begin already to grow unreal. Looking out on the trees and romping dogs and children of a Chelsea square, I can't believe . . . I can't believe. . . . But in Paris my windows looked on a similar square.

THEY MUST GO AWAY

There is only one conclusion to be drawn. For parents too blind to see the tragedies, there must be compulsory evacuation of families.

If they will not save themselves, they must be saved. Let the objector's shout. Soon they will agree.

To disperse the children, to clear them out of the crowded areas immediately is not only humanity. The military experts have told you it is a strategic necessity.

No nation loves its children more, takes more pride in them, than the French. When the French go out to the cafés for an aperitif or a coffee, the children go along. Every park in Paris has stands for selling whirligigs on sticks, ponds for sailing toy boats, donkeys for giving rides. You can buy children's books wherever there are books to buy.

THE TRAGEDY

That was the tragedy of the French children, that they were loved—too much to be sent away to safety.

If orderly evacuation, planned and executed in advance of the retreating and advancing armies is panic, let us be panicky.

I will tell you only the things I saw and heard myself during the days and nights after May 10 when I worked at the Gare du Nord and the Gare Montparnasse in Paris.

TIDAL WAVE

That tidal wave of 5,000,000 human beings started rolling southward on that day. Two days later not a scrap of bread re-

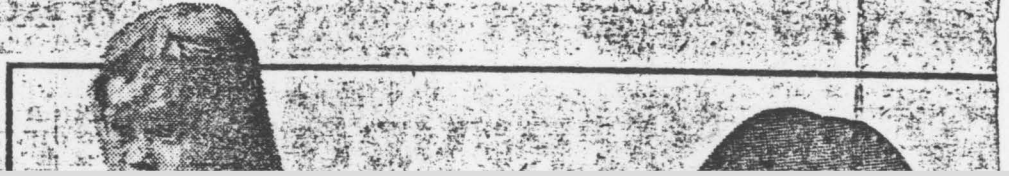
8/30/74

War Children: Now Old Enough

By DAVID K. SHIPLER

Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam—The mixed children left by American G.I.s are now growing up in South Vietnam. Wisps of blond can be seen bobbing and darting



AUGUST 30, 1974

to Express Own Sadness

have mixed children on the premises. And the chances of marrying a Vietnamese man are slim.

"I never think of getting married to a Vietnamese because I know no Vietnamese man will take three black kids," Miss Thung said. For lack of money, she has

Longing for the Woman And Child Left Behind

PLIGHT OF VIETNAM'S CHILDREN

July-Aug
1974

by DOUG HOSTITTER

Motivation is an important factor in child advocacy. The child advocate must be able to look beyond her own needs and be conscious of the needs of the child. In adoption, as well as other services to children, the primary consideration should be the welfare of the child.

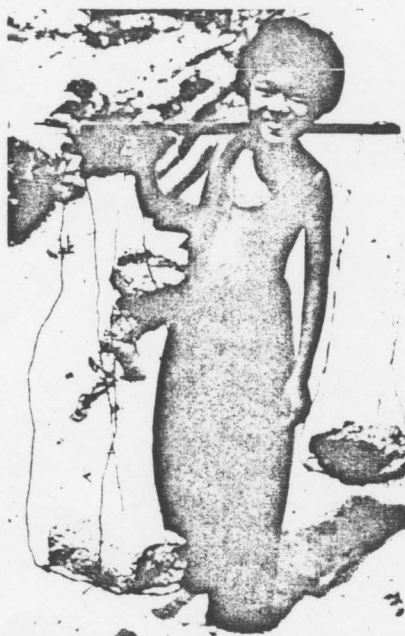
Doug Hostetter is providing us with information and a point of view which will help us to be more objective about an emotional subject—the plight of Vietnamese children.

—Ruth Gilbert, Secretary for Community Action, Women's Division

The family has always been the center of Vietnamese society. "Dao nam sinh trai, cuoi nam sinh gai" is a traditional greeting to a newly wed couple in Vietnam. It means, "May you have a son by the new year and a daughter by the end of the year." But that greeting originated from a happier era, the years before Vietnam's economy and traditional ways of living were destroyed by a cruel technological war.

There are approximately 19 million children in all of Vietnam. The experience of these children during the past 10 years has varied, depending upon where they lived. The mad logic of bombing patterns drove the children of North Vietnam out of the cities, into the mountains and small rural villages, while in the South it drove them from the rural areas into the cities. If they refused to leave the countryside,

Mr. Hostetter is Resource Coordinator for Asia, United Methodist Office for the United Nations.



they were forced to take hiding in mountain caves or underground bunkers.

Since the signing of the Paris Peace Accords over a year ago, much has changed for the children of North Vietnam. Children who were separated from their working parents in the industrial cities have returned from their long "vacation" with grandparents or other relatives in the countryside. Families have been reunited and children whose parents were killed during the intensive bombings have been taken in by other relatives.

In South Vietnam, however, the war grinds on—the bombing and shelling of the countryside continues. The United States

Senate subcommittee on refugees estimates there were six times as many refugees generated during the last year of "peace" as there were during the war year of 1971. Children in the countryside of the South still have to live in, or close to, underground shelters. The children in the city slums and refugee camps struggle against the dual enemies of disease and malnutrition. Fifty percent of the people in the general population are under 15 years of age, but in refugee camps the proportion is often over 70 percent.

Any real solution to the problems of these children will have to be linked to the overall settlement of the war in Vietnam. As American Christians we have a responsibility to work in direct relief of the current suffering of these children while we work to finally extricate our government from the continuing war.

Because of the highly political nature of the war in Vietnam, it is important for groups and individuals who are concerned about Vietnamese children to assist them in all areas of Vietnam. In North Vietnam, most of the children are back with family or relatives, and the overwhelming need now is for schools and hospitals.

During the 10 years of bombing by American planes, almost every major hospital and school in North Vietnam was destroyed. There were 5,500 schools and several hundred hospitals and

Weep A Tear For Dak Pek

Gerald Boyer

Dateline: Saigon, Vietnam, Thursday, May 16, 1974. American newspaper headlines (page 10A, St. Petersburg Times) read like this: SOUTH VIET TOWN FALLS; CASUALTIES PUT AT 3,570. The article reported, "North Vietnamese forces spearheaded by assault tanks Thursday captured a South Vietnamese district capital deep in Communist-held territory. All of the 3,000 civilian residents of Dak Pek and its 570 defenders were reported killed, wounded or missing."

That headline stirred me emotionally and I felt a great surge of compassion, as I remembered the village of Dak Pek. On March 11, 1973, at about 3:30 p.m., I landed on the top of a high hill in Dak Pek in a South Vietnamese helicopter. As I climbed out of the "chopper" I looked out across the valleys surrounding that hill to the little segments of the village, located on the crests of neighboring hills. The people had dug holes into which they crept to sleep as the enemy periodically shelled the area. For many months they had lived on roots, grass and leaves . . . anything from which they could get a bit of nourishment.

These were mountain people . . . a remnant of the 10,000 people who had originally lived there. They are simple, illiterate, hungry, sick, emaciated people who could pose no threat to anyone and who wanted only some surcease from the war. It would appear that many have now found it for, at the time of my visit, some 90% of these people had become Christians.

I now find myself praying for those who still live, as they are either in captivity or scattered among the enemy-infested mountains which surround their village. It is almost too much to hope that many of those sick and weakened people have escaped.

I remember how they crowded around the Australian doctor who flew in with us for what help he could render

in the limited time we were there. I remember the war-battered child whose senses were gone . . . the handsome young pastor, A-Yen, who ministered to the people . . . the children swimming in the river and still managing, as only children can, to laugh though death lurked in the hills around them.

Now comes the news of the Dak Pek disaster: "All of the 3,000 civilian residents of Dak Pek . . . were reportedly killed, wounded or missing." Stan Smith, UWM's Field Chairman, writes from Danang, ". . . Evangelist A-Yen is missing." Our orphanage at Quang Ngai was hit by a rocket, with two boys wounded and Pastor Luau's son was killed.

Stan writes, "Ten miles west of Tam Ky (where we have a large church and several hundred children in an orphanage and a school) a base was recently lost . . . and just last Friday (May 17, 1974) the train was blown up for the first time in the immediate area of Crescent Beach." Stanley's next sentence is pregnant with meaning. "No word is heard over the radio of disapproval from the rest of the world either!"

Our Green Berets will remember Dak Pek for they protected the people of this village for years . . . our missionaries will remember the people for they were fellow members of the Christian community. However, inasmuch as memories are short, the headline on page 10 probably escaped most Americans.

The My Lai massacre, which had relatively few casualties, rated black headlines on page 1 and outraged multitudes of people. The Dak Pek disaster, with a casualty list of nearly 4,000 people, rated 4 column inches on page 10, received only a casual mention on newscasts and apparently outraged no one. Where now are those voices which cried out so loudly against the horror of My Lai? Have we blocked out our concerns for the suffering in Vietnam? Is there no one who will weep with me for Dak Pek?

Bullet scarred church building at Dak Pek, as it looked March 11, 1973.



Young man in the center of the picture is Evangelist A-Yen, missing since May 16, 1974.



Missionary Opportunities →

This speaks for itself!

Thursday night the Albe. town paper said Hoc-Mon, had been shelled by the Communists - 9 dead - 15 wounded. Rose De Loria is in Hoc-Mon. I do not know how close to the up-charge line shelling took place.

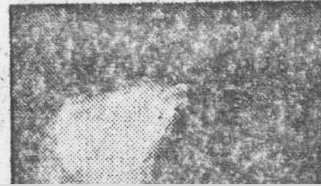
VN - General

Hero of Youth in Vietnam Assails War

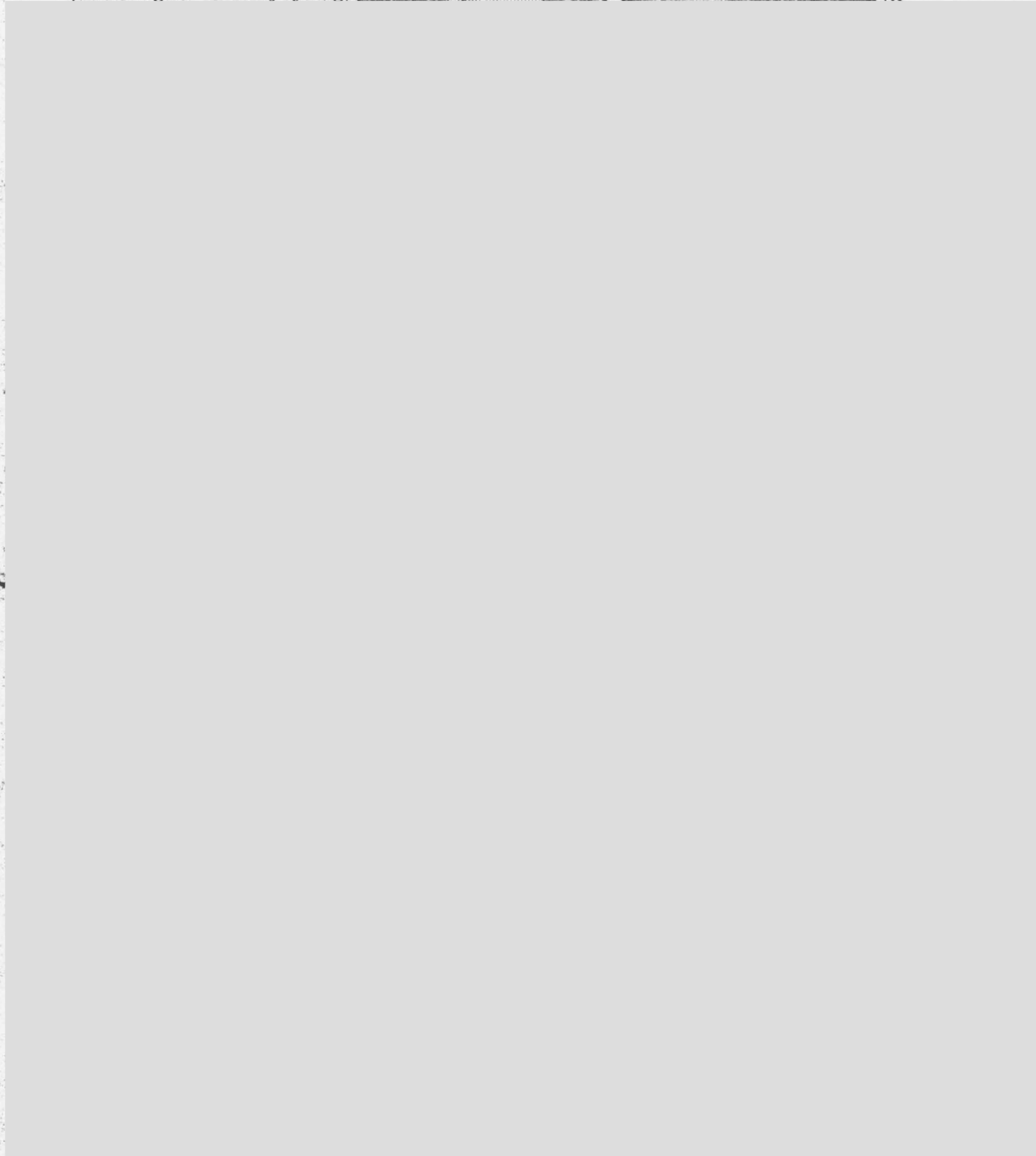
By GLORIA EMERSON

Special to The New York Times

SAIGON, South Vietnam, Oct. 5—Trinh Cong Son, a guitarist and composer whose antiwar songs have made him a heroic figure to many young

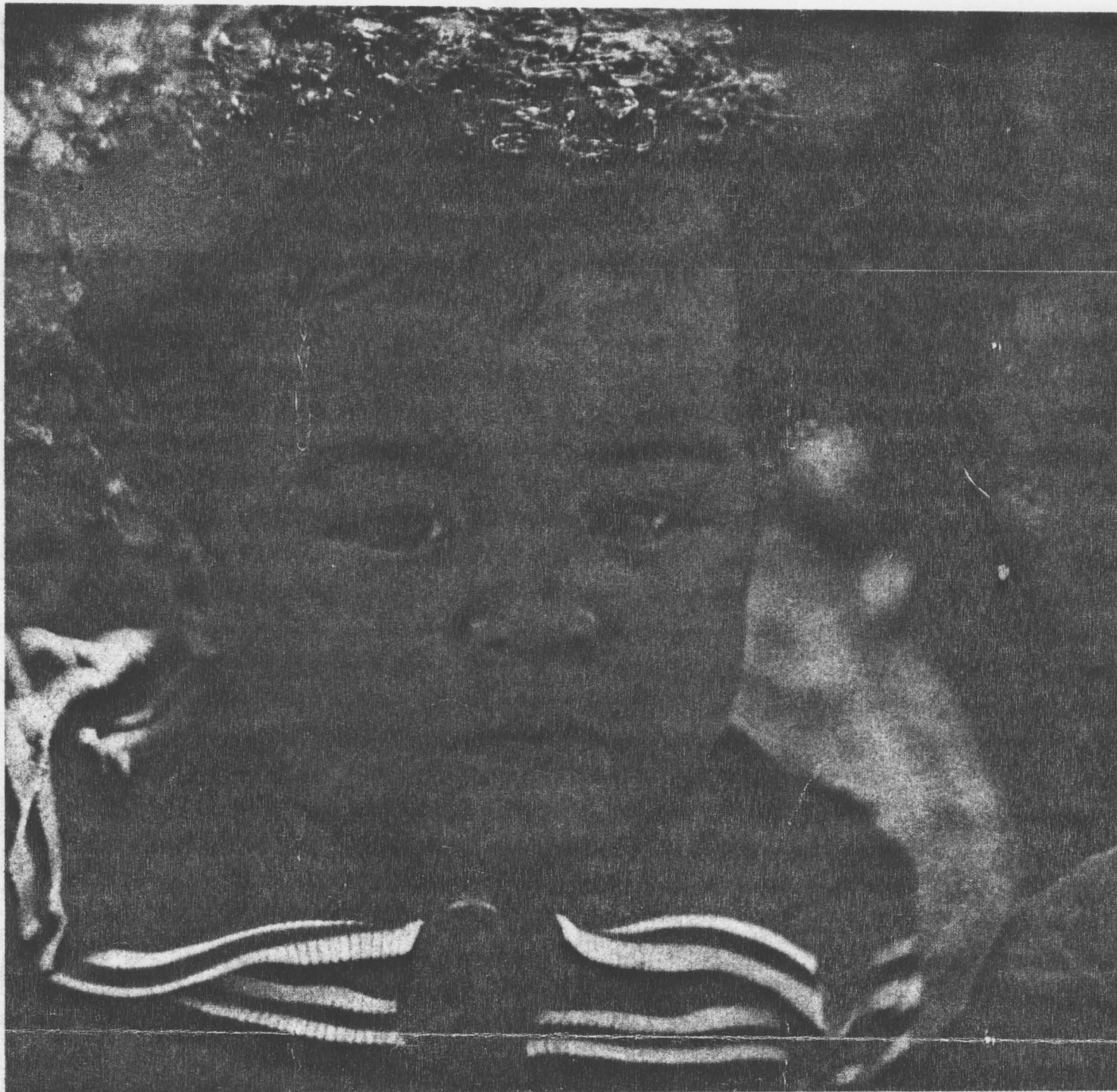


5
ti
ed
\$
by
t



Rosemary Taylor
mentioned

Bar girl Nguyen Thi Xuan, 24, holding 16-month-old Dung, is typical of thousands of South Vietnamese girls who pay foster homes to keep American-sired babies while they work. Xuan comes from same province where My Lai incident occurred. She knew black GI father of child was married but still hopes he will return. If not, she would rather find American sponsor to help care for boy than give him up for adoption.



Blaney 12/7/72

Though demand for mixed babies is great, adoption is difficult

BY ERA BELL THOMPSON

"IT'S nothing personal," said the secretary over one of Saigon's three telephone systems, "but Miss Taylor won't talk with reporters. Anything in the press and we are flooded with requests we cannot fill. *There are 50 families now for each child we have for adoption.*"

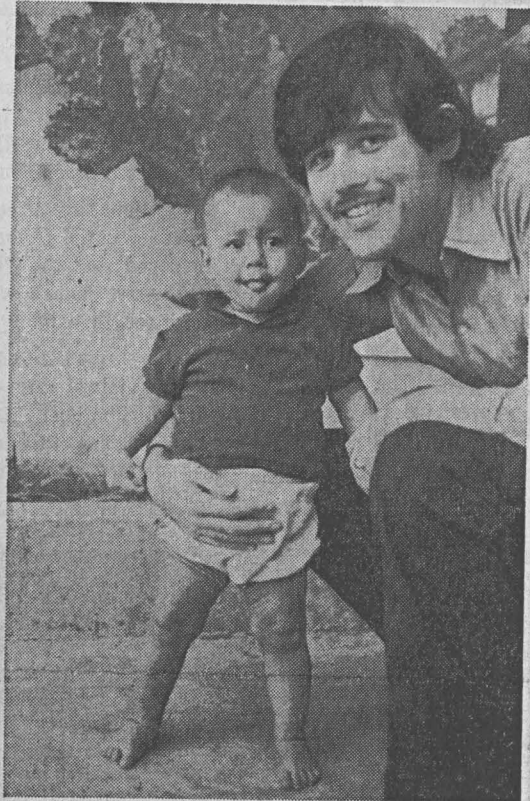
Rosemary Taylor is an Australian nurse employed by a church group based in her country. She acts as the intermediary between adoptive parents and five South Vietnamese orphanages. She has a reputation for handling black-mixed children, although her secretary said that, of the 250 being processed for adoption, only 50 were half-black.

I had gone to South Vietnam to write an adoption story about the abandoned children of black GIs and Vietnamese women. I found that



Mme. Vu-Thi-Ngai, directress of well-run An Lac orphanage, takes walk with black-Vietnamese girls Thu and Thi, both three. Layman (right) holds mixed-blood Njoc Diep, about two, in Buddhist orphanage. Both girls and boy are available for adoption.





VIETNAM ORPHAN BENEFACTOR AND FRIEND
Steve Johnson With Ky

Love Works Best When It's Given, Mother Believes

By Katherine Karras
Correspondent

RIVER FALLS — Wis. — "Love is something that has to be given away," Mrs. Ronald Johnson says. She thought this when she and her husband organized a chapter of Friends of Children of Vietnam (FCV) in River Falls last September.

"I had received letters from a classmate in Geneseo, Ill., telling me of the appalling death rates of the thousands of orphans in Vietnam," said Mrs. Johnson. "We contacted the president of FCV in Geneseo — Mrs. Sherri Clark. I could hardly believe conditions were so bad there until I saw the slides taken in the orphanages.



MRS. JOHNSON

was stationed in Vietnam. Children have been abandoned. Some have even been found alive among the garbage in trash cans. Others have been left at overcrowded orphanages where the mortality rate often runs as high as 80 per cent."

One highlight of this work