

The original documents are located in Box 6, folder “Clippings: 1984-1989” 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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

U.S. probes babylift crash

Wirth charges evidence was destroyed

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Justice Department is looking into allegations of misconduct by government lawyers in a lawsuit seeking damages for orphans injured in the 1975 "Operation Babylift" crash near Saigon.

Rep. Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., requested the inquiry following disclosures that a Justice Department lawyer allegedly failed to tell a judge for several years that many photographs of the plane crash had been destroyed by the Air Force.

Wirth also said there was evidence another Justice Department lawyer submitted under oath incorrect answers regarding the photographs, and there were charges lawyers harassed expert medical witnesses who are government employees.

The probe is being conducted by the department's Office of Professional Responsibility, the agency's internal watchdog. A Justice Department spokesman declined to confirm or deny there is an inquiry.

However, the department informed Wirth earlier this month that it had opened an inquiry into allegations of misconduct by Justice Department lawyers,

according to a letter obtained Friday by United Press International.

The case involves the April 4, 1975, crash of a Lockheed aircraft near Saigon that was carrying about 240 Vietnamese orphans out of South Vietnam to their new families in the United States and Europe.

Many of the 150 orphans who survived the crash suffered organic brain damage as a result of decompression, loss of oxygen and trauma.

Lockheed was sued by the surviving orphans in 1976, and the cases involving children adopted by U.S. families were settled six years later. Cases involving children adopted by Canadian and European families remain in limbo and are still in court in Washington, D.C.

"There are recent findings by the U.S. District Court ... that a Justice Department attorney knowingly misled the court to believe that he had no knowledge of the existence and the destruction of over 1,000 photographs taken by government employees at the scene of the airplane crash which is the subject of litigation," Wirth wrote Attorney General William French Smith in May.

Official mourns death of Wilder victim

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A state assemblyman shared a family's grief after learning that a 17-year-old relative who disappeared after modeling in a Las Vegas beauty pageant was apparently a victim of Christopher Bernard Wilder's cross-country rape-and-murder trek.

Assemblyman Richard Robinson had taken out a full-page ad in a Sacramento newspaper seeking leads to Michelle Lynn Korfman, of Boulder City, Nev., who disappeared April 1.

Korfman's decomposed body lay unidentified in the Los Angeles County morgue after bicyclists found it May 11 in

Angeles National Forest, about 20 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. She was positively identified from dental records early Friday.

Robinson, who represents the Orange County community of Garden Grove, spent Friday in Los Angeles with Korfman's family. His wife, Becky, was the teen-ager's cousin.

He termed "an absolute tragedy" Korfman's death — linked by law enforcement authorities to Wilder's 8,000-mile trail of terror that ended with his own death in a shootout with New Hampshire state troopers April 13.

Vietnam arrests 119 'traitors, spies' in coup plot

By The Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand — Vietnam announced Saturday that 119 people it accused of being "all traitors and spies" were arrested in connection with a plot to overthrow the communist regime.

The government statement, broadcast on the official Voice of Vietnam radio, said security forces picked up the 119 "one by one," along with weapons, counterfeit money and other equipment. The broadcast, monitored

in Bangkok, gave no details.

The statement came as 21 people, some ex-officers of the former South Vietnamese military, were being tried in Ho Chi Minh City, accused of plotting to overthrow the Hanoi government

through espionage, sabotage and armed activities.

The trial began in the city, formerly the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon, on Friday and is expected to last until early this week.

Conoco's SECOND PAIR

FOIL FACED

INSULATION

Thursday, Dec. 27, 1984

★ 19A

age' attacks in Cambodia

Panel says Viets stalling on talks

By The New York Times

VIENTIANE, Laos — A congressional delegation that completed a tour of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos has concluded that Vietnam has not yet demonstrated a willingness to begin serious talks to end the civil war in Cambodia.

Rep. Stephen Solarz, D-N.Y., chairman of the House Foreign

Affairs Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, said Wednesday at the end of the five-day trip that he told the Vietnamese the unresolved issue of Cambodia stands in the way of improved ties with Washington.

It is important, Solarz said, for Hanoi to hear from members of the Democratic Party that "American policy toward Viet-

nam enjoys broadly based, bipartisan support."

Vietnam, which invaded Cambodia in 1978 to overthrow the Khmer Rouge government led by Pol Pot, still has about 180,000 soldiers in the country. Hanoi says these are necessary to the security of the Heng Samrin regime, which it installed and which is under attack by three rebel groups.

rilla
had
hisen
rding
guer-
were
their

have
minist
ser ex-
Khmer
third,
Prince

ied in a
name

Denver Post

2, 'VACATION' REVIEW
3, EVA HODGES
4, ROCK GUITARIST

LIVING & ARTS

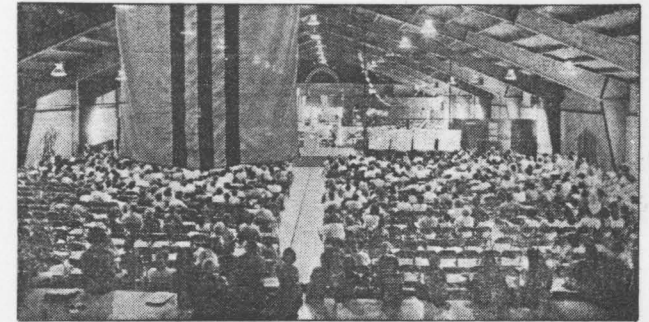
THE DENVER POST

SANTA FE MUSIC, 5 and 6
TV LISTINGS, 7
COMICS, 8 and 9



Mia Peters, 12, came to the United States in 1973.

Growing up as Americans



A South Vietnamese flag hangs in the hall for the Vietnam heritage conference.

Adopted Vietnamese children meet their past at reunion

By Diane Eicher
Denver Post Staff Writer

GRANBY — Pictures of scrawny babies and toddlers were everywhere, on easels and bulletin boards and in photo albums being passed around.

And even though many of the kids in the pictures were smiling, it was their eyes that got to you — haunting, yet hopeful, and unfortunately aware.

"Smile, you're on Candid Camera!" giggled a kid of about 10 as he stared back at the pictures and asked a little girl next to him if she'd found herself on the board yet.

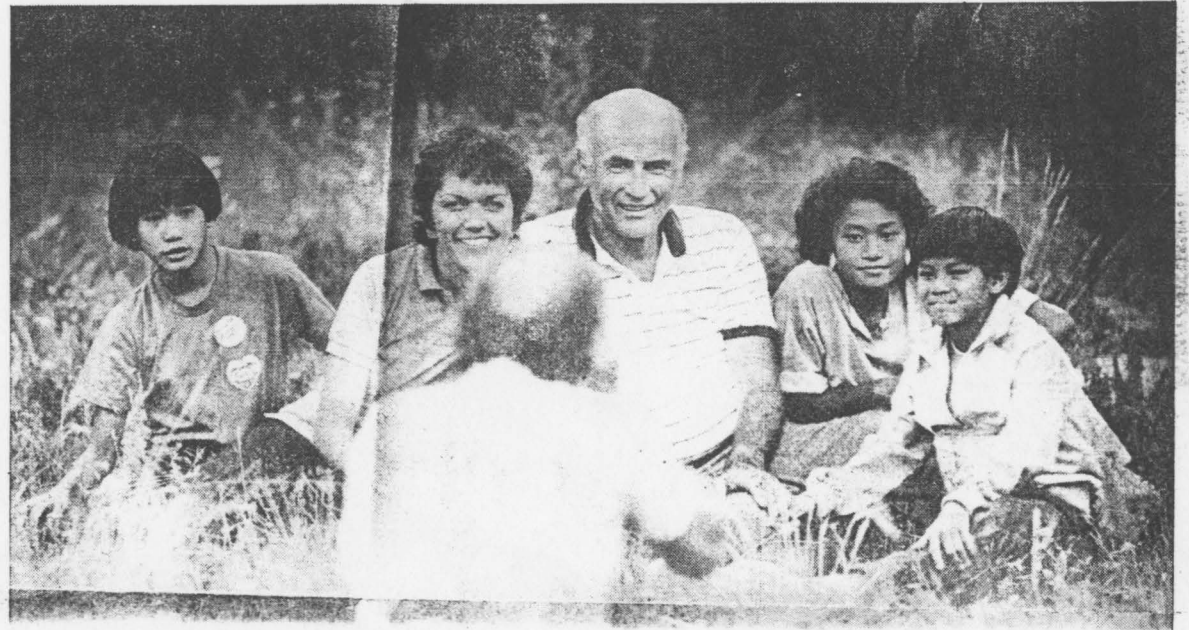
He was too young to have known about the TV show, yet he knew its catch phrase. There was no doubt — these were American kids through and through.

But farther back than most of them remember was another life and country. That was what brought them here Tuesday, to the YMCA's Snow Mountain Ranch near Granby for Vietnam Reunion '85 — the first nationwide gathering of adopted Vietnamese children.

Seven hundred people, including several Denver-area families, attended. Most of the families brought birth children, too.

As several months ago the United States looked back on the 10 years since the fall of Saigon, at the mistakes it had made and the havoc the Vietnam War created in lives both there and here, so were these kids observing an anniversary.

It was 10 years ago that most of them were sent to new homes in the United States. Many were on the hastily arranged mass evacuation flights of "Operation Babylift," a U.S. effort mounted at the end of the war and surrounded by confusion.



work is
Kid T-
aper In
Street,
grade.

Enough but children, too.

As several months ago the United States looked back on the 10 years since the fall of Saigon, at the mistakes it had made and the havoc the Vietnam War created in lives both there and here, so were these kids observing an anniversary.

It was 10 years ago that most of them were sent to new homes in the United States. Many were on the hurriedly arranged mass evacuation flights of "Operation Babylift," a U.S. effort mounted at the end of the war and surrounded by confusion.

Fourteen of them had survived the tragic crash of an Air Force C5A plane near Saigon on April 4, 1975. More than 200 others were killed in that crash.

Most arrived as babies. They have been raised as Americans, and up until now, most of them have asked few questions about their native country or their birth parents. There are varying reasons for that; some of the kids just don't want to remember, but also, information about Vietnamese culture and history is sorely lacking in this country, said several of the reunion's organizers.

The reunion, though, opened the dialogue.

And much of that was spurred by slides and 8mm movies shown by the reunion's organizers — old and new staff members of Friends of Children of Viet Nam and Friends for All Children, two Colorado-based adoption agencies that handled much of the processing 10 years ago. (FCVN still exists, as Friends of Children of Various Nations.)

Juanita Zientara of Arlington, Va., was ecstatic as she watched a silent home movie taken at Thu Doc, an FCVN facility near Saigon that housed children before their flights to the United States. Her daughter Emily, now 13, appeared over and over, tumbling down a slide, a bit out of focus as she hammed for the camera.

"This is like opening a time capsule," bubbled Zientara, a single mother when she adopted Emily a decade ago, but now married.

Adolescence has prompted Emily to begin asking questions about her life in the orphanage, but Zientara knew little more than its name. Tuesday night, as FCVN's director then and now, Cheryl Markson of Denver, described each orphanage she knew, Zientara was disappointed to find out her daughter had been in one of the poorest facilities.

Emily may have been curious about her early years, but when former FCVN staffers Sue Walter and Terry Deegan-Young jokingly threatened to tell mischievous-little-girl stories about her, the teenager began to feel as if she were at a family reunion.

"Mom, don't tape this," Emily pleaded as Zientara held up a cassette recorder to capture the stories.

If the adoptees do remember anything about their early lives, sometimes they don't want to talk about it.

One woman said that when her daughter was 8 she told a school psychologist about a vision, somewhere in her head, of men marching by with guns. She wasn't sure what it meant, and she was afraid to tell her mom about it for fear she'd be sent away — just as she had been by her birth mother.

"Kids tell us that they think they were adopted because they were 'bad babies,'" Markson said. She encourages adoptive parents to work with their children on a story about their early life — because



The Carnie family of Colville, Wash. — Lorie Deegan, George, Malia and Landon, from left — have their portrait taken by Anthony Umile of Longmont. Lorie and Landon are 12-year-old twins who came to the United States in 1975. Malia, 12, came here in 1973.



Duane Metcalf of Aurora talks with his Vietnamese son, John, 11, while carrying his Filipino daughter, Annie, 9.



John Bingham, 13, maneuvers around Wade Tu, 18, while playing soccer on opening day of the reunion.

rare is the kid who doesn't have a fantasy like the "bad baby" one.

But so must the parents be honest about not knowing the truth.

"I think one of the greatest tragedies is for parents to make up a story, like that both parents were dead — because then the child finds out later that you couldn't possibly have known that," Markson

said. "And when they discover you lied, then there's a feeling of mistrust a mile wide."

Markson has been in the adoption business nearly 15 years, starting as a volunteer. She was in the thick of the controversy surrounding the 1975 Babylift, when some charged that Vietnamese babies were being snatched from parents in the confusion at the fall of Saigon. Even 10 years later, that criticism stings.

"Yes, it still hurts," Markson said, biting her lip. "I have so little time for that. There were so many people working so hard, the people we lost in the crash... It's not a valid criticism when you're talking about kids who would've died."

"I have no apology for any part I played in removing children from Vietnam," she said. As for charges that the children were removed from their culture, Markson's answer is pointed: "You have no culture when you're starving."

Not necessarily by intent, the reunion appeared to be a testament to generous, caring people who have opened their families to literally dozens of children. At least three families had 11 children each in their entourages, many of the adopted.

Stan Koelliker, who spent a year and a half in Vietnam, brought his seven adopted and four birth children from Willis, Kan. Their son, J.J., 10, was on the last flight out of Saigon.

"How do you put something like this in words?" he asked, saying that they came to meet other families like theirs.

Twelve-year-old Lia McCormick came from San Diego with her mother in search of information about her life in an orphanage. And Tom Reynolds, 10, from Iowa City, Iowa — one who survived the C5A crash with only minor injuries — was excited to meet one of the nuns who cared for him in Vietnam.

Jeff Richards, 12, of River Falls, Wis., poured over a photo album brought by Steve Johnson, another former FCVN staffer who now is an adminis-

Please see REUNION on 2-B

Garfield

Tomorrow in Weekend

Rafting down the Colorado River is relaxing summer fun.

No Trisha



Pop quiz

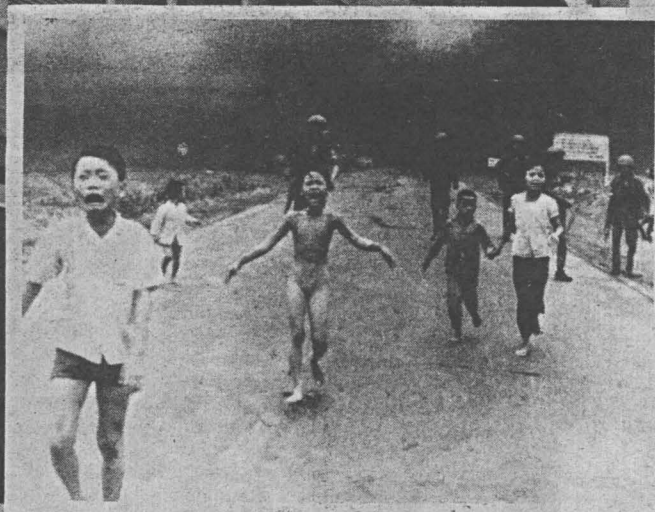
What artist hung a curtain over Colorado's Rifle Gap in 1972?

(Answer on page 5-B)

Tonight

Denver Municipal Band will be in concert at 8:15 p.m. at Bible Park, East Yale Avenue at Newport.

Star
9/11/84



THE STAR UNCOVERS AFTERMATH OF A PHOTO THAT TOUCHED MILLIONS



Kim Phuc, then 9, runs naked through the streets after being burned in the horrifying napalm bombing in Vietnam in 1972 (inset). But today, Kim can smile because doctors have helped her recover from the agonizing pain of her scars. Above she enjoys an ice cream cone in Bonn, Germany, where she has found new hope.

GIRL WHO WAS TRAGIC VICTIM OF VIETNAM WAR FINDS NEW HOPE

By STEVEN EDWARDS

IT WAS a photograph that came to symbolize the tragedy of the Vietnam War — a naked girl running in terror after a napalm attack.

The anguish upon the face of that little girl in 1972 touched the hearts of millions throughout the world. But 12 years later, as she passed through the airport in the West German capital of Bonn, people hardly noticed her.

Kim Phuc, now 21, arrived in Germany after issuing a desperate plea for help from her home in Tay Ninh in Vietnam. The pain inflicted by the napalm attack had become unbearable. She suffered from headaches, and her body often felt like it had reached the boiling point.

But now, after a series of operations to relieve the tension in the scars on her back, neck and left arm, she is able to live in hope. And she feels her dream of becoming a doctor and helping other war

victims will finally come true.

"It's wonderful to be rid of the pain. I feel like I've been reborn," Kim told the STAR from her bed in the German clinic where she was being treated. "The doctor said I will still be sore from time to time, but the pain won't be as bad as before, and I'll be able to study."

She added happily: "Maybe now I'll be able to realize my ambition of becoming a doctor and helping people. And maybe I'll also be able to achieve my biggest goal in life — recovering my good health."

Kim's chance to rebuild her life came after she wrote to two reporters for West Germany's Stern magazine.

The reporters had visited Kim in 1973 — 14 months after the napalm attack. She'd just been released from the hospital following some

skin-transplant operations, and was full of hopes and dreams. But in the years that followed, Kim's pain from her wounds became excruciating. And in March, 1983, she begged the Stern reporters for help.

"You are so far away," she wrote. "How can you imagine my feelings of sadness? I can hardly stand my pain. I'm almost wishing I were dead. Therefore, I am asking you urgently to help me somehow."

Stern, with help from the European aid agency Terre des Hommes, arranged for Kim to travel to Germany, where she underwent two operations. A tightness was released in three of the major scars so she'll be able to twist and turn more easily. But there's no guarantee her headaches will subside.

"But I remain hopeful, she said. "In the last two years I felt worse. I was unable to concentrate on learning. And often I felt a burning all over. Sometimes my scars would break open and I couldn't stand the pain."

Her appearance also made her ashamed. She shied away from friends and remained at home, where she buried herself in her books, listened to music or helped her mother with the housework.

"I've been hiding my scars under long-sleeve clothes," she said. "I don't have a boyfriend to go



Surrounded by family and friends in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), Kim says goodbye as she heads for the German clinic.

back to. Maybe I'll meet someone some day who will accept me, scars and all."

Dr. Rudolf Zellner, the plastic surgeon who operated on Kim, explained: "To release the tension in her scars, we transplanted skin from her thigh and created flaps between the scars."

Of course, Kim remembers the day of the bombing. It was June 8, 1972, and U.S. bombers attacked the Viet Cong in what was then Kim's home village of Trang Bang.

Kim and her parents found cover with hundreds of other villagers in a stone pagoda. After the first bombs dropped, everyone panicked and ran out of the building.

Then planes began dive-bombing — the pilots later said they believed the fleeing people to be the enemy. The rain of napalm fire killed two of Kim's cousins, in-

jured both her brothers and burned the clothes from Kim's body. As she ran naked toward a first aid station less than a mile away, Associated Press photographer Huynh Cong Ut clicked the shutter on his camera and recorded forever Kim's terror.

Kim still looks at the picture from time to time. But she said: "I don't hold the individual pilots responsible. But I now have the greatest abhorrence for war."

Kim is one of many thousands of Vietnamese napalm victims — but others are unknown and will never get the chance of surgery in the West.

"I'm not bitter about what happened to me," she said. "I'm going to complete my studies and try to help build a plastic surgery clinic like this one in Vietnam. My experience made me hate war," she said. "But now I am thinking of other people, and how I can help." 11



6 Maybe someone will love me scars and all?

Dr. Rudolf Zellner examines the horrible scars Kim must live with the rest of her life.

Vietnam chiefs may be split on freeing prisoners to U.S.

By Bernard Gwertzman

The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Reagan administration officials said on Saturday that differences within Vietnam's leadership may have delayed a response to an offer by the United States to accept thousands of political prisoners.

Secretary of State George Shultz said on Sept. 11 that the United States was ready to take up a Vietnamese offer to release the prisoners from "re-education camps" to the Americans. In testimony before Congress, he said that over the next two years the United States was ready to take 10,000 prisoners who had ties to the United States or had served in the old South Vietnamese government, which fell in April 1975. Figures vary, but 10,000 has been cited by Vietnamese authorities.

Shultz also said that the United States would accept all Asian-American children and their close family members over the next three years. The so-called Amerasians, largely fathered by American soldiers during the Vietnam War, have already been coming to the United States through a U.N.-administered program. Administration officials said that, after Shultz's speech, they had urged Vietnam to accelerate the processing of children eligible to leave.

Vietnam has said that all Amerasians can leave, and it has said that the United States has been slow in taking them. American officials say Vietnam shares responsibility by not assigning enough personnel to the children's emigration program.

With the children's program continuing, the United States has now begun to focus on the apparent Vietnamese hesitation to allow the departure of the political prisoners.

'... there seems to be a worry in Hanoi that these prisoners will be turned into some kind of rebel military force against them.'

United States official

"From some conversations we have had," an American official said, "we are getting the impression that the security officials in Hanoi are very wary about releasing these prisoners to the United States. From the questions we have been asked there seems to be a worry in Hanoi that these prisoners will be turned into some kind of rebel military force against them, and they are in no rush to let them out."

In 1982, Foreign Minister Nguyen Cao Thach said Vietnam would release the prisoners if the United States took them in. This was repeated last May, in an interview in Newsweek magazine, by Premier Pham Van Dong.

"We are quite prepared to allow all of those left in the camps to leave tomorrow for the United States, but the U.S. government has rejected that suggestion," he said. "They prefer to leave these criminals free in Vietnam but not in the United States."

The United States had not rejected the offer, but it was not publicly accepted until Shultz's testimony on Sept. 11. Since then there have been two meetings with Viet-

namese officials to discuss the matter.

On Oct. 4, in Geneva, Robert L. Funseth, a State Department refugee official, met with Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai and outlined specific suggestions.

The United States initially wanted to process the prisoners through the program administered by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. But Vietnam wanted the matter dealt with directly by the United States, and Washington agreed.

Another issue raised by the Vietnamese was that the United States must take all the prisoners. Washington wanted to limit the program to those who have had some sort of affiliation with the United States or with the former South Vietnamese government.

"We have told the Vietnamese that we have to have a list of who is in the camps and how many there are," a State Department official said. "Who knows, maybe when we see the list it will turn out that everyone would be eligible."

Richard Childress, the National Security Council expert on Indochina, met with Thach in New York last month when the Vietnamese foreign minister was there for the U.N. General Assembly.

Thach gave Childress the impression, a State Department official said, that he was in no hurry to move on the question of the prisoners. He was reported to have expressed concern that the prisoners might take the lead in an insurgency.

This suggested that even though he and Dong had publicly said all the prisoners could leave, the Vietnamese leadership had not yet reached a final decision.

Thach indicated that the children's program would continue in any event, and he was urged to speed the procedures.

Sect founder guilty in fatal paddling

By The Associated Press

PETERSBURG, W.Va. — The founder of a fundamentalist Christian community was found guilty Saturday of involuntary manslaughter and felony conspiracy in the 1982 fatal paddling of a toddler.

Brothy H. McClellan, a 47-year-old member of nine faces a maxi-

date. She is free on \$20,000 bond pending a pre-sentence investigation.

Joseph Green died Oct. 5, 1982, at age 23 months after he was paddled for about two hours by his parents, Stuart and Leslie Green. The state medical examiner said the boy died of shock and the

jail and a \$1,000 fine.

The involuntary manslaughter charge on which Mrs. McClellan was convicted is a misdemeanor.

"I just want time to let this sink in, what happened today," Mrs. McClellan said after the verdict by County Circuit jury was announced. Steven McClellan, 47, is charged with

**CAR
BROS**
SPORTING GOODS CO

S

S

BLAN 5400 OR LAF
1983-84 MC
REG. 215.00 **10**

**MARKER M25
SKI BINDINGS**
REG. 105.00 **54⁹⁵**

**SALOMON SX-90E
SKI BOOTS**
Reg. 295.00
Limited Sizes **189⁹⁵**

**LANGE XL SPORT
SKI BOOTS**
REG. 160.00 **89⁹⁵**
LIMITED SIZES

Used Rental Skis
with bindings
\$25 and up

YOU'VE GOT TO BE
TO BELIEVE IT

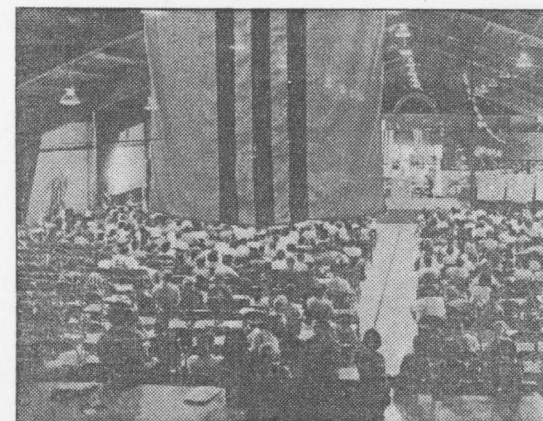
- 2, 'VACATION' REVIEW
- 3, EVA HODGES
- 4, ROCK GUITARIST

8/1/85



Mia Peters, 12, came to the United States in 1973.

Growing up as Americans



A South Vietnamese flag hangs in the hall for the Vie

Adopted Vietnamese children meet their past at

By Diane Eicher
Denver Post Staff Writer

GRANBY — Pictures of scrawny babies and toddlers were everywhere, on easels and bulletin boards and in photo albums being passed around.

And even though many of the kids in the pictures were smiling, it was their eyes that got to you — haunting, yet hopeful, and unfortunately aware.

"Smile, you're on Candid Camera!" giggled a kid of about 10 as he stared back at the pictures and asked a little girl next to him if she'd found herself on the board yet.

He was too young to have known about the TV show, yet he knew its catch phrase. There was no doubt — these were American kids through and through.

But farther back than most of them remember was another life and country. That was what brought them here Tuesday, to the YMCA's Snow Mountain Ranch near Granby for Vietnam Reunion '85 — the first nationwide gathering of adopted Vietnamese children.

Seven hundred people, including several Denver-area families, attended. Most of the families brought birth children, too.

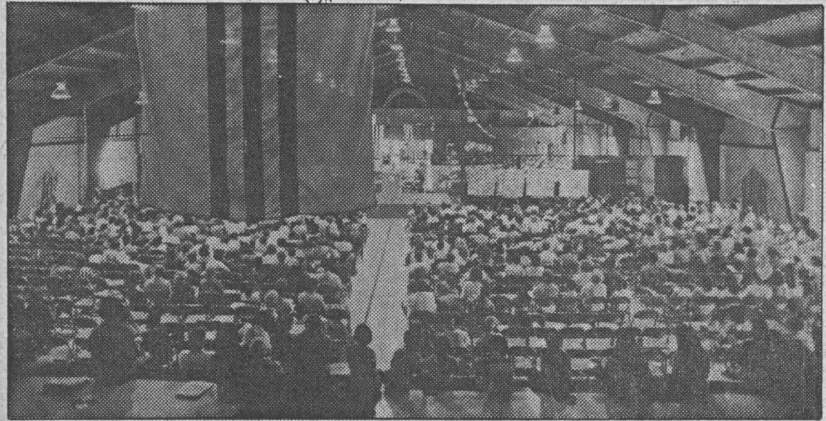
As several months ago the United States looked back on the 10 years since the fall of Saigon, at the



ARTS

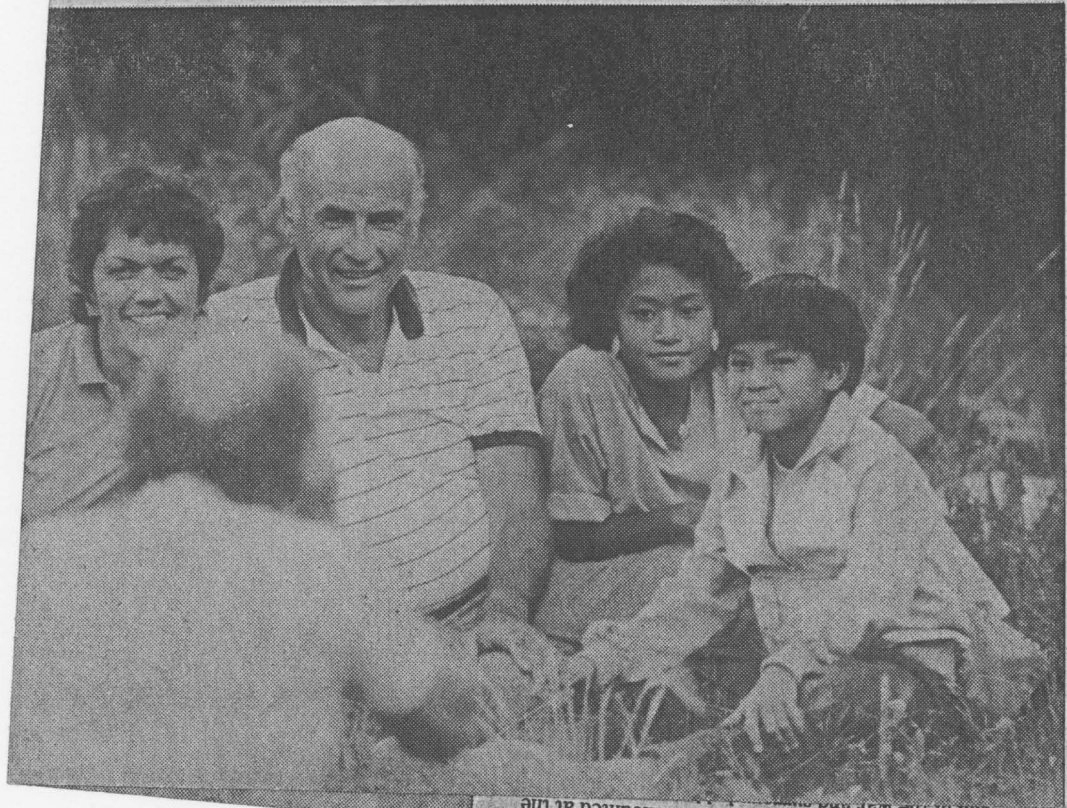
SANTA FE MUSIC, 5 and 6
TV LISTINGS, 7
COMICS, 8 and 9

R POST



A South Vietnamese flag hangs in the hall for the Vietnam heritage conference.

g ns e children meet their past at reunion



the hurriedly arranged mass evacuation ignites of
"Operation Babylift," a U.S. effort mounted at the
end of the war and

- 2, 'VACATION' REVIEW
- 3, EVA HODGES
- 4, ROCK GUITARIST

LIVING & THE DENVER



work is
o Kid T-
aper In
Street,
grade.



Mia Peters, 12, came to the United States in 1973.

Growin' up as America

Adopted Vietnamese

By Diane Eicher
Denver Post Staff Writer

GRANBY — Pictures of scrawny babies and toddlers were everywhere, on easels and bulletin boards and in photo albums being passed around.

And even though many of the kids in the pictures were smiling, it was their eyes that got to you — haunting, yet hopeful, and unfortunately aware.

"Smile, you're on Candid Camera!" giggled a kid of about 10 as he stared back at the pictures and asked a little girl next to him if she'd found herself on the board yet.

He was too young to have known about the TV show, yet he knew its catch phrase. There was no doubt — these were American kids through and through.

But farther back than most of them remember was another life and country. That was what brought them here Tuesday, to the YMCA's Snow Mountain Ranch near Granby for Vietnam Reunion '85 — the first nationwide gathering of adopted Vietnamese children.

Seven hundred people, including several Denver-area families, attended. Most of the families brought birth children, too.

As several months ago the United States looked back on the 10 years since the fall of Saigon, at the mistakes it had made and the havoc the Vietnam War created in lives both there and here, so were these kids observing an anniversary.

It was 10 years ago that most of them were sent to new homes in the United States. Many were on



HON
YOUR
B.C.
WIZARD
CHEE
RA

the hurriedly arranged mass evacuation flights of "Operation Babylift," a U.S. effort mounted at the end of the war and surrounded by confusion.

Fourteen of them had survived the tragic crash of an Air Force C5A plane near Saigon on April 4, 1975. More than 200 others were killed in that crash.

Most arrived as babies. They have been raised as Americans, and up until now, most of them have asked few questions about their native country or their birth parents. There are varying reasons for that; some of the kids just don't want to remember, but also, information about Vietnamese culture and history is sorely lacking in this country, said several of the reunion's organizers.

The reunion, though, opened the dialogue.

And much of that was spurred by slides and 8mm movies shown by the reunion's organizers — old and new staff members of Friends of Children of Viet Nam and Friends for All Children, two Colorado-based adoption agencies that handled much of the processing 10 years ago. (FCVN still exists, as Friends of Children of Various Nations.)

Juanita Zientara of Arlington, Va., was ecstatic as she watched a silent home movie taken at Thu Doc, an FCVN facility near Saigon that housed children before their flights to the United States. Her daughter Emily, now 13, appeared over and over, tumbling down a slide, a bit out of focus as she hammed for the camera.

"This is like opening a time capsule," bubbled Zientara, a single mother when she adopted Emily a decade ago, but now married.

Adolescence has prompted Emily to begin asking questions about her life in the orphanage, but Zientara knew little more than its name. Tuesday night, as FCVN's director then and now, Cheryl Markson of Denver, described each orphanage she knew, Zientara was disappointed to find out her daughter had been in one of the poorest facilities.

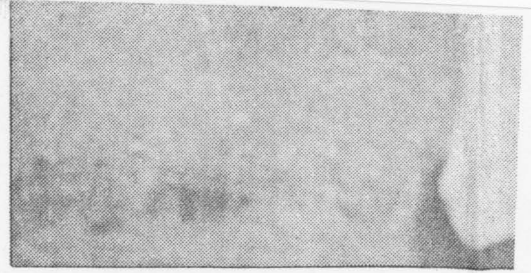
Emily may have been curious about her early years, but when former FCVN staffers Sue Walter and Terry Deegan-Young jokingly threatened to tell mischievous-little-girl stories about her, the teenager began to feel as if she were at a family reunion.

"Mom, don't tape this," Emily pleaded as Zientara held up a cassette recorder to capture the stories.

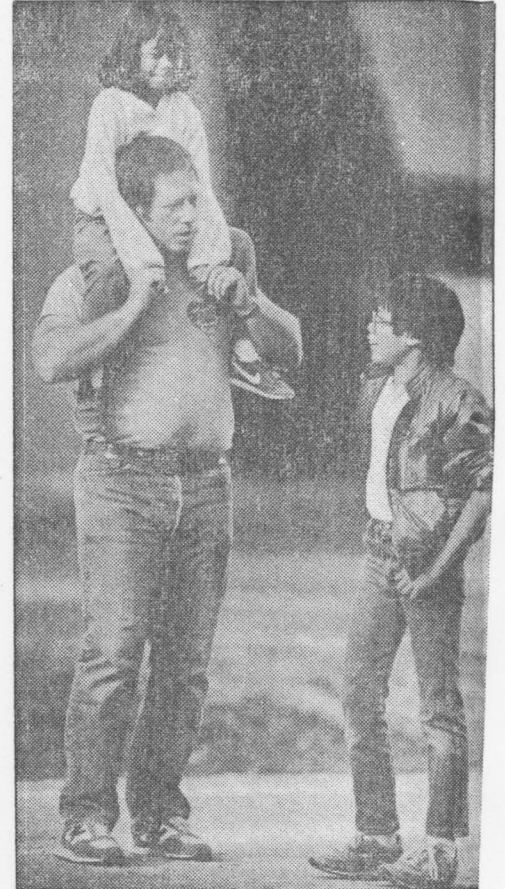
If the adoptees do remember anything about their early lives, sometimes they don't want to talk about it.

One woman said that when her daughter was 8 she told a school psychologist about a vision, somewhere in her head, of men marching by with guns. She wasn't sure what it meant, and she was afraid to tell her mom about it for fear she'd be sent away — just as she had been by her birth mother.

"Kids tell us that they think they were adopted because they were 'bad babies,'" Markson said. She encourages adoptive parents to work with their children on a story about their early life — because



The Carnie family of Colville, Wash. — Lorie, Deann Lorie and Landon are 12-year-old twins who came t



Duane Metcalf of Aurora talks with his Vietnamese son, John, 11, while carrying his Filipino daughter, Annie, 9.

Tomorrow in Weekend

Rafting down the Colorado River is relaxing summer fun.

No Trisha

Trisha Flynn is on vacation. Her column will resume in August after her return.



© 1985 United Feature

Ga

Vietnamese children get a touch of their culture

REUNION from Page 1-B

trator at the University of Illinois. In it was a snapshot of Steve holding a tiny, wide-eyed Jeff, who in turn was clutching a small stuffed Cookie Monster from Sesame Street.

In addition to sessions on Vietnamese cooking, candy-making, culture, history and music, the kids did the usual summer camp things — swimming, horseback-riding and volleyball. In a dining room flanked with American and South Vietnamese flags, they ate egg rolls and shrimp chips.

They heard detailed descriptions

of the orphanages they were practically born into, stories of how one place raised pigs and the children cared for the fruit trees.

It was like the Vietnamese version of "Roots," and after the reunion ends today, there are apt to be a lot more questions.

But for many of the kids, the joy was in seeing others who looked like them.

"We don't stand out like we are used to," said adoptive parent Tom Crawford from California.

"And as we try to find our children in this crowd, we find they don't stand out either."

Ex-nurse fights to stop movie on Vietnam

By CHARLIE BRENNAN
Rocky Mountain News Boulder Bureau

BOULDER — Pat Walsh, a diminutive woman confined with a back brace from an injury suffered in Vietnam, is waging her own war against plans for a Hollywood movie based on a story she calls a monumental lie.

Oscar-award winning actress Sally Field has commissioned a writer to prepare a script based on Lynda Van Devanter's "Home Before Morning," an American nurse's account of life and death at a military hospital during the peak of the Vietnam War.

If Field likes the script, the actress' publicist said, the movie will be made. If the movie is made, Walsh said, that would be a mistake.

Walsh, 42, who wrote her own account of the Vietnam experience, "Forever Sad the Hearts," calls her book a fictionalized composite of what happened.

Van Devanter's book is labeled non-fiction.

But Walsh and about 100 former Vietnam medical personnel, who incorporated in October as Nurses Against Misrepresentation, call it something else.

"It would all be different if she was telling the truth," said Walsh, whose beautifully furnished Boulder home makes Vietnam seem a million miles and a lifetime away. "But she's not telling the truth."

Van Devanter's story, first published by Beaufort Books and available in paperback through Warner Books, tells the story of the men and women at the 71st Evacuation Hospital in Pleiku Province near the Cambodian border.

It portrays the medical personnel as chronic drug and alcohol abusers and suggests that gross mishandling of bodies was routine.

And, according to Walsh and other critics, Van Devanter portrays herself as having done things she never did, been places she has never been and ascribes the heroic actions of others to herself.

"The truth about Vietnam can make you weep," said Walsh. "Why make anything up?"

Reached at her home in Herndon, Va., Van Devanter was adamant in rebutting Walsh's charges.

"They're all specious and I deny every one of her accusations," Van Devanter said.

She blocked any additional inquiry by saying, "Everything has been turned over to my lawyers," but wouldn't

say who her lawyers are.

Asked if, as has been rumored, she plans to sue Walsh, she declined comment.

"If she wants to sue me, that's fine," Walsh said. "I have three braces and a walker and a cane that I'd be glad to let her have."

THE MEDICAL HARDWARE is required to relieve some of the chronic lower lumbar pain which is Walsh's souvenir from the time a soldier landed in a foxhole with both feet squarely in her back when trying to escape a rocket attack at the Da Nang air base.

And, there is other pain.

Walsh was engaged to a marine who was killed at the outset of the Viet Cong Tet offensive.

"I took the war very personally from that time on," Walsh said. "I was what you might call shellshocked. Every rocket that I heard, I felt that I knew the person who was being killed."

Walsh is not alone in her rage over "Home Before Morning."

Joan Skiba, 38, of McHenry, Ill., was an emergency room nurse — and for two months the head nurse — at the same facility as Van Devanter.

"She describes these long, hard pushes and a lot of casualties and working shifts of up to 72 hours," Skiba said. "I never saw those pushes that she described. She described bodies strewn all over the outside of the morgue area. I never saw that."

"Where was she? It wasn't the same place I was."

Maggie LaBarbera Bailey, of Indianapolis, Ind., also served at the 71st Evacuation Hospital with Van Devanter. She finished reading the book last week.

"I just felt like she and I didn't serve at the same hospital, nor did we serve in the same war," said Bailey, who left Vietnam in August 1968. "I spent a year of my life in that emergency room. Never were the floors ever covered with blood. Never were there bodies stacked up outside the morgue."

Pat Kingsley, actress Field's Los Angeles publicist, dismisses the contradictions as "two different experiences of Vietnam."

FURTHERMORE, KINGSLEY said, Walsh "was trying to get interest in her book. Everybody would like to have their books made into movies."

"The book that Sally was interested in tells one woman's personal experience."

Walsh has heard previous suggestions that she is jealous of filmmakers' interest in the Van Devanter book.

She had, in fact, been represented by a Los Angeles agent but withdrew her book from consideration as a movie so that there would be no apparent "conflict of interest" in her campaign against "Home Before Morning."

From her voluminous records, she produced a letter to her agent, dated Sept. 17, as proof.

Records are important, particularly because Walsh admits to not having served at the same facility as Van Devanter.

For example, Walsh sought and received the complete official monthly nursing reports from the 71st Evacuation Hospital covering Van Devanter's tour there from June 1969 to June 1970.

Although Van Devanter writes of almost daily shelling of the hospital grounds, the records show that it happened only once.

WALSH WAS A nurse assigned to the Agency for International Development, working at the Da Nang Surgical Hospital treating civilian casualties. She returned after one year in June 1968, three months before her scheduled date.

She has a copy of the memorandum filed to report her request for early departure.

"Miss Maher (her maiden name) is very tired and is suffering from an emotional upset because of the death of her fiance . . . In talking with her this week, she explained to me, 'I simply cannot stand to see any more civilian casualties or hear those planes flying overhead,'" her supervisor wrote.

So, why is Walsh reliving those memories and the pain they bring with them?

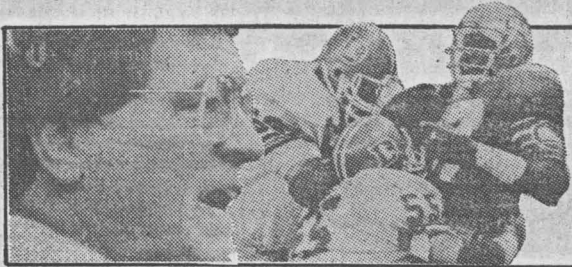
It's because of the fear that millions of film fans will pay their money, pass through the turnstiles and come out believing that Van Devanter's version reflects reality.

"We never would have challenged her if we hadn't pushed this to the silver screen and gotten Sally Field's Good Housekeeping seal of approval on it," Walsh said.

She doesn't expect, however, that the nurses will be able to dissuade Field from making whatever movies she chooses to make. She only wants it known that it didn't happen that way.

"Do you think I'm actually going to impose my morals on Hollywood?" she asked. "Give me a break. I'm not naive."

Wednesday



BRONCOS
SCRAPBOOK
PULLOUT SECTION INSIDE SPORTSTODAY



Handwritten note in a scribble: "8/2 02/1500"

THE DENVER POST

January 2, 1985

Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

My Lai: Nightmare that lingers on

Like the Vietnam War itself, the My Lai massacre is fading in American memory. But in My Lai it remains an ever-present nightmare. George Esper, the last AP bureau chief in Saigon, looks at My Lai today in this report, one of a series from his first visit to Vietnam in 10 years.

By George Esper
The Associated Press

MY LAI, Vietnam — The rice and vegetables grow in the lush green fields, the flowers are in bloom, and the trees are tall.

A new generation of children walks laughing through the hamlet of My Lai 4. Cows graze, dogs bark, chickens cackle.

Just as the rice harvest comes up every spring, life goes on in the hamlet in central Vietnam 16 years after a previous generation of children and their parents were killed by American troops in what the world called the My Lai massacre.

The bodies of the victims lie in the cemeteries and fields in and around My Lai.

Although atrocities occurred on both sides during the war, My Lai stunned America, a na-

tion that took pride in abiding by the rules of war.

Visiting My Lai today, in a trip arranged at his request by officials of Vietnam's communist government, an Associated Press reporter finds a hamlet rebuilt since 1975, when the communists took over all Vietnam with the fall of the Saigon government. An agricultural cooperative, formed by recent settlers, is the heart of the new My Lai.

A plaque is inscribed with the names of 504

Please see MY LAI on 9-A

The bowls

- Orange — Washington
- Sugar — Nebraska 28
- Cotton — BC 45, Hou
- Rose — USC 20, Chic
- Fiesta — UCLA 39, M

Greeting '85

Inte

Legislature

Day

55th sess

By Cindy Parmenter
Denver Post Capitol Bureau

The 100-member 55th Colorado Legislature convenes at 10 a.m. today with the strongest Republican majority since 1947, and it may make for fundamental changes the way Colorado government runs.

Twenty new representatives and six new senators will be among those sworn in today — many of them Republicans who were sworn into office in the Reagan landslide in the November election.

Gov. Dick Lamm delivers the State of the State address Thursday, and this could be the beginning of a session-long battle with Republican lawmakers based on reducing Lamm's control of state tax dollars.

The GOP-dominated Legislature could take control of millions of dollars in federal money that flow into the state.

And Democrats are fearful that some Republicans will attempt to use their veto-proof majority to set the balance of power between the Legislature and the governor.

The six new senators include four lawmakers moving to the member Senate from the House and a former senator returning after a two-year hiatus that was forced by reapportionment changes in Denver.

new lawmaker join

My Lai revisited: A gl

MY LAI from 1-A

men, women, and children Vietnamese officials say were killed on March 16, 1968.

A marker designates each spot where groups of Vietnamese were killed, including 97 people the government says were slain in a neighboring hamlet.

"Tai Doan Muong Nay 16-3-1968 Da Tan Sat 170 Nguoi," reads one marker — "On This Water Canal on March 16, 1968, American Imperialists Massacred 170 People."

The canal was a dry ditch then. It was built in 1978 and irrigates the rice paddies nearby.

Grassy knolls surrounding the canal were once the foundations of homes burned down by the Americans, says Pham Thi Trinh, 26, a massacre survivor who lives and works in the little museum in My Lai, which during the war years was among hundreds of South Vietnamese hamlets regarded as pro-Viet Cong by U.S. forces.

The museum exhibition includes photographs of massacred women and children made by a U.S. Army combat photographer and photos of American soldiers from U.S. publications.

These include William L. Calley, the lieutenant who commanded Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, 11th Brigade, Americal Division — the company involved in the massacre.

In the center of the hamlet, a large statue memorializes the victims. A woman stands with right hand raised, fist clenched. She holds a child in her left arm. At her feet are other massacre victims, comforting each other.

A second marker lies near an old French guardhouse, possibly the spot where an American soldier testified he helped round up about 35 or 40 Vietnamese men, women, and children who were then herded at rifle point into a clearing.

The soldier, rifleman Paul Meadlo, testified at Calley's court-martial that the lieutenant said, "You know what to do with them, Meadlo."

"I assumed he meant guard them, and I said, 'Yes,'" Meadlo testified.

He said Calley then returned and asked, "How come they're not dead?"

"I said I didn't know we were supposed to kill them," Meadlo testified. He said Calley replied, "I want them dead."

"He told me to help shoot them," Meadlo testified. He said he and Calley stood side by side and fired into the victims with M-16 automatic rifles from a distance of about 20 feet.

Still another marker lies in a spot covered by heavy brush where survivor Pham Thi Trinh says the houses in her family compound once stood.

"My parents, six brothers and sisters, grandmother, and aunt and uncle were killed," she says through a Vietnamese guide and interpreter, a Foreign Ministry official accompanying the reporter.

"I remember that morning well," she says. "I was 10 years old . . . We were preparing breakfast just before going into the fields."

"Suddenly the shelling came. We took cover in a shelter in front of our home. After the shelling we heard the sound of American soldiers. People hiding in the shelter got out as they usually did when Americans entered the village."

Pham Thi Trinh, weeping throughout the two-hour interview, says the U.S. troops ordered her family and four neighbors to the front of the house.

"They shot to death three cows first, then they knelt and shot my family. People tried to run away."

She says she escaped by hiding in a bedroom.

American troops shot her mother and then placed straw on her and lighted it, she

Pope hails arms talks betw

By E. J. Dionne Jr.
The New York Times

ROME — Pope John Paul II called the arms talks between the United States and the Soviet Union planned for next

share the same risk."

In what were some of his most specific comments on arms control to date, the pope called the "effective systems of arms control" an agreement

the Northern Hemisphere poorer nations of

"All will be fruitful unless a new concept in international relations is said"

Horribly nasty nightmare that lingers on

says. Her 14-year-old sister ran from the burning kitchen of their home, but the laughing soldiers forced her back into the fire, she says.

As her mother was dying of her wounds, she damned the Americans, Pham Thi Trinh says.

"I heard her say, 'You are criminals! You killed all of my family!' Then she cried out, 'I will die! Anybody, any children of mine, if you're still alive, try to live.'"

Pham Thi Trinh says she ran to her 76-year-old grandmother's house and found her body partly inside a dresser where she had tried to hide.

"Her hand was still clutching the door she was trying to close. My heart hurt very much and I embraced her and cried."

Pham Thi Trinh was the only survivor in her family, she says.

The massacre at My Lai is well documented through the testimony of 91 witnesses and hundreds of depositions, documents, maps, and photographs placed in evidence during Calley's court-martial in November 1969. But the exact number of Vietnamese who died is not. Official U.S. Army sources initially estimated the number at 200, and Calley was charged with the murder of 102 Vietnamese civilians.

For a year after it happened, the story of My Lai remained untold, until Vietnam veteran Ron Ridenhour learned of it from several men in Charlie Company.

He mailed letters to 30 military and congressional leaders documenting his charges that "something rather dark and bloody did occur sometime in March 1968" in a village the Americans code-named "Pinkville."

A jury of six senior officers convicted Calley in 1971 of first-degree murder of at least 22 villagers. He was sentenced to life imprisonment but President Richard M. Nixon reduced that to 20 years. Calley served three years under house arrest at Fort Benning, Ga.



Associated Press

Pham Thi Trinh, a My Lai survivor, stands beside a commemorative marker.

veenerp...ers as 'beam of hope'

misphere and interests the Southern, hatreds. agile and pre-called philosophy the eny... members in preparation for the start of the Assembly. The Denver Post / Brian Brainerd

Vietnamese orphan boy of '68 a Coloradan in the class of '86

By Jay Grelen
Denver Post Staff Writer

A war behind, the United States ahead, and Tim Buchanan was in between.

A new home was only an ocean and an airplane ride away for the infant, who spent the first months of his life in a Saigon orphanage.

On Nov. 10, 1968, the sickly Vietnamese orphan arrived in Denver to parents who had tangled with the bureaucracies of two warring nations to get their son, a boy who might not have lived past infancy in his native country.

But live he did, raised an Amer-

INSIDE

■ For a list of area high school graduations this week, see Page 6-A.

ican and a Coloradan, and Tim Buchanan graduates Wednesday from East High School, 18 years after his photograph appeared on the front page of The Denver Post as he arrived in his new hometown.

Buchanan, adopted by John and Lee Sanne Buchanan, has no memory and little interest in his

hometown, he says.

His interests for the moment lie in riding his dirt bike and finding a job to pay the rent for the apartment he and his older sister have just leased.

He plans to put off college for now while he decides what to do.

"My parents are always worrying. I'm always doing risky things. My parents think I party too hard," he says. "Don't stay out too late and don't do anything stupid." That's the last word I always hear.

His mother likes to say they

Please see **GRADUATE** on 6-A



The Denver Post / Lyn Alweis

Tim Buchanan embraces his parents, Lee Sanne and John.

Asian orphan of '68 an East graduate in '86

GRADUATE from Page 1-A

found him in a box of Cracker Jacks, he says.

Adopting an Asian child was a childhood dream of Lee Sanne's, who as a child read the books by Pearl Buck, who wrote extensively about Asia. When the time came, she wrote to the Pearl Buck Foundation, which didn't know the process for adopting a Vietnamese orphan, she recalls.

The couple continued their quest, and eventually received the photograph of a boy who was available.

"We loved that kid totally from that photograph," she says.

The months of waiting were exasperating and frightening, more taxing than a pregnancy.

"If you're pregnant, you at least know where the child is and that he's safe," she says.

When he arrived in Denver, Tim was 10 months old and weighed 10 pounds.

"I don't think Tim would have made it" in the orphanage, his mother says. "Our pediatrician said he'd never seen such a low red-blood count."

The Buchanans later adopted another Vietnamese child, who is older than Tim and already has graduated from high school. Tim is the youngest of the five Buchanan children, three of whom are "homemade," as the couple puts it.

As with many parents whose nest is emptying, the Buchanans feel sentimental and nostalgic. In a letter addressed to the editor of The Denver Post, Lee Sanne Buchanan wrote:

"I wish I could tell you he is first

Graduations scheduled this week

By The Denver Post

Area high school graduations this week include:

Adams County District 50

Saturday

Ranum High School, 9 a.m., District 50 Stadium.

Westminster High School, 1 p.m., District 50 Stadium.

Denver Public Schools

Tonight

John F. Kennedy High School, 7 p.m., Red Rocks Amphitheater, in event of rain, Denver Coliseum, East 46th Avenue and Humboldt Street.

Thomas Jefferson High School, 8 p.m., Denver Coliseum.

South High School, 8 p.m., McNichols Sports Arena.

Tuesday

Montbello High School, 8 p.m., Auditorium Arena, 1323 Champa St.

Abraham Lincoln High School, 7 p.m., Red Rocks Amphitheater, in event of rain, Denver Coliseum.

Wednesday

George Washington High School, 7:30 p.m., school auditorium, 655 S. Monaco Parkway.

East High School, 8 p.m., Boettcher Concert Hall, 13th and Curtis streets.

Thursday

Manual High School, 8 p.m., Boettcher Concert Hall.

Emily Griffith Opportunity School, 2 p.m., North High School Auditorium, 2960 N. Speer Blvd.

Englewood Schools

Friday

Englewood High School, 8 p.m., school field house, 3800 S. Logan St.

June 11

Alternative High School, 7 p.m., at the school, 2323 W. Baker Ave. Jefferson County Schools

Tuesday

Occupational Work Experience students, 6 p.m., Morris Park.

Saturday

Columbine High School, 11:30 a.m., Jefferson County Stadium.

Pomona High School, 8:30 a.m., Jefferson County Stadium.

June 9

Adult High School, 5:30 p.m., Aviation Country Club, 1890 Teller St.

Cherry Creek Schools

Tonight

Overland High School, 7:30 p.m., Boettcher Concert Hall.

Littleton Schools

Saturday

Littleton High School, 11:30 a.m., Littleton Public Schools Stadium, 199 E. Littleton Blvd.

Arapahoe High School, 9 a.m., school gymnasium, 2201 E. Dry Creek Road.

June 9

Heritage High School, 9 a.m., Littleton Public Schools Stadium.

Denver Christian Schools

Friday

Denver First Church of the Nazarene, 8 p.m., 3800 E. Hampden Ave.

Schools not listed have already had their graduations.

in his class, is a top athlete or first chair in the orchestra. The truth is, he is an average boy with average grades and average problems.

"Nevertheless, he is very special. . . . He is the 'warm fuzzy' in our family and always has been.

"We know that when Tim walks up the aisle at Boettcher to accept his diploma, we will weep with pride and love for him. He can't realize all the joy he has brought us since the day he arrived, a tiny, thin, scared little baby from the other side of the world. . . ."

Tim, once the scared little baby, the child with no future, feels the same about his family. Asked what he might change about his life, Tim told his family:

"I'd be your homemade son."

Israeli Cabinet names new attorney general

Page 1-A

to replace Za- ent said

ly," Shamir told reporters on Friday.

The newspaper, which cited political sources and sources close to the Shin Bet, also said Shamir told his author-

Quality Automotive SUNROOFS

As low as **\$99.85**
Does not include installation.

Let the **"FUN SHINE!"**

Increase your driving and the value of your car with a Sunroof.

Quality Automotive Sunroofs

Free Pick-up

Vietnamese orphans get \$19 million

By Ann Schmidt

Denver Post Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Seventy-eight Vietnamese orphans who were injured in a 1976 crash of a plane airlifting children from Saigon will receive a settlement of \$19.7 million from the Lockheed Corp. and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Rep. Tim Wirth, D-Colo., announced the settlement Thursday and said it was a "welcome, but long overdue conclusion" to a legal war waged by the company and the government against the children.

Wirth's interest was roused by the Boulder-based Friends for All Children, which was arranging adoptions for the planeload of children who were airlifted out of Saigon just before it fell to the communists in 1976.

One of the door locks on the Lockheed C-5A blew open, causing sudden decompression. The plane later crash-landed and 70 of the children were killed.

The survivors sustained many injuries, including brain damage, because of the lack of oxygen. Together, they sued the government.

In 1982, a settlement of \$17.8 million was made by Lockheed and the Justice Department for the 45 children who were adopted by American families, but nothing was done for those who were adopted by families outside the country.

Guyton, Telegraph Colo. Springs April 24, 1986

'Babylift' settlement announced

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Lockheed Aircraft Corp. tentatively has agreed to a \$10 million settlement of court claims brought on behalf of 76 orphans killed in the "Operation Babylift" crash of an Air Force-operated C5A in Vietnam 11 years ago.

The agreement would end just about all the lawsuits growing out of the 1975 crash near Saigon, in which 135 people, including the 76 orphans, died instantly as they fled the impending communist takeover of South Vietnam.

In 1982, Lockheed and the U.S. government reached a settlement of \$13.5 million with 45 injured orphans who were adopted in this country. The cases of seven others were settled out of court.

Lockheed and the government agreed in 1984 to a \$19.7 million settlement of claims on behalf of 78 injured orphans now living abroad.

As in the 1984 settlement, the parents of children covered by the latest settlement are expected to receive little more than half the money in the fund, the rest going for attorneys' fees, expenses and court costs.

Under terms of the newest agreement, signed April 9 but unsealed by U. S. District Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer on Wednesday, relatives of two of the dead children will receive not less than \$525,000 and not more than \$1 million from the \$10 million fund Lockheed will create. The United States recently was dropped as a defendant in the case.

A court trial had been under way on the claim of Willie E. Powell of Boulder, Colo., who claimed to be the father of Giang Thi Ngoc Diep, when the settlement was reached.

Vietnam opens battle-scarred doors to tourists

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — When the United States and Vietnam were deadly enemies, most Americans touring the war-scarred Southeast Asian nation wore camouflage uniforms and traded gunshots with an elusive foe.

But 11 years after the fall of Saigon marked the end of the conflict, Vietnam has decided it wants American tourists and dollars.

If you have \$1,826 to spare, you can spend 12 days in the land this country spent billions trying vainly to defeat.

"Come to Vietnam and you will find a rare country, not a series of sideshows laid on for passing tourists," reads a brochure at British-born travel agent John Quin-Harkin's Go Travel Agency. The war is never mentioned.

"What I've learned is that the Vietnamese would like to open up the country to tourism," said Quin-Harkin. "They probably need the dollars. They would like also

not only to open it up to tourism; they'd also like to open it up to people who have left Vietnam and would like to go back and see their families."

Quin-Harkin says his tours of 30 people each will begin Nov. 24, and displayed a stack of envelopes destined for others who had expressed interest in the trip.

Quin-Harkin is offering once-a-month, 12-day tours for \$1,826 each, double occupancy, or 19-day tours for \$2,539. The Vietnam gateway is Ho Chi Minh City, once known as Saigon.

Prices cover rooms, transportation, including Air Vietnam inside the country, three meals a day in the country, sightseeing and tickets to cultural events.

"The trouble has been in getting tours into Vietnam on a regular basis," he said, although he's heard of at least two small groups which already have toured Vietnam.

Not everybody will be welcome, he cautioned, noting a visa applica-

tion that apparently goes to Hanoi for review and requires seven weeks for processing.

Although some Vietnamese who left the country will be allowed to visit, there is no open-door policy.

"What I understand . . . is they're not ready to allow all who are people of Vietnamese origin . . . there is a distinction between people who left before April 1975 (war's end) and those who left on boats afterwards . . ."

Quin-Harkin also cautioned that Americans who go to Vietnam should be aware the United States has neither an embassy nor a third party nation to represent its interests there.

A State Department official in Washington supported the caveat. He said there's no ban on American travel to Vietnam, but "we remind them that we are not represented" there and the United States would be unable to aid a traveler in trouble.

But Quin-Harkin isn't worried.

"We have no reason to believe Americans have anything to worry about," he said. "I talked to a fellow who had been there and he had a great time . . . we have absolutely no reason to believe that we're not off and running. We think

things will run on a regular basis."

The 19-day tour includes Da Nang, site of some of the war's bloodiest fighting, and Hanoi, capital of what then was North Vietnam. Also included are stops at such battle sites as Cu Chi.

Debutante Ball forced into incorporation

DEBUTANTE fee and th debutante's tax on its earnings. "Last year, we raised about \$100,000 for the symphony," Hickerson says. "This year we'll be lucky to contribute half that amount."

is always his ac Chair checks ho- ple

is not tax-exempt, s a ew to s. Ther with a or t at

SEARS DESIGNER DECKS FALL SALE

15% OFF



Picture the ways your family can have fun!
Now you can extend your home's living area (or replace your worn out slab) with an affordable new wood deck.

- Backed by SEARS Quality and Reliability
- Custom Designed for Your Home
- 1 Day Installation in Most Cases
- Beauty and Resale Value to Your Home
- Plans Available

PHONE FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
1-800-732-7733

October 31, 1986
Sears, Roebuck and Co. 1986

There's more for your life at
SEARS
SOLD, FURNISHED AND INSTALLED BY A SEARS AUTHORIZED CONTRACTOR

So
E

25.00

EA
TI

1.75
LITER

90°
WE

1.75
LITER

VO

1.75
LITER

TANG
G

1.75
LITER

SANT
R
AMBER

1.75
LITER

HIGH
LIQ
SCC

1.75
LITER

LONG
IML
G

1.75
LITER

RO
AMAI

Vietnamese left out of Agent Orange fund

Q. I came to the U.S. from Vietnam 11 years ago. Now I'm an American citizen. Before 1975, I was in the South Vietnamese army, and I flew many Agent Orange spraying missions. Later on, I developed problems with my digestive system. Can I claim medical benefits, the way many American, Australian and New Zealand veterans are doing? If yes, how? I have contacted the Boulder Veterans Administration, but have received no positive answer. — L.D., Boulder.

A. We found no answer for L.D., no cure, no compensation and no light at the end of the tunnel.

All we can do is ask readers to contribute any ideas they might have on the subject and, if they are moved to do so, to write their representatives in Washington. It seems the only remedy for L.D.'s woes, and the problems of count-



Action Line

David Lewis

less former Vietnamese veterans, would be an act of Congress.

During the Vietnam War about 12 million gallons of Agent Orange were used to strip trees of their leaves and the enemy of food supplies and ground cover. The trouble was, Agent Orange contained dioxin, considered the most poisonous of manufactured chemicals.

Some argue there's no proof of a direct connection between illness and exposure to the toxin. Others claim Agent Orange causes skin conditions, liver disease and soft skin sarcomas — that is, tumors.

We started as L.D. did, by asking

the VA for a response. "All the benefits of the Veterans Administration are based upon the claimant being a veteran of the armed forces of the United States, or being a dependent or survivor of such a veteran," wrote veterans services officer Raul Barela. "You would not be eligible to file a claim for compensation."

Then we turned to Larry Alvarado, chairman of the Colorado Agent Orange and Nuclear Veterans Coalition. Alvarado is helping to coordinate the medical claims American, Australian and New Zealand vets must submit this summer to get their share of a \$180 million trust fund. The fund comprises the out-of-court agreement vets accepted as settlement of a suit against seven manufacturers of Agent Orange.

Alvarado himself suffers from heart problems and a bleeding stomach, problems he said were caused by Agent Orange. He sent L.D. an information package and promises of moral support.

"There's still a lot of resentment of the Vietnamese community by U.S. veterans," he said. "I want them to know there's no resentment here."

Only totally disabled veterans and survivors of vets killed by Agent Orange exposure will qualify for trust fund money. William G. Morgan, regional counsel for Denver-area veterans involved in the suit, said vets submitted about 245,000 claims; if 35,000 claims are approved, each would get a little more than \$5,000.

Why weren't Vietnamese included in the suit? "That's a good question," Morgan said. "The statute of limitations has probably passed; the suit was brought before there were a lot of Vietnamese in the U.S. Then again, the way it turned out, it was a travesty anyway."

A tough one

Q. I should have known better than to order something from Better Living after reading your column on the periodical. But I did

exactly that. I ordered The AMA Book of Skin and Hair Care from a company called Materia Medica via a check for \$5.80 3 months ago. I never got the magazine, despite my efforts to contact the company. Can you help? — A.J., Arvada.

A. Action Line readers know we like the tough ones, the challenges. A.J.'s question qualifies. It took us more than a year and a half to get A.J. \$5.80.

If we like challenges, we must have a whale of a crush on Materia Medica, one of a cluster of companies run by Ralph Ginzburg's Avant Garde Media Inc. Ginzburg, you may recall, holds the distinction of being the only American convicted of a federal obscenity charge in this century. New York authorities have received about 10,000 complaints against his businesses, A.J.'s among them.

Got a problem? Write Action Line, Rocky Mountain News, P.O. Box 719, Denver 80201.

FLOOR SAMPLE & WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE

Elderly feel 'somersaults,' just like teen-agers, when they fall in love, study says

NEW YORK (AP) — Science has confirmed what anybody whose heart ever went pitter-patter knew or could have guessed: Older people fall in love in the same way

Yeah, passion is nice. But it's

Vietnam War MIA bill killed in crossfire

By BERNY MORSON

Rocky Mountain News Capitol Bureau

A Grand Junction lawmaker set out to sponsor an "apple pie" resolution on behalf of Americans missing in Vietnam but ended up in a crossfire between conventional veterans groups and a faction with ties to *Soldier of Fortune* magazine.

At the center of the mixup is David A. Brinkhaus, who lost a race for state treasurer in 1978 amid allegations that he was financing his campaign by pilfering funds from his senile father.

Rep. Ed Carpenter, R-Grand Junction, withdrew a resolution on behalf of 2,467 missing Americans after an American Legion delegation objected to language praising Task Force Omega, which shares a Boulder phone number with the magazine.

The magazine ran ads by a Georgia man who allegedly sought the contract killing of his wife and an Indiana group that wanted to storm a courthouse and free a man on trial for manslaughter.

The magazine has announced that it will stop running ads soliciting professional soldiers, beginning with the April issue.

Carpenter said he agreed to sponsor the resolution because the issue seemed to have the support of veterans groups.

But Pat Smith, the American Legion national executive committeeman for Colorado, said his group objected to language calling on Task Force Omega of Colorado to work with the Perot Commission on Americans Missing in Southeast Asia. He accused

Carpenter said Ray Lloyd, chairman of the Colorado Legion's POW-MIA committee, put him in contact with Brinkhaus, who helped research the 2-page resolution.

Lloyd said, "Introducing Ed Carpenter and David Brinkhaus was the normal course of events." As a member of the public relations firm representing Omega, Brinkhaus had organized business lunches on behalf of

THE 1986 LEGISLATURE

- Lawmakers kill proposed private management of nursing homes/84
- Proposal to help secure liability insurance announced/55

the Perot group — named for Texas millionaire H. Ross Perot — of trying to win the release of MIAs and POWs through covert operations.

"The Rambo-type thing will not get the men back," Smith said. He said the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars agree that winning release of Americans should be left to the government.

the group.

But Lloyd was surprised to learn that Omega is linked to *Soldier of Fortune*. Lloyd said the magazine has supported his group.

Brinkhaus didn't return calls yesterday. Brinkhaus allegedly borrowed \$8,800 from the estate of his senile father in 1978 to finance his race for the Republican nomination for treasurer. Brinkhaus was conservator of the estate at the time.

The health advisory particularly applies to the 400 to 1,000 area residents who get their drinking water from private wells. Though the contamination in drinking water supplied by the water district poses no immediate health threat, officials said, they recommended that the water be purified until a treatment facility can be established.

"The EPA has lied many times before," parts per billion of TCE in the water is safe. "I didn't believe the EPA's contention that 5 with relatives in Commerce City, said she Carla Salbaro, a Wheat Ridge resident she said. first to senior citizens and day-care centers.

considered safe under proposed EPA standards, he said. Drinking water provided by the water district is at about 5 parts per billion, health officials said. For those people using private wells, the Army funds might pay for the cost of con-

is a probable source of much of m, but other industrial sites may es, state officials say. my officials have not accepted for the polluted wells, they help finance interim water agreed this week to provide

Brinkhaus repaid the money with interest but lost the primary.

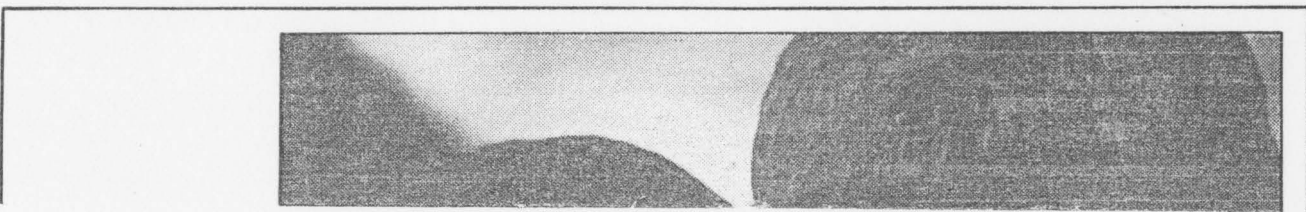
A secretary at *Soldier of Fortune* in Boulder answered the phone "Omega" yesterday, but when asked about Task Force Omega, said no one there ever heard of it. *Soldier of Fortune* is published by Omega Group Ltd.

But later in the day, an answering service at the same number took a message for the task force and confirmed that the group shares the number with *Soldier of Fortune*.

Task force leaders did not return the call. Carpenter apparently was unaware of the connection to the magazine. He withdrew his resolution because he didn't want to be involved in a turf battle between opposing veterans groups.

"I thought what I was doing would be supported by veterans organizations. Instead they're all against it," he said.

"I ran them out," he said of the American Legion delegation that visited him yesterday morning. "When they (veterans groups) get their act together, they'll get support from the legislature. I'm not doing anything for these idiots till they get their act together."



DA declines to challenge insanity dat



COLORADO SPRINGS GAZETTE TELEGRAPH

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Let peace begin with me

Ever striving for the Pikes Peak region to be an even better place to live

This newspaper is dedicated to furnishing information to our readers so that they can better promote and preserve their own freedom and encourage others to see its blessings. Only when man is free to control himself and all he produces, can he develop to his utmost capabilities.

We believe that freedom is a gift from God and not a political grant from government. Freedom is neither license nor anarchy; it is self-control. No more. No less. It must be consistent with the truths expressed in such great moral guides as the Coveting Commandment, the Golden Rule and the Declaration of Independence.

editorials

Vietnamese 'boat people'

Every few days, groups of desperate Vietnamese climb into wooden fishing junks and cast off from their homeland, preferring possible death on the South China Sea to another day under the despotic rule of the Vietnamese communist government.

Unless they are rescued, their 20-horsepower motors usually give out after a day or two. The boats bob like corks in the high waves, often splintering and sinking in the monsoon-swept seas. Thousands of other boat people slowly die of hunger, thirst and exposure. Some of the boats that approach belong to pirates, who assault and kill. Other vessels pass by without stopping.

Voyagers with luck will be plucked from the ocean by the Cap Anamur II, a mercy ship with doctors and nurses aboard currently searching the sea for the refugees. The Cap Anamur mission is basically a European effort, though an American group, the S.O.S. Boat People Committee, is providing support.

This privately funded program was conceived in Paris in 1978 and led to annual rescue missions by French and West German humanitarian organizations. The U.S. government could help by accepting some of the refugees the European boats pick up. Unfortunately, federal officials have been reluctant to do so.

A representative of the committee will go

to Washington, D.C., soon to make another appeal. We urge federal officials to help the European rescuers. The committee's new proposal should overcome the State Department's refusal to issue visas to boat people whom federal officials haven't screened first.

At any rate, desperate refugees are going to flee, whether the Cap Anamur is waiting for them or not. And, as Dr. Bernard Kouchner, president of Cap Anamur, said recently on a U.S. visit, such a high number of the rescued are children, that the civilized world cannot turn its back on the boat people.

"Parents have so little hope for their children in their country that they think their only chance is to send them off in these boats," he said.

Eleven years after the fall of Saigon, it's easy for the United States to say, "We've done enough." During the past decade, our country has taken in 800,000 Indochinese refugees, much to the benefit and enrichment of our country, by the way.

It's easy for Americans to forget the frail boats that still set sail from Vietnam on perilous, often fatal voyages to freedom, but you can be sure that today, somewhere out on the China Sea float ~~some~~ some Vietnamese boat people. We must not abandon them.

Vietnam War MIA bill killed in crossfire

By **BERNY MORSON**
Rocky Mountain News Capitol Bureau

A Grand Junction lawmaker set out to sponsor an "apple pie" resolution on behalf of Americans missing in Vietnam but ended up in a crossfire between conventional veterans groups and a faction with ties to *Soldier of Fortune* magazine.

At the center of the mixup is David A. Brinkhaus, who lost a race for state treasurer in 1978 amid allegations that he was financing his campaign by pilfering funds from his senile father.

Rep. Ed Carpenter, R-Grand Junction, withdrew a resolution on behalf of 2,467 missing Americans after an American Legion delegation objected to language praising Task Force Omega, which shares a Boulder phone number with the magazine.

The magazine ran ads by a Georgia man who allegedly sought the contract killing of his wife and an Indiana group that wanted to storm a courthouse and free a man on trial for manslaughter.

The magazine has announced that it will stop running ads soliciting professional soldiers, beginning with the April issue.

Carpenter said he agreed to sponsor the resolution because the issue seemed to have the support of veterans groups.

But Pat Smith, the American Legion national executive committeeman for Colorado, said his group objected to language calling on Task Force Omega of Colorado to work with the Perot Commission on Americans Missing in Southeast Asia. He accused

Carpenter said Ray Lloyd, chairman of the Colorado Legion's POW-MIA committee, put him in contact with Brinkhaus, who helped research the 2-page resolution.

Lloyd said, "Introducing Ed Carpenter and David Brinkhaus was the normal course of events." As a member of the public relations firm representing Omega, Brinkhaus had organized business lunches on behalf of

Brinkhaus repaid the money with interest but lost the primary.

A secretary at *Soldier of Fortune* in Boulder answered the phone "Omega" yesterday, but when asked about Task Force Omega, said no one there ever heard of it. *Soldier of Fortune* is published by Omega Group Ltd.

But later in the day, an answering service at the same number took a message for the task force and confirmed that the group shares the number with *Soldier of Fortune*.

Task force leaders did not return the call. Carpenter apparently was unaware of the connection to the magazine. He withdrew his resolution because he didn't want to be involved in a turf battle between opposing veterans groups.

"I thought what I was doing would be supported by veterans organizations. Instead they're all against it," he said.

"I ran them out," he said of the American Legion delegation that visited him yesterday morning. "When they (veterans groups) get their act together, they'll get support from the legislature. I'm not doing anything for these idiots till they get their act together."

THE 1986 LEGISLATURE

■ Lawmakers kill proposed private management of nursing homes/84

■ Proposal to help secure liability insurance announced/55

the Perot group — named for Texas millionaire H. Ross Perot — of trying to win the release of MIAs and POWs through covert operations.

"The Rambo-type thing will not get the men back," Smith said. He said the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars agree that winning release of Americans should be left to the government.

the group.

But Lloyd was surprised to learn that Omega is linked to *Soldier of Fortune*. Lloyd said the magazine has supported his group.

Brinkhaus didn't return calls yesterday. Brinkhaus allegedly borrowed \$8,800 from the estate of his senile father in 1978 to finance his race for the Republican nomination for treasurer. Brinkhaus was conservator of the estate at the time.



DA declines to challenge insanity data

Rocky Mountain News Staff

Prosecutors won't contest three psychiatrists' findings that Dana Sue Jones was legally insane last month when she killed a man by stabbing him 117 times and carving a "D" in his chest as he lay tied to her bed.

"We see no good-faith basis to contest those findings," Lamar Sims, chief deputy Denver district attorney, said yesterday.

Prosecution's decision, coupled with making a jury trial

Hanoi invites legislators to check MIAs

BANGKOK, Thailand (UPI) — Hanoi yesterday invited four members of a U.S. congressional delegation to make on-site investigations of reports that American prisoners of war are still being held in Vietnam.

The news raised the optimism of an Tucson, Ariz., woman who claims her brother from Englewood, Colo., is alive and being held in a prison compound in Vietnam.

Eleanor Reitz gave Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., a map detailing the area she says sources have told her that Maj. Victor Apodaca, her brother, is being held prisoner with 30 to 50 other men.

Apodaca, an Air Force major, was shot down over North Vietnam in 1967. He was a graduate of Englewood High School and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

DeConcini, in a telephone interview, said Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in Hanoi "said that I could come over, and he and I would personally go out to investigate some of these reports."

DeConcini, one of four members of Congress who visited Hanoi yesterday, said Thach extended the same invitation to the other three members of the group.

Reitz said he information about her brother's location was very specific, but she worried whether the Vietnamese would move the prisoners before DeConcini has a chance to go to the site. At the very least, though, she said she expects DeConcini to find evidence of a recently occupied prison compound at the site.

"If he is able to get into the actual area that was on the map, I'd say that's exciting news," Reitz said. "Whether the Hanoi government is going to allow my brother to stay in that prison compound is another thing."

Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, said, "If I had a credible case (of an American sighted in Vietnam) come to me, I would have no hesitation in taking him up on this."

The other members of the delegation, Reps.

Michael Bilirakis, R-Fla. and Bob McEwen, R-Ohio, also said they were willing to take the Vietnamese foreign minister up on his offer.

DeConcini said the unprecedented offer for on-site investigations could be useful "if there was a guarantee that we could travel and talk to people freely."

He said that would at least demonstrate to the Vietnamese that there was no harm in legitimate outside investigators trying to resolve the question.

Murkowski said Vietnamese leaders repeatedly told the delegation there were no Americans held against their will by Vietnam.

Deputy Foreign Minister Hoang Bich Son "clarified that, noting that there might be some who entered Vietnam illegally and were hiding in caves or churches," Murkowski said.

Such an entry presumably would have come when North and South Vietnam were separate nations.

The U.S. government has investigated more than 800 reports of Americans still alive in Vietnam and has resolved all but 95 of them. Only about half of the remaining reports involved possible prisoners and only five have come in the past five years, officials said.

Thach, however, rejected suggestions that U.S. investigators or an international organization such as the Red Cross conduct the search for Americans still in Vietnam.

Bilirakis said the Vietnamese said that up to 25 sets of human remains, believed to be those of Americans listed as missing in action, might be turned over to American officials at talks in February.

Bilirakis said the Vietnamese have also found additional skeletal remains at the site where a U.S. plane crashed 9 miles north of Hanoi. That site was searched by a U.S.-Vietnamese team last November.

News writer Kevin Flynn contributed to this report.

Senator on MIA trip recovers Vietnamese children for mother

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Sen. Frank Murkowski went to Vietnam to find out about American MIAs but left yesterday with two sobbing Vietnamese children who were separated from their mother seven years ago.

Murkowski, R-Alaska, led the U.S. congressional delegation to Hanoi to urge the Vietnamese to help resolve the cases of Americans who remain listed as missing in action from the Indochina war.

But the delegation left yesterday after Vietnam's foreign minister told them no Americans were being held against their will.

Instead, Murkowski had answered a mother's plea. The lawmaker's left with 10-year-old Nguyen Vu Chinh and 9-year-old Tran Thanh Quynh. The children are to rejoin their mother Tuesday in Alaska.

Their mother, Xuan Thi Nguyen, had fled to the United States seven years ago and now lives in Fairbanks. She had asked the senator's office to help get her children out.

"I'm just very emotionally moved at the sight of those two kids here with us on the way to a new life," said Murkowski, chairman of the Senate veterans affairs committee, who led the lawmakers to Vietnam in his role as chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs committee.

The children had been accompanied from Ho Chi Minh city by their aunt, 30-year-old Nguyen Thi Sau, who raised them in their hometown of Tay Ninh city after their mother left.

Institute for Health Education
8400 W. 38TH AVE. • WHEAT RIDGE, CO 80033

AN AFFILIATE OF
LUTHERAN MEDICAL CENTER


PRESENTS ANOTHER
Personal Stress Management Program

If you are tense, uptight, unable to relax...
If you want to avoid worries and negative thinking...
If you need more time for yourself...

Our Personal Stress Management Program can help. Developed by psychologists and reviewed by physicians, this program trains you to use over 100 stress-reducing techniques.

We don't simply talk about stress. We have you try biofeedback, relaxation techniques, different foods, and new exercises. You'll also learn problem-solving, time management, goal-setting, and assertiveness skills.

At the completion of the program, you will be better able to handle personal, family, and worksite stress. You will be in charge. For more information, come to our first session.



del mar
window coverings

MINI BLINDS
MICRO MINI'S • WOOD MINI'S
WOVEN WOODS • SOFTLIGHT SHADES

UP TO **65% OFF**

CUSTOM MADE VERTICAL BLINDS

Open Sundays 1-5 p.m.
60% OFF

CUSTOM DRAPERIES

- Warm Windows
- Roman Shades
- Balloon Shades
- Austrian Shades

UP TO **50% OFF**



1/19/86

Rocky Mountain News

MIA trip to reunite 2 kids, mom

By The Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam — Sen. Frank Murkowski went to Vietnam to find out about American MIAs from the Vietnam War, but left Saturday with two sobbing Vietnamese children who were separated from their mother seven years ago.

Murkowski, R-Alaska, led the U.S. congressional delegation to Hanoi to urge the Vietnamese to help resolve the cases of Americans who remain listed as missing in action from the Indochina war.

But the delegation left Saturday after Vietnam's foreign minister told them no Americans were being held against their will in the communist country.

Instead, Murkowski had answered a mother's plea. The lawmakers left with 10-year-old Nguyen Vu Chinh and 9-year-old Tran Thanh Quynh. The two children are to rejoin their mother Tuesday in Alaska.

Their mother, Xuan Thi Nguyen, had fled to the United States seven years ago, and now lives in Fairbanks. She had asked the senator's office to help get her children out.

Murkowski first saw the children with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach at his side. The tired village children sobbed loudly.

"I'm just very emotionally moved at the sight of those two kids here with us on the way to a new life," said Murkowski, who led the lawmakers to Vietnam in his role as chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

"I'm so pleased and so humbled that we can bring them to their mother, that they will have the opportunity that we enjoy living in America," he said.

The liftoff from Hanoi capped an emotionally wrenching day, not only for the children but for the Americans as well.

The children had been accompanied from Ho Chi Minh City by their aunt, 30-year-old Nguyen Thi Sau, who raised them in their hometown of Tay Ninh City after their mother left.

When Sau parted from the children, she burst into sobs.

So did the children. Murkowski choked up. Susan DeConcini, wife of Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., stepped into the crisis.

"Susan was absolutely fabulous," Murkowski said later. "She picked up that little boy in her arms — he was almost as big as she is, because she's small — and got into the van taking us to the airport. Everybody followed."

Murkowski said last-minute red tape threatened to stall the exchange when low-ranking officials questioned whether the children's paperwork was complete.

Murkowski said at that point, Thach leaned over to him, and said, "Just go."

The delegation did.

Murkowski said he saw the children's release as his personal crusade, and was determined to do "absolutely everything I could to pull this off."

He carried with him a handwritten letter from the children's mother which she gave to him only five days before he left on his mission. The letter pleaded with the aunt to help the senator convince the Vietnamese government to let her children go.

"This is very seldom an opportunity," she wrote in broken English. "I wish you are very clever to help for children to come here as soon as possible."

Murkowski said the woman told him she works for the Yukon Office Supply Co. in Fairbanks, and that she and her husband, an American aircraft mechanic, who have no children to their own,

"have a home and good financial standing."

DeConcini summed up the delegation's efforts in Hanoi saying, "Even though we may not have succeeded in the area of resolving the MIA issue, this happening with the kids was worth it."

Monday, January 19, 1986

Murkowski aide Anthony Principi said Thach reiterated the official Vietnamese position that there are no captive Americans in the country. Since the Vietnam War ended in 1975, there have been 806 reported sightings of Americans in Indochina. The U.S. government has been able to rule out all but 95 of the reports.

On Friday, Murkowski said another Vietnamese official, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoang Bich Son, assured the U.S. lawmakers that Hanoi hopes next month to turn over the remains of up to 50 Americans still listed as missing in action. The United States lists 1,797 Americans as missing in Vietnam, and another 644 unaccounted for in Laos and Cambodia. Murkowski said Son acknowledged there are 300,000 Vietnamese still unaccounted for from the Indochina War.

hundreds of thousands who

Vietnam faces major food production crisis

Denver Post Wire Services

HAIPHONG, Vietnam — Mismanagement, corruption and transportation problems have left Vietnam unable to feed itself 13 years after the end of the civil war, and the country's communist leaders are struggling to find the right formula to improve the agricultural system.

The food crisis is a major political and psychological setback for Vietnam, which in the past boasted that self-sufficiency in rice production was one of the government's greatest achievements since communist forces from the north took over the U.S.-backed Saigon government in the south in 1975.

The crisis is all the more acute because the country's population, now estimated at 62 million, is growing by about a million a year, or about 2.5 percent. A National Assembly member from Quang Nam Danang province said in a

'Food production is up, but the agricultural sector is plagued by management problems.'

An Eastern European diplomat

speech earlier this month that 10 million Vietnamese still do not have enough to eat.

"They have big problems with agriculture," said a diplomat from an Eastern European country. "Food production is up, but the agricultural sector is still plagued by management problems."

Rice production, which increased steadily during the early 1980s, appears to have stalled for at least two years, and the government is unable to meet its production targets. At the same time, fertilizer sits unused in warehouses because peasants do not want to trade their valuable rice as required.

The winter rice crop last year

fell 1.6 million tons short of the state goal, forcing Vietnam to make an embarrassing international appeal for food. But even that dramatic plea seemed beset by top-level confusion, with Agriculture Ministry officials in Hanoi insisting the situation was not that severe while the foreign minister was telling reporters in Bangkok that peasants were reduced to eating seed rice.

The recent June harvest was apparently sufficient to alleviate the immediate problem of shortages, according to officials in Hanoi and independent analysts. But the spring food shortage highlighted Vietnam's continuing agricultural

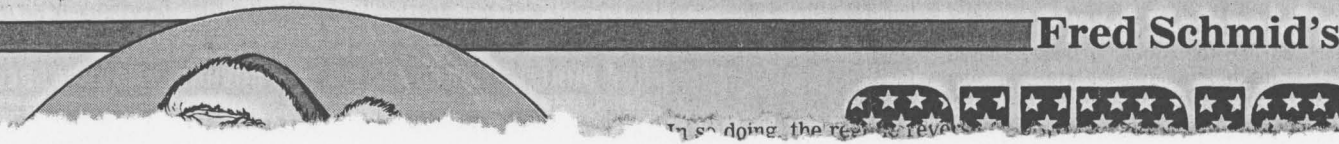
difficulties and the problems in finding solutions as the long-term structural problems in the heavily subsidized agriculture system remain.

Officials concede that there was always enough rice in the country to remedy the shortfall, but many peasants in the more fertile, productive south refused to sell their surplus rice to the government at the cheap, subsidized prices.

When the government was able to purchase rice, it often never made it to the economically depressed north because the rice was pilfered from trucks as it passed through central Vietnamese cities.

In Haiphong, a northern port city of 1.4 million people, local officials said the city can satisfy only about half of its rice needs, and each year they are reduced to "begging for rice" from Hanoi, according to Vietnamese officials.

Fred Schmid's



Marines returning to Vietnam to save lives

Denver Post Wire Services

ARLINGTON, Va. — "You are going back to a country that is no longer the way you remember it," the Vietnam veteran was telling six fellow veterans who listened anxiously at the edge of their chairs.

Vietnam will be as changed as you are.

The veterans sitting around a table last weekend in an Arlington hotel went to Vietnam when they were barely 19 years old. And now, after 20 years, they are going back.

The reason is not nostalgia. These six were members of the 11th Engineer Battalion of the Marine Corps, stationed along the Demilitarized Zone.

Twenty years ago they laid out 100,000 mines. This January,

they are going back to help the Vietnamese remove them.

"When we put these mines in, they were put there for a good reason: to save the lives of American soldiers," says Gene Spanos, a Rosemont, Ill., police lieutenant who is organizing the trip.

"All of us here are going back to Vietnam for an equally good reason: to save lives again. Civilians have been stepping on these mines and getting killed since the war ended because nobody ever took them out when the war was over. We know where the mine fields are since we put them in."

Several of the men were in the same platoon in Vietnam in the late '60s. Others decided to join after hearing about the plan. Coming from Kansas, Illinois, Maryland,

Connecticut and Massachusetts, they agreed to get together last weekend outside Washington, D.C., before making the trip to Vietnam next winter.

The job of these men during the war was to lay mines around American fire bases that dotted the southern side of the demilitarized zone in places like Gio Lihn and Can Thien. They set the mines slightly beneath ground level with barbed-wire barricades on the perimeter and signs that read: "DANGER — MINES."

Today, the barbed-wire fencing is gone; scavengers made off with most of it. The warning signs have disappeared. The fire bases have long since been empty, and the fox holes have been filled in by man or eroded by nature. The jungle has reclaimed the DMZ. All that re-

mains are the mines, out of sight beneath the bush but just as dangerous as the day they were laid.

Spanos got the idea for the trip last fall during a reunion in Chicago of the 11th Engineer Battalion.

"One of the guys brought up the fact that he read an article that said that 10,000 people had been killed in Vietnam by the mines since the war ended," says Spanos.

"I guess I think of the kids getting hurt from these mines now that I am a father of four and that's why I'm going," said William Johnson of Manchester, Conn.

Now the owner of an electric sign company, he has volunteered to go back to show the Vietnamese where he remembers the field to be, because "it is the right thing to do."

STOREWIDE MATTR



This week ONLY

\$88 each piece

Any size, Sold in sets

TONS OF BRASS BED PLUS Save an additional on purchase of com

90 DAYS SAME AS CA Brass Beds Up 2252 S. Broadway

2 Medflies
seff alarm
California

DENVER CARPET MART
the carpet you need

COLORADO LIVING

They remember Vietnam

Colorado Air National Guard had exemplary record

By David McQuay
Denver Post Staff Writer

In Vietnam they fought together, played together and sweat in the sweltering heat together. Twenty years ago this April, they came back together — all but two.

On Memorial Day weekend several hundred men from the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron of the Colorado Air National Guard came together again. They had a Big Chill reunion at Buckley Air National Guard Base and the Holiday Inn Holidome on East 40th Avenue, where there was a dinner and dance. During the weekend, Colorado Adjutant Gen. John France was master of ceremonies, and former Gov. John Love gave a speech.

And they remembered the two men who didn't come back. Maj. Clyde Seiler was a pilot killed by ground fire, and Capt. Perry Jefferson was killed while flying reconnaissance with an Army pilot. They also remembered the 40 men of the squadron who have died since coming home.

"What I remember the most," said Bob Cherry, who was squadron commander, "is losing two men. That's the thing that stuck most in my mind. In the last few weeks we lost two. To get that close to coming home and losing two . . ."

After the USS Pueblo was seized by North Korea, President Lyndon Johnson activated the 902 men in the Colorado Air Guard's 140th air wing, and sent them all over the world. The 376 members of the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron, however, were sent to Vietnam as a unit in 1968, and they spent a year there. (Many of the guardsmen not sent to Vietnam, however, were at the reunion.)

When the 120th got to Phan Rang, there was some skepticism and some snickering from the Air Force about what these "week-end warriors" could do. How



The Denver Post / Brian Brainerd

REUNION: Members of the 120th Tactical Fighter Squadron gather at Buckley Air National Guard Base on Memorial Day weekend. In the background is an F-100 fighter plane.

we had anyone who had less than 1,000 flying hours in the F-100," Cherry said.

"One of the guys had more flying time than the pilot and co-pilot transporting us over to Vietnam," said Frank Mullins, who was a flight chief for weapons.

Bob Huffman remembers his birthday there. He was the munitions services chief. "I turned 40 over there," he said. "We were having a party on my birthday, and they (the North Vietnamese) hit us again. We ran to the bunker. When you're having a 40th birthday in Vietnam, you wonder what the hell you're doing over there."

He also remembers the orphanage where he was a volunteer. "My wife sent me things over for the kids. I made friends



5/29/89

would a bunch of guys who go to Buckley a weekend a month perform in combat?

Brilliantly. The 120th flew 5,905 combat missions and more than 10,000 hours, and its accident rate was zero. Its abort rate (a flight can be aborted for any number of reasons, including mechanical), was six times better than the Air Force standard 3 percent rate. And its weapons reliability rate was better than any other flying unit. France says that when the unit got to Vietnam, "our maintenance people were so senior that they took over 40 of 45 or 46 main shops as supervisors."

Their success stemmed from their experience and camaraderie. These were not 18-year-old kids; most were in their mid-20s to 30s, and many had been in a branch of the military. "The Air Force called us the 'Raggedy-Ass Militia,'" said Jim Hazel, who ran the egress shop at which pilots' ejection equipment was maintained. He had 10 years of experience working on the F-100. "But we knew where every nut, bolt and screw was in the F-100. They didn't."

The pilots had years of experience flying F-100s. "I don't think

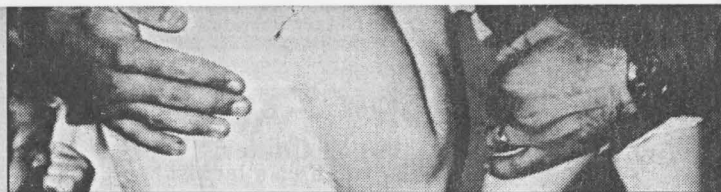
with the local people. I wish I had the opportunity to go back."

Spike Boyle remembers the good humor and the camaraderie of the men. "We had been working together as a team for 10, 15, 20 years. When the chips were down and the whistles were blowing and the booms were booming, you knew what everybody was going to do. We had few green people."

Jim Ortiz remembers the good times with his buddy, Kenneth Blazer, who was killed in a motorcycle accident three years ago. Mullins remembers the blazing heat, and also the jokes, the nicknames like Sleepy and Goldie, the consolation they'd give a guy when a Dear John letter arrived from a girlfriend.

And he remembers his friend, Scotty Cook, who was the person "closest to a brother I ever had." Cook came home and was killed in a plane crash.

Others remember the Colorado touches to Vietnam: the bumper stickers stuck around the base that said Tiny Town, Colo. And they remember the Colorado-style Alpine chalet watering hole that Martin Mechling and his bud-



HOME FROM THE WAR: Sgt. Ray Johnson hugs his wife, Bertie, and son, Tim, on the guard unit's return from Vietnam.



MEMORIES: Mortar fire destroyed this fighter plane at the Colorado squadron's base in Vietnam.

Please see **VETS** on 2-C

Kids need motivation to practice fitness

The students at Bromwell Elementary School in Denver are no dummies. They knew that cookies and potato chips don't constitute two of the basic four food groups. They knew about doing push-ups to get stronger, and about running to improve cardiovascular endurance.

And when asked about a drawing of two kids — one perky and smiling, the other lethargic and weak-looking — one student in the audience had a good answer for why the wimpy one looked the way he did: "He plays too much Nintendo!"

But even though these kids know about good nutrition and exercise, they don't practice it, says Dr. Liz Applegate, a professional triathlete who teaches nutrition at the University of California-Davis.

"We're all too busy . . . meals are in a hurry, and nobody has time to do all this," she said.

So, she said, the key is motivating children to make good nutrition and exercise a regular habit



Diane Eicher

early on.

"Make food shopping a family thing, and let the kids help in food preparation," said Applegate. "The same with exercise . . . go for a walk

or play together. Teach them, by example, to be active."

Ideally, kids should be getting some of this in school. But when education budgets are slashed, math takes precedence over gym. And even though what's being taught in physical education classes is much improved from the folk dancing today's adults may remember, Applegate said too many schools still don't teach students that health and fitness is a lifetime deal.

Applegate was in Denver last week to promote the Ironkids Triathlon, sponsored in 13 cities

by Rainbo Bread. The Denver race — swimming, biking and walking, all in kid-sized distances — will be July 9 at Washington Park Recreation Center. Children ages 7-14 must register by June 30, and applications are available on packages of Rainbo Enriched White Bread. Information is available from Ironkids Triathlon, P.O. Box 69095, St. Louis, Mo. 63169.

The triathlon — even though that term sounds grueling — is designed to be fun and noncompetitive. The top finishers in each category win a free trip to the national finals, as does one winner picked at random.

"A few take it real seriously, but most of the kids are just so proud they've done it, they don't care where they finish," she said.

"The main thing is, are they happy, having fun? If they're interested, they'll continue. It should be a positive thing."

Beyond the limit

In conjunction with the showing

of "To The Limit," the new Imax movie at the Denver Museum of Natural History, classes exploring what makes a superior athlete will be offered through the museum's Hall of Life.

Participants can test their own grip strength and reaction time, and learn about nutrition, physiology, and the mental aspects of excelling at a sport. Both children and adults are welcome. Cost is \$6.75, which includes admission to the movie. Classes will be from 6-8 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Wednesday and June 7, and from 10 a.m. - noon and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. June 10. Call 333-LIFE.

Calendar

A Colorado AIDS Project program on HIV testing will be at 7 p.m. tomorrow at Metropolitan Community Church, 980 Clarkson St. . . . A seminar for adult children of alcoholics will be from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday at Mercy Medical Center's Aurora Counseling Center, 4018 S. Parker Road. Cost is \$25, call 690-8989.

Romer, business leaders to meet, discuss need for AIDS policies

By Diane Eicher

Denver Post Health Writer

Colorado business leaders are paying lip service to dealing with AIDS in the workplace, but less than 15 percent of their companies actually have implemented policies or education efforts to address the fatal disease, according to a survey from the state health department.

In an effort to spur those businesses to deal with AIDS before it strikes one of their employees, the top brass from nearly 50 Colorado companies will meet with Gov. Roy Romer next week to discuss the corporate community's responsibility in helping to combat AIDS.

The June 1 lunchtime discussion at the Governor's Mansion is believed to be the first-ever gathering of top business leaders in the state to discuss AIDS.

It is hoped that the meeting will get executives talking about developing AIDS policies for their companies, how they can educate employees, and ways of lessening the economic and human costs of the disease, said MeriLou Johnson, executive director of the Governor's AIDS Coordinating Council.

"The workplace needs to be a focus for AIDS education," she said. "The corporate sector has access to so many people, and offices are going to be very seriously affected by the epidemic."

The effort is being directed at top management because, "if it isn't supported at the highest level,

'The corporate sector has access to so many people, and offices are going to be very seriously affected by the epidemic.'

MeriLou Johnson, executive director, Governor's AIDS Coordinating Council

it won't work," she said.

One reason business has been slow to react to AIDS is because of the attitudes surrounding the disease, said Johnson.

"Those biases have held us back ... it's the 'afraIDS' mentality, the pre-existing prejudices against people in those high-risk groups," she said.

Another factor is the "ostrich approach," said Jim Anderson, vice president of corporate services at Security Life in Denver, and a member of the task force that is working with the governor to host the meeting. "Companies are saying, 'Why should I put a policy in effect? No one at my company has AIDS.'"

But even if the epidemic hasn't yet affected a company, management needs to approach the issue from a pro-active, rather than reactive, stance, Anderson said.

"We're making the assumption that no company will be immune," he said.

While theoretically AIDS should be treated by a company like any other catastrophic illness, Anderson said the problem is that "AIDS isn't like any other illness."

"It's universally fatal, and there are a lot of misconceptions. You've got employees wondering if they can work next to someone who's tested positive for the virus, whether they can pick up the phone after that person has used it."

"And it's completely unpredictable as to how different people will react to (having) the disease ... they may be able to work a long time, they may not."

Having a policy in place before having to deal with those issues makes the process less volatile — though not necessarily easier, Anderson said. Assisted by the American Red Cross, his company was one of the first in Denver to implement an AIDS policy two years ago, which mandates AIDS education for every employee.

"So we were ready," said Anderson. "Even so, when we got our first case (of someone testing positive for the virus), we went through some tough times, with people in the nearby cubicles worried about sitting next to him ..."

AIDS education in the office also can teach employees that the disease is preventable, said Anderson, and that's a message they take home with them.

Colorado air guardsmen remember Vietnam

VETS from Page 1-C

dies built to remind them of back home. And they remember the beer that Coors donated to them, and the NFL highlights films that were sent over.

And many remember the feeling of not being able to win the war. With frustration in his voice, France says that the United States "should have cut the head off the snake at the beginning" and taken Hanoi. "We could have saved how many lives."

"If we had followed up on the Tet offensive, that would have been the end of it," Cherry said.

And they remember Clyde Seiler and Perry Jefferson, and how they were within weeks of coming home.

Of all of the vets of the 120th who were contacted for the reunion, very few refused to come because of bad memories of the war. The men flew into Denver from all over the country, and one pilot came from Germany.

"Over the years they've lost touch, and they say they'd very much like to get in touch again and renew old friendships," said Huffman. "War is an experience that you share, and when it's over you go your own ways."

Cherry has mixed emotions about the reunion. "A lot of these people — Homer Barnes, Kenny Balkenbush, Frank Organ — are gone. You go to these reunions and see a lot of people, but you also see the gaps."

For anyone who wants to re-

member the living and the dead of the Colorado Air National Guard, Maj. Charles Whitley has put together a 352-page book entitled "Colorado Pride," which chronicles the history of the guard through pictures and text. The \$40 book can be ordered through Whitley at Buckley at 340-9431.

6 AUSTRALIAN OSCARS

THE NAVIGATOR

AN ODYSSEY ACROSS TIME

2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00



James Baca/DCR Photo

Giving thanks for their friendship are Sister Mary Nelle Gage, left, and her Vietnamese Amerasian friend, Cherry.

Looking for her father Nun helps Amerasian teen and her mother

By Charlene Scott

In this season of giving thanks, a young Vietnamese girl is thankful for the Denver nun who is helping her find her American father.

Cherry is a 16-year-old Amerasian, whose Vietnamese mother married a serviceman from the United States during the Vietnam war.

They were married in 1971 for one year, then in 1972 he was sent back to the United States, explained Loretto Sister Mary Nelle Gage, a codirector of the Ecumenical Refugee Services in Denver for the past five years.

"Cherry's mother, Hong, was three months pregnant with her daughter when her husband left," Sister Gage said. "Hong received one letter from her husband asking her to name the baby 'Cherry' if it was a girl, 'John' if a boy."

Hong had written to her husband, a surgeon, through the years, sending him photos of Cherry the baby, Cherry the toddler, Cherry the teenager. But after the first letter, she never heard from him again.

"I go to school in Vietnam -- and my friends have fathers," Cherry remembered sadly. "I cry and go home, and my mother cry too. Because I do not have a father. I am upset."

Their hopes were lifted two years ago when an uncle immigrated to this country and contacted the doctor's mother.

Cherry's American grandmother said she would care for her if she and her mother came to this country, Sister Gage said.

So the two women said farewell to their extended family of 50 persons -- all who lived together in the same household in Vietnam -- and left their homeland in search of the other half of Cherry's heritage.

After eight months in a Philippines camp, where they studied English, the pair arrived in Denver three months ago. A second call to the grandmother revealed that her phone had been disconnected.

Continued on page 3

Fa Ba He fee tell Sa

WASHINGTON
bombing and
threat.

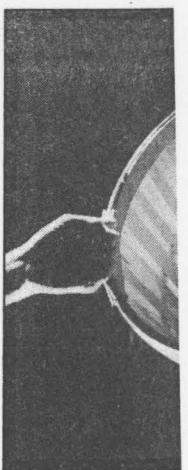
It was all a
times I felt afra
year-old Domin
of three days du

Father Barne
sake after four
spoke to Cathol
Nov. 22.

The priest d
crowded, impov
borhood where
Domingo.

Father Barne
day the rebel F
Front launched
of the parish li
closer.

The next morn
to find armed re
"They were w
(as if) saying, 'I
There were "ne



Christ

The church in America -- special

ate University

Mary said her boys kept her busy, but before she retired she worked at Colorado State University for

As I left her apartment a little boy said, 'Thank you, Mister,' and that just made my day."

Colorado Springs

The couple married at St. Mary's Church in Color-

like people do today.

They said the volunteer work keeps them active and allows them to do something good for others.

"All of the people we come in contact with we learn something from them — you're never too old to stop learning," said Ralph.

Nuns helps Amerasian teen and her mother

Continued from Page 1

Their disappointment was compounded when they learned that Cherry's father had remarried and fathered two sons by his American wife.

Seated in the home of their sponsors, Michael, Chris and Jennifer Raeouf of Westminster, Cherry and her mother proudly showed a black and white photo of Hong and her husband. A smiling blond young man wearing glasses posed with his arm around his dark-haired bride.

"I look like my father!" Cherry insisted. The facial resemblance seemed very strong.

Her mother extended her delicate left hand, displaying the wedding ring her husband had given her. Four large diamonds graced the ring that his mother had owned and had sent to Vietnam for the wedding.

Then Hong, a seamstress, excused herself, returning with an orange silk dress richly embroidered with pale pink roses. (Her name 'Hong' means rose in Vietnamese.)

"This was my wedding dress," she said.

"I will wear it too when I marry," Cherry added.

Later, Sister Gage reflected on Hong's life.

A life of fidelity

"Just think how carefully she has preserved her wedding dress, and how proudly she still wears her

wedding ring after all these years. What fidelity!"

Still, Sister Gage has compassion for the U.S. serviceman who married Hong so many years ago when she was a young woman.

"I feel sorry for him too," said the nun who has been a Sister of Loretto for 20 years. "It is possible that his American wife does not know about Hong and Cherry. It might be very painful for her and her children to find out about them."

Sister Gage knows first hand about the great pain suffered by people on both sides of the Vietnam war. She worked for two years in an orphanage in Saigon, from 1973 to 1975.

It has been estimated that there are at least 50,000 Amerasian children in Vietnam — and perhaps as many as 400,000, she said.

"In the orphanage where I worked, most of the 500 children were under the age of two and most were Amerasians."

America welcomes Amerasians

Sister Gage's office has helped to resettle thousands of refugees in the past 10 years, and at present is working with seven families of Amerasian children. Many more are to come, because of a change in this country's immigration policies favoring the children of American servicemen.

"They are a vulnerable population," she said. "But the mothers of these children have enjoyed the specialness of their children -- and the fathers have missed that. And the children have missed their fathers."

In the future, Sister Gage will handle the potentially touchy situation of contacting Cherry's father with the same diplomacy with which she deals with other Vietnamese, Russian and Afgan refugees.

But for now, she is a sensitive comfort to a homesick teenager far from home, a teenager who wants to become a doctor like the father she has never met.

"I want to look for my father," said Cherry, a sophomore with a B average at Arvada High School. "I want to meet him. I love him so much."

A happy ending

Cherry's story reminds one of the opera "Madame Butterfly," the classical tale of an Asian woman who falls in love with an American serviceman, bears his child and ends her own life when he marries an American woman.

But Cherry's story has a happy ending, even if she does not find her father, Sister Gage believes.

"What is most important," she told Cherry, "is that you have a wonderful mother and good friends (her sponsors). You can count on them."