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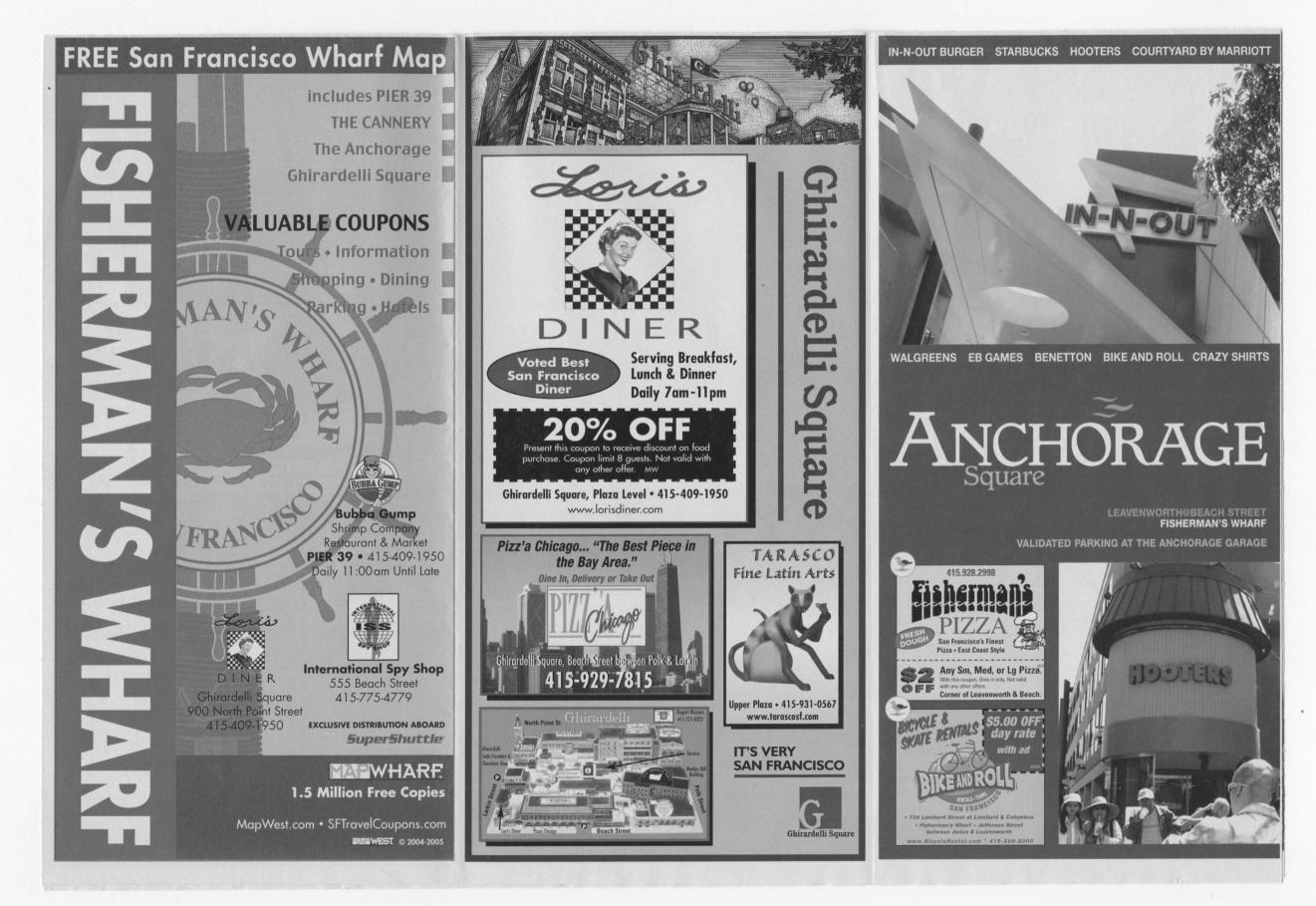
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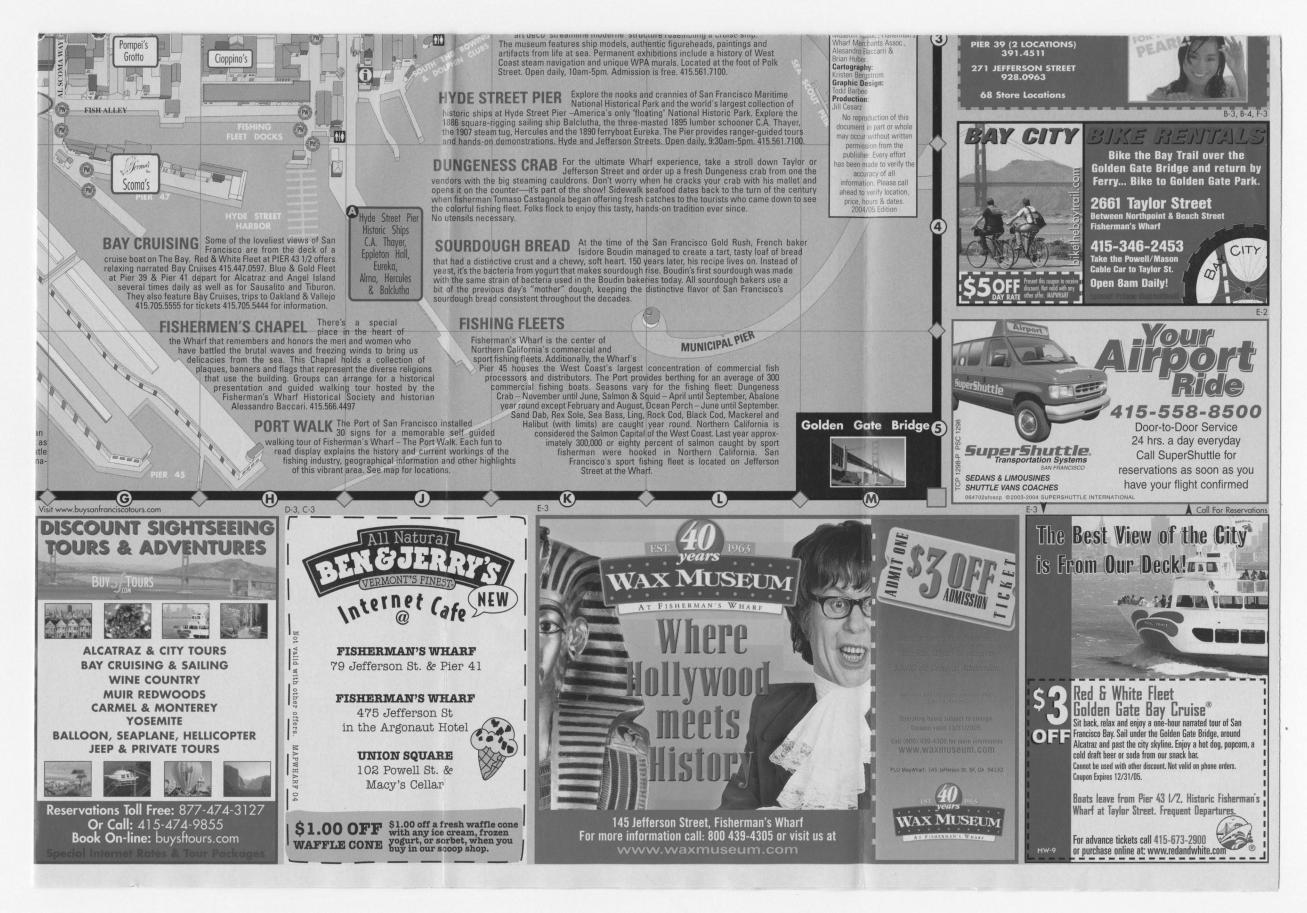














One of the millions of war casualties, Ngoc-Lan had never known a home or family of her own before we adopted her.

Going through her papers helped Ngcc-Lan develop a sense of identity and a feeling of belonging.



PARENTS' MAGAZINE 52 VANDERBILT AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y. 10027 HOW NGOC-LAN BECAME NEELISSA

> It took us many, many months to adopt this beautiful Vietnamese orphan, but at last she's our own little girl.

by Susan Cummings as told to Elizabeth Mulligan

he little girl who will be your daughter is just under three years old, with black hair, olive skin, and attentive black eyes. She is a quiet child but likes to dance. She feeds herself, and wants to be changed when wet. No one has visited her since she has been with us at the orphanage."

Two years passed from the time we received that description of the little Vietnamese girl we were adopting before our new daughter actually joined our family here in the United States.

Adopting a Vietnamese child is not an easy thing to do. We went through what seemed like endless proceedings before the adoption was completed. One step forward was often followed by two steps back. And then there were the frustrating months when nothing seemed to be happening at all.

Much of the difficulty lay in the policy—or rather, the lack of one—of the Vietnamese government. But I also found little enthusiasm for such adoptions on the part of the agencies I contacted here. "Why don't you adopt an American child?" I was asked by our local child welfare agency. "If you want a racially integrated family, there are many American-Indian and Afro-American youngsters who need homes. Why do you have to have a Vietnamese child?"

When I'm asked how the idea of adopting a Vietnamese child first occurred to us, I think of a particular

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELIZABETH MULLIGAN

The common concern of a dozen Colorado households is orphans from

Photography by George Crouter

THE FAMILY RELATED BY LOVE

By SHIRLEY OLDE

THE SCENE in the home of the Duane Grants of Boulder, Colo., resembles an Asian-American nursery school. Blonde and darkhaired children race up blue carpeted stairs, play hide and seek through the wide halls. An enormous dog wisely stays three steps in advance of an army of toddlers; a small girl coos to an unusually patient Siamese cat.

In a corner by the fireplace, 13month-old Kim Anh Hammond holds court for a circle of admirers. Kim is the latest (and 14th) Vietnamese child to be adopted in Colorado. Only a few weeks earlier, she was an orphan living in Toh Am Nursery in Saigon. Now she not only possesses immediate family, the Bill Hammonds of Longmont, but numerous surrogate aunts, uncles and cousins.

The "relatives" gathered around Kim Anh clearly constitute a family, though none of the 12 mothers present are related by blood. As mothers of adopted Vietnamese adopting a hard-to-place youngster, perhaps a handicapped or racially mixed child. On a televised program, they saw small Vietnamese children, laden with infant brothers and sisters, staggering through scenes of death and destruction. "In that film we felt we had seen the hard-to-place child we had discussed," Mrs. Bumpus recalls. "We stopped talking and took action."

The John Buchanans of Littleton were struck by the same kind of pictures on a deeply personal level: After a complicated pregnancy their third child had been born miraculously healthy and alert. But the attending physicians advised the Buchanans to risk no more children. "The forlorn faces of Vietnamese orphans seemed to haunt our own good fortune," Mrs. Buchanan says. "We became almost mystical about it—like we had been spared for a reason."

In those days there were no definite routes to Vietnamese adoptions. 12 months. Both suffered from constant diarrhea and painful skin conditions.

"Wendy Grant had seen her own child through the transition health problems," Mrs. Buchanan explains. "She assured us proper diet and medical attention would take care of the situation. She gave us practical tips too—like switching back to an infant formula because Vietnamese children have to build up a tolerance for whole milk."

Wendy's advice proved sound, and as the little boys thrived, so did the bond among the three families. Soon, they were besieged with questions from other families interested in Vietnamese adoption. Questions came from newlyweds, from parents of large families, from the well-todo, from the modestly salaried. Many queries came from military men who could not easily forget the homeless and friendless children of Vietnam.

"I'm afraid our answers were not

seem reluctant, perhaps out of a sense of nationalism.

When a child reaches the Warm Nest, in many cases his health must be improved before he can travel to his adopting family. That family, meanwhile, has gone through the regular adoption formalities plus additional paperwork required by the United States Department of Immigration.

"It's really a wonder everything finally meshes," says Judy Silverberg, cuddling her small Vietnamese daughter, Lee Sanne (named for Mrs. Buchanan and pronounced like Lisa Ann.) "My husband, Larry, and I nearly gave up. If it hadn't been for the help and encouragement of the other families, we may well have done just that."

Actually, the Silverbergs' adoption had gone quickly, taking just one year. Mrs. Buchanan points out that the process was speeded up considerably because the Silverbergs laid down no restrictions—they were willing to take a child of any age, of either sex, handicapped or racially mixed.

Even so, Judy Silverberg recalls that year as living half in frustration, half in hope. Hope came in a brief note from Warm Nest acknowledging that Mrs. Jean Tuttle, director of foreign adoptions in the Colorado State Welfare Department, had forwarded all the necessary papers to grant adoption.

But when no further word was heard from Saigon, frustration set in once more. "Be patient," the other families advised.

Patience found its reward on a spring day in April 1970. Mrs. Tuttle telephoned: "I just received a picture from the Warm Nest. A baby a. e

THE SCENE in the home of the adopting a hard-to-place youngster, 12 months. Both suffered from con-

the help and encouragement of the other families, we may well have done just that."

Actually, the Silverbergs' adop-

Understanding Vietnam A CITIZEN'S PRIMER CENTER FOR WAR/PEACE STUDIES

TRADITIONALISM AND THE FRENCH INTERLUDE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

The beginnings of American involvement in Vietnam date back to 1819, when Captain John White sailed up the Dong Nai River to Saigon in search of trade. This first American in Vietnam failed in his venture, but found, as Americans were to find out more than a hundred years later, that the Vietnamese are overly fond of paperwork. The Imperial inspectors who looked over his ship drew up 13 copies of the crew list and similarly recorded all arms on the vessel in a methodical manner.

Little was heard from this faraway country, however, until the closing days of WWII, when, the defeat of the Japanese occupying forces in the area seemed near. It was then that Franklin Delano Roosevelt and the U.S. military found themselves involved in the shadowy fight for control of a post-war Vietnam.

Vietnam: Land and People

In America we catch only television glimpses of Vietnam—jungles, swamps, scattered villages, small huts. United States forces are fighting there, but the land seems strange and remote to us at home.

Vietnam stretches along the eastern coast of the Indochinese peninsula, southeast of China's border, for 1200 miles—about the same distance as the coastline from New York to Florida. Long stretches of the coastline are straight, sandy beaches. Near the middle, Vietnam is less than twenty-five miles across, but it widens irregularly to about 300 miles in the North and 130 miles in the South. The center of Vietnam is highlands: tall mountains, plateaus, and narrow coastal plains. Sparsely populated, the mountainous land is traditionally feared by Vietnamese as the land of "bad waters and evil spirits." The climate is hot and humid throughout the country, though the North experiences more varieties of weather than the South. The summer monsoon winds bring most of the heavy annual rainfall.

The bulk of the Vietnamese population of 35 million lives in villages scattered throughout the flat, fertile deltas of the Mekong River in the South, and of the Red River in the North. Only 10% of the population live in urban areas. The Mekong and Red River deltas, and small river basins in the Central lowlands, which are the areas best suited for rice, make up only 13% of Vietnam's total land mass. Consequently, parts of the Mekong delta country have a population density of over 2,000 per square mile. The heavy rainfall and intense cultivation make Vietnam one of the world's greatest rice-growing areas.

The life of the Vietnamese peasant has changed little over the last thousand years. He cultivates his crop according to age-old patterns and traditions. He understands his role and position in the social structure of this rice-producing culture: landowner, tenant, laborer, rice miller, merchant, or gleaner. Rituals, deities, and sacred holidays are connected with the cultivation of rice, and collective rituals ensure a good crop to the village or family. Life is unchanging, rooted in the endless cycle of preparing fields, planting, tending, irrigating, and harvesting.

Late in April or early in May, the southwest winds bring rain to the Mekong delta, signaling the beginning of the planting season. The seedbeds are meticulously prepared, harrowed and planted. Transplanting to the fields and harvesting are done by hand and involve long, monotonous hours. Hand-held scoops or foot-operated waterwheels are the tools of irrigation—technology comes very slowly to a traditionally rural society.

Ancient Vietnam

Ancient Vietnam (until 1000 A.D.) encompassed only a portion of the area that is now North Vietnam. Most of its population was clustered in the Red River delta, and along the seacoast. To the south and west dwelled the Indianized civilizations of the Chams, who inhabited most of present-day central and southern Vietnam, and the Khmers (Cambodians) who farmed and lived in the Mekong delta.

Before the arrival of Westerners, Vietnam consisted of a loose confederation of self-sufficient villages. Life was extremely harsh in the famine-prone Red River delta. The land was overpopulated, the climate poor, floods frequent, and disaster always imminent. For common protection, village life was tightly organized in a paramilitary fashion, as in China. Great emphasis was placed on cooperation, and little on privacy or the rights of the individual. The villagers' code was group responsibility and self-sacrifice. These values were strengthened by a cultural tradition of family loyalty, respect for authority, and adherence to ancient custom.

Vietnamese social, cultural, and political institutions, unlike those of other Southeast Asian nations, bear the stamp of long and intensive Chinese influence. While most of Indochina was "Indianized"—i.e., affected by Indian culture, religion, and forms of political organization—natural territorial boundaries caused Vietnam to be "Sinicized." Vietnam was actually conquered by the Chinese and was ruled for over a millenium (111 B.C. to 939 A.D.) as a Chinese province, Giao Chi. Under Chinese rule the Vietnamese people learned improved methods of growing rice; increased food supplies led to population growth, and this, together with the problems of poor soil and floods, caused Vietnamese expansion along the Indochina coast.

Years of Chinese domination did not destroy but rather fostered the Vietnamese feeling of separate identity and desire for "Doc Lap" (independence). From the Chinese came the very ideas of racial pride and manifest destiny which led to Vietnamese hostility, rebellion, and finally winning of independence from the Chinese in 939 A.D. China continued to exert considerable influence over the Vietnamese royalty, however, who fashioned themselves on Chinese models, paid tribute to China, and occasionally called in Chinese armies for help when rebellion threatened.

With independence from Chinese rule came Vietnamese expansion to the south and west, which was to continue intermittently for the next 800 years. The Vietnamese were feared by their neighbors, and fairly early got the reputation of being aggressive and expansionistic. In their march to the south, they defeated and totally absorbed the Chams, an Indianized culture that governed parts of what today is central and Southern Vietnam. Their conquest of the Khmers' territory in the south was halted only by the arrival of the French in the nineteenth century. The effects of ancient Vietnamese expansionism are still noticeable today, in the hostility between Vietnamese and the Laotians and Cambodians.

The Arrival of the West

Western influence and colonial rule came in 1859 when the French moved into Saigon. It took the French twelve years to pacify the central and northern regions of Vietnam, though armed resistance from certain sects did not die out for over fifty years. For administrative reasons the French divided Vietnam into three colonies: Tonkin (North), Annam (Central), and Cochinchina (South). They brought much that was beneficial to Vietnam in the way of roads and economic techniques, but their Western ideas about the place of the individual, the nature of government, and the necessity for progress struck at the roots of the authoritarian and traditional society of Vietnam. Frenchtrained administrators replaced the Vietnamese mandarinate; French justice replaced the more flexible and paternalistic attitudes of the village elders. The Emperors and their bureaucracies, having become only ornaments of the French-run government, lost the respect of their people, thus weakening the Confucian structure of authority.

Where a framework of traditional loyalties is in collapse, new ideologies can find adherents and mass movements usually thrive. Vietnam was no exception. As French influence pervaded Vietnam, young people flocked to the cities, eager to learn modern ideas and ways of life, in order to assuage the feeling of cultural and national inferiority Vietnam suffered under French domination. Religious sects and political groupings—Christianity, Socialism, Communism, Buddhism, Nationalism—gained members by offering hopes for the reassertion of Vietnamese identity. The underlying mood of the times was anti-colonial, anti-Western, and nationalistic. This was particularly true in the North, where the tradition of nationalistic revolt against a foreign overlord was strongest.

In the 1920's, several nationalist groups emerged in opposition to the French. Some of these, moderate Western-style reform groups, demanded improvements and liberalization of French rule. Their pressure was ignored by the conservative and fearful French colonials, who often could not see the difference between reformists, socialists, and communists. The failure of the moderates led to organizations more in the traditional Vietnamese political pattern: militant and clandestine. Vietnamese royalty had never trifled with rebels: captured rebel leaders had been traditionally tortured, dismembered, boiled in oil, and their families subject to frightful reprisals. Clandestine activity was the rule, not the exception . . . neither in ancient times nor under the French was a loyal opposition permitted. All opposition in an authoritarian, communally-based society such as Vietnam had to be secret, and a rebel had to hide his power until he was ready to strike. The result was a Vietnamese affinity for political action via secret organizations. These organizations, apparently innocent and conventional, often concealed a tightly-knit apparatus engaged in intrigue, assassination, and power-building.

Opposition to French policy resulted in a whole new grouping of clandestine organizations, political and nationalistic, operating in deep secrecy, staging apparently leaderless mass demonstrations, disseminating anti-French propaganda, and sometimes indulging in violence. When the French suppressed the main group of non-communist nationalists (the VNQDD) in 1930, and executed its leaders, the Communists were the only group sufficiently well organized to take over the field. The Indochinese Communist Party was officially formed in 1930. The Communist credo of united action, toughness, and discipline, appealed to the divided and demoralized nationalists. Uniquely in Vietnam, communism came to be identified with the anticolonial struggle for freedom.

The End of WW II in Vietnam

During World War II, the French were forced to let Japan occupy Indochina, and in March 1945, were removed from all positions of power by the Japanese. All male Frenchmen were confined to concentration camps, and the Japanese announced to the Vietnamese Emperor Bao Dai that his country was independent. In actuality, Japanese "advisors" took the place of French governors. Bao Dai's government floundered, lacking power and control; more than one million peasants died of famine while the Japanese were struggling against defeat in the World War.

In August 1945 after the Japanese defeat, with the Bao Dai administration disintegrating, and the French imprisoned, the job of taking over Vietnam was an easy one for the VietMinh, a National Front group consisting of various nationalist groupings and led by the Indochinese Communist Party. Their plan was to take power in the name of the Vietnamese people, before the Allies arrived to disarm the Japanese troops. Communist agitators inside Hanoi staged a brief uprising on August 17-18, and on the following day Viet Minh forces entered the capital city without firing a shot.¹ On August 25 Bao Dai handed over the Imperial Seal to the new regime, setting the stage for the rise of a new dynasty in Vietnam. In Hanoi on September 2 a crowd of 500,070 heard the declaration of independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Its President was Nguyen Ai Quoc, long-time nationalist, member of the Indochinese Communist Party, and agent for the Communist International, now the new head of the DRV under the name of Ho Chi Minh (the Enlightened One).

To the average peasant in that time of famine and despair, Ho Chi Minh symbolized hope for a better future, and the return of Vietnamese independence, order, and dignity after sixty-odd years of humiliation under the French and the Japanese. Through inspiring legends and good propaganda, Ho became a living idol to the villagers. In contrast to the pretentious mandarins with their robes, luxuries, and long well-kept fingernails, Ho lived the life of an ascetic, dressing as a peasant, wearing sandals made from a discarded rubber tire, and living in an unpretentious house in Hanoi.

Ho Chi Minh tried to get official American recognition and support for his government, but was unsuccessful. He turned to his archenemy, France, and on March 6, 1946, Ho signed a treaty whereby France recognized Vietnam as a Free State, having its own government, Parliament, army and treasury, and belonging to the Indochinese Federation (including Cambodia and Laos) and the French Union. Independence seemed to require only negotiations to dissolve the remaining links between Vietnam and the French colonial network. On May 30, however, it occame clear that the French intended to retain at least part of Vietnam as a colony. France's Viceroy-General in Saigon, without authorization from Paris, recognized the Republic of Cochinchiha (Vietnam's southernmost province) as a "Free State" under a puppet government, in exactly the same terms as the Republic of Vietnam had been recognized on March 6.2 Negotiations between the Viet Minh government and France proved fruitless. Mounting tensions led the French to bombard the port of Haiphong on November 23, beginning the long war between the French Union forces and the Viet Minh that ended at Dien Bien Phu eight years later. The conflict cost French Union forces a total of 172,000 casualties, and ended a French presence that had never managed to prepare Vietnam for self-government on the Western pattern. What Vietnamese forces there were for evolution, peaceful change, and democratic development were discredited by the French themselves in the prewar years. What defeated the French, in the end, was not so much Western communism as the power of a proud, authoritarian Vietnamese tradition which resented foreign control and domination.

The United States' Involvement Until 1954

During World War II, the United States government was generally opposed to the continuation of French control over Indochina. Secretary of State Cordell Hull quoted President Franklin Roosevelt as advocating an international trusteeship over the area once the war was over. On January 24, 1944, Roosevelt said in a memorandum: "The case of Indochina is perfectly clear. . . . France has milked it for one hundred years. The people of Indochina are entitled to something better than that."³

The Japanese occupied Indochina in 1941, using French officers under the Vichy regime to administer the French colonies. The U.S. government under FDR refused help to the French Resistance movement which was trying to reassert Free French authority in the colonies, for FDR maintained that he was "going to do everything possible to give the people in that area their independence."⁴

In Vietnam there was resistance to the Japanese from other quarters than the French. In the Viet-Minh, nationalist and Communist guerrilla fighters who were opposed to either Japanese or French occupation of their country, the U.S. had a potentially useful ally. During the winter of 1944-45 Colonel Paul Helliwell, head of the intelligence operations of the U.S. Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in South China, had a frequent visitor-Ho Chi Minh. The Viet Minh offered intelligence work, sabotage against the Japanese in Indochina, and assistance in rescuing downed American flyers. Bernard Fall, expert on Vietnamese affairs, reported that "although according to Colonel Helliwell, 'the only arms or ammunition which were ever given by OSS/China to Ho were six .38 caliber revolvers,' the fact remains that Ho and his guerrillas were soon reinforced by several OSS teams that also provided the Viet-Minh guerrillas with American arms and ammunition. . . . Soon the OSS missions operating in North Vietnam and even China had acquired a number of Vietnamese aides, many of whom turned out to be good Vietnamese communists."5

The sympathy of the American military for the nationalist regime that the Viet Minh set up, after the defeat of Japan, aroused resentment among the French officers involved in Indochina—some of whom (General de Gaulle included) are still in office today. Such things as OSS help for the Viet Minh guerrillas, American neglect of French officers jailed by the Japanese, the establishment in October 1945 of a "Vietnam-American Friendship Association" in Hanoi (at whose inaugural meeting U.S. Major General Philip Gallagher sang over the Viet-Minh-controlled radio), and the presence of high-ranking U.S. officers at Viet Minh ceremonies not only affronted the French, but also gave Bao Dai and other noncommunist nationalists the impression that the U.S. had recognized the Viet-Minh government (the Democratic Republic of Vietnam).6

U.S. recognition never came, however. When the war between the Viet-Minh and the French began, the United States at first remained neutral, limiting its action to mild suggestions that the French take steps toward granting independence to Indochina. In what seemed to be a struggle between a colonial power and nationalists, the American people's attachment to the principle of self-determination dictated against overt U.S. support of France.

Communist victory on mainland China in 1949 shattered the neutral position of the United States and ended U.S. aloofness toward the Vietnam issue. On February 9, 1950, Senator Joseph McCarthy stepped into the national spotlight by accusing the State Department of harboring Communists and fellow-travelers. In the American public, who wanted to know why China had been "lost," he found a ready audience. Had the U.S. helped to liberate China from the Japanese during World War II, and spent over \$2 billion since then to keep the Chinese Nationalist regime afloat, only to loose all to the Communists? The State Department was on the defensive. What had seemed like a logical move in 1944—aiding Vietnamese communists and nationalists to fight Japan—became an Achilles heel to the U.S. government from 1950 on.

In May, 1950, President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson reversed the FDR policy toward Indochina, and adopted a policy supporting the French effort. France at that time was arguing that its armed struggle, and the stability of the French-supported "Associated States" under Bao Dai, were the first line of defense against a militant, expansionist, Chinese communism. This made sense to the State Department. Economic and military assistance programs began on May 8.

EXTENSION OF MILITARY AND ECONOMIC AID:

Statement by the Secretary of State, May 8, 1950

The [French] Foreign Minister and I have just had an exchange of views on the situation in Indochina and are in general agreement both as to the urgency of the situation in that area and as to the necessity for remedial action. We have noted the fact that the problem of meeting the threat to the security of Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos which now enjoy independence within the French Union is primarily the responsibility of France and the Governments and peoples of Indochina. The United States recognizes that the solution of the Indochina problem depends both upon the restoration of security and upon the development of genuine nationalism and that United States assistance can and should contribute to these major objectives.

The United States Government, convinced that neither national independence nor democratic evolution exist in any area dominated by Soviet imperialism, considers the situation to be such as to warrant its according economic aid and military equipment to the Associated States of Indochina and to France in order to assist them in restoring stability and permitting these states to pursue their peaceful and democratic development.⁷

U.S. backing of the French military campaign grew from about \$150 million per year in 1950, to over \$1 billion in 1954, when the U.S. bore 80% of the war costs.⁸

Despite our massive investment in arms and aid, the French were not winning the war. The government of Vietnam as a Free State under Bao Dai had little popular backing, while the popular support given to the Viet Minh's struggle for independence allowed the Viet Minh regime to extend its control over increasing areas of Vietnam. U.S. efforts to persuade the French to grant genuine independence to the French Union States of Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam went unheeded. Nevertheless the State Department manifested optimism about the progress of the war and the viability of Bao Dai's government. In 1953 a Department of State background paper had an optimistic ring:

At home, where until recently the fighting was by and large limited to Viet-Nam, the young, almost fledgling, Vietnamese State is making undeniable progress in gaining the confidence and support of its own people.⁹

Throughout this period, however, several liberal Senators, including John F. Kennedy, dissented from the State Department's analysis:

In Indo-China we have allied ourselves to the desperate effort of the French regime to hang on to the remnants of empire. There is not broad general support of the native (Bao Dai) government among the people of that area.¹⁰

John F. Kennedy, Nov. 1951

In September, 1953, France mobilized 350,000 men in her final attempt to gain a position of strength from which to negotiate with the Viet Minh. Though the French had superior numbers, artillery, planes and fortresses, they were always on the defensive, harassed and attacked by the invisible guerrillas. But the American commitment to the French cause had grown stronger; according to Robert Scigliano:

The American commitment to the French military struggle in Indochina had become so strong by 1953 that American spokesmen were urging Vietnamese nationalists to moderate their demands for independence; Vice-President Nixon, who visited Saigon in the fall of that year, went so far as to preach the necessity of Vietnamese cooperation with the French. Indeed, as the French showed signs of willingness to end the war by negotiation, American officials redoubled their efforts to keep the fight going. In February, 1954, Secretary of Defense Charles Wilson stated optimistically that military victory over the Viet Minh remained "possible and probable."¹¹

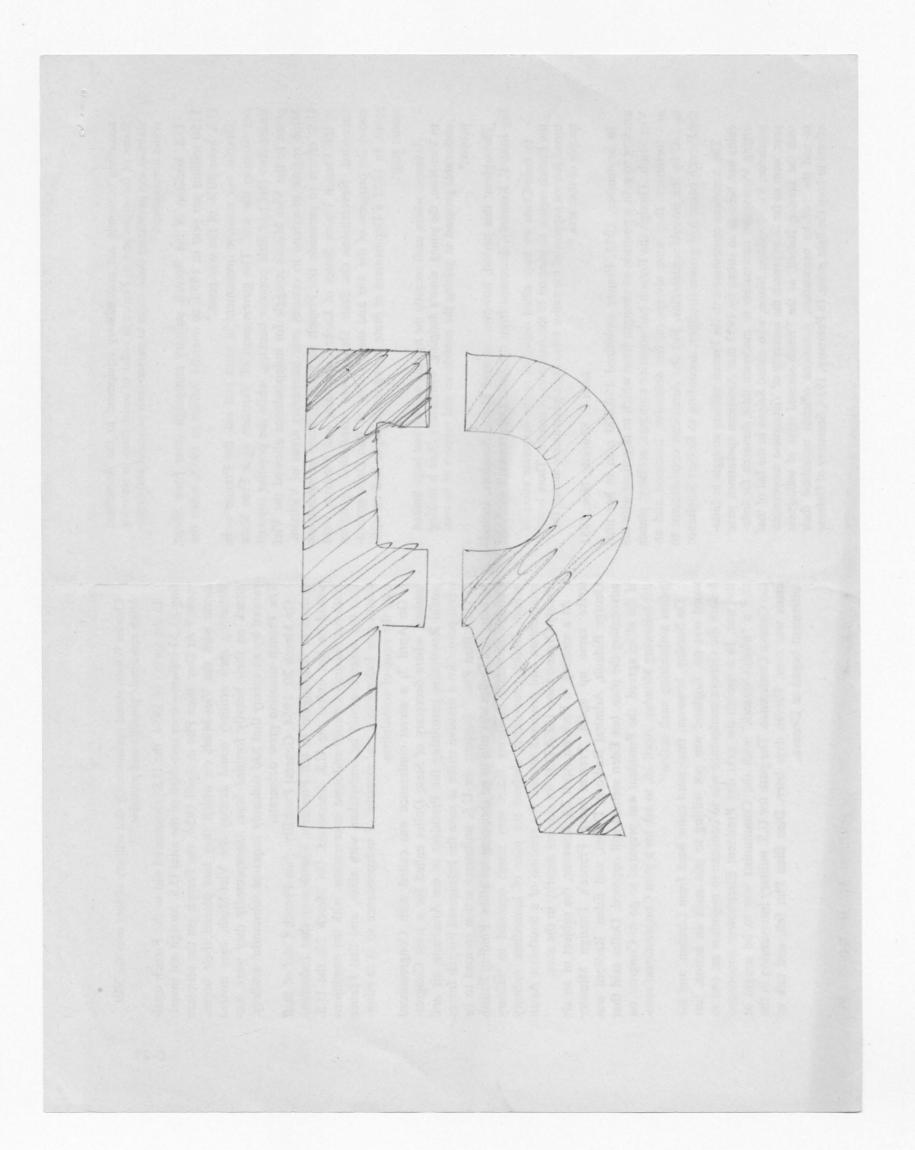
In the spring of 1954, the U.S. announced aid to the French totalling \$1.33 billion—over one-third of the total U.S. foreign aid investment.¹² At Dien Bien Phu in April 1954, the French got the set-piece battle with the Viet-Minh on which they had placed their hopes. Believing their artillery could destroy the Viet-Minh, they invited attack on their heavily fortified base. Unexpectedly they were surrunded by an enemy that had suddenly acquired substantial artillery. The French situation grew desperate.

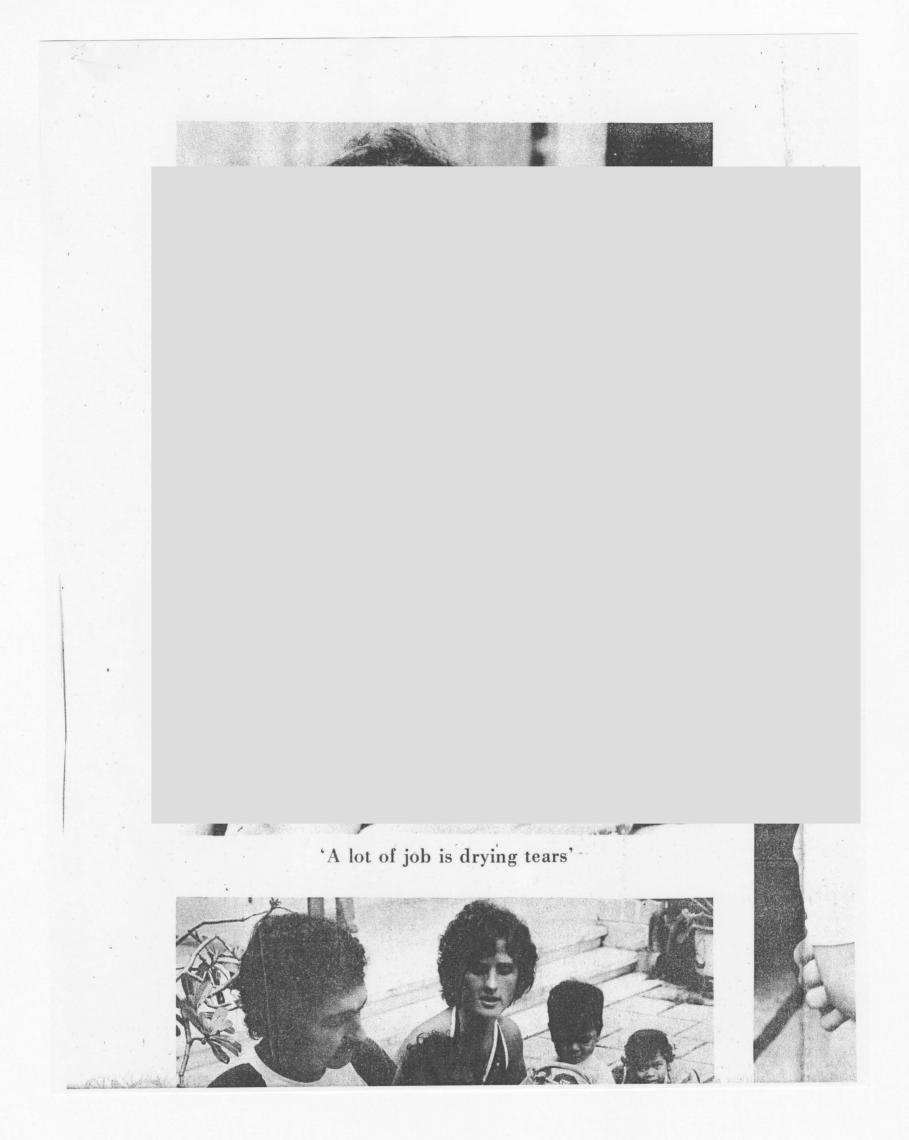
On March 20, 1954, General Paul Ely, then French Chief of Staff arrived in Washington to tell President Eisenhower that Indochina would be lost unless the U.S. intervened. On March 25, the U.S. National Security Council endorsed intervention, with the conditions that the venture would be undertaken with allies, and that France would give Indochina a real measure of independence so as to eliminate the issue of colonialism.

On April 3, a secret conference was called with Congressional leaders, where Secretary of State Dulles called for a joint Congressional Resolution permitting the President to use American air and naval power for a massive strike to save the beleagured French forces at Dien Bien Phu.¹³ Support for U.S. unilateral action seemed to be lacking, and Dulles was told to go shopping for allies. Finding British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden very much opposed to military action, Dulles temporarily shelved the plan of immediate military intervention and proposed instead the creation of a Southeast Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO) for mutual security in the area.

At a meeting in Paris on April 24, however, the subject of an air strike came up again. Present were France's Foreign Minister George Bidault, Admiral Radford, Dulles, and Eden. Radford was advocating the plan, but Eden seemed still opposed. Dulles said that if the allies agreed, the President was prepared to go to Congress on the following Monday, April 26, to ask for a joint Congressional resolution authorizing such action¹⁴

On Sunday, however, final word came back from London, and the word was no. England was not willing to join such an action, just before the Geneva conference was to convene to negotiate an end to the war. In a speech the next day President Eisenhower announced that a "modus-vivendi" with the Communists was to be sought at the Geneva Conference. The push for U.S. military intervention in the crisis was over. Eleven days later, Dien Bien Phu fell, and talk of settlement began at Geneva.





THE TRANSCRIPT Golden, Colorado—Monday, November 18, 1974

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'The Supers and friends . . .'

Editor's note: Terre and John Super left on Labor Day of this year to go to South Vietnam for six months and help with an



the weakest, most premature children and we battle for their each breath.



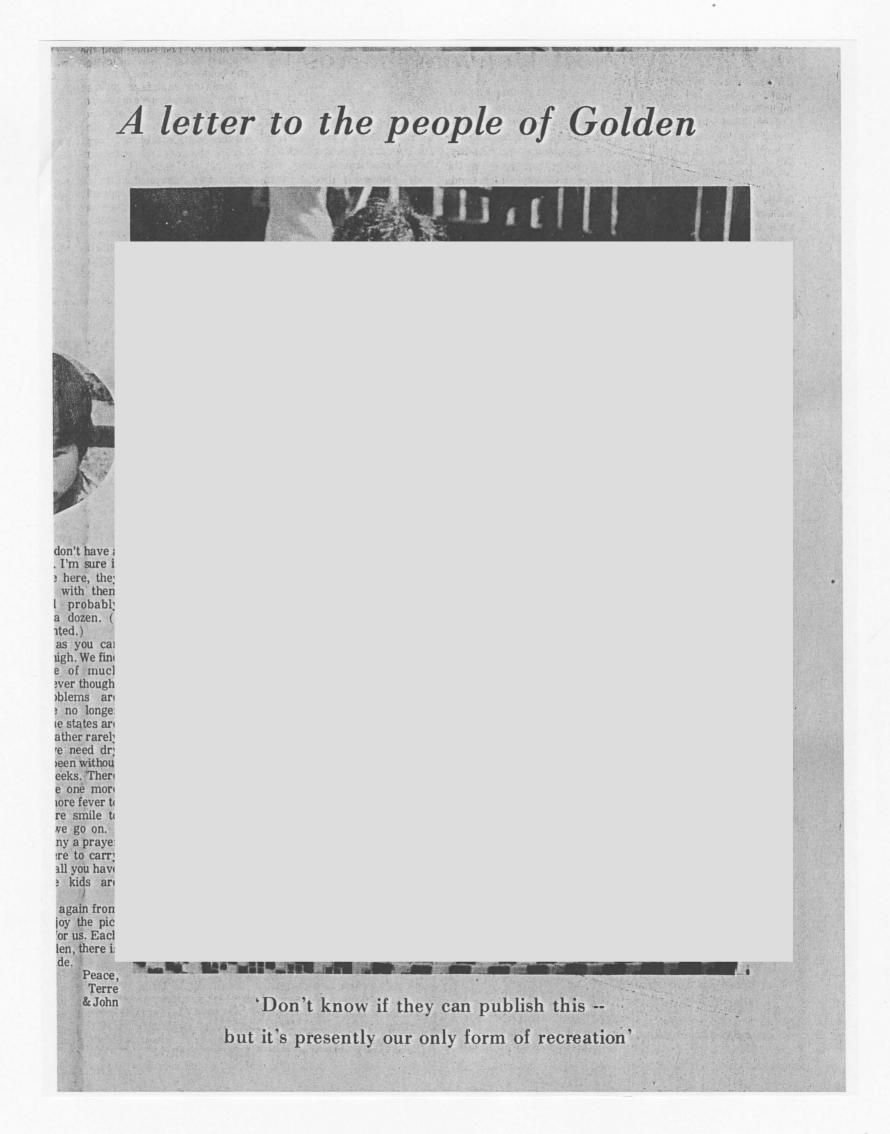


ambulance driver. He's also help set up an oxygen unit so badly needed by our babies. It seems the orphanages give us



a warm feeling inside. Peace, Terre & John

Photos by Ross Meador



THE DENVER POST

Viet Beggars Eke Out Life



Upside-down conical hat is symbol of the beggar in South Vietnam. Here woman and daughter beg in downtown Saigon park.



A LINE OF BEGGING WOMEN SIT WITH TIN CANS AND CONICAL HATS OL

SAIGON-(AP)-They wait on Saigon's seedy streets, their conical hats or cups outstretched for a few piasters that will tide them through the day.

They're a pathetic collection—entire families, crippled war veterans, the mentally retarded, begging, displaying dirty-faced raggedly clothed children to win the sympathy of the rich foreigners and Vietnamese.

Some have been on the same downtown corner for years, generally taking up positions where many Americans pass.

Many beg because they can't do anything else, crippled, blinded, or unemployed because of poor health.

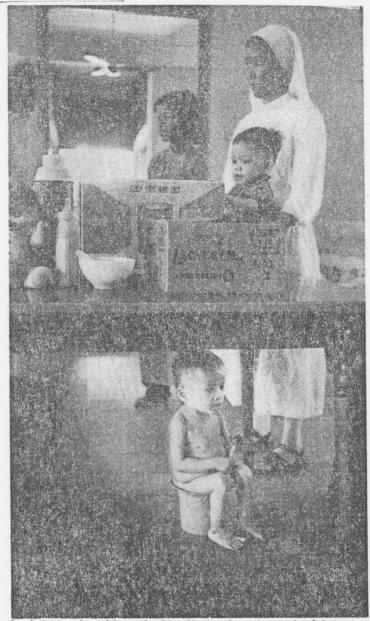
But among laziness. Accustc for a job in th normally pose a rowed somewhen The beggar at markets, page dral before and Governmen

4/25/74

beggars all acrc The government homeless. They day, far below

The official ernment's care (

72 THE DENVER POST Tues., April 17, 1973



Food sits on the table at the Bien Hoa orphanage, north of Saigon, as one of the orphans uses the pot under the table as a commode.

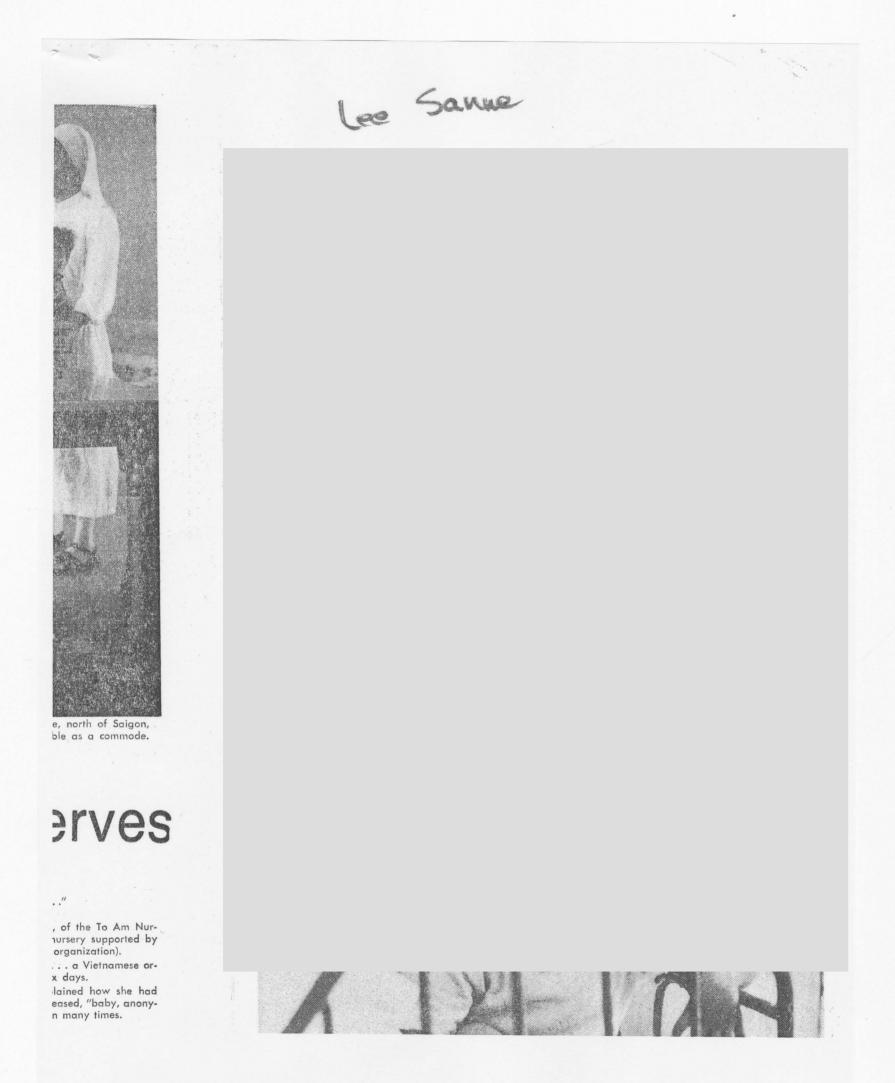
'Every child deserves a name, even if it's just to be buried with..."

The person talking was Miss Margaret Moses, of the To Am Nursery in Saigon. (To Am is a medical facility and nursery supported by Friends of Children of Vietnam, a Denver-based organization).

That morning Miss Moses had buried a baby . . . a Vietnamese orphan. It was the fourth child who had died in six days.

With her head buried in her hands, she explained how she had written on the death certificate after the words deceased, "baby, anonymous." These were the same words she had written many times.

'Dacarva a Nama'



Vitamins containin

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A New Start For LeAnn

Had LeAnn not been brought to the U.S., her chances of survival in an overcrowded Vietnamese orphanage would have been less than 50-50 because of the lack of medical attention and proper food.

End



St. Louis Post-Dispatch 3/3/74





-The Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire®-

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Denver, Colo.—Climate Capital of the World—Friday, February 19, 1965

10 Cents, 56 Pages

DENVERITES ADOPT VIET GIRL Nguyen-thi-Luom, $3\frac{1}{2}$, Is Just Lisa Now

By ZOE VON ENDE

Denver Post Staff Writer Lisa Coddington is strictly a meat and potatoes child. She won't touch milk but she likes to take vitamins and she shakes hands like a politician. What's more, she'll give you a kiss at

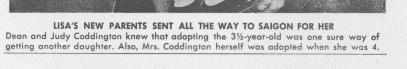
new parents seem to have sur-mounted all that with surprisingly little trouble, thanks to a couple of U.S. soldiers in Saigon, one of whom the Coddingtons never have seen or talked to.

live with Mrs. Johnson. The very day she went to Mrs. Johnson, the captain was shipped back to the United States. His friend, Maj. George Fries, took over the adoption process

Stapleton in an hour or so. A trip to the airport was or-ganized and Lisa and Mrs. Johnson arrived about 5 p.m. Mrs. Johnson stayed until Monday, leaving Lisa with her new family. The Coddingtons will comwith the help of an attorney.

4 1 3

Denver Post Photos by Duane Howell WHEN YOU HAVE A NEW SISTER, IT'S HARD NOT TO HUG HER ALL THE TIME Lisa Coddington, second from left, gets plenty of attention from brothers David, 8, left, Mike, 4, and sister, Susan, 6. Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Dean Coddington.



Recalls Those Lost in War

By FRED GILLIES Denver Post Staff Writer

With drums sounding man's deep heartbeat for peace, an estimated 3,200 representatives of military units, veterans groups and schools marched Monday morning in Denver's 50th annual Veterans Day Parade in downtown Denver.

Favored by sunny skies, the parade was viewed by an estimated 30,000 persons, according to Police Lt. Jerry Mangan.

Parade viewers generally were quiet, mindful of the tribute that was being paid to the dead of four wars — World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

At 11 a.m., the parade was halted in front of the reviewing stand to mark the 50th anniversary of the World War I armistice. A Lowry Air Force Base honor guard fired three rounds, and taps were played by Clay Davis.

Marshal of the parade was United Vet-

erans Council, represented by John F. Volk, 1938 S. Logan St., who was in one of the lead cars. Representing Gov. John Love was Byron Anderson, secretary of state. Denver Mayor Tom Currigan, also unable to attend, sent a representative.

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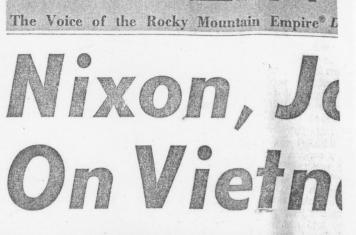
Vol. 77, No. 102

In the line of march were military units from Lowry Air Force Base, Fitzsimons General Hospital, the National Guard and reserve units from various branches of the armed services.

Stepping out smartly were bands and ROTC groups from Manual, North and West High Schools. Some suburban bands also participated.

Officials of the parade were LaVerne C. Sellers, parade committee chairman; Verne Olson, parade director, and Bob Becker, his assistant.

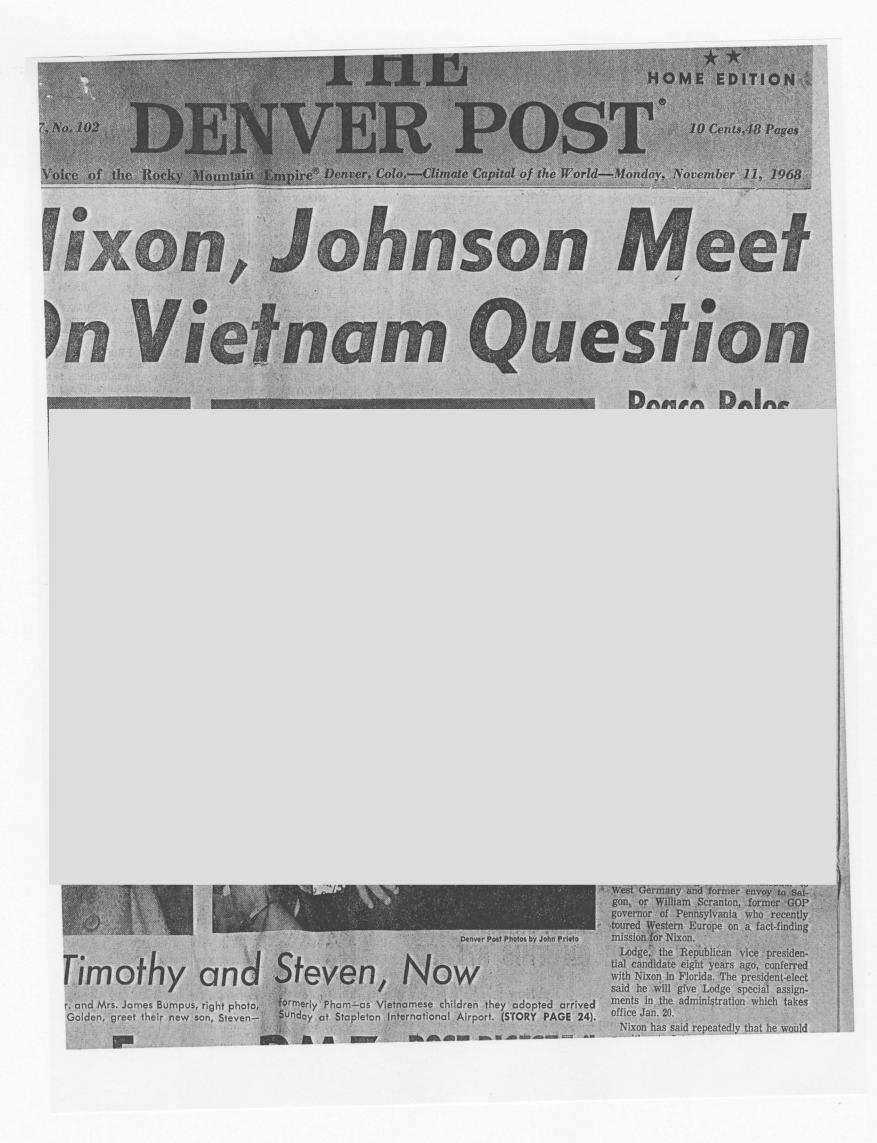
Parade photos on page 3; Armistice anniversary story, page 14.



They'll Be Known as Timothy and Steve

Mr. and Mrs. John Buchanan, of 7276 S. Birch St., Arapahoe County, left, welcome their newest family member, Timothyformerly Nguyen—and Mr. and Mrs. James Bumpus, right photo, of 13968 W. 23rd Ave., Golden, greet their new son, Steven—

formerly Pham-Sunday at Stap



FRIENDS OF VIETNAM CHILDREN

Mon., Nov. 11, 1968 24 THE DENVER POST

Hatlo's They'

2 Saigon Infants Given Denver Homes

Nguyen Tan Thanh and Pham, Golden, have adopted Pham. Nguyen, with word that he Tan Hue probably don't realize Both boys came from an or- | would become their son. it, but they finally have homes. phanage in Saigon, operated by "He's going to make a won- to adopt an orphan from the Public Service Co. of Colo., said

Bumpus said he and his | Bumpus, staff assistant to the wife, Marcia, decided last April vice president of finances for





NEWSLETTER

THE COMMITTEE OF RESPONSIBILITY, INC. P. O. Box 10432 Denver, Colorado 80210 757-8750

GENERAL MEETING

Date: September 4, 1968 Time: 8 p.m. Place: Washington Park United Church of Christ 400 So. Williams, Fellowship Hall

Come learn of the Committee of Responsibility's progress to date in Denver. Our film, <u>The Survivors</u>, will be shown. Following an informal discussion, working committees will gather briefly to outline our 1968-69 program. Please come and bring your friends.

George Roth Visits Denver For those of you whom we were unable to contact or who could not attend, George Roth's visit was both informative and enthusiastic. George is a member of the national board of COR. He reassured us that we definitely will have children here, but that we are responsible for the cost of hospitalization. He noted that evacuation from South Vietnam is now greatly simplified, a factor which will speed the children's arrival in Denver.

The Recruitment of Doctors has been of prime importance in preparing Denver to receive and to care for war-injured Vietnamese children. As of now, 20 medical specialists, including pediatricians, orthopods, and surgeons as well as a urologist, a neurologist, an anaesthesiologist, and a psychiatrist have volunteered to care for the medical needs of the two Vietnamese children to be sent here. Unfortunately the Committee has been unable to procure free beds at Children's Hospital, but we still plan to admit the children as private patients at a minimal daily rate since this institution is best equipped to deal with the problems of the seriously ill child. We shall raise sufficient funds to handle the high costs of hospitalization. We feel ready and able to care for two Vietnamese children whose suffering will be made less by their stay in Denver.

Foster Homes We have several offers and welcome more. Although we will initially only have two or three children in Denver, all interested families will be able to participate. Legal guardianship will be separate from the foster family and is currently being finalized.

Fund Raising Arts in the Square was both delightful and successful. We raised between \$800 and \$900. The Catholics Concerned About Vietnam have raised \$1065. Just a reminder: all donations are tax deductible and will happily be taken out of P.O. Box 10432, Denver, Colorado 80210.

<u>Current and Coming</u> (or we need your help) A benefit showing of a "controversial" film is probable for November. We need your help with the following: tickets, mailings, posters, and publicity. Phone for details.

Ben Buffano, a famed San Francisco artist, has donated a mosaic to COR valued at \$15,000. The mosaic is being raffled-off with chances costing only \$1. Please take a book of 25 tickets to sell to your friends and neighbors. We also have posters which might be set up at tables in churches, shipping centers, etc.

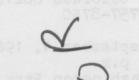
We need to intensify the showing of our film, The Survivors, in churches, service organizations, etc. Any suggestions?

Literature is always available for distribution.

Steering Committee meetings are open to all. Phone for date and location.

Please call 757-8750 and volunteer your time, ideas and energy.

THE CONSTITUES OF RESPONSIBILITY, INC.



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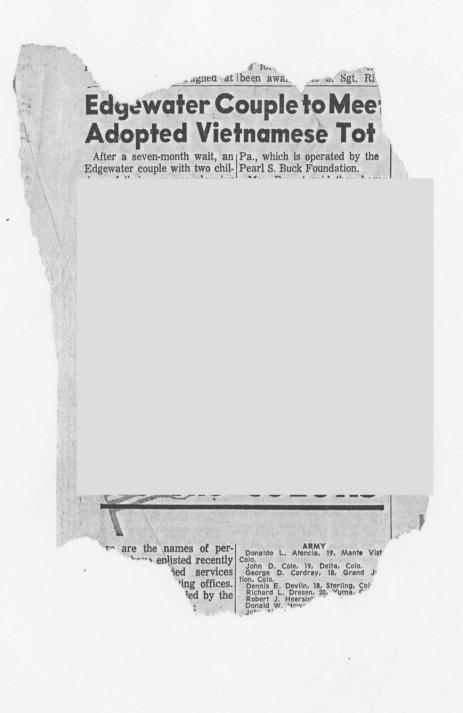
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WAIF ADOPTION DIVISION INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE AMERICAN BRANCH

HEN YOU

ADOPT A CHILD

FROM ABROAD

WAIF is the Adoption Division of the American Branch of International Social Service, a nonsectarian family and children's agency with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. ISS was founded in 1921, now has branches and offices in 20 countries, and cooperating agencies in 80 others.

The WAIF program is two-fold: (1) To provide adoption for foreign orphans who have no hope for home or future in their own countries and (2) To assist ISS offices and cooperating agencies in foreign countries and in the United States to strengthen and extend child care services, including the adoption of children within their own countries.

Since 1953, the WAIF Division has assisted in the adoption of over 13,000 foreign children by American families in the United States and abroad. Most of these intercountry adoptions have been successful, largely because the families who adopted these children have a remarkable capacity for love and patience and understanding. For people with such qualities, intercountry adoption can be deeply satisfying and rewarding. **T** F YOU have been thinking about adoption, to begin a family or enlarge the one you already have, and if you have become interested in the plight of orphaned or abandoned children in other parts of the world, this booklet will give you information to answer the first questions you may have about:

What foreign children need American adoptive homes?

2 What are the procedures for an intercountry adoption?

What legal requirements must be met?

4 What does it cost to adopt a child from abroad?

How long does it take?

What Foreign Children Need American Homes?

There are many children abroad needing adoptive homes, but the numbers of such children available for adoption and eligible to emigrate to the U.S.A. are sometimes exaggerated. As in the United States, many children throughout the world are placed in institutions without being relinquished for adoption by their parents. Others cannot meet the requirements of the United States Orphan Immigration Law. In addition a basic principle of WAIF and ISS throughout the world is that children should not be moved from their own country for adoption in another unless there are no possibilities for homes for them in their own country.

The Far East

Homes are very much needed for children in **Korea**, as the number becoming available for adoption is increasing. Most of these children are of mixed racial origin: Korean-Caucasian and Korean-Negro. The age range is 1 to 14 years. Korean children most in need of adoption are the racially mixed children over 5, who are facing severe prejudice in the Korean community.

All children available from **Hong Kong** are Chinese and almost all are girls. Most have been abandoned and are being cared for in orphanages. The age range is 2 to 14 years. The number of American families applying for the younger children often exceeds the number immediately available, while the older children have the greatest need.

There are now only a few children in **Japan** who cannot be cared for in that country. However, some racially mixed children and some older children are now being placed through WAIF.

Europe

The number of children in Europe needing adoptive homes has greatly diminished in recent years because of improved conditions and increasing social services for children.

WAIF is asked to place some children from **Greece** with families of the Christian faith, preferably Greek Orthodox.

In **Italy** some children are in need of placement in Roman Catholic homes.

The child welfare authorities in **Germany** are able to place almost all the Caucasian children with either German families or foreign families, mostly American, who are living temporarily in Germany. A small number of children of Negro fathers and Caucasian mothers need placement abroad.

International Social Service is a non-sectarian agency, and serves people of all religious faiths. However, an intercountry adoption, just as the adoption of an American child, must be carried out in conformity with any religious requirements of the state where the adopting family resides. In the child's own country, there may also be specific requirements concerning the religious faith of the adopting parents. Many children from Korea, Japan and Hong Kong are not affiliated with any religion, and have been successfully placed with families of Protestant, Catholic or Jewish faith.

Given a choice of several equally good homes for one child, preference is given to the adoptive parents whose national origin and racial background most closely resemble that of the child.

Procedures

The procedures for an intercountry adoption are basically the same as for adoption of an American child. However, because of differences in laws, cultural concepts, and technical methods between countries, there are additional requirements. WAIF procedures have been developed in cooperation with state and local adoption agencies, the



U.S. Immigration authorities, and ISS offices and other cooperating agencies abroad.

The first step is to get in touch with your local adoption agency or the child welfare division of your state welfare department.

You will be interviewed by an agency caseworker. Then, if you both agree to proceed with the intercountry adoption, the agency will secure information about your family composition, circumstances, interests and plans and, essentially, what your home will offer to meet the special needs of a homeless, foreign child. Some of the children most in need of adoption have undergone extreme deprivation and may present difficult problems to adopting parents.

When the local adoption agency recommends you for the placement of a foreign child, your "home study" serves as the basis for selection of the child. The child's picture, physical description, social history and medical report are sent to the agency for your consideration. If you accept the child, your next step is to apply to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to arrange for the child's entry into the United States. Then your agency will assist you in completing the documents required by the government of the country from which the child is emigrating, particularly for issuance of the passport and departure approval.

Immigration and other Legal Requirements

If the child comes from a country whose regular immigration quota is oversubscribed (such as Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Greece and Italy), you must file a petition with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service for the child to enter the United States on a special non-quota visa for the purpose of later adoption according to the laws and regulations of your state of residence. Your local agency will help you file this petition.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service requires that at least one of the prospective parents be a United States citizen. You must provide the following documents to accompany your petition:

> Birth certificate or naturalization certificate-number of American citizen spouse.

> Marriage certificate and proof of termination of any prior marriage.



Employment statement or, if self-employed, Federal income tax return.

Current bank statements.

Fingerprint chart.

In brief, Section 101 (b) of the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act provides for non-quota visas to be issued to:

Children, orphaned, abandoned or deserted or separated from both parents, or whose remaining parent is incapable of caring for them; who are:

Under 14 years of age;

Born in countries where the quota for United States immigration is oversubscribed;

Released in writing for emigration and adoption;

Adopted abroad by parents both of whom established personal acquaintance with the child, or

Coming to the United States for adoption by a married couple, one of whom is a U.S. citizen, who give assurance that:

> They will provide proper care; Pre-adoption requirements have been met in the proposed state of residence.

No more than two visas can be issued to children to be adopted by one family except to prevent separation of brothers and sisters.

Travel

WAIF and ISS offices abroad take responsibility for travel plans, arranging for your child to be properly escorted and cared for enroute to the United States, and assisted through immigration procedures upon arrival.

Full instructions are sent to your local agency and to you, including the travel schedule and the time and place of arrival. You may meet your child at ports of entry on the West Coast, New York, or in Chicago, whichever is nearest to your home.

You will be expected to pay the cost of your child's transportation, which is approximately \$300 for children under 12 from most countries.

What Does Intercountry Adoption Cost?

The major portion of the costs of the intercountry adoption program is covered by funds contributed to WAIF – International Social Service by individuals and organizations interested in helping to provide permanent homes for foreign orphans.

The services for which costs are incurred in the average intercountry adoption placement are:

> Staff transportation and living expenses incurred in making the social investigation of the child, often requiring extensive cross-country travel.

Transportation and living expenses for child and escort for preliminary medical and psychological observation and examination; for travel to the U.S. Consulate for examination in connection with visa issuance and medical appointments; for journey to point of departure for the U.S.; for meeting child upon arrival.

Cables and long-distance calls.

Documentation, translations, and legal fees.

Passport, exit permit, U.S. visa fee, and photographs.

Foster care pending placement for purpose of physical build-up, medical treatment, and observation of development.

Medical treatment, sometimes for a prolonged period.

Clothing for the child.

The cost of these services to WAIF-ISS for each child coming to an American family for adoption averages \$1,000. The amount of the reimbursement to be paid by the adopting parents is \$300.

Both the reimbursement for service costs and the payment for the child's travel to the United States are paid to the WAIF Adoption Division of International Social Service in advance.

How Long Does An Intercountry Adoption Take?

The time required for an intercountry adoption, from your original application to your local agency to the arrival of your child, varies from one to two years. In general, families requesting a very specific kind of child are likely to have a longer wait.

As you begin the process of intercountry adoption, try to approach it with realistic expectations and patience. Remember that the laws and cultural patterns of two different countries are involved. And this does complicate adoption procedures. Intercountry adoption procedures have been carefully worked out to provide you and your child with the essential safeguards; and to insure that the adoption becomes valid both in the country of your child's origin and in your home state.

After Arrival

After your child arrives, you and your local agency will complete the adoption requirements in your state. This usually takes about a year, during which your local agency is available to assist you in the adjustment process and to give help if special problems arise. During this period, too, you and your agency have access to the resources of WAIF for social service, for completing all required legal procedures in the country of origin, and for the naturalization of your child as an American citizen.

The WAIF Adoption Division of ISS also offers intercountry services to families who wish to adopt the child of a relative or a child they have located themselves or through friends.



For further information, please contact: WAIF Adoption Division International Social Service, American Branch, Inc. 345 East 46th Street New York, N. Y. 10017

> Printed in U.S.A. Rev. 6/64

Special Last Minute News

Doan Quang Truong and Nguyen Hoang Em are enroute to Denver! Doan is a thirteen-year-old boy from Quang Ngai; he suffered a third-degree burn of the chest, abdomen, arms, and face. His treatment will mostly be plastic surgery followed by physical therapy. Nguyen, a sixteen-year-old from Saigon, is the victim of a mortar attack on May 28th. His elbow was so severely injured that he will require orthopedic surgery and rehabilitation in order to restore the use of his arm. The boys will be admitted to Children's Hospital as private patients immediately following their arrival in Denver. Watch your newspapers and television for coverage.

We must no longer simply try to raise the funds needed for hospitalization; we must do it. Therefore, PLEASE

- (1) Send a check
- (2) Call to volunteer your time to help
- (3) Tell others about COR and urge them to participate
- (4) Come to the meeting September 4th.

VIETNAMESE ORPHAN

*THE DENVER POST Wed., May 22, 1968 47 \$

Edgewater New Home for 'Thi'

By CAROL WILCOX Denver Post Staff Writer Huwh Thi Hieu stared at the red ten-U.S. Immigration Service, a physical ex-U.S. Immigration Service ex-U.S. Immigrati

May 12, 1968

Des Moines Sunday Register **Iowa Girl Works to Ease Suffering of Vietnamese**

By Frances Craig

IN the Quang Ngai province of Vietnam, almost every family has its amputee - as often as not a child.

These civilians are victims of artillery bombardments, land mines, grenades, rockets, booby traps and all the implements of war.

In such a place, "'rehabilitation' seems a hopeless word," says Sallie Squires, a physical therapist from Ames. "But it's an effort with rewards."

From last July until early February, this daughter of an Iowa State University professor served with a team which set up and operated the Quaker Rehabilitation Center of Quang Ngai Provincial Hospital in the city of Quang Ngai, about 300 miles north of Saigon. A massive Tet offensive halted the center's program for civilians, but the sponsoring American Friends Service Committee plans to resume activities this summer.

Sallie, 28 and a graduate in physical therapy at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., is the daughter of Mr



and Mrs. Richard Squires of Ames, where Mr. Squires is a professor of industrial engineering at Iowa State University.

Miss Squires describes one of the "rewards" of the Quaker effort to alleviate suffering in Vietnam:

"His name was Huynh Phan, but I called him 'Huck Finn' and you'd know why if you saw him. But Huck was scared to death when some

American medics saw him herding cows and picked him up by helicopter. They'd heard we were doing something for amputees at the center and thought maybe we could help this appealing boy."

UCK had lost his left leg above H the knee in an artillery blast some months before.

The first time Sallie saw the 12year-old, he was hobbling around on a "walking stick," a forked branch with his leg in the crotch and the stick's top held against his side.

"These are common devices in the province," says the therapist.

The boy didn't need extensive surgery before he could have an artificial limb, and Sallie says "this was highly unusual." It's commonplace to see bones sticking through the flesh often of civilians who come for treatment of "immediate" injuries such as severe burns or infections.

A naturally merry child - "incredibly, in such constant trauma" Huck lost his fear as soon as he was reassured that his parents knew where he was.



War's agonies were a daily sight: Sallie cares for an orphan nobody visited. Her parents killed, the child was found crying from hunger and pain, her fractured hip infected from the filth in which she was lying.



Huynh Phan - Sallie called him Huck Finn - has a temporary artificial leg made from "scrounged" parts including metal strips from a shot-down airplane and wood from a crate that held bombs.

Reprinted from the July 23, 1968 issue of ${
m LOOK}$

TO MAKE CHILDREN WHOLE AGAIN

In a northern province of South Vietnam, a band of tireless Quakers toil at



Brace maker Joe Clark and physical therapist Sallie Squires (above) discuss the difficulties 14year-old Nguyen Dang has walking with his new artificial leg. Five-yearold Luong Chi (right) concentrates on regaining his balance while waiting for a new leg to replace the one blown off by an artillery shell. Sallie painted the footprints on the floor to help children measure the length of their steps.



WORDS BY ROLAND H. BERG PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHILLIP JONES-GRIFFITH



"IMPROVISE" BECAME the way of life for workers at the Quaker Rehabilitation Center last August from the moment they started treating patients in a vacant building on the grounds of the Quang Ngai Provincial Hospital. Lacking wheelchairs, the Center's nurse and physical therapists toted patients piggyback, or cradled them in their arms, or hauled them on homemade litters. And when the metal for making braces and artificial limbs failed to arrive, the staff discovered that the wings and struts of shot-down American aircraft made admirable substitutes.

Quang Ngai Hospital is in South Vietnam's coastal plain, 325 miles northeast of Saigon. It is short of everything a hospital needs, including doctors, nurses, beds. Worse, it is the only civilian hospital in the province, whose considerable population has been swelled by more than 200,000 refugees, many of them with bodies torn by shrapnel and bombs. Half of the wanderers are children.

Some of the wounded refugees are lucky enough to reach the hospital. There, they must share a bed with one or two other patients. The 450-bed institution always has more than 700 patients, who wait days for the few overworked doctors and nurses to attend them. They subsist on scraps of food brought by relatives or friends, who cook the skimpy meals on the unswept floors of the wards and corridors. Before the Quaker American Friends Service

Before the Quaker American Friends Service Committee opened the Center, Quang Ngai Hospital had no facilities for rehabilitating patients who had lost limbs or suffered deformities. Less than a year later, the Center is manned by 18 American, British, Dutch and Australian nationals, plus 55 South Vietnamese, most of whom have been trained on the spot. Unfortunately, this increase cannot match the swelling number of patients. The staff designs and builds nearly 200 braces

The staff designs and builds nearly 200 braces and artificial limbs a month, daily provides physical and occupational therapy to more than 70 patients, most of them children, who are in the hospital or who camp outside the grounds.

Nobody at the rehab center receives a salary; each, however, gets full maintenance—such as it is and a \$10-a-month allowance. It is no way to get rich.

> Who dares say what thoughts are in the mind of a 12-year-old girl as she watches her own artificial leg being made?

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Comedian and good will ambassador Bob Hope chats with Spec. 5 Kenneth Armstrong, right, and Thach Ri, during USO visit to hospital in

South Vietnam. Armstrong hopes to adopt the nine-year-old orphan and bring him to live in Denver within the next few weeks.

Viet waif waits to join his friend Ken in Denver

By WILLIAM GALLO Rocky Mountain News Writer A small boy sits waiting in an orCenter in Salgon where Thach was fitted with an artificial leg. As admiration and friendship grew between the two, Armstrong decided he

Six R. ord ß

By WILLIAM LOGAN and JAMES CRAWFORD Rocky Mountain News Writer

Six dormitories for retarded children completed at a cost of more than \$1 million in 1963 were ordered evacuated Tuesday by state officials as a safety precaution because of huge cracks in walls and other damage caused by shifting ground beneath them. State Institutions Director Hilbert Schauer,

meanwhile, expressed concern "there are a lot of very old buildings" at the Ridge School and some other state institutions being used which

"Many of them don't meet the standards," Schauer declared. "Tm not trying to excuse anything—it's just that this is a first class problem.

Gov. Love, at a press conference, confirmed that two of six dormitory buildings at the Ridge School were being evacuated Tuesday.

Love said plans are to move retarded chil-dren from four similar buildings within about two weeks, unless shifting bentonite soil under the buildings requires evacuation sooner.

Seek other facilities Love said the state now is looking for other facilities to house some of the children residents of Ridge, mentioning as possibilities Fort Logan and nursing homes.

Both Love and Schauer said the engineering problems of the crumbling structures at Ridge are being investigated to see if repairs are possible. Large cracks first began to show up about two years ago.

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it. 11, 1968 MERCY GROUP PROJECT

By DONNA LOGAN

Denver Post Staff Writer

pajamas and tries to smile under a grown-out crewcut.

"Trung" is 13 years old, weighs 50 pounds, wears blue



Two Maimed Viet Children in Denver Hospital

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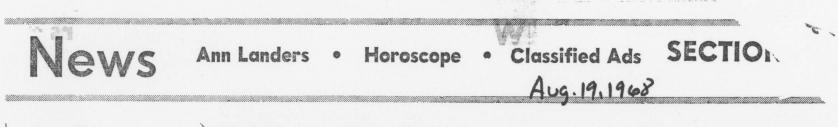
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Tuesday they were introduced to the public at a press conference in their room.

"I just want to stay with them as long as they need of me," says their COR interpreter, a Saigon beauty named COR, a private organization whose stated purpose is to "save war-burned and war-injured Vietnamese children," has brought 40 war-injured children to medical centers in the United States.

Denver Post

When you're ready for the BEST—TRY Penneys! REDUCED THRU SATURDAY!



Adopted Viet Girl Happy in Colorado

By ZOE VON ENDE **Denver Post Staff Writer**

You may remember Lisa Coddington. She was a Vietnamese orphan who was adopted by a Littleton family, the Dean Coddingtons, in February 1965. She was a lovable little thing $-3\frac{1}{2}$ years old, weighing only 24 pounds. She made friends with everyone she met.

Lisa was one of the first Vietnamese family.

a picture and a feature story of her.

Now, Lisa's 7 years old and weighs 45 pounds and, as she did when she first came, she has a terrific appetite. Her favorite food is still meat - steak, to be exact - plus salad.

She's as outgoing and as dear as she ever was.

"I like to pick flowers," she said, "and officer - a police officer."

She also likes to wear party shoes, and, dozen times a day. She's especially fond ingly good natured, I often said. She's of a pink flowered muumuu her mother happy all the time. brought her from Hawaii.

The Coddingtons live at 6571 S. Marion St. in Littleton, a few blocks from the house on Ogden Street in which they lived when Lisa came 31/2 years ago. Lisa has a sister, Susan, 10; two brothers, Michael, 8, and David, 11. The family has a black cat named Shadow, and Gypsy, part German shepherd and part basset hound. Coddington is a research economist with Denver Research Institute (DRI), part of the University of Denver.

Thrives on U.S. Life

It's easy to see that Lisa has thrived on her American way of life. And her parents say they're delighted with their Asian daughter, and that they wish many other families would adopt Vietnamese

cure its approval.

It's possible that local welfare people will try to talk potential adoptive parents into an American orphan instead of a Vietnamese one. "That was our experience," Mrs. Coddington said. "But here's how we feel: Anyone born in the United States has so much going for him to begin with. But these Asian orphans have nothorphans to be adopted by an American ing. Large numbers of them die before five," she said. they're 5 years old. Besides that, we felt The Denver Post noted her arrival with a sort of moral obligation - about the short, there's nothing Lisa would like war and such.

> "I wish more people would do it-save just one child. It's a great experience, head shaved in Saigon, an apparently just watching her change and grow."

How Did Lisa Adjust?

Coddington said the most common question is "How did Lisa adjust?"

wear a red dress. I want to be a nurse was the best adjusted member of the or a stewardess (she pronounces it "stew- family," he said. "The family is more arsiss") or a teacher or a doctor or a important to her than to any of the other kids. Her life revolves around the family. if she could, would put on a new dress a too. So far -- not a thing. She's disgust- of that.

department because it's essential to se- collection of Vietnam, and she knows her Japanese and Lisa quickly set him only one word. It sounds like "chewy" and it means banana, Mrs. Coddington said.

> "She insists she remembers a color television set in the orphanage in Sevgon," her father said. "But we doubt that."

> Sometimes Lisa talks about adopting another Vietnamese. "Then we'd have

> Though her coarse black hair is cut more than long hair. Her mother attributes that to a memory of having her dreadful experience.

Lisa has had some medical problems. She's partly deaf, the apparent result of allergies. But her parents expect that can be corrected. She's had dental sur-"Almost from the day she came, she gery. She has a difficulty, her parents said, common to Asians: her teeth are too large for her small jaw. Permanent teeth have had to be pulled. Shortly after she

Lisa apparently has little conscious re- One day a boy in Sunday School called came citizens simultaneously.

straight. She sometimes teases her mother by saying, "Oh, you're so white!" And because Lisa's so outgoing and different looking, she gets more attention than the other children. That was a problem for a while, her father said, but they corrected it by making sure the others get their share.

Then there was the matter of eves. One day recently, Lisa gave her mother a puzzled look.

"Your eyes are different from mine," she declared.

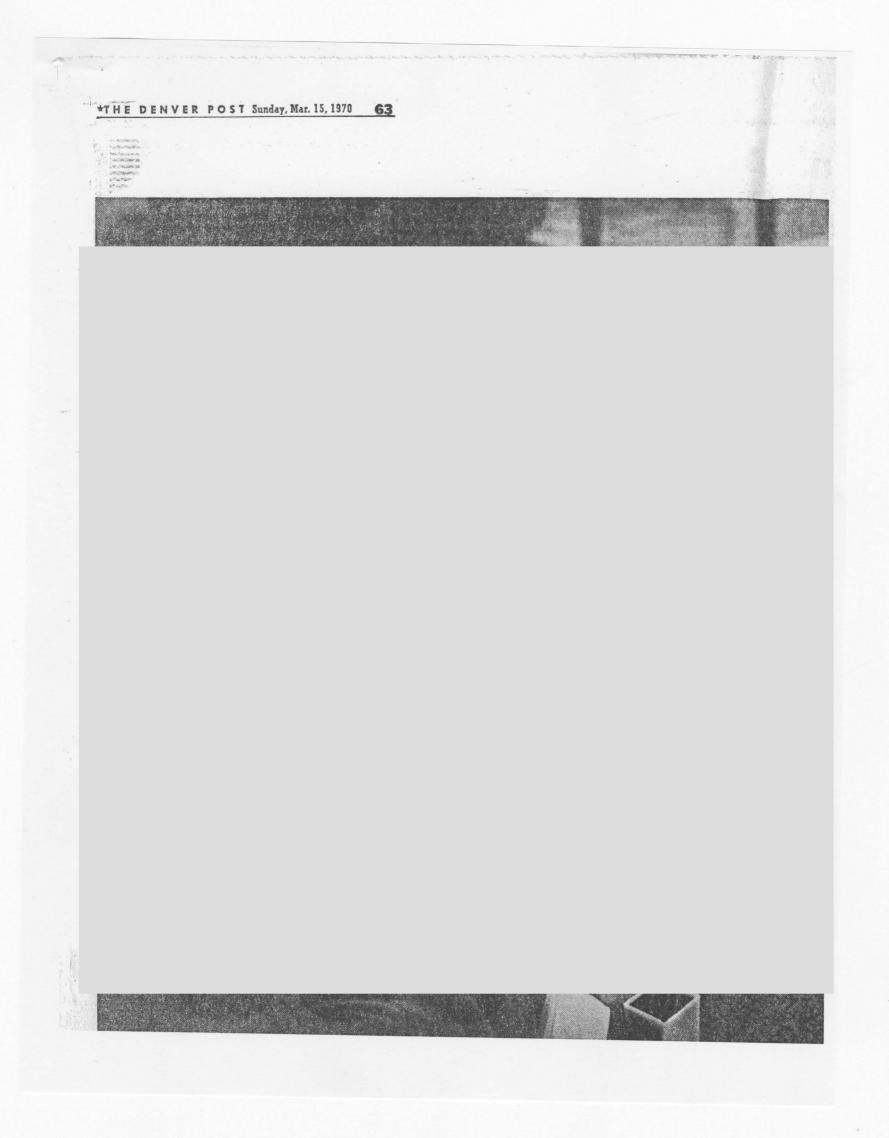
"Oh," her mother said, "My lids just have an extra wrinkle."

Citizenship Day Was Big

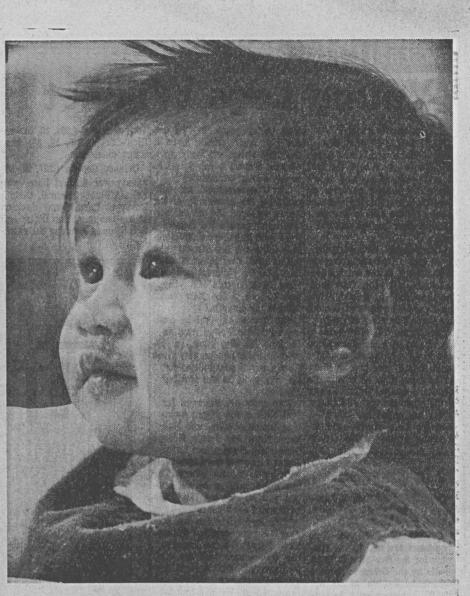
It's apparent that Lisa Jane Coddington is one of those children who will get along in about any situation. Every day is likely to be a big one for her.

One of the very biggest days for Lisa was last June 21 when she became a arrived, tape worms were discovered in U.S. citizen. She was eligible two years We fully expected emotional problems, her body, but modern medicine took care after her adoption was complete, and her parents just filled out papers and had Lisa is quite aware that she's different . witnesses attest to their good character. from her parents and the other children. Lisa was one of many persons who be-









Kellie Thi Cochran, 15 months old, who was Nguyen Thi Thoa when she joined the Cochran family last July. She was from a Saigon orphanage.

... About War, Orphans And Family Solidarity

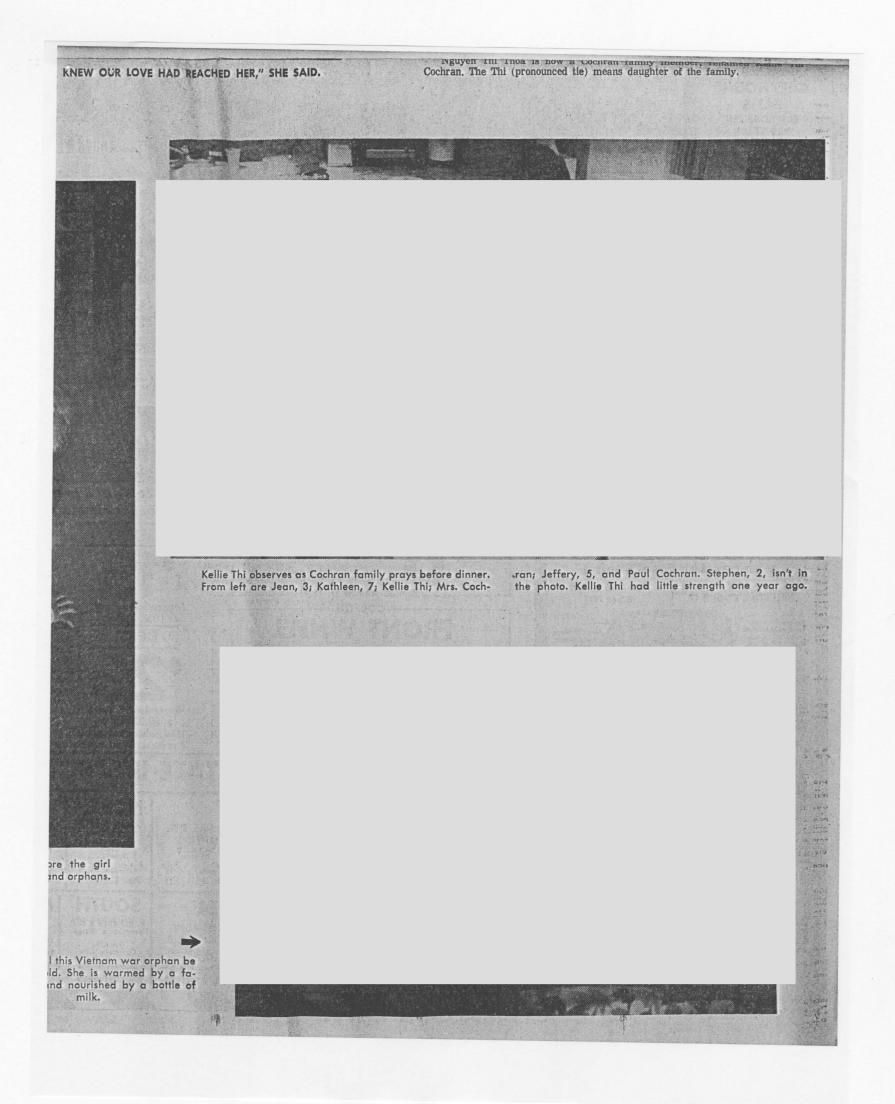
Paul Cochran, of 5740 E. 67th Ave., remembers little boys left to run around African streets during World War II-abandoned to fend for themselves in the war zone.

"They would steal or do anything to survive," he said.

He has worried over Vietnamese orphans, alone because of the Vietnam war. "I feel that since the United States is involved in the Vietnam war, we are partly responsible for the orphan children there," he said. Cochran transformed his thoughts into action.

In January 1968, he and his wife, Molly, contacted a Saigon orphanage with the help of the Denver and Adams County Welfare Departments. They wrote

the help of the Denver and Adams County Welfare Departments. They wrote that they would like to adopt a little girl. At the orphange, Nguyen Thi Thoa, then 2 months old, was being kept alive on about two jars of baby food a week. She was found abandoned at birth. After seven months of corresponding with Vietnamese officials and being interviewed several times by officials from adoption agencies and the Immigra-tion Authority, the Cochrans were awarded custody of Nguyen last July. The Cochrans had prepared their four children for the girl's arrival by discussing war, orphans and family solidarity with them. When the little girl arrived, she didn't smile. Mrs. Cochran recalled that



Women's News Rac and Televi

Saigon to Edgewaer: N



GERALD BRYANT WAITED 14 MONTHS TO HUG HIS NEW DAUGHTER, THI WHO WAS BOR Waiting turns are Mrs. Bryant, Laurie, 7, Joel, 5. "There's a chance we can give her a norma



"WHO AM I AND WHAT AM I DOING HERE?" THI SEEMS TO ASK HERSELF AT THE BE Mrs. Bryant uses doll to establish rapport. Next step one of four Vietnamese children t is a drin of water. Dress was sister Laurie's. Thi's East to an a prive home in Unite



THE DENVER POST

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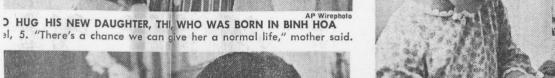
ver Post Photos on This Page by Dave Buresh THI OPENS DOOR TO LOVE e-year-old orphan explored ints' Edgewater home Tuesday.



Comic Strips

SECTION

Edgewater: New Home for Little 'Thi'



RE?" THI SEEMS TO ASK HERSELF AT THE BRYANTS' HOUSE ext step one of four Vietnamese children flown from the Far i's. Thi's East to an a ptive home in United States.

De INTRODUCTION TO AMERICA INCLUDES A PAIR OF RED SHOES Bryant and laughter, Laurie, help Thi with tennis shoes. If she could speak English, she'd probably tell her new daddy, "They're too big."



Christmas in a Happy Place

IFE in an orphanage is seldom joyous. But life in a South Vietnamese orphanage in wartime is at best harrowing and at worst unimaginable—at least, unimaginable to an American girl of comfortable background. NLF-infiltrated farm country, 20 miles out of Saigon.

Betty Moul never did complete her leisurely tour of Asia. She stayed on at An Lac as long as she could, then went back to her job as an executive secretary "Madame Ngai was a proud Tonkinese woman who had been wealthy. She was lovely, with fine-textured skin, jet-black hair . . . and an olive coloring that was exquisite. . . With women like this in a nation, faith and hope in it will persist, whatever the temporary chaos."

When Madame Ngai arrived in the South, she sold what remained of her jewelry and other valuables, set up An Lac, and began gathering up homeless children from Saigon's streets and countryside. There was no dearth of such children, then or now. Nor has there been any abundance of funds to care for them: The government gives An Lac (irregularly) an allowance of 26 cents per child per month. The rest of its \$2,000-a-month running expenses must be made up from private sources-e.g., Miss Moul's contributions and service help from the New York chapter of the Tom Dooley Foundation.

Now in her sixties and in ill health, Madame Ngai refuses to close down the orphanage and surrender "her" 400 children to the mercies of street life in Saigon. Amid dirt and danger, Madame Ngai insists that the orphanage be kept clean, and that her children study hard and observe the highest standards of decorum. Many have won scholarships to local colleges.

Not all the children fare so well. During her last visit to An Lac, Betty Moul asked about one of her favorites, a pretty eleven-year-old girl named La. The child

HALLOWELL DOWSER.

I JACC.



How to choose the right shoe next time you buy work oxfords



Just as tennis shoes aren't much good for bowling, neither are old dress shoes much good for men who work on their feet all day. So we cut one of our 11 kinds of oxfords apart to show you why. top grade leathers that take a and a beating too. Insoles, soles

that cushion every step. There are steel shanks for extra support, and safety steel toes to meet O.S.H.A. safety regula-So with 11 different styles,

tions. So with 11 different styles, how *do* you choose a work shoe just right for you? See your Red Wing work shoe dealer. He's an expert who can help select the right work oxford that fits *your* job...as well as your feet. Sizes EEEE. Come and choose a pair today.



PICTURES—St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Sunday, March 3, 1974



index

ON THE COVER

A child of the East grasps her Western mother in loving embrace to set the scene for our lead article about Vietnam waifs of war who have been adopted by families in the St. Louis metropoli-

tan area. LeAnn Paul and her new mother, Mrs. Marilyn Paul, symbolize the strength of the love that can transcend the bureaucratic red tape that American families must go through in adopting a child from South Vietnam. Because of the lack of medical attention and proper nutrition in Vietnamese orphanages, many children such as LeAnn might not survive to experience life in the world beyond their war-ravaged little country.

Page 16... What the Druids Did

A visit to Stonehenge, that structure of stone in England that has perplexed investigators for centuries. Were the ancient Druids early astronomers? Read on!

- Page 18... "A Child Shall Lead Them" Michael Lord Jr. says that "The Devil is getting a lot of people ..." and that it is time to get right with the Lord. The thing is that Michael is a 6-year-old evangelist who is making some religious waves down South.
- Page 26 . . . Celebrated Murder Revisited Connie Franklin was thought to have been murdered in 1929 in Arkansas. Yet, the lone gentleman, a self-proclaimed hobo, ofttimes sits around on the St. Louis riverfront. How did Connie escape?

Next Week: Getting unhooked from heroin. Profile of a program by the Veterans Administration to help heroin addicts in the St. Louis area.

Vietnamese Orphans Find New Homes In St. Louis Area

By ELIZABETH MULLIGAN

E IGHTEEN families in the St. Louis area are bound together by a common cause — they have each taken a major step to help the children of Vietnam. Each of the families has adopted one or two of the war's casualties — children who were orphaned by the crossfire of guns or were left behind by American servicemen who have returned home.

The war is over, according to cease-fire agreements that have been signed. American guns are silent and our bombs no longer fall there. Our soldiers are home. But there are thousands and thousands of children still engaged in a battle for survival, and more than half of those brought in to Vietnamese orphanages lose the battle.

A nun in charge of one of the shelters said that "God is good — he lets these children die." But there are many concerned Americans who are doing what they can to see that these children live.

The adoptions by families who are actively involved as friends of Vietnamese children, however, can be recognized as only a drop in the bucket. About 600 children have been brought to this country out of a total of homeless and helpless estimated to number 20,000.

This month has been proclaimed by Gov. Christopher Bond as Vietnamese Children's Month in Missouri — a month set aside for recognition of efforts to help the (Continued)

It's a new beginning for LeAnn Paul, a former Vietnamese orphan who has been adopted by the Rev. Jack and Marilyn Paul in Fairview Heights, Ill.

Photos by MICHAEL J. BALDRIDGE of the Post-Dispatch Staff