



AP Wirephoto

NGUYEN CAO KY AND REFLECTION
'I like the climate and the people'

Ky Is Living Happily In Huntington Beach

Huntington Beach,
Los Angeles county

Former South Vietnamese Premier Nguyen Cao Ky says he's well, happy and settled into his beach-community home here.

He's still giving speeches, and his wife plans to go into the restaurant business, he says. But a communal farm he once envisioned for Vietnamese refugees is off.

"I just love this area. I like the climate and I like the people, the former jet pilot and South Vietnamese marshal said in an interview at his modern two-story home here.

Ky said he likes living in Southern California, because the greatest concentration of the 130,000 South Vietnamese who came to this country live in San Diego and Orange counties. Huntington Beach is a resort town about 30 miles south of Los Angeles.

Ky, who served as premier in 1966 and 1967 and as vice president of South Vietnam for four years until 1971, said he is now trying to find jobs for about 2600 former

Vietnam air force pilots.

"These are some of the best-trained pilots in the world, with an average of 10,000 to 18,000 hours of flying time," he said.

"It's a waste of time for them to be working at other jobs."

His wife, Mai, is trying to buy a Huntington Beach restaurant, now called Granny's Attic.

Ky said that, if the deal goes through, the restaurant's name will be changed, but he's unsure if his wife will change the cuisine to Vietnamese.

"That's up to my wife. She is a business woman," Ky said.

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