

'How Much Money Does It Take?'**How Ed Daly Got His**

By Sam Jameson
Los Angeles Times

Saigon

Pistol packin' and dollar-totin' Ed Daly, 53-year-old president of World Airways, left Saigon yesterday — and nearly everyone was happy.

Officials of the Friends of the Children of Vietnam orphanage were overjoyed. They rushed 57 orphans to a darkened Tan Son Nhut airport minutes before Daly was ordered to leave in the midst of an alert against a possible Viet Cong infiltration attack.

Daly took the orphans, many of them mixed-blood children of American GI's who served here, free of charge to new homes in the United States.

Some of Daly's own employees, who had dashed about from 4 a.m. to 9 p.m. trying to make arrangements and complete bureaucratic paperwork needed for the orphanage, were glad to see the World War II air corps sergeant go.

"Mr. Daly comes out to Asia about once a year — and that is once too much," one of the employees said of the man who parlayed a war surplus airplane into one of the world's largest charter airlines.

Officials at the U.S. Embassy — including Ambassador Graham Martin, who had refused a Daly request to stay at his residence — here also glad to see Daly go.

"How do you say anything about Ed Daly without a gun? I can't because I am a peaceful man," one embas-

sy official said. But others vouched for the open-handed humanitarianism of the Orinda, Calif., man who was a semi-professional boxer in his youth.

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Daly, the man who flew one of his charter company's 727 jets to Da Nang on the eve of the fall of South Vietnam's second largest city and nearly had the plane grounded by mobs of rioting South Vietnamese troops, started the latest round of dither by announcing Tuesday he intended to take 1400 orphans out of South Vietnam at his own expense.

That was before any of the arrangements were made.

Brian A. Cooke, senior vice president of the firm, told reporters Daly planned to send 400 orphans first to Australia, where 70 of them would disembark to join foster parents there, and then on to homes in Europe.

The Australian government, however, turned down the request for landing permission, he said.

The Chicago-born Daly, muttering about "the god-damn Auesies," gave up on that plan.

But there was still space

for up to 1000 babies on a World Airways DC-8 convertible cargo-passenger jet last U.S. government-chartered rice run to Phnom which had just finished its Pens. Cooke, Daly and Margaret V. Moses, deputy director of the Friends for All Children orphanage headquartered in Boulder Colo., all said that the orphanage would place some 500 orphans on the plane.

Other orphanages turned down the offer, saying they couldn't get South Vietnamese exit visas in time, Cooke said.

The Friends for All Children orphanage hadn't obtained the exit permits, either. The process usually consumes months. This time the exit visas came through by noon.

Daly received the news in his hotel suite — a beehive of activity as aides, company vice presidents and airline stewardesses answered two telephones, bandaged Daly's right hand injured in the mob rush of his plane at Da Nang Saturday and helped the president put on his boots. Daly strapped on a .38-caliber pistol he wore most of the time he was in Vietnam.

A stack of \$100 bills wrapped with a band of paper on which was written the notation, "\$10,000," was on the bed.

A Vietnamese police escort with sirens blaring led the way to the airport for Daly and his party. Once there, however, the arrangements of the morning started crumbling.

In mid-afternoon, Daly, now wearing a green beret and a medallion he said was given to him by the Pope around his neck, stormed out of an airport office to charge that the U.S. Embassy here had sabotaged the airlift.



UPI Telephotos

ED DALY World Airways chief

To the charges of "sabotage," an embassy spokesman said orphanage officials had decided to decline Daly's offer "by themselves and without any prompting by the embassy."

Considerations of only 31 adults, including ten nurses and three doctors, to handle 500 babies—most of them less than six months of age—may have had something to do with the decision, the embassy spokesman said.

That left Daly with an airplane he had fitted out with mattresses and netting to carry up to 1000 small children. Only six orphans and six children of Seventh-day Adventist hospital nurses and doctors were committed to go.

An American couple with their son later got permission to board after they were bumped off a China Air Lines flight.

Standing near an airport

gate, Daly yelled impatiently to his senior vice president.

"Cooke! where are my cigarettes?"

The vice president hurried over, put a cigaret into his

own mouth, lit it and then handed it to his boss. Daly started puffing.

Daly then ordered his batch of passengers taken into an airport restaurant by three of his stewardesses. Daly later joined them and had one of his aides bring a bottle of scotch. He ordered ice for himself and a few others and refreshments for the rest—and handed a World Airways employee a \$100 bill to pay for it.

Tom Clark and his wife, Sharon, came into the room while Daly was consuming his third scotch and water. They were officials of the Friends of the Children of Vietnam, a different orphanage, and asked Daly if he would take some 120 orphans to the United States.

"Hell, yes. Get them here!" he roared.

Only five of the orphans had complete travel papers, however.

Daly, with a South Vietnamese policeman assigned to him carrying his sunglasses, cigarets and cigaret lighter trailing behind, rushed off to see airport authorities.

Flashing his wad of \$100 bills, Daly asked how much time it would take to get exit

visas for the orphans.

"It takes many weeks," he was told.

"Then how much money does it take?" he asked.

Vietnamese Air Force Major Duc Tan was offered \$2000 "to look the other way," as Daly described it.

The officer refused to take it—but "got on the phone every ten minutes and got those damned permits," Daly said.

The plane, by now, was ready for departure. But Daly, who had been at the airport for more than five hours, refused to leave. The waiting began again as the second orphanage prepared its children to leave on a moment's notice.

Darkness settled over the airport and Daly, still consuming scotch, started counting backwards the hours that remained until his DC-8 was needed in Oakland to meet the next charter commitment.

When most newsmen weren't looking, he wrote out a check and handed it quietly to one of the nurses of the Seventh-day Adventist hospital who was staying behind.

At 8:50 p.m. the orphans still had not arrived.

Then Daly was called to a

phone — and emerged uncharacteristically subdued. His puffy face was grim.

Cooke, who was with him, said only that Daly had been ordered to leave by Vietnamese officials.

"It must have been someone very important to have subdued Mr. Daly," one World Airways employee said.

The airport had been put on alert and all Vietnamese employees had been ordered to leave to prevent any infiltrators from posing as airport workers.

Daly rounded up his brood and started for his plane. Just then the headlights of three minibuses came rushing through the darkness.

It was the orphans — 57 of them.

Nobody had time to count, however. Major Tan grabbed a list of the orphans' names. Without reading it, he gave the signal to go.

Daly jumped onto the edge of the front seat in one of the minibuses so jammed with orphans that Daly couldn't get his right leg inside. Hanging on to the open door, Daly shouted, "Let's go!"

They drove off into the night toward the plane.