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**U.S. Envoy in Saigon Is Quoted
On Propaganda Effect of Airlift**

SAIGON, South Vietnam, April 6 (AP)—Opposition politicians made public today a letter from a top Government official that quotes the United States Ambassador, Graham Martin, as saying the evacuation of orphans "will help create a shift in American public opinion in favor" of South Vietnam.

The politicians, headed by a neutralist, Tran Ngoc Lieng, called the airlift of children an "inhumane" propaganda campaign for more United States war aid and demanded it be stopped immediately.

A United States spokesman, asked for comment on the letter, written by Dr. Phan Quang Dan, Deputy Premier for Social Welfare, said Mr. Martin "has had as his overriding concern the welfare of the orphans." The spokesman said Dr. Dan and Mr. Martin met last week on the airlift and that Dr. Dan said the evacuation might also have some effect on U.S. public opinion. (36 MAR - 6 APR)

The Ambassador agreed with Mr. Dan's view but this was not the reason for bringing up the entire matter of the orphans," the spokesman continued. "The Ambassador's reason and concern was simply the welfare of the children."

Denies Quoting Ambassador

The letter was written last Wednesday to then-Premier Tran Thien Khiem requesting prompt clearance for the evacuation of 1,400 Vietnamese children, most of them to the United States. The clearance was quickly granted by the South Vietnamese Government and the airlift began late the same day, using civilian charter and military aircraft.

Dr. Dan confirmed that the letter was authentic but denied

quoting the American ambassador directly or indirectly. He said the letter's comment on creating favorable publicity for the South Vietnamese Government "was my own opinion and that of my friends in the United States and Australia."

Dr. Dan expressed anger that his letter had fallen into the hands of a group of politicians and said: "My only concern was to get these children to a safer place. We have so many problems with refugees now that it is very difficult to care for the orphans. I am not interested in discussing criticism."

An unofficial translation of Dr. Dan's letter, however, clearly refers to the United States Ambassador and his intervening directly with me to ask for permission to evacuate these children en masse abroad." It continues:

"He stressed that this evacuation along with the millions of refugees abandoning Communist-controlled zones, will help create a shift in American public opinion in favor of the Republic of Vietnam. Especially when these children land in the United States, they will be subject to television, radio and press agency coverage and the effect will be tremendous."

In a communiqué accompanying a copy of the letter, the opposition politicians labeled the evacuation "an inhumane plan of the American and South Vietnamese Governments to export en masse thousands of orphans for the purpose of propaganda, to create excitement in the world and to request more aid."

It demanded that Washington and Saigon "immediately halt the export en masse of Vietnamese orphans."