

285 More Orphans

What could be the last large contingent of Vietnamese orphans in the current airlift landed at Travis Air Force Base yesterday aboard a chartered DC-10 jetliner.

"We have no knowledge of any further flights," an Army spokesman said at the Presidio here where the orphans are being medically screened before being sent on to their adoptive homes all over the country.

Dr. James L. Stewart, chief of pediatrics at Letterman Army Hospital, said the health of the 269 children

aboard seemed in general to be "quite good."

Stewart said the plane, chartered by the government from Overseas National Airways, left Vietnam with 285 children aboard — 175 of them less than 12 months old — plus 73 volunteer escorts and one doctor and one nurse.

Sixteen of the children were taken off the plane in Honolulu for hospitalization for various illnesses, and three more were hospitalized at Travis Air Force Hospital.

More than 1700 children have now been airlifted to the United States out of Saigon; more than 1000 of these were brought through San Francisco.

Adoption agencies throughout the country have received many, many offers of foster and adoptive homes from people concerned about the welfare of the children.

The airlift so far has completed the operation ordered by President Ford, and Vietnamese officials have said they will permit no further airlifts of large groups of

Arrive at Travis

orphans.

Several American individuals and organizations are

still trying to arrange further flights, in smaller groups.