

SFChronicle

Daly's New Crusade

Edward J. Daly, the flamboyant president of World Airways, Inc., of Oakland, challenged the nation's business leaders yesterday to join him in a multi-million-dollar crusade to save the starving war victims of shattered Indochina.

To get things going, Daly put up another \$1 million of his own money.

In a message from Saigon that was included in a telegram sent to the top executives of hundreds of the largest U.S. business firms and to America's 100 richest individuals, Daly said:

"I'll come right to the point. I want your commitment for \$1 million and I want it today."

The money, he said, is desperately needed for food, shelter and medicine.

"During the past month I have seen human suffering in Indochina which is beyond imagination or comprehension . . . I believe that American business can and must provide the aid necessary to save a population from disease, starvation and death," Daly said.

The details of Daly's plan for American business to finance a massive refugee aid program in Indochina were



DAVID MENDELSON
'Thousands . . . will die'



CHARLES PATTERSON
'The hurt is deep'

discussed here during a press conference at the Fairmont Hotel by two World Airways executives.

"Mr. Daly," said David M. Mendelsohn, a World Airways vice president, "is extremely concerned that hundreds of thousands of people will die of starvation and disease if they do not receive immediate aid."

Daly, who has already spent more than a million dollars of his own money flying out orphans and help-

ing refugees, has made arrangements for the United Nations secretary general's Special Fund for Humanitarian Assistance in Indochina to be the major recipient of funds and the distributing agency for relief supplies financed by American businessmen.

The International Red Cross, UNICEF and the U.N. Commission for Refugees also will assist.

"Mr. Daly told me a few hours ago from Saigon that

under no circumstances will this money go to line anybody's pockets," Mendelsohn said. "This is going to be done without any graft or corruption in the middle of it."

The money the Fund for Indochina Relief receives from business will be put into a special fund at the Bank of America's main office and will be disbursed by a committee of volunteer executives who will fly to Saigon to meet with Daly.

"Mr. Daly, in his own inimitable style has asked the business world to respond to his request for funds within 24 hours," Mendelsohn said.

"Government agencies have not responded. They're still dragging their you-know-what."

Charles J. Patterson, another World Airways vice president who has just returned from Indochina, said somberly:

"The hurt is deep there. They're dying. Widows and orphans and refugees are still being made.

Even if Daly's crusade should fall far short of its multi-million-dollar mark, he said, "it's still damn well worth doing."