

# Guam Faces Human Traffic Jam

By **ANDREW H. MALCOLM**  
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OROTE POINT, Guam, Tuesday, April 29 — Almost 6,000 more South Vietnamese refugees reached this United States territory in the last 24 hours as evidence began to mount that lengthy immigration clearance procedures, combined with a shortage of aircraft to carry evacuees on to the United States, would soon cause a major human traffic jam here.

More than 25,000 refugees are being housed in a dozen camps scattered over the island of Guam. And Immigration and Naturalization Service officials say 8 employees are on hand to screen the evacuees. But by early this morning only 1,347 evacuees had left Guam and only 922 others had been cleared and were awaiting aircraft.

Many of the planes on duty were busy hauling refugees out of Saigon and supplies out of the United States. The rapidly growing refugee camp at Orote Point, which today became tropical Guam's most populous, experienced delays in arrivals of supplies during the night because of a storm in Utah.

A late spring snow at Hill Air Force Base there hampered landings and takeoffs of supply planes with cots and tents to house up to 50,000 refugees here.

## Warning of Rain

A tropical storm that had been forming near here disintegrated late yesterday and presented no threat. However, weather forecasters predicted more showers. Rain could create considerable discomfort in this burgeoning tent city, which is built on dirt.

Even with construction continuing around the clock at a prodigious pace, part of the camp appears to be settling down to a daily schedule. Children play in the dirt streets. Mothers gossip while washing clothes at a nearby faucet.

Some listen to a Guam radio station, KUAM, which began Vietnamese language news programs today. "We hope our regular listeners will bear with us for a while," the announcer appealed.

Some husbands have joined a Vietnamese camp government that is being formed. Others, meanwhile, arrange their family's affairs and seek numbered places in line to meet with United States immigration personnel.

In the last five days 1,500 military men have turned this overgrown area into a virtual city with water systems, tele-

## Plane Shortage and Formalities Snarl Refugee Flow

phones and electricity. Conditions are still spartan but improving as soldiers and Navy seabees erect more than 350 tents daily. An Army field hospital unit was flown in today from Hawaii, as were 85 medics and 60 cooks.

## Ton of Rice a Day

A Seabee field kitchen, flown in from Okinawa on Thursday, is serving meals here 24 hours a day. "We use over a ton of rice every day," said Mike an ensign from Nashville.

"The South Vietnamese are cooperating beautifully," he continued, "but these Americans are a pain. They come in here and demand steak and baked potato."

Last night's dinner, served on paper plates with plastic utensils, not chopsticks, consisted of rice, chopped beef and beans, with tea to drink.

Immigration officials are granting travel documents first to American citizens and their close blood relatives. The next category includes Vietnamese with sponsors who have promised to support them and Vietnamese whose lives seemed threatened had they remained under a Communist regime. In the latter category are a considerable number of American news organization employees and their relatives.

Processing for immigration involves completion of a series of lengthy and repetitious government forms designed to establish a file on each alien. The procedure can take close to an hour for a family of five. In the last 24 hours immigration workers at Orote (pronounced oh-ROT-ey) have processed only 100 families.

## Delay in Holding Area

But even once approved, the refugees face a further wait in another holding area. Rear Adm. G. Stephen Morrison, who is in over-all charge of the Guam refugee operation, said he was having difficulty organizing a steady stream of aircraft to carry the refugees to the continental United States.

Yesterday morning Admiral Morrison said he hoped to have 2,000 persons flown out by nightfall. Actually by only about 200 had left by then.

The labors of thousands of military personnel are being augmented by hundreds of volunteer workers, many of them military dependents. Others

have donated clothing, toys and necessities in short supply, such as baby oil and disposable diapers. Volunteer entertainers were also sought.

The American Red Cross is opening communications facilities, shipping in three tons of personal supplies for the evacuees and coordinating volunteers.

There is no shortage of food, Admiral Morrison said. A Chinese Nationalist freighter, the Chien Chuan, is scheduled to arrive tomorrow with 4,000 tons of rice originally bound for Cambodia.

## 8,000 Reach Philippines

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MANILA, April 28 — Nearly 8,000 evacuees, ferried by air and sea from Saigon, arrived at the two large U. S. bases in the central Philippines over the last 24 hours. The exodus was expected to swell as Communist pressure on Saigon increased.

Only 1,700 were flown to Guam and Wake Island. The others, added to several hundred evacuees still in the Philippines after previous flights from Saigon, created a tremendous problem of providing housing and food.

"We need every willing hand to help out now," said a U. S. information officer of the refugee situation at Clark Air Base, about 50 miles north of Manila.

Scores of volunteers—members of U. S. servicemen's families, have worked around the clock attending to about 23,000 evacuees over the last three weeks.

The number of children for adoption passing through Clark reached 1,230 yesterday. More than 300 of them were still there while their adoption papers were being arranged.

The naval base at Subic Bay, 10 miles from Clark, began receiving refugees over the weekend with the arrival of the chartered ship Green Waves, carrying 624 refugees.

The Philippine Government notified the U. S. Embassy, meanwhile, that it was allowing use of the country in evacuation "in view of the emergency situation and for humanitarian reasons." But the formal Government note laid down three guidelines. That the U. S. speed up the transfer of evacuees to Guam and other destinations, that the maximum transit stay for each evacuee be three days and that no Vietnamese military personnel or political prisoners be brought in.