

NYTimes  
**Americans Are Replaced  
By Vietnamese in Camp**

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CAMP PENDLETON, Calif., May 1—Processing of refugees at this Marine Corps base picked up tempo today as the number of displaced Vietnamese overtook the initial swell of Americans and their dependents returning from Vietnam.

Americans in print shirts and unpressed slacks still flowed through the processing center that rubber-stamped documents for their families and opened the gates to the world outside. The dusty quarters have doubled in size on each of the four days it has been operating.

But now the Vietnamese families are spilling into the Quonset huts and field tents that are sweltering by day and chilly at night, and their passage outside the base is hampered by inadequate documents and shaky guarantees of economic survival.

#### Long Phone Lines

The population of refugee quarters was expected to climb to 7,000 soon. There are still wealthy families garbed in tailored suits and silk dresses, but now there are fewer pieces of patent leather luggage unloaded from the buses carrying them here from the airport.

The lines at the three pay telephones set up in the center of the camp grow longer, and the long-distance search for relatives or friends willing to assume responsibility for the callers seem more strained.

"The profile of the camp is

changing," said Donald Day, head of the immigration task force at the processing center in an old battalion training hall. "We're getting many more bona-fide refugee types now, people who are appearing here without much in the way of resources."

The Federal agencies screening the incoming refugees were quick to accept almost any scrap of paper that established Vietnamese nationality. But they were more demanding of proof that they had resources in the American community beyond their desire to earn a living. Names of sponsors who could provide for the needs of the refugees were required, and the search for the validity of the nominated sponsors was pursued by the Red Cross all over the nation.

"I think the refugees are catching on and passing the word down the line about what we're asking," said a skeptical immigrations officer. "Everyone is using the same approach now, ready with the same prepared answers."

Many found it emotionally difficult to accept the sudden collapse of their world. Land Thanh, a teacher, carried a ring of keys through a belt loop. The keys, he said, were for his Saigon classroom and home. He smiled, as if he knew it was ridiculous to carry the clinking keys halfway around the world, but he could not bring himself to throw them away.