

SF Chronicle

Ford Submits Bill  
for Refugee Aid

## Resistance

MAY 6 1975  
Met in

## Congress

Washington

The Ford administration requested an additional \$507 million yesterday for the care and relocation of South Vietnamese refugees but ran into immediate resistance in Congress.

The director of Mr. Ford's refugee task force, Ambassador L. Dean Brown, said the money is needed within a week because a \$98 million fund for the postwar reconstruction of Vietnam, now being used to pay for the refugee program, will be spent by then.

Testifying before the House immigration subcommittee, Brown said the refugees are now estimated to number about 135,000.

He believes the country's attitude is changing toward one of welcome for the refugees, Brown said.

He said the United States is pressing other countries to take some of the refugees. Brown also said that, if there are no widespread killings in South Vietnam, "I believe we would see a large outflow back. This is their homeland."

"I'm under no illusion this will come quickly," he said.

Members of the immigration subcommittee complained there were no specific figures on how many refugees there will be, how many can pay their own way or what will happen to South Vietnamese who profited or tortured people during the war.

Representative Joshua Eilberg (Dem.-Pa.), subcommittee chairman, said the subcommittee may act within a week but predicted it will not approve the full \$507 million request.

Eilberg said he favors approving funds for a limited period, perhaps three to six months, and then more

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when the administration has precise figures on what is needed to care for a definite number of refugees.

The administration said its request would pay for the program through Sept. 30, 1976.

Representative Elizabeth Holtzman (Dem.-N.Y.) said South Vietnamese who profited and "killed and tortured South Vietnamese should not be allowed permanent entry into the United States.

But General Leonard F. Chapman Jr., head of the U.S. Immigration Service,

said it is a "hard fact" that the United States could not send even criminals back to South Vietnam and would probably have to keep them as refugees.

Asked about refugees with money, Brown said the 44,000 refugees at Guam came out with about \$2 million, mostly in small gold bars.

He suggested this was primarily the "life savings" of families but did not say how many of the 6000 families at Guam were able to bring out money.

Those who did will get no U.S. help in resettlement from refugee camps, he said, although he said they will be transported by U.S. planes and ships to this country.

Asked about the \$16 million that former South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu and former Cambodia President Lon Nol reportedly tried to ship out of

their countries, Brown said, "that never got out."

Canada has already agreed to take at least 3000 of the refugees, Brown testified.

He said that Latin American countries need skilled workers and are expected to take some refugees and that Australia will be asked to take a large number.

Foreign ministers of other countries will be pressed at a meeting in Washington next week to accept and care for some of the refugees, Brown added.

As for the refugees who wound up in Hong Kong, Brown said, "They're now the responsibility of the British government."

But Representative Martin Russo (Dem.-Ill.), said it was clear at a conference he attended in Europe last week that "there's not going to be much resettlement in for-

eign countries. . . They're not going to do their share."

Members of Brown's task force and the White House said the \$507 million request includes \$195 million for daily maintenance of refugees, \$125 million for subsequent welfare and medical services, \$99 million to fly refugees from Guam and Wake Island to the United States, \$20 million to fly them to other countries and \$78 million for volunteer organizations who will help resettle refugees in the United States.

Associated Press