

NYTimes  
**Black Caucus Asks  
Refugee Aid Link  
To Help for Needy**

MAY 9 1975

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 8 — Members of the Congressional Black Caucus called on the Administration today to tie aid for Vietnamese refugees to aid for the poor and jobless already suffering in the nation.

The caucus said it would not support appropriations for foreign refugees unless President Ford give some "commitments" to expand social aid to "domestic refugees," including minorities, the poor and others made jobless by the recession.

Five members of the 17-member caucus appeared at a news conference today to discuss the group's position. They were Representatives Augustus F. Hawkins of California, Ralph H. Metcalfe of Illinois, John Conyers Jr., of Michigan, Yvonne Brathwhite Burke of California, Walter E. Fauntroy, of the District of Columbia—all Democrats.

"It is tragic that on the eve of this nation's bicentennial—a nation largely composed of refugees—that the issue of accommodating less than 150,000 is even raised," they said in a joint statement.

"The time has come to deal with the basic contradictions in our economic system that confuse the issues and pit one group against another."

The Congressmen said they felt "trapped" by the fact that the refugees were already in the United States. "We're now being led about by the heart strings," said Mr. Metcalfe.

They made it clear that they would have opposed the evacuation if the issue had been put to a vote of Congress. and Mr. Conyers said he would vote later today against \$500-million in refugee aid.

A first step toward obtaining their support for refugee aid, the caucus members said, would be for the Administration to endorse "full-employment" legislation similar to a bill that had been offered

Mr. Hawkins.