

FORD SETS UP UNIT TO AID REFUGEES

17 Named to Advisory Panel
—4th Center to Open

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WASHINGTON, May 19—President Ford, asserting that "all of us are immigrants," created a 17-member citizens committee today to help organize the resettlement of up to 135,000 refugees from South Vietnam and Cambodia.

"Time is of the essence. We have a big job to do," the President told 200 persons in the East Room of the White House at a ceremony marking the establishment of the committee.

Underscoring the magnitude of the effort to find sponsors, homes and futures in the United States for the refugees, the



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Indiantown Gap will be fourth U.S. refugee camp.

Pentagon announced that a fourth resettlement center was being opened at Indiantown Gap, Pa., because of crowded conditions at three other centers in California, Florida and Arkansas.

A Defense Department official said that about 15,000 refugees would be housed initially at the inactive Army reservation near Harrisburg, Pa.

Funds Bill Approved

In a related refugee matter, the White House announced that Mr. Ford would sign legislation appropriating \$405-million for the resettlement pro-

gram as soon as it was forwarded officially from Congress, which gave final approval to the measure on Friday.

Meanwhile, a State Department spokesman said that about 150 of the 126,656 refugees now under United States control had asked to be sent back to their home in Indochina.

One participant at the hastily arranged White House ceremony asked reporters what the purpose was while waiting for the President to appear. Mr. Ford's appearance seemed designed to dramatize support for the refugee effort among civic leaders and to spur Americans to follow suit.

He named John S. D. Eisenhower, the former Ambassador to Belgium and son of the late President Dwight D. Eisenhower, as chairman of the advi-

sory panel. The 16 other members, most of them well known, included such diverse persons as George Meany, the President of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, and John Denver, the pop music star. "Most, if not all of us, are beneficiaries of opportunities that come from a country that has an open door," Mr. Ford told the White House audience. "In one way or another, all of us are immigrants."

He said that the refugees from South Vietnam and Cambodia, like those who came here in earlier waves of immigration, would "contribute significantly" to the nation.

"They are people of talent. They are industrious. They are individuals who want freedom," the President said.

The contrast to early opposition to the resettlement effort, Mr. Ford said, there is now "heartwarming and very encouraging" support.

Four members of congress whose committees have jurisdiction over refugee matters attended the ceremony. They were Senators Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Hiram L. Fong, Republican of Hawaii, and Representatives Peter W. Rodino Jr., Democrat of New Jersey, and Hamilton Fish Jr. of upstate New York.

The 14 other persons named to the committee were as follows:

- Joseph L. Alioto, Mayor of San Francisco.
- Archbishop Joseph Bernardin, president of the United States Catholic Conference.
- Ashby Boyle, University of Utah student and national youth chairman of the March of Dimes.
- W. Sterling Cary of Hinsdale, Ill., president of the National Council of Churches.
- Gaetana Enders, the wife of Assistant Secretary of State Thomas O. Enders.
- Daniel Evans, Governor of Washington.
- Maurice Ferre, mayor of Miami.
- Minor George, a businessman in Parma, Ohio.
- Edgar F. Kaiser of Oakland, Calif., chairman of the board of Kaiser Industries, Inc.
- Philip M. Klutznick of Chicago, former member of the United States delegation to the United Nations.
- William J. Kuhfuss of Machinaw, Ill., president of the American Farm Bureau.
- Clarke Reed of Greenville, Miss., a member of the Republican National Committee.
- Dr. Malcolm Todd of Long Beach, Calif., president of the American Medical Association.
- A. Theodore Tuttle of Salt Lake City, Utah, elder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

According to the Pentagon spokesman, 17,661 of the refugees have moved to new homes, about 45,000 are in the three original resettlement centers and the rest of the nearly 127,000 are awaiting transfer to the United States from bases on Guam and Wake Islands.

The Pentagon said it would take several days to prepare Indiantown Gap to receive refugees. It said that no date had been set for the first arrival.