

Refugees and Vets

--Job Worries

Sacramento

Secretary of Health and Welfare Mario Obledo called on the federal government yesterday to prevent Vietnamese refugees from competing for jobs with 655,000 unemployed American Vietnam war veterans.

Obledo said state-conducted interviews with refugees at Camp Pendleton indicated that approximately 48,000 Vietnamese will settle in California.

In a telegram to John Eisenhower, chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees, Obledo said: "America's 655,000 unemployed Vietnam veterans should not be forced to compete with refugees for

scarce jobs."

Obledo also charged that the State Department's sponsorship program will "eventually result in the majority of refugees receiving welfare assistance."

A Health and Welfare Department spokesman said it is not known how many of the refugees are employable but that few of those interviewed have skills presently in demand.

Obledo said interviews with 1138 refugees indicated that only one per cent of refugee children speak even limited English and few refugees have substantial assets — 97 per cent had less than \$4000.

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