

Guam to Return to Ship Owner Seized Vietnamese Art Objects

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AGANA, Guam, May 29 (AP)—A cargo of Vietnamese art objects will be returned to the owner of the refugee ship that brought the works here, the Governor's office announced today.

A spokesman for Gov. Ricardo Bordallo said that it was now believed that the porcelain vases and other art works belonged to the private collection of a Vietnamese family, and were not national Vietnamese art treasures.

"That is the assumption that the Governor is operating under now—that they are personal possessions," said Ed Gould, Mr. Bordallo's press secretary. He said that no further treasures had been found under a load of scrap metal being carried by the ship Tan Nam Viet despite suspicions that more crates of art objects might be hidden there.

A local curator appraised the cargo as worth \$70,000 to \$80,000, far less than the original estimate of \$150-million that many believed the cargo was worth.

Refugees Leaving

Mr. Gould said that the Governor's office did not plan to get in touch with the reputed owner in Montreal or with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of Vietnam, which has demanded the return of the objects as national treasures.

Meanwhile, Guam's refugee population has begun to diminish for the first time in weeks, with more than 1,000 persons having left for the new resettlement camp at Indiantown Gap, Pa.

Adm. G. Steve Morrison, commander of naval forces in the Marianas Islands, said that departures from Guam were expected to continue at a rate of 1,000 a day or better until the new camp was filled.

At Camp Pendleton, Calif., John S. D. Eisenhower, chairman of the President's Commission on Refugees, said during a tour of the refugee facilities there that Americans were giving Vietnamese refugees a warmer welcome than they did a month ago. He said "people have come to their senses," especially after President Ford

said that he was "damm mad" about the antirefugee talk.

Mr. Eisenhower was asked if he was accurately quoted in a remark last Friday that some of the refugees might have to spend the rest of their lives in the camps.

"It's an accurate quote," he said, "but it's a very poor statement on my part." He said that he had simply wanted to indicate that there was a problem of what to do with "undesirable" refugees.