

U.S. Aide, Hippie Among Americans Staying in Viet

By Alan Dawson
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SAIGON, June 10 — A bearded hippie and the last known prisoners of the Indochina war are among the 73 Americans remaining in South Vietnam.

The group includes an American official trapped during the panicky evacuation of the U.S. embassy, missionaries and others who stayed voluntarily and ex-GIs who arrived to take out their fiancées just before the Communist takeover.

Government officials have questioned the Americans and issued all of them, except eight POWs, papers permitting relatively free movement. But there is no word yet when they will be able to leave, or whether the handful that wants to stay will be allowed to.

Since the takeover many Americans have left. All but two of the remaining American newsmen were asked to leave by the authorities. Those newsmen left here have been virtually left alone by the government. Most persons remaining have been hampered in their daily living by a lack of money, since the banks remain closed.

The last known POW is U.S. official Paul Struharik, a provincial representative, who was captured in March when North Vietnamese forces overran Bamethuot in the Central Highlands.

Struharik, seven other Americans including a 6-year-old girl, and four other foreigners are under detention in the Central Highlands. At last report all were healthy but did not

know what their fate was to be.

The hippie is Larry Faigan. Heavily bearded and longhaired, he tramped the streets of Saigon and Phnom Penh well before the Communist takeover of the cities.

Now he has run out of money, and government officials have reportedly taken him into custody, because he refused to obey an order to stay in his hotel room and set off down the street trailed by his guards.

Frederick N. Gulden of Chicago, an architect whose firm was under contract to the U.S. Agency for International Development, got left behind as he tried to help his Vietnamese employees who also were abandoned in the evacuation.

Most of the Americans want out, but there are others who want to stay. Richard M. "Mike" Mielke, of Richland, N.J., wants to stay and search for the bodies of the 2,300 Americans listed as missing in action.

Reinald Duphorn wants to stay, too. Duphorn, a naturalized American, likes the country and hopes he can get a job with an embassy when diplomats start arriving in Saigon.

Others who stayed of their own volition are an American doctor who refused to leave the Pat Smith hospital at Kontum in the Central Highlands although Pat Smith herself left.

Thomas Hoskins, a Quaker doctor who had been living in Danang, has written friends that he has taken a Vietnamese name and wants to remain in the

country working among the people.

Jerry Posner of the Bronx, N.Y., wants out but he also wants to take someone with him—the fiancée he came to get just before evacuation.

Her papers, after three years of work, are now in order to enter the United States. Whether South Vietnam's new government will let her out is another question.