

Two Americans Quit S. Vietnam Hospital

VIENTIANE, July 5. (UPI) — Two American social workers have left their volunteer posts at a South Vietnamese hospital, saying the new government can operate the facility without foreign assistance.

Claudia Krich of New York, and her husband, Keith Brinton, of Ludlow, Vt., arrived in the Laotian capital at sundown Friday aboard an airplane chartered by the U.N. High Commission on Refugees. They were the first non-journalist Americans to leave South Vietnam since the Communist takeover April 30.

The couple were volunteers for the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker group, at a hospital in Quangnai, a province capital 260 miles north of Saigon. The hospital treats maimed war victims.

"We had offered the hospital to the government of Thieu, but they told us they would close it down," said Ms. Krich. "The new government is already paying salaries and providing supplies to the hospital with the old staff. We asked for permission, and were told we could leave on the next available transportation."

Ms. Krich said she thought it was "time for all foreigners to leave Vietnam. The Vietnamese can handle their affairs."
