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# Saigon To Accept Refugees

Reuter

HONG KONG, Oct. 26—South Vietnam has decided to allow 1,500 South Vietnamese refugees to return home from Guam on humanitarian grounds, the North Vietnam news agency reported Sunday. 26 OCT

Quoting a South Vietnamese Foreign Ministry statement released by Liberation news agency, it said the Provisional Revolutionary Government had made the decision after taking into consideration that many refugees had left the country either by mistake or under coercion shortly before the Communist victory in April.

Other similar cases would each be considered and settled separately, it added.

More than 1,500 South Vietnamese refugees left Guam Oct. 16 aboard the 20,000-ton freighter Thuong Tin, apparently heading for South Vietnam.

The refugees were part of the 100,000 persons who fled Vietnam six months ago. They decided to return to Vietnam because they were unhappy with conditions in the United States.

Saigon had denounced the United States decision to let the refugees leave for Vietnam without its permission, saying the action violated South Vietnam's sovereignty.

The Saigon announcement said: "While South Vietnam strongly condemned the U.S. government for imposing the repatriation of nearly 1,500 Vietnamese...it will allow the S.S. Thuong Tin to return to South Vietnam this time only."

"The forced evacuation of tens of thousands of Vietnamese by the United States was a scheme of the latter to continue the use of Vietnamese against Vietnamese and to distort the just cause of the Vietnamese people," the statement said.

"If it (the U.S.) persists in its illegal actions, as in the case of S.S. Thuong Tin, it will have to take all the consequences," the statement continued.

The U.S. decision to repatriate the refugees "was a blatant provocation and a brazen encroachment on the sovereignty of Vietnam," it added.