

N.Y. Times Nov 5 1975

Refugees' Arrival In Ship From Guam Reported by Saigon

BANGKOK, Thailand, Nov. 4 (AP)—The Saigon radio announced today that a freighter carrying more than 1,500 South Vietnamese refugees home from Guam arrived last Friday.

The broadcast as monitored here did not say, however, which South Vietnamese port the ship, the Thuong Tin, had entered or what had then happened to its passengers. The refugees, who left Agana, Guam, on Oct. 16, had been evacuated by the United States from South Vietnam at the time of the Communist takeover last April, and all had requested that they be allowed to return.

The Saigon radio said that one South Vietnamese refugee had died of illness aboard the ship, and the broadcast accused the United States of having sent "old people, children, pregnant women and patients" on the voyage without proper medical care.

The radio said that more than two-thirds of the refugees were "personnel of the army and government of the lackey regime" that surrendered to the Communists last April, adding that they included hundreds of former high-ranking military officers.

The broadcast charged that the freighter had been provisioned with "preserved food-stuffs kept in stock for five years" and that as a result much sickness had occurred.

U.S. Accepts 31 More Refugees

Special to The New York Times

MANILA, Nov. 4—The American Embassy said today that the United States had decided to accept 31 Indochinese refugees from among 118 who have been staying in a welfare camp here. The fate of the rest is uncertain.

An embassy spokesman said the 31 refugees, mostly Cambodians with a few Vietnamese, would be flown out on Nov. 31 for Indiantown Gap, Pa. "This is the last batch our Government will accept from here," he said.