

Quakers Urge Negotiations on Return to Vietnam

Viet Refugee Talks Urged

United Press International

The American Friends Service Committee said yesterday the United States should begin negotiations with Vietnam to allow Vietnamese refugees in this country to return home if they wish.

In a 40-page report about the 130,000 Vietnamese who fled Indochina last April when Saigon fell, the Quaker relief organization said government officials in charge of refugee camps seemed to believe "anyone who came to the U.S. wanted to, and thus going back was a possibility which they would not seriously consider."

The report mentioned the

1,546 refugees who left Guam for Vietnam Oct. 16, and said that as of mid-November, about 300 refugees wanted to go back. It said resistance by American relief workers may be keeping more refugees from saying they want to return to Vietnam.

"In general, services in the camps were adequate, efficiently provided and generously provided in some cases...Staff, regardless of political persuasion, worked long hours and overcame many difficulties to try to help the refugees," the report said.

But, it said, "At times, there was an uncooperative attitude

concerning repatriation...on the part of some of the Department State and Defense personnel, some of the Red Cross and voluntary agency staff, and many volunteers.

"This might have seriously limited the ability of evacuees to make a clear and independent choice of their future."

The group said the refugees should get "adequate information on repatriation procedures, procedures to follow in case of sponsorship breakdown and how to get and how to get assistance with various problems arising during resettlement."