

Kidnaping Charge in Refugee Case

Philadelphia

A warrant for the arrest of a Phoenixville woman was issued here yesterday, charging her with kidnaping two Vietnamese girls for whom she had been caring.

Sara Coner, 28, was accused of taking the children out of the state or out of the country "for ransom, reward or otherwise."

The children, age 5 and 12, were last seen April 27 at their schools.

Coner took custody of the children last year at the request of their mother, Duong Thi Yen Nga, just before the fall of Vietnam. Coner met the Vietnamese woman while serving in the armed forces.

The girls' mother left Vietnam in January and settled in Phoenixville to be reunited with her children.

The warrant said Coner bought \$2500 in travelers checks the day the children were last seen and told persons at the bank she planned to travel "west."

Duong Thi Yen Nga was quoted in the warrant as saying Coner had once expressed interest in taking the children to Africa and suggested she meet them there.

Associated Press