

TO: Inter Agency Forum on Resettlement
FROM: Cambodian Community in Los Angeles Area
DATE: March 22, 1976

The United States Department of State has recommended to the Department of Justice to allow 3,400 refugees to be reunited with their families/relatives from Thailand to the United States. This number was reduced from the original request of 11,000 persons.

As of December 31, 1975 there is an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 refugees in the camps in Thailand (50,000 Lao; 9,000 Cambodians; 600 Vietnamese). An estimated 10,000 refugees are outside the camps. Border crossings into Thailand had been 200 daily in December 1975. Recent estimates indicate 22,000 Cambodians now in Thailand as of March 1976.

The Cambodian community requests:

1. That the Inter Agency Forum on Resettlement send letters/telegrams to the Department of State, the Department of Justice, and appropriate federal/elected officials to immediately allow, for humanitarian reasons, the 3,400 number of refugees to come to the United States;
2. That the original number of 11,000 refugees be seriously reconsidered to allow that number to join their families/relatives in America;
3. That the United States negotiate with other countries to take their share of refugees;
4. And that the United States take increased numbers of refugees above the 11,000 figure.

Attachments: a) New York Times article, July 9, 1975
b) New York Times article, July 15, 1975
c) Statement adopted by the General Assembly Mission Council of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, July 19, 1975
d) Congressional Record, January 21, 1976

Letters to: President Ford, Department of Justice, Attorney General Edward Levy, Secretary of State Kissinger, Senator Alan Cranston, Senator John Tunney, and other Congressmen.