

Telephone conversation with Jack Revelle - April 24, 1975

W. W. Kerr

Mr. Kerr: I have several messages for you, Jack. First of all, have any of the Vietnamese left?

Jack: No.

Mr. Kerr: We have word that all of the FEBC, and the MCC people have come out already. As well as the World Vision people, and we can't understand why our people aren't getting out. Dr. King has sent a cable again today to Ambassador Martin, the same thing to you "THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE C&MA GUARANTEES SPONSORSHIP TO THE U.S. FOR ANY PERSONS OUR SAIGON REPRESENTATIVE JACK REVELLE DESIGNATES TO AMBASSADOR GRAHAM MARTIN STOP WE ASSUME ALL NECESSARY RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDING THEIR FULL FINANCIAL SUPPORT WHILE IN THE U.S. AND REPATRIATION TO VIETNAM IF FOR ANY REASON THIS PROVES NECESSARY." LLK.

The important thing is, Jack, that we find that the reason our people are not getting out is that the Embassy does not have a guarantee from us that we will sponsor them and pay for them. Have you ever given them this?

Jack: Yes, - and I may have a number of them out by this weekend, but it will be no sponsorship, but I've got somebody that is going to get Mrs. An, Mrs. Chanh, and a few others on a plane that may go out of here tomorrow night. There aren't going to be many. Mrs. Chanh and the children, and also Mr. and Mrs. Hai if possible, and their child, and Mr. Hien the pastor of the Saigon church and a couple of others.

Mr. Kerr: How about Mr. Phu's brother?

Jack: I can't locate him now. I may find him in the morning; if so, --- he doesn't have much hope.

Mr. Kerr: His brother in Washington has called us and said that he sent a cable to the State Department guaranteeing him and has sent a petition to Saigon for his release.

Jack: They aren't releasing anybody 17years of age or older.

Mr. Kerr: Some people seem to be coming out, and we can't understand how they're getting out and ours aren't.

Jack: The USAID say they're only taking families with children 17 years of age and under.

Mr. Kerr: We are finding that many of these people have come out already and we can't quite understand why. Have you been able to go to the Embassy and talk to Green or any of the top officials yet?

Jack: Green is not seeing anybody. The Embassy is about closed down here, and if I get these people out on tomorrow's flight, and I hope so, then I may leave on the weekend.

Mr. Kerr: Be sure that these people are taken care of, Jack. Also, is there a Mr. Le Van Phai?

Jack: He's up in Binh Hoa. I don't know where he is.

Mr. Kerr: His relatives here - Mr. Birmingham wants him to come out, if he can.

Jack: I don't know how to get hold of him tomorrow.

Mr. Kerr: Franklin Irwin is on the line and he is going to read some names to you of people we would like you to work with. While he is waiting for that, the Bible Society would like you to have their Director, Mr. Nguyen Van Van (Jack said he may already have left) - also Mr. Tanh the accountant for the Bible Society (Jack says he may have left, also).

When you receive a copy of this cable from Mr. King, they want you to go to the Ambassador and get this *laisse passe* card, the United Nations card, that the Ambassador is supposed to give these people. This is a permit to leave without a visa, or passport. All of the Vietnamese people are to be in one location, if at all possible, and have their papers with the name of the father the wife and the children underneath - separated. Use the Embassy phone if you can't get anything done and call Drew Sawin - his phone #202-224-1369 and #301-933-8584. And #703-790-2274. If you can call from the Embassy, he w/get on the line and get in touch with an official in Washington who will speak directly to the Embassy officer to try to help you.

Jack: The problem will be trying to get in to see Ambassador Martin.

Mr. Kerr: We have sent all these cables to him and identifying you as the man we are trying to reach, so you want to keep pressing to get to see Martin, because he is the one who has to give the answers.

Jack: I've tried to get into his office, but I can't. I'd rather keep this other possibility tomorrow - it's more certain than the other.

Mr. Kerr: We want to try everything we can, you see, and not let anything go undone. There is one more thing -- Mr. King gave me this message for you: This is a message that came through from someone who wants to help people escape in South Vietnam. "Tell people that beginning about May 3 for a period of up to 3 months - they are to look for a ship with 2 flags - a large square red flag, and a large square yellow flag - that will be patrolling between Bang Tao and Phu Quoc Island back and forth one day in each direction. The ship will be close enough into the shore to be seen clearly with the naked eye. Men on the ship will be looking with binoculars for groups of people. People on shore should show a yellow cloth (solid yellow) 1 meter or larger. When they see this ship, they should wave their flag from the beach to attract the ships' attention. If they have a boat, they should go out to the ship. The ship will have a speedboat to go in and pick up groups that do not have a boat. Be extremely security conscious with this information - write down the following name and address: Nguyen Thuc Dien, 121/33 Ngotung Chau Street. Go there and tell this one man that Larry sent you. Give him the details of the signal system. If we have Christians who want this way out they should be so informed."

Another message: "A United States Lt. in the Navy request us to contact his fiancee if at all possible - tell her to go to the USEmbassy there where they are supposed to have documentation papers for her that certify her as fiancee and thus get her on a list of Vietnamese to be evacuated to the US where if she is willing, they will be married. She also has a daughter. He was referred by his Captain to the C&MA in New York and telephoned from Spain in an effort

to get this word to her. He will call again on Monday for further information. Name is Nguyen Thi Kim Chi at 345 Tran Duy Cap.

Franklin: Can you help Mr. Top's children to come out? Mr. Top's family, the DS from Nhatrang- his daughter in law (name) and his 3 children.

(Cut off)

WWK/esm