

March 27, 1975

The Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam

To whom it may concern,

I have come to formally request the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Viet Nam to repatriate 6 Americans and 2 Canadians who were living in Banmethuot during the week of March 10 when fighting broke out in that city.

The names of the eight persons I am requesting the P.R.G. to release are:

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Phillips, U. S. citizens
Mrs. Betty Mitchell, U. S. citizens
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson, Canadian citizens
Mr. and Mrs. John Miller and daughter LuAnne,
U. S. citizens.

The statement of the P.R.G. spokesman at the Saigon Weekly Press Conference, March 22, has encouraged me to make this request for the repatriation of these persons. When asked about ~~the Americans in~~ Banmethuot the P.R.G. spokesman's ~~full~~ reply was:

"The only thing I can tell you right now is that, with regard to the Americans and all foreign residents in South Viet Nam, the P. R. G. has a policy of protection and assistance. (~~Naturally with regard to U. S. Military Advisers, there must be treatment which is appropriate to their own case,~~) Concerning these specific Americans or any foreign residents reported to be still in Banmethuot, as soon as we have specific information in this connection, we shall notify you."

Five of the persons in Banmethuot are associated with the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Three are associated with the Summer Institute of Linguistics. The work of these two organizations is like that of the Red Cross. It is purely humanitarian, philanthropic and non-political. And since none of these persons were in any way involved as military, political or intelligence agents of any government I request their release in accordance with your assurances given to the press on March 22, 1975.

Louis L. King
Vice Pres./Overseas Ministries
The Christian and Missionary Alliance