



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

11 July 1979

Dear Bryan

*p.c. JW
1979*

UN Secretary-General's Call on the Prime
Minister on 12 July

As mentioned in my letter of 6 July, I now enclose a brief on Indo-China for Dr Waldheim's call on the Prime Minister tomorrow.

For ever,
Stephe

J S Wall
Private Secretary

Bryan Cartledge Esq
10 Downing Street

VISIT BY UN SECRETARY GENERAL, 12 JULY 1979

INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES
POINTS TO MAKE
UK COMMITMENT

1. Say in confidence UK will announce in Geneva 10,000 more places, meeting UNHCR's indicative figure. Present plans are to take all from Hong Kong. Not possible to take all this number by end of year, but recognise urgency. Will also announce further contribution of £5 million to General Programme, but earmarked for Indo-China refugees.

HONG KONG

2. Expect Hong Kong will also accept indicative figures of 10,000 but local decision not yet final. Hong Kong has spent £5.8 million so far in 1979 and expects to spend £18.3 million in second half.

GENEVA MEETING

3. Meeting in Geneva 20/21 July not the sort of wide-ranging conference we originally envisaged. We realise Waldheim's difficulty. Equally he must recognise that our concern goes beyond the humanitarian aspects. Others will feel the same. Vietnam is bound to be criticised.

4. We will participate fully in the Geneva meeting, aiming to make it a success. But a long series of speeches in a two-day meeting followed only by a summing-up by Waldheim is not an encouraging prospect.

5. The meeting may well carry on at least until 22 July. If discussion even of Waldheim's list of humanitarian aspects (and there will be others, eg. acquiring an island for large-scale processing/settlement, financial help for settlement in Latin America) is to be effective, much hard work will be needed behind scenes. Working groups?

UNHCR/VIETNAM AGREEMENT

6. General view is that Vietnamese/UNHCR "seven-point plan" is totally inadequate. Risk of distracting meeting from essential problems if we concentrate on it. But is there something in point No 1 on which the meeting might build? Evidently not, if mass expulsions continue.

USSR

7. Regret Waldheim did not invite Russians and East Europeans. What is latest position? It has given them an easy way out rather than a hard choice in Moscow. How do we get them to acknowledge a humanitarian interest - at least by contributing to UNHCR?

/ FURTHER

FURTHER ACTION

8. We still believe Vietnam's appalling and disruptive behaviour must be brought to notice. Depending on the outcome of the Geneva meeting, there may well be a need for political action eg. by recourse to the Security Council.

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ESSENTIAL FACTS

POLITICAL CONTENT

1. Mr Hartling (UNHCR) and Mr Buffum (UN Under Secretary General in charge of arrangements) report Waldheim's worry over statements which stray beyond humanitarian issues. The danger is that Waldheim, by upholding his terms of reference, would appear to defend Vietnam (Waldheim's press statement of ^{30 June} attached).

WORKING GROUPS

2. Buffum is against formal working groups, as restricting Waldheim's freedom to sum up as he wishes.

UNHCR-VIETNAM AGREEMENT (THE SEVEN POINT PLAN)

3. This agreement (text attached) is designed to match potential Vietnamese emigrants still in Vietnam with places already on offer in resettlement countries and covers at present 20,000 to 30,000 family reunion cases. The Vietnamese claim that this agreement is proof of a full cooperation with UNHCR, but it does nothing to stem the flow of boat refugees. Point 1 refers to "other humanitarian cases" which is at the moment an empty phrase, but might be extended to include more.

4. (Not for Use) HM Ambassador Hanoi has reported in confidence that the Vietnamese Prime Minister may have taken a decision to stop "illegal" emigration.

MR HURD'S MEETING

5. Mr Hurd called on Dr Waldheim on 4 July: record attached.

HONG KONG

6. UNHCR's figure for Hong Kong is 10,000 over 12 months. The Governor will have to consult his Executive Council before agreeing to take this number but does not anticipate difficulties.

AGENDA

7. According to Dr Waldheim's formal note, the meeting is "to deal with all humanitarian aspects of the refugee problem, including asylum and the related question of rescue at sea, safe and orderly departure and durable solutions. It is the hope that Governments will be prepared to announce at the meeting specific contributions to the UNHCR programme, including significant increases in resettlement opportunities and funds."

South East Asian Department
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
11 July 1979

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GPS 163

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FM UKMIS GENEVA 011925Z JUL 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 250 OF 01 JULY 1979

INFO PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, HONG KONG, KUALA LUMPUR.

UN CONFERENCE ON INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT TO PRESS ON
30 JUNE:

BEGINS: AFTER EXTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED I HAVE DECIDED TO CONVENE AN INTERNATIONAL MEETING TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS. THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA ON JULY 20 AND 21. I EXPECT THAT THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. I WISH TO STRESS IN THIS CONTEXT THAT THE MEETING SHOULD DEAL WITH ALL HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF THE TRAGEDY IN INDO-CHINA. I SHALL INVITE TO THIS MEETING THE COUNTRIES DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY REFUGEE PROBLEMS AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF PROSPECTIVE DONOR COUNTRIES, THAT IS DONOR COUNTRIES AS FAR AS MATERIAL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE CONCERNED AND ALSO PROSPECTIVE COUNTRIES OF FINAL ASYLUM.

AS I SAID IN THE PAST A CAREFUL PREPARATION OF THIS MEETING IS NECESSARY. THEREFORE I WAS IN CONTACT WITH A GREAT NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS AND OF COURSE WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES BEFORE DECIDING ON HOLDING SUCH A MEETING, AND ON THE DATE. I HOPE THAT THE TIME BETWEEN NOW AND THE CONFERENCE WILL BE USED BY ALL GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED TO PREPARE THEMSELVES SO THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL BE A SUCCESS. IN OTHER WORDS THE MEETING SHOULD MAKE A DECISIVE CONTRIBUTION TO A POSITIVE SOLUTION TO THIS GREAT HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM. ENDS.

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FM UKMIS GENEVA 271510Z JUNE 79

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 184 OF 7/6/79

INFO WASHINGTON HONG KONG BANGKOK MANILA KUALA LUMPUR SINGAPORE
JAKARTA INFO SAVING HANOI

MIPT

TEXT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES CONCERNING THE DEPARTURE OF PERSONS FROM
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM, CONCLUDED ON 30 MAY 1979

"* FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS HELD IN HANOI BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM AND A
DELEGATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
REFUGEES (UNHCR) FROM FEBRUARY 26 TO MARCH 5 AND FROM MAY 2 TO
MAY 30, 1979, IT IS AGREED THAT UNHCR WILL FACILITATE THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JANUARY 12 ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE VIETNAMESE
GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT THE ORDERLY DEPARTURE OF PERSONS WHO WISH TO
LEAVE VIET NAM FOR COUNTRIES OF NEW RESIDENCE.

REGARDING THE PROGRAMME TO IMPLEMENT SUCH ORDERLY DEPARTURE, IT
IS UNDERSTOOD THAT:

1. AUTHORIZED EXIT OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO WISH TO LEAVE VIET NAM AND
SETTLE IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES - FAMILY REUNION AND OTHER HUMANITARIAN
CASES - WILL BE CARRIED OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND TO THE
MAXIMUM EXTENT. THE NUMBER OF SUCH PEOPLE WILL DEPEND BOTH ON THE
VOLUME OF APPLICATIONS FOR EXIT FROM VIET NAM AND ON RECEIVING
COUNTRIES' ABILITY TO ISSUE ENTRY VISAS.

2. THE SELECTION OF THOSE PEOPLE AUTHORIZED TO GO ABROAD UNDER THIS
PROGRAMME WILL, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF THE
LISTS PREPARED BY THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND THE LISTS PREPARED
BY THE RECEIVING COUNTRIES. THOSE PERSONS WHOSE NAMES APPEAR ON
BOTH LISTS WILL QUALIFY FOR EXIT. AS FOR THOSE PERSONS WHOSE
NAMES APPEAR ON ONLY ONE LIST, THEIR CASES WILL BE SUBJECT TO
DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN UNHCR AND THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT OR THE
GOVERNMENTS OF THE RECEIVING COUNTRIES, AS APPROPRIATE.

/3. UNHCR

3. UNHCR WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENLIST SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAMME AMONGST POTENTIAL RECEIVING COUNTRIES.

4. THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND UNHCR WILL EACH APPOINT PERSONNEL WHO WILL CLOSELY CO-OPERATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROGRAMME.

5. THIS PERSONNEL ARE AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN HANOI AND HO CHI MINH CITY AND, AS NECESSARY, TO GO TO OTHER PLACES TO PROMOTE EXIT OPERATIONS.

6. EXIT OPERATIONS WILL BE EFFECTED AT REGULAR INTERVALS BY APPROPRIATE MEANS OF TRANSPORT.

7. THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT WILL, SUBJECT TO RELEVANT VIETNAMESE LAWS, PROVIDE UNHCR AND THE RECEIVING COUNTRIES WITH EVERY FACILITY TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROGRAMME.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO HANOI

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

MURRAY

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FM UKMIS GENEVA 050910Z JUL 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 259 OF 05 JULY 1979

INFO PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK, INFO ROUTINE HONG KONG, CANBERRA,
INFO SAVING WASHINGTON, HANOI, PEKING.YOUR TELNO 131: INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES: MR HURD'S CALL ON
DR WALDHEIM

1. MR HURD CALLED ON WALDHEIM ON 4 JULY AND HANDED OVER THE TEXTS OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S TWO MESSAGES (YOUR TELNOS 129 AND 130).
2. WALDHEIM SAID THAT HE HAD TRIED VERY HARD TO RESPOND TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S WISH FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE . AS SECRETARY GENERAL HE DID NOT HAVE THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY TO ACT ON HIS OWN TO CONVENE A CONFERENCE. BUT OUT OF A DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL HE HAD TAKEN THE UNPRECEDENTED STEP OF CALLING A MEETING ON THE BASIS OF HIS PERSONAL INVITATION AND OUTSIDE NORMAL UN PROCEDURES TO DISCUSS THE HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS. HE HOPED THAT DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING COULD BE CONFINED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO THE HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WOULD INEVITABLY BE SOME REFERENCE TO VIETNAM'S ROLE BUT HE WANTED TO AVOID THE THE CONFERENCE DETERIORATING INTO A POLITICAL CONFRONTATION WHICH COULD INVOLVE HIM IN CONTROVERSY AND BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. HE HOPED GOVERNMENTS WOULD BEAR HIS PERSONAL POSITION IN MIND.
3. HE PROPOSED TO MAKE AN OPENING STATEMENT EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE AND THEN INVITE STATEMENTS FROM GOVERNMENTS (NO MORE THAN 10 MINUTES EACH) WHICH IT WAS HOPED WOULD INCLUDE NEW OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE. MR HURD STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF WALDHEIM TAKING THE CHAIR AND WALDHEIM SAID THAT HE WOULD DO SO FOR THE MORNING SESSION OF THE FIRST DAY AND THEN HAND OVER TO HARTLING FOR THE AFTERNOON SESSION IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THE UNHCR'S INVOLVEMENT. HE WOULD RETURN TO THE CHAIR THE FOLLOWING MORNING. WHEN NOT IN THE CHAIR HE WOULD BE ON HAND IF ANY DISPUTE AROSE. AT THE CLOSE HE WOULD SUM UP. (SINCE IT WAS NOT A PROPER UN CONFERENCE THERE COULD BE NO RESOLUTIONS). THE MEETING WOULD BE IN PUBLIC.

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4. MR HURD SAID THAT WE HOPED THE SOVIET UNION WOULD ATTEND. THEY SHOULD BE EDGED INTO TAKING SOME RESPONSIBILITY. WALDHEIM SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS HAD BEEN APPROACHED THROUGH UNDER SECRETARY-GENERAL SYTENKO IN NEW YORK TO SEE WHETHER THEY WOULD ACCEPT IF INVITED. THEY HAD SUPPORTED THE VIETNAMESE VIEW THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE SOLELY CONCERNED WITH HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS, BUT HAD SO FAR GIVEN NO CLEAR-CUT ANSWERS. THE CHINESE, WHO UNLIKE THE RUSSIANS WERE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNHCR, HAD ALREADY BEEN INVITED. THEY HAD NOT YET ANSWERED BUT IT HAD SAID THAT THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE MEETING MUST BE TO CONDEMN VIETNAM.

5. MR HURD SAID THAT WE WERE NOW CONSIDERING WHOM WE WOULD SEND TO THE MEETING AND HOW TO RESPOND TO MR HARTLING'S QUESTIONNAIRE.

6. ON ATTENDANCE WALDHEIM SAID THAT THE JAPANESE, THAIS AND MALAYSIANS WERE SENDING CABINET MINISTERS AND THERE WAS TALK OF THE US SENDING MONDALE OR VANCE.

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MURRAY

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