

BOAT PEOPLE

UPDATE ON RIDEAU BOAT PEOPLE PROJECT

It has been a while since the first wheels were set into motion by the Rideau Committee to Save the Boat People to bring five Vietnamese teenagers to the area served by the Lantern.

After what seems like a big struggle to meet the financial requirements and break through the mountains of red tape, the committee has now reached the point where they feel the communities in question will back them up in their application for these young people. The application has now been approved and the latest word from Manpower & Immigration is that with a bit of luck the refugees could arrive in time for Christmas.

It is unnecessary to say that it would place a wonderful crown on a season of peace and goodwill to have these people in our midst. Once they arrive however, their needs have by no means been met. They will require the support from all of you in the area to make them feel at home with us; to teach them our customs and in turn we learn from theirs; to help them in learning English; to provide them with education, work, shelter, medical care and clothing.

At this time of the year when we enjoy our families and warm homes, what better time is there to think about these folks who have been torn away from their homes and dear ones to face a new set of challenges and culture and customs. Many of them have lost all their family and goods. The Rideau Committee to Save the Boat People is still actively looking for your moral and financial help. All donations are tax deductible and receipts will be issued early in 1980. A bank account for the refugees is set up with the Toronto Dominion Bank in Seeley's Bay or their Lyndhurst or Delta branches. Contributions may be made to the bank or to any of the committee members. They will be gratefully accepted by any one of the following:

- Delta - John & Myrna Metcalf
928-2996
- Elgin - Ross & Betty Hawkins
359-5833
- Lyndhurst - David & Lorraine Trick
928-2722
- Portland - Marshall & Doris Crowe
272-2561
- Seeley's Bay - Sandy & Doreen Gray
387-3135
Paul & Evelyn Gervan
387-3579
Peter & Sylvia Vogelzang
387-3308

The committee will keep you posted as to when the refugees will arrive.

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