

Guide to the Fort Chaffee Photographs of Vietnamese and Cambodian Refugees

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Guide to the Fort Chaffee Photographs of Vietnamese and Cambodian Refugees

Collection number: MS-SEA025

Special Collections and Archives
The UCI Libraries
University of California
Irvine, California

Processed by:
Julia Stringfellow
Date Completed:
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Encoded by:
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Fort Chaffee photographs of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees

Date: 1975

Collection number: MS-SEA025

Collector: Fort Chaffee (Ark.)

Collection Size: 0.4 linear feet(1 box)33 digitized images

Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.
Irvine, California 92623-9557

Abstract: This collection is comprised of black and white photographs and negatives taken of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees living at Fort Chaffee, a military base in Arkansas. The photographs document the daily life of the refugees, including the arrival of refugees by plane and bus, a visit from President Gerald Ford, refugee education and social activities.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

 <http://content.cdlib.org/search?style=oac-img&sort=title&relation=ark:/13030/kt2f59q35j>

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Fort Chaffee photographs of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. MS-SEA025. Southeast Asian Archive, The UC Irvine Libraries, Irvine, California. Date accessed.

For the benefit of current and future researchers, please cite any additional information about sources consulted in this collection, including permanent URLs, item or folder descriptions, and box/folder locations.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Fort Chaffee, 2003.

Alternative Forms of Material Available

A selection of thirty-three images from this collection has been digitized and is available in the Online Archive of California.

Processing Information

Processed by Julia Stringfellow, 2005. Processing was supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant.

Organizational History

Fort Chaffee, a military base located in northwestern Arkansas, was a key military training installation from the early days of World War II until its closing in September 1997. Construction of the base began on September 9, 1941, with the first

soldiers arriving on December 7, 1941. The mission of the post was to train U.S. soldiers for combat in Europe, America and the Pacific. Following WWII, Camp Chaffee became Fort Chaffee and continued to train U.S. Army personnel in a variety of military specialties.

In the late 1970s Fort Chaffee was a temporary home to over 50,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees. From May 2 to December 20, 1975, these refugees came to Fort Chaffee to start their new lives. This task was handled very successfully and as a result, within five years, the post was called upon to help process more than 20,000 Cuban refugees.

On September 27, 1997, a change of command ceremony closed an era at Fort Chaffee. That day official command and control of the installation passed from the U.S. Army to the Arkansas Army National Guard when the U.S. Army Garrison was inactivated. The installation officially became known as the Fort Chaffee Maneuver Training Center.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection is comprised of black and white photographs and negatives taken of Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees living at Fort Chaffee, a military base in Arkansas. The photographs document the daily life of the refugees, including the arrival of refugees by plane and bus, a visit from President Gerald Ford, refugee education and social activities.

There are approximately 245 photographs of different sizes, and 35 millimeter negative strips account for ten percent of the photographs.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged topically.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Refugees -- Cambodia -- Photographs.

Refugees -- Vietnam -- Photographs.

Refugees -- Arkansas -- Fort Chaffee -- Photographs.

Fort Chaffee (Ark.).

Genre terms

Photographic prints -- Arkansas -- Fort Chaffee -- 20th century.

Other terms

Southeast Asian Archive

Box : Folder 1 : 1	Cambodian dancers. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 2	Children living at Fort Chaffee. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 3	Christmas and New Year's celebrations. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 4	Dentist and staff educating refugees on dental hygiene. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 5	Drivers education. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 6	Funeral service. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 7	Halloween. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 8	Housing for refugees. 1975
Box FRAG 3	Negatives of photographs. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 9	President Gerald Ford's visit to Fort Chaffee. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 10	Refugee activities at Fort Chaffee. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 11	Refugees arriving at Fort Chaffee. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 12	Refugees at meals. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 13	Refugees receiving clothing. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 14	Rodeo. 1975
Box : Folder 1 : 15	Volunteers teaching English to refugees. 1975