

*Sailing Away From the Turbulent  
Waters of Vietnam:*

*The Overflowing Waves of Boat  
People*

*Vy Nguyen*

*Junior Division*

*Individual Documentary*

*Process Paper: 500 words*

## Process Paper

My ancestry has always held my interest, and when this year's "Conflict and Compromise" theme was announced, I wanted to research a topic that I could connect with on a personal level, essentially being my heritage. Having visited Vietnam multiple times, I knew that the Vietnam War affected countless numbers of people. Wanting to emphasize the aftermath of the War and specifically, its impact on Vietnamese people, I narrowed my interest down to the conflict of overflowing waves of Boat People and how the international community compromised with one another to develop a humane solution to the refugee crisis.

To begin acquiring information once my topic was finalized, I traveled to the Wichita State University Research Library to locate primary and secondary sources consisting of government documents and books. Then, I dugged online, and was able to get to the Texas Tech University's Vietnam Archive to get images, videos, and newspaper articles that I needed. To comprehend how countries perceived the Boat People dilemma, I used statements from the U.S. Committee on Foreign Affairs and numerous history websites. For photos, I utilized the Associated Press Archive, Hollis Images from Harvard, and the United Nations Photo Library. To understand the adversaries emigrants faced attempting to flee Vietnam, I interviewed three Vietnamese Boat Refugees: my former third-grade teacher Lan Huynh, Dennis Tran, and Mai Le. Listening to their stories helped me grasp the magnitude of what refugees were willing to risk to have a better future. By phone, I coordinated interviews with Professor Andrew Shacknove from the University of Oxford, who formerly worked for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a lawyer, and Professor Caroline Valverde from UC Irvine. I also spoke to Professor Thuy Vo Dang, whom I interviewed via Skype. Their comments assisted in

my comprehension of the compromises and policies that were made to assuage the suffering of Boat People, along with the process of resettlement and refugee determination.

I felt that the most effective way to display my research is in documentary form because vivid imagery is required, and with my topic being fairly recent, there is an interminable supply of resources available. Then, I established the order of different events in a timeline for the purpose of constructing the documentary script.

The resolute end of the waves of Vietnamese Boat People occurred from efforts all around the world to compromise on a viable solution. It was a challenge for the international community to work together, but because they were willing to compromise, the Orderly Departure Program and Comprehensive Plan of Action were successfully created to stem the misery of refugees. The ODP and CPA paved the way for an increase in innovative responses to coincide with individual refugee situations. The solutions irrevocably changed the way that the world responds to conflicts concerning refugees. Millions of Vietnamese refugees after their turbulent journeys, safely found new homes in countries like the United States, Australia, and Canada. Emerging from this mass migration, are more culturally rich environments.

## Annotated Bibliography

### *Primary Sources:*

### Data/Statistics

Desilver, Drew. "U.S. Public Seldom Has Welcomed Refugees into Country." 19

Nov. 2015. *Pew Research Center*. Data. Accessed 11 Dec 2017.

Desilver reports on various polls concerning the American Public and their views on the admittance of refugees into the United States. Desilver references the materials of Cornell's Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, and in his article, the polls indicate that the majority of Americans disapproved of the admittance of Hungarians, Vietnamese, Cubans and more. This shows that the majority of American opinions on refugees have stayed consistent over the years. This source was useful in understanding the views that American people had about the Vietnamese Boat People Refugee Crisis and any similar conflicts.

"UNHCR Population Statistics: The World in Numbers." *UNHCR Population*

*Statistics Database*. Accessed 13 Dec. 2017. Raw data.

The UNHCR or the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has a population statistics database that displays the data of various countries. For Vietnam, in the year of 1978, when the outflow of refugees was escalating, the reported number was approximately 150,000 Vietnamese refugees. The data indicated the increase of refugees in the 1970s, the

decline in the early 1980s, and the resurgence in 1983. This shows that the Indochinese Refugee Crisis was a prolonged problem

### **Government Documents/Publications**

Gleysteen, William. United States, Congress, National Security Council.

*Memorandum for Brent Scowcroft*. Government Printing Office, 1976.

*Gerald R. Ford Library Museum*. Accessed 11 Nov. 2017. Document 6467.

Digital File.

Gleysteen, a United States Ambassador, constructed a memorandum to Brent Scowcroft, who was the United States National Security Advisor at the time. In the memorandum, Gleysteen addressed the Indochinese Refugee Conflict, which included a large majority of Vietnamese Boat People who perished at sea as a result of nearby Southeast Asian countries denying temporary refuge. To assist with the humanitarian crisis, Gleysteen urges Scowcroft to increase the number of refugees that was allowed to resettle in the United States and to persuade other countries to take action, too. This memorandum was a valuable source because it allowed me to get a general idea of the situation of the Vietnamese Boat People refugee crisis.

House, Committee on Foreign Affairs. *Crisis Facing Vietnamese Refugees*

*Seeking First Asylum in Thailand*. Government Printing Office, 1989. 100th

Congress, 2nd session, House Document 080.

This government publication is a compilation of statements at various meetings from individuals that are apart of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. This source emphasized the humanitarian crisis revolving first asylum countries in Southeast Asia following the Vietnam War. It highlighted that the discontinuation of the first asylum in Southeast Asian countries had major repercussions, and it assisted in my comprehension of how serious the refugee situation was because thousands died as a result of the denial of temporary refuge.

United Nations General Assembly. *Declaration and Comprehensive Plan of Action of the International Conference on Indo-Chinese Refugees, Report of the Secretary-General*. 1989. Document. Accessed 12 Feb. 2018. Legislature, Assembly Document A/44/523.

Refworld is a vast collection of resources concerning refugee determination that is owned by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. The UN secretary general's report on the objectives of the 1989 Geneva Conference and declaration of the Comprehensive Plan of Action was one of the sources featured in Refworld. In the document, the 5 primary components of the Comprehensive Plan of Action were listed. My documentary found this primary source to be beneficial because I was able to simultaneously narrate information regarding the CPA and display genuine images of the document itself.

United States, Congress, House, United States Department of State. *Orderly Departure Program: How Does ODP Work?* Government Printing Office, 1987. House Document 20520.

The Vietnam Archive at the Texas Tech University, one of the most comprehensive collections concerning the documentation of the Vietnam War, features numerous images, videos, scanned documents and newspaper articles. With this particular primary source, the scanned document that I utilized for my research and documentary was the Orderly Departure Program. The ODP was the program that was implemented at the 1979 Geneva Conference by the international community in an attempt to resolve the conflict of increasing deaths of Vietnamese Boat People in the South China Sea. The document of the ODP discusses its various components and the hopes that the international community had with the ODP being successful. As a result of this source, I was able to fully grasp the process of the Orderly Departure Program.

United States Department of State Bureau of Public Affairs. *Indochina Refugee*

*Situation: Toward a Comprehensive Plan of Action*. By Lawrence S.

Eagleburger, edited by Sharon R. Haynes, publication no. 1184, Washington,

D.C., United States Department of State, June 1989. Print.

Eagleburger (a former Secretary of State for the United States) in his government publication, addresses the Indochinese Refugee Problem, which includes the Vietnamese (primarily), and Laotians and Cambodians. He includes the statistics from the United Nations of the estimated fatalities of those who perished at sea, which was close to half a million. This emphasized how bleak the situation was in Southeast Asia, and that people fleeing persecution should have the right to temporary refuge. Eagleburger mentions the plans that various countries have compromised on to fashion a long-term solution.

## Newspaper Articles

*Eugene Register-Guard*. "Boat People Raped, Murdered." Google News Archive, 26 Dec. 1985. Scanned Newspaper. Accessed 2 Feb. 2018.

On December 26th, 1985, an article titled: “‘Boat People’ Raped, Murdered” was published in the Eugene-Register Guard, a daily newspaper that was established in 1930. The article discussed the alarming numbers of Vietnamese victims of piracy and the factors in the South China Sea that were against the survival of Vietnamese Boat People. This newspaper allowed me to understand how big of an issue piracy and increasing death rates was, which lead up to a second Geneva conference in 1989 to deliberate as to how to approach the conflict and resolve it once and for all.

Mannheim, Markus. "Cabinet Archives: Forget Tampa, Boat People Panic Began Under Keating." *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 Jan. 2017. Newspaper. Accessed 12 Feb. 2018.

Markus Mannheim is an editor for the Sydney Morning Herald, a daily newspaper founded in 1831. In his article written on January 1st, Mannheim discusses Australia’s policies concerning Vietnamese Boat People and refugees of different ethnic groups, like the Syrian refugees for example. From his article, I was able to understand how plans and proposals that are inclusive to refugees are inevitably controversial among societies.

Trengganu, Kuala. "More than 200 Feared Dead: Viet Refugee Boat Capsizes." *Lawrence Journal-World*, 22 Nov. 1978, p. 2. *Google News Archive*. Scanned Newspaper. Accessed 6 Feb. 2018.

On November 22nd, 1978, an article titled "More than 200 Feared Dead: Viet Refugee Boat Capsizes" was published in the Lawrence Journal-World, which is a daily newspaper that was established in 1911. The newspaper article brought to light the problem of piracy and the numerous Vietnamese lives that have been lost as a result. It also discussed the specific pirate attack on November 22nd, 1978 in which over 200 were feared dead. The author quotes the situation as being "a major international issue" and a "tragedy that was certain to produce more foreign pressure on the governments of ASEAN countries." From this particular newspaper article, I was able to understand the extent of the pressure that was placed on the first asylum countries because of the influx of Vietnamese Boat People.

Vogle, Paul. "'Boat People' Risk Death to Flee Vietnam." *Sarasota Herald Tribune*, 25 Nov. 1978, Special Reports sec., p. C23. *Google News Archive*. Scanned Newspaper. Accessed 5 Feb. 2018.

On the day of November 25, 1978, a journalist by the name of Paul Vogle, wrote a story concerning the risks that Vietnamese Boat People were taking to flee Vietnam. His story was published in the Special Reports section of the Sarasota Herald Tribune, a daily newspaper founded in 1925. Vogle describes how neighboring non-communist countries are denying temporary refuge to the Vietnamese refugees, and the factors that fueled people's decision to risk death and escape. This newspaper publication was vital to showing my audience the

numerous dangers out in the South China Sea that were against the survival of Vietnamese Boat People.

### **Personal Interviews**

Huynh, Lan. Personal Interview. 15 Nov. 2017.

My interview with my former third-grade teacher, Lan Huynh was essential to my comprehension of the numerous risks that Vietnamese Boat People were willing to take for the chance of starting new lives. Mrs. Huynh was a Vietnamese refugee that fled Vietnam by boat. She arrived in Hong Kong with her family and was admitted into an enclosed refugee camp located there. Her comments were beneficial to my understanding of how overcrowded the refugee camps were.

Le, Mai. Personal Interview. 19 May 2018.

Mai Le was a Vietnamese refugee that escaped Vietnam by boat with her family. Le was able to switch from the small boat that she was initially on, and move to a larger boat, that transported her to a Malaysian refugee camp. Le discussed the risks and dangers of her journey, along with some of her friends that attempted to flee, but perished in the ocean. Hearing her story allowed me to truly understand the extent in which Vietnamese Boat People were willing to risk for better futures.

Shacknove, Andrew. Personal Interview. 1 Dec. 2017.

Professor Andrew Shacknove from the University of Oxford was a former lawyer for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. He was part of the team of lawyers that assisted in the implementation of Malaysia's first ever refugee determination process in response to the Vietnamese Boat People Refugee Crisis. Shacknove was also a consultant to Britain's Home Office on refugee statuses. Professor Shacknove specializes in laws concerning refugees and migration as a result of his involvement with the UNHCR and Malaysia. Consequently, I was able to understand how intensive the process of determining refugee statuses can be from my personal interview with him.

Tran, Dennis. Interview. 12 May 2018.

Dennis Tran was a Vietnamese Boat Refugee that I was able to personally interview. Tran escaped Vietnam as an unaccompanied minor because she "didn't want to burden her mother." Tran was able to arrive in a refugee camp in Malaysia and talked about all of her struggles of adapting in America. This enabled me to comprehend the drastic adaptations that refugees had to make when they start new lives in a new country.

### **Photographs**

Adams, Eddie. *Boat of No Smiles*. 1977. *Time: 100 Photos*. Image. Accessed 21 Jan. 2018.

The photograph *Boat of No Smiles* depicts a fishing boat packed with South Vietnamese refugees during the year 1977. In the congested boat, was a child in poor health, lying in the

arms of an elderly woman. Eddie Adams, the photographer of *Boat of No Smiles*, unveiled to the world the plight of Vietnamese refugees and made it undeniable that the Vietnamese Boat People Refugee Crisis was a major issue. This photo was important to my project because it displayed the dreary situation of Vietnamese Boat People as what it was.

Adams, Eddie. *Saigon Execution*. 1 Feb. 1968. Harvard Library: Hollis Images. Image. Accessed 8 Jan. 2018.

Eddie Adams, an Associated Press photographer, is known for his coverage of over 13 wars including the Vietnam War. Adams' famous photograph titled *Saigon Execution* marks his career. It depicts an execution in 1968 that General Loan, chief of the Vietnam National Police carried out. Loan is shown with his pistol pointing towards Nguyen Van Lem. The photo *Saigon Execution* displays the violence and bitter years of the Vietnam War. Adams won a Pulitzer Prize for his photo as it conveyed a powerful message about the brutality of war. From this image, I was able to truly understand how violent war can be.

Aftermath of the Vietnam War. *Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs*. Photo Collection. Accessed 17 Jan. 2018.

The Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs has a collection of photos depicting the aftermath of the Vietnam War, which included protests that were in opposition to Vietnamese Boat People and Indochinese land refugees. As the numbers of refugees settling in different countries increased, the hostility towards refugees increased, too. Consequently, there were multiple photos in the collection that showed different protests of

people who were against the admittance of refugees into a country. One photo that stood out the most was an image of protesters holding up a sign that said: “No asylum here for Saigon crooks”. This enabled me to understand how consistent international opinions were about any refugee group, including Vietnamese Boat People.

Douglas Photograph Collection. Vietnamese Refugees crossing river. *Texas Tech*

*University: Vietnam Archive*. Image. Accessed 29 Jan 2018.

I was able to contact one of the research curators of the Vietnam Archive, Amy Mondt, and was given multiple suggestions and tips as to how to best navigate the digital collection of resources that the Texas Tech University has to offer. The Vietnam Archive is so expansive in terms of the information that it has because the majority of its content is available online for public use. There are numerous photo collections that are included with the Vietnam Archive's digitized materials. For my documentary, I utilized an image from the Douglas Pike Photograph Collection that depicted Vietnamese refugees crossing a river. This enabled me to convey to the audience the struggles that the Vietnamese Boat People endured.

Douglas Pike Photograph Collection. Vietnamese Boat People adrift at sea were

saved in time. 1 May 1985. *Vietnam Center and Archive*, Texas Tech

University. Image. Accessed 29 Jan 2018.

The Vietnam Archive at the Texas Tech University is a comprehensive collection of sources that make up the largest archive in the United States concerning the documentation of the Vietnam War and its aftermath. The VA features the digitized Douglas Pike Photograph

Collection and its image of Vietnamese Boat People being rescued at sea. This contributed to my understanding of the importance of rescue-at-sea operations and its resulting impact on preventing refugee deaths.

*Fall of Saigon*. 30 Apr. 1975. *CBS News*. Image. Accessed 4 Jan. 2018.

CBS News is renowned for its news and information division. For the 40th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, CBS News compiled 32 images that displayed different perspectives that people had when the communist forces took over in 1975. The photographs showed the desperation of South Vietnamese to escape out of Vietnam, as numerous people attempted to scale the 14-foot wall surrounding the U.S. embassy in Saigon. People did that because they wanted to reach the last evacuation helicopters in order to flee the new communist regime. From those pictures, I was able to understand the defeat that many people felt following the communist victory.

Grisby, Bryan. *Aftermath of the Fall of Saigon*. May 1975. *Texas Tech*

*University: Vietnam Center and Archive*. Images. Accessed 15 Jan. 2018.

The Vietnam Center and Archive at Texas Tech University is the nation's largest collection concerning the Vietnam War and its aftermath. On their page about the fall of Saigon, there were images from the Brian Grisby Photo Collection. The images displayed Vietnamese refugees and the risks that they were taking to flee during the year 1975. The utilization of the images was paramount to my documentary because they showed how so many people wanted to flee the new communist regime of Vietnam.

Joren, Gerhard, and Peter Turnley. Many Vietnamese Remained in Refugee

Camps for Years. *Australian Broadcasting Corporation News*. Images.

Accessed 28 Jan. 2018.

On the website page of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation News, the Getty Images of Gerhard Joren and Peter Turnley was featured. The two images that I utilized in my documentary depicted Vietnamese people languishing in the refugee camps for numerous years. The images enabled me to comprehend the compassion fatigue that the international community had and how it directly affected the refugee crisis of Vietnamese Boat People. The less involved the international community was with developing and compromising on different solutions, the worse the refugee camps got, along with the situation in general.

Lan Huynh: When First Arriving In America. Image. 1982.

When I interviewed Lan Huynh, she gave me an image of her when she was young (around the age in which she came to America). The image helped me give viewers of my documentary a visual comparison of Huynh when she was younger versus now.

*Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in South East Asia*. 20 July 1979.

*United Nations News and Media: Photo*. Image. Accessed 12 Feb. 2018.

The *United Nations News and Media: Photo* is the photo archive of the United Nations, an internationally recognized organization that promotes cooperation among countries. The particular image that I used from the UN's archive depicts Walter Mondale, former

vice-president of the United States, arriving at the 1979 Geneva Conference. The image assisted in supplementing my script's description of the 1979 Geneva Conference during my documentary.

Porter, Tess. "Smithsonian Learning Lab Collection: Conflict and Compromise: The Vietnam War." *Smithsonian Learning Lab*, Smithsonian Center for Learning and Digital Access, 14 Sept. 2017. Photo Collection. Accessed July 2018.

Tess Porter, the education support specialist at the Smithsonian Center for Learning and Digital Access, created a learning lab collection of various sources concerning the Vietnam War. This included protest papers, photographs, interviews, and articles. The sources that I found particularly useful were the images Porter included which were from the National Air and Space Museum and flyers that were in protest of the Vietnam War. It highlighted the violence of the War and was useful to understanding various perspectives.

### **Public/Scripted Interviews**

MacLehose, Murray. Interview. 21 July 1979.

Murray MacLehose, the former governor of Hong Kong, was interviewed during the time period of the Vietnamese Boat People Refugee Crisis. He was interviewed immediately after the 1979 Geneva Conference on Indochinese refugees. MacLehose spoke about the solutions that were developed. He said that "time will tell how successful the international community was," and that believes that Vietnam will positively respond to the solutions that were

developed. From this interview, I was able to understand how hopeful the international community was with the compromises made.

Miller, Robert, and Thomas Shoesmith. "The Vietnamese Boat People." *Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training*. Accessed 26 Nov. 2017. Scripted Interview.

The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training is an organization that captures, preserves, and shares the experiences of America's diplomats and strengthens people's understanding of American diplomacy. This ADST article was a compilation of interview scripts from Robert Miller and Thomas Shoesmith, who were both former ambassadors to Malaysia at the time of the post-war influx of Vietnamese Boat People, and Indochinese refugees in general. Miller and Shoesmith discussed the dreary situation and the Vietnamese political prisoners in re-education camps. From the interview scripts, I was able to learn how overcrowded the camps were. This source was useful in determining the magnitude of the refugee crisis.

## **Reports**

"Refugee Admissions Program for East Asia." *Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration*, 16 Jan. 2004. *U.S. Department of State Archive*, Web.

Accessed 27 Nov. 2017.

The U.S. Department of State Archive's article reports on the various refugee admissions programs that were implemented at the time of the Boat People Refugee Crisis. The programs

mentioned were the Orderly Departure Program and Comprehensive Plan of Action. The CPA was a “multilateral framework” to resolve the outflow of Boat People and was established in 1989. The ODP was implemented a decade prior to the CPA. Its purpose was to decrease illegal departures and to increase safe and legal ones. This source was a helpful tool because it increased my knowledge of the solutions that were developed to stem the influx of refugees and to prevent any more deaths at sea.

United States Department of State Bureau of Public Affairs. *Aspects of U.S.*

*Resettlement Programs for Vietnamese Refugees*. By Robert Funseth, publication no. 1037, Washington, D.C., United States Department of State, Mar. 1988. Print.

Robert Funseth, Spokesman of the State Department during Henry Kissinger's time as Secretary, reported on the various resettlement programs that were implemented at the time to ease the burdens of first asylum countries in his government publication of *Aspects of Resettlement Programs for Vietnamese Refugees*. He mentions the anti-piracy efforts from the United States and the task of the 1979 Geneva Conference, which was to “deal humanely and effectively” of the Boat People Refugee Crisis. Funseth’s publication assisted in my understanding of the components that made up different programs that were essential to bringing the Boat People Conflict to a stop.

## Videos

*ABC Vietnam War Clip Reel*. ABC News, 1967. *Associated Press Archive*. Film. Accessed 14 Jan. 2018.

The American Broadcasting Company, or ABC, is a prominent television news network in America. In the Associated Press Archive, a clip reel of the Vietnam War from ABC was featured. It depicted soldiers moving through Vietnam's forested lowlands as bombs dropped in the distance. I utilized the part of the clip reel in the introduction of my documentary for a time progression of the Vietnam War until its end on April 30th, 1975. The clip reel was paramount to my documentary because it displayed the bitter years that made up the Vietnam War.

*Philippines and Israel Vietnamese Refugees*. 1979. *Associated Press Archive*. Film. Accessed 11 May 2018.

Located in the AP archive is a video clip titled: "Philippines and Israel Vietnamese Refugees," which depicted Vietnamese people in an overcrowded boat in the year 1979. This clip was essential to displaying the terrible conditions that frequented the journeys of Vietnamese Boat People.

*Refugees and Vietnamese Montagnard Footage: Reel 8*. Filmed by Allan Levelle.

*Texas Tech University: Vietnam Archive*. Film. Accessed 17 Jan. 2018.

The Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech University, one of the most comprehensive collections concerning the effect of the Vietnam War, featured footage filmed by Allan Levelle. The

footage depicted Vietnamese refugees and Montagnards. The poverty and the dreary state of Vietnam were clearly shown in the video reel of Levelle's. The film footage resulted in me being able to display the economic and environmental effects of the Vietnam War in my documentary.

*USA: Fall of Saigon: Evacuation Backgrounder.* Discovery Channel, 1995. Film.

In 1995, the Discovery Channel released a film concerning the Fall of Saigon. The release of the film was for the purpose of educating audiences in commemoration of the Fall of Saigon on April 30th. This particular film is featured in the Associated Press Archive and displays the events leading up to the end of the Vietnam War. One of the events was the mass evacuations of American soldiers and Vietnamese that were affiliated with the United States or South Vietnamese Government. From the video, I was able to witness what the evacuations were like prior to the communist victory in Vietnam.

*Vietnam War Clip Reel.* United Press International, 1968. *Associated Press*

*Archive.* Film. Accessed 14 Jan. 2018.

The Associated Press Archive, one of the largest collections of footage in the world, contains over 1.7 million videos. In the Associated Press Archive, they featured a clip reel depicting U.S. air raids over North Vietnam on April 19, 1968. The clip was from the United Press International, a news agency prominently known for their coverage of content worldwide. The clip reel contributed to my understanding of the violence of the Vietnam War.

## **Websites**

Arnet, Peter. *April 30th, 1975: Saigon Has Fallen. The Associated Press.*

Web. Accessed 4 Jan. 2018.

In this Associated Press article, there contains an excerpt from Peter Arnet's novel: "Saigon Has Fallen," in which he recounts his experience reporting on the Vietnam War for the Associated Press. Numerous AP photos were also featured on the page, as the AP is prominently known for photography, and had won 31 Pulitzer Prizes in previous years. The images portrayed how massive the airlift evacuations were prior to the Fall of Saigon.

## ***Secondary Sources:***

### **Books**

Isserman, Maurice. *Vietnam War*. 2nd revision ed., Facts on File, 2003. Print.

Maurice Isserman, a professor at Hamilton College, reported on the statistics of Boat People and the estimated numbers of people who fled, died, were attacked by pirates, were resettled, or repatriated. The evacuation of South Vietnamese and American soldiers prior to communist victory in 1975 accumulated to over 140,000 evacuees. But, it left many people who had connections with the South Vietnamese and the U.S. to fend for themselves against the new

communist regime. This source was useful for understanding the actual numbers of people who were affected by different factors.

Nair, Kannan. *ASEAN-Indochina Relations since 1975: The Politics of Accommodation*. Publication no. 30, Australian National University, 1984. Canberra Papers on Study and Defense. Print.

*ASEAN-Indochina Relations since 1975: The Politics of Accommodation* is the 30th document from the series of Canberra Papers on Study and Defense, which is distributed by the Australian National University Press. This particular publication was written by Dr. Kannan Nair, an Associate Professor of History at the University of Malaysia, and it examines the responses of the Association of Southeast Asian Countries to the refugee crisis of Vietnamese Boat People, along with Indochinese land refugees. Dr. Nair's publication resulted in my deeper understanding of the responses that ASEAN countries had with the interminable influx of Vietnamese arriving at their shores.

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *The State of the World's Refugees: Fifty Years of Humanitarian Action*. 2000 ed., UNHCR, 2001. *The UN Refugee Agency*. Digitized file. Accessed 28 Nov. 2017.

This digitized publication of *The State of the World's Refugees: Fifty Years of Humanitarian Action* addressed the Geneva Conferences and the Comprehensive Plan of Action, along with the Orderly Departure Program. The book spoke of the effects from policies that were implemented to assist with the outflow of Indochinese Refugees, and the accommodations that

were made to decrease piracy at sea. This source reports on key aspects of the Boat People Crisis and was paramount to me getting the full picture on my topic.

## **Music**

Nguyen, Nhung Thi. "Huyen Thoai Me." *Free Music Archive*. Audio. Accessed 2

Jan. 2018.

The Free Music Archive features multiple songs which are available for public use without any costs. The FMA was useful for choosing songs that would assist in establishing a mood in my documentary. This included the Vietnamese piece *Huyen Thoai Me*, which tells the story of a legendary mother. As a result of traditional instruments from Vietnam being featured in the song, it elicited my decision to include it in my documentary.

Quang, Phu. "Tinh Yeu Cua Bien." *Free Music Archive*, 1978. Audio. Accessed 2

Jan. 2018.

For the purposes of conveying the mood for my documentary at certain parts, I wanted to choose a musical piece that featured traditional Vietnamese instruments like the Sao, which is a small bamboo flute. This fueled my decision to choose *Tinh Yeu Cua Bien*, which was apart of the Free Music Archive. Phu Quang, the Vietnamese composer responsible for *Tinh Yeu Cua Bien* is famous for his love songs, concertos, and symphonies. *Tinh Yeu Cua Bien* has a somber tone and mimics what the ocean sounds like as the song title means “my love for the ocean.”

## **Personal Interviews**

Dang, Thuy Vo. Personal Interview. 16 Nov. 2017.

My interview with Professor Thuy Vo Dang, from UC Irvine, allowed me to understand the lengthy process of refugee determination and resettlement. If you were a Vietnamese Boat Arrival to a nearby Southeast Asian country, it does not mean that you will resettle.

Occasionally people are repatriated, which is when you are sent back to the country that you are fleeing from if you are determined not to be a refugee. Involuntary repatriation was something that people tried to avoid as much as possible. There were also numerous people who languished in refugee camps because of how long the process of refugee determination was. The interview that I conducted with Professor Dang was a useful starting point in establishing a general idea and baseline for my topic.

Valverde, Caroline. Personal Interview. 24 Nov. 2017.

Professor Caroline Valverde from UC Irvine specializes in the diaspora of Vietnamese and its influence on various countries. My interview with Professor Valverde resulted in my knowledge of the cultural diaspora following the resettlement of Vietnamese Boat People (1970s-1990s) to proliferate. Asian customs, specifically Vietnamese, fused with other

countries and resulted in more diversity and culturally rich places. Valverde also talked about the harsh conditions that Vietnamese refugees faced when trying to flee by boat.

## **Videos**

"Shot of the Ocean and Waves." *YouTube*, uploaded by Elemental

Footage, 23 Feb. 2016. Web. Accessed 2 Jan 2018.

For an aesthetic visual for the beginning of my documentary, I used an aerial shot of the ocean and its waves. This was for the purpose of making the introduction of my documentary visually pleasing to go along with my third-grade teacher's words: "fleeing the country was the future." As my topic concerns Vietnamese Boat People and their endeavors to flee by sea, it felt appropriate to include Huynh's quote.

## **Websites**

Association of Southeast Asian Nations." *Office of the United States Trade*

*Representative*. Web. Accessed 6 Feb. 2018.

The Office of the United States Trade Representative is a government agency of the United States that is responsible for developing policies to increase trade. In an article titled "Association of Southeast Asian Nations," the USTR reports on the countries in which the ASEAN are comprised of. From this article, I was able to understand the factors that

culminated in the ASEAN's decision to end the first asylum in Southeast Asia in the year 1979.

Bui, Nancy. "The Story of the Nation's Largest Refugee Group: Vietnamerica."

*Vietnamerica*, edited by Scott Edwards, 17 May 2015. Web. Accessed 5 Nov. 2017.

Nancy Bui, the President of the Vietnamese American Foundation, provides the context of Vietnamese Boat People and the Vietnam War on the website of Scott Edward's new award-winning documentary: *Vietnamerica*. She addresses the statistics dealing with Boat People and the communist regime in Vietnam. This website assisted in my understanding of the magnitude at which the outflow out of Vietnam was.

Chin, Simone. "Hidden Horrors of Vietnam's Re-education Camps." *Baruch*

*University Blogs*, 1 Nov. 2016. Web. Accessed 16 Jan. 2018.

Simone Chin, a student at Baruch University, constructed an article in which she talks about the horrific conditions of the re-education camps in Vietnam. The majority of the detainees in the camps were former affiliates of the South Vietnamese government or had worked with America during the Vietnam War. The new communist regime in Vietnam felt like they were entitled to punish those who had connections with South Vietnam, as they said in 1987: "It is Vietnam's right to punish these criminals." People in the re-education camps starved, were tortured, and often got sick. This source allowed me to comprehend how terrible the situation of re-education camps was.

Elston, Thuan Le. "Syria Crisis Evokes Vietnamese Boat People." *USA Today*, 1

Oct. 2017. Web. Accessed 6 Dec. 2017.

Elston, a member of USA Today's editorial board, highlights the solutions that the international community compromised on, and how it played a key role in assisting with the Boat People Refugee Crisis in her article. She mentions how history is repeating itself with the recent humanitarian problem in Syria, and that in order to formulate a lasting solution, acting decisively was required. Elson's article was useful to understanding how paramount it is for countries to work together and compromise on a solution. I also found this source to be an effective way to understand some of the current refugee problems that we have today.

Grandi, Filippo. "The Way We Respond to Refugees." *World Economic Forum*,

18 May. 2017. Web. Accessed 14 May 2018.

Filippo Grandi, the current United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, wrote an article about how the international community's responses to refugees have changed over the years. The article highlights the increasing need for innovation when developing different solutions to combat a refugee crisis. From the article, I was able to understand the lasting impact of the Vietnamese Boat People Refugee Crisis.

Griffiths-Lambeth, Kate. *Sinking Feeling*. 1979. *LinkedIn*. Web. Accessed 28 Jan.

2018.

Kate Griffiths-Lambeth, a human resources officer from Cambridge University, compiled primary source photographs in her article concerning Vietnamese Boat People titled “Sinking Feeling.” She mentions the similarities that the plight of Vietnamese Boat People has with the current Syrian Refugee Crisis. One of the photos that she included was a 1979 cartoon from the Melbourne Herald Newspaper which depicted the unwillingness of countries to offer temporary asylum to refugees. Griffith-Lambeth’s article caused me to understand how history repeats itself and that the best we can do is to learn from the past.

Lawrence, Mark. Vietnam War Revisited. Not Even Past. Web. Accessed 16 Jan. 2018.

“Not Even Past” is a website dedicated to the facilitation of life-long learning and research. It was founded by the Department of History at the University of Texas at Austin. From there, Mark Lawrence, an associate professor at UT Austin, constructed an article in which he recalls on the events of the Vietnam War and its repercussion of the refugee crisis of Vietnamese Boat People. He features images from the Atlantic in Focus that show Vietnamese refugees crowding in a helicopter to await their impending evacuation. The utilization of those images in my documentary allowed me to portray how immediate the exodus of Vietnamese was following the end of the Vietnam War.

Ngo, Thanh Hai. "History of the Boat People." *Senator Thanh Hai Ngo*. Web. Accessed 6 Feb. 2018.

Thanh Hai Ngo is a Canadian senator appointed by General David Johnston. Senator Ngo was also a former President of the Vietnamese Community Association of Ottawa. In the article that he constructed about the history of Vietnamese Boat People, Ngo emphasizes the millions of Vietnamese refugees that have been able to find new homes and the contributions that they make to society's growth. Currently, in Canada, there is an annual tradition in which Vietnamese Canadians gather on April 30th to honor the hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese Boat People that died in their search of a new life and freedom. Canada is also honored by the Vietnamese Canadians, too. Senator Ngo's article enabled me to understand how important it was for the international community to compromise on different solutions, as this resulted in the refugee crisis of Vietnamese Boat People to end.

Suppan, Steve. *U.S. Incoherence on Human Rights and Trade. Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy*. Web. Accessed 17 Jan. 2018.

Steve Suppan, a policy analyst for the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, formulated an article in which he discusses U.S. incoherence on human rights and trade. He mentions opposition that people had for various government plans concerning refugees and human rights. In his article, he features an image from the United Nations, which portrays an overcrowded refugee camp full of Vietnamese. The image allowed me to display to my audience the situation of refugee camps during the plight of Vietnamese Boat People, along with Indochinese refugees in general.

"Vietnamese Americans Subject Guide." *Texas Tech University: Vietnam Center*

*and Archive*, 31 Aug. 2017. Web. Accessed 14 Nov. 2017.

Texas Tech University leads an archive that preserves the history of Vietnam, and in this particular article, TTU provides a preface for the outflow of refugees subsequent to the communist victory in Vietnam. This source was a useful tool because it was a brief introduction to postwar Vietnamese Refugees, immigration, and resettlement in the United States. Another way that I utilized this source was by the suggested collections, books, and oral histories that were mentioned, which would broaden and deepen my research.

Zhou, Min. *Straddling Different Worlds: The Acculturation of Vietnamese*

*Refugee Children*. UC Davis, PhD dissertation. *UC Davis Research and Seminars*. Web. Accessed 18 Dec. 2017.

Min Zhou is a professor of sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles and is the founding chair of the Department of Asian American Studies at UCLA. Consequently, her knowledge of acculturation is vast. Her comments in her dissertation explained the integration of Vietnamese Refugees in the United States and the struggles of adapting economically and psychologically. Professor Zhou mentions how vital it was for the Vietnamese to develop their own strategies to gradually adapt.