

SITES

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"I'm touched,
overwhelmed,
and grateful
to the
Smithsonian
for doing
this beautiful
project."

—SMITHSONIAN VISITOR



Above: Little Saigon rally
NGUYEN HOANG NAM © 1999 NICHOLAS BLAIR

Cover: Fourth of July parade in Washington, D.C.
GERALD MARTINEAU | THE WASHINGTON POST



EXIT SAIGON

Vietnamese
America
since 1975

exhibition prospectus

ENTER LITTLE SAIGON

A new exhibition produced by the
Smithsonian's Asian Pacific Program
and organized for travel by the
Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service



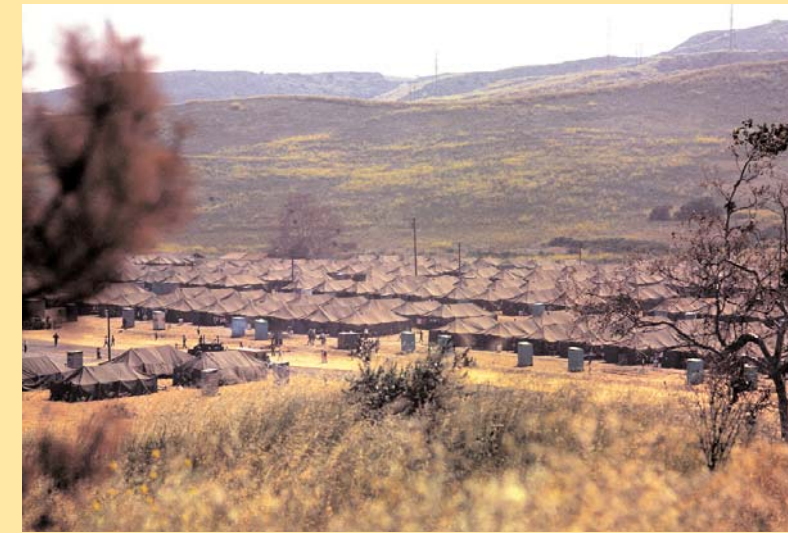


FLEEING SAIGON, 1975 | AP PHOTO/H. HUNG

Exit Saigon includes compelling images of the fall of Saigon, the exodus of the “boat people,” and temporary refugee camps in the United States. Colorful contemporary photographs record the Vietnamese Americans honoring their own cultural heritage while embracing uniquely American traditions.



BOAT PEOPLE SOS, INC.



CAMP PENDLETON, CA | TONI ALO

Exit Saigon, Enter Little Saigon recounts a journey more than 30 years in the making.

The **first** Smithsonian exhibition to document the Vietnamese American experience, *Exit Saigon* tells an epic story from the perspectives of people who were forced to flee their homes and leave their possessions behind. But this is not an exhibition about tragedy. Instead, it reveals the strength and stamina of Vietnamese Americans who have found new homes in a new land. This is a story about people who have adapted to life in the United States while maintaining their traditional folkways.

Who are Vietnamese Americans? They are doctors, astronauts, salespeople, and soldiers. They are as diverse as America itself and an integral part of this nation’s identity. A celebration of cultural diversity, *Exit Saigon* explores history and religion as well as the civic and political issues that have influenced Vietnamese communities across the country.

Exit Saigon is an ideal opportunity to recognize the achievements and acknowledge the struggles of immigrants in your own community. We’ve started the conversation. Now you have the chance to continue the dialogue.

EXHIBITION AT A GLANCE

- 93 panels with text and photographs
- Limited security
- 150 running feet
- \$1,500 participation fee, plus outgoing shipping
- Tours through 2010

SITES CONTACTS

Scheduling

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TET FESTIVAL | OFFICE OF U. S. REPRESENTATIVE LORETTA SANCHEZ

**We came to America
not for material gain
but for freedom.**

—NORTH VIETNAMESE BUDDHIST NUN

The national tour of *Exit Saigon* has been made possible by Farmers Insurance.



KATHERINE FREY | THE WASHINGTON POST