

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 249

**GRANTING PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS  
TO CERTAIN VIETNAMESE CITIZENS AND FILIPINO-VIETNAMESE  
CHILDREN PURSUANT TO SECTION 47 OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1940**

**WHEREAS**, Filipino workers and their wives, children and relatives were evacuated by the Philippine Navy from Vietnam in several missions in 1975 and 1978 during the Vietnam War and were legally admitted into the country;

**WHEREAS**, these Filipino-Vietnamese children, Vietnamese wives (legal, common-law and widows), and other Vietnamese relatives have pending applications for permanent resident status with the Special Committee of the Task Force on International Refugee Assistance and Administration (TFIRAA) under the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), which have been referred by the Department of Justice (DOJ) per its Opinion No. 42 (s. 1993) to the Bureau of Immigration;

**WHEREAS**, these Filipino-Vietnamese children, Vietnamese wives (legal, common-law and widowed) and other Vietnamese relatives have been unable to produce the required legal documentation for their immigration applications because they left during the height of the Vietnam War;

**WHEREAS**, since their legitimate arrival some 16 to 19 years ago, these Filipino-Vietnamese children, Vietnamese wives (legal, common-law and widowed) and other Vietnamese relatives continue to live as a marginal minority group who have not been fully integrated into Philippine society and, consequently, have become displaced persons;

**WHEREAS**, the DOJ has issued Opinion No. 49 (s. 1995), clarifying its Opinion No. 42 (s. 1993), that "the illegitimate child of a Filipino father and a Vietnamese mother is a Filipino citizen considering that a child born of a Filipino father is a Filipino citizen following the 1935 Constitution and the doctrine of *jus sanguinis* as adopted in the 1973 and the present Constitution as the basis for determining Philippine citizenship," provided Filipino paternal filiation is established by sufficient and convincing documentary evidence;

**WHEREAS**, the family units of these Filipino-Vietnamese children should not be broken up by denying Philippine residence to their Vietnamese mothers and relatives who have been part of Philippine society for the past 19 years; and

**WHEREAS**, to grant permanent resident status to these Vietnamese wives (legal, common-law and widowed) and other Vietnamese relatives is in line with the Constitutional policies under Article XV, Section 1, recognizing the importance of the family as the foundation of the nation, Article II, Section 12, recognizing the sanctity of family life and Article XV, Section 3, defending the rights of children.

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

This Order shall apply strictly to:

a) those Vietnamese citizens who legally arrived in the Philippines prior to or during the Vietnam War, but not later than 31 December 1978;

b) children of Filipino citizens and the Vietnamese citizens referred to in paragraph (a) above, whether or not their parents were legally married and whether or not such children were born in the Philippines, provided Filipino paternal filiation is established in accordance with law; and

c) direct descendants of children of Filipino and Vietnamese parentage referred to in paragraph (b) above.

2. Pursuant to Section 47 of the Immigration Act of 1940, the following Vietnamese citizens, and all Vietnamese citizens similarly situated but not included in this list at the time of issuance of this Order, if not otherwise qualified for Philippine citizenship as children of Filipino citizens under the 1935, 1973 and present Constitutions, are hereby granted permanent resident status:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Date of Arrival</u>	<u>Means of Arrival</u>
1.	Le Thi Ai	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
2.	Luong Ngoo Anh	CLW	04/22/75	Phil. Airplane (Grp. #40
3.	Pham Thi Anh	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Aurora Ship
4.	Truong Thi Anh	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
5.	Nguyen Thi Ba	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
6.	Nhan dela Cruz	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
7.	Ngo Thi Ngoc Chau	W/CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
8.	Le Thi Dao	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
9.	Vo Thi Dao	S	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
10.	Nguyen Thi Duc	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
11.	Hua Dung	CLW	10/14/75	Air France
12.	Tran Thi Gai	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship

13.	Nguyen Thi Giang	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
4.	Truong Thi Giao	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
	Nguyen Thi Thu Ha	W/CLW	11/02/78	RPS Aurora Ship
16.	Nguyen Thi Hai	CLW	11/21/78	Air France
17.	Truong Thi Hai	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
18.	Bui Thi Hanh	CLW	10/27/75	Air France
19.	Dang Thi Hoa	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
20.	Hoang Thi Hoa	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
21.	Nguyen Thi Hoa	LM	05/01/78	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
22.	Nguyen Thi Kim Hoa	CLW	10/14/75	Air France
	Tieu Thi My Hoa	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Vo Thi Hoi	LM	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
25	Nguyen Thi Hong	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Huynh Thi Hue	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
7	Le Thi Hung	W/CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Bui Thi Huong	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Tran Thi Huyen	CLW	12/22/75	Air France
	Kieu Nuong Huynh	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Le Thi Khanh	W/CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Nguyen Thi Ky	CLW	12/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
	Nguyen Thi Lai	LM	04/01/72	Air France
	Nguyen A. Lang	W/LM	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Phan Thi Lieu	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
	Tran Thi Loc	LM	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Bui Thi Ly	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
	Tao Thi Mai	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
39.	Nguyen Ngoc Men	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship

40.	Le Thi Minh	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
41.	Le Thi Ngoc Minh	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
42.	Nguyen Thi Muoi	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
43.	Nguyen Phuong Nam	W/LM	04/28/75	US Airplane
44.	Huynh Thi Nem	CLW	10/18/75	Air France
45.	Nguyen Thi Nghia	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
46.	Minh Man Nguyen	LM	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
47.	Nguyen Ngoc Nguyen	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
48.	Phuong Trong Nguyen	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
49.	Ho Thi Nhien	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
50.	Dang Thi Nu	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
51.	Nguyen Thi Phan	W/CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
52.	Nguyen Thi Kim Phi	W/CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
53.	Le Thi Phien	LM	11/07/75	Airplane
54.	Pham Thi Phu	CLW	04/22/75	Airplane
55.	Nguyen Thi Phuong	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
56.	Nguyen Thi Sau	LM	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
57.	Le Thi Siem	CLW	09/08/75	Air France
58.	Nguyen Thi Tai	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
59.	Nguyen Thi Than	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
60.	Huynh Kim Thanh	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
61.	Dang Thi Thanh	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
62.	Le Thi The	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
63.	Nguyen Thi Thu	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
64.	Nguyen Thi Tieu	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Aurora Ship
65.	Nguyen Bach Tuyet	CLW	04/24/75	Airplane
66.	Bui Thi Tuyet	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship

	Le Thi Tuyet	CLW	07/25/76	Airplane
68.	Pham Thi Tuyet	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
69.	Tran Thi Tuyet	W/CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship
	Tran Thi Xinh	CLW	05/01/75	RPS Misamis Oriental Ship
	Mai Ba Huyen	LM	1971	Commercial Airplane
	Tran Thi Yen	CLW	11/21/78	RPS Laguna Ship

CLW - Common-Law Wife  
 S - Single  
 LM - Legally Married  
 W - Widow

3. Pursuant likewise to Section 47 of the Immigration Act of 1940, the passport and other documentary requirements, for the issuance of permanent resident visas to the foregoing Vietnamese citizens and other persons similarly situated who are covered by this Order, are hereby waived. The Secretary of Justice is hereby directed to immediately prepare the guidelines to be followed by the Bureau of Immigration in the processing of the permanent resident visas of the foregoing Vietnamese citizens and other persons similarly situated who are covered by this Order.

4. The Secretary of Justice is hereby directed to immediately prepare the guidelines to be followed by the Bureau of Immigration in the processing of the citizenship papers of the Filipino-Vietnamese children who are covered by this Order, pursuant to the Department of Justice Opinion No. 49 (s. 1995), clarifying its Opinion No. 42 (s. 1993) that the Filipino-Vietnamese children of Filipino men and Vietnamese women, are entitled to Philippine citizenship as natural-born citizens on the basis of Filipino paternity and the doctrine of *jus sanguinis*, under the 1935, 1973 and present Constitutions, provided that Filipino paternal filiation is proved administratively in accordance with law.

5. The Bureau of Immigration is hereby given until 15 August 1995 to complete the processing of the citizenship papers or permanent resident visas, as the case may be, of the foregoing Vietnamese citizens, Filipino-Vietnamese children and other persons similarly situated who are covered by this Order. The Secretary of Justice shall submit his report on the implementation of this Order to the Office of the President on or before 31 August 1995.

6. The Secretary of Foreign Affairs is hereby directed to facilitate the issuance of passports to the Filipino-Vietnamese children found qualified for Philippine citizenship pursuant to this Order if the latter desire to apply for the same.

The Secretaries of Justice and Foreign Affairs are hereby directed to provide residence and travel documents to the foregoing Vietnamese citizens and other Vietnamese citizens similarly situated who are hereby granted permanent resident status but cannot obtain Vietnamese passports.

7 This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE in the City of Manila, this 29th day of May, in the year of our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Five.



By the President:



RUBEN B. TORRES  
Executive Secretary

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Received

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Date

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 250

IMPLEMENTING THE RATIONALIZATION OF DUTY FREE  
STORES/OUTLETS AND THEIR OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES  
PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.140 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 140, dated 30 November 1993, provides for the rationalization of duty free stores/outlets and their operations in the Philippines, in order to enhance their conformity with the generally observed practices in most countries and to avoid their possible adverse impact on local enterprises;

**WHEREAS**, to implement the rationalization, there is a need to modify policies and improve certain existing operational aspects of the duty free stores/outlets in the Philippines;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS**, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order, as follows:

**Section 1. Allowable Areas for Duty Free Shop Operation.** The moratorium on the establishment of duty free stores/outlets imposed by EO No. 140 is hereby lifted. Accordingly, duty-free stores/outlets, whether operated by the government and/or private entities, may be established within the country's international ports of entry subject to the terms and conditions set forth in EO No. 46, as amended, and in the secured and fenced-in areas of special economic zones/freeports pursuant to the provisions of the Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992 (RA 7227), establishing the Subic Special Economic Zone/Freeport Zone, Clark Special Economic Zone, John Hay Special Economic Zone, Poro Point Special Economic and Freeport Zone; RA 7922 (Establishing the Sta. Ana, Cagayan Special Economic Zone and Freeport); and RA 7903 (Creating the Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone and Freeport).

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