

## In Any Language Shopping Is Work

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Ha Kin Lieng pauses over a counterful of socks before making a careful choice.



Ha Kin Lieng, Vietnamese boy who will attend school on Long Island, seems deep in thought as he ponders choice of clothes in Martin's Department store, Huntington, where he was being outfitted.

# In Any Language Shopping Is Work

By Waltrina Stovall

Huntington Station—Ha Kin Lieng went shopping for a new wardrobe the other evening, and though it was only his third day in this country, he studied the labels as carefully as any U. S. housewife.

"I don't like to iron," the 13-year old Vietnamese Montagnard youth said as he read the washing instructions on a pair of trousers. "These are no-iron. I like that."

Ha Kin, who will enter the Stony Brook School for Boys next semester under sponsorship from the Three Village Junior Chamber of Commerce, said he had learned from the school that he would be responsible for his own washing and ironing—and he had enough of ironing already. "I know how, but I still don't like it," he said.

The youth also showed definite taste in color and style as he selected his wardrobe at Martin's department store here, which gave him the clothing.

When Ray Sakowitz, Martin's men's clothing department manager, brought out several sports jackets, the Vietnamese boy quietly tried them on. Finally, Sakowitz was satisfied with the fit of a black and white herringbone. "Do you like it?" he asked. "No, I don't like the color," Ha Kin replied. Then, at Sakowitz's urging, he walked over to the rack and without hesitation pulled off a blue plaid jacket. Happily, it fit.

To go with the jacket, Ha Kin selected a navy blue raincoat and slacks. But for his second pair of slacks, he rejected a drab green pair suggested by Carolin Hugo, Martin's fashion coordinator. "They'll pick up the color (a small green stripe) in the plaid," she said. "I want these pockets," Ha Kin replied, pointing to another pair with Western-style slit pockets. The only Western style pants in Ha Kin's size were in a bright rust corduroy that made Miss Hugo gasp.

but Ha Kin approved of them with delight. "Ha Kin told us they watch a lot of cowboy movies in Vietnam. That's why he likes the Western pants," explained Frank Fleeson of Stony Brook, in whose home Ha Kin is staying until he begins classes Jan. 5.

A heavy wool sweater in a matching rust color was then added to Ha Kin's wardrobe. He was also given pajamas (he chose a blue pair), socks and underwear, ties, gloves, handkerchiefs, two shirts (white and blue), two knit polos (he rejected a white one as too difficult to keep white and selected black and burgundy) and a pair of shoes. "They have a very nice selection and everything is very nice," Ha Kin said as he left the store.

Newsday Photos by Benjamin



Carrying one of his selections, Ha Kin-Lieng studies a poplin car coat and dark pants.