

Evacuation SF Chronicle Plan Report And Denial

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Newsweek magazine reported yesterday that President Ford has approved a contingency plan to use U.S. helicopters, jet planes and ships to evacuate up to 200,000 Vietnamese associated with the U.S. effort in Vietnam if the Communists take over that country.

In Washington, John W. Hushen, White House deputy press secretary, denied the report. He said: "The President has not approved any plan for removing any South Vietnamese from the country."

Newsweek said the plan has been code-named "Operation Talon Vise" and would take from South Vietnam a "select group" of political figures, military officers, and civil servants whose lives "plainly would be threatened if the Communists took power."

It said the program would use helicopters to pick up Vietnamese from outlying areas and take them to Tan Son Nhut near Saigon. Then they would be taken by plane or ship to the Philippines and other countries.

United Press