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## SAIGON ARMS LOSSES

**PUT AT \$780-MILLION**

NYTimes APR 16 1975

WASHINGTON, April 15 (AP) — A Pentagon official says that about \$780-million in United States-supplied arms and other military equipment was lost in the recent retreat of Saigon Government troops.

Erich F. von Marbod, who surveyed the situation for President Ford, said in an interview that the total could go higher. But he disputed an estimate of \$5-billion to \$10-billion made by Senator Frank Church, Democrat of Idaho.

Mr. von Marbod, who is a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, accompanied Gen. Frederick C. Weyand, the Army Chief of Staff, on a recent mission to South Vietnam.

Mr. von Marbod said his estimate was based on the price actually paid by the United States for fighting equipment lost in the retreat.

An aide to Senator Church said his figures were based on present prices.

Neither Senator Church nor Mr. Marbod touched on the cost of airfields, ports and depots abandoned in the retreat. The United States spent about \$4-billion for such construction in all of South Vietnam.

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