Senate Votes Aid To Vietnam; Use Of GIs Is Limited
Refugees to Guam

By Murrey Marder
Washington Post Staff Writer

The United States shifted its swiftly expanding Vietnamese evacuation airlift from the Philippines to Guam yesterday, to remove tens of thousands of South Vietnamese before the war cuts off their exit route.

According to reports from Guam, 5,000 persons a day are expected to reach that U.S. island territory in an around-the-clock airlift. There are estimates that South Vietnamese evacuees arriving in Guam will reach 50,000 or more.

For security reasons, officials in Washington refused to discuss U.S. target figures for the South Vietnamese evacuation. In any event, officials said, no one can be certain when the Communists might close in on Saigon and sever the airlift.

One reason for the sudden shift from the Philippines to Guam as a major evacuation center, U.S. sources conceded privately, was to avoid further strain in American-Philippine relations.

The volume of South Vietnamese being evacuated shows that the United States is not waiting for a questionable cease-fire to pull out large numbers of "high risk" Vietnamese—U.S. employees and others—who could be special targets of Communist retaliation in a total take-over of that nation.

Newsmen in the Pacific reported yesterday that the ratio of South Vietnamese to Americans aboard evacuation flights appeared to be running about 20-to-1.

According to a congressional source, the United States since April 1 has taken "something like 10,000" South Vietnamese out of that country without public accounting, including orphans and relatives of South Vietnamese in the United States.

Rep. Thomas E. Morgan (D-Pa.), chairman of the House International Relations Committee, said there are now fewer than 1,000 U.S. officials and dependents in South Vietnam.

Quoting State Department figures as of yesterday, Morgan said there were still in South Vietnam 866 U.S. officials and 39 dependents, 457 American contractors with 187 dependents, and 391 other Americans, including newsmen and missionaries.

With the announcement that airlift operations have shifted from the huge Clark Air Base in the Philippines to Guam, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service said it is sending extra personnel to Guam to process Vietnamese and Cambodians headed for the United States.

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Evacuation Measure

By Richard L. Lyons and Spencer Rich
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The Senate yesterday overwhelmingly approved $150 million in humanitarian aid to South Vietnam and $100 million to evacuate endangered Americans and Vietnamese, with authority for the President to use armed forces if necessary to take the people out. The vote was 75 to 17.

In the House, a corresponding $227 million measure was in fierce dispute and was debated into the evening.

Both bills reached the floors 13 days after President Ford's urgent April 10 request for $250 million in humanitarian aid and $722 million in emergency weapons aid to shore up the crumbling South Vietnamese army. While the House and Senate bills can be viewed as meeting the President's humanitarian aid request, the military funds are unlikely to win approval.

The House had appeared on the verge of passing a measure similar to the Senate's by late afternoon. It had approved, 272 to 146, a substitute to its pending bill and was preparing to vote on final passage when the substitute—the work of Rep. Bob Eckhardt (D-Tex.)—was thrown out on a ruling that it violated House rules by appropriating funds in a bill that only authorized the spending.

The Senate bill permits the President to use the armed forces if necessary to take the people out, but their use for evacuation of endangered South Vietnamese can be only incidental to rescue operations for Americans. The number of American troops used, the length of their stay and the geographic scope of their operations are all limited to the number needed to take out endangered Americans. And their involvement can be halted by a Senate resolution.

The dollar figures are only ceilings; the actual money must be provided in a separate appropriations bill later. Also, the humanitarian aid must go through international agencies.

Before passage, several senators objected to the bill's authority for use of U.S. forces to save South Vietnamese, saying they feared the American troops could become involved in major combat operations.

Sen. Floyd Haskell (D-Colo.) said the President already has constitutional authority to rescue Americans, and sending in U.S. troops for endangered Vietnamese could end in a "bloodbath." Haskell said, "I think the bill is putting us at the tender mercies of Henry Kissinger. Going in and getting a lot of South Vietnamese out (may be) a pretext to go in on a massive basis."

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GUAM, From A1

The State and Defense departments also are sending extra personnel to Guam.

Authority to admit to this country up to 123,000 Indochinese refugees, including senior officials of the South Vietnamese government, was granted Tuesday by the Justice Department.

Some 10,000 Americans and Vietnamese had been flown from Saigon to Clark Air Base when a Defense Department spokesman there announced at noon yesterday the switch to Guam as an evacuation center.

Air Force spokesman at Clark said 6,000 refugees already there, jammed into a tent city, would be flown to Andersen Air Base on Guam, 1,500 miles to the East, or directly to the United States.

On Guam, the most western U.S. possession, an influx of 50,000 or more would nearly double the population of 85,000 on an island 30 miles long and four to nine miles wide.

Guam's Governor Ricardo Bordallo was reported to have been advised by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger that the Vietnamese evacuees could stay as long as 90 days.

Refugees can be moved from Guam to the United States or other destinations, U.S. officials said, once the immigration service has completed "five to seven days" of processing.

Bordallo reportedly said that Guam could accept as many as 25,000 refugees on a permanent basis. However, senators in the Guam territorial legislature yesterday demanded guarantees that United States would pay the bills for the use of Guam as a halfway house, and they expressed concern about possible Vietcong infiltrators among the refugees.

On Guam, the U.S. Navy was preparing to house the Vietnamese refugees in an old 900-bed hospital, with additional space for 10,000 more in dormitories used by American air crews engaged in the bombing of North Vietnam in 1972.

There were reports and denials that the Philippine government of President Ferdinand E. Marcos insisted that the United States stop using Clark Air Base, the largest American military installation outside the United States, as a massive evacuation center for Vietnamese.

There was an unconfirmed report from the Philippines that Marcos had been assured earlier that no more than 200 Vietnamese would be at the Clark base at any one time.

Marcos previously announced that with Communists victors in Indochina his nation is reassessing its relations with the United States. Marcos is scheduled to meet with his foreign policy council Friday to examine what he called "options" for withdrawing from the Philippines' mutual defense pact with the United States and withdrawing American access to bases in the Philippines.

State Department spokesman Robert Anderson denied yesterday that the air-lift switch from the Philippines to Guam was ordered because U.S.-Philippine relations were "very strained."

"It was our decision to limit the operations at Clark," Anderson said, "and its use is not a contraven-

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\[\text{[126x321]}\text{At the Clark Air Base At the Clark Air Base "Tent City," news of the sudden shift to Guam, ann- \[\text{[126x321]}\text{ounced through loud- speakers, caught some ref\[\text{[126x321]}\text{ugees in the midst of wash- ing clothes. They were ad\[\text{[126x321]}\text{vised to leave mailing ad- dresses so their belongings could be forwarded.}\]
However, Sens. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) and Clifford P. Case (R-N.J.) said the three restrictions on the way American troops may be used in connection with rescuing Vietnamese are designed to preclude misuse. Haskell's amendment to strip out both the $100 million for evacuation and all the troop-use authority was overwhelmingly defeated, 79 to 16.

An amendment by Sen. William L. Scott (R-Va.) simply killing the troop-use authority for non-Americans was also crushed, 80 to 12.

In another key vote, a proposal by Sen. Dick Clark (D-Iowa) and Herman E. Talmadge (D-Ga.) to bar use of any of the contingency fund for weapons aid to South Vietnam lost, 61 to 22.

Humphrey and others argued that the President should have flexibility to use part of the $100 million for weapons if it appeared that this would help in evacuation of Americans—for example, shoring up a crumbling defense perimeter. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) called the funds “an insurance policy for about 1,500 Americans who remain in South Vietnam.”

Clark did succeed, however, in raising the humanitarian-aid figure to $150 million from the $100 million in the original bill.

Sen. Clark, consistently critical of the administration for not getting Americans out fast enough and thereby, in his view, increasing the likelihood of having to use troops, said the latest reports showed 1,887 Americans and 652 Vietnamese dependents still in South Vietnam. An earlier goal of reducing the number of Americans to 1,500 by now hasn’t been met, he said.

The State Department reportedly had told senators that the irreducible minimum needed to man the U.S. mission in South Vietnam and related functions is 500 people.

In addition to American diplomats, contractors, reporters and their wives and children—all included in the 1,887 Americans and 652 dependents mentioned in the latest reports—the U.S. government, according to information supplied to senators, has accepted the responsibility of evacuating 1,189 diplomats from other nations and 146 staff personnel of the International Control Commission.

In yesterday's Senate votes, J. Glenn Beall (R-Md.) and Virginia's Scott voted against the Haskell amendment while Harry Flood Byrd Jr. (Ind.-Va.) and Charles McC. Mathias Jr. (R-Md.) missed the vote. Scott was the only Maryland or Virginia senator backing his amendment (Mathias missed the vote). All but the absent Mathias opposed the Clark-Talmadge amendment. On final passage, Scott voted no, Mathias was absent and Beall and Byrd voted yes.

The House debate was the most heated and emotional since the fights to end U.S. military involvement in Indochina two years ago.

Rep. Mendel Davis (D-S.C.) was greeted with boos from Republicans when he suggested that the administration was keeping Americans in Vietnam as leverage to obtain funds to evacuate Vietnamese.

“If we put Marines into Vietnam” (to bring out refugees) “we delegate to the President the power to use B-52s or whatever is necessary to protect their lives,” said Rep. Paul N. McCloskey (R-Calif.).

But Rep. Donald Fraser (D-Minn.), longtime opponent of U.S. involvement in Indochina and a liberal leader, urged the House to give the President some authority to use troops to help evacuate Vietnamese who have worked with the United State over the years.

“We owe it to a sense of decency and humanity to help get them out,” said Fraser. “I understand the distrust of the executive branch which runs so deep in this chamber because I have shared it. But if the President should go beyond the authority granted by the bill he would be subject to impeachment.”