

Americans Oppose Arms for Saigon, Gallup Poll Shows

Americans overwhelmingly oppose President Ford's request for \$722-million in military aid for South Vietnam, according to a national opinion survey by the Gallup Poll.

The poll found general support for the President's proposal to send \$250-million in humanitarian aid and strong backing for his plan to use United States troops to evacuate about 6,000 Americans from South Vietnam.

The survey of 1,491 adults interviewed in 300 locations over four days ending Monday also found a narrow margin of opposition to the President's proposal to use troops to evacuate 150,000 to 200,000 South Vietnamese who have worked with Americans in South Vietnam.

The poll found 78 per cent

of those interviewed were opposed to the military aid proposal, 17 per cent expressed approval and 5 per cent offered no opinion.

On humanitarian aid, 56 per cent were in favor, 40 per cent opposed and 4 per cent had no opinion. On the use of troops to evacuate Americans, 76 per cent were in favor, 20 per cent were opposed and 4 per cent had no opinion.

When asked about using troops to evacuate South Vietnamese, 49 per cent were opposed, 42 per cent were in favor and 9 per cent had no opinion. On a related question on whether South Vietnamese should be permitted to live in the United States, 54 per cent said no, 36 per cent said yes, and 10 per cent offered no opinion.

The Harris Poll reported yesterday that Americans oppose by a majority of 68 per cent to 22 per cent sending troops to South Vietnam to assist in the evacuation of South Vietnamese whose lives may be endangered by the Communist takeover. Ten per cent were undecided.

4-24-75

NYT