

SEE Examiner  
**Saigon**

APR 27 1975

**exodus**

**near panic**

United Press International

The United States yesterday expanded facilities in the Philippines and stretched its string of refuge camps across the Pacific to tiny Wake Island to accommodate Americans and Vietnamese fleeing the war zone in record numbers.

The Pentagon sent 40 mines from ships in the South China Sea to the U.S. Embassy in Saigon to help control screaming, shoving Vietnamese trying to get exit visas.

During the 24 hours ending at noon yesterday Saigon time, 31 U.S. planes—most yet for a single day of the evacuation — lifted out thousands of refugees, mostly Vietnamese. Hundreds of others waited at Saigon's "Pentagon East" — Tan Son Nhut airport — hoping, and sometimes fighting, for a flight.

Near-panic broke out earlier at the airport. Vietnamese with seats already assured on three commercial jets pushed over children in emigration lines and screamed at officials to stamp their tickets.

UPI correspondent Alan Dawson said his wife, an American citizen, was pushed out of line by a Vietnamese soldier trying to get his own wife aboard. "The people seemed almost half-half-crazed with the idea they weren't going to make the flight," Dawson reported.

U.S. officials said that by noon yesterday the number of Americans in Vietnam totaled 1,079.

Thirty-four Vietnamese runs, many bewildered and flayed from a 17-hour flight in the hold of a military aircraft, arrived in Sydney, Australia, yesterday after fleeing from town to town in South Vietnam.

The U.S. Air Force announced it was using the U.S. Naval Base at Subic Bay, a repair facility for the U.S. Seventh Fleet, 50 miles northwest of Manila, after Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos ruled that no more than 200 Vietnamese would be allowed at Clark Air Base at any one time.

An American request that Marcos ease that restriction reportedly was under consideration.

\* A U.S. military spokesman said that by last night about 7,000 Vietnamese were housed at Clark and Subic Bay.