

Some Elect To Remain In Saigon

From News Dispatches

NEW YORK, April 29 (AP)—A small band of newsmen volunteered to stay in Saigon Tuesday to cover the events there following the American evacuation of South Vietnam.

Three Associated Press staffers chose to remain. An editor at United Press International said, "Everyone has been told to get out but a number have been unable to and are providing us with coverage."

The Reuter news agency said it had evacuated all its British nationals. One French national and a couple of free-lance correspondents remained, a spokesman said.

The three AP staffers who chose to remain were bureau chief George Esper, Peter Arnett, who won the Pulitzer Prize for reporting the Vietnam war in 1966, and Matt Franjola.

NBC news reported that one staff reporter and one cameraman "are still on the ground" in Saigon and "as of now, they're planning to

An ABC spokesman said he believed that two had reached one of its American correspondents and a two-man Irish camera crew were "going to stay" and communications were still open to them.

A CBS spokesman said all its American staffers were believed to have joined the evacuation and word was re-offshore carriers.

Several other American news organizations said that they had not heard specifically that their correspondents had left but were assuming they had.

Earlier this month, New York Times' correspondent Sydney Schanberg disregarded the paper's instructions to leave Phnom Penh as Americans were evacuated just before the Khmer rouge marched into the Cambodian capital. Schanberg is in the French embassy in Phnom Penh's a Times spokesman said the evacuation orders to its Saigon bureau were "phrased a little more strongly this time."