

# Evacuation Ship In Philippines

## Clark Air Base, Philippines

Its decks crammed with 30,000 refugees, the U.S. armada of 46 ships completed its rescue efforts off the Vietnam coast yesterday and headed for the Philippines and other points in the Pacific.

The 32,800-ton helicopter carrier Hancock was the first of the refugee-carrying ships to reach port in the Philippines. It docked early today at Subic Bay Navy Base with 2000 evacuees, including several dozen Americans.

Three more Navy ships, the Vancouver; the Thomaston and the Peoria, were expected later.

Three merchant ships attached to the Military Sealift Command, and one Vietnamese merchant vessel,

The ships' arrival in ports scattered from Subic Bay to Guam will conclude "Operation Frequent Wind," the largest evacuation effort under hostile conditions ever made by the United States.

Other ships will be berthing at Subic and Guam throughout next week.

Aboard the ships, three-star generals slept next to privates. An estimated 950 Americans, including more than 100 journalists and former U.S. Ambassador to South Vietnam Graham Martin, also were aboard. They are also coming in with their

own refugee loads.

Military sources said VIPs aboard the fleet are likely to attempt to disembark at Subic Bay and leave within hours for the United States. The Philippine government, wanting to keep its channels of future communication to Hanoi open in an Asian world marked by a decreased U.S. military presence, has said no high-ranking officers or officials will be allowed to transfer here.

Yesterday, Philippines officials took a more hostile position, warning that they will arrest military and government officials of the former South Vietnamese regime if they set foot on Philippine soil.

Colonel Nilo Olegario, Philippines liaison officer, told the government Philippine News Agency. "We are on orders to see to it that our laws and the provisions of the Philippines-U.S. military bases treaty are not violated."

Olegario did not say what the charges would be or explain how the Philippine military would make arrests on U.S. bases.

The United States, despite its annoyance, had been accommodating the government by whisking VIPs out of the country as quickly as possible.

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