

[4-29-75]

JOINT STATEMENT  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The President has ordered the evacuation of the remaining Americans from Vietnam. The military situation around Saigon, particularly at the airport, has deteriorated to such an extent that this measure has become necessary to insure their safety.

This operation is being carried out by U. S. military helicopters and is being protected by a security force of U. S. Marines and tactical aircraft. Force will not be used unless essential to protect the lives of those involved.

The evacuees will be taken temporarily to carriers offshore before being moved onward to the U. S.

We do not have precise figures on the number of Americans involved, but it should be about 800 to 900.

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