

Tuesday, April 29, 1975
Mitchell Krauss

From Washington....

From Saigon.....

From New York City comes today's news.....

**Good Evening Everybody. This is Mitchell Krauss, CBS
News, sitting in for Lowell Thomas.**

Vietnam

The final evacuation of American citizens from South Vietnam is now complete. That news from President Ford who said - "this closes a chapter in the American experience - we must now close ranks, avoid recriminations, look ahead to goals and work together on the great tasks we face." Following the President, whose words were read by News Secretary Ronald Nessen, Secretary of State Kissinger described the objective of the last U. S. operation in Saigon - first to save the lives of Americans still in Vietnam - second - to save as many South Vietnamese as possible among those who worked with Americans over the past fifteen years - and finally, to bring as humane an end as possible to the present situation - namely the Communist takeover of the South.

AIRLIFT

As for the numbers - during the final twelve hour airlift, U.S. helicopters removed almost one thousand Americans and six thousand South Vietnamese to waiting U.S. carriers in the South China Sea. In all over the past few weeks some sixty-five-hundred Americans and fifty-five-thousand Vietnamese were taken out of the country by American planes and helicopters - most headed eventually for the Continental United States. Many thousand more escaped by other means. Casualties number four - two U.S. Marines killed by Communist shells during the early morning shelling of Tahn Son Nhut airfield - and two Marine pilots who died when their rescue helicopter crashed by accident into the sea. They are as far as we ^{now} know - the last Americans to die in the long Vietnam conflict.

VIET NAM

Little news now coming out of South Vietnam.

A spokesman for the American Telephone and Telegraph company reporting that it has had no phone contact with Saigon all day . The only word on the political situation by way of a Viet Cong spokesman in Paris who told reporters the Saigon government had not yet met its conditions for a cease fire - that removal of all Americans and the political changes so far are not enough to avoid a final battle.

However, the Communists as far as is known have not begun such a fight - reports persisting that a cease fire will come, perhaps within the next twenty-four hours.

WASHINGTON

In Washington, at the President's request, the House suspended final action on that Three-Hundred-Twenty-Seven Million dollar Vietnam aid bill. The Administration said it will soon suggest revisions in light of the final U.S. pullout today.

CAMP PENDLETON

Meanwhile, the first of an expected Twenty Thousand Vietnamese war refugees - arriving today in Southern California; about seven hundred men, women and children - quickly installed in a quonset hut-tent city at Camp Pendleton.

However, plans to move some of them or others from Guam to Eglin Air Force Base in Florida may have hit a snag. Late today officials there announced that a hold has been put on everything - only three hours earlier another spokesman said some two thousand refugees would be coming.

NEW YORK CITY

In other news - a Federal Grand Jury in New York indicted ~~the~~ Anthony Ulasazwicz - the New York City detective who admitted to a number of Watergate connected activities including acting as bag man for some of the hush money. But Ulasazwicz was not indicted in connection with Watergate but on charges of filing false income tax returns in Nineteen-Seventy-One and Nineteen-Seventy-Two.

DETROIT

In Detroit - giant General Motors today reported first-quarter earnings - less than half of what they were a year ago. Company officials insisting, however, there has been a steady improvement in the U.S. economy - which should lead to an upturn soon in auto sales.

SENATE

Treasury Secretary William Simon - a witness today before the Senate Appropriations Committee; there saying - we're now "at least Seventy-Five Per Cent through the recession." "The seeds of recovery that are sown in every recession - have been sown in this one."

What about unemployment? Simon said.

This is "a lagging indicator" - and probably will continue to rise a bit". He added, however: "The recession is going to end in the middle months of this year - even if we do nothing - and the upturn will start."

HUSSEIN FOLLOW THEREIN

President Ford and Secretary Kissinger took time out from Vietnam and met today with Jordan's King Hussein; to review, quote - "the current state of peace efforts in the Middle East."

The President also pledging "continued and active support" - in the development of the Jordanian economy; thereby stressing, as he put it, "the importance the U.S. attaches to a strong, stable and friendly Jordan - under King Hussein's leadership."

KREMLIN FOLLOW HUSSEIN

The leader of the Palestine Liberation

*Organization - a guest today in the Kremlin. Yasser Arafat
conferring with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko .*

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CHECK

For two officials at the South Vietnamese Embassy in Washington - the fortunes of war may be somewhat better than they are for most. This - according to the Washington Post; which says today the two Vietnamese last week stole an Embassy check - and then cashed it for a Quarter-of-a-Million Dollars.

The two men - since listed as missing. For what it's worth though, says the Post - their diplomatic immunity has been lifted.

VIETNAM

This late development - Government officials in Washington now say that as of less than an hour ago about thirty U. S. Marines still remain in the U. S. Embassy complex in downtown Saigon. Their evacuation by helicopter has been temporarily prevented by small arms fire in the vicinity. The Marines were the final guard detail at the Embassy. Late today Secretary of State Kissinger had said all Americans had already been removed from South Vietnam.

Mitchell Krauss, CBS News.