

PRESS CENTER RELEASE #11

CLARK/SAIGON

Clark AB, R.P., April 6—

Q: What supplies, if any, are loaded aboard C-119s bound for Saigon?

A: U.S. AID and military assistance destined for the South Vietnamese government are included in supplies aboard C-119s.

Q: Noting the passenger capacity of Starlifters, why are they arriving at Clark half full or even less?

A: Aircraft are scheduled to and from Saigon at specified intervals. All refugees and supplies available for airlift while the aircraft is at Saigon are put aboard and flown to Clark in accordance with scheduled Saigon departure times. While aircraft can be held for known passenger availability, experience has shown this availability is limited and if aircraft were held for full loads it might interfere with orderly movement of subsequent flights.

Q: What is priority sequence of civilian evacuees?

A: Priorities and other matters relating to movement of civilian evacuees from Saigon will be addressed to U.S. Attache or Embassy officials in Saigon.

Q: Can Starlifters be held at Clark AB indefinitely?

A: Starlifters are held at Clark AB at the discretion of the authority and will be maintained until the completion of the evacuation. We have no intention about any such thing.

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ADD 1-1-1-1

Q: What's the procedure for onward transportation of these refugees?

A: Onward movements to U.S. from Clark are normally via MAC aircraft or scheduled MAC chartered civilian aircraft.

Q: Where are civilians coming in now being billeted?

A: In Clark AB, to my knowledge, unless they make specific requests otherwise.

Hospital reports on orphans. Hospital officials report three Vietnamese children between the ages of one and three are hospitalized at the Pediatrics Ward of the Clark Hospital. One reportedly has dysentery, one has low-grade pneumonia and the third has an ear blockage. Hospital officials say the youngsters may be hospitalized a maximum of two or three days but may be released sooner to go to the States depending on their condition. The problems were encountered during the routine medical exam last night. The 11 crewmembers of the C-5 crash brought back to Clark Saturday evening are reportedly all well with the exception of one crewmember, identity I don't have at this time, has a sprained ankle. The condition of the first military casualties airlifted to Clark via C-9 are by name:

1st Lt. Regina Ann, Travis, good condition (alert and oriented).

S/Sgt. Howard C. Perkins, Travis, good condition.

1st Lt. Marcia Hirtz, Clark, discharged from hospital.

1st Lt. Harriett Gaffney, Clark, good condition.

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ADD 2-3-2-2

MSGt. Owen H. Bottwell, Clark, discharged from hospital.

Military passengers on second C-9:

MSGt. William Parker, Travis, same condition as previously announced. Very seriously ill. He has been air evacuated on to Camp Xan, Da Nang, for neurosurgical help.

Sgt. Phillip Wise, Clark, same condition as before; seriously ill, but has good prognosis.

Sgt. Gregory B. Carver, Clark, good condition; he was previously listed as seriously ill. Listed as missing on the C-5 list from Travis: Capt. Gary T. Klinck, SSgt. Donald I. Hume, TSgt. Palisandro G. Aguilera and MSGt. Wurdle L. Payne. Two names from Clark are MSGt. Joseph Castro and Sgt. Kenneth L. Hance, both of Det 7, 1369 Photo Squadron, Aerospace Audiovisual Services. The composition of C-141 flights which left today. The first left at 11:42 a.m. with 32 adult escorts, 64 orphans, one dependent child, three medical technicians, two nurses and nine crewmembers. The second left at 1:36 p.m. with 19 adult escorts, 71 orphans, nine crewmembers and four medical technicians. Estimated time of arrival on the last flight is 5:01 at Hawaii (local time) and 11:00 p.m. at the destination.

Information was completed at 3:15 p.m. on 2/3/72.

PRESS CENTER RELEASE #13

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Clark AB, R.P., April 6 -- An apparent discrepancy in the total number of children processed at Clark April 5 was resolved after a thorough audit of available records. The difference was resolved when it was discovered that names of some children were duplicated on documents prepared prior to departure from Saigon.

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