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FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

LUFTHANSA JET DEPARTS SAIGON FOR BANGKOK WITH LAST GERMANS

Hamburg DPA in German at 1213 GMT 5 Apr 75 LD

Bonn--A Lufthansa airliner chartered by the Federal Government today evacuated the last of those Germans wishing to leave South Vietnam. The DC-10 flew a total of 52 passengers to Bangkok. According to the Foreign Ministry in Bonn, these included, apart from FRG citizens, Belgians, Danes, Dutch, and Swiss.

Initial reports from the Foreign Ministry that the aircraft left Saigon for Bangkok filled with 220 passengers were later corrected by a Foreign Ministry spokesman. The DC-10 had indeed been fully booked but the aircraft had had to take off for security reasons before the American passengers could be processed by the authorities. If the aircraft had waited any longer, it could not have left the Saigon airport until the evening. It was decided not to do this because of fears for the safety of the aircraft and passengers.

Some of the German passengers are relatives of members of the German Embassy, but there are no officials from the Bonn mission on board the plane. In Bangkok, the chartered DC-10 will pick up the 84 Germans it took there from Saigon yesterday and will then fly on to Frankfurt, arriving early Sunday morning.