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U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENTS REAFFIRMED, FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS

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[Text] Seoul, April 8 (HAPTONG)--Foreign Minister Kim Tong-cho said today the present Indochina situation will not affect American security commitments to South Korea. He said the South Korean Government was assured last week of the firm U.S. defense commitments.

He said during a press conference that the situation in South Vietnam and Cambodia is different from that of South Korea. The difference is based on the fact that whereas South Korea has a mutual security pact with the United States, those two Southeast Asian nations do not have similar pacts. Kim added the American assurance was given by State Secretary Henry Kissinger and other high Washington government officials to dispel skepticism the Korean people might have about U.S. security commitments to South Korea in connection with Indochina's recent military developments.