

## **BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport Served as Arrival Center for American Military Families Evacuated from Turkey**

### **Five Flights and About 600 U.S. Citizens Arrived Late Last Week**

Family members of U.S. service members and diplomats arrived at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport late last week, following orders to depart Turkey due to increased security concerns. BWI Marshall worked to assist the U.S. Department of Defense in the major operation as the families arrived at the airport and connected with commercial flights.

“We were proud to support our fellow Americans that were ordered home from Turkey,” said Ricky Smith, Chief Executive Officer of BWI Marshall Airport. “In addition, a number of non-profit and private organizations provided important services for the arriving military families.”

Starting last Thursday, there were a total of five flights with approximately 600 evacuees that arrived at BWI Marshall. The American Red Cross and the USO of Metropolitan Washington provided information and assistance to many families following the long journey, including care packages, transportation information, medical care, and hotel rooms. Mission BBQ supplied food for the hungry travelers.

On a number of occasions over the years, BWI Marshall has served as a major repatriation center for Americans arriving back in the United States due to global conflict.

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