US ENVOY FOR AFGHANISTAN STEPS DOWN AFTER WITHDRAWAL

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Matthew Lee

The U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan is stepping down following the chaotic American withdrawal from the country, the State Department said Monday.

Zalmay Khalilzad will leave the post this week after more than three years on the job under both the Trump and Biden administrations. He had been criticized for not pressing the Taliban hard enough in peace talks begun while Trump was president but Secretary of State Antony Blinken thanked him for his work.

I extend my gratitude for his decades of service to the American people, Blinken said of Khalilzad, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and Afghanistan.

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