
Thais Claim New U.S. Aid Promise

Bangkok

Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn said yesterday the United States has agreed to supply Thailand's armed forces with additional aircraft and field equipment.

His statement followed the joint Thai-U.S. announcement Tuesday night that the United States would withdraw 9800 of its military personnel from Thailand by July 1, 1971. The withdrawal will leave about 32,000 American servicemen on duty here.

Thanom told newsmen the United States will furnish Thailand with additional helicopters and interceptor fight-

ers for its air force and equipment such as radios for its army.

Air Marshal Dawee Chullasapya, chief of staff of the Supreme Command, said earlier the United States also would give Thailand one battery of anti-aircraft Hawk missiles early next year.

Thanom reiterated an earlier statement yesterday that the United States will not withdraw its B-52 bombers from the Tapao airbase at Sattahip.

The B-52s based in Thailand fly bombing missions over South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos in the Indochina war.

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