

## U.S. PLEDGE IS GIVEN TO THAI ON PULLOUT

BANGKOK, Thailand, June 4 (UPI)—Assistant Secretary of State Philip C. Habib, on the last leg of a trip through Southeast Asia, met with Premier Kukrit Pramoj of Thailand today.

Mr. Kukrit said after the meeting that Mr. Habib had promised full cooperation in the withdrawal by next March of the 23,000 American troops still in Thailand.

"We also want to revise and improve our relations so that no one will be at a disadvantage," Mr. Kukrit added. "Mr. Habib said the United States is willing to do so."

United States relations with Thailand have been strained since the Communist victories in South Vietnam and Cambodia in April. The relations deteriorated further when Washington ignored Thai wishes and sent marines into Thailand to retrieve the American freighter Mayaguez, which was detained last month by the new Communist government in Cambodia.

The United States still maintains mutual defense treaties with virtually all the countries in the region and Mr. Habib visited most of them, including Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. His next stop is the Philippines.

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