

U.S. Pulling Out Planes, Closing Thailand Bases

Bangkok

The pace of American withdrawal of military forces in Southeast Asia quickened yesterday with the announcement that 39 more planes, including nine B-52's, will be flown home and two American military bases in Thailand closed.

The United States and Thailand, in a joint announcement, said that nine of the 32 remaining B-52s plus 30 F-4 Phantom jets will be withdrawn, and two air bases in northern and central Thailand would be shut down.

The base at Takhli, about 70 miles north of here where 36 F-111s are based, will be closed in July, the announcement said. The base at Ubon, about 300 miles northeast of Bangkok, will be shut down by the end of the year.

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