

Kyrgyzstan serves airbase eviction notice to U.S.

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Almaty. Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Kadyrbek Sarbayev delivered a formal notice to the U.S. ambassador to Kyrgyzstan on Friday, demanding that the United States close the Manas military airbase and have its troops leave the country in 180 days, **Xinhua News Agency** informed.

Sarbayev officially handed the notice to U.S. Ambassador Tatiana Gfoeller in the capital Bishkek on Friday afternoon, a foreign ministry statement said.

Earlier Friday, Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev signed a law to close the Manas airbase, used for U.S. anti-terror operations in Afghanistan.

Bakiyev's signature came after the Kyrgyz parliament voted overwhelmingly in favor of the closure on Thursday.

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