

Kyrgyz parliament approves closure of U.S. military base  
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Afghanistan at Manas Air Base near Kyrgyzstans capital Bishkek, February 13, 2009. Kyrgyzstans parliament on Thursday approved the closure of a U.S. air base in the country, a key logistic center for U.S.-led operations in Afghanistan, Russian news agencies reported.

The parliament, dominated by the ruling Ak-Zhol party, voted 78-1 to pass the government-backed bill. The United States began using the Manas air base shortly after it launched anti-terror operations in Afghanistan following the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist

attacks.  
[www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com) Kyrgyzstan concluded an agreement with the United States on the Manas air base in December 2001. Another 11 countries from the anti-terror coalition joined the agreement from December 2001 to February 2002. To close the air base, Kyrgyzstan

has to therefore terminate similar agreements it had signed with the United States and 11 other countries. The air base currently hosts over 1,000 military personnel, mostly U.S. servicemen. The United States will have 180 days to vacate after receiving official notification.

Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev said earlier in February he had decided to close the air base, as the U.S. was not paying enough rent.  
[www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com) The announcement of the closure came after Russia offered Kyrgyzstan more than 2 billion U.S. dollars in aid.

However, both Kyrgyzstan and Russia denied any links between the Manas closure and Moscows financial help. The closure would

further strain coalition supply lines at a time when U.S. President Barack Obama is planning to send more troops to Afghanistan. The new U.S. administration is considering resuming military cooperation with Uzbekistan after the closure of the Manas base, to ensure logistic supplies to Afghanistan. The U.S. used the Khanabad Airport in Uzbekistan as an airbase until soured ties in 2005 led to U.S. troops being evicted from there, leaving Manas as the only air base for the United States in Central Asia. Meanwhile, Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Kadyrbek Sarbaev said Wednesday that his country does not rule out the possibility of allowing the United States and other countries to use its air space after the closure of the Manas air base. Sarbaev said the possibility had not been considered but cannot be ruled out. 更多链接：四六级机考与笔试差异评析 2009年四六级考试时间及流程详解 08年12月四六级成绩2月24日发布 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 [www.100test.com](http://www.100test.com)