



The US Department of Defense (DOD) manages thousands of military installations worldwide, including bases, camps, and stations. A military installation is the main administrative unit, while a base usually refers to a location supporting military operations outside the US, known as overseas bases. They also improve detection and defense capabilities with tools like radar and missile interceptors, and provide facilities to maintain and repair military assets. These overseas bases play key roles, such as housing personnel, equipment, weapons, and supplies for safe guarding US imperialist interests.

The US Military bases remains crucial to maintain US imperialist domination over other countries. The history of military bases of the US are lodged in the Lend Lease Agreement of 1941, that authorized the US to sell, lend, or lease military supplies and equipment to nations crucial to the United States' defense during World War II.

According to the US Department of Defense (DOD) now renamed the Department of War, it manages or uses at least 128 overseas bases in at least 51 different countries. However, it is well understood that there are over 750 military bases in more than 80 countries, with about 170,000 active-duty troops housed in different countries. A key component of the US Asia Pacific strategy, which emphasizes readiness, deterrence, and interoperability with partner countries, is through the presence of these bases.

The presence of US military bases in countries is nothing but a threat to all present in the 'host' countries, the people and to all other countries and communities within range of these bases and installations. These bases serve the US imperialist interests in maintaining hegemony over resources and assets, in political control over countries and resistance movements that are fighting for national sovereignty and liberation. The context is nothing but to suppress all resistance against US colonial and neocolonial interests. The following are significant US facilities in Asia and the Pacific.

Japan

The largest concentration of US troops abroad is in Japan, with about 52,852 personnel. Key bases include Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, the largest US base in East Asia; Marine Corps Camp Butler, which includes Camp Gonsalves, Camp Hansen, and Camp Schwab; Yokota Air Base in Tokyo, home to the 5th Air Force and U.S. Forces Japan headquarters; Yokosuka Naval Base in Kanagawa, home port of the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier; and Camp Zama, hosting US Army Japan and I Corps (Forward).

The aircraft stationed there include the F-35A Lightning II, F-15E/EX Strike Eagle, F-22 Raptor, F-16 Fighting Falcon, MQ-4C Triton, MQ-9 Reaper, KC-135 Stratotanker, EA-18G Growler, RC-135 Rivet Joint, and E-3G Sentry. Weapon systems include the MIM-104 Patriot Missile System, AIM-9 Sidewinder, AIM-120 AMRAAM, and various Precision-Guided Munitions.

This US presence in Japan plays a strategic role in intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) and power projection across East Asia. These bases are meant for maintaining 'regional stability and Japan's defense, especially regarding the Taiwan Strait and the Korean Peninsula.' However, the so-called regional stability is to guard US and Japanese economic and political interests, and results in violence to the people and the environment.

South Korea

The US has about 23,732 troops stationed in South Korea. Key bases include Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, the largest US military base outside the continental US and headquarters for United States Forces Korea

(USFK) and the United Nations Command; Osan Air Base, home to the 51st Fighter Wing; and Camp Casey near the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Aircraft there include around 31 upgraded F-16 Fighting Falcons and 24 A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, which the US plans to retire by late 2025. Weapon systems include AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles, AIM-120 AMRAAMs, precision-guided bombs, and electronic warfare pods.

These forces support the US-ROK mutual defense treaty, and are meant for nothing but to threaten North Korea and China. Recently, most forces have moved from Yongsan Garrison to Camp Humphreys, the F-16s are being modernized, and A-10s will be replaced by newer fighter aircraft.

The Philippines (Under Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement - EDCA)

The US deploys several hundred to rotating personnel in the Philippines under the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA). Key locations include Antonio Bautista Air Base in Palawan, Basa Air Base in Pampanga, Naval Base Camilo Osias and Lal-lo Airport in Cagayan, and Camp Melchor Dela Cruz in Isabela.

Aircraft used in rotations include F-16 Fighting Falcons, F-22 Raptors, MQ-9 Reaper drones, C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster III, and various helicopters. Weapons systems consist of precision-guided munitions like JDAMs, AIM-9 Sidewinder and AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles, and integrated intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and electronic warfare systems. Recent upgrades have expanded and modernized EDCA sites, especially in northern Luzon and Palawan, with increased joint military exercises.

This presence provides for the US, critical access to the South China Sea and the Luzon Strait; while the imperialist narrative is that these bases strengthen regional deterrence, supports the Philippine military in maritime security, and enables rapid response to emergencies. The fact is that these bases lead to heightened conflict, strengthen and protect dictatorial regimes in the country, and as is true for US bases globally, the US personnel is known for human rights abuses, sexual assaults and rape of women.

Singapore

The US military maintains Navy Region Center Singapore with about 229 active-duty personnel permanently stationed as of March 2024. The presence is small but strategically important. The US uses Changi Naval Base and Sembawang shipyard for visiting surface warships and logistical support. Rotational deployments include Littoral Combat Ships and P-8 Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft, while Paya Lebar Air Base can also host US aircraft. The base does not store large permanent weapons systems but provides forward logistics, maintenance, and operational reach. Its strategic importance lies in securing sea lanes in the Strait of Malacca, enabling rapid deployment across Southeast Asia, and so-called supporting freedom of navigation in contested waters. Or in other words, control over sea-routes for trade and military hegemony.

Guam

Guam hosts major U.S. military installations in the Western Pacific, including Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Base Guam. Around 6,453 active duty personnel are stationed permanently, with rotational forces adding temporary presence.

Guam hosts Andersen Air Force Base, which supports B-52 and B-1 bombers, KC-135 tankers, and F-22 and F-35 fighters for air operations, long-range strike, and aerial refueling, and Naval Base Guam, which provides port access, logistics, and maintenance for US Navy surface ships, submarines, and expeditionary forces.

Weapons include strategic bombers, fighter jets, and naval assets, along with pre-positioned munitions. The bases are strategically vital for projecting US power across the Asia Pacific. As in the case of bases in Japan and South Korea, the ones in Guam are there as part of the US imperial design in Oceania, maintaining a strangle hold on



the Pacific Islands, especially those part of the Compact of Free Association states, which allows the US not to provide military access to other countries as well as to control navigation across critical sea lanes.

In northern Guam, live-fire and urban warfare ranges, and sites for a new “missile-defense” system threaten to irreparably destroy habitat for vulnerable species, damage ancient Chamorro villages and artifacts, and poison the island's primary aquifer with military pollutants.

Hawaii

Hawaii hosts multiple key US military installations across all service branches. Approximately 42,000 active-duty personnel are stationed across these bases. Major facilities include, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, supporting the US Pacific Fleet and Pacific Air Forces with submarines, surface ships, F-22 and F-15 fighters, and strategic bombers on rotational deployments; Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield, which host US Army units and rotary-wing aircraft, including UH-60 Black Hawks and CH-47 Chinooks, for regional deployments; and Marine Corps Base Hawaii at Kaneohe Bay, operating rotary-wing aircraft and expeditionary units.

Weapons include naval ships, fighter jets, helicopters, and limited pre-positioned munitions. Bases provide logistics, training, and rapid deployment capabilities. Strategically, Hawaii serves as a central hub for US operations in the Asia Pacific, projecting power across East Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific, while ensuring maritime security and rapid response to threats to its hegemonic interests.



Marshall Islands

US Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands hosts the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site, supports missile defense testing, space tracking, and surveillance, has about 1,250 residents including military, civilians, and contractors, maintains airfields for transport and logistics rather than combat aircraft, and is strategically important for US missile defense and regional security under the Compact of Free Association.

Papua New Guinea

In Papua New Guinea, the US has access to six airports and seaports under a 2023 agreement, allowing rotational deployments of personnel and equipment. No permanent US troops are stationed there, and there are no permanent combat aircraft or large weapons systems. The bases serve primarily for logistics, refueling, and regional mobility. Strategically, they extend US operational reach in the South Pacific, support maritime security, and enable rapid response across Southeast Asia and Oceania.

Australia

In Australia, the US maintains a limited permanent presence while using several bases for rotational deployments and joint exercises. Active-duty personnel permanently stationed number around 2,000 to 3,000, with larger numbers during exercises.

Weapons and aircraft are primarily rotational, including F-35s, F-18s, and support aircraft; no large permanent weapons stockpiles exist. Strategically, Australian bases extend US operational reach into Southeast Asia and the Indo-Pacific, enhance joint interoperability with the Australian Defence Force, support rapid response to regional crises, and strengthen deterrence against regional threats.

Diego Garcia (British Indian Ocean Territory)

Diego Garcia, part of the British Indian Ocean Territory, hosts the US Naval Support Facility. Around 223 active-duty personnel are stationed there as of March 2024. The base supports US operations in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. It houses a maritime pre-positioning squadron, logistics units, Air Mobility Command detachments, Pacific Air Force elements, and the 21st and 22nd Space Operations Squadrons. The base does not host permanent combat aircraft or large weapons systems but serves as a critical hub for logistics, supply, space operations, and power projection. Its location makes it strategically vital for US military reach into the Middle East, East Africa, and South Asia.

Bahrain

Bahrain hosts the headquarters of the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, which oversees operations in the Gulf, Red Sea, Arabian Sea, and parts of the Indian Ocean. This base is vital for controlling key maritime routes.

Qatar

Qatar's Al Udeid Air Base, the Middle East's largest US base, serves as the forward headquarters for US Central Command and houses about 10,000 troops. It manages US military activities from Egypt to Kazakhstan, providing command and control. Al Udeid Air Base is used as a logistic hub for the Zionist Regime and its crimes in the region.

Kuwait

Kuwait has several bases includes Camp Arifjan, the forward headquarters of US Army Central, Ali Al Salem Air Base near the Iraqi border, known for its rugged terrain, and Camp Buehring, a staging ground for deployments into Iraq and Syria. These bases support ground operations and logistics.

United Arab Emirates

United Arab Emirates' Al Dhafra Air Base, shared with the UAE Air Force, is critical for air missions against ISIS and regional surveillance. Dubai's Jebel Ali Port, while not a military base, serves as the US Navy's largest port in the Middle East for aircraft carriers and vessels. It is strategically close to Iran, a country which has long stood up against US imperialism and Zionist occupation in the region.

Iraq

Iraq hosts Ain Al Asad Air Base supporting Iraqi forces and NATO missions, and Erbil Air Base in Kurdistan, which provides US and coalition a secure site for training, intelligence sharing, and logistics. Both bases are key for operations in maintaining aggression against countries, communities opposing the US and Zionist occupation in the region.

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia has about 2,321 US soldiers operating with the Saudi government to provide air and missile defense. Prince Sultan Air Base supports Patriot missile batteries and advanced missile defense systems critical for regional protection.

Jordan

Jordan's Muwaffaq al Salti Air Base in Azraq supports the US Air Forces Central's 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, which conducts missions across the Levant, enhancing regional airpower and rapid response.

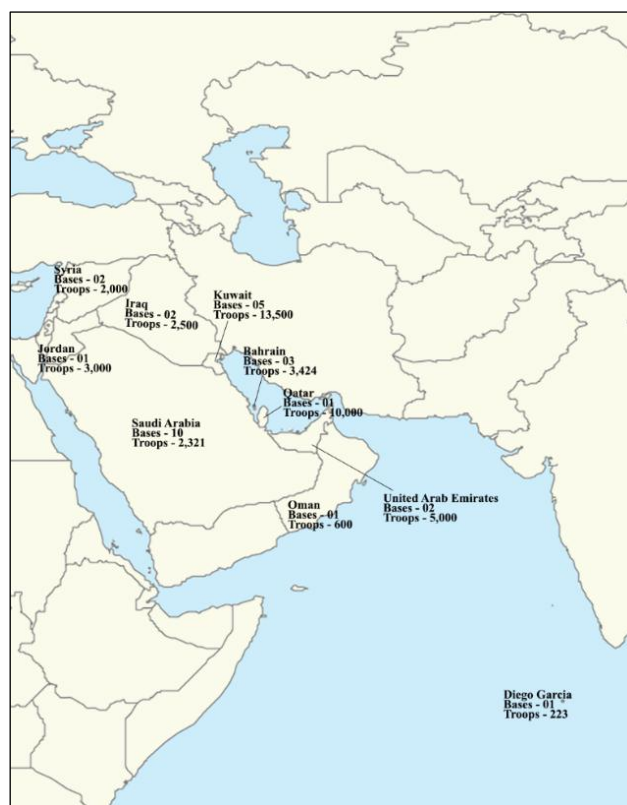
Oman

The US maintains military access to bases in Oman through the Oman Facilities Access Agreement, first signed in 1980 and renewed in 2010. This agreement makes Oman the first Persian Gulf country to formally partner with the US militarily. The US can request use of Omani facilities for specific purposes, and Oman allows about 5,000 aircraft overflights, 600 landings, and 80 naval port calls each year.

These bases are strategically important as they provide the US with flexible access to the Persian Gulf region for air and naval operations, supporting rapid deployment, logistics, and regional military control.

Syria

The US maintains a single operational base in Hasakah, northeastern Syria, after closing seven of eight bases. The narrative is that that the base with about 2,000 troops is there (partnering with the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces) for combat against the ISIS. The base does not host large permanent weapons or aircraft but supports counterterrorism operations and regional control.



Strategically, it allows the US to sustain influence in northeastern Syria, support local security forces, and ostensibly to maintain pressure on ISIS, while navigating tensions with Turkey over Kurdish forces. The closures reflect a recalibration of US strategy in response to political and security dynamics in Syria.

Together, these bases allow the US to project power in a region which is of paramount interest to the US, as has already been proven through its support for the Zionist state occupation, and the genocide in Gaza.

“Israel”

A listing of US bases and installations in the Asia Pacific region cannot be complete without mentioning the presence of the Zionist entity “Israel,” which is nothing but a frontline genocidal entity parked in the MENA region to protect the interest of the US imperialism and its allies. The primary target of this base is to protect the oil and gas resources in the region, and to violently suppress any uprisings that question US interests as well as to guard the maritime routes connecting the US and Europe to Africa and Asia. The US has a military base ‘Site 512’ equipped with a long-range radar facility, whose main function is to monitor any ballistic missile launches by Iran or other anti-imperialist forces in the region.

Conclusion

The US bases and installation in the Asia Pacific are sites of violence that are meant to create an aura of being indomitable. However, the anti-imperialist, anti-fascist forces around the globe understand that it is the peoples’ power which is indomitable. It is through our militant struggles that we will rid our lands and waters from the presence of these imperialist colonizers.