

# Pressure growing over Okinawa base

Moves by Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama to reconsider a deal to move a U.S. air base on Okinawa from a busy urban area to a less populated site on the island are raising fears in the U.S. of a weakening commitment to an alliance that has been a pillar of regional security for over half a century



**Washington:** Urging Hatoyama to abide by 2006 agreement under which **Futenma** air base would be relocated within Okinawa, and some 8,000 Marines would leave for U.S. territory of Guam by 2014

**OKINAWA**

5km  
3 miles

**Hatoyama:** Election campaign pledged to remove U.S. troops from Okinawa to create "more equal" partnership with U.S. **Promises to deliver proposal acceptable to all sides by May**

**EAST CHINA SEA**

**Futenma Air Station**  
Around 2,000 U.S. troops


Naha

Ginowan


Nago

Ishikawa  
Okinawa

**Henoko:**  
Originally agreed site

  
**Areas used by U.S. forces**


U.S. troops in Japan:  
47,000 – of which  
24,000 in Okinawa

 **Possible relocation sites**

**PHILIPPINE SEA**

**JAPAN**

Tokyo

 **Island off coast of Kyushu**

**Okinawa (Japan)**

**Guam (U.S.)**

**Alternative site on reclaimed coastal area off U.S. White Beach navy base**

