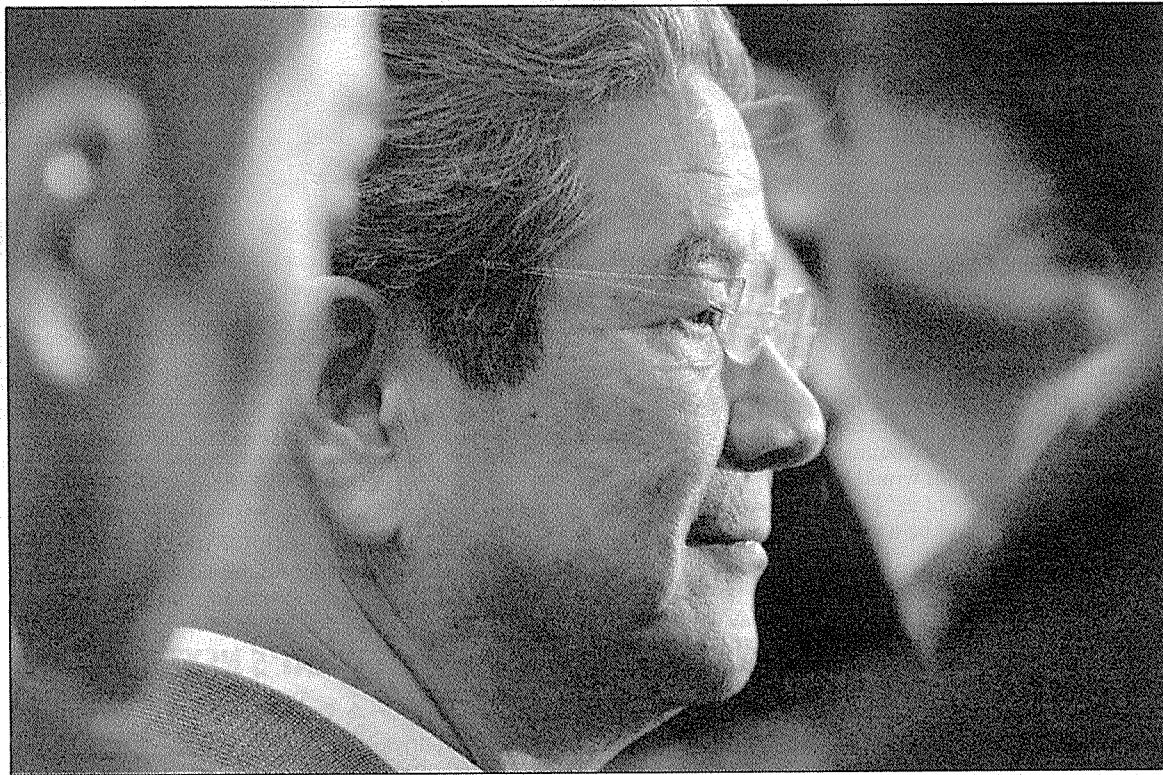


Japan official: Buildup a go



Jacqueline Hernandez/
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Defense chief: Japanese Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa listens to a question during a news conference in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency Guam in Tumon, yesterday. Kitazawa was on island to tour facilities and meet with local and federal officials on the buildup.

BUILDUP BY THE NUMBERS

- **\$15 billion:** Overall cost
- **\$6 billion:** Japan's share of that cost
- **\$325 million:** Estimated revenue generation during peak year (2014)
- **\$97 million:** Annual GovGuam tax revenue after 2014
- **79,178:** Population increase in 2014

- **267,665:** Guam's total population in 2014
- **33,000:** Number of civilian jobs created in 2014
- **6,150:** Number of permanent jobs created thereafter
- **2,000:** Direct on-site construction jobs for the Marine Corps facilities between 2013 and 2014

Source: Pacific Daily News files, Draft Environmental Impact Statement



Futenma base talks suspended

By Amritha Alladi

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The agreement to lighten the presence of U.S. troops in Okinawa and move some of them to Guam will proceed as planned and on schedule, despite the suspension of talks between the United States and Japan regarding the relocation of the Futenma Marine Corps air base, Japan's Defense Minister

TO THE POINT

▲ A Japanese official on Guam says the buildup will continue despite suspension on base talks in Japan.

INSIDE

Military returns 450 acres of Dedado land to GovGuam
Page 3

▲ See **Buildup**, Page 4



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Buildup: 2 Guam seniors protest consulate

▲ Continued from Page 1

Toshimi Kitazawa said during his visit to the island yesterday.

"At this moment, we aren't seeing any delay," Kitazawa said through an interpreter at a brief press conference at the Hyatt Regency Guam in Tumon yesterday.

However, talks between the United States and Japan regarding the relocation of the Futenma base have been suspended with no restart date planned as of yet, according to The Associated Press. Kitazawa said yesterday he didn't know when the Futenma relocation issue would be resolved.

Relocating the Futenma base from the southern to the northern part of Okinawa is a step toward executing parts of the 2006 U.S.-Japan agreement that includes reducing the number of U.S. Marines there by almost half and moving 8,000 of them to Guam.

Both sides finalized the agreement in February, when U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Japan's then-Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone signed the pact, which spells out Japan's \$6 billion

of the \$10 billion estimate to move the Marines to Guam.

Kitazawa visited Guam to see the location for the proposed transfer of Marines from Okinawa, according to a press release from Gov. Felix Camacho's office. He visited Andersen Air Force Base, Naval Base Guam, and Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station Guam, and received briefings on the vital role Guam plays in hosting the U.S. Air Force and Navy to ensure stability and security throughout the Pacific theater, according to officials from the Joint Guam Program Office.

On Guam, the military's buildup plans go beyond building a Marine base. The United States also plans to build an Army missile defense facility, facilities for recurring visits of an aircraft carrier, and expansions to the existing U.S. Air Force and Navy bases — a buildup tab of more than \$15 billion, according to previously released federal government estimates.

On the Marine relocation, Japan has handed more than \$300 million to Washington, D.C., to pay for part of its share of the cost, Derek Mitchell, principal deputy assistant secretary of

defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, said on Nov. 12.

That represents Japan's first year of a multiyear funding for the Marine relocation. For Washington's part, more than \$700 million in buildup funding has been authorized to be spent on Guam under the fiscal 2010 defense spending law.

Under the new political leadership in Japan, however, there have been discussions about some of Japanese leaders' clamor to move U.S. troops out of Okinawa completely — which raised the possibility that Guam could host more than the 8,000 Marines and their 9,000 dependents.

The Japanese media reported on Monday that Kitazawa is acting on instructions from Japan's newly elected Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama to seek out an alternative site for the relocation of the remainder of the troops Futenma base besides the proposed site in northern Okinawa.

During Camacho's meeting with Kitazawa yesterday, Camacho said he asked Kitazawa his opinion on the matter.

And the governor voiced concern that additional troops for Guam could further strain the island's capacity.

"Defense Minister Kitazawa assured me that this is an idea that has

been presented but has yet to be addressed among their leadership in Japan," Camacho said in a news release. "I appreciate his honesty in the matter, but I also wanted to make clear that as decisions are made, Guam's resources and the welfare of our community must be kept in mind. We are already challenged with the present numbers of the relocation of 8,000 Marines, and moving the entire Futenma base would not be possible due to our limited resources and capacity."

Many in Okinawa prefer the U.S. base be closed and its functions moved off the island altogether because they say it poses a threat to the safety of the people who live near it. They have complained of base-related crime and environmental issues, according to Agence France Presse reports.

Guam and Iwo To — formerly known as Iwo Jima — have been proposed as possible sites to move the Futenma base, according to Pacific Daily News files.

Two Guam senior citizens peacefully protesting the military buildup outside the ITC building — which houses the Japanese Consulate — said they don't think Guam should

have to play home to the Marines who are being booted from Okinawa.

"If the feelings of the Japanese and the Okinawans are that they want them out, what about Guam? Guam is a little island compared to Japan and Okinawa," said Margaret Taitano, an activist and a war claimant's heir.

Taitano said she and Angel Santos Sr., father of the late Sen. Angel Santos Jr., who was an activist who protested the military presence on

Guam, decided to demonstrate outside the consulate in response to Kitazawa's visit.

"This is it. We are trying to let them know that not everybody agrees with this buildup, and we have other issues to address," Taitano said. "This will show him that our sentiments are just the same as Japan — that we don't want the buildup. If the U.S. is not going to pay for war reparations, hopefully Japan will pay Guam for the atrocity and the injustice they gave to the people of Guam during World War II."

Pacific Daily News reporter Laura Matthews contributed to this report.



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