

# Danger of US Imperialism on the People of the World

## **Solomon Islands :**

The U.S. opened an embassy in the Solomon Islands on Thursday in its latest move to counter China's push into the Pacific.

The embassy in the capital, Honiara, is starting small, with a chargé d' affaires, a couple of State Department staff and a handful of local employees. The U.S. previously operated an embassy in the Solomon Islands for five years before closing it in 1993.

The opening comes as Fiji's Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka appears to be reassessing his nation's engagement with China.

## **Bases in Philippines :**

The four new locations bring the total number of sites accessible to U.S. forces in the Southeast Asian country to nine; senior officials in Manila say talks are ongoing for a potential 10<sup>th</sup> site.

The United States and the Philippines announced a deal on Thursday to give U.S. troops access to another four bases in the Southeast Asian nation, as the long-time allies seek to counter China's military rise.

The agreement to expand cooperation in "strategic areas of the country" was made during a visit by U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin.

### Key Cooperation

Given its proximity to Taiwan and its surrounding waters, cooperation from the Philippines would be key in the event of a conflict with China, which a four-star U.S. Air Force general has warned could happen as early as 2025.

The four new locations bring the total number of sites accessible to U.S. forces to nine, Mr. Austin told reporters on Thursday.

Talks were ongoing for a potential 10<sup>th</sup> site, a senior Philippine official said.

The U.S. and the Philippines have a decades-old security alliance that includes a mutual defence treaty and the 2014 Enhanced Defence Cooperation Agreement (EDCA), which allows U.S. troops to rotate through five Philippine bases, including those near disputed waters. It also allows the U.S. military to store defence equipment and supplies on those bases.

The EDCA stalled under Mr. Duterte, but Mr. Marcos has sought to accelerate its implementation.

Philippine Defence Secretary Carlito Galvez told reporters the location of the new sites would be made public after local communities and officials had been consulted.

But it has been widely reported that most of the locations are on the main island of Luzon – the closest Philippine landmass to Taiwan – where the U.S. already has access to two bases.

The fourth will reportedly be on the western island of Palawan, facing the Spratly Islands in the hotly contested South China Sea, taking the number of sites there to two.

The US controls about 750 bases in at least 80 countries worldwide and spends more on its military. From Western Asian Country Turkey, Southeast Asian Country Singapore to East Asian Country Japan and South Korea US have military bases. The Philippines are now in order.

