

# *Okinawa Residents Protests First Day of Construction of New U.S. Base*

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Tokyo, April 26 (RHC)-- In Japan, protesters gathered in Okinawa Tuesday to oppose the first day of construction of a highly controversial new U.S. military base on the island.

For decades, residents have called for the expulsion of U.S. troops from Okinawa, which houses about two-thirds of the 50,000 U.S. troops currently stationed in Japan.

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