



# USMC Relocation to Guam: Political Pressure and Poor Planning to Blame for an Ill-Postured U.S. Military in the Pacific

By Usmc Command and Staff College

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Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.The 2006 U.S.-Japan Roadmap for

Realignment Implementation which provides for the

consolidation of III MEF on Okinawa and the subsequent

relocation of approximately 8,000 Marines and Sailors from

Okinawa to Guam has created a difficult political situation, a

challenging operational scenario, and extreme logistical

challenge that ill-postures the United States. Currently, internal

politics within Japan has caused infighting that could threaten

the entire FRF relocation and place the United States in an

awkward position of pulling out of the international agreement.

Placing HQ elements separate from the subordinate units is a

key concern in respect to C2. The most controversial issue is the

available training space for appropriate MAGTF on Guam that

satisfies pre-deployment training requirements that is in serious

doubt. Complaints from a minor segment of Japanese society

must be ignored and the entire Roadmap for Realignment must

be scrapped and renewal of negotiations for a realignment

agreement that puts common sense approaches to defense

posture in the Pacific.



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