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SELECTED ARTICLES FROM DAILY NEWSPAPERS  
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1. THE U.S. BUILDS A NEW PACIFIC BASE  
( Chung Kuo Shih Pao, Taipei, 18 Apr 72 )

Superficially the U.S. seems gradually reducing its defense in Asia. It will not maintain a nuclear base in Okinawa after its return to Japan nor the bases in Vietnam after the war stops. It will withdraw troops from Korea and Taiwan. It appears the U.S. is giving up Asia; but in a deeper look, it is not lessening its Pacific defense. After the return of Okinawa, the U.S. will build a huge base in the Micronesia to replace not only Okinawa but also other abandoned bases. The Pentagon is reported making a comprehensive plan, and negotiation with Micronesian representatives is already proceeding. The Micronesian archipelago covers an area of 3,458 sq. km. including the Mariannas, Palau, Carolines, Marshalls and Gilbert islands sprawling over the South Pacific east of the Philippines. Observers believe the American strategy in the Pacific is to maintain a huge naval, air and nuclear striking force, and a base without political affection must be established.