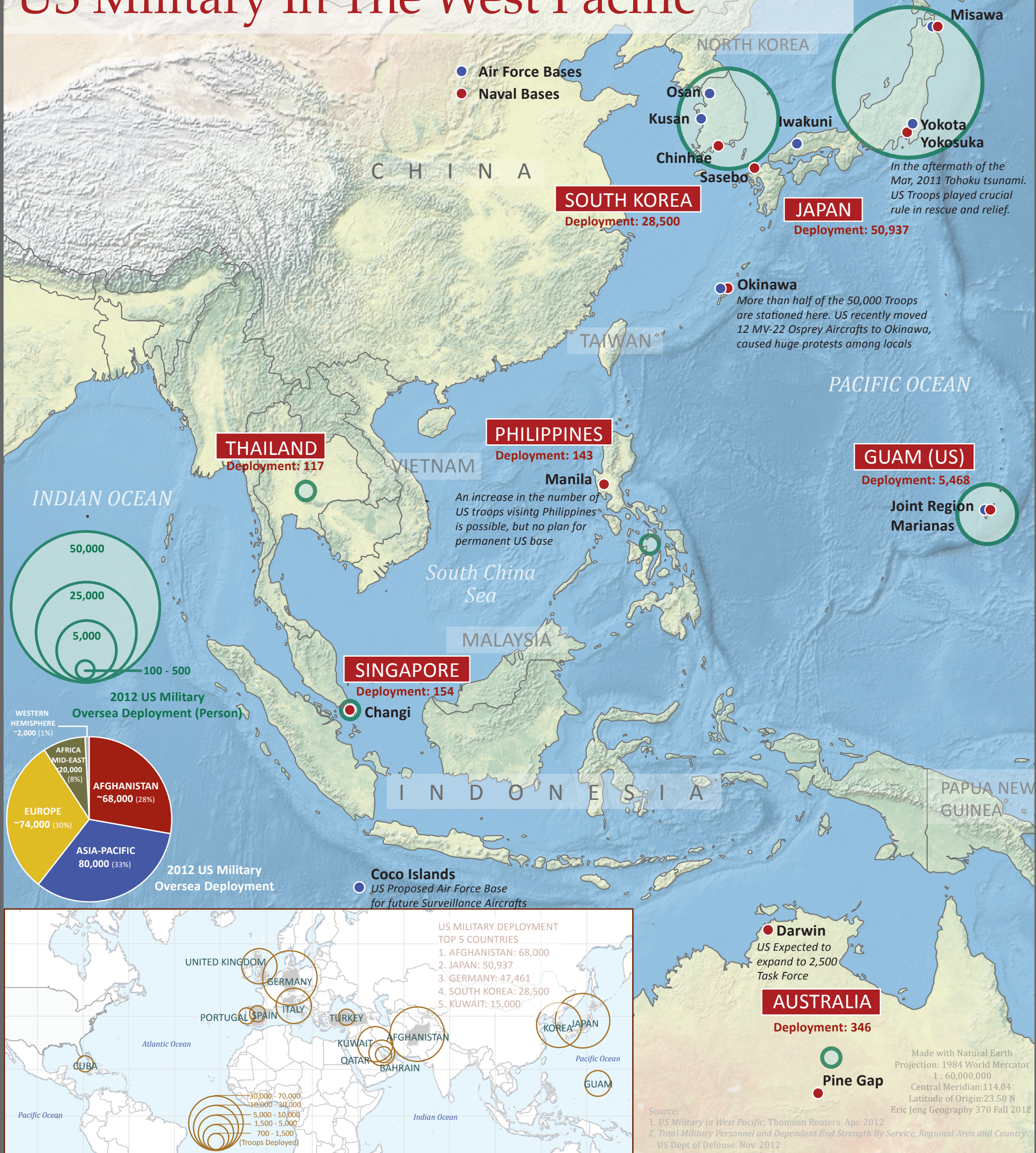


On Nov. 17, 2011, President Barak Obama in his address to the Austrkian Parliament, announced a major foreign policy shift as he had made a "deliberate and strategic decision" for the United States to "play a larger and long-term role in shaping [the Asia-Pacific] region," making the U.S. "presence and mission in the Asia-Pacific a top priority." Echoed in speeches and statements by other senior U.S. policy officials, this "pivot" or "rebalance" toward Asia has become a hallmark of Obama's foreign and defense policy.

The principal drivers behind this rebalance are Asia's growing economic and strategic importance, as well as increased military spending and aggression in the region led by China, trends that are likely to continue in the foreseeable future.

Rebalancing in Asia

US Military In The West Pacific



Source:
 1. US Military in West Pacific, Thomson Reuters, Apr. 2012
 2. Total Military Personnel and Dependent End Strength By Service, Regional Area and Country, US Dept of Defense, Nov. 2012

Made with Natural Earth
 Projection: 1984 World Mercator
 1 : 60,000,000
 Central Meridian: 114.04
 Latitude of Origin: 23.50 N
 Eric Jeng Geography 370 Fall 2012