

# U.S. PLANS TO DEPLOY B-52S TO AUSTRALIA AMID CHINA TENSIONS

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The U.S. earlier deployed four B-52s in Guam, a U.S. island territory in the Western Pacific. Ahn Young-joon

The United States is planning to deploy up to six nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to an air base in northern Australia, amid heightened tensions with China.

Dedicated facilities for the bombers will be set up at the Royal Australian Air Force's remote Tindal base, about 300 km south of Darwin, the capital of Australia's Northern Territory.

The development was first reported by the Australian Broadcasting Corp's Four Corners programme, citing U.S. documents.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Australia engages with the United States on defence alliances "from time to time".

Australia's Northern Territory is already host to frequent military collaborations with the U.S.

When asked for a comment at a regular briefing on Monday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said defence and security cooperation between countries should not target third parties.

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