

# THE NATION

[\(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/)

[ASEAN Update \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/)  [\(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/rss/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/rss/)

- [HOME \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/)
- |
- [NATIONAL \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/)
- |
- [POLITICS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/politics/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/politics/)
- |
- [BUSINESS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/)
- |
- [MY MONEY \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/my-money/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/my-money/)
- |
- [OPINION \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/opinion/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/opinion/)
- |
- [LIFE \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/life/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/life/)
- |
- [TRAVEL \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/travel/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/travel/)
- |
- [TECHNOLOGY \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/technology/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/technology/)
- |
- [SPORTS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/sports/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/sports/)
- |
- [ASEAN TV \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aseantv/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aseantv/)
- |
- [ANN \(http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/\)](http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/)
- |
- [AEC \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/)

- [photo \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/specials/nationphoto/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/specials/nationphoto/)
- |
- [video \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/)
- |
- [csr \(http://www.csrthailand.net/en/\)](http://www.csrthailand.net/en/)
- |
- [top 40 \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/top40/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/top40/)

Ads By Addoer.com

[http://addoer.com/addoer.php?](http://addoer.com/addoer.php?utm_source=adsbyaddoer&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=testutm)

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/Questions-over-Nasa-request-to-use-U-Tapao-30183447.html> (javascript:fixedAds.close())

[id=308/?utm\\_source=adsbyaddoer&utm\\_medium=banner&utm\\_campaign=testutm](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/Questions-over-Nasa-request-to-use-U-Tapao-30183447.html)

- [shop \(http://www.doitung.com/en/\)](http://www.doitung.com/en/)
- |
- [cat & nat \(http://www.catandnat.com/\)](http://www.catandnat.com/)
- |
- [ELEGANT TIME \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/elegant\\_time/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/elegant_time/)
- |
- [STATE OF THE NATION \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/sec/63/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/sec/63/)
- |
- [back issues \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/search/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/search/)

June 7, 2012, 12:20 am

[E-Subscription \(http://subscription.nationgroup.com\)](http://subscription.nationgroup.com)

 

 <http://truehits.net/stat.php?login=nation>

## [national \(#\)](#)

 [\(javascript:void\(0\);\)](#)

 [\(javascript:void\(0\);\)](#)

[Home \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/) » [national \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/) » Questions over Nasa request to use U-Tapao

# Questions over Nasa request to use U-Tapao

**Ads by Google**  [NASA](#) [To Thailand](#) [Pattaya](#) [NASA News](#)

The Nation, Agencies June 4, 2012 1:00 am

## The highly sensitive issue of how Nasa will utilise U-Tapao Airport in Rayong will likely be a topic during the scheduled discussion between a US high-ranking official and Supreme Commander General Thanasak Patimapakorn.

"They will meet [tomorrow] at the Royal Thai Armed Forces headquarters," a source said yesterday.

The plan by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, an independent agency of the US government, to use Thailand's naval airport as the base for its most complex and ambitious airborne science campaign of the year has raised suspicion. Some critics are worried the campaign may involve security issues.

Nasa has insisted the SEAC4RS campaign or Southeast Asia Composition, Cloud, Climate Coupling Regional Study is for the purpose of understanding the complex meteorological system. The campaign is designed to probe a vast expanse of the Southeast Asian atmosphere from top to bottom at the critical time of year when strong weather systems and prolific regional air pollution pump chemicals and particles high into the atmosphere with potentially global consequences for Earth's climate.

"Southeast Asia is a really important part of the world. A large fraction of the world's population lives there," Brian Toon, a veteran of Nasa airborne campaigns, said on Nasa's website.

"With SEAC4RS we hope to better understand how all these things interact," he said.

Govt approval needed

SEAC4RS is expected to take to the field in August but will first have to win approval from the government of Thailand, where the flights will originate.

Nasa's initiative comes as the US plans to move the bulk of its naval fleet to Asia-Pacific by 2020 as part of its strategy to enhance its regional presence.

US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta told an Asian security conference in Singapore on Saturday that 60 per cent of the US navy's ships would be deployed in the Asia-Pacific region to rebalance its interests.

Yesterday Panetta began a trip to Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam, becoming the highest ranking US official to visit the former US military base since the war years.

He toured the navy supply ship USNS Byrd, which is berthed in the bay for maintenance, then travelled on to Hanoi for meetings with defence officials and Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung.

The talks were expected to focus on defence cooperation, maritime security, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.



Double click on any word for a Macmillan Dictionary definition. Click here for details.

[\(http://www.macmillandictionary.com/\)](http://www.macmillandictionary.com/)

**Carbonite® Official Site**

Secure, automatic online backup. The better backup plan. Free trial!  
[www.Carbonite.com](http://www.Carbonite.com)

AdChoices



## Latest stories in this category



[\(/national/PM-to-check-on-flood-payments-in-](#)

[second-tour-30183661.html\)](#)

- [PM to check on flood payments in second tour \(/national/PM-to-check-on-flood-payments-in-second-tour-30183661.html\)](#)
- A second round of a nationwide tour led by Prime..
- [Thousands of Ranong residents evacuated \(/national/Thousands-of-Ranong-residents-evacuated-30183660.html\)](#)
- [Forests losing to contract farmers \(/national/Forests-losing-to-contract-farmers-30183659.html\)](#)

## We Recommend



[\(/breakingnews/Prosecution-review-on-charter-](#)

[change-due-Thursday-30183526.html\)](#)

- [Prosecution review on charter change due Thursday \(/breakingnews/Prosecution-review-on-charter-change-due-Thursday-30183526.html\)](#)
- The Office of the Attorney General is expected on..
- [Abhisit urges end to House session \(/politics/Abhisit-urges-end-to-House-session-30183473.html\)](#)
- [Democrats to continue fight against charter change.. \(/politics/Democrats-to-continue-fight-against-charter-change-30183555.html\)](#)

## Comments conditions

Users are solely responsible for their comments. We reserve the right to remove any comment and revoke posting rights for any reason without prior notice.

Send

49  
people



**iSupplier Intelligence (ISI) Launch Day**

งานเปิดตัวสุดยอดนวัตกรรม Online Community  
ที่มีผู้ซื้อจริงและมีกำลังซื้อสูงจากทั่วโลก  
ขยายโอกาสการค้าระหว่างประเทศของคุณ  
กับ Global Buyers  
โดยผ่าน iSupplier Intelligence (B2B)

**เข้าร่วมงาน FREE**

25<sup>th</sup> June 2012, 12:30 - 16:30 at BITEC Bangna

Call Center 02-939-0661 Ext.405 , 081-936-0641

**Intertek**  
Value Quality. Driven.



## [TOP \(#\) STORIES \(#\)](#)

- [BMA to close Saphan Taksin station to.. \(/national/BMA-to-close-Saphan-Taksin-station-to-ease-bottlen-30183268.html\)](/national/BMA-to-close-Saphan-Taksin-station-to-ease-bottlen-30183268.html)
- [Colombians held in spate of burglaries \(/national/Colombians-held-in-spate-of-burglaries-30183356.html\)](/national/Colombians-held-in-spate-of-burglaries-30183356.html)
- [Thein Sein's Thai trip cancelled over.. \(/national/Thein-Seins-Thai-trip-cancelled-over-dissatisfacti-30183359.html\)](/national/Thein-Seins-Thai-trip-cancelled-over-dissatisfacti-30183359.html)
- [Questions over Nasa request to use.. \(/national/Questions-over-Nasa-request-to-use-U-Tapao-30183447.html\)](/national/Questions-over-Nasa-request-to-use-U-Tapao-30183447.html)
- [US navy seeks use of U-Tapao \(/national/US-navy-seeks-use-of-U-Tapao-30183589.html\)](/national/US-navy-seeks-use-of-U-Tapao-30183589.html)
- [A man seriously hurt in Pattani shooting \(/national/A-man-seriously-hurt-in-Pattani-shooting-30183414.html\)](/national/A-man-seriously-hurt-in-Pattani-shooting-30183414.html)
- [Underage girls rescued from prostitution \(/national/Underage-girls-rescued-from-prostitution-30183580.html\)](/national/Police-combine-plans-for-yellow-shirt.. (/national/Police-combine-plans-for-yellow-shirt-rally-30183443.html)</a></li>
<li>• <a href=)
- [City police chief moved 'to keep hands.. \(/national/City-police-chief-moved-to-keep-hands-clean-30183388.html\)](/national/City-police-chief-moved-to-keep-hands-clean-30183388.html)
- [US defence chief begins visit to Vietnam.. \(/national/US-defence-chief-begins-visit-to-Vietnam-at-former-30183416.html\)](/national/US-defence-chief-begins-visit-to-Vietnam-at-former-30183416.html)

MORE > [\(#\)](#)

## [VIDEO \(#\) NEWS \(#\)](#)



<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6952>

[Meet the Editors - June 6 \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6952\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6952)

Meet the Editors - June 6: U-Tapao just first step of US shift of military..



<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6951>

**[Nation Report: Can US request to use U-Tapao..](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6951)**

Nation Report: Can US request to use U-Tapao Airbase be taken at face value?



<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6948>

**[HP's 2012 strategy](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6948)**

Meg Whitman— HP CEO, on stage in CEO General Session, announces HP's 2012..



<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6947>

**[Meet the Editors - June 5](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6947)**

Meet the Editors - June 5: Constitutional crisis expected following Pheu Thai's..



<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6946>

**[Nation Analysis: Will Thai public get a political..](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/6946)**

Nation Analysis: Will Thai public get a political break?

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/>



- [HOME \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/)
- |
- [NATIONAL \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/national/)
- |
- [POLITICS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/politics/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/politics/)
- |
- [BUSINESS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/)
- |
- [MY MONEY \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/my-money/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/my-money/)
- |
- [OPINION \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/opinion/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/opinion/)
- |
- [LIFE \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/life/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/life/)
- |
- [TRAVEL \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/travel/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/travel/)
- |
- [TECHNOLOGY \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/technology/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/technology/)
- |
- [SPORTS \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/sports/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/sports/)
- |
- [ASEAN TV \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aseantv/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aseantv/)
- |
- [ANN \(http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/\)](http://www.asianewsnet.net/home/)
- |
- [AEC \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/aec/)
  
- [photo \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/specials/nationphoto/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/specials/nationphoto/)
- |
- [video \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/)
- |
- [csr \(http://www.csrthailand.net/en/\)](http://www.csrthailand.net/en/)
- |
- [top 40 \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/top40/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/top40/)
- |
- [jobs \(http://www.nationjobs.com/index\\_eng.php\)](http://www.nationjobs.com/index_eng.php)
- |
- [shop \(http://www.doitung.com/en/\)](http://www.doitung.com/en/)
- |
- [cat & nat \(http://www.catandnat.com/\)](http://www.catandnat.com/)
- |
- [ELEGANT TIME \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/elegant\\_time/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/elegant_time/)
- |
- [STATE OF THE NATION \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/sec/63/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/video/sec/63/)
- |
- [back issues \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/search/\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/search/)

June 7, 2012, 12:20 am

[Back to Top](#) 

[\(javascript:void\(0\)\)](#)



Search...

GO



- 

**Horoscope**

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/home/nt-widget/horoscope.html>



- 

**E-Card**

<http://ecard.nationmultimedia.com>



- 

**Newsletter**

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/enewsletter>



- 

**SMS**

<http://www.nationchannel.com/nationmobile/eng/sms.html>



- 

**Digital Service**

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/digital>



- 

**Facebook**

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-The-Nation/147232991936?ref=mf>



- 

**Twitter**

<http://twitter.com/nationnews>



- 

**Youtube**

[\(#\)](#)



-

## [RSS](#)

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/rss>

- [Krungthep turakij \(http://www.bangkokbiznews.com\)](http://www.bangkokbiznews.com)
- |
- [Kom Chad Luek \(http://www.komchadluek.net\)](http://www.komchadluek.net)
- |
- [Nation Weekend \(http://www.nationweekend.com\)](http://www.nationweekend.com)
- |
- [247 Friend \(http://www.247friend.net\)](http://www.247friend.net)
- |
- [BizBook \(http://www.bangkokbiznews.com/bizbook\)](http://www.bangkokbiznews.com/bizbook)
- |
- [Nation Channel \(http://www.nationchannel.com\)](http://www.nationchannel.com)
- |
- [Nation Radio \(http://www.nationradioonline.com\)](http://www.nationradioonline.com)
- |
- [Suthichai Yoon \(http://www.suthichaiyoon.com\)](http://www.suthichaiyoon.com)
- |
- [Jobs \(http://www.nationejobs.com/index\\_eng.php\)](http://www.nationejobs.com/index_eng.php)
- |
- [Phuket Gazette \(http://www.phuketgazette.net\)](http://www.phuketgazette.net)
- |
- [E-newspaper \(http://www.newspaperdirect.com/inprint/default.aspx?newspaper=The+Nation+\(Thailand\)&cid=1271\)](http://www.newspaperdirect.com/inprint/default.aspx?newspaper=The+Nation+(Thailand)&cid=1271)
- |
- [E-commerce \(http://ecommerce.nationgroup.com\)](http://ecommerce.nationgroup.com)
- |
- [Contact us \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/contactus\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/contactus)
- |
- [Advertisement \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/bannerprice/newspec.html\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/bannerprice/newspec.html)
- |
- [Terms & Conditions \(http://www.nationmultimedia.com/privacy/privacy.html\)](http://www.nationmultimedia.com/privacy/privacy.html)
- |
- Privacy Policy (c) 2007 www.nationmultimedia.com Thailand
- 1854 Bangna-Trat Road, Bangna, Bangkok 10260 Thailand.
- Tel 66-2-338-3000(Call Center), 66-2-338-3333, Fax 66-2-338-3334 ,E-mail: [customer@nationgroup.com](mailto:customer@nationgroup.com)  
<mailto:customer@nationgroup.com>
- Operation Hours : Monday to Saturday at 8.00 am. to 5.00 pm and Sunday at 8.00 am. to 12.00 am.