NATO's Eastern Anchor. 24 NATO bases in Turkey

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has 24 military bases in Turkey, which is the western neighbor of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a report says.

The report, published on the Iran-Balkan news agency (IRBA) on Thursday, listed the names and locations of NATO's military bases in Turkey and noted that the country has become a regional power.

NATO's Incirlik Base, which is located eight kilometers (five miles) east of Adana, Turkey's fifth largest city, and 56 kilometers (35 miles) from the Mediterranean Sea, is an important regional logistical air base of the alliance.

Izmir Air Station is the facility of the United States Air Force in Europe (USAFE) in Izmir, located 320 kilometers (200 miles) southwest of Istanbul. Forty-two airplanes and Roland and Hawk missile systems, manned by 300 personnel, are based there.

The Izmir Air Station is the oldest NATO base in Turkey and its importance has increased in recent years. The headquarters of NATO's Allied Air Component Command for Southern Europe has been located in Izmir since August 11, 2004.

The Sile Air Base has been built according to international standards for launching stinger missiles.

The Konya 3rd Main Jet Base Group Command was the base of NATO's AWACS aircraft during the Iraq war. Konya was a Turkish F-100 base in the mid-1970s and the air forces of Israel, Turkey, and the United States conducted their first joint exercises at the air base, codenamed Anatolian Eagle, in June 2001.

The Ninth Main Jet Base of the Balikesir Air Base, in which six vault missile systems have been deployed, is located in the Turkish province of Balikesir in the Marmara region.

The Merzifon Air Base is a military airport located in the city of Merzifon in Amasya province in the central Black Sea region. Merzifon is the base of the 5th Air Wing of the 2nd Air Force Command of the Turkish Air Force.

The Bartin Air Base is located in the northern province of Bartin. The Bartin Naval Base, a submarine base of the Turkish Navy and assigned to the Turkish Northern Sea Area Command, is also in this area.

Pirinclik Air Base is a 41-year-old US-Turkish military base located near the southeastern city of Diyarbakir. It was once NATO's frontier post for monitoring the Soviet Union and the

Middle East, but it was closed on September 30, 1997.

The Eskisehir Air Base is a military airport located in the northwestern city of Eskisehir. Eskisehir is the home base of the 1st Air Wing of the 1st Air Force Command of the Turkish Air Force.

The Iskenderun Naval Base is a base of the Turkish Navy on the northeastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea, 2.5 kilometers (1.6 miles) east by northeast of Iskenderun city in the southern province of Hatay. It is assigned to the Turkish Navy's Southern Sea Area Command.

Bandirma Airport is a military airbase and public airport located in the city of Bandirma in Balikesir province. Bandirma is the base of the 6th Air Wing of the 1st Air Force Command of the Turkish Air Force.

The Afion-Kara-Hissar Air Base is Turkey's largest and NATO's second largest air base and is the headquarters of NATO operations in the country.

The Sarkisla Air Base in Sivas province is located in the eastern part of the Anatolian region, and the Bornova Air Base is located in Izmir province.

The Luleburgaz Air Base is in the northwestern province of Kirklareli, and the Corlu Air Base is located in the northwestern city of Corlu in the province of Tekirdag.

The Pazar Air Base is located in Pazar town in the northeastern province of Rize in the Black Sea region, the Erzurum Air Base is in the city of Erzurum in eastern Anatolia, and the Persembe Air Base is located in Ordu province on the Black Sea coast of Turkey.

The Izmit Air Base in located in Kocaeli province, and the Kutahya Air Base is a military airport in the western province of Kutahya in the Aegean region.

The Canakkale Air Base is in the northwestern province of Canakkale.
NATO also has a military facility in Ankara.

Combined Air Operations Center-6 (CAOC-6) in Eskisehir is one of the ten command centers in Europe used by the United States Air Force to provide command and control of air and space operations.

NATO's Air Component Command Headquarters is located in Izmir and NATO's Rapid Deployable Corps-Turkey is headquartered in Istanbul.

Turkey joined NATO in 1952 and serves as the organization' s eastern anchor, as it controls the straits leading from the Black Sea to the Aegean and also has borders with Syria and Iraq.

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