Part III
Measures for Defense of Japan

Chapter 3
Improvement of the International Security Environment

Section 1. Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities
Section 2. Promotion of Security Dialogue and Defense Exchanges
Section 3. Efforts for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation
Section 1. Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

At present, the international community faces a range of global-scale problems, such as international terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, complex and various conflicts and international crimes. Globalization has raised concerns that the occurrence of events even in regions far from Japan will pose a threat to the country or have an impact on the country.

In light of the difficulty for a single country to respond to and solve these global threats and the need to take an approach to addressing these threats not only on the military front but also on various other fronts, it is widely recognized that the international community should join hands in coping with these threats.

On the basis of the efforts made by the international community, Japan’s defense and security goals set forth in the National Defense Program Guidelines (NDPG) are to improve the international security environment to reduce the potential threats to Japan. As a result, the NDPG also states that Japan will promote diplomatic efforts including the use of Official Development Assistance (ODA), and, proactively and on its own initiative, Japan will work on activities that nations of the world cooperatively undertake to enhance the international security environment (hereinafter referred to as “international peace cooperation activities”).

Upon the transition from the Defense Agency to the Ministry of Defense in January 2007, missions of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) were reviewed and the international peace cooperation activities were stipulated as a primary mission. (See Part II, Chapter 1, Section 4-2)

This chapter will explain Japan’s efforts at international peace cooperation activities undertaken by the Defense Ministry and the SDF on such activities on the basis of the NDPG, and also their details. (See Fig. III-3-1-1)

Fig. III-3-1-1 International Peace Cooperation Activities Conducted by the Self-Defense Forces

- Cooperation in efforts toward the reconstruction of Iraq
  - Activities based on the “Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance and Support Activities for Ensuring Security in Iraq”

- Activities to respond to international terrorism
  - Activities based on the “Replenishment Support Special Measures Law”

- International Peace Cooperation Operations
  - Activities based on the “Law Concerning Japan’s Cooperation in the U.N. Peacekeeping Activity and other Activities”

- International Disaster Relief Activities
  - Activities based on the “Law Concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams”

- Efforts toward the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)
  - PSI: Proliferation Security Initiative

Legend: shows activities based on time-limited law
shows activities based on permanent law
1. Proactive Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities on Japan’s Own Initiative

1. History of Japan’s Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

The Persian Gulf War became a major turning point for prompting Japan to recognize the need to promote international cooperation on the military front. The SDF dispatched a minesweeping unit of the Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) to the Persian Gulf in 1991 to ensure the safe passage of Japanese vessels. For Japan, this dispatch meant an international contribution on the human front with the purpose of peaceful and humanitarian support for the reconstruction of devastated, and war-affected countries. In 1992, the International Peace Cooperation Law\(^1\) was enacted and Japan subsequently dispatched Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) personnel to Cambodia in September of the same year as the country’s first participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations. Since then, the Defense Ministry and the SDF have proactively and on its own initiative participated in various international peace cooperation activities in an effort to improve the international security environment.

The September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States led to the enactment of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law\(^2\), and the succeeding law, the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law\(^3\), was enacted in January 2008. The MSDF has been conducting refueling operations in the Indian Ocean on the basis of these laws. Moreover, in 2003, Japan enacted the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq\(^4\). As a result, the GSDF provided medical care, water supply and assistance for the recovery and improvement of public infrastructure such as schools and roads. At present, the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) transports supplies for humanitarian and reconstruction assistance from its base in Kuwait. (See Fig. III-3-1-2)

2. Systems to Effectively Undertake International Peace Cooperation Activities

In order to undertake international peace cooperation activities proactively and on its own initiative, the SDF must continue establishing various systems. In March 2008, the GSDF established the Central Readiness Force Regiment under the Central Readiness Force, so that Japan can quickly and appropriately dispatch the Central Readiness Regiment for international peace cooperation activities as an advance unit to carry out operations smoothly on the ground. In addition, the SDF designates regional armies whose personnel are to be dispatched on a rotational basis, and will continue to improve defense equipment and transport capacity so as to bolster the system for quick and appropriate responses in international peace cooperation activities.

Moreover, the so-called “general law” for international peace cooperation, which is currently the subject of active debate, is thought to become a very important issue hereafter. (See Part II, Chapter 1, Section 4-3)

3. Welfare and Mental Health Care of Dispatched SDF Personnel

It is extremely important to make preparations so that the dispatched SDF personnel, who are expected to fulfill their assigned duty under severe working conditions while being far away from their home country and their families, can effectively fulfill such duty while maintaining both their physical and mental health.

The Defense Ministry and the SDF have taken various measures to ease away deep anxiety of SDF members being dispatched overseas for participation in international peace cooperation activities and of their families in
Japan so that the members can devote themselves to undertaking assigned duties without worry.

For example, welfare services are provided for the dispatched SDF members to help them maintain close bonds with their families in Japan. Specifically, direct communication between the dispatched SDF members and their families in Japan is ensured via international phone calls, TV telephones, e-mail and other services, and the SDF members and their families can exchange video correspondence. Moreover, briefing sessions for families of the dispatched members have been held to provide them with necessary information, and family support centers and family counseling rooms have been established to respond to various questions raised by the families.

The SDF also offers mental healthcare services such as a course on stress reduction methods for SDF members scheduled to be dispatched overseas. Moreover, engaging in overseas missions, dispatched SDF members can consult other SDF members who have been designated as counselors after undergoing specialized training. Such counselors provide the dispatched members with sufficient mental care. In addition, medical officers accompany the SDF units engaged in overseas missions. The Defense Ministry is prepared to send qualified psychiatrists from Japan or return sickened personnel for full treatment if necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>International Peace Cooperation Law</th>
<th>The Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq</th>
<th>Replenishment Support Special Measures Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>Active contribution to U.N.-centered efforts toward international peace</td>
<td>Active and proactive contribution to the effort by the international community to support and encourage the independent efforts by the Iraqi people toward the prompt reconstruction of the State of Iraq</td>
<td>Active and proactive contribution to the efforts of the international community to prevent and eradicate international terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contribution to ensuring peace and security of the international community including Japan through the reconstruction of Iraq</td>
<td>Contribution to ensuring peace and security of the international community including Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions in the SDF Law</td>
<td>Provision under Article 84-4 (Chapter 6) of the SDF Law</td>
<td>Provisions under the Supplementary provisions of the SDF Law</td>
<td>Provisions under the Supplementary provisions of the SDF Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Activities</td>
<td>International peacekeeping activities</td>
<td>Humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities</td>
<td>Replenishment Support Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Humanitarian international relief activities</td>
<td>Support activities for ensuring security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International election monitoring activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supplies cooperation for the above-mentioned activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Areas</td>
<td>Areas excluding Japan (including the high seas)</td>
<td>Territories of Japan</td>
<td>Territories of Japan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(A ceasefire agreement between the parties of the dispute and an agreement of the receiving country are required.)</td>
<td>Territories of foreign countries (An agreement of the agency in charge of administration is required in the relevant countries and in Iraq)</td>
<td>Territories of foreign countries (limited to the Indian Ocean State etc.) (An agreement of the relevant countries is required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>High seas and the airspace above</td>
<td>High seas (limited to the Indian Ocean etc.) and the airspace above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diet Approval</td>
<td>To be discussed in the Diet in advance, as a general rule, about the implementation by the SDF of the peacekeeping operation of the peacekeeping force</td>
<td>To be discussed in the Diet within 20 days from the day the measures start about the response measures by the SDF</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diet Report</td>
<td>Report about the details of the implementation plan and others without delay</td>
<td>Report about the details of the basic plan and others without delay</td>
<td>Report about the details of the implementation plan and others without delay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1. Limited to areas where combat is not taking place or not expected to take place while Japan’s activities are being implemented.
   2. In cases such as when the Diet is closed, an approval shall be promptly requested in the Diet being first summoned thereafter.
   3. As prescribed by Law, (1) The category and nature of operations shall be limited to supply only. (2) The range of the area where operations can be implemented, including the overseas destinations of dispatched forces, shall be regulated by Law so when these actions are implemented, it shall not be necessary to once again obtain the approval of the Diet, and therefore there are no provisions relating to the acquisition of Diet approval.
2. Cooperation in Global Efforts to Reconstruct Iraq

1. Details and Significance of Japan’s Efforts to Support Iraqi Reconstruction

Major combat operations have ended in Iraq, and the international community is redoubling its efforts to help rebuild the country, following the adoption of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1483 and subsequent resolutions since May 2003. The reconstruction of Iraq is extremely important for ensuring peace and security in the international community including Japan, as well as for attaining peace and security for the Iraqi people and the Middle East. Japan began dispatching SDF units to the Middle East in December 2003 based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, approved in the Diet.

[COLUMN]

Voice of SDF Personnel who Participated in Replenishment Activities in the Indian Ocean

Petty Officer First Class Takahide Kai
Destroyer Murasame, MSDF (Currently 21st Air Squadron)

I was stationed on board the destroyer Murasame as an SH-60K patrol helicopter pilot and engaged in replenishment activities in the Indian Ocean.

The main missions of helicopters engaging in replenishment activities were reconnaissance of oilers’ courses and surveillance of ships. This was a flight in actual operation where we prepared for contingencies by loading ourselves with unusual equipment, carrying live rounds, wearing bullet-proof vests, and installing bullet-proof seats, etc. Under the scorching sun, the temperature inside the aircraft rose to well over 40ºC, and we had to periodically hydrate ourselves to prevent heat stroke. An unthinkable precaution in Japan had been necessary. Furthermore, I was extremely sensitive due to the adverse effects on the aircraft’s devices as a result of sandstorms, high temperatures and humidity, which occurred every two or three days.

It was my first deployment to the Indian Ocean, therefore I encountered various hardships because of the unfamiliar surroundings. However, during the first support activities when we supplied fuel to the Pakistani Marines’ vessel, they were very pleased at the resumption of MSDF support activities, displaying the national flag of Japan and playing the national anthem of Japan “Kimi ga yo” in the background. This appreciation humbled me and made me truly aware of the contribution of our activities to international peace cooperation efforts. At the moment, I also realized that working as a member of the international community along with other cooperating countries is also for Japan’s own benefit.

Petty Officer First Class Kai standing on the destroyer Murasame (Indian Ocean)

Replenishment at sea from supply vessel Oumi to Pakistani Marines’ vessel (February 21, 2008)
in July of the same year. The dispatched SDF units have conducted operations for humanitarian assistance in cooperation with support provided by Official Development Assistance.

The SDF units have also been assisting troops of foreign countries in their efforts to restore security and stability in Iraq to the degree that would not hamper the units’ humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities.

Japan’s cooperation activities play a vital role in preventing Iraq from becoming a hotbed of terrorism and helping the country to rebuild itself so that it can become a peaceful, democratic and responsible country, paving the foundation for Japan and Iraq to establish favorable relations in the future. They are not only instrumental in stabilizing the overall Middle East but also are extremely important for Japan because the situation in the Middle East region directly affects the prosperity and stability of Japan, which relies on the region for nearly 90% of its petroleum.

Japan’s humanitarian contribution to the activities along with the U.S. for the reconstruction of Iraq has further cemented the relationship of mutual confidence between Japan and the U.S., helping to strengthen their bilateral security alliance.

Japan’s support to help rebuild Iraq has garnered acclaim both from the international community and the Iraqi people. It plays a significant role in not only achieving closer and more effective security cooperation between Japan and the U.S., but also enhancing trust in Japan by the international community.

2. Outline of the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq and the Basic Plan

(1) Outline of the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq

Japan believes that it is important to ensure that the results of its reconstruction assistance are firmly rooted and to work toward building a broad, long-term partnership with Iraq. The Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, or the Iraq Special Measures Law, is intended to allow Japan to implement activities for humanitarian and reconstruction assistance and support activities for ensuring security in line with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1483 and others. It is also designed for Japan to proactively and voluntarily contribute to global efforts for the reconstruction of Iraq in order to promote the peace and security of the international community, including Japan.

In light of the continued assistance to Iraq offered by the U.N. and the multinational force, such as the adoption in November 2006 of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1723 extending the authority of the multinational force for one year at the request of the Iraqi Government, Japan decided in June 2007 to extend the effective term of the Iraq Special Measures Law by two years to July 31, 2009. (See Fig. III-3-1-3)

(2) Outline of the Basic Plan

The Basic Plan stipulated basic policies, the range of aid activities, their contents, the scope of areas where such activities are undertaken, and other matters regarding response measures Japan is to take in line with the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq. The Government deemed it necessary for Japan to conduct activities commensurate to its international status in order to fulfill
its responsibility in the international community, and the Cabinet approved the Basic Plan in December 2003. Initially, the Basic Plan stipulated the dispatch of SDF troops to Iraq for up to one year, but acting on an independent assessment based on the Iraqi situation, Japan revised the Basic Plan a total of 10 times in order to extend the duration of the SDF’s humanitarian assistance activities in Iraq, to withdraw GSDF units from the country and to enable the ASDF to engage in missions in support of U.N. operations. (See Reference 44) (See Fig. III-3-1-4)

**Fig. III-3-1-3 Contents of Activities Based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Content of Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance in helping return of victims of the Iraq war as well as provision of food, clothing, medicines and other daily necessities, and construction of accommodation facilities of the victims</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration and upgrading of facilities needed to help improve the welfare of victims of the Iraq war and to help reconstruct Iraq, and improvement of natural environments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advice and instruction on clerical administrative work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport, construction and goods supply to support humanitarian relief activities for victims of the Iraq war, to relieve the damage of the war and to help reconstruct Iraq</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support Activities for Ensuring Security</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical service, transport works, goods supply and other activities provided by Japan in support of efforts by U.N. member countries to help ensure security and safety in Iraq</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. The activities that are to be (were) implemented by the SDF are underlined.
2. The water supply activity conducted by the GSDF dispatched troops in Iraq is included in the “goods supply” of the humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities listed above.

**Fig. III-3-1-4 Outline of Basic Plan Regarding Response Measures Based on Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implementation Items</th>
<th>Implementation Outline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types and description</td>
<td>Transport of goods and materials used for humanitarian and reconstruction assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical areas</td>
<td>Airstrip facilities in Kuwait and Iraq (aircraft)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scales, composition of SDF troops and their equipment</td>
<td>✗ Up to eight transport and other aircraft, and personnel for operating such aircraft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✗ Necessary amount of pistols, rifles and machine guns for securing safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration of dispatch</td>
<td>Through July 31, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support Activities for Ensuring Security</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical services, transportation, storage, telecommunications; construction, repair, maintenance, supply and sanitation can be conducted as support activities for ensuring security within a scope that does not affect humanitarian and reconstruction assistance activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. SDF Operations
Since December 2003, the SDF, based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, has provided humanitarian and reconstruction support to the country such as medical care, water supply, restoration and improvement of public infrastructure such as schools and roads, and transportation of personnel and aid materials for the local people facing hardship. In June 2006, the Government of Japan concluded that Iraq was capable of carrying out reconstruction independently by its own people, and thus ended the GSDF operations, which had lasted for about two and a half years in Al-Muthanna Province. (See Reference 46-47)

Meanwhile, an ASDF squadron continues to assist in the reconstruction and stabilization of Iraq, providing airlift support to the U.N. as requested by the U.N. Secretary-General as well as to the multinational force. As of July 2, 2008, the number of airlifting operations by the ASDF for the Iraqi mission totaled 729 times, which transported 603.6 tons of goods and materials. The SDF personnel contribution and the Government’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been carried out in tandem, and such efforts to support Iraq, having produced visible results, have garnered high acclaim from the international community, including Iraq.

In addition, the SDF has dispatched liaison and other officers to the U.S. Central Command in the state of Florida and to the multinational force headquarters in Baghdad to gather information necessary for SDF operations being undertaken based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq and to make various coordination with the U.S. Central Command and the multinational force.

4. Evaluation of Japan’s Efforts by Other Countries
Japan’s activities for the reconstruction of Iraq have garnered acclaim and gratitude from Iraq and other countries, as mentioned below. A public opinion poll conducted by the Samawah local newspaper Uruku and the Asahi Shimbun of Japan showed that about 70% of respondents supported the Japanese operations. (As of August 2006)

(1) Evaluation in Iraq
In his letter addressed to then Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on March 12, 2007, Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki said airlifting activities by Japan’s ASDF for the U.N. and the multinational force have been playing a major and vital role in Iraq’s efforts to promote reconstruction and nation rebuilding. In the letter, the Iraqi Prime Minister also requested Japan to consider renewing its support activities in Iraq. During his visit to Japan in April 2007, Prime Minister al-Maliki commended the ASDF’s airlift activities as what encourages the Iraqi people and expressed gratitude for Japan’s contribution to rebuilding Iraq.

(2) Evaluation by the United Nations
In a letter delivered to then Prime Minister Abe in March 2007, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon expressed gratitude for Japan’s airlifting operations, saying that the airlift service has been of particular importance in supporting UNAMI’s Area Office in Erbil.

In March 2007, Ashraf Qazi, the Secretary-General’s Special Representative in Iraq, expressed appreciation for the ASDF’s airlift operations and asked for Japan’s continued engagement in a letter to the Japanese Acting Ambassador to Iraq.

(3) Evaluation by Other Countries
U.S. President George W. Bush thanked then Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi during their summit meeting in June 2006 for Japan’s humanitarian reconstruction assistance efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and for
Japan’s support to the multinational force operations in the Indian Ocean.

Prior to that, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice visited Japan in July 2004 and highly commended Japan for its contribution to rebuilding Iraq and Afghanistan. Rice also stated that Japan’s assistance in Iraq has greatly helped the Iraqi people.

Furthermore, during the Japan-U.S. Defense Chiefs’ Meeting in January 2006 between then U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and then Japanese Minister of State for Defense Fukushiro Nukaga, Rumsfeld highly appreciated Japan’s past efforts in Iraq. Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz, who also serves as Inspector General and Minister of Defense and Aviation, meeting with then Prime Minister Koizumi in April 2006, expressed his high evaluation of Japan’s efforts to reconstruct and stabilize Iraq and his gratitude for its contribution in the country.

**[COLUMN]**

**Voice of SDF Personnel working in the Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, Airlift Wing**

*Lieutenant Colonel Hitoshi Sakauchi*

*Medical Squadron, Air Base Group, 1st Air Wing, JASDF*  
*(Then Medical Squadron Leader, Iraq Reconstruction Support Airlift Wing)*

The proud and fulfilled faces of SDF members who returned to Japan from overseas missions impressed me, and I thought “I want to do something, too,” so I applied for it.

As Medical Squadron Leader, I was in charge of the health management, including medical treatment of Squadron members. In addition to the treatment (medical and dental), the Medical Squadron was responsible for medical exams and Squadron member training, such as lifesaving methods and mental healthcare. We also maintained readiness to respond to emergency situations and critical patients. Nevertheless, we were busy every day, and I think this four-month tour was physically and mentally hard particularly for the sole medical officer (Medical Squadron Assistant Leader) in charge of medical treatment.

In Iraq, we were able to actively participate in rescue drills with U.S. military medical corps. It was valuable experience to be involved in training to deal with unexpected situations with other countries that we are rarely able to do in Japan. Although there were some communication barriers with the U.S. Air Force medical team, thanks to the face-to-face training, I think we were able to build a strong relationship. As a result, when a critical patient arose, we received prompt cooperation for examination and transportation.

I feel proud to have served in such international peace cooperation activities. What’s more, I am very grateful to my subordinates who assisted with administrative duties during my absence, and for the support of my wife and relatives who promptly responded when I resolved to volunteer for such overseas duty.
3. Activities Responding to International Terrorism

1. Efforts of International Community

Since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, the international community has been fighting terrorism not only on the military front but also on diplomatic, police, judicial, intelligence and economic fronts. However, the threat of terrorist attacks prevails in the international community in light of the outbreak of a series of suspected terrorist acts in various parts of the world by international terrorist organizations including Al Qaeda. Due to these circumstances, it is imperative that the international community continues the long-term effort in a consolidated manner in order to fully eradicate terrorism.

Strongholds of terrorist groups like Al Qaeda are believed to exist along the national border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. As Afghanistan continues to serve as a production center for narcotics, a source of major funding for terrorist activities, the U.S. military and others have been conducting mopping-up operations against forces of Al Qaeda and the Taliban in the region under Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). (See Fig. III-3-1-5)

A number of countries have dispatched troops to Afghanistan (as of May 2008) to take part in the U.S.-led operation in an attempt to stamp out terrorists in the region. But some groups with suspected links to terrorist organizations who are believed to be involved in narcotics and weapons trafficking may have escaped from the region via mountainous...
areas and moved to the sea. These groups are believed to have already moved by sea to wider areas like the Middle East, Africa, Europe or Southeast Asia and may be engaging in terrorist activities in those regions.

The international community has been engaged in maritime interdiction operations in the Indian Ocean in order to block and deter the movement of terrorists, weapons, ammunition and narcotics – a major funding source for terrorism. At present, U.S., European, Pakistani, and other countries’ warships are operating in this area. These activities such as making radio inquiries and conducting on-the-spot inspections of suspicious boats have already achieved accomplishments such as detecting and confiscating a large amount of narcotics, firearms, and portable anti-tank rockets.

In addition, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has been trying to maintain security in Afghanistan and rebuild the country, reflecting the determination by the international community to prevent it from reverting to a hotbed of terrorism.

2. Japan’s Efforts in the Fight Against Terrorism

At a time when the international community stands united in the fight against terrorism, it is necessary for Japan to reinforce its efforts to combat terrorism in collaboration with other countries as well. Based on this concept, Japan is making anti-terrorism efforts on various fronts.

For example, the replenishment activities conducted by the MSDF in the Indian Ocean have become an important basis for vessels of other countries to conduct MIOs in these waters, and have earned high acclaim from the international community. In addition to the U.S., U.K., France and Germany, Pakistan, which is an Islamic country, is participating in the MIOs. In the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1776 adopted in September 2007, praise for Operation Enduring Freedom including MIOs was expressed as contributions to many countries.

Since December 2001, Japan has conducted replenishment activities such as refueling and water supplying to vessels of various nations. Due to these replenishment activities, it has become possible for vessels of all
MIO-participating countries to continue activities in the open waters without returning to the port for refueling. In addition, replenishment activities at sea are less likely to be targeted by terrorists than those at ports. Furthermore, replenishment activities at sea require the refueling vessel to position itself parallel to the vessel being refueled, which requires a high level of skill and capability. Only few other countries besides Japan can stably conduct such replenishment activities at sea for a long time. Thus, such activities by the MSDF can be regarded as a highly appropriate contribution by Japan. Moreover, these activities by the MSDF contribute to the peace and security of the area, and serve Japan’s national interest as a country that depends on the Middle East for many resources.

The replenishment activities that have been conducted for six years by the MSDF based on the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, have earned high appraisals from various countries. Although the continuation of these replenishment activities had been desired, it was suspended due to the expiration of the Law mentioned above in November 2007. However, from the aforementioned perspective, after the establishment of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law by the Diet in January 2008, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF have promptly dispatched the MSDF vessels to the Indian Ocean, and resumed replenishment activities from February.

3. Outline of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law and Implementation Plan

(1) Purpose
The Law aims to contribute to securing the peace and security in the international community including Japan, through Japan’s continued contribution to assist efforts by the international community proactively and on its own initiative in order to prevent and eradicate international terrorism, through replenishment support activities for the multinational forces participating in the Operation Enduring Freedom–Maritime Interdiction Operation (OEF-MIO).

1) The U.N. Security Council Resolution 1776 expresses its appreciation for contributions by the international community to prevent and eradicate international terrorism which Japan has also contributed through replenishment and other support operations by the Maritime Self-Defense Force to the foreign naval vessels taking part in OEF-MIO under the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law;

2) Due to the current situation where the continued threats of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks still exist, the Security Council resolutions such as 1368 and 1373 request all U.N. member nations to take appropriate measures to prevent and eradicate international terrorist acts. In response to this request, the international community has continued its efforts to prevent and eradicate international terrorism, which includes efforts by the armed forces and other entities to eliminate terrorist threats to help achieve the goals of the U.N. Charter;

3) Given the fact that the Security Council Resolution 1776 emphasizes the necessity for continuous implementation of such operations, this Law aims to contribute to securing the peace and security in the international community including Japan, through Japan’s continued contribution to assist efforts by the international community proactively and on its own initiative in order to prevent and eradicate international terrorism, through replenishment support activities for the multinational forces participating in the Operation Enduring Freedom-Maritime Interdiction Operation (OEF-MIO).
(2) Basic Principles
a. The Government will proactively contribute to efforts by the international community to prevent and eradicate international terrorism by conducting replenishment support activities appropriately and promptly, and thereby work to secure the peace and security of the international community, including Japan.
b. Replenishment support activities shall not be conducted with threat of military force or exertion of military force.
c. Replenishment support activities will be conducted in the following areas:
   (i) The territory of Japan
   (ii) Areas specified below where it is recognized that acts of war\textsuperscript{13} are not currently being conducted and that acts of war will not be conducted for the duration in which these activities are performed:
      [A] International waters (limited to the Indian Ocean [including the Persian Gulf, the same to apply hereinafter] and waters traversed in passage between the territory of Japan and the Indian Ocean) and their airspace
      [B] The territories of foreign countries (limited to the Indian Ocean, countries along its coast, and countries with ports-of-call made by ships during passage between the territory of Japan and countries along the coast of the Indian Ocean) (only with consent of these foreign countries)
d. The Prime Minister, representing the Cabinet, will direct administrative departments in accordance with the implementation plan when conducting replenishment support activities.
e. The heads of relevant administrative agencies will cooperate with the Defense Minister concerning the implementation of replenishment support activities.

(3) Implementation Plan
a. The Prime Minister must request the Cabinet in advance to approve the proposal of the implementation plan on replenishment support activities (hereinafter referred to as “implementation plan”).
b. The matters to be stipulated by the implementation plan are as follows.
   (i) The basic plan concerning implementation of replenishment support activities
   (ii) Matters concerning the designation of areas for implementation of replenishment support activities
   (iii) The size of SDF units to implement replenishment support activities in the territory of a foreign country, their composition, equipment and duration of dispatch
   (iv) Important matters concerning the procurement of goods by the SDF to the armed forces of foreign countries other than those to be provided or those which have been provided for use in said activities
   (v) Matters concerning communication and coordination with relevant administrative agencies for implementation of replenishment support activities
   (vi) Other important matters concerning implementation of replenishment support activities

(4) Relations to the Diet
a. Diet reports
   The Prime Minister must report the following matters to the Diet without delay.
   (i) Details concerning decision or change of the implementation plan
   (ii) Results following the conclusion of replenishment support activities
b. Diet approval
   The Replenishment Support Special Measures Law: 1) limits the type and manner of operations to the replenishment only, and 2) stipulates the implementation area including the range of foreign nations of dispatch, consequently, the law does not establish the provisions concerning Diet approval, which is based on the idea that if the law passes through Diet deliberations, the repeated requests for the Diet approval for the implementation of the activities can be regarded as unnecessary.
(5) Use of Weapons

a. A Self-Defense Force member of SDF units who has been commanded to implement replenishment support activities may use weapons in a situation where there is sufficient reason to believe that the use of force is unavoidable in order to protect the life or safety of the member, or that of other SDF members present along with the member at the site of operations, or that of persons under the member’s supervision when such operations are carried out, to the extent determined reasonably as being necessary to respond to the situation.

b. If a senior officer is present at the site of operations, the use of weapons must be authorized by order of the senior officer. This shall not apply, however, in situations where a violation or threat against life or safety is imminent and there is insufficient time to obtain such order.

c. A senior officer at the said site shall issue a necessary order so as to prevent threat to life or safety or to prevent confusion caused by the unregulated use of weapons in order to ensure that the use of such weapons is conducted within the scope of the purpose of use in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph and paragraph d., below.

d. The use of weapons shall not cause injury to people except in cases of justifiable self-defense or emergency evacuation.

(6) Term of Law

This law will expire one year from the date of enforcement. However, the term may be extended by a period not to exceed one year. (See Fig.III-3-1-6) (See Reference 48)

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Fig. III-3-1-6 Comparison between the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law

| Outline of Basic Plan for Activities based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Action                           | Implementation Outline                      |
| Cooperation and Support Activities| (1) Replenishment (supply of fuel to vessels and helicopters on board vessels) |
|                                  | (2) Transport (transport of fuel by transport vessels and transport of personnel and goods by aircraft) |
|                                  | (3) Others (repair and maintenance, medical services and domestic port administration) |
| Search and Rescue Activities     | SDF troops are supposed to engage in search and rescue activities within areas in the Indian Ocean and its airspace designated for cooperation and support activities and for assistance to affected people, if they spot refugees or are requested to rescue them by U.S. troops and others |
| Assistance to Affected People    | Daily necessities are supplied to UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) in response to request by the organization |

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Fig. III-3-1-7 Outline of the Basic Plan for the Replenishment Activities based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outline of the Basic Plan for the Replenishment Activities based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replenishment Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Replenishment Support Activities by the Maritime Self-Defense Force

In accordance with the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law, the MSDF dispatched the destroyer *Murasame* from Yokosuka Naval Base on January 24, 2008 and the replenishment ship *Oumi* from Sasebo Naval Base on January 25 and resumed replenishment activities in the Indian Ocean on February 21. The MSDF replenishment activities supplied fuel for vessels and helicopters on board vessels, and water to naval vessels of nations participating in anti-terrorism maritime interdiction activities, and as of June 30, 2008, has supplied vessels with fuel 32 times, helicopters on board vessels with fuel 7 times, and water 11 times.

Additionally, the MSDF conducted replenishment activities under the former Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Laws a total of 794 times. (See Fig. III-3-1-7)

Furthermore, regarding replenishment activities, the following measures are taken to ensure that the fuel supplied by Japan is appropriately used in line with the major principles of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law.

(1) Conclusion of Exchange of Notes

Japan has decided to conclude a new exchange of notes under the new law, following the former practice under the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law\(^1\).

By clearly rewriting the purpose of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law on the exchange of notes, it further clarifies that the replenishment such as refueling by the MSDF shall be conducted under the purpose of the law. Moreover, it stipulates consultations between the Japanese government and the governments involved for the effective implementation of the Law.

In addition, the conditions for replenishment were repeatedly explained to each country before signing the exchange of notes, and were concluded with all countries accepting these conditions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year/Month</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oumi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashu</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tokiwa</td>
<td>★7/13 Dispatch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murasame</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ikazuchi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzunami</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirisame</td>
<td>★7/13 Dispatch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroyer Unit #6 Commander</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(2) Confirmation work by Liaison Officers in Bahrain
MSDF liaison officers dispatched to the Bahraini Coalition Headquarters must confirm each time of supply, whether the aforementioned vessels are following operations based on the counterterrorism Maritime Interdiction Operation written on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law, while comprehending the plans of vessels to be supplied.

Additionally, in such events, the officers must make an entry of the following check points in a stylized format: the date and time of replenishment, name and attached unit of vessels subject to supply, replenishment amount, and future plans (documentation of follow-up procedures that have been conducted).

Also regarding the adequacy of replenishment implementation, the Minister of Defense will make the final decision when it is difficult for the local unit to come to a decision.

5. Evaluation of Japan’s Activities
At a meeting with a member of the House of Representatives Special Committee on Anti-Terrorism Measures and Iraq, in evaluating Japan’s activities to counter international terrorism President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan said that he believed that the operations of the MSDF fulfilled an essential role for the MIO activities as a whole and that the replenishment activities performed by Japan were for the benefit of Japan, the international community, and Afghanistan. In August 2007, then President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan, in a meeting with then Defense Minister Koike, said that Japan’s replenishment activities were essential for sustaining anti-terrorism operations. In addition, in a telephone conversation with then Minister for Foreign Affairs Machimura in August 2007, the U.N. Secretary-General stressed the importance of continuing the fight against terrorism together with the international community. The U.N. Secretary-General also praised the resumption of Japan’s replenishment activities, saying that along with peacekeeping forces in Afghanistan, the replenishment activities significantly help the Government of Afghanistan bring safety and development to its people.

4. Efforts to Support U.N. Peacekeeping Operations (PKOs), etc.
As a way to prevent recurrence of regional conflicts following a cease-fire agreement, the U.N. sponsors peacekeeping operations such as cease-fire monitoring, election monitoring, and reconstruction assistance. As of the end of May, 2008, U.N. peacekeeping operations are underway in 17 locations around the world. (See Fig. L-2-9-1)

In addition, international organizations such as the UNHCR and individual countries engage in relief and reconstruction activities for the victims of conflicts and large-scale disasters from a humanitarian perspective or from the viewpoint of stabilizing the domestic situations of affected countries.

Japan, in a bid to fulfill a role commensurate to its international status, has been cooperating both in terms of funding and personnel, with global efforts being led by the U.N. to build a peaceful and stable international community.

In order to help improve the international security environment, the Defense Ministry and the SDF have actively engaged in international peace cooperation activities by dispatching troops and through other efforts.
1. Outline of International Peace Cooperation Law, etc.

The International Peace Cooperation Law, enacted in June 1992, is designed to contribute further to global efforts being led by the U.N. to achieve peace in the international community by upgrading Japan’s framework for cooperating appropriately and quickly in 1) U.N. peacekeeping activities, 2) humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations and 3) international election monitoring activities.

The law stipulates a set of basic guidelines (the so-called five principles for participation) for Japan’s participation in a U.N. peacekeeping force (PKF).

Japan had suspended the SDF’s participation in PKF’s so-called core operations. Meanwhile, Japan provided logistical support to PKF missions, and steadily accumulated achievements and experience in the area. Due to expectations both at home and abroad for further participation in international peace cooperation activities, Japan amended the International Peace Cooperation Law in December 2001. The amendment lifted the ban on the SDF’s participation in core PKF operations. (See Fig. III-3-1-8, 9)

**Fig. III-3-1-8 Basic Policy on Japan's Participation in U.N. Peacekeeping Forces (Five Principles)**

1. Warring parties must reach a ceasefire accord
2. Warring parties, including those from the countries in which the U.N. peacekeeping force are to operate, must consent to the U.N. force’s operations and Japan’s participation in the operations of the U.N. force
3. The U.N. peacekeeping force must take a neutral stance; they should not side with any particular warring party
4. Japan must ensure that the SDF can withdraw from operations of the U.N. peacekeeping force if either one of the three principles stated above is not met
5. The use of weapons by SDF members participating in operations of the U.N. peacekeeping force should be limited as much as possible to situations that are conceivably necessary to protect the members’ lives

**Fig. III-3-1-9 International Peace Cooperation Activities by SDF**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>International Peace Cooperation Activities (Type of activities)</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1992 –</td>
<td>Cambodia (U.N. peacekeeping activities)</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1993</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1993 –</td>
<td>Mozambique (U.N. peacekeeping activities)</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 1995</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1994 –</td>
<td>Rwanda (Humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations)</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 1994</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1999 –</td>
<td>East Timor (Humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations)</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2001</td>
<td>Afghanistan (Humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations)</td>
<td>Central Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2002 –</td>
<td>East Timor (U.N. peacekeeping activities)</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2004</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2003 –</td>
<td>Iraq (Humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations)</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2003 –</td>
<td>Iraq (Humanitarian support for international relief and rescue operations)</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 2003</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2007 –</td>
<td>Nepal (U.N. peacekeeping activities)</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bold frame: International peacekeeping activities are currently underway
2. United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN)

(1) Background of Japan’s Decision to Send Personnel to UNMIN

Despite the ongoing civil war between the Nepalese Government and the Maoists (Communist Party of Nepal) in a bid to capture power, an accord aimed at achieving permanent peace was signed in November 2006 thanks to repeated peace negotiations under the new government established in May 2006. Subsequently, a comprehensive peace agreement was reached, marking the end of conflict.

In response to a request from the Nepalese Government and a recommendation by the Secretary-General of United Nations, UNMIN was established on January 24, 2007 through U.N. Security Council Resolution 1740. UNMIN activities were then extended until January 23, 2009, in response to the Nepalese constituent assembly election in April 2008 and the request by the Nepalese Government in July 2008.

Situated between China and India, Nepal occupies an important strategic position, and its stability is crucial to the security of the surrounding region as a whole. With the noble efforts being made toward the peace and stability of Nepal, it is important for Japan, as a member of Asia, to make personnel contribution to the mission. On March 27, 2007, Japan’s Cabinet, in response to a request by the U.N. for the dispatch of military-monitoring personnel to UNMIN operations, decided to dispatch personnel to the mission, and since March 30, 2007, six GSDF officers have been posted at UNMIN. In addition, the Defense Ministry and the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters of the Cabinet Office respectively dispatched two liaison personnel for the purpose of communication, coordination and information collection with local agencies concerned. Furthermore, in March 2008, the second dispatch of a military-monitoring team consisting of six members replaced the first dispatch of personnel to continue military-monitoring duties. (See Fig. III-3-1-10)

![Fig. III-3-1-10 Location of Military Monitoring Officers Placed under the U.N. Mission in Nepal](image-url)
(2) Activities of GSDF Officers at UNMIN

GSDF officers are being dispatched to seven Maoist camps and barracks of the Nepalese military for the management of arms and soldiers.

The GSDF officers dispatched to UNMIN do not carry weapons in line with the provisions of the U.N. The officers, dispatched on an individual basis, have been working as military-monitoring personnel and command personnel, which is different from the past personnel dispatch by Japan for the support of U.N. peacekeeping operations where SDF officers were dispatched both as military-monitoring personnel and personnel posted for the assignment at peacekeeping headquarters. Through their activities, GSDF officers have earned high acclaim from UNMIN military-monitoring personnel of the U.N. and participating nations for their discipline, professionalism, leadership and sincere approach to their work.

3. International Peace Cooperation Activities in the Golan Heights

(1) Background to Japan’s Decision to Send Troops to UNDOF

The U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) has been undertaking peacekeeping operations in a zone called the Area of Separation (AOS), set up between the opposing troops of Syria and Israel based on a ceasefire agreement. UNDOF’s mission is to monitor the ceasefire between the two countries and the implementation of measures stipulated under an agreement between the countries over the separation of their opposing troops. The SDF has been providing logistical support for UNDOF operations. (See Fig. III-3-1-11,12)

Japan’s participation in the UNDOF operations is significant because it marks Japan’s personnel contribution to the international efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East. The participation is also significant for Japan because it cultivates human resources with skills relevant to international peace cooperation activities.

The Government of Japan decided in December 1995 to dispatch SDF units and other personnel to the UNDOF. In February 1996, the first transport unit of 43 personnel was sent to the Golan Heights and replaced a Canadian transport unit. Since then, an SDF unit has been dispatched approximately every six months on a rotating basis. However, the system has changed to involve only the rotation of personnel while maintaining troops and the Golan Heights Transport Unit was newly organized in February 2008. As of the end of May 2008, the 25th dispatch of personnel was sent to the Golan Heights.
Fig. III-3-1-11 Map of the Golan Heights and Its Vicinity

Fig. III-3-1-12 Organizational Structure of UNDOF

Note: —— Denotes main transport routes.

Colonel Katsunobu Ishibashi
Leader of Nepal International Peace Cooperation Team (Primary Staff Member)
Assign to Central Readiness Force HQ (Currently assigned to the Ground Staff College)

From March 31, 2007, six SDF personnel selected from all parts of Japan took part in the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) for one year as military-monitoring personnel, joining other military-monitoring personnel from 80 countries and Nepalese colleagues in engaging in monitoring of arms and military personnel management.

The major activities that we took part in were to visit the Maoist army camps and the Nepalese Army barracks for the purpose of monitoring the storage of arms and their activities on both sides. On the occasion of monitoring of the Maoist army, we stayed in the Maoist camp with three to five military-monitoring personnel from other countries together with a Nepalese interpreter. At the start of our activities we did not have proper accommodation or working facilities. We often worked in temperatures exceeding 40˚C, and were plagued by mosquitoes in our tents. Gradually prefabricated facilities were constructed, and although it was not ideal, an environment was improved so that we could bear to remain there and work for one or two weeks. However, the most difficult aspect of the assignment was living together with colleagues who had been brought up in a different environment and who had different religions and values from ours. For example, personnel from the region on the equator and those from near the North Pole had completely different reactions to the heat, and some personnel could not share the same meals for religious reasons. Regarding work procedures, some people work systemically according to a plan; others do not have a plan and respond to the situation on the scene. The military-monitoring personnel work sensibly as representatives of their respective countries as well as the U.N., but at times we have some misunderstandings and I was under a lot of stress because of such various interpersonal relationships in addition to the severe living conditions. However, the Japanese characteristics of modesty and harmony contributed to creating a good atmosphere in the team. In addition, given our sense of duty in our mission, our adherence to time and the work performance skills we have acquired in the SDF, our activities were highly praised within UNMIN, and we played a leading role in operations on the scene.

I believe that our activities were significant in the sense that Japan should fulfill its obligations to the international community in the field. In addition, I think that we were able to make a contribution to demonstrating the excellence of Japanese people to Nepal and to the world.

Note: “Maoist” is the common term used to refer to the Maoist group of the Nepalese Communist Party.
(2) SDF Operations

The dispatched SDF transport unit is in charge of transporting daily goods and materials needed for UNDOF operations from the harbors, airports and commodities markets of Israel, Syria and Lebanon to the UNDOF camps. The unit also provides logistical support, including repairs of roads which have become slippery due to rain and snowfall, and removal of snow from streets in plateau areas with an altitude of more than 2,800 meters. The transport unit stayed at the same camp as Indian forces, which replaced Canadian forces in March 2006. Members of the SDF and Indian forces jointly provide meals and other services to troops.

The ASDF flies a C-130H transport plane and a U-4 multipurpose assistance plane to the Golan Heights every six months to transport goods and materials for the transport unit.

Two SDF officers being sent to the UNDOF headquarters overseas are in charge of planning and coordination of transport and other UNDOF logistic support operations, and are also responsible for publicity and budget-related works. SDF officers are assigned to the UNDOF headquarters for about one year, and are replaced by other SDF personnel after completing their assignment. SDF personnel working at the UNDOF headquarters as of the end of May 2008 are in the 13th dispatch.

Japan had initially intended to complete its participation in UNDOF operations within two years. However, participation has continued until now after taking into consideration various factors, such as strong requests from the U.N., high evaluation of past Japanese operations by the U.N. and relevant countries, and the importance of Japan’s personnel contribution to peace in the Middle East. Japan’s contribution to UNDOF has been deepened with the SDF dispatch of the Golan Heights Transport Unit totaling up to 25 times, with approximately 1,100 personnel.

The experience the SDF has accumulated through the mission has contributed to creating a foundation for participation in other U.N. peacekeeping operations and activities to support the reconstruction of Iraq.

4. The United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS)

In Sudan, the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005. Based upon this agreement, the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) was formed to support the execution of the CPA and to perform ceasefire surveillance etc. In addition to the military section that performs ceasefire surveillance etc., the UNMIS has the civilian section in charge of election support and humanitarian assistance coordination. UNMIS is a multi-functional, large-scale U.N. peacekeeping operation that involves approximately 10,000 people.

During the joint press conference after the meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon in June 2008, Prime Minister Fukuda announced the dispatch of SDF personnel to UNMIS headquarters personnel. Preparation for the dispatch are being arranged within the government.

5. Dispatch of SDF officers to the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations

In 2000, the U.N. established the Panel on U.N. Peace Operations to review all issues associated with peace operations including U.N. peacekeeping operations. The U.N. expanded the number of officials in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (PKO Department) in response to recommendations by the panel, as a means of reinforcing the peacekeeping function of the U.N. headquarters.

In November 2001, the Law on Working Conditions of Defense Agency Officials Dispatched to International Organizations (then) (1995 Law No. 122; hereinafter referred to as the “Dispatched Defense Agency Personnel Working Conditions Law”) was revised to enable the (then) Defense Agency to send its personnel to the PKO Department. The revision was based on the judgment that the agency’s dispatch of personnel to the U.N. department would contribute to supporting the U.N. in its efforts toward achieving world peace. Under the revised law, one GSDF officer was dispatched in December 2002 to the Military Planning Section of the Military
Division in the PKO Department of the United Nations, which is located in the U.S. The dispatched GSDF officer has been participating in various PKO works including development of policies and plans.

5. International Disaster Relief Operations

The Ministry of Defense and the SDF are determined to step up international disaster relief operations from the viewpoint of humanitarian contributions and improvement of the international security environment.

In addition, the GSDF, the MSDF and the ASDF maintain their readiness to take any necessary action based on prepared disaster relief operation plans, whenever a situation in which their operations are deemed necessary arises. The SDF has dispatched its units overseas for international disaster relief operations while closely examining specific relief requests filed by governments of affected countries and disaster situations in these countries. The Ministry of Defense and the SDF have been proactively conducting international disaster relief operations fully utilizing the capabilities of the GSDF, the MSDF and the ASDF. (See Fig. III-3-1-13) (See Reference 49)

### Fig. III-3-1-13 International Disaster Relief Operations and Others by the SDF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>International Disaster Relief Operations and Others</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 1998-Dec. 1998</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations in response to a hurricane that hit Honduras</td>
<td>Latin America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 1999-Nov. 1999</td>
<td>Transportation of necessary resources for international disaster relief operations in quake-hit northwestern Turkey</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 2001</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations in response to a major earthquake in India</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 2003-Jan. 2004</td>
<td>Transportation of necessary resources for international disaster relief operations in quake-hit southeastern Iran</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 2004-Mar. 2005</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations after a large-scale earthquake off Indonesia’s Sumatra Island and consequent tsunami in the Indian Ocean</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 2005</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations for a Russian mini-submarine accident off Kamchatka Peninsula in Russia</td>
<td>North Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2005-Dec. 2005</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations in response to a major earthquake in Pakistan and other countries</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 2006</td>
<td>International disaster relief operations in response to a major earthquake in central Java Island in Indonesia</td>
<td>Southeast Asia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Outline of the Law Concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams

Since the Law Concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams (1987 Law No. 93; hereinafter referred to as “the International Disaster Relief Law”) was enacted in 1987, Japan has engaged in international disaster relief activities in response to requests from the governments of affected countries and international organizations.

In 1992, the International Disaster Relief Law was amended to enable the SDF to participate in international disaster relief operations and to transport its personnel and equipment. Since then, the SDF has maintained its readiness for international disaster relief operations with self-sufficient capabilities, including relief operations.
and medical treatment, and with the use of its own equipment, organizations and the benefits of regular training, even when local support is not available for transport, accommodation, food and water supplies, communication, sanitation and so forth.

2. International Disaster Relief Operations by the SDF and the SDF’s Posture

International disaster relief operations conducted by the SDF may take different forms according to factors such as the scale of the disaster, the degree of damage, and the requests of the governments of affected countries or international organizations. In the major earthquake that struck the central region of Java, Indonesia in May 2006, the SDF, acting on a request from the Indonesian Government, provided medical assistance in the affected area, examining a total of about 3,800 persons while vaccinating about 1,700 persons and controlling infectious diseases over an area of 4,300m$^2$. Judging from the past experience of SDF dispatched to various disaster sites in Japan, the SDF’s capabilities in international disaster relief operations encompass 1) medical services, such as first-aid medical treatment and epidemic prevention, 2) transport of goods, patients, and disaster relief personnel by helicopter, and 3) ensuring water supplies using water-purifying devices. Also, the SDF uses transport planes and transport ships to carry disaster relief personnel and equipment to the affected area.

Central Readiness Force and regional units of the GSDF are assigned duties on a six-month rotational basis to ensure that they can provide medical, transport and water-supply services in an independent manner anytime the need for disaster relief arises.

In addition, the MSDF and the ASDF maintains its readiness to dispatch fleet and air-support units, respectively, to transport supplies to units participating in international disaster relief operations, including their own, as the need for disaster relief arises.

[COLUMN]

Voice of SDF Personnel who Participated in Multilateral Logistics Staff Talks (MLST)

Lieutenant Colonel Yasuhiro Hamamatsu
Department of Logistics, Ground Staff Office
Currently assigned to the Comptroller Department

From December 3-7, 2007, the Department of Logistics, Ground Staff Office hosted the Multilateral Logistics Staff Talks (MLST) at Ichigaya Base and other sites. The MLST was the largest such event yet held, with 10 logistics staff from nine countries in the Asia-Pacific region (representatives from the U.S. Army and Marines attended), including first-time participants India and Indonesia, and representatives from the GSDF (Central Readiness Force, Ground Research and Development Command, Ground Material Control Command, Staff College, and Kodaira School) as well as from the Joint Staff. This was the 11th of its kind held, and given the frequent incidence of large-scale natural disasters in the Asia-Pacific region in recent years, the discussion was based on the theme “Military Logistics Cooperation for International Disaster Relief Operations.” Each participating country exchanged information and opinions on their respective military

Lieutenant Colonel Hamamatsu explaining the overview during a meeting
logistics support systems for disaster relief activities, with the aim of promoting mutual understanding and building confidence and trust among members.

Following an explanation by each participating country on their own experiences in international disaster relief activities, group discussions took place on military logistics cooperation. The group sessions succeeded in sharing information about the cooperative frameworks with militaries of other countries, methods for effective information sharing, and securing strategic transportation capabilities. Future challenges were also discussed. Participants visited the Eastern Army where the GSDF logistic support posture was confirmed and views were exchanged.

I have been involved in the MLST for three years since 2005 and there have been times when in preparation for the meeting prior coordinating telephone calls and e-mail contact with participants have not gone according to plan, due to differences in culture or customs, etc. As such, with the cooperation of the SDF personnel member dispatched to the Japanese embassy in each country, I have coordinated everything from the meeting content to other management items. It is a wonderful experience to exchange opinions and interact with colleagues in a friendly atmosphere after their arrival in Japan and even though our countries are different we share many common views as military logistics practitioners, and the meeting provides an opportunity for us to get together, and deepen our relations of trust. When the approximately one-week meeting comes to an end and it is time to send off the participants at Narita airport, my feelings of accomplishment at having successfully concluded the meeting are coupled with regret at having to say farewell to good friends, and as the organizer of this meeting I truly feel that it has been a valuable experience to be involved in this process.

The MLST discusses themes that are important for the military logistics personnel in each country, and by meeting together in Tokyo, and constructing an Asia-Pacific human network, it is an effective means of promoting mutual understanding that will be truly useful in future international peace cooperation activities, and enable logistics cooperation. The enthusiasm on the part of the participants from each country continues to grow each year. I hope that in the future too the MLST will achieve further advancements and will continue to play an important role in defense exchange.

* Participants in 2007: Australia, India, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States