



April 22 2016

Statistics on scrambles through fiscal year 2015

1. Overall

Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) fighter jets were scrambled 873 times in FY2015 in total, a decrease of 70 times compared to the previous fiscal year.

The breakdown of scrambles by country and region shows a ratio of about 65% against Chinese aircraft, about 33% against Russian aircraft, and about 2% against aircraft from other countries and regions. Countries and regions also include inferences.

2. Breakdown of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force

In FY2015, fighter jets of the Northern Air Defense Force were scrambled 205 times, those of the Central Air Defense Force 50 times, those of the Western Air Defense Force 87 times, and those of the Southwestern Composite Air Division 531 times.

Compared to the previous fiscal year, the number of scrambles by the Southwestern Composite Air Division increased, while the number of scrambles by other Regional Air Defense Forces was the same or decreased.

3. Characteristics of Responses in FY2015

ASDF fighter jets were scrambled 571 times against Chinese aircraft, an increase of 107 times compared to the previous fiscal year. That is the highest number since 2001, in which ASDF began publicizing the number of scrambles by country and region. In FY2015, a total of 14 cases, including the case of flight over the Sea of Japan through the Tsushima Strait for the first time, were made public as unusual flights.

ASDF fighter jets were scrambled 288 times against Russian aircraft, a decrease of 185 times compared to the previous fiscal year. In FY2015, a total of 10 cases were made public as air intrusions or unusual flights.

A large number of scrambles were conducted against Chinese fighter jets and Russian surveillance jets, including against those presumed to be fighter aircraft.

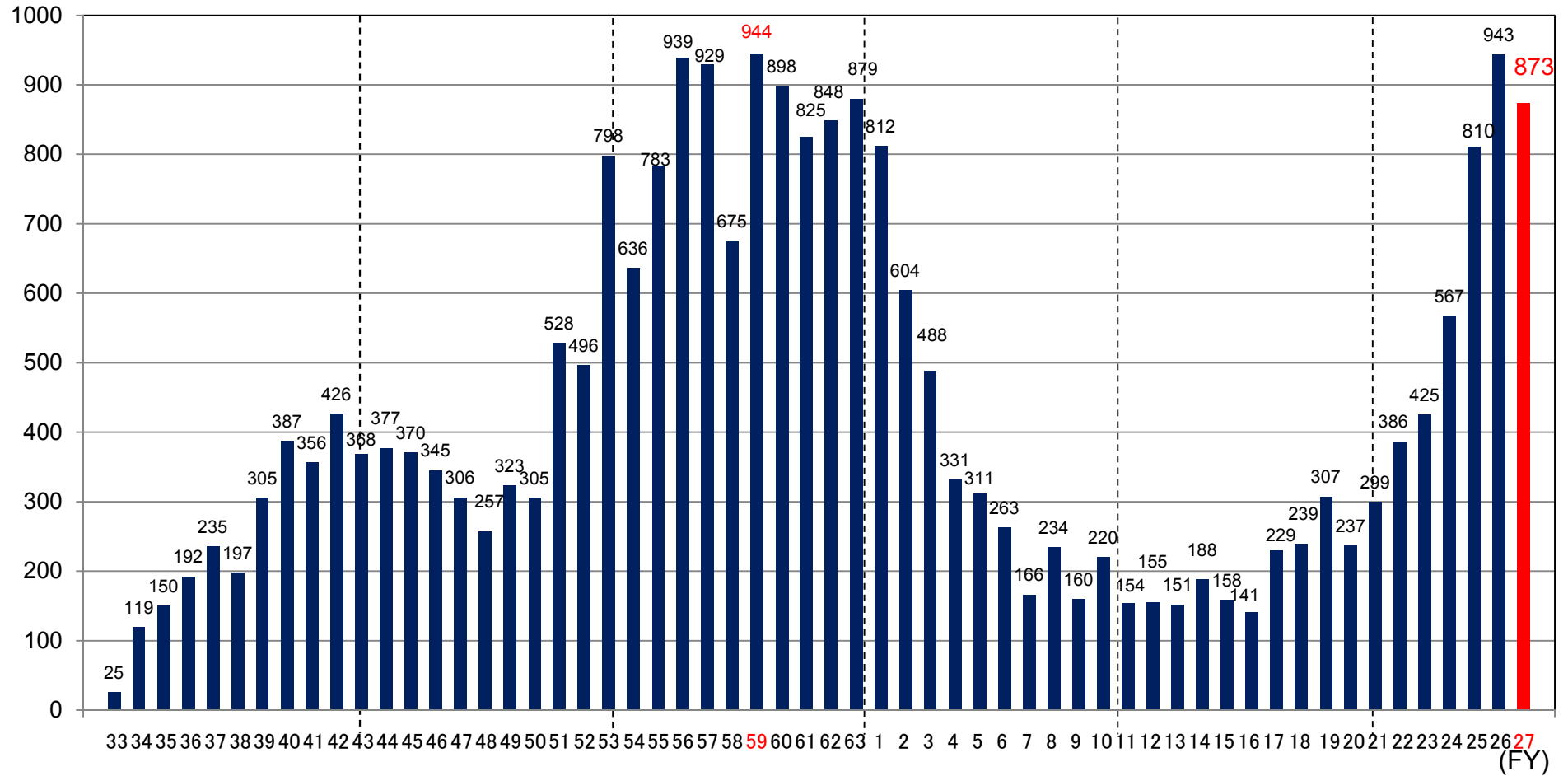
The data above was collected between April 1, 2015, and March 31, 2016.

Reference

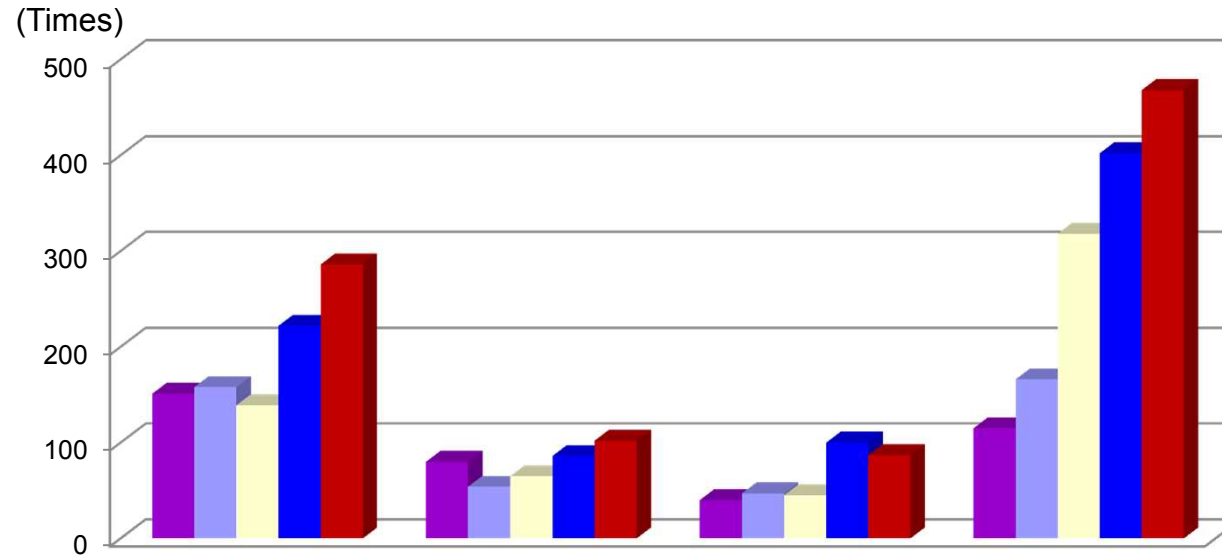
1. Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year
2. Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force (Past Five Years)
3. Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)
4. Number of Scrambles by Quarter
5. Flight Pattern Examples of Russian and Chinese Aircraft Subject to Scrambles
6. Cases of Detection of Airspace Intrusions Made Public
7. List of Cases Made Public in FY2015

Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year

(Times)



Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force (Past Five Years)



	Northern Air Defense Force	Central Air Defense Force	Western Air Defense Force	Southwestern Composite Air Division	Total
FY23	158	54	47	166	425
FY24	139	65	45	318	567
FY25	222	86	100	402	810
FY26	286	102	87	468	943
FY27	205	50	87	531	873

Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)

Country and Region FY	Russia	China	Taiwan	North Korea	Other countries	Total
23	247	156	5	0	17	425
24	248	306	1	0	12	567
25	359	415	1	9	26	810
26	473	464	1	0	5	943
27	288	571	2	0	12	873

※ Number of Scrambles by Country and Region include some unconfirmed cases

Number of Scrambles by Quarter

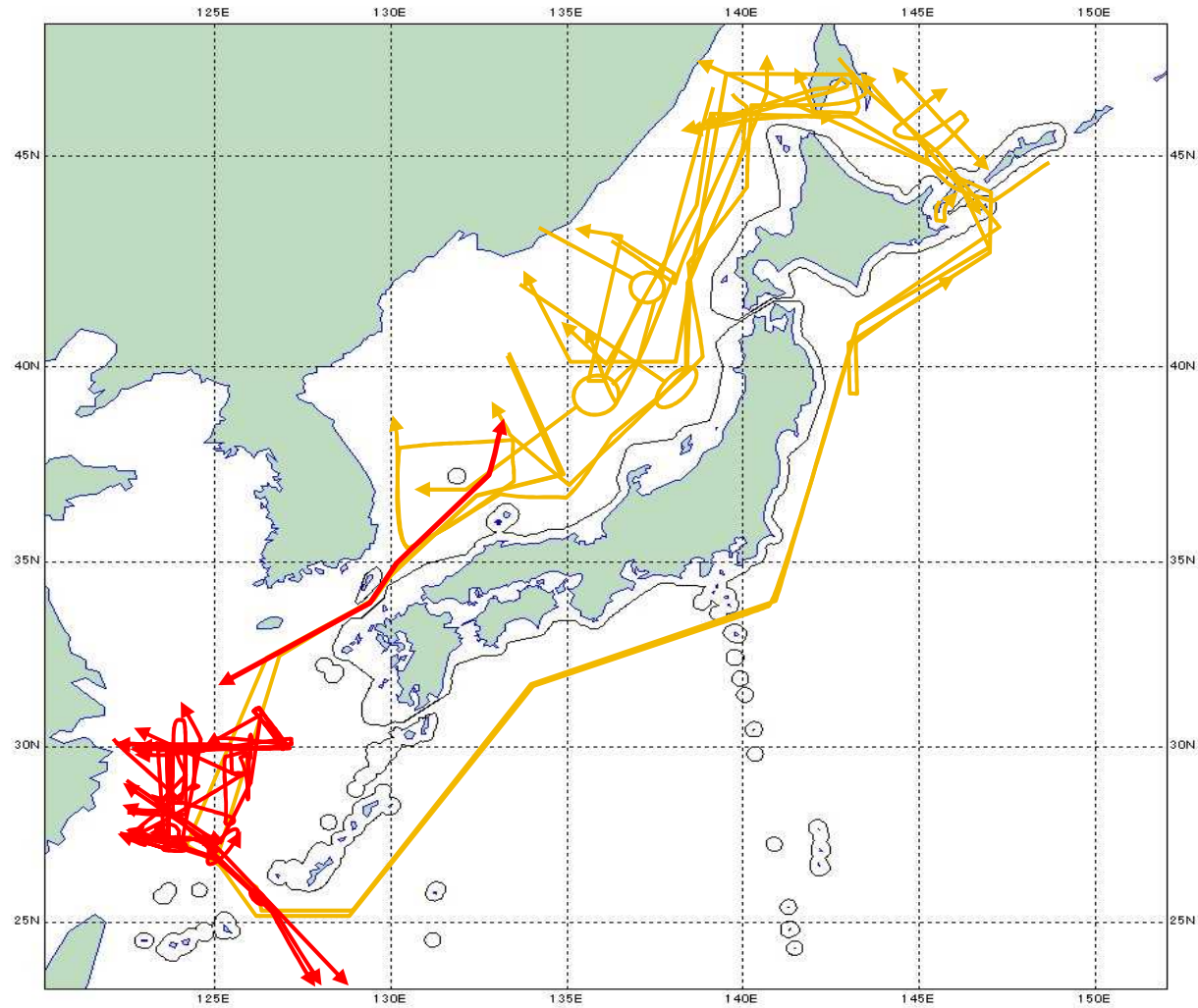
1 Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force

	Northern Air Defense Force	Central Air Defense Force	Western Air Defense Force	Southwestern Composite Air Division	Total
1 st Quarter	48	6	9	110	173
2 nd Quarter	43	4	11	112	170
3 rd Quarter	45	15	34	130	224
4 th Quarter	69	25	33	179	306
Total	205	50	87	531	873

2 Number of Scrambles by Country and Region

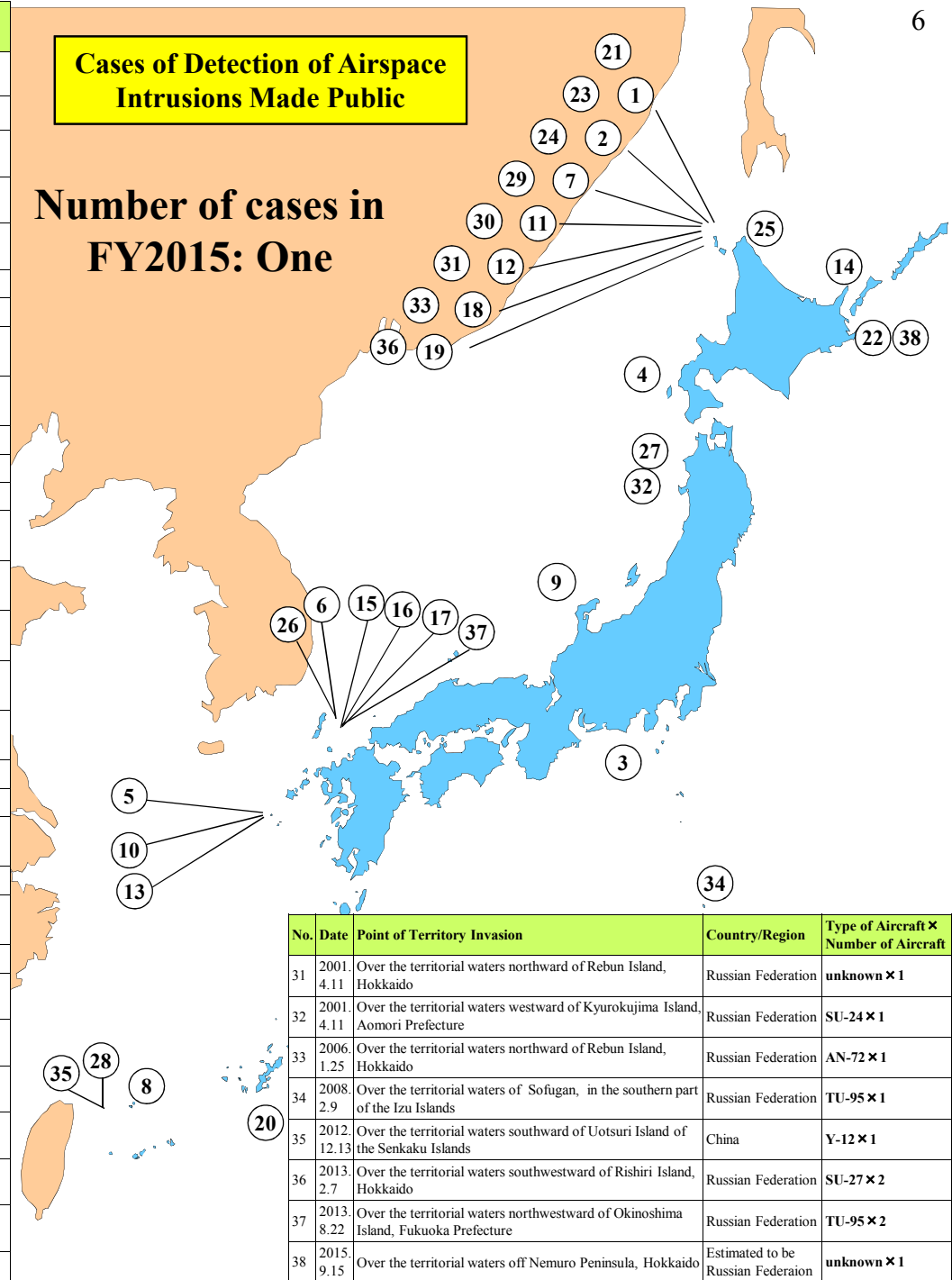
	Russia	China	Taiwan	North Korea	Other countries	Total
1 st Quarter	57	114	0	0	2	173
2 nd Quarter	51	117	0	0	2	170
3 rd Quarter	75	142	1	0	6	224
4 th Quarter	105	198	1	0	2	306
Total	288	571	2	0	12	873

Example Flight Patterns of Russian and Chinese Aircraft to Which Scrambles Responded





→ : Route of Chinese aircraft → : Route of Russian aircraft







No.	Date	Point of Territory Invasion	Country/Region	Type of Aircraft × Number of Aircraft
1	1967.8.19	Over Rebun Island, Hokkaido	The Soviet Union (USSR)	unknown × 1
2	1974.2.7	Over Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
3	1975.9.24	Over the territorial waters between Shikine Island and Kodu Island of the Izu Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
4	1976.9.6	Over from off Cape Motta, Hokkaido to Hakodate Airport (MIG-25 incident)	USSR	MIG-25 × 1
5	1977.9.7	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Shirase Island, in the western of the Goto Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
6	1978.3.17	Over the territorial waters eastward of Tsushima Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 1
7	1978.12.5	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
8	1979.11.15	Over the territorial waters southward of Taisho Island of the Senkaku Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
9	1980.6.29	Over the territorial waters northeastward of Hegura Island, in the north of the Noto Peninsula	USSR	IL-38 × 2
10	1980.8.18	Over the territorial waters southeastward of the Goto Islands	USSR	IL-62 × 1
11	1981.6.6	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	IL-14 × 1
12	1981.7.24	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
13	1982.4.3	Over the territorial waters westward of Torishima Island of the Danjo Islands, Nagasaki Prefecture	USSR	IL-62 × 1
14	1983.10.15	Over the territorial waters in the northeastward of the Shiretoko Cape, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 2
15	1983.11.15	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-16/95 × 1 each
16	1984.11.12	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-16 × 1
17	1984.11.23	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-95/142 × 1 each
18	1986.2.6	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
19	1987.8.27	Over the territorial waters westward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
20	1987.12.9	Over the Okinawa Main Island and the territorial waters between Tokunoshima Island and Okinoerabu Island	USSR	TU-16 × 1
21	1989.4.21	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
22	1991.7.6	Over the territorial waters southward of the Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido	USSR	AN-30 × 1
23	1991.8.15	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	USSR	TU-95 × 2
24	1992.4.10	Over Rebun Island and the territorial waters northwestward of Wakkanai, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	AN-12 × 1
25	1992.5.7	Over the territorial waters off Esashi, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	unknown × 1
26	1992.7.28	Over the territorial waters eastward of Tsushima Islands, Nagasaki Prefecture	Russian Federation	TU-154 × 1
27	1993.8.31	Over the territorial waters westward of Kyurokujima Island, Aomori Prefecture	Russian Federation	IL-20 × 1
28	1994.3.25	Over the territorial waters of Uotsuri Island and Kuba Island of the Senkaku Islands	Taiwan	B-350 × 1
29	1995.3.23	Over the territorial waters of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	MIG-31 × 1
30	2001.2.14	Over the territorial waters of Rebun Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	TU-22 × 2, unknown × 2






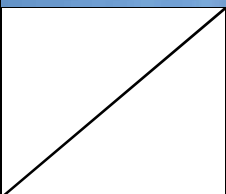
List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (First Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Thursday, April 2, 2015	Russia Su-24 One aircraft	Flew over the Sea of Japan from off Hokkaido to off Hokuriku	
2	Thursday, May 21, 2015	China H-6 Two aircraft	Round-trip flights between the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean	







List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (Second Quarter ①)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Friday, July 3, 2015	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Round-trip flights between off Hokkaido and off Iwate Prefecture	
2	Tuesday, July 7, 2015	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Flight over the Sea of Japan from off Hokkaido to off the Noto Peninsula	
3	Wednesday, July 8, 2015	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Round-trip flights between off Hokkaido and off Iwate Prefecture	
4	Wednesday, July 29, 2015	China Y-8 One aircraft	Round-trip flights between the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean	
5		China Y-9 One aircraft		
6		China H-6 Two aircraft		



List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (Second Quarter ②)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
7	Thursday, July 30, 2015	China Y-8 One aircraft	Round-trip flights between the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean	
8		China Y-9 One aircraft		
9		China H-6 Two aircraft		
10	Tuesday, September 15, 2015	Presumed Russian aircraft	Airspace intrusion off the Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido	




List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (Third Quarter ①)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo	
1	Tuesday, October 27, 2015	Russia Tu-142 Two aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan from off Hokkaido to off the Oki Islands		
2	Friday, November 27, 2015	China H-6 Four aircraft	Round-trip flights between the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean		
3		China Tu-154 One aircraft			
4		China Y-8 One aircraft			
5		China H-6 Four aircraft		Long-range flights over the East China Sea	
6		China Y-8 One aircraft			

List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (Third Quarter ②)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
7	Monday, December 21, 2015	Russia Tu-95 Two aircraft	Flew over the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean from off Noto Peninsula to the Maritime Province	
8		Russia A-50 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	

List of Cases Made Public in FY2015 (Fourth Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Tuesday, January 26, 2016	Russia Tu-95 Two aircraft	Flew over the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean from off Noto Peninsula to the Maritime Province	
2	Sunday, January 31, 2016	China Y-9 One aircraft	Round-trip flights between the East China Sea and the Sea of Japan	
3		China Y-8 One aircraft		
4	Saturday, February 6, 2016	Russia TU-142 Two aircraft	Long-range flight over the vicinity of Japan's territorial sky over the Sea of Japan	