Overview of Koku-Jieitai 2026





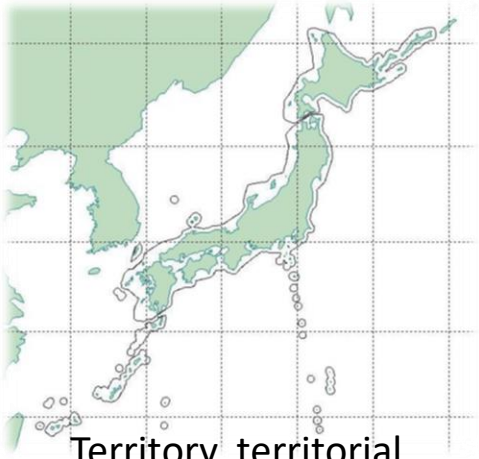


JASDF

Japan Air Self-Defense Force

Koku-Jieitai; The Only Organization Defending the Sky and Space

Domains Koku-Jieitai defends



Territory, territorial Sea and **Airspace**



Space, Cyber and Electromagnetic Spectrum

Major Units of Koku-Jieitai



Fighter Units



Aircraft Control and Warning Units



Surface-to-Air Guided Missile Units



Space Units



Air Transport Units



Air Rescue Units

Japan-U.S. Alliance



Defense Cooperation and Exchanges



Koku-Jieitai Personnel



Contents

Ⅰ Security Environment Surrounding Japan

Ⅱ Air Defense Capabilities & Missions of Koku-Jieitai

Ⅲ Future Defense Posture of Koku-Jieitai

Ⅳ Other Topics

I

Security Environment Surrounding Japan

1 Features of Current Security Environment

2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan

3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan

1 Features of Current Security Environment

- Unilateral changes to the status quo by force and such attempts pose serious challenges to **the free and open international order based on the rule of law**, and the international community is facing **the greatest trial since the end of World War II and entering a new era of crisis**
- Rapid developments in science and technology are fundamentally transforming the nature of security, and countries are striving to develop cutting-edge technologies that could serve as so-called game changers. The traditional **military structure is undergoing fundamental changes, as are warfare tactics and strategies**
- **Global security challenges** are becoming increasingly severe, including growing risks in the cyber domain, the spread of disinformation through information warfare and the impacts of climate change
- Due to vulnerabilities in supply chains, increasing threats to critical infrastructure, and competition for leadership in advanced technologies, **the scope of security has expanded to encompass the economic field**



President Putin's visit to Kursk region



Fragments of Russia's Oreshnik missile released by Ukraine's Security Service (SBU)



Exercise areas around Taiwan by PLA

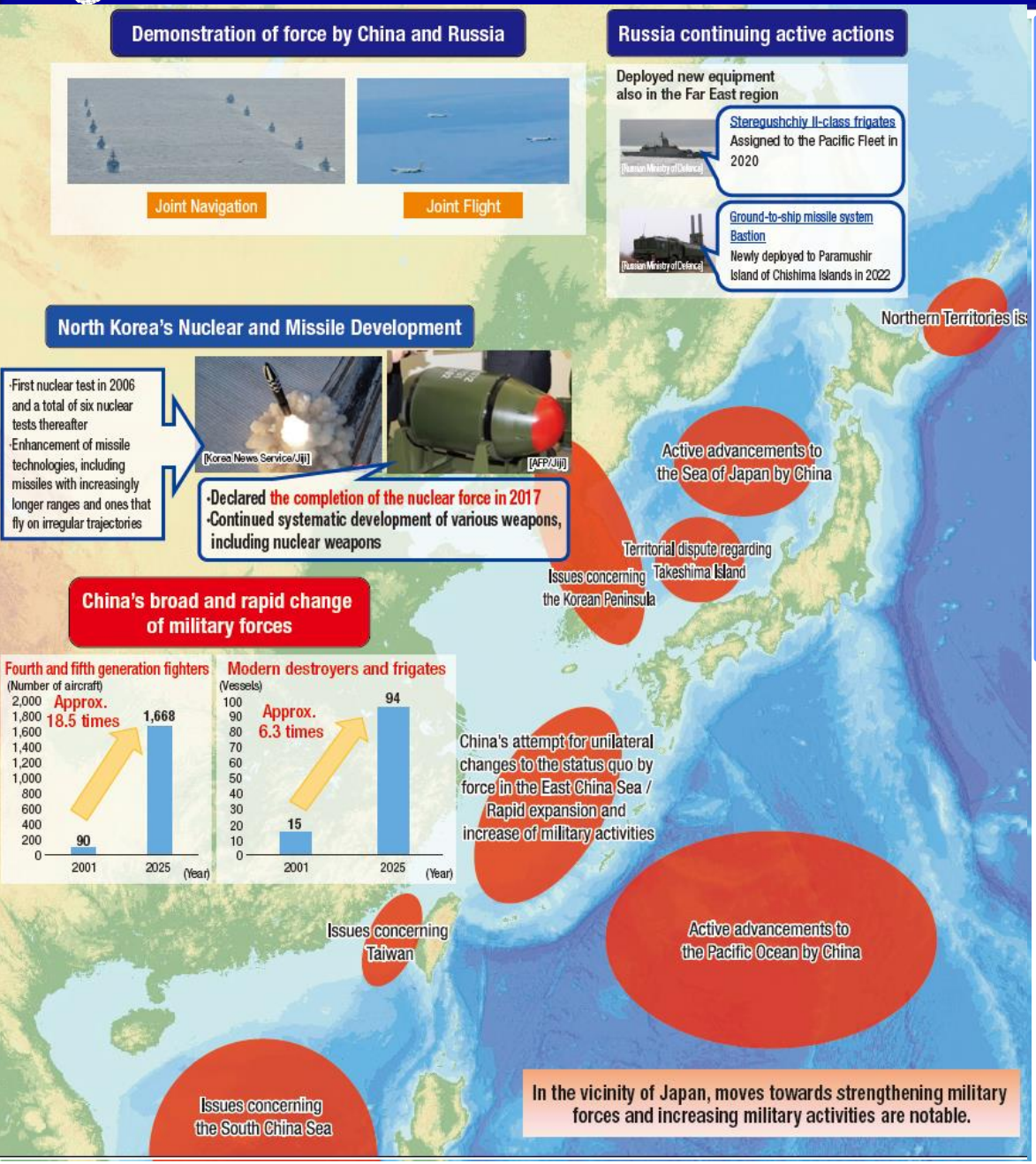


Missile test launches from a "New Multi-Purpose Destroyer" by DPRK



NATO Cyber Exercise

1 Features of Current Security Environment



" Indo-Pacific region has many security challenges "

➢ There are several nations and regions in this region with large military forces, including nuclear weapons, do not share common values, nor the political and economic systems

➢ Complex intertwining of diplomatic and other relations based on historical backgrounds

➢ Diverse threats and challenges of various types and intensities exist in this region, such as unilateral changes to the status quo by force and such attempts in the East and South China Seas and other areas, piracy, terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and natural disasters



PLA reconnaissance/attack UAV flew between the main island of Okinawa and Miyakojima Island (Apr 2025)

Source: 2025 DEFENSE OF JAPAN, Joint Staff Website

1 Features of Current Security Environment

Russia's aggression against Ukraine

- ➢On 24 February, 2022, Russia launched full-scale aggression against Ukraine
- ➢Serious violation of international law including the UN Charter, which prohibits the use of force
- ➢Unilaterally change to the status quo by force is an act that undermines the very foundation of the international order
- ➢If such aggression is tolerated, it could send out the wrong message and implication that those attempts are also acceptable in other regions, including Asia





Source: 2025 DEFENSE OF JAPAN

The situation in Israel/Palestine

- ➢On October 10, 2025, the ceasefire went into effect between Israel and Hamas
- ➢On October 19, 2025, Israeli military carried out airstrikes across various parts of the Gaza Strip. While the Israeli military stated that it had once again begun implementing the ceasefire, the situation remains totally unpredictable
- ➢On January 15, 2026, "Board of Peace" was established by U.S. President Donald Trump

2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Scrambles

➢The number of scrambles for FY2025 is 595 times

➢Since FY2013, the number of scrambles has remained at a high level of over 700 times in a single FY

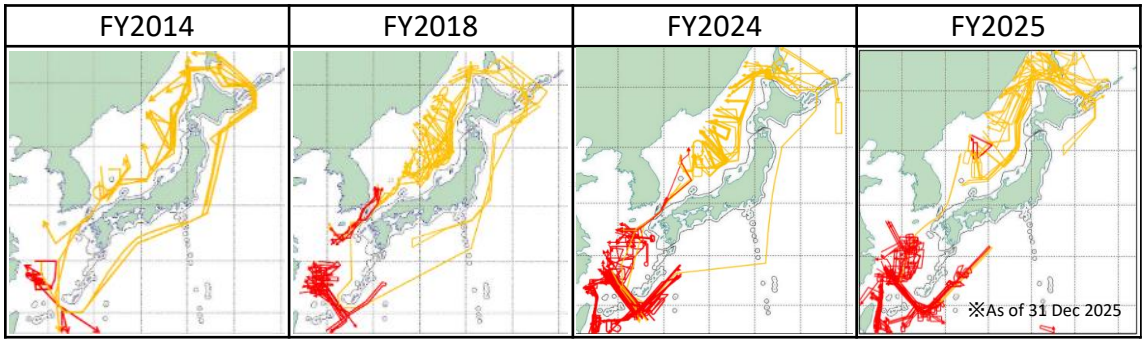
Number and Breakdown of Scrambles since the Cold War



(Note) The peak of the cold war

Source: 2025 DEFENSE OF JAPAN, Joint Staff Website

Flight Patterns of Russian and Chinese Aircraft to Which Scrambles Responded



Chinese aircraft : Russian aircraft

Source: Joint Staff Website

Chinese Aircraft

Fighter

J-16



(29 DEC 2025)

ISR

Y-9



(29 DEC 2025)

UAV

TB-001



(24 Apr2025)

Bomber

H-6



(29 DEC 2025)

Russian Aircraft

Fighter

Su-30



(9 DEC 2025)

ISR

Il-20



(29 Oct 2025)

Bomber

Tu-95



(9 DEC 2025)

AEW&C

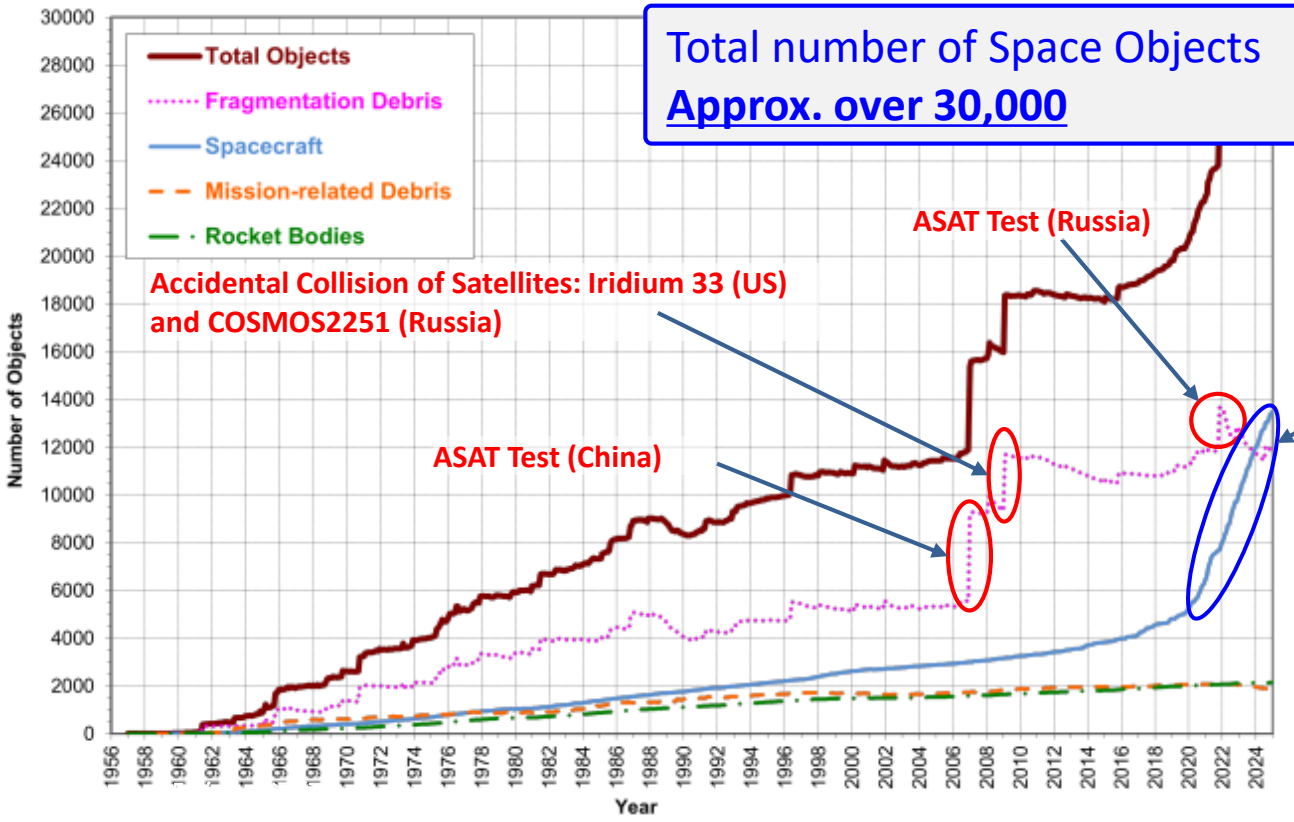
A-50



(29 DEC 2025)

2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Situation in Space

- Space systems are critical infrastructure for Japan, and essential for maximizing capabilities of C2 and equipment
- Major countries have enhanced their capabilities of ISR, Early Warning, Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) and Communications satellites and sought to launch them to strengthen C4ISR functions
- ASAT have been developed to hinder other countries' use of space, and ASAT tests by China and Russia have resulted in the creation of large amounts of space debris
- Increasing risks to the stable use of space including cyber attacks on space systems
- Countries focus on SDA to monitor threats to space assets





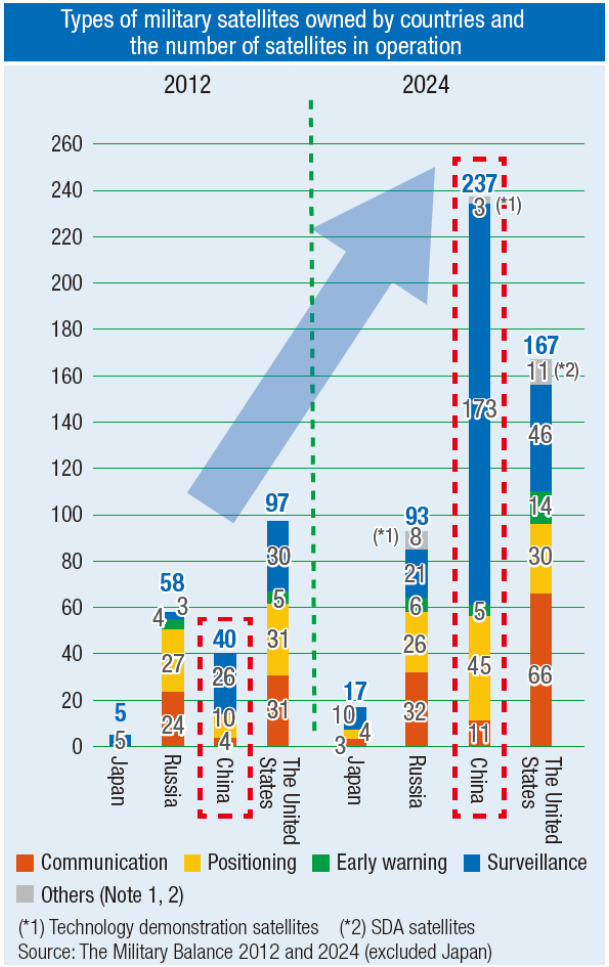
Commercial Satellite Constellations

- C4ISR: Command, Control, Communication, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance
- ASAT: Anti-Satellite Weapon
- SDA: Space Domain Awareness
- Satellite constellation : A system that operates many satellites in orbit as a single, coordinated network

Source: NASA : Orbital Debris Quarterly News Volume29,Issue1

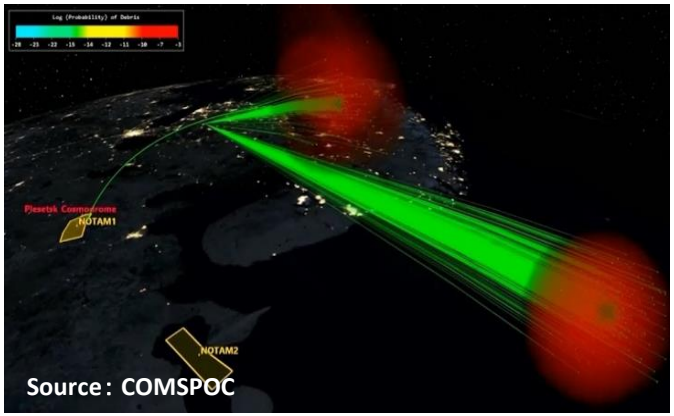
2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Increasing Threats in Space

- Recent increase in Chinese satellites is remarkable, surging about 5.9 times in the 12 years since 2012
- Threats in space domain have increased including ASAT tests by China and Russia, GPS jamming and cyber attacks on space systems
- North Korea launched rockets aiming at sending satellites in May, August, and November. The object launched by North Korea in November has been confirmed to be in orbit around the Earth





Remote sensing satellite "AlSat-3A" launched by China



ASAT Test by Russia



GPS Jamming targeting the European Commission President's plane

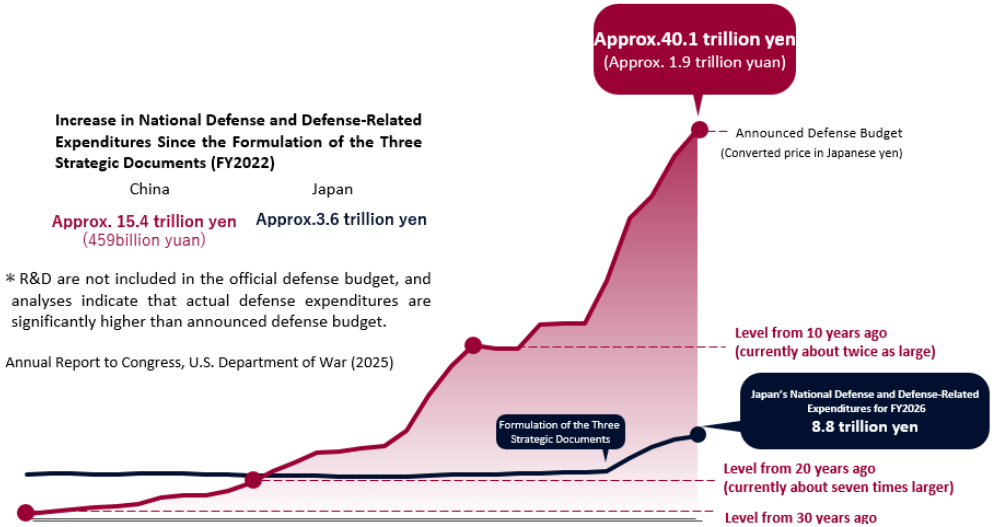


"Military Reconnaissance Satellite" launched by DPRK

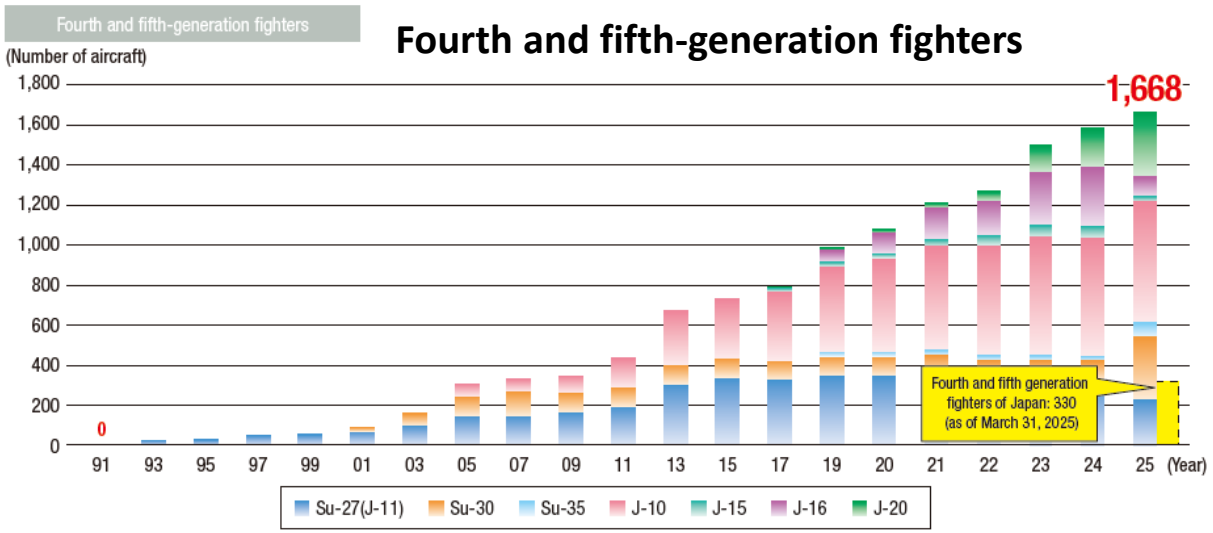
3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: China

- China has rapidly increased announced defense budget (27 times in 30 years, 2 times in 10 years)
- Continuously increasing defense spending at a high level and rapidly strengthening military capabilities in both quality and quantity

Changes in China's Announced Defense Budget



Fourth and fifth-generation fighters





DF-41 Max firing range: 11,200km



DF-17 Max firing range: 2,000km



Range of Ballistic Missiles from China (Beijing)



J-20 fighter

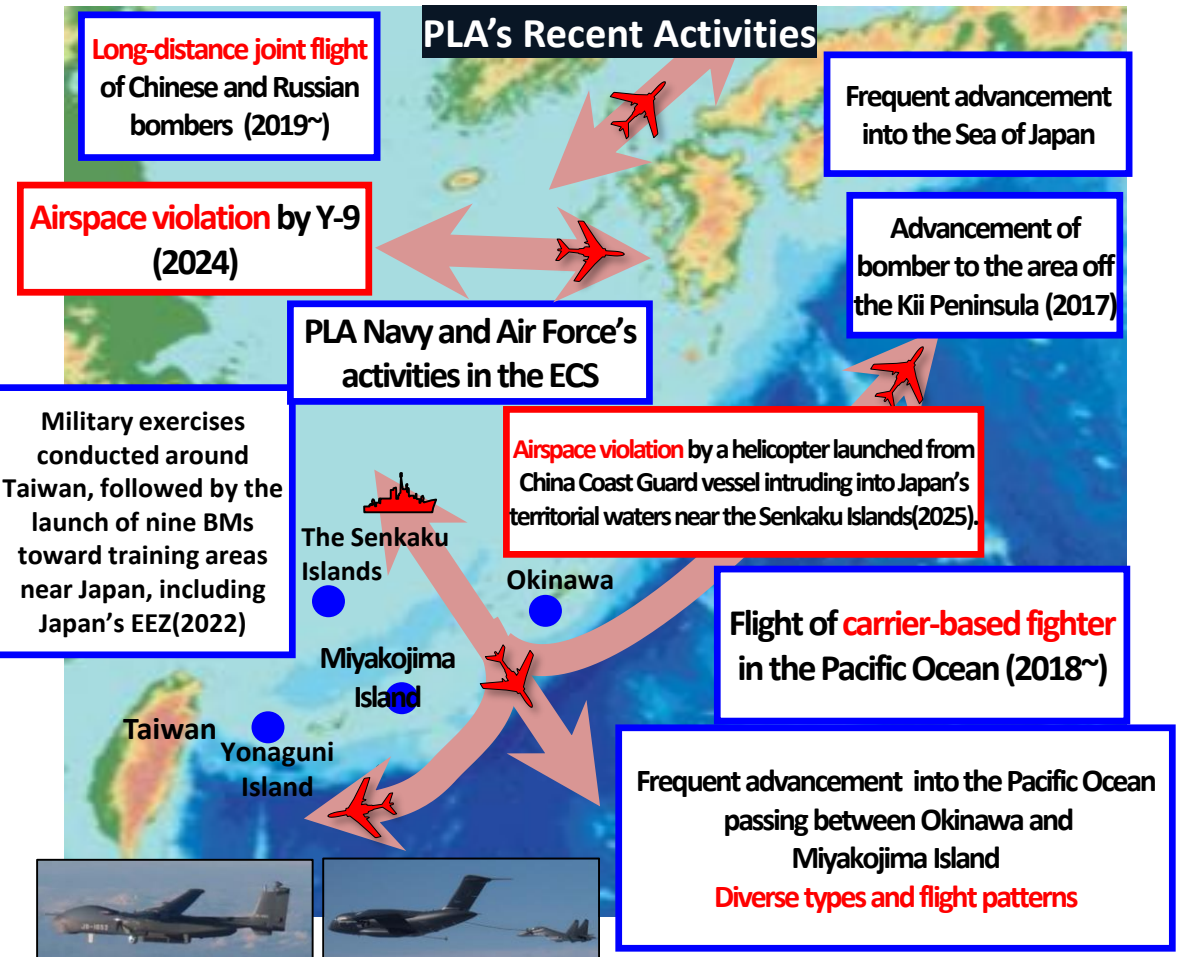


H-6 bomber

Source: DEFENSE of JAPAN 2025, Ministry of Defense Website

3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: China

- PLA has intensified its activities in the waters and airspace surrounding Japan.
- Beginning with the 2024 and 2025 airspace violations, China has unilaterally escalated its military action
- Increases military pressure on Taiwan, entrenches foothold in the SCS, and strengthens collaboration with Russia
- These military trends are serious concern for Japan and the international community; the greatest strategic challenge



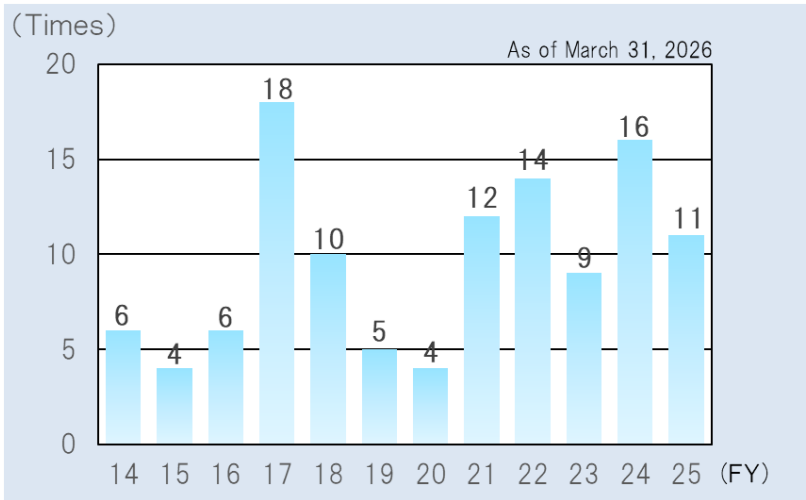
TB-001 recon/attack UAV

Y-20 AAR, J-16 fighter

Airspace violation by a China Coast helicopter (May 2025 near the Senkaku Islands)



Announced number of PLA Aircraft passing Miyako Strait

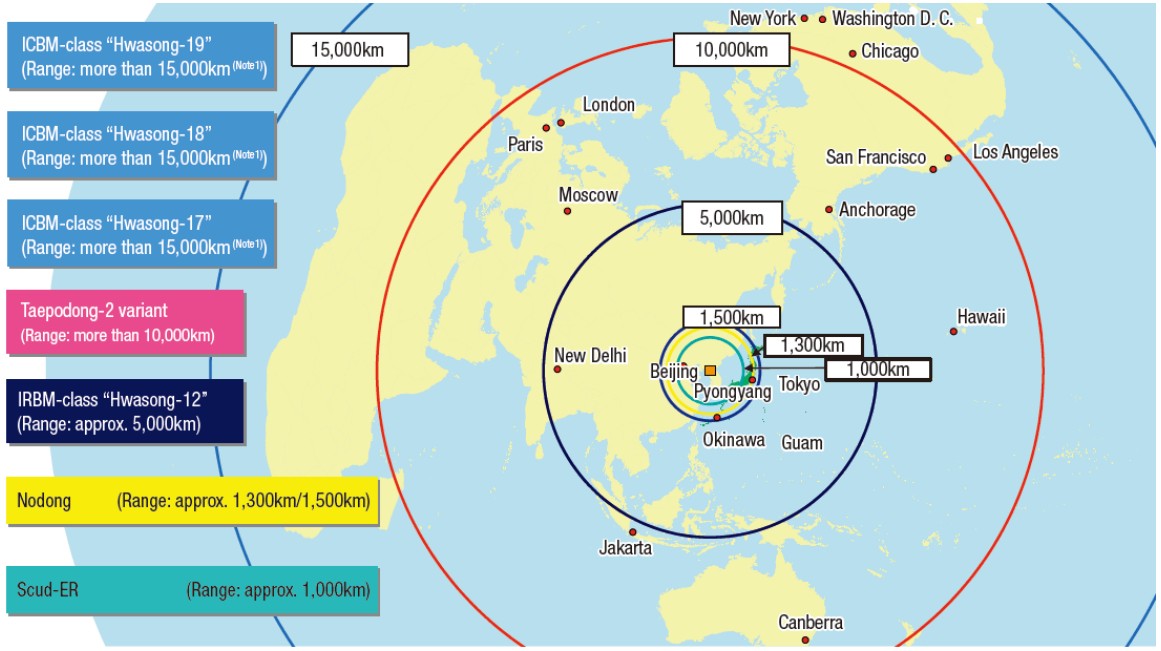


Source: DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2025, Ministry of Defense Website, Joint Staff Website

3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: North Korea

- North Korea's ultimate goal appears to be maintaining its regime and building its own nuclear deterrent is essential to counter the US. NK has pursed the development of ballistic missiles in addition to nuclear weapon.
- Possesses capabilities to mount a nuclear warhead on its ballistic missiles whose range covers Japan
- Develops SRBM that can fly at low altitudes with irregular trajectory and expands more practical missile force
- Regarding Russia's aggression against Ukraine, North Korea supplies BMs and dispatches soldiers to Russia, strengthening military cooperation with Russia
- North Korea's military trends pose a more serious and imminent threat than ever before

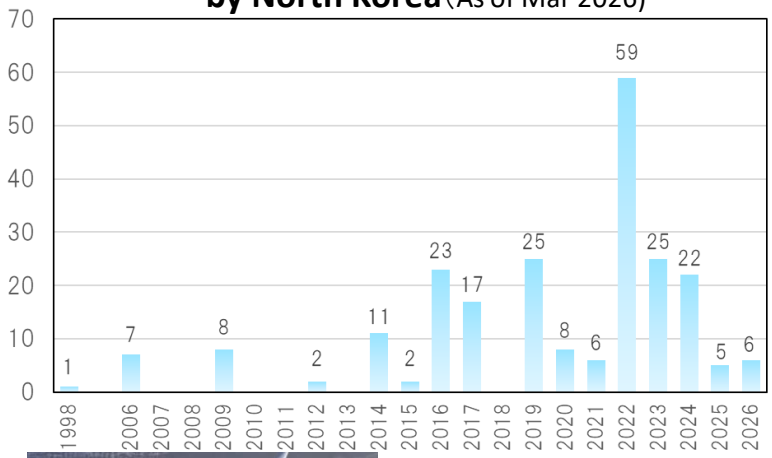
Range of North Korea's Ballistic Missiles



(Notes) 1 Depends on weight of the warhead, etc.
2 For simplicity, the distance from Pyongyang is displayed in concentric circles as an image.
3 Quotation marks indicate the names used by North Korea.

Source: DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2025

Trends in Nuclear Tests and BM Launches by North Korea (As of Mar 2026)





Released by North Korea during the launch of hypersonic missile in January 2025

Source: Korean Central News Agency

3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: North Korea

Development of Missile-related Technologies

Improvement of secrecy and promptness

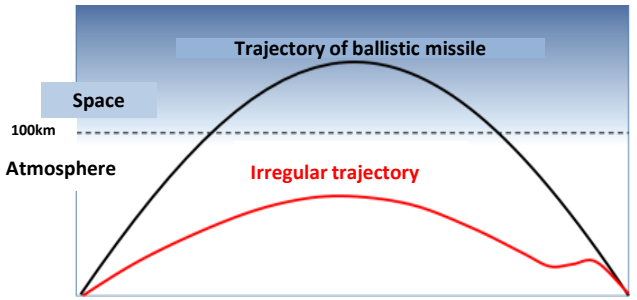


- Launch from various platforms
- Use solid fuel

⇒ Pursue secrecy and promptness of launches

BMD penetration capabilities

- Develop ballistic missiles able to fly at low altitudes with irregular trajectory
- Develop hypersonic weapons



⇒ Make it difficult for missiles to be intercepted, aiming at penetrating BMD

Long-Range Missile Development



Hwasong-17, Hwasong-18, Hwasong-19
Range: 15,000km~

Hwasong-15
Range: 14,000km~

Hwasong-14
Range: 5,500km~

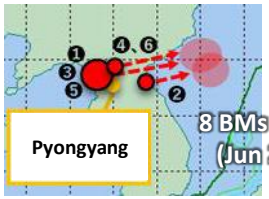


- Missiles with a range over 15,000km can reach the entire continental United States (if launched from Pyongyang).

⇒It may lead to an increase and escalation of military provocations

Development of Missile Capabilities

- Multiple Missile Launch





- Launches less than one-minute Intervals



- Launch from various sites to strike specific target



⇒ Develop missile-related technologies and practical operational capabilities for saturation attacks

Source: Ministry of Defense Website

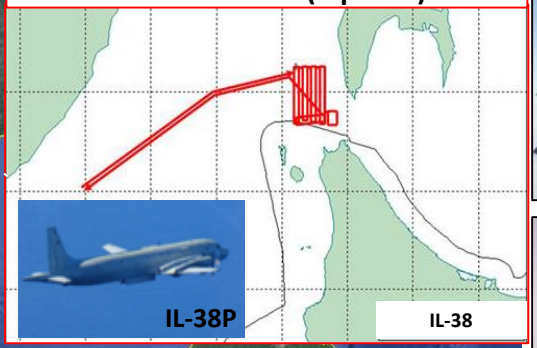
3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: Russia

- Pursue a Russian revival under the banner of "strong state" and "influential great power"
- Clarify commitment to modernize strategic nuclear weapons
- Russia has continued active military activities around Japan, including the 2024 Japan's airspace violation, developing new equipment and conducting exercises
- Russia's military posture, coupled with its strategic cooperation with China, raises serious security concerns

China-Russia Joint Flight (9 Dec 2025)



Airspace violation by IL-38 Patrol Aircraft (Sep 2024)



Russian Far East force's New Equipment









Major Equipment in the Area

China-Russia Joint Flight (29 Nov 2024) Sea of Japan - ECS

Exercise/Training

○Strategic Nuclear Forces Exercise (Oct 2024)
ICBM was launched from Plesetsk state testing cosmodrome targeting the Kamchatka Peninsula. SLBMs were launched from the Barents Sea and Sea of Okhotsk.

○July Storm Naval Exercise (Jul 2025)
Conducted by the Northern ,Baltic Fleets ,and Black Sea Fleets, as well as the Caspian Flotilla in the Pacific and Arctic oceans as well as the Baltic and Caspian seas.

: Deployment of Russian Forces around Japan

Source: DEFENSE of JAPAN 2025, Ministry of Defense Website, Joint Staff Website

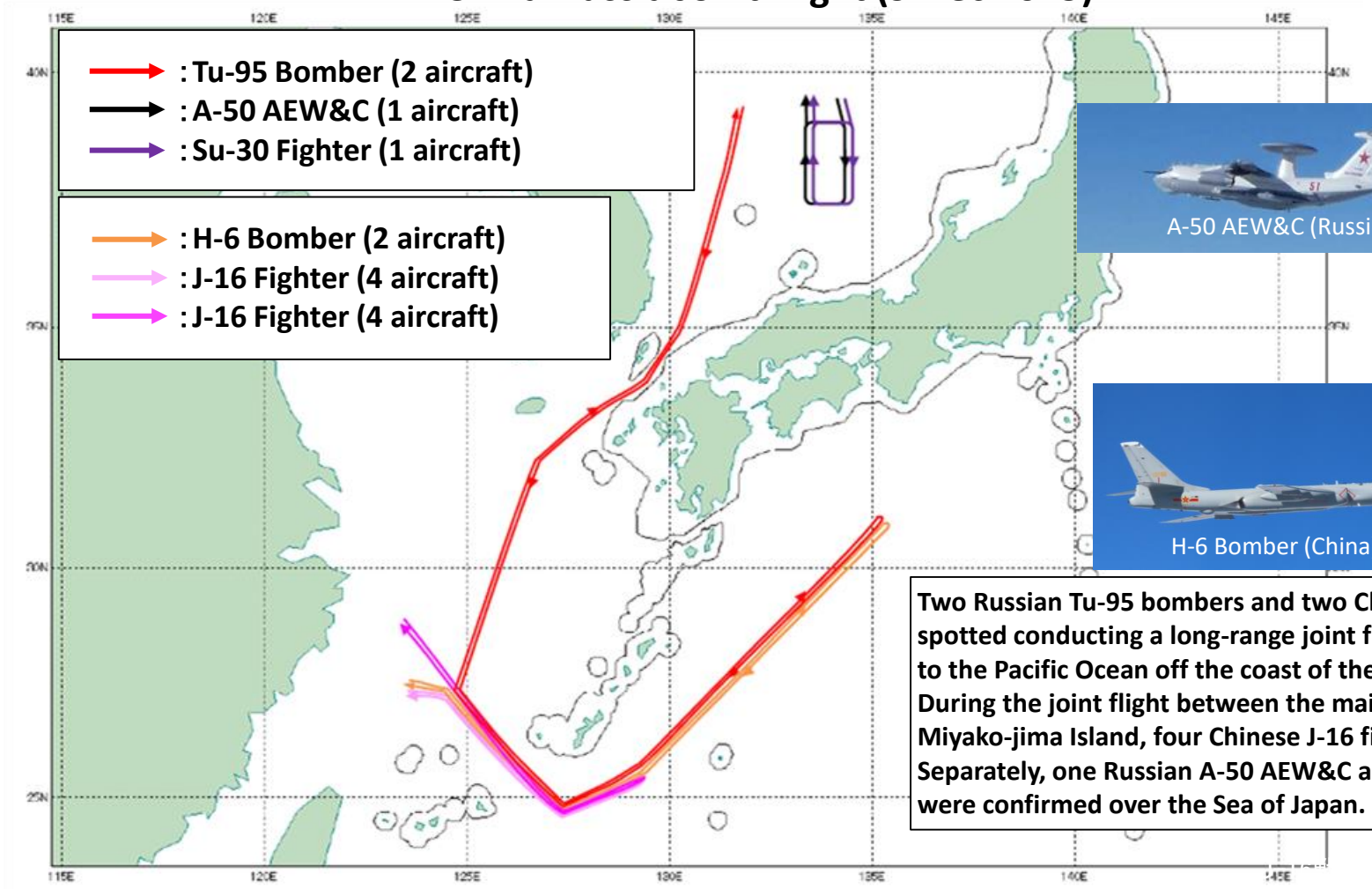
3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: Joint Flight

➢Since 2019, China and Russia have conducted joint flights in the Sea of Japan, ECS and Pacific Ocean

➢ Cooperation between China and Russia has been steadily enhanced through activities such as mutual landings and fighter escort flights

➢The March 2023 China-Russia Joint Statement states joint flights will be carried out on a regular basis

China-Russia Joint Flight (9 Dec 2025)




Tu-95 Bomber (Russia)
J-16 Fighter (China)

A-50 AEW&C (Russia)


Su-30 Fighter (Russia)

H-6 Bomber (China)

Two Russian Tu-95 bombers and two Chinese H-6 bombers were spotted conducting a long-range joint flight from the East China Sea to the Pacific Ocean off the coast of the main island of Shikoku. During the joint flight between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako-jima Island, four Chinese J-16 fighters joined the formation. Separately, one Russian A-50 AEW&C aircraft and two Su-30 fighters were confirmed over the Sea of Japan.

Ⅱ Air Defense Capabilities & Missions of Koku-Jieitai

1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai
2 Key Features of Air Defense Capabilities
3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai

1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai

JSDF Law, Article 3 [Missions of the Self-Defense Forces]

- Protect our country in order to ensure its security and protect the peace and independence of our country
- Maintain public safety and order when necessary
- Koku-Jieitai carries out missions mainly in the air

JSDF Law, Chapter 6 [Operations of Self-Defense Forces]

- Defense Operation (Article 76)
- Civil Protection Dispatch (Article 77-4)
- Public Security Operation (Article 78, 81)
- Guarding Operation (Article 81-2)
- Maritime Security Operations (Article 82)
- Counter-Piracy Operations（Article 82-2）
- Destruction measures against ballistic missiles or Other Objects, (Article 82-3)
- Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83),Earthquake Disaster Prevention Dispatch (Article 83-2),Nuclear Disaster Relief Dispatch (Article 83-3)
- Measures against Intrusion of Territorial Airspace (Article 84)
- Rescue and Transportation of Japanese Nationals Overseas (Article 84-3,4)
- International Emergency Relief Operations, International Peace Cooperation Activities (Article 84-5)

JSDF Law, Chapter 8 [Miscellaneous Provisions]

- Cooperation in athletic competitions (Article 100-3)
- VIP Transportation (Article 100-5)




Action against violation of territorial airspace




Destruction measures against ballistic missiles




Disaster relief dispatch




Transportation of Japanese nationals overseas and international emergency assistance

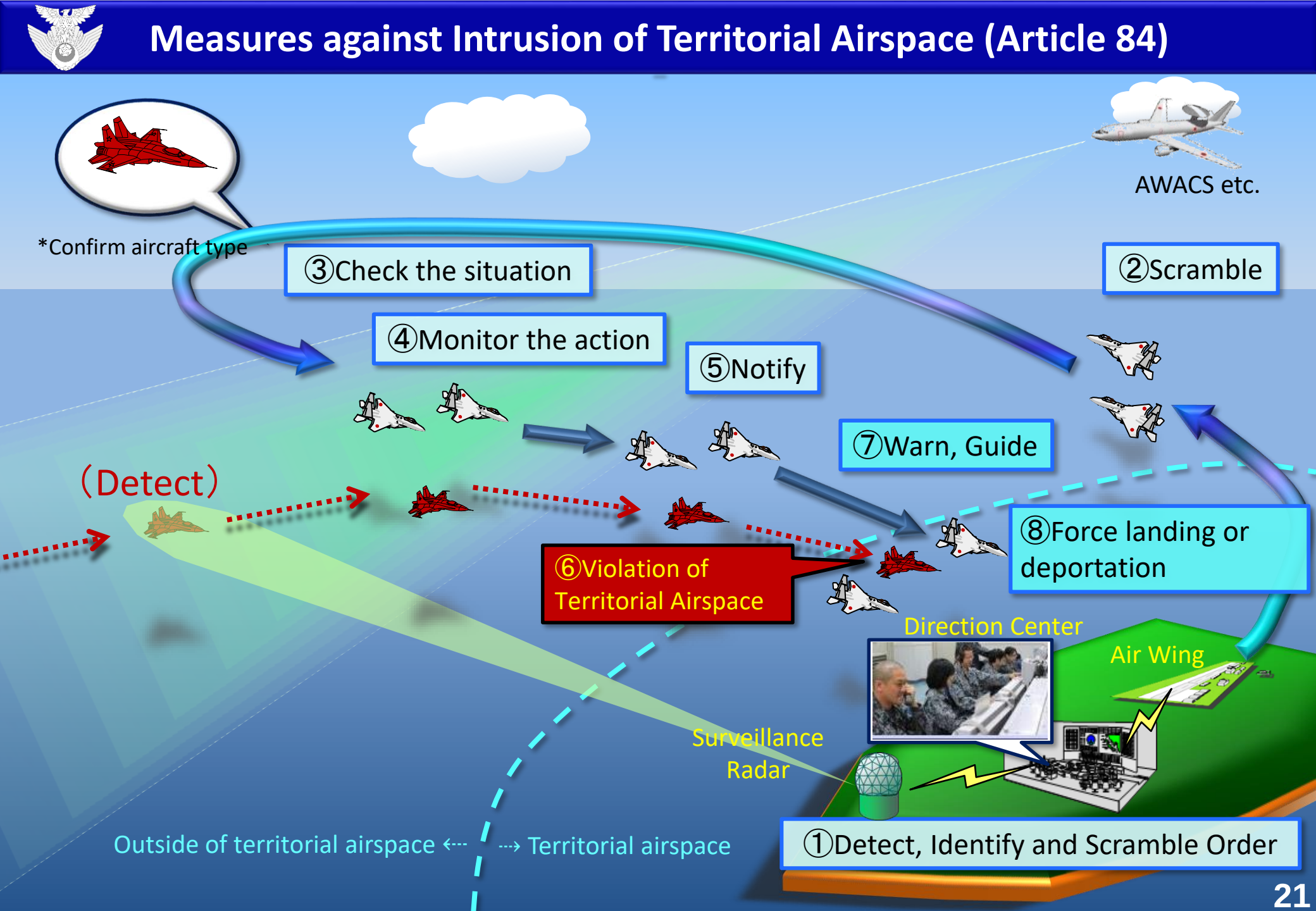
1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai

Koku-Jieitai is the only organization that defends our sky and space from peacetime to contingencies

	Land	Sea	Air and Space
【Contingencies】 Defense Capabilities	**JGSDF**  150,000 personnel	**JMSDF**  45,000 personnel 140 vessels	**Koku-Jieitai (Koku-Jieitai)**  47,000 personnel Approx. 450 aircraft  SSA Radar  Satellite Jamming Detection Equipment
【Peace time】 Police Power	**Police**  260,000 personnel	**Japan Coast Guard**  15,000 personnel 480 vessels	Koku-Jieitai responds to violation of territorial airspace Koku-Jieitai conducts SDA for securing stable use of space

➢**Koku-Jieitai: Japan's Sole Guardian in the Air and Space Domains**

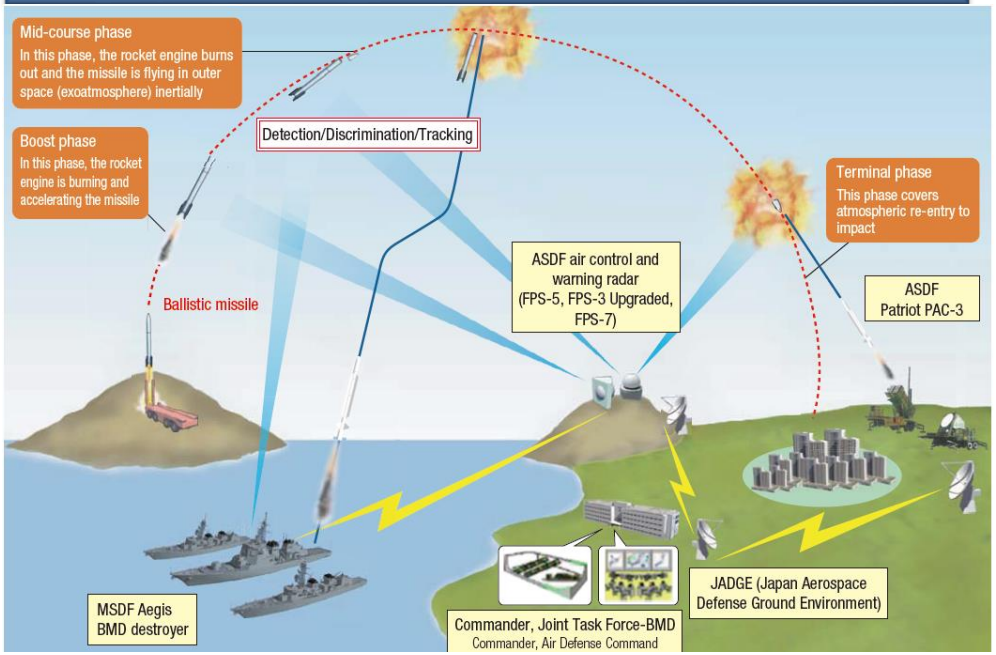
Measures against Intrusion of Territorial Airspace (Article 84)



Destruction measures against ballistic missiles (Article 82-3)

➢ Air Defense Command Commander takes command of ground, maritime and air components for BMD under the centralized control of JJOC Commander

Development & Operation Concept of BMD




JMSDF Aegis


PAC-3

Command and Control



*BMD : Ballistic Missile Defense

Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83)

Disaster Relief Operations by Koku-Jieitai（FY2025）



Search for a medical helicopter off eastern Tsushima, Nagasaki（6 Apr）



Airlift of Relief Supplies to Daito Islands, Okinawa（1 Aug）





Airlift of Vehicle to Hachijojima Island, Tokyo（14 Oct）

Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83)

Aeromedical Evacuation (FY2025)



Kuchinoshima Island - Kagoshima（UH-60J）



Vessel (226NM southeast of Naha)
- Naha（UH-60J, U-125A）



Nakadorishima Island – Omura（UH-60J）



217NM southeast of Naha
- Naha（UH-60J, U-125A）

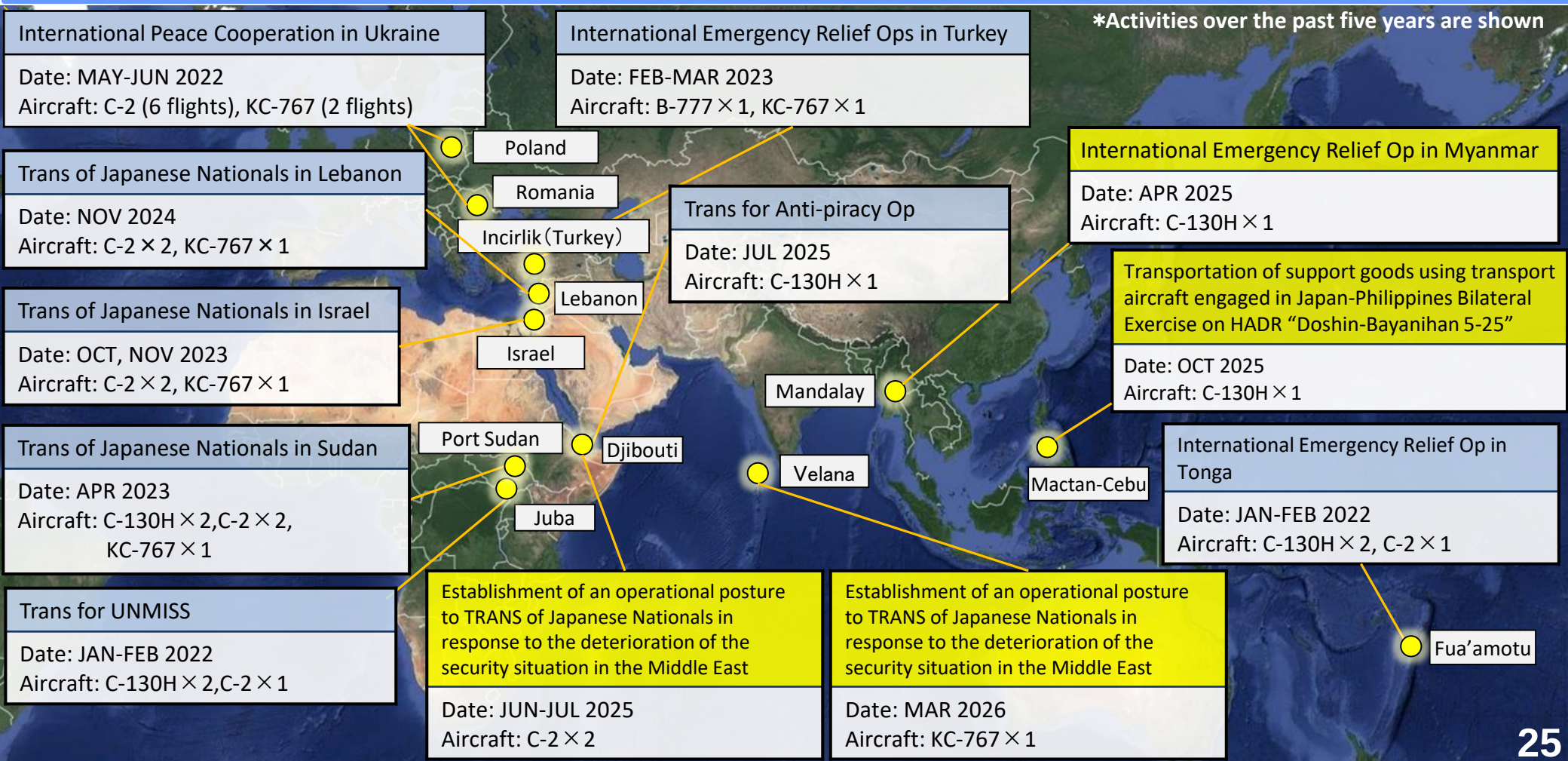
Activity	Engagement (Koku-Jieitai)	
MEDEVAC	UH-60J, U-125A, C-2, C-130H	27 cases

Source: Joint Staff Website

Transportation of Japanese Nationals Overseas/ International Emergency Relief Operations (Article 84-4)

- Since the first international PKO to Cambodia in 1992, Koku-Jieitai has conducted international emergency relief operations, air transportation and transportation of Japanese nationals overseas for over 30 years
- In April 2025, Koku-Jieitai transported emergency relief goods to Myanmar for International Emergency Relief Operations in response to the Earthquake
- In response to potential requirements for transportation of Japanese nationals amid the Middle East situation, and at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, transport aircraft were deployed to Djibouti in June 2025 and the Maldives in March 2026

*Activities over the past five years are shown



International Emergency Relief Operation (Article 84-5)

International Emergency Relief Operations in Myanmar (APR 2025)



Loading medical equipment and supplies onto C-130

Source: DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2025



Start airlift operations of medical equipment and supplies with C-130 aircraft



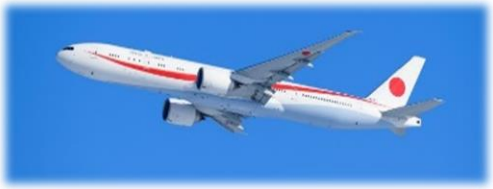
Unloading medical equipment and supplies



Transfer medical equipment and supplies to JICA

VIP Transportation (Article 100-5)

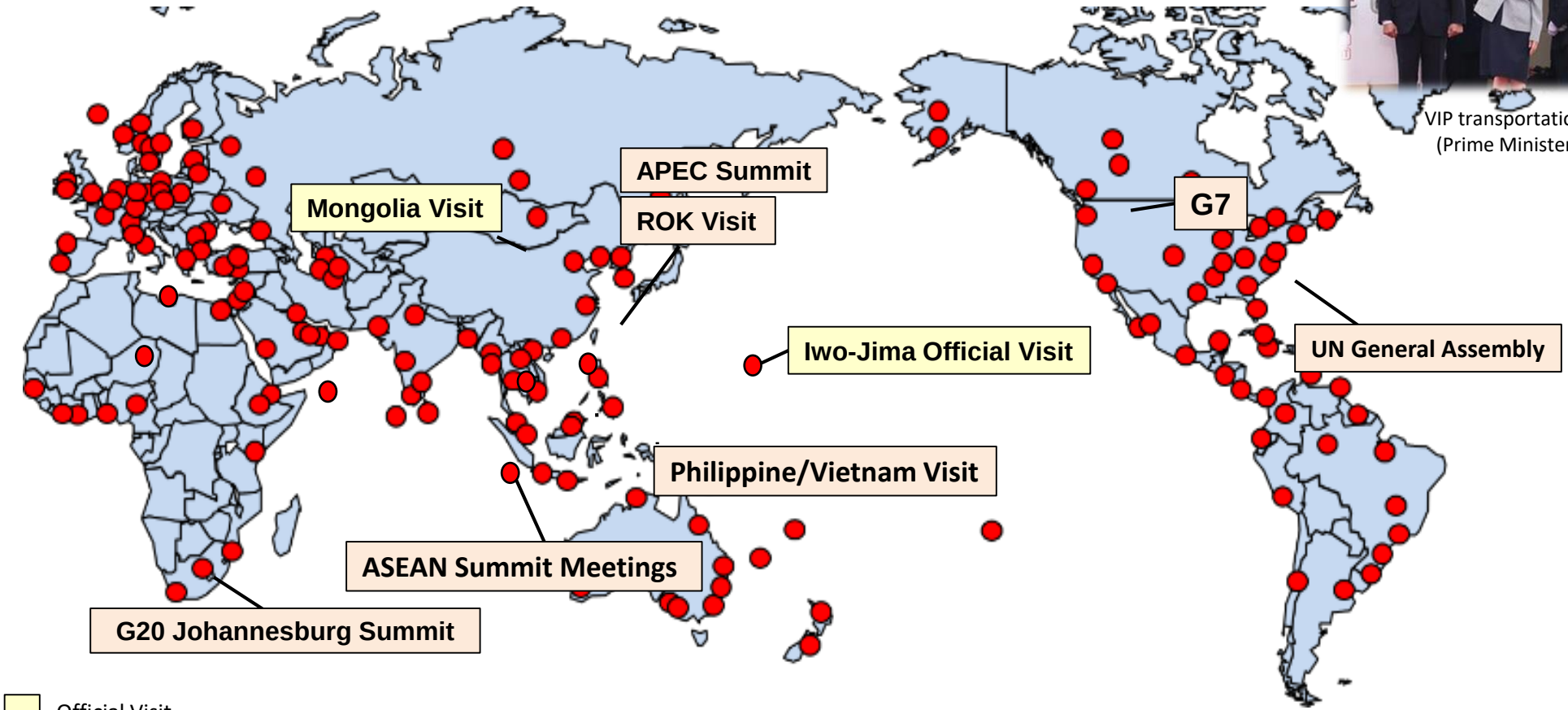
- Have conducted VIP transportation since 1993
- The aircraft type was updated to the B-777(APR 2019)
- 383 flight missions (as of 25 FEB 2026)
  B-747: 318 times, B-777: 65 times
- Visited 101 countries/289 cities



B-777



VIP transportation
(Prime Minister)



Air Defense Capabilities

Defense Capabilities related to air such as aircraft, radars and missiles



Fighter Units



AC & W Units



SAM Units

2 Key Features of Air Defense Capabilities

Readiness & Agility



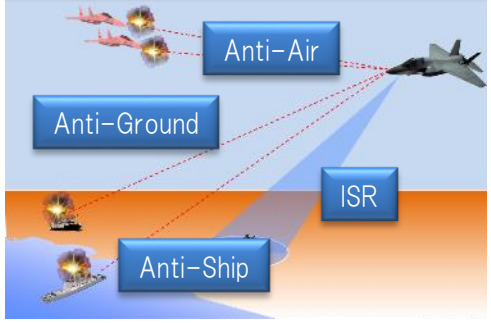
Surveillance Capability



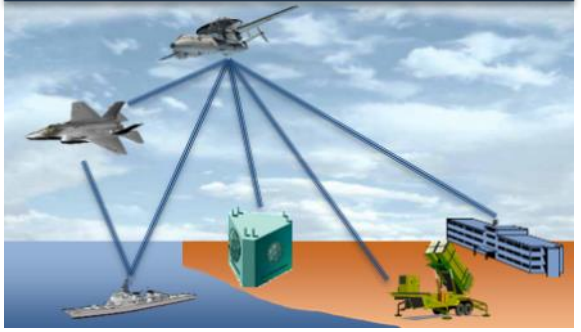
Affected by Weather



Flexibility & Diversity



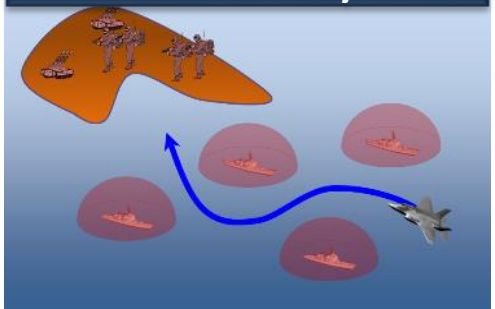
C3 Capability



Vulnerable on the Ground



Penetration & Survivability



Precision Response Capability



Require Long-Term Efforts

Acquisition



HR Development



3 Organizational Structure of Koku-Jieitai

Minister of Defense



Minister of Defense
Mr. Koizumi

State Minister of Defense



State Minister of Defense
Mr. Miyazaki

Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense



Mr. Wakabayashi



Mr. Yoshida

Air Staff Office

Approx. 950



Chief of Staff
Gen Morita



Vice Chief of Staff
Lt Gen Momma

Air Defense Command



ADC/CC
Lt Gen Inazuki

Approx. 27,200

Air Support Command



ASC/CC
Lt Gen Ando

Approx. 5,100

Air Training Command



ATC/CC
Lt Gen Sakamoto

Approx. 6,000

Air Development and Test Command



AD&TC/CC
Lt Gen Saito

Approx. 900

Air Materiel Command



AMC/CC
Lt Gen Kojima

Approx. 3,700

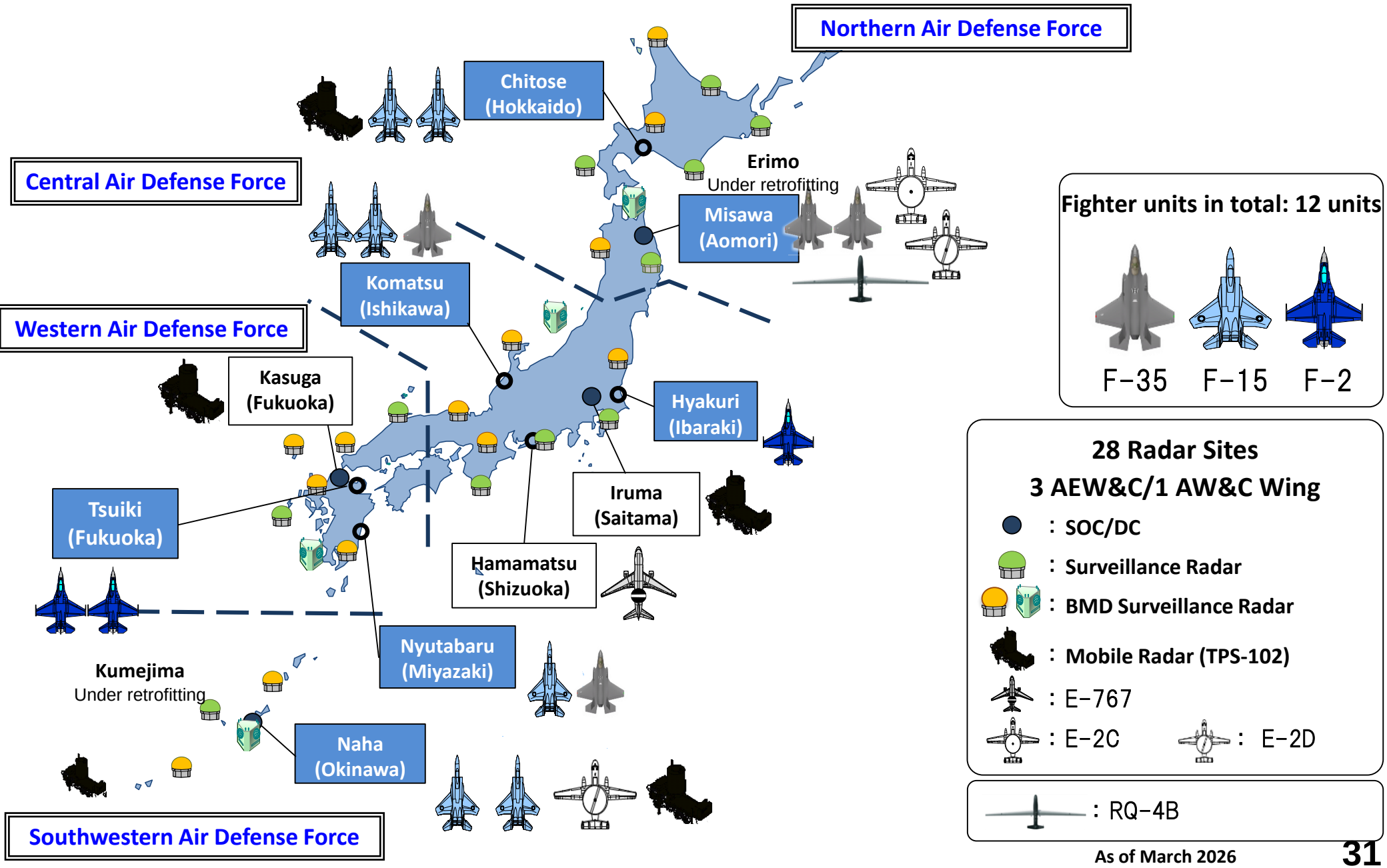
Others

Space Operations Wing etc.

Approx. 5,700

Koku-Jieitai: approx. 50,000 personnel including 2,800 civilian

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command

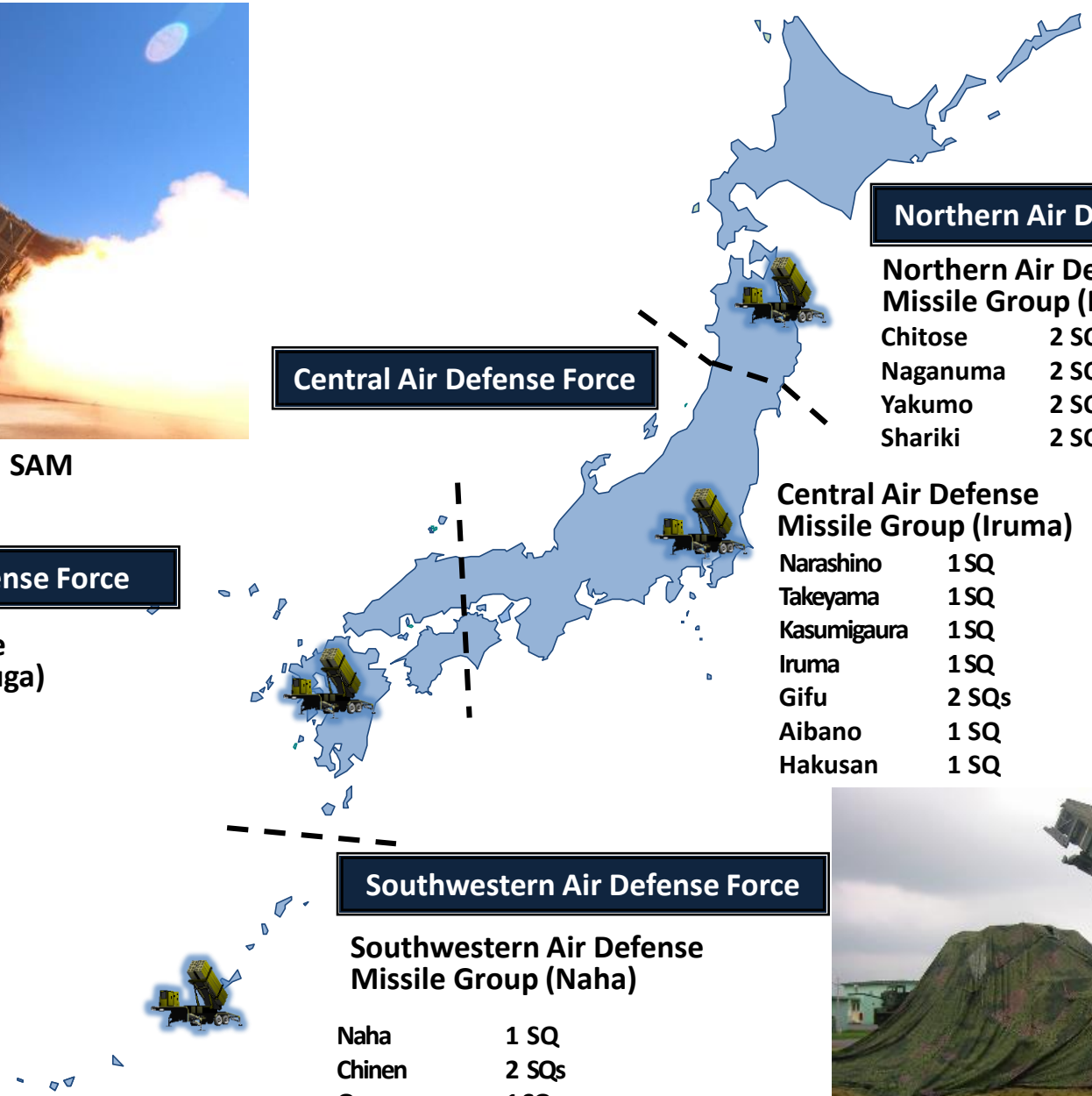


As of March 2026

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command



Launch of SAM



Northern Air Defense Force

Northern Air Defense Missile Group (Misawa)

Chitose	2 SQs
Naganuma	2 SQs
Yakumo	2 SQs
Shariki	2 SQs

Central Air Defense Force

Central Air Defense Missile Group (Iruma)

Narashino	1 SQ
Takeyama	1 SQ
Kasumigaura	1 SQ
Iruma	1 SQ
Gifu	2 SQs
Aibano	1 SQ
Hakusan	1 SQ

Western Air Defense Force

Western Air Defense Missile Group (Kasuga)

Ashiya	2 SQs
Tsuiki	1 SQ
Kouradai	1 SQ

Southwestern Air Defense Force

Southwestern Air Defense Missile Group (Naha)

Naha	1 SQ
Chinen	2 SQs
Onna	1 SQ



Equipment Deployment

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command

Air Rescue Units : 10 SQs





Helicopter Airlift Units : 4 SQs

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command

Commander, Air Support Command

HQs, Air Support Command (Fuchu)

Tactical Airlift Wing
(Komaki, etc.)

- Airlift missions
- Support JGSDF Airborne unit
- Education and training to pilots and maintainers



Air Traffic Control Group
(Fuchu, etc.)

- Air traffic control
- Aviation recourse management
- Flight information service



Air Weather Group
(Fuchu, etc.)

- Weather forecast
- Weather observation
- Weather information



Flight Check SQ
(Iruma)

- Flight check service for facilities of aeronautical security and air traffic control



Special Airlift Group
(Chitose)

- Transport service for state guests using special cargo aircraft (B-777)



Aeromedical Evacuation SQ
(Komaki, etc.)

- Onboard medical care for patients in critical condition
- Research and surveys for onboard medical service
- Education on emergency care



3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command


B-777


C-2


KC-46A


KC-767


U-4


Chitose

Miho

Iruma

Komaki


C-130H


U-125


U-680A

Tactical airlift unit
Air refueling / transport unit

Flight check unit

Special airlift unit

Tactical airlift unit: 3 SQs
Aerial refueling / transport unit: 2 SQs
Flight check unit: 1 SQ
Special airlift unit: 1 SQ

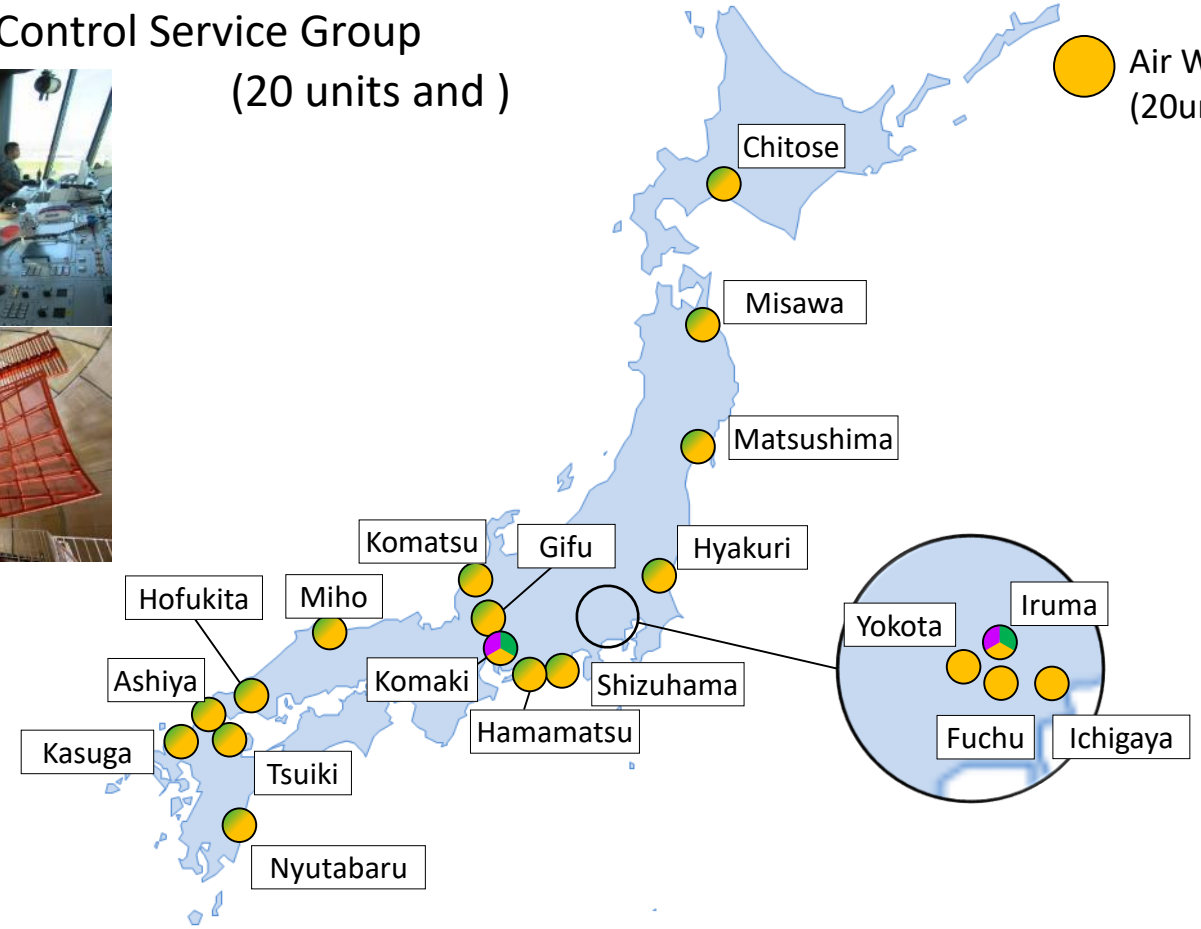
*As of MAR 2026

3 Organization chart of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command

Air Traffic Control Service Group
(20 units and)







Air Weather Service Group
(20units and HQ of Air Weather Group)





Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Training Command

Commander, Air Training Command

HQ (Hamamatsu)

Air Wing (Hamamatsu, Matsushima)

・Education and training for student pilots (Basic Fighter training course)



Flying Training Wing (Shizuhama, Hofukita, Ashiya)

・Education and training for students as pilots (Basic pilot course)



Air Basic Training Wing (Hofuminami, Kumagaya)

・Basic training and general education and for cadets and enlisted personnel



Fighter Training SQ (Nyutabaru)

・Education and training for fighter pilot candidate students (Fighter pilot course)



Air Training Aids Group (Hamamatsu)

・Create and maintain training materials for education and training



Officer Candidate School (Nara)

・Education and training for cadets to execute missions



Technical Schools (Hamamatsu, Ashiya, Kumagaya, Komaki)

・Education and training for each specialized technique for operation of equipment



*The broken lines indicate supervision by the Commander of the Air Training Command.

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Development and Test Command

Commander, Air Development and Test Command

HQ (Fuchu)

Air Development and Test Wing (Gifu)

- Test, evaluate and basic operational research of aviation equipment
- Support Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency (ATLA)
- Test flight for receiving based on request from ATLA
- Education and training for test pilots



Electronics Development and Test Group (Fuchu)

- Test, evaluate and conduct basic operational research of ground communication electronics equipment
- Support ATLA
- Technical research regarding radio wave and quality of communications



Aviation Safety and Aeromedical Research Group (Iruma)

- Research on aviation medicine, and preventing accident
- Practical test
- Evaluate and training
- Information gathering and education on flight safety
- Site survey for accidents
- Cooperation with other services, ATLA



3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Materiel Command

Commander, Air Materiel Command

HQ (Jujo)

- Planning, arrangement of logistics and management for each depot

2nd Air Depot (Gifu)

- Store and maintain aircraft
- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on aircraft parts and engines





3rd Air Depot (Iruma)

- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on equipment for communications and electronics, photo and weather services





4th Air Depot (Iruma)

- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on firearms, ammunition, targets, and towing equipment
- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on clothing/tools, vehicles, aircraft support equipment, chemical and facility equipment









*The broken lines indicate supervision by the Commander of the Air Material Command.

3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Space Operation Wing

Mar 2026
Establish Space Operation Wing

Mar 2024
Space Operations GP Reorganized

Mar 2023
Space Operations GP Reorganized

【Defense Buildup Plan (16 DEC 2022)】
- Establish new space unit commanded by a General Officer
- Koku-Jieitai will be renamed Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Uchu= Space)

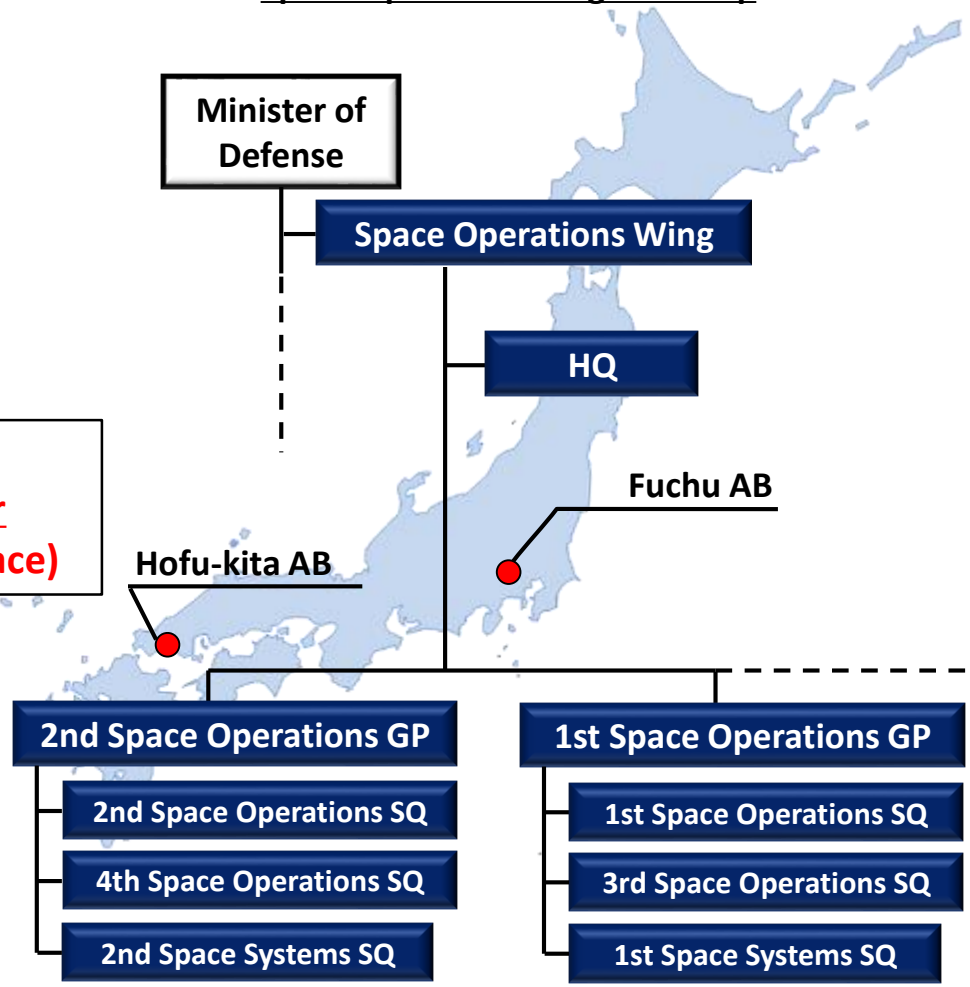
Mar 2022
Space Operations GP
Stood-up

Mar 2020
Space Operations SQ
Stood-up



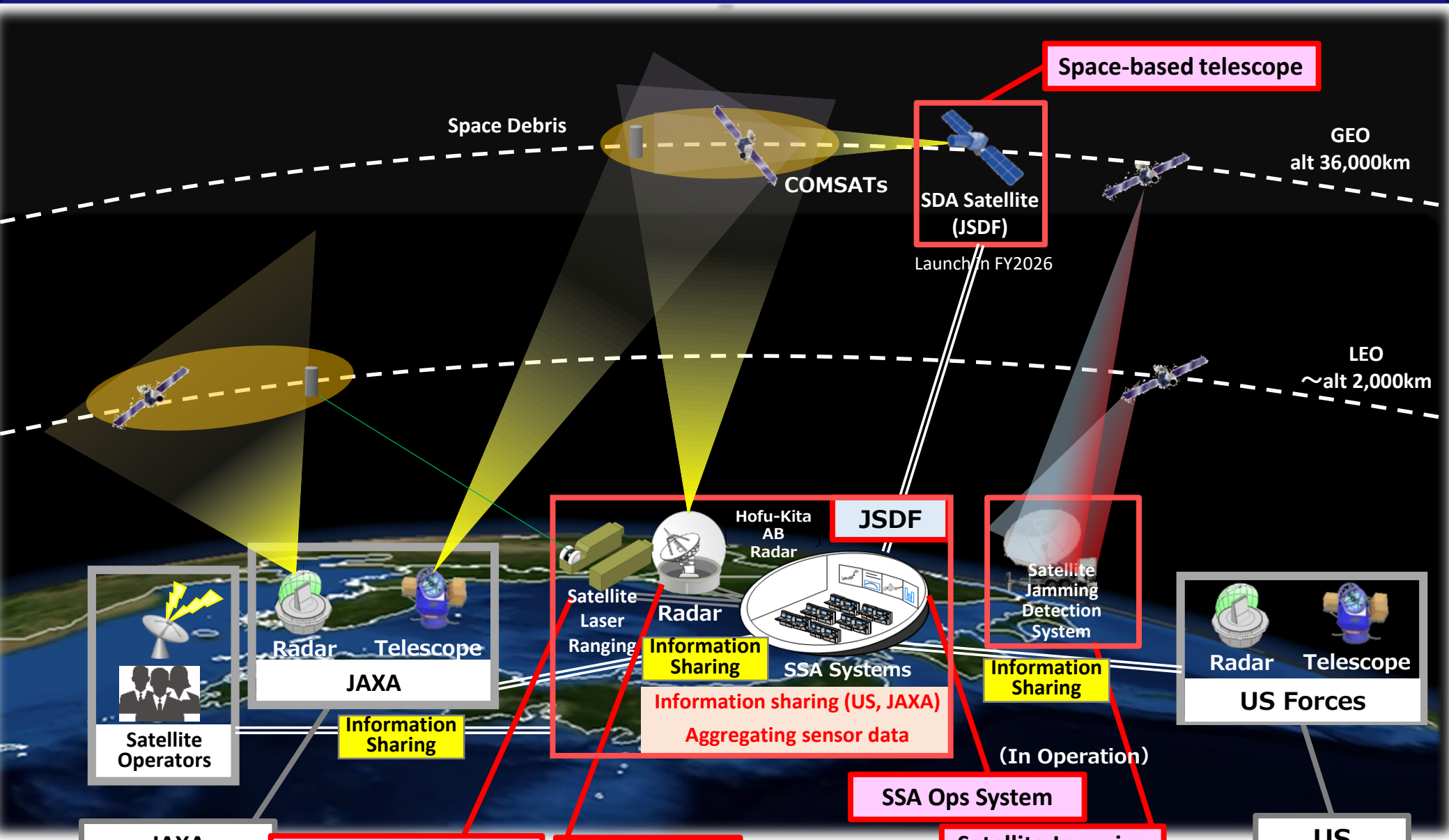
【National Defense Program Guidelines since 2019】
Koku-Jieitai will possess space-specialized unit

Organization after Space Operation Wing Stood-up



Approx. 670 personnel as of Mar 2026

Space Domain Posture Development



Active in FY2026

※ SDA (Space Domain Awareness)

Ⅲ

Defense Capability Transformation

1 National Security Strategy of Japan/
National Defense Strategy/
Defense Buildup Program
2 Core Functions for Air Defense Capabilities and
Seven Key Focus Areas
3 Key Projects of FY2025
4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-minded Countries

Strategy Architecture

National Security Strategy

Provide strategic guidance for Japan's national security policy areas in addition to diplomacy and defense, including economic security, technology, cyber, intelligence etc. (Executed approximately 10-year timeframe)

National Defense Strategy

Set defense objectives and demonstrate approaches and means by which Japan accomplishes those objectives (Executed approximately 10-year timeframe)

Koku-Jieitai will be renewed Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Uchu= Space)

Defense Buildup Program

- Set the level of defense capability

1. Organization of Self-Defense Forces (10 years ahead)
2. Total expenditures for the next five years and quantities of major procurement

A new specialized space domain missions unit commanded by a general officer will be established, and Koku-Jieitai will be renamed to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai.

Seven Key Focus Areas (Seven Pillars)

➢ Koku-Jieitai focuses on the 7 fields for the fundamental reinforcement of defense capabilities.

● **Disrupt and defeat invading forces over long distances, thereby deterring invasion itself**

① Stand-off Defense Capabilities 

② Integrated Air and Missile Defense capabilities 

● **Should deterrence fail and an invasion of Japan occur, in addition to ① and ②, leverage manned as well as unmanned assets to ensure asymmetric advantage and gain superiority across domains such as underwater, surface, and air.**

③ Unmanned defense capabilities 

④ Cross-domain capabilities  

⑤ C2 / Intelligence functions 

●**Operate in a swift and persistent manner to crush to the opponent's will to invade**

⑥ Mobile deployment capabilities / Civil protection 

⑦ Sustainability / Resiliency 

2 Core Air Defense Functions and the Seven Focus Areas





Command & Control
JADGE

Operational Support
Air Transportation, Aerial Refueling, Air Rescue





















Sensors
Ground and Airborne Radars

Shooters
Fighters, SAMs





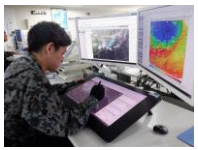


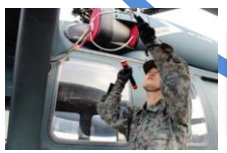












Operational Basis
MX , CE, ATC, Meteorology







① Stand-off Capabilities	② IAMD capabilities	③ Unmanned Capabilities	④Cross-domain Capabilities	⑤C2 / Intelligence	⑥Mobile deployment/ Civil protection	⑦ Sustainability / Resiliency

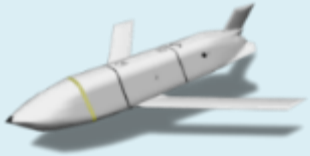
3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Stand-off Defense Capabilities

- Acquire Stand-off Missiles (JSM, JASSM)
- Acquire & Upgrade of Launch Platforms (F-35A & F-2 Upgrade)



JSM※1
(Conceptual image)



JASSM※2
(Conceptual image)



F-35A Procurement



F-2 Upgrade

*1 JSM : Joint Strike Missile
*2 JASSM : Joint Air-to-Surface Stand-Off Missile

IAMD Capabilities

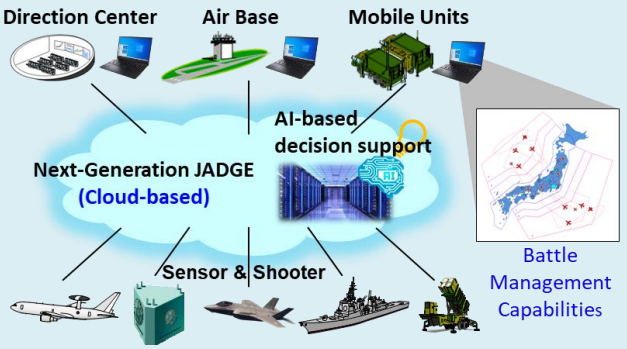
- Next-Generation JADGE (tentative name)
- Upgrade Patriot System
- Upgrade FPS-5/FPS-7
- Replace FPS-3 to FPS-7



FPS-5



FPS-7



Next-Generation JADGE (Provisional)

3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Unmanned Defense Capabilities

- UAVs for radar site defense
- Anti-ship strike UAVs
- UAVs for target intelligence collection



Target Intelligence Collection UAVs
(Conceptual image (for illustrative purposes only))



SHIELD※ (Conceptual image (for illustrative purposes only))

※ Synchronized, Hybrid, Integrated and Enhanced Littoral Defense

Cross-domain Operation Capabilities

- **Enhancing Capabilities in the Space Domain**
  - Fielding Satellite Jamming Detection Systems
  - Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (tentative name)
  - Establishment of the Space Operations Command (tentative name)



Satellite Jamming Detection System

3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Cross-domain Operation Capabilities

- **Cyber Domain**
  - Risk management framework–related expenditures (whole-of-ministry project)
- **Electromagnetic Domain**
  - Acquisition of the RC-2 (SIGINT aircraft)
- **Air Domain**
  - Acquisition of F-35A and F-35B



SIGINT aircraft (RC-2)



F-35B

C2 & Intelligence

- Development of Next-generation JADGE (tentative)

Mobile Deployment Capabilities and Civil Protection

- Acquisition of KC-46A



KC-46A

Sustainability & Resilience



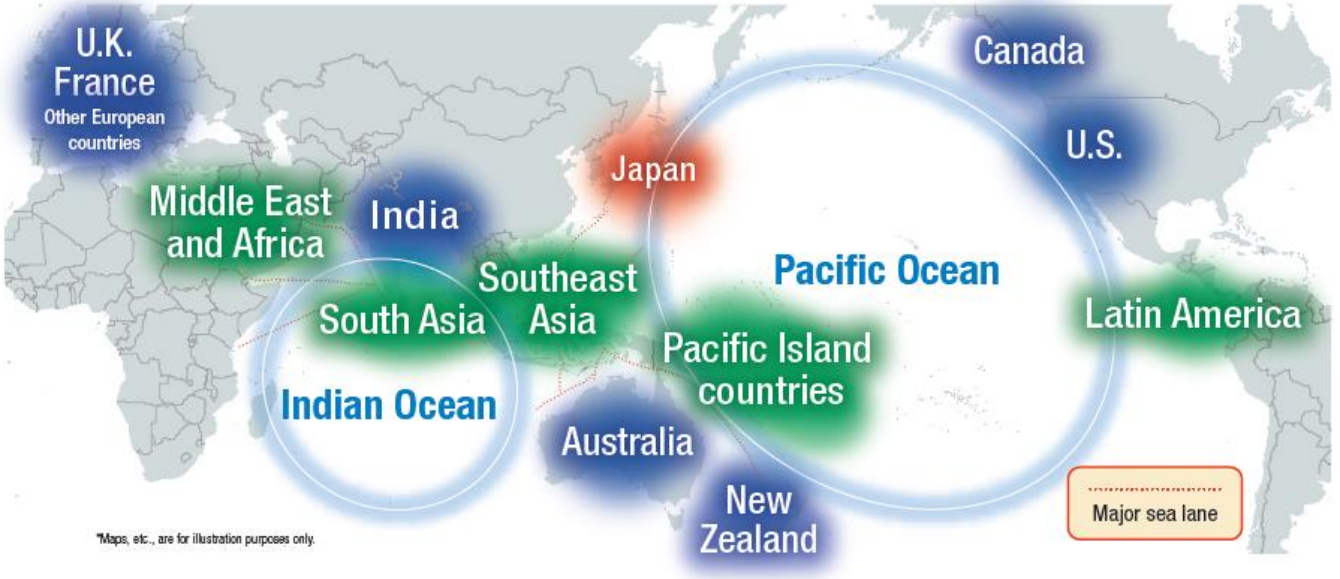
AIM-120

- **Securing Ammunition**
  - Continued acquisition of ammunition and related materiel
- **Equipment Sustainment (Maximizing Availability)**
  - Appropriate acquisition of spare parts in accordance with procurement lead times
- **Infrastructure Development**
  - Modernizing existing facilities and undergrounding major headquarters
  - Development of F-35 operating facilities
  - Implementation of facility hardening and required measures

4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-Minded Countries

Policy on Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

Free and Open Indo-Pacific(FOIP)



Koku-Jieitai's Initiatives in Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

Actively promoting bilateral and multilateral defense cooperation and exchanges including high-level and working-level engagements and bilateral/multilateral exercises in support of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific.

4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-Minded Countries

High-Level Engagement



Unit-to-Unit/Working-Level-Exchanges



RAF



RAAF



Indonesia
(TNI AU)

Bilateral/Multilateral-Exercises



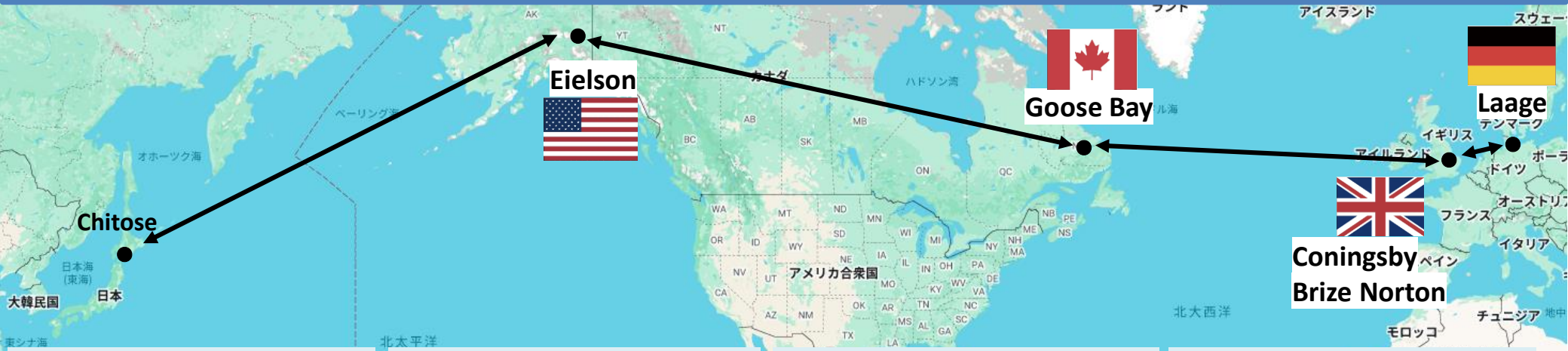
US-led multilateral exercise
Mobility Guardian 25



Japan-US-AUS
Bushido Guardian 25

Atlantic Eagles

- Koku-Jieitai fighters' first-ever friendly visits to Canada and Europe (UK and Germany) to promote mutual understanding and advance defense cooperation and exchanges
- Period: 14 September (Sun) – 1 October (Wed), 2025



Eielson AFB





CFB Goose Bay





RAF Coningsby





Laage AB





Exchange with ROKAF Black Eagles

➢Hosted the ROKAF Black Eagles at Naha AB and conducted refueling support and unit-level exchanges to promote mutual understanding between Koku-Jieitai and the ROKAF, and to advance defense cooperation and exchanges

➢Dates: 28 January (Wed) and 24 February (Tue), 2026









Strengthen the Japan–U.S. Alliance

- Japan–US Alliance with its security framework at its core, contributes significantly to peace, stability, and prosperity in Japan, the Indo-Pacific region and the international community
- Japan and the US will deepen mutual understanding and communication to strengthen deterrence and response capabilities, and will conduct bilateral talks and exercises at multiple levels to enhance interoperability

Strategic

Align strategies through high-level engagements


Japan-US Defense Ministerial Meeting



Chairman of Joint Chief of Staff


CoS with CSAF

Operational

Deepen cooperation in operational level


JJOC-USFJ HQ


07 JX


Schriever Wargame 2025

Tactical

Enhance tactical interoperability through bilateral/multilateral training


Japan-US Bilateral Training


REFORPAC


Bushido Guardian 2025 (Japan-US-AUS)

Strengthen the Japan–U.S. Alliance



Elephant Walk with Japan-US Fighters



Escort Flight with US Bomber



Japan-US Air Defense Missile Live-fire Exercise



Japan-US Airfield Damage Repair Exercise

Multilateral Training with Like-minded Countries

➢Strengthening cooperation with Indo-Pacific partners and like-minded countries by utilizing air power in support of government efforts toward a Free and Open Indo-Pacific













Japan-Germany-Spain



Japan-France



Japan-Italy
(Rising Sun)



Japan-US-Australia
(Cope North)



Japan-UK



Japan-US-Australia
(Bushido Gaudian)



Japan-Philippines HADR
(Doshin Bayanihan)



Training with Like-Minded Countries

Japan-US-Australia Trilateral Training (Bushido Guardian 25) in Misawa



Japan-US-Australia Press Conference



Combined Flight with Participating Aircraft



Source: Ministry of Defense Website

- Training with the US and Australian air forces in support of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific
- First Japan-US-Australia trilateral F-35A training in Japan
- Enhance interoperability through bilateral/multilateral training for peace and stability in Indo-Pacific

Training with Like-Minded Countries

Japan–Philippines HADR Joint Exercise (Doushin–Bayanihan 5-25), Philippines



Airdrop training



MASCAL response training



Airlift of relief supplies for the Cebu offshore earthquake

- Japan–Philippines C-130H participation in airdrop and mass-casualty response training
- Airlift relief supplies in response to the earthquake off Cebu Province during the exercise
- First application of the Japan–Philippines RAA to both training and HADR operations

Capacity Building Assistance

➢Koku-Jieitai participates in the MOD's Capacity Building Assistance programs contributing to capability building in ASEAN and other countries. (International aviation law, Aviation meteorology, Aerospace medicine, Flight safety, Aeronautical search and rescue, Aeromedical evacuation, Air traffic control, Cybersecurity and WPS)

➢Koku-Jieitai implements the invitation program "Professional Airmanship Program (PAP)" under the Vientiane Vision 2.0 framework for Japan–ASEAN defense cooperation

Examples of Capacity Building Assistance

Sri Lanka

- Air Rescue
- AE


Aeromedical Evacuation (Komaki)


Rescue Equipment (Hamamatsu)

Vietnam

- Weather
- Air Rescue
- Cybersecurity
- Flight Safety
- IAL


Mobile Weather Radar System (Fuchu)

Philippines

- Aviation Medicine


Japan-Philippines (Iruma)


Facility Tour (Iruma)

ASEAN

- WPS
- Cybersecurity


Japan-ASEAN WPS Cooperation Project (Tokyo)


Japan-ASEAN Cybersecurity Cooperation Project (Tokyo)

WPS: Women Peace, and Security

Source: Ministry of Defense Website

Capacity Building Assistance



2025.12　Sri Lanka (Hamamatsu) (Rescue)



2025.11　Vietnam (Fuchu) (Weather)



2025.9　Philippines (Iruma) (Aviation Medicine)



2025.7 ASEAN (Tokyo) (Cybersecurity)

Ⅳ

Topics

1 Establishing “Core Values”

2 Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (tentative name)

3 Stand up 5th Air Wing / 202nd Squadron (tentative name)

4 GCAP Development

5 Efforts to Secure Human Resources

6 Harassment Prevention Efforts

7 Community Engagement & Cooperation

1 Establish “Core Values”

➢Established “Core Values” as an enduring moral foundation for personnel amid the Koku-Jieitai’s 70th anniversary in 2024 and the upcoming reorganization to “Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Japan Air and Space Self-Defense Force (tentative name))”

“Core Values”

Integrity

(The attitude of each member sincerely and faithfully engaging with their duties)

Readiness

(The importance of fully employing the unique attributes of air defense capabilities including their readiness and mobility)

Challenge

(The determination to take on unprecedented challenges with courage and initiative)



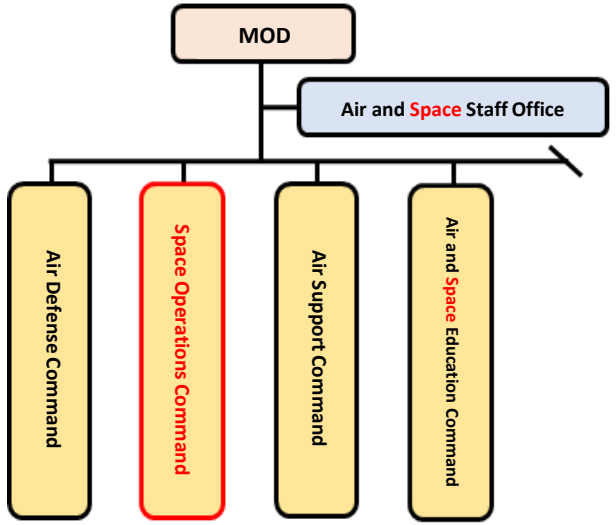
2 Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai

- The stable use of space is the foundation of C2 and intelligence collection and is equally essential to civilian life through communications, observation and positioning. Military operations in the space domain are as important as those on land, at sea, and in the air
- A dedicated space domain unit was established in FY2020 and expanded its personnel in subsequent years to strengthen space defense capabilities
- Stand up the Space Operations Group (provisional), launch SDA satellites, and enhance SDA capabilities to enable full-scale operations aimed at disrupting an adversary's C2 and communications systems by FY2026
- Space will no longer be only a domain for Koku-Jieitai to monitor but will become an operational domain in FY2026

Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Air and Space Self-Defense Force (tentative name))

— **The first-ever renaming since the inception of the Self-Defense Forces in 1954**

— **Demonstrating Japan's commitment to ensure the stable use of space to make a significant contribution to strengthening the nation's deterrence.**



* All names in red are tentative

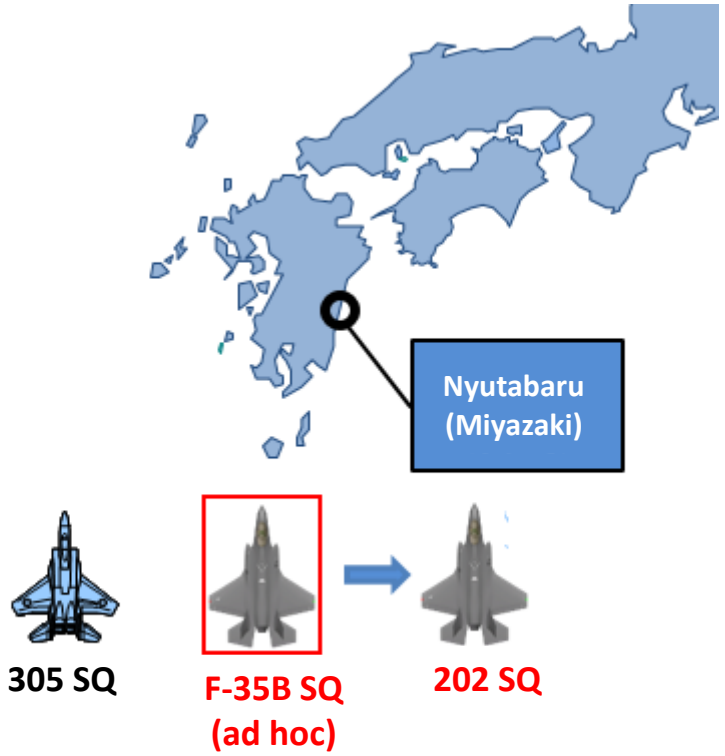
3 Stand up 5th Air Wing / 202nd Squadron (tentative)

➢Phased delivery of the F-35Bs to Nyutabaru Air Base since FY2025

➢As a preparatory unit, the “Temporary F-35B Squadron” has been established since FY2024. In FY2026, with the deployment of approximately 10 aircraft to Nyutabaru Air Base, the Temporary F-35B Squadron of the 5th Air Wing (Nyutabaru AB) will be dissolved and the operational “202nd Squadron (tentative name)” is planned to be established



F-35B Deployment Commemoration Ceremony
Nyutabaru AB (7 Feb 2025)



4 Next Generation Fighter Co-development

- Co-developing next generation fighter with the UK and Italy since December 2022 which can effectively counter numerically superior adversaries and secure long-term air superiority
- Koku-Jieitai and ATLA work closely together and actively engage in GCAP development to ensure it meets user requirements
- Established GIGO, an intergovernmental organization for GCAP in December 2024 and dispatched Koku-Jieitai personnel to the UK as GIGO staff

Conceptual Image of Next-Gen Fighter



Japan-UK-Italy Cooperation



Japan-UK-Italy Defense Ministerial Meeting

5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Talent Acquisition)

Improving Working Conditions

➢ Improving working and living conditions and securing human resources to ensure defense capabilities

Year	Items
FY2023	Payment of allowances to personnel assigned to radar sites conducting surveillance and monitoring operations
FY2024	New allowance for personnel assigned radar sites
	New allowance for personnel assigned to Direction Centers
	Increase in allowances for night shift base security duties
FY2025	Improvement of treatment for personnel engaged in demanding missions, including pilots and aircraft maintenance personnel
	Review of initial pay standards for rehiring former SDF Personnel
	New allowance for intelligence collection and related duties in air operations



Work in Extreme Conditions ①



Work in Extreme Conditions ②

5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Talent Acquisition)

Reemployment of Retired SDF Pilots

[Pilot Reemployment System]

➢ Reemployment of Mandatory Retirees

FY2022: Added education and training conducted onboard aircraft as flight instructors

FY2023: Added flight inspection

From October 2025: Expanded eligibility to include personnel who, after mandatory retirement, temporarily separated from service as SDF members

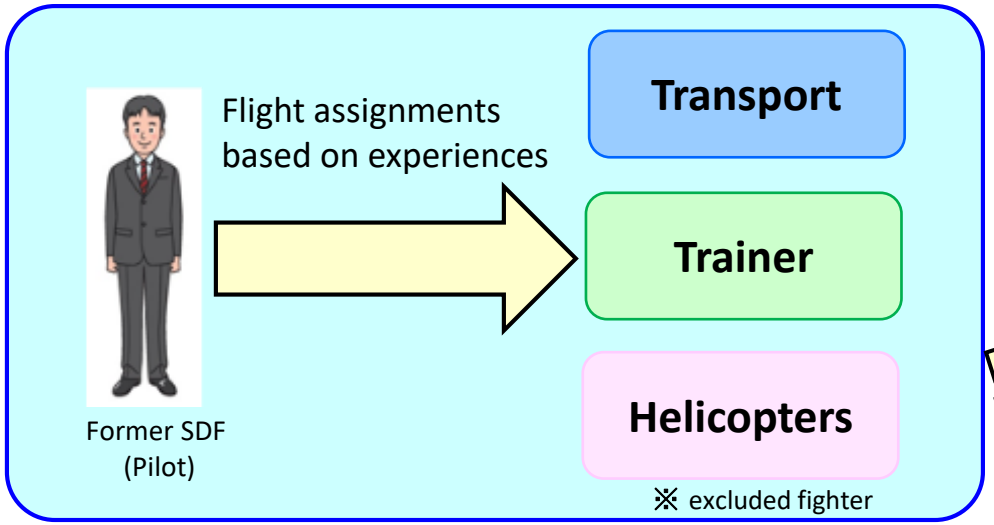
➢ Reemployment of Former Self-Defense Force Personnel

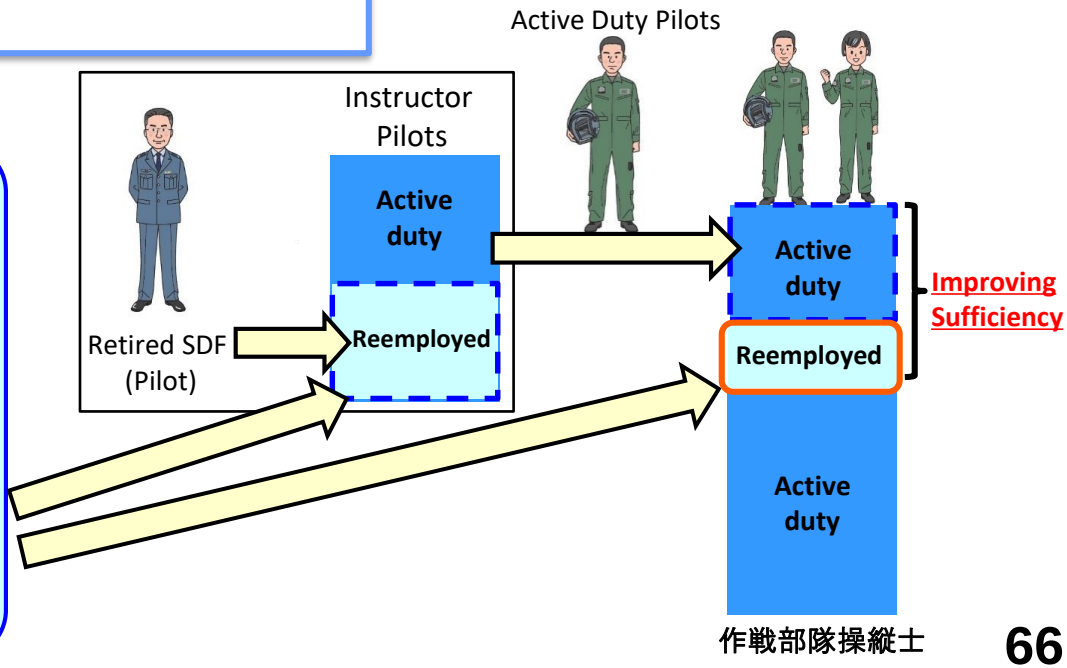
From FY2023: Start reemployment of pilots (excluding fighter aircraft)

Reemployment of Retired Instructor Pilots



Reemployment of Retired/Separated Pilots





5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Gender Equality and Inclusion)

【Promotion of Women's Empowerment】

- In November 2015, Koku-Jieitai lifted assignment restrictions on female personnel across all occupational specialties including fighter pilots
- Female recruitment quotas for enlisted personnel were abolished across all recruitment categories in FY2024
- Female personnel are assigned to a wide range of positions based on individual motivation, ability, and suitability

【Work–Life Balance Promotion Initiatives】

- Promoting awareness and utilization of childcare/caregiving support
- Workstyle reformation (flexible working hours and locations)
- Promotion of leave utilization

Fighter Pilots/Aircraft Maintainers



Overseas Training



Childcare Leave



Caregiving Leave



Flexible Working Hours

- Staggered Working Hours
- Flextime System, etc.

Flexible Work Locations

- Telework
- Online Education and Training

6 Harassment Prevention Effort

➢Continuing proactive efforts to build an environment that does not tolerate any harassment





Harassment prevention education led by an external expert
Hōfu-Minami AB (Air Training Wing) 15 Jan 2026

Harassment Prevention Month (2026.02.01～02.28)

- **Awareness-raising through harassment model cases**
- **Commitment building through handwritten anti-harassment declarations**
- **"Do not engage, do not allow, do not ignore."**

ハラスメント防止に関する宣言書

私は、ハラスメントが、隊員の尊厳や人格を傷つけ、隊員相互の信頼関係を失墜させ、精強性を揺るがす、決してあってはならない行為であることを認識し、次のことを宣言します。

1 ハラスメントの定義を正しく理解します。
2 大切な仲間を尊重し、絶対にハラスメントを起こしません。
3 ハラスメントを目撃した場合は、決して見逃しません。
4 被害に遭った隊員には、しっかり寄り添います。
5 ハラスメントを一切許容しない組織環境を構築します。

Establishing a Zero-Tolerance Harassment Environment

7 Collaboration with local community

Blue Impulse Demonstration Flight





➢Build public trust and supporting public relations through Blue Impulse demonstration flights

Engage in Disaster Drills





➢Build coordination framework with local governments through exercises and enhance mutual disaster-response capabilities

Training at Civilian Airports





➢Ensure full capability in all situations by maintaining access to various civilian airports for Koku-Jieitai

➢Continue utilizing civilian airports for training, with deliberate coordination with local communities

Band Performances





➢Promote the SDF and strengthen community relations through band performances and musical instruction nationwide


航空自衛隊
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