

## Participation in the Fifth Air Force Change of Command Ceremony

On March 24, General MORITA Takehiro, Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (JASDF), attended the Fifth Air Force Change of Command Ceremony held at Yokota Air Base. Prior to this change of command, Commander of the U.S. Forces Japan had concurrently served as Commander, Fifth Air Force, however, with the appointment of the new Commander of the Fifth Air Force, the positions of the two commanders have been separated, each having their own respective authority.

After the ceremony, General Morita met Lieutenant General Joel L. Carey, Commander, Fifth Air Force. They reaffirmed the importance of further deepening relations between the two air services based on the Japan-U.S. alliance.

Koku-Jieitai will continue working closely with the U.S. Air Force to further strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, thereby contributing to regional peace and stability.

