

Space Operations Wing Activation Ceremony

On March 28, the activation ceremony marking the establishment of the Space Operations Wing of the Koku-Jieitai (JASDF) was held at Fuchu Air Base. The ceremony was attended by numerous distinguished guests from Japan and abroad, including Mr. WAKABAYASHI Yohei, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense and Brigadier General Brian A. Denaro, Commander of U.S. Space Forces–Indo-Pacific. Both delivered words of encouragement to Koku-Jieitai personnel. The occasion also reaffirmed the commitment of Japan and the United States to further strengthen cooperation in the space domain.

Originally established in Fiscal Year 2020 with approximately 20 personnel, the Space Operations Squadron has gradually expanded while enhancing its space operations capabilities. In Fiscal Year 2022, it has commenced missions related to Space Domain Awareness (SDA). In order to further strengthen capabilities related to SDA, the Space Operations Wing was newly established with approximately 670 personnel.

As the security environment surrounding Japan becomes increasingly severe, with the planned reorganization into the Japan Air and Space Self-Defense Force (tentative name), the Koku-Jieitai will steadily enhance its defense capabilities in the space domain and contribute to ensuring the stable use of outer space.



Top left: Presentation of the unit flag to the Space Operations Group Commander by Parliamentary Vice Minister of Defense Wakabayashi

Top right: Address by General Morita, Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai

Bottom left: Congratulatory remarks by Brigadier General Denaro, Commander, U.S. Space Forces-Indo-Pacific

Bottom right: Group photo