

“Greetings from Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai”

Autumn’s clear skies prevail over Japan. I hope all the readers of this website are doing well.

In October, I visited two air bases, Jujo and Onna. Jujo, home of the headquarters of Air Materiel Command and Jujo Sub-Depot, 2nd Air Depot, provides equipment essential for the unit operation to the right place and in a timely manner. On October 20, after receiving a briefing, I observed the facilities and talked to each member. I was very pleased to find that every servicemember was committed to performing their duties with high morale under the command of Lt Gen NISHITANI Koichi, Commander, Air Materiel Command.

On October 22, I visited Onna Sub Base in Okinawa Prefecture, where a surface-to-air missile (Patriot) unit is located.

Despite the rainy weather, bright and active personnel showed the enthusiasm of the unit under the command of Lt Col SHIRAHATA Kazuya, Commander, 19th Fire Unit and the Commander, Onna Sub Base. I felt the unit was full of energy.

I just visited only two bases so far, but I was reassured to find Koku-Jieitai members kept highly motivated to carry out their duties.

I would appreciate your kind understanding towards the members who are making daily efforts for the safety and security of the people. Thank you for your continued support.

October 30, 2020,

General IZUTSU Shunji

Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force)

