

“Greetings from Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force)”

I hope things are going well for all the visitors of our website in the beginning of this summer.

First of all, I would like to inform you that on June 2 Koku-Jieitai released the investigation report on the crash of F-15 fighter jet belonging to Komatsu Air Base, which occurred on January 31. We take it very seriously that this accident has gravely concerned local residents and all those involved, and resulted in the losses of two of our precious pilots. Koku-Jieitai will continue to make every effort to prevent a recurrence of accidents to ensure safety operation of our aircraft so that we can provide Japanese people with the sense of security.

In June, Koku-Jieitai conducted various activities as part of its defense cooperation and exchanges with other countries. As one of them, I visited the Republic of the Philippines and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam from June 21 to 29.

In the Republic of the Philippines, I participated in the Air Force Symposium organized by the Philippine Air Force (PAF) and had a meeting with Commanding General of PAF. Together with him, I observed " the Japan-Philippines bilateral Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Exercise."

In the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, I met with senior officials of the People's Armed Forces of Viet Nam, including the Chief of the General Staff, and Commander of the Air Defense-Air Force, and also visited air defense-air force units.

Through this visit, we were able to deepen mutual understanding and strengthen trust between the two countries, and affirm the further promotion of defense cooperation and exchange between the two air forces.

In addition to this visit, I also held VTCs with two of my counterparts, the Chief of the German Air Force and the Chief of the Australian Air Force. Through these meetings, we exchanged views on various fields such as international situation, defense cooperation and exchanges, and reaffirmed our commitment to working together for the stability of the security environment.

On June 5, North Korea launched eight ballistic missiles from multiple locations near the eastern coast into Sea of Japan. In the increasingly severe security environment, Koku-Jieitai will continue information gathering, warning and surveillance day and night to maintain readiness for any contingency.

In addition, through the Japan-U.S. ballistic missile defense training and the bilateral training between the two air forces, we demonstrated both domestically and internationally our strong will to respond to any incidents and endeavored to further strengthen the strong alliance.

Furthermore, looking at the international situation, since early May, Ministry of Defense / Japan Self-Defense Forces have conducted a total of eight humanitarian relief supplies' transportation to Ukraine under the PKO Act (Act on Cooperation for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and Other Operations) to help the victims in Ukraine. Koku-Jieitai will continue to contribute to peace and stability of the international society with its transportation capabilities.

Koku-Jieitai will continue to uphold a sense of mission and confront immediate difficulties and future challenges to live up to the expectation and mandates of the people of Japan, regardless of the dangers involved. To this end, we always need support of the people of Japan and all those who endorse the SDF, I would like to ask for your continued understanding and cooperation for Koku-Jieitai.

Finally, for the first time in two and a half years, we conducted Blue Impulse's exhibition flight on June 5, at Air Festival in Hofu Air Base, which had not been held due to the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to conduct exhibition flights at air festivals in the future while taking preventative measures for infectious diseases.

The Reliable Koku-Jieitai (JASDF) Is Just by Your Side
Looking Up at the Sky and Space 24/7

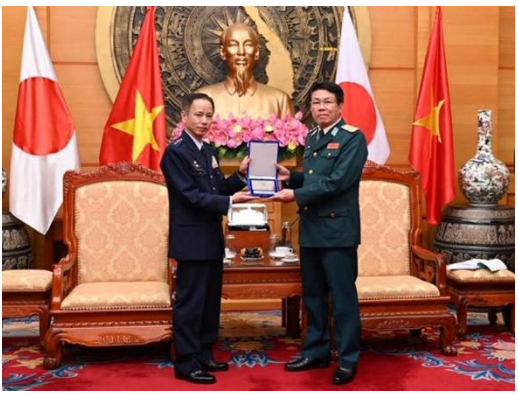
June 30, 2022
General IZUTSU Shunji
Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force)



Meeting with Commanding General of Philippine Air Force



Visitation of Japan-Philippines bilateral HADR exercise



Meeting with Commander, Vietnam Air Defence-Air Force



Transportation of humanitarian relief supplies for Ukraine