

Chief of Space Operations, the U.S Space Force visiting Air Staff Office (ASO)

On October 5, General Izutsu Shunji Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force) had talks with General John W. "Jay" Raymond, Chief of Space Operations, U.S Space Force. They were classmates from Air Command and Staff College at Air Force University, and General Raymond supported Operation Tomodachi as Vice Commander of the 5th Air Force in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

At the meeting, General Izutsu welcomed General Raymond's visit to Japan. They also exchanged views on the increasingly severe situation surrounding space, and shared the view that the Japan-U. S. Alliance is becoming increasingly important also in the area of space, and that they will deepen cooperation in the space area and others through strengthening the ability of the Japan-U. S. Alliance to deter and respond.

In addition, General Izutsu expressed his gratitude to General Raymond for the rescue and support activities by the U.S. Forces Japan in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, as well as great support and advice both before and after Japan's establishment of a unit specializing in space domain. He also stated that the Koku-Jieitai will continue promoting capability enhancement of its space units.

Koku-Jieitai will continue to strengthen cooperation with the U.S. Space Force through various bilateral training and exchanges.

