

Meeting with Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific

On December 9, Lieutenant General ABE Mutsuharu, Vice Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force), met with Lieutenant General William M. Journey, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific.

At the meeting, they shared their understanding of the security environment surrounding Japan and the United States, including increased activities by China in the East China Sea and North Korea's repeated missile launches, and reaffirmed the significance of the Japan-U. S. Alliance and the close cooperation between the two countries. They also exchanged views on strengthening cooperation between Koku-Jieitai and the U.S. Marine Corps ahead of the introduction of F-35B to Koku-Jieitai, and they agreed to promote cooperation between the two forces and to further strengthen deterrent and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S alliance, which is the foundation of peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Koku-Jieitai will continue to strengthen the cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps through various bilateral trainings and unit exchanges.

