



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

For all the visitors to our website, I am General UCHIKURA Hiroaki. I was appointed as the 37th Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai on March 30, 2023.

The international community, including Japan, is facing serious challenges and entering a new crisis. Japan confronts the most severe security environment since the end of World War II, with Russia’s aggression against Ukraine, North Korea’s repeated missile launches, and China’s increasing air activities in the East China Sea.

Under these circumstances, Koku-Jieitai must carry out fundamental reinforcement of air and space related defense capabilities in more timely manner in accordance with National Security Strategy, National Defense Strategy, and Defense Buildup Program revised and formulated in December last year. In addition, it is of course necessary to further improve deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, and it is our urgent task to promote tighter cooperation with like-minded countries.

Koku-Jieitai is “irreplaceable representative of Japan”, which is responsible for the protection of Japan's airspace from peacetime to contingencies, and it is also professional whose result only matters. I will devote body and soul to my duties to make Koku-Jieitai an organization which has "strength" to calmly deal with matters even if we face any adversity as well as "kindness" to be able to understand the pain of the people in difficult situations by their side and provide

them with the necessary support in the event of natural disaster.

We would like to kindly ask for your continued understanding on Koku-Jieitai.

March 31, 2023

General UCHIKURA Hiroaki

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

