

Visit of Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai to Germany and France

For five days from Monday, June 19 to Friday, June 23, General Uchikura Hiroaki, Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force) traveled to the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic.

Being invited by Lieutenant General Ingo Gerhardz, Chief of the German Air Force, he joined Air Defender 23 DV-Day, where air chiefs of various countries were assembled during a multilateral exercise hosted by the German Air Force. With an invitation from General Stéphane Mille, Chief of Staff of the French Air and Space Force, General Uchikura also participated in the world-famous Paris Air Show, which is an international exhibition of aerospace related defense equipment.

During the visit, General Uchikura had talks with both German and French air chiefs and confirmed that they share the recognition of security issues in the Indo-Pacific and Europe, and further strengthen collaboration with European countries. In addition, he had exchanges with other countries' air chiefs in the respective events to promote mutual understanding and build relationships of trust.

At Air Defender 23 DV-Day, he observed the exercise hosted by German Air Force, deepening understanding of Air services as well as gaining knowledge on collaboration among NATO member countries and execution of multilateral exercises.

At the Paris Air Show, General Uchikura interacted with high-ranked air force officials from various countries, and visited the exhibit of air force equipment and companies' booths, observing the cutting-edge aerospace technology on site, and learning ideas for Koku-Jieitai's future defense capabilities build up.

Koku-Jieitai welcomes the commitment of Germany and France to the Indo-Pacific, and will further strengthen unity and cooperation to maintain the rules-based international order.

