

Japan-France Bilateral Training and Visit of Chief of Staff, French Air and Space Force to Japan

From Wednesday, July 26 to Friday, July 28, Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force) conducted bilateral training with French Air and Space Force's fighter jets and other aircraft at Nyutabaru Air Base.

This is the first bilateral training between Koku-Jieitai and the French Air and Space Force in Japan. The purpose of this training is to enhance Koku-Jieitai's tactical skills and promote mutual understanding, as well as to further deepen defense cooperation in order to realize Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP). It is significant from the perspective of realizing FOIP, as it encourages involvement of not only France but also other European countries in Indo-Pacific region.

In addition, General Mill, Chief of Staff of the French Air and Space Force, visited Japan in conjunction with the execution of the training, held meetings with General Uchikura, Chief of Staff, and observed the training.

At the bilateral meeting, the two leaders confirmed that Koku-Jieitai welcomes the continued interest and involvement of France in Indo-Pacific region. Furthermore, they agreed that in order to respond to regional and global challenges, Japan and France would share the recognition of security issues and actively engage in the realization of FOIP.

During the visit to the training site, they observed the training scene and were briefed on the fighter jets and other equipment of Japan and France, confirming that both sides have high skills and promoting mutual understanding and trust.

Koku-Jieitai will continue to actively promote defense cooperation and exchanges, leveraging opportunities such as bilateral exercises, and maintain and strengthen the cooperative relationship between Japan and France.

