



Greetings

from Chief of Staff,

Koku-Jieitai

Japan Air Self-Defense Force

A season has come when we hear the footsteps of spring even in the cold, and I hope things are going well for all the visitors to Koku-Jieitai's website.

First of all, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives in the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake and express my heartfelt sympathies for all those affected.

I visited Wajima Sub Base and surrounding areas the other day. I received a report from members of Wajima Sub Base who were committed to accepting many local people and saving lives in cooperation with Wajima Junior High School immediately after the disaster, that they had spent the first few days with just water. This made me realize once again that these activities were conducted under the severe conditions. They also said that they were so concentrated that they did not feel that hungry. They are currently working hard on emergency restoration of the base while supporting transportation of goods.

In addition, personnel at Komatsu Air Base, a base for life-saving activities, air transportation, water and meal supply, medical care, air traffic control, aeronautical meteorology support, and other activities, had also engaged in livelihood support to the victims and water supply support to Wajima Sub Base, while working closely with Ground Self-Defense Force and other relevant organizations. I think those men and women, who have a sense of mission and loyal to their local community are reliable, and I am proud of them.

While continuing activities to support the victims of the disaster, Koku-Jieitai is carrying out a Japan-U.S. - Australia trilateral exercise "Cope North 24" with the aim of improving the tactical skills of the units, and enhancing the Japan-U. S. joint response capabilities and interoperability between Japan, the U.S. and Australia. At the same time, we are also conducting a joint exercise on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities to improve the capabilities of each unit and the coordination procedure between participating countries.

We would like to ask for your continued understanding of Koku-Jieitai. As we continue to have days with a large gap between cold and hot temperature, please take good care of yourself.

Feb 27, 2024

General UCHIKURA Hiroaki

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