

Overview of Koku-Jieitai 2026



JASDF
Japan Air Self-Defense Force



Koku-Jieitai; The Only Organization Defending the Sky and Space

Domains Koku-Jieitai defends



Territory, territorial
Sea and **Airspace**



Space, Cyber and
Electromagnetic Spectrum

Major Units of Koku-Jieitai



Fighter Units



Aircraft Control
and Warning Units



Surface-to-Air
Guided Missile Units



Space Units



Air Transport Units



Air Rescue Units

Japan-U.S. Alliance



Defense Cooperation and Exchanges



Koku-Jieitai Personnel



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I

Security Environment Surrounding Japan

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- 2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan
- 3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan



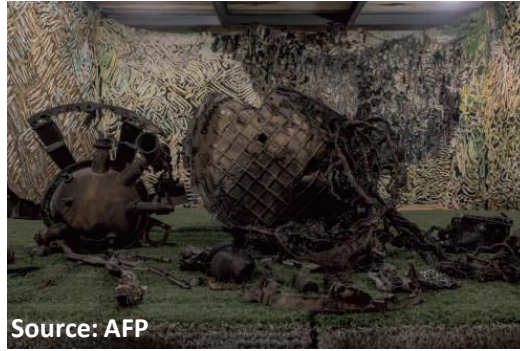
1 Features of Current Security Environment

- Unilateral changes to the status quo by force and such attempts pose serious challenges to **the free and open international order based on the rule of law**, and the international community is facing **the greatest trial since the end of World War II and entering a new era of crisis**
- Rapid developments in science and technology are fundamentally transforming the nature of security, and countries are striving to develop cutting-edge technologies that could serve as so-called **game changers**. The traditional **military structure is undergoing fundamental changes, as are warfare tactics and strategies**
- **Global security challenges** are becoming increasingly severe, including growing risks in the cyber domain, the spread of disinformation through information warfare and the impacts of climate change
- Due to vulnerabilities in supply chains, increasing threats to critical infrastructure, and competition for leadership in advanced technologies, **the scope of security has expanded to encompass the economic field**



Source: AFP

President Putin's visit to Kursk region



Source: AFP

Fragments of Russia's Oreshnik missile released by Ukraine's Security Service (SBU)



Source: PLA Eastern Theater Command

Exercise areas around Taiwan by PLA



Source: Korean Central News Agency

Missile test launches from a "New Multi-Purpose Destroyer" by DPRK



Source: NATO Website

NATO Cyber Exercise



1 Features of Current Security Environment

Demonstration of force by China and Russia



Joint Navigation



Joint Flight

Russia continuing active actions

Deployed new equipment also in the Far East region



Stereogushchiv II-class frigates
Assigned to the Pacific Fleet in 2020



Ground-to-ship missile system Bastion
Newly deployed to Paramushir Island of Chishima Islands in 2022

North Korea's Nuclear and Missile Development

-First nuclear test in 2006 and a total of six nuclear tests thereafter
-Enhancement of missile technologies, including missiles with increasingly longer ranges and ones that fly on irregular trajectories



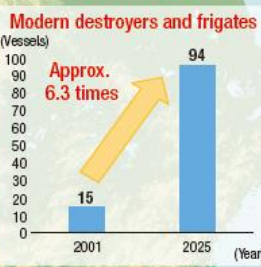
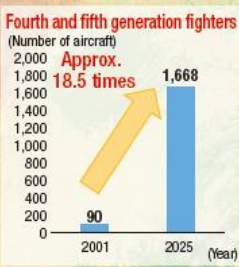
[Korea News Service/JI]



[AFP/JI]

-Declared the completion of the nuclear force in 2017
-Continued systematic development of various weapons, including nuclear weapons

China's broad and rapid change of military forces



China's attempt for unilateral changes to the status quo by force in the East China Sea / Rapid expansion and increase of military activities

“ Indo-Pacific region has many security challenges ”

- There are several nations and regions in this region with large military forces, including nuclear weapons, do not share common values, nor the political and economic systems
- Complex intertwining of diplomatic and other relations based on historical backgrounds
- Diverse threats and challenges of various types and intensities exist in this region, such as unilateral changes to the status quo by force and such attempts in the East and South China Seas and other areas, piracy, terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and natural disasters



PLA reconnaissance/attack UAV flew between the main island of Okinawa and Miyakojima Island (Apr 2025)



1 Features of Current Security Environment

Russia's aggression against Ukraine

- On 24 February, 2022, Russia launched full-scale aggression against Ukraine
- **Serious violation of international law** including the UN Charter, which prohibits the use of force
- Unilaterally change to the status quo by force is **an act that undermines the very foundation of the international order**
- If such aggression is tolerated, it could send out the wrong message and implication that those attempts are also acceptable in other regions, including Asia



Source : EPA-Jiji



The situation in Israel/Palestine

- On October 10, 2025, the ceasefire went into effect between Israel and Hamas
- On October 19, 2025, Israeli military carried out airstrikes across various parts of the Gaza Strip. While the Israeli military stated that it had once again begun implementing the ceasefire, the situation remains totally unpredictable
- On January 15, 2026, "Board of Peace" was established by U.S. President Donald Trump



2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Scrambles

- The number of scrambles for FY2025 is **595 times**
- Since FY2013, the number of scrambles has remained **at a high level of over 700 times in a single FY**

Number and Breakdown of Scrambles since the Cold War



Source: 2025 DEFENSE OF JAPAN, Joint Staff Website

Chinese Aircraft

Fighter

J-16



(29 DEC 2025)

ISR

Y-9



(29 DEC 2025)

UAV

TB-001



(24 Apr 2025)

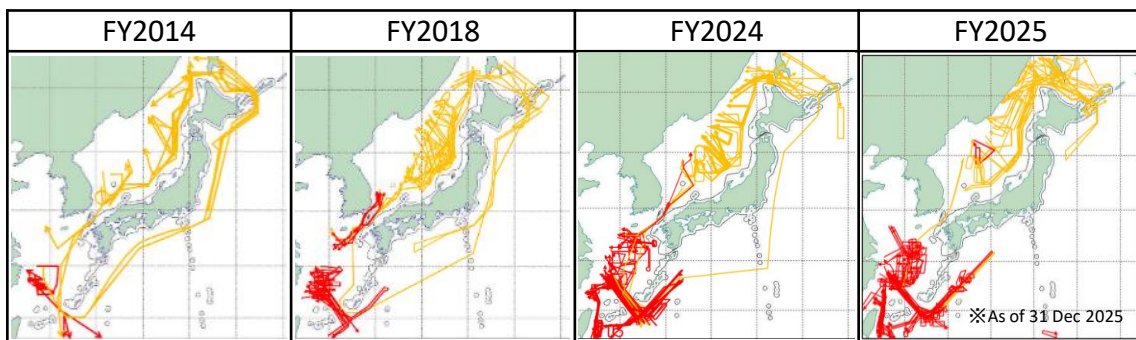
Bomber

H-6



(29 DEC 2025)

Flight Patterns of Russian and Chinese Aircraft to Which Scrambles Responded



Source: Joint Staff Website

Russian Aircraft

Fighter

Su-30



(9 DEC 2025)

ISR

IL-20



(29 Oct 2025)

Bomber

Tu-95



(9 DEC 2025)

AEW&C

A-50

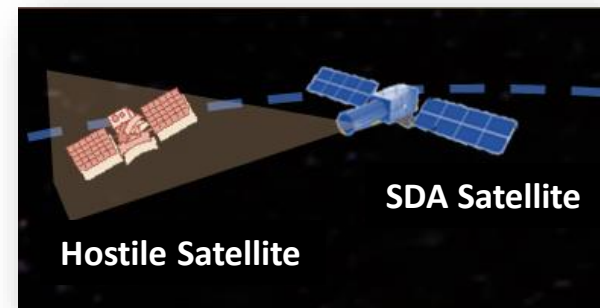
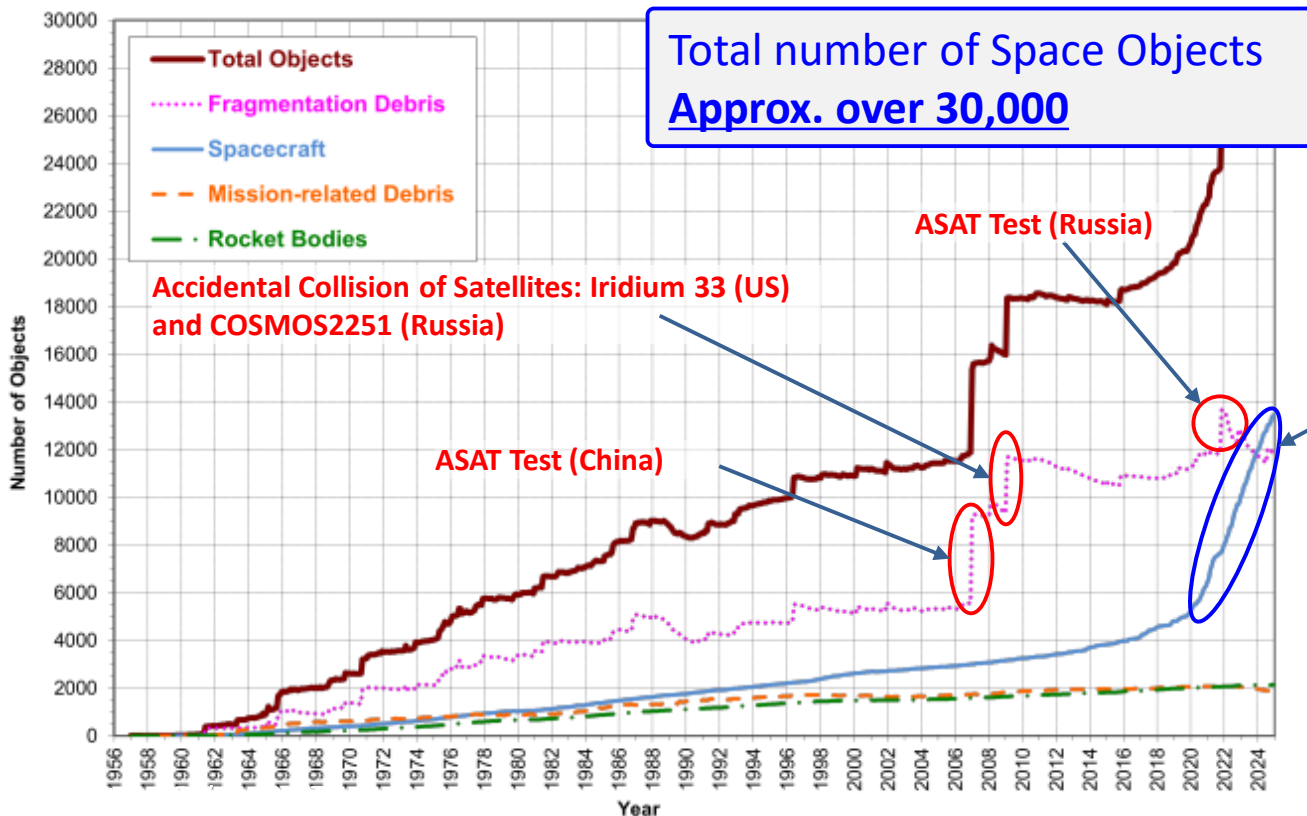


(29 DEC 2025)



2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Situation in Space

- Space systems are **critical infrastructure** for Japan, and essential for **maximizing capabilities of C2 and equipment**
- Major countries have enhanced their capabilities of ISR, Early Warning, Positioning, Navigation and Timing (PNT) and Communications satellites and sought to launch them to strengthen C4ISR functions
- **ASAT** have been developed to hinder other countries' use of space, and ASAT tests by China and Russia have resulted in the creation of large amounts of space debris
- **Increasing risks to the stable use of space** including cyber attacks on space systems
- Countries focus on **SDA** to monitor threats to space assets



Commercial Satellite Constellations

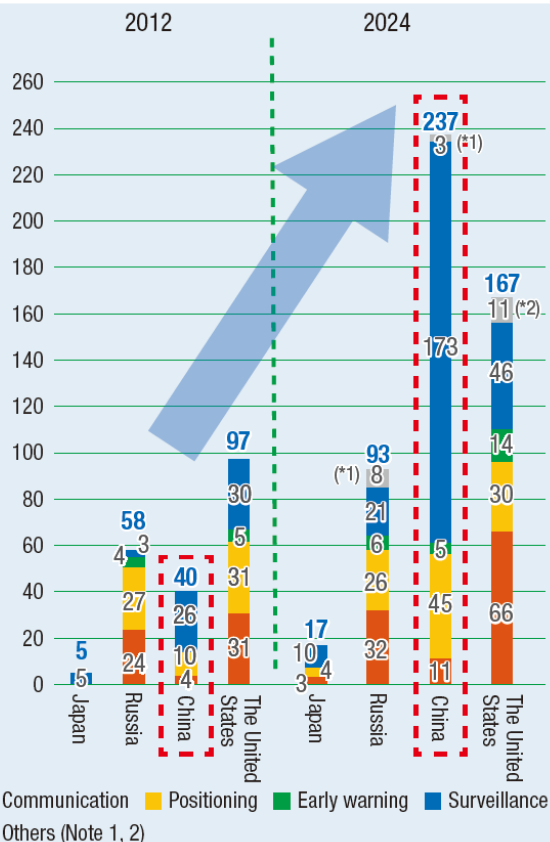
- C4ISR: Command, Control, Communication, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance
- ASAT: Anti-Satellite Weapon
- SDA: Space Domain Awareness
- Satellite constellation: A system that operates many satellites in orbit as a single, coordinated network



2 Sky and Space Surrounding Japan: Increasing Threats in Space

- Recent increase in Chinese satellites is remarkable, surging about 5.9 times in the 12 years since 2012
- **Threats in space domain have increased** including ASAT tests by China and Russia, GPS jamming and cyber attacks on space systems
- North Korea launched rockets aiming at sending satellites in May, August, and November. The object launched by North Korea in November has been confirmed to be in orbit around the Earth

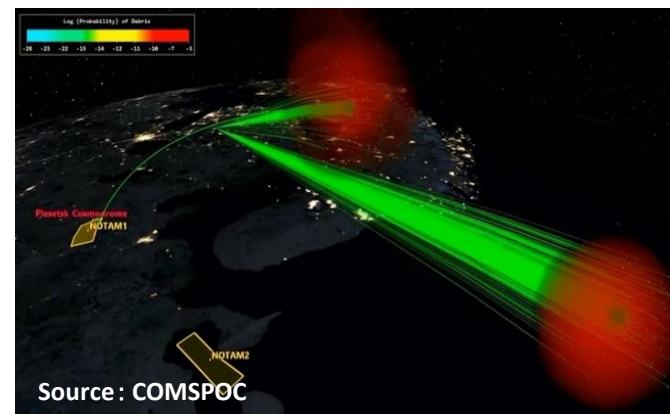
Types of military satellites owned by countries and the number of satellites in operation



(*1) Technology demonstration satellites (*2) SDA satellites
 Source: The Military Balance 2012 and 2024 (excluded Japan)



Remote sensing satellite "AISat-3A" launched by China



ASAT Test by Russia



GPS Jamming targeting the European Commission President's plane



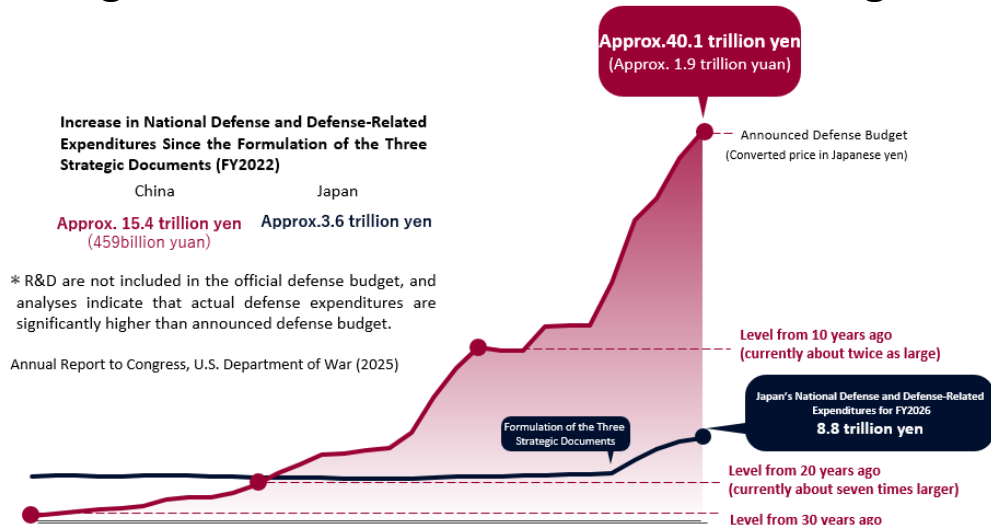
"Military Reconnaissance Satellite" launched by DPRK



3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: China

- China has rapidly increased announced defense budget (27 times in 30 years, 2 times in 10 years)
- Continuously increasing defense spending at a high level and **rapidly strengthening military capabilities in both quality and quantity**

Changes in China's Announced Defense Budget

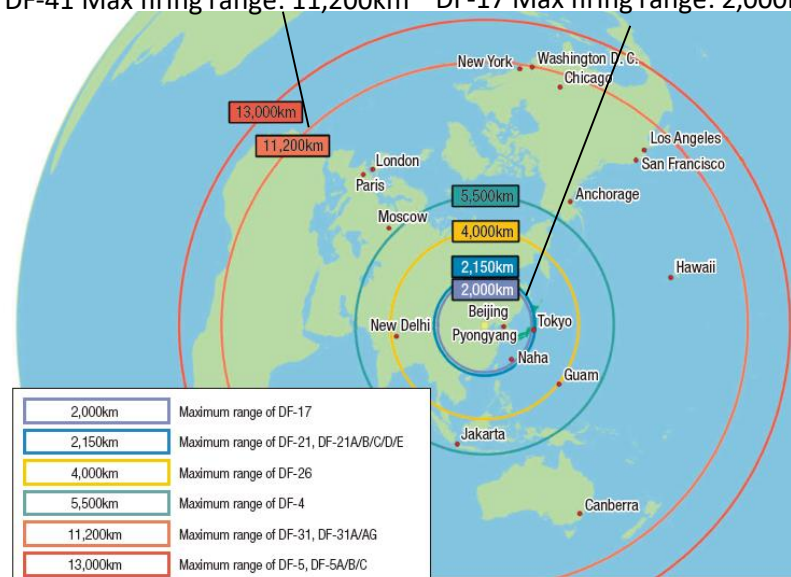


Source: Sankei Shimbun



Source: Xinhua News Agency

DF-41 Max firing range: 11,200km DF-17 Max firing range: 2,000km



Range of Ballistic Missiles from China (Beijing)



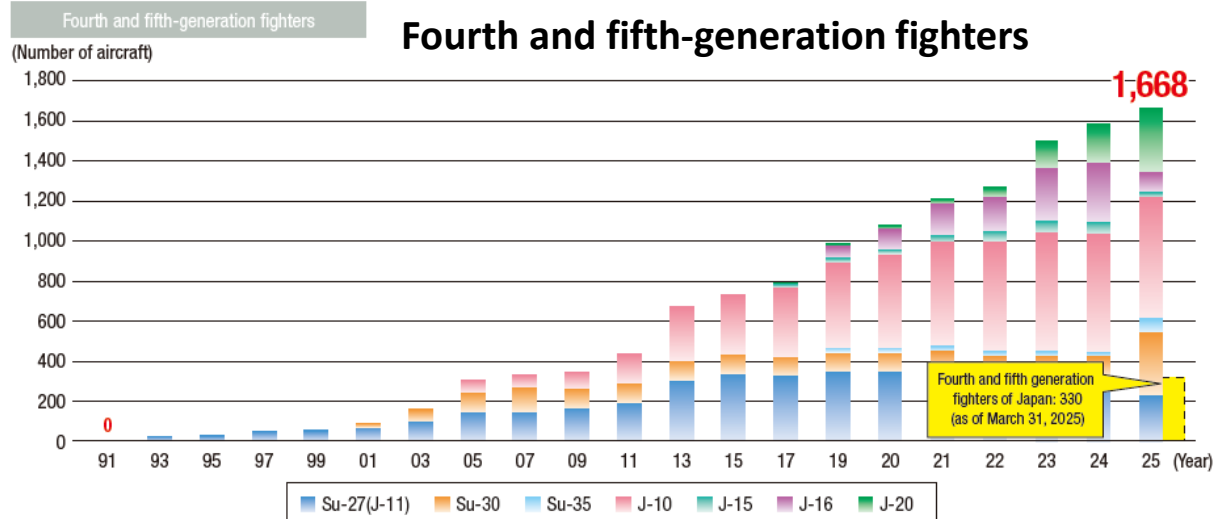
J-20 fighter



H-6 bomber

Source: DEFENSE of JAPAN 2025, Ministry of Defense Website

Fourth and fifth-generation fighters

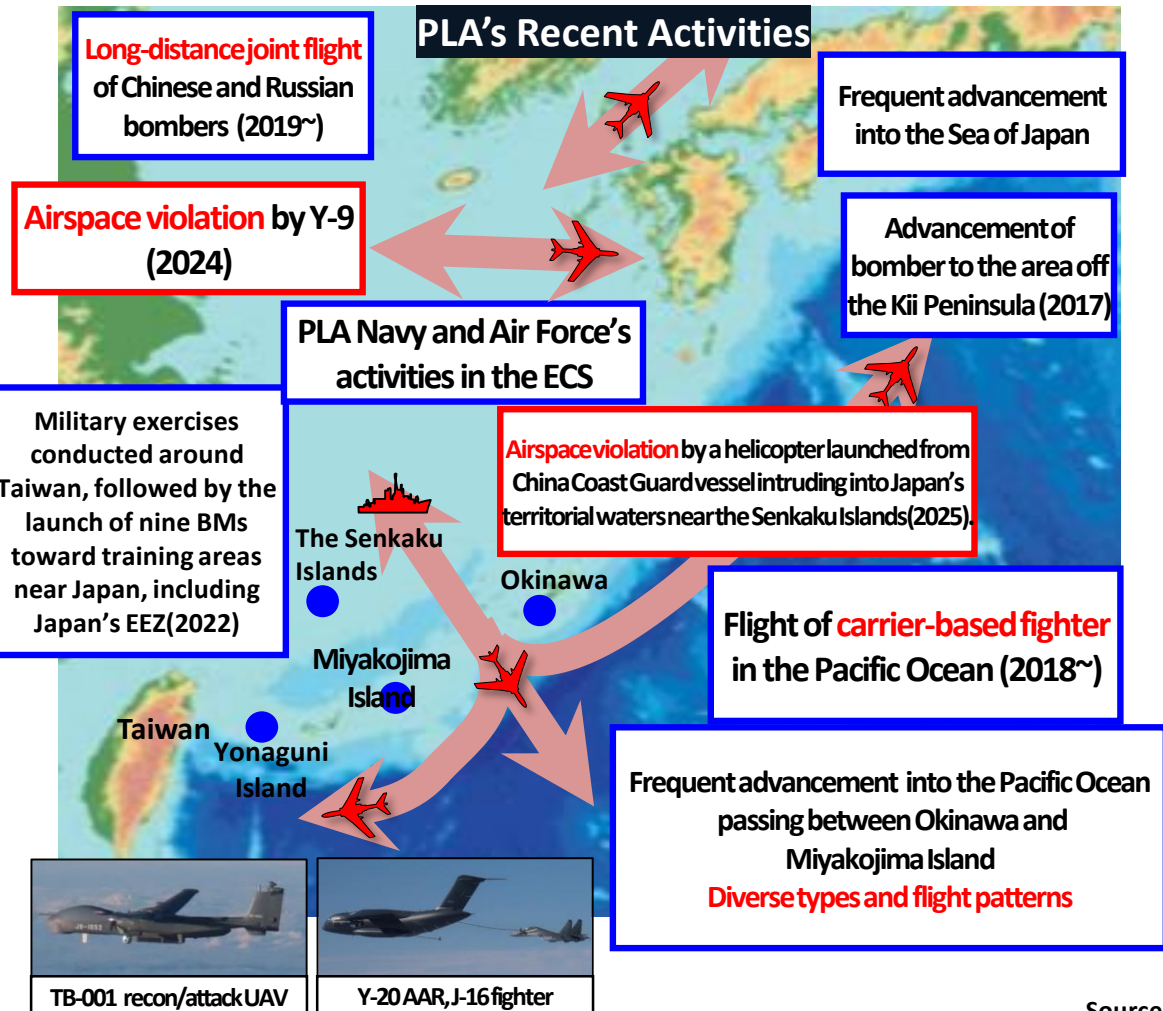




3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: China

- PLA has intensified its activities in the waters and airspace surrounding Japan.
- Beginning with the 2024 and 2025 airspace violations, China has unilaterally escalated its military action
- Increases military pressure on Taiwan, entrenches foothold in the SCS, and strengthens collaboration with Russia
- These military trends are **serious concern for Japan and the international community; the greatest strategic challenge**

PLA's Recent Activities

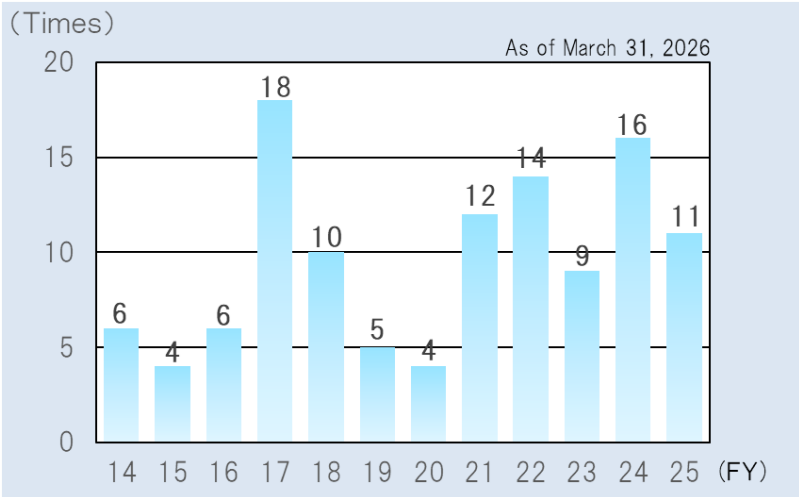


Airspace violation by a China Coast helicopter (May 2025 near the Senkaku Islands)



Source: Photo by Japan Coast Guard

Announced number of PLA Aircraft passing Miyako Strait

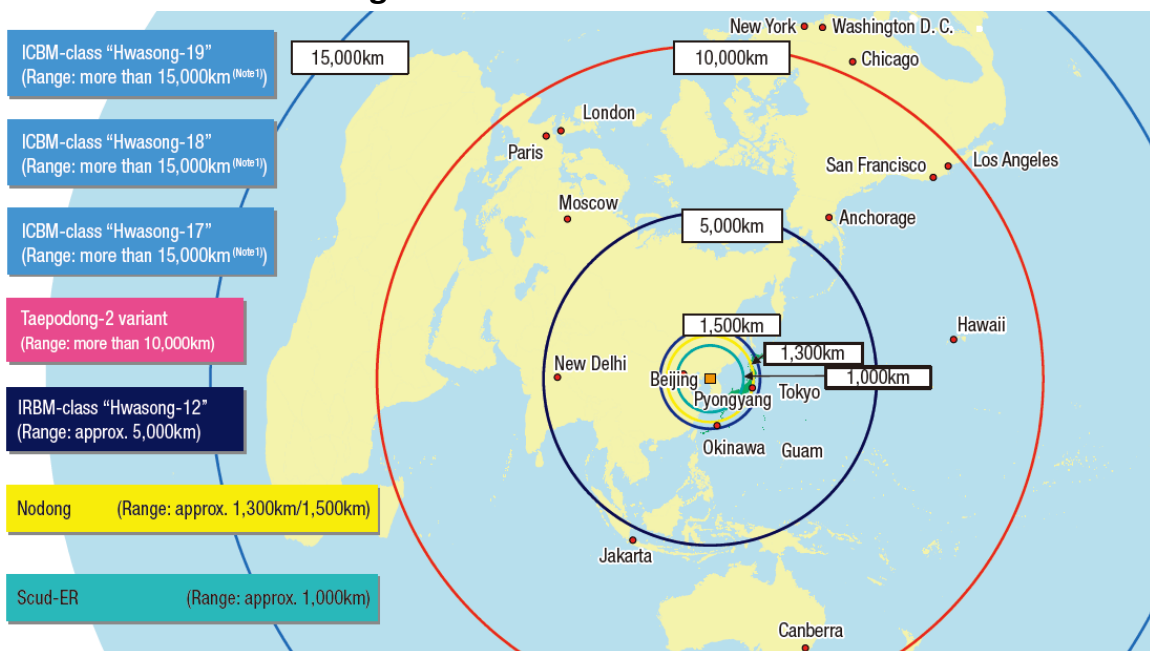




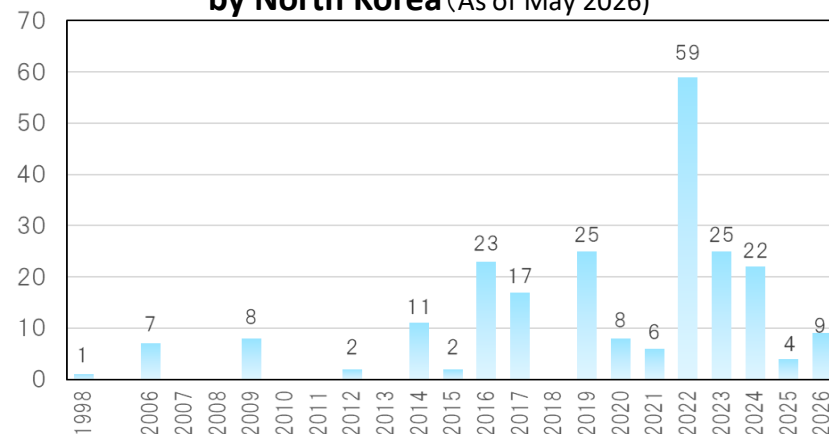
3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: North Korea

- North Korea's ultimate goal appears to be maintaining its regime and building its own nuclear deterrent is essential to counter the US. NK has pursued the development of ballistic missiles in addition to nuclear weapon.
- Possesses capabilities to **mount a nuclear warhead on its ballistic missiles** whose range covers Japan
- Develops **SRBM that can fly at low altitudes with irregular trajectory** and expands **more practical missile force**
- Regarding Russia's aggression against Ukraine, North Korea supplies BMs and dispatches soldiers to Russia, **strengthening military cooperation with Russia**
- North Korea's military trends pose **a more serious and imminent threat than ever before**

Range of North Korea's Ballistic Missiles



Trends in Nuclear Tests and BM Launches by North Korea (As of May 2026)



Released by North Korea during the launch of hypersonic missile in January 2025

Source: Korean Central News Agency

(Notes) 1 Depends on weight of the warhead, etc.
 2 For simplicity, the distance from Pyongyang is displayed in concentric circles as an image.
 3 Quotation marks indicate the names used by North Korea.



3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: North Korea

Development of Missile-related Technologies

Improvement of secrecy and promptness

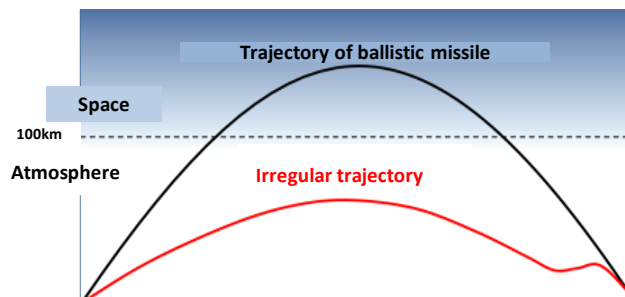


- ◆ Launch from various platforms
- ◆ Use solid fuel

⇒ Pursue **secrecy and promptness of launches**

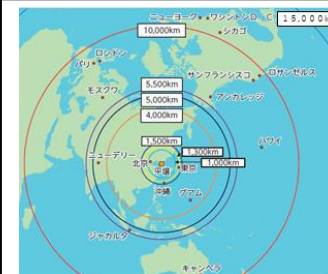
BMD penetration capabilities

- ◆ Develop ballistic missiles able to fly at low altitudes with irregular trajectory
- ◆ Develop hypersonic weapons



⇒ Make it difficult for missiles to be intercepted, aiming at **penetrating BMD**

Long-Range Missile Development



Hwasong-17,
Hwasong-18,
Hwasong-19
Range: 15,000km~

Hwasong-15
Range: 14,000km~

Hwasong-14
Range: 5,500km~



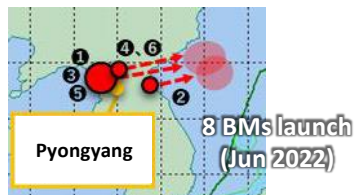
Hwasong-19

- ◆ Missiles with a range over 15,000km can reach the entire continental United States (if launched from Pyongyang).

⇒ It may lead to an **increase and escalation of military provocations**

Development of Missile Capabilities

◆ Multiple Missile Launch



8 BMs launch (Jun 2022)

Multiple BMs launch (May 2024)



◆ Launches less than one-minute Intervals



SRBM (Nov 2019)

◆ Launch from various sites to strike specific target



Struck target (May 2019)

⇒ Develop missile-related technologies and **practical operational capabilities for saturation attacks**



3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: Russia

- Pursue a Russian revival under the banner of "strong state" and "influential great power"
- Clarify commitment to modernize strategic nuclear weapons
- **Russia has continued active military activities** around Japan, including the 2024 Japan's **airspace violation, developing new equipment and conducting exercises**
- Russia's military posture, **coupled with its strategic cooperation with China, raises serious security concerns**

Airspace violation by IL-38 Patrol Aircraft (Sep 2024)

IL-38P

IL-38

Russian Far East force's New Equipment

Su-35S

Steregushchiy III-class Frigate

SAM "S-400"

Borei-class SSBN

Exercise/Training

- **Strategic Nuclear Forces Exercise** (Oct 2024)
ICBM was launched from Plesetsk state testing cosmodrome targeting the Kamchatka Peninsula. SLBMs were launched from the Barents Sea and Sea of Okhotsk.
- **July Storm Naval Exercise** (Jul 2025)
Conducted by the Northern ,Baltic Fleets ,and Black Sea Fleets, as well as the Caspian Flotilla in the Pacific and Arctic oceans as well as the Baltic and Caspian seas.

Major Equipment in the Area

Orlan-10

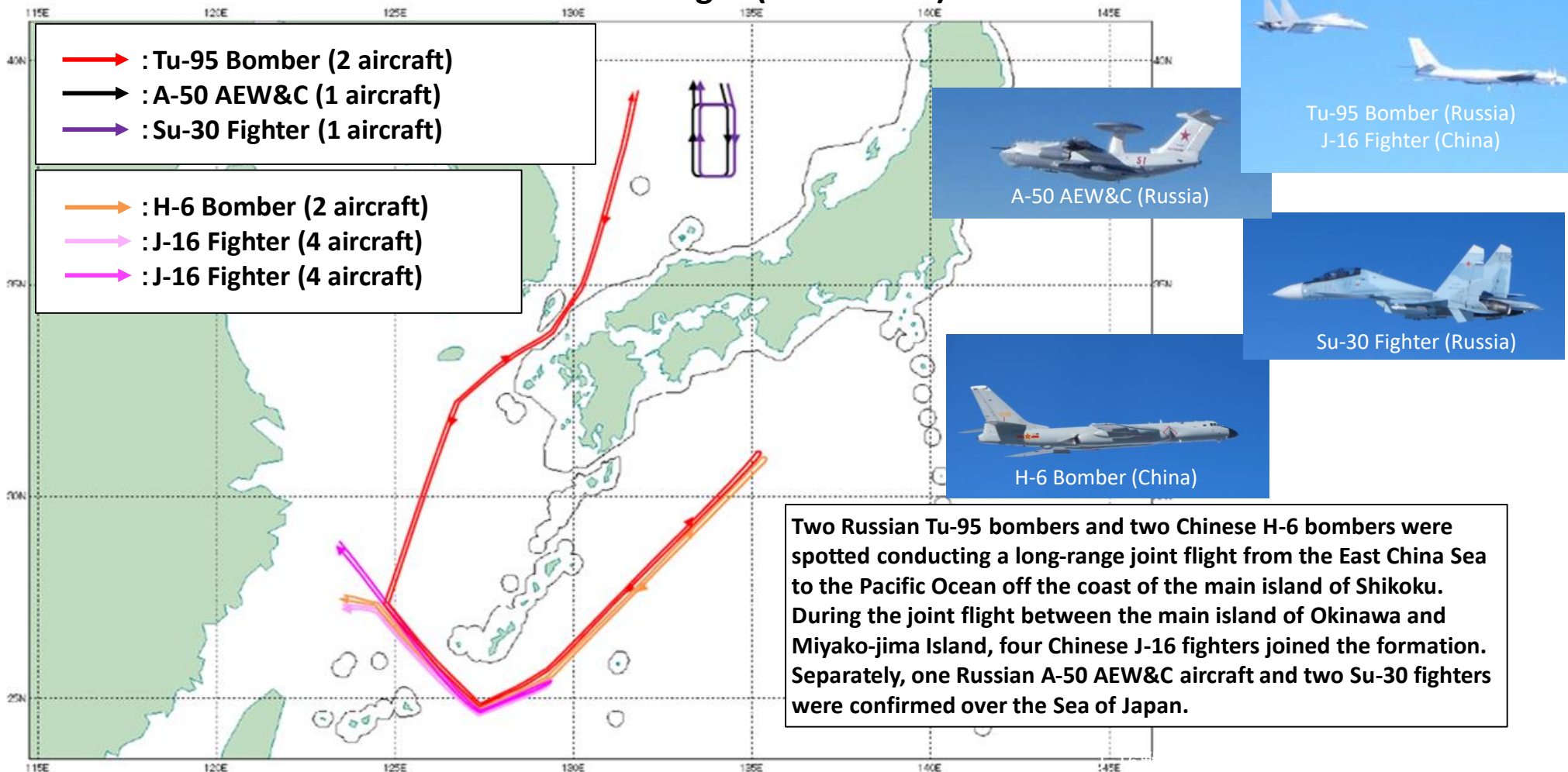
Su-35



3 Security Environment Surrounding Japan: Joint Flight

- Since 2019, **China and Russia have conducted joint flights** in the Sea of Japan, ECS and Pacific Ocean
- Cooperation between China and Russia has been steadily enhanced through activities such as **mutual landings** and **fighter escort flights**
- The March 2023 China-Russia Joint Statement states joint flights will be carried out on a regular basis

China-Russia Joint Flight (9 Dec 2025)





II

Air Defense Capabilities & Missions of Koku-Jieitai

- 1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai**
- 2 Key Features of Air Defense Capabilities**
- 3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai**



1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai

JSDF Law, Article 3 [Missions of the Self-Defense Forces]

- Protect our country in order to ensure its security and protect the peace and independence of our country
- Maintain public safety and order when necessary
- Koku-Jieitai carries out **missions mainly in the air**



Action against violation of territorial airspace



Destruction measures against ballistic missiles



Disaster relief dispatch



Transportation of Japanese nationals overseas and international emergency assistance

JSDF Law, Chapter 6 [Operations of Self-Defense Forces]

- Defense Operation (Article 76)
- Civil Protection Dispatch (Article 77-4)
- Public Security Operation (Article 78, 81)
- Guarding Operation (Article 81-2)
- Maritime Security Operations (Article 82)
- Counter-Piracy Operations (Article 82-2)
- Destruction measures against ballistic missiles or Other Objects, (Article 82-3)
- Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83), Earthquake Disaster Prevention Dispatch (Article 83-2), Nuclear Disaster Relief Dispatch (Article 83-3)
- Measures against Intrusion of Territorial Airspace (Article 84)
- Rescue and Transportation of Japanese Nationals Overseas (Article 84-3,4)
- International Emergency Relief Operations, International Peace Cooperation Activities (Article 84-5)

JSDF Law, Chapter 8 [Miscellaneous Provisions]

- Cooperation in athletic competitions (Article 100-3)
- VIP Transportation (Article 100-5)



1 Missions and Operations of Koku-Jieitai

Koku-Jieitai is **the only organization that defends our sky and space** from peacetime to contingencies

Land

Sea

Air and Space

【Contingencies】

Defense
Capabilities

JGSDF



150,000 personnel

JMSDF



45,000 personnel
140 vessels

Koku-Jieitai (Koku-Jieitai)



47,000 personnel
Approx. 450 aircraft



SSA Radar



Satellite Jamming
Detection Equipment

【Peace time】

Police
Power

Police



260,000 personnel

Japan Coast Guard



15,000 personnel
480 vessels

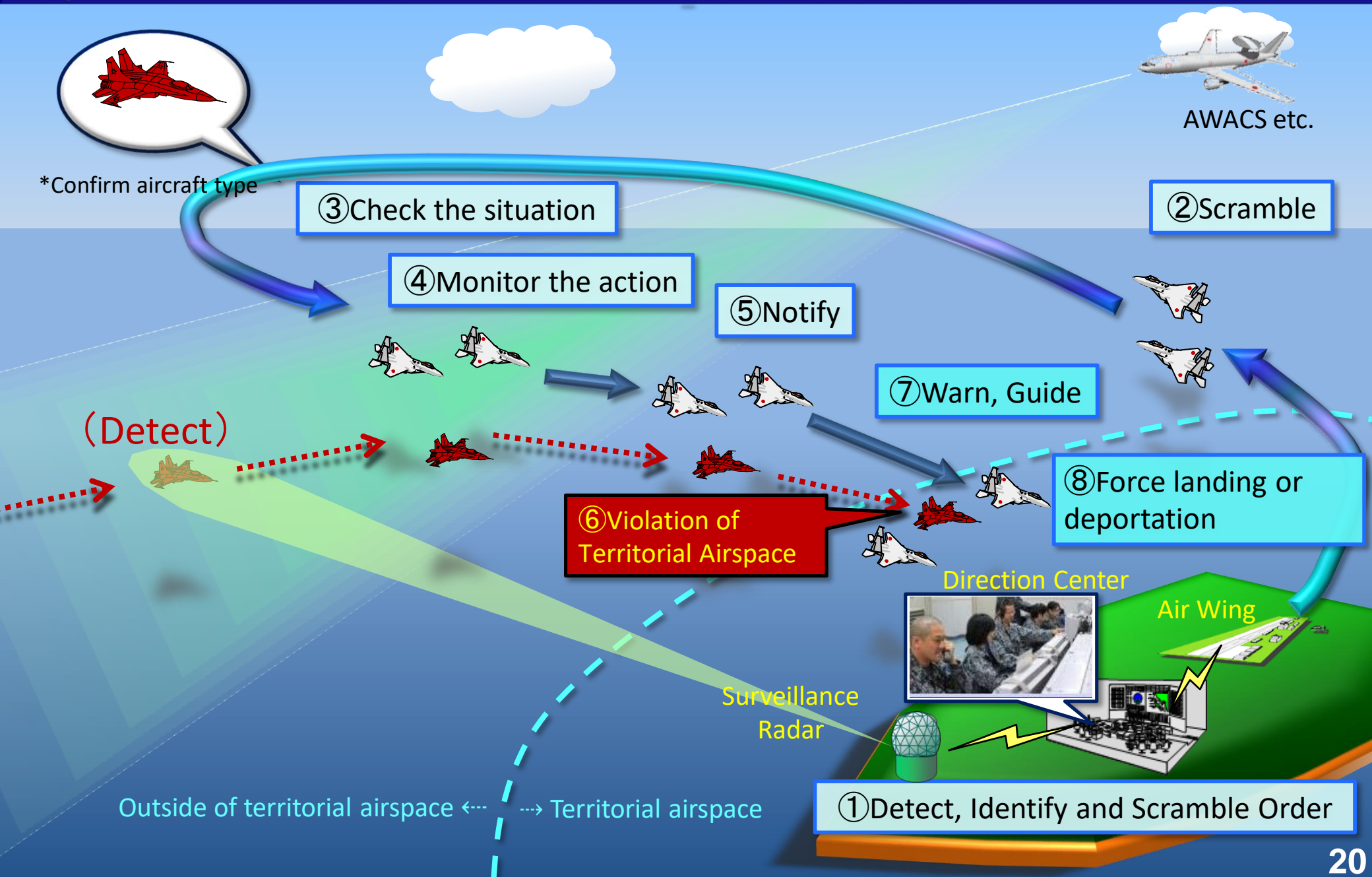
Koku-Jieitai responds
to violation of
territorial airspace

Koku-Jieitai conducts
SDA for securing
stable use of space

➤ Koku-Jieitai: **Japan's Sole Guardian in the Air and Space Domains**



Measures against Intrusion of Territorial Airspace (Article 84)

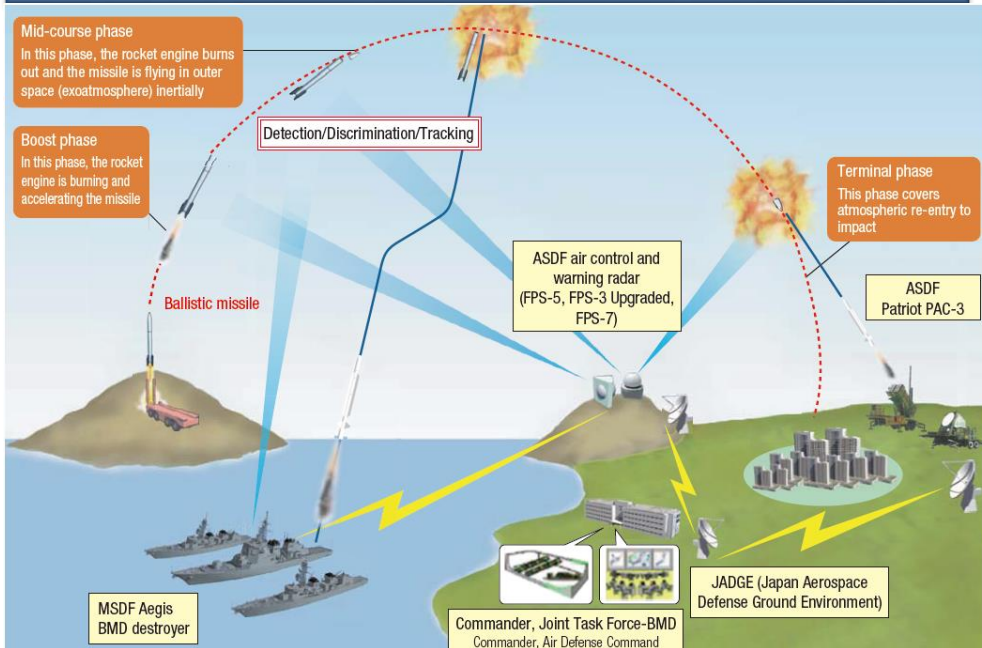




Destruction measures against ballistic missiles (Article 82-3)

➤ **Air Defense Command Commander** takes command of **ground, maritime and air components** for BMD under the centralized control of JJOC Commander

Development & Operation Concept of BMD



JMSDF Aegis



PAC-3

Command and Control

Minister of Defense

COS, Joint Staff

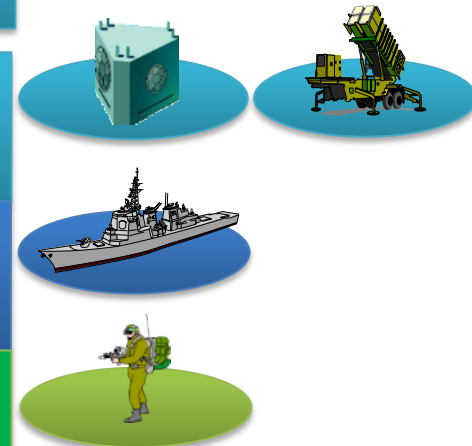
JSDF Joint Ops Command Commander

Air Defense Command Commander

Koku-Jieitai
AC&W, PATRIOT Units

JMSDF
Aegis Destroyers

JGSD
Units



*BMD : Ballistic Missile Defense



Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83)

Disaster Relief Operations by Koku-Jieitai (FY2025)



Search for a medical helicopter off eastern Tsushima, Nagasaki (6 Apr)



Airlift of Relief Supplies to Daito Islands, Okinawa (1 Aug)



Airlift of Vehicle to Hachijojima Island, Tokyo (14 Oct)





Disaster Relief Dispatches (Article 83)

Aeromedical Evacuation (FY2025)



Kuchinoshima Island - Kagoshima (UH-60J)



Vessel (226NM southeast of Naha)
- Naha (UH-60J, U-125A)



Nakadorishima Island – Omura (UH-60J)



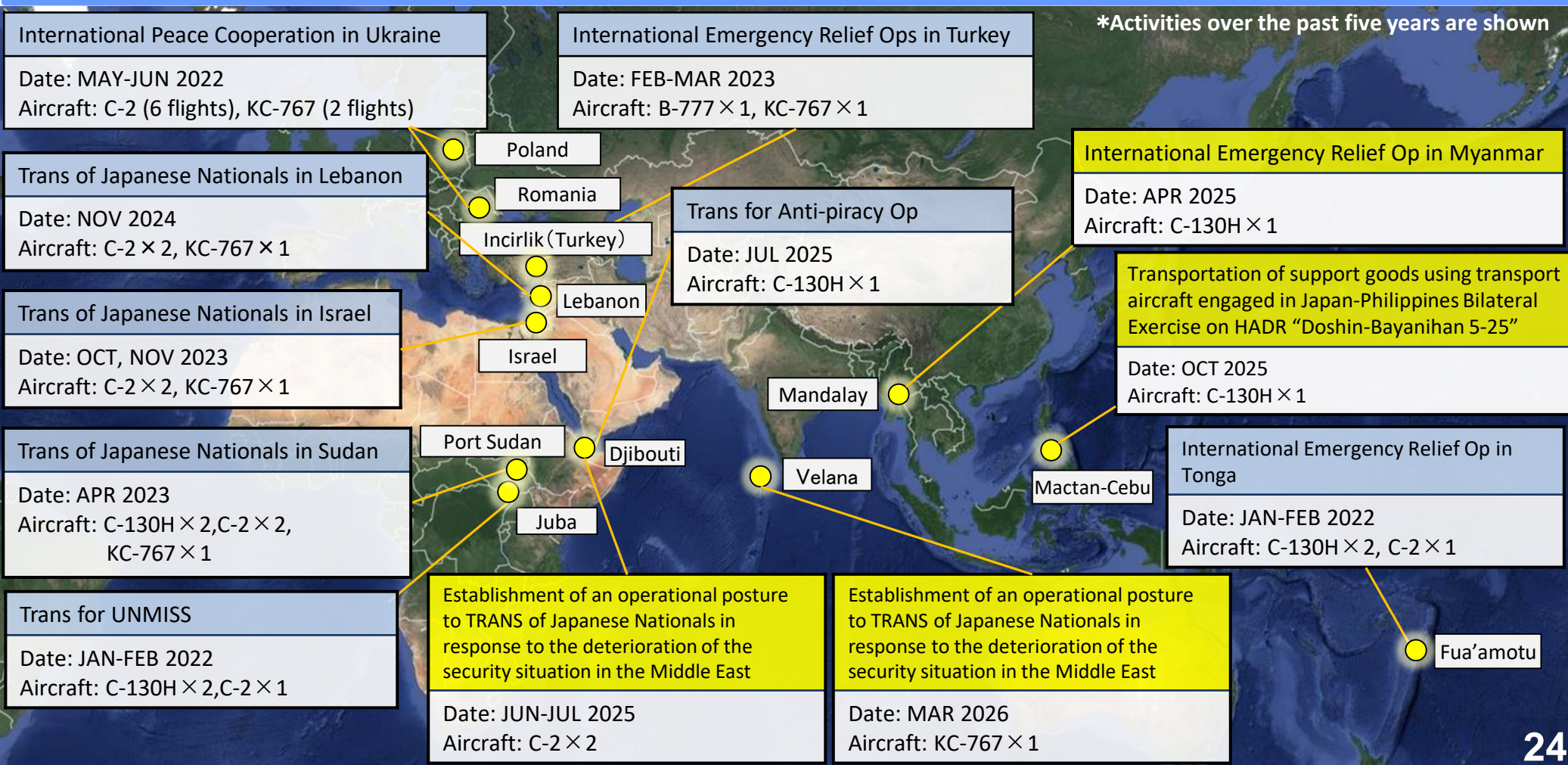
217NM southeast of Naha
- Naha (UH-60J, U-125A)

Activity	Engagement (Koku-Jieitai)	
MEDEVAC	UH-60J, U-125A, C-2, C-130H	27 cases



Transportation of Japanese Nationals Overseas/ International Emergency Relief Operations (Article 84-4)

- Since the first international PKO to Cambodia in 1992, Koku-Jieitai has conducted **international emergency relief operations, air transportation and transportation of Japanese nationals overseas for over 30 years**
- In April 2025, Koku-Jieitai **transported emergency relief goods** to Myanmar for International Emergency Relief Operations in response to the Earthquake
- In response to potential requirements for transportation of Japanese nationals amid the Middle East situation, and at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **transport aircraft were deployed to Djibouti in June 2025 and the Maldives in March 2026**





International Emergency Relief Operation (Article 84-5)

International Emergency Relief Operations in Myanmar (APR 2025)



Loading medical equipment and supplies onto C-130



Source: DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2025

Start airlift operations of medical equipment and supplies with C-130 aircraft



Unloading medical equipment and supplies



Transfer medical equipment and supplies to JICA



VIP Transportation (Article 100-5)

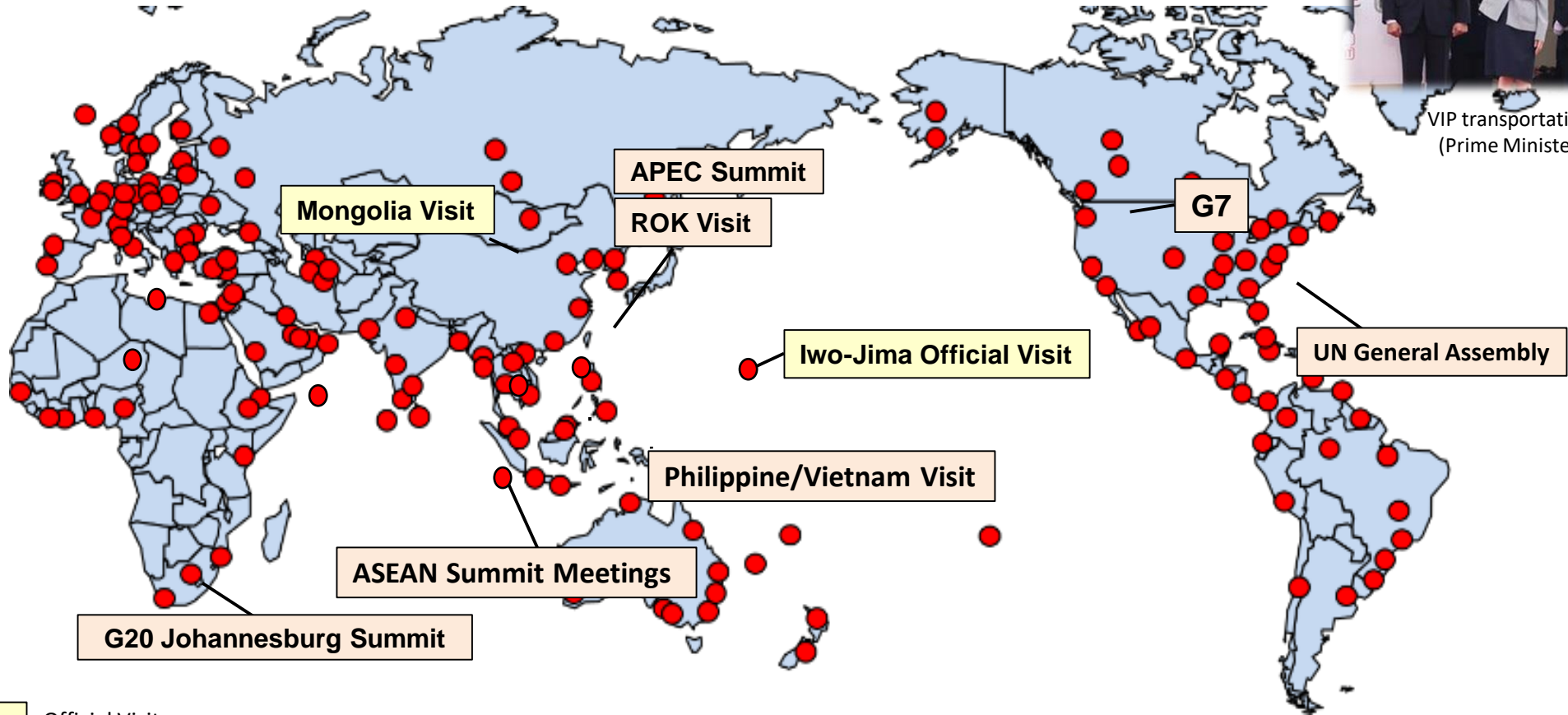
- Have conducted VIP transportation since 1993
- The aircraft type was updated to the B-777 (APR 2019)
- 383 flight missions (as of 25 FEB 2026)
 - B-747: 318 times, B-777: 65 times
- Visited 101 countries/289 cities



B-777



VIP transportation (Prime Minister)



- Official Visit
- Prime Minister visit



2 Key Features of Air Defense Capabilities

Air Defense Capabilities

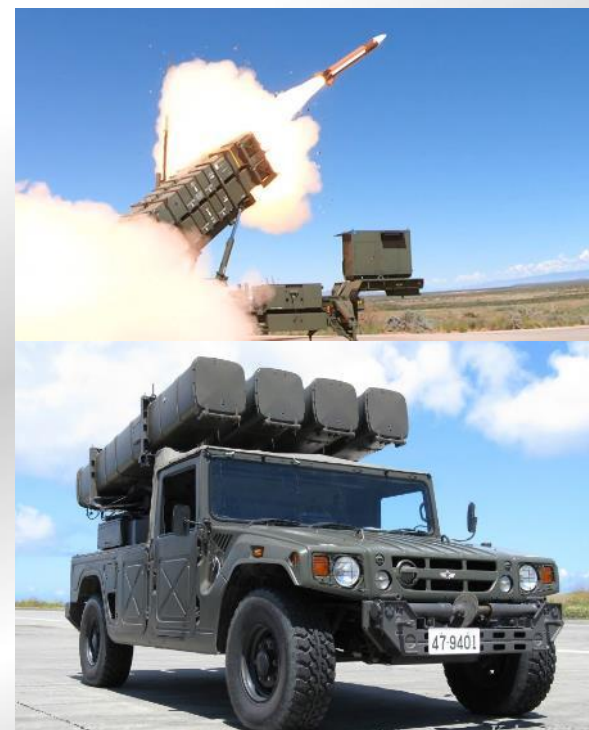
Defense Capabilities related to air such as aircraft, radars and missiles



Fighter Units



AC & W Units



SAM Units



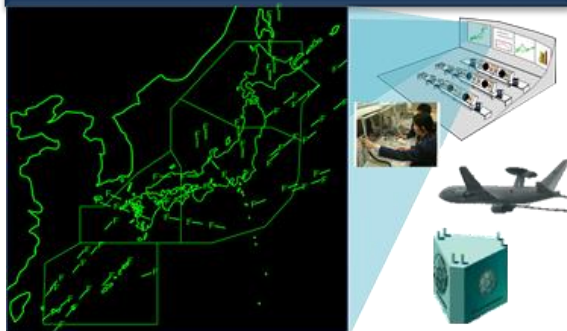
2 Key Features of Air Defense Capabilities

Readiness & Agility



The reachable range of a fighter in an hour

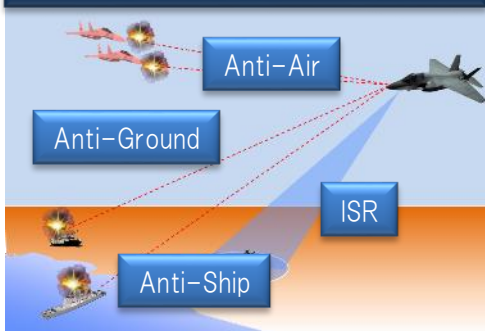
Surveillance Capability



Affected by Weather



Flexibility & Diversity



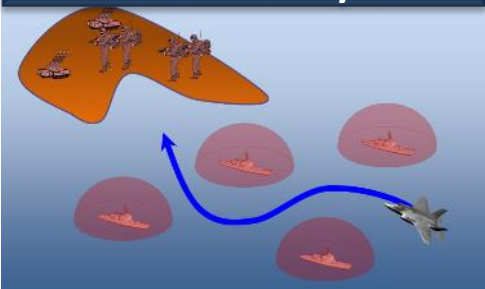
C3 Capability



Vulnerable on the Ground



Penetration & Survivability



Precision Response Capability



Require Long-Term Efforts

Acquisition

HR Development



3 Organizational Structure of Koku-Jieitai



Minister of Defense



Minister of Defense
Mr. Koizumi

State Minister of Defense



State Minister of Defense
Mr. Miyazaki

Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Defense



Mr. Wakabayashi Mr. Yoshida



Chief of Staff
Gen Morita



Vice Chief of Staff
Lt Gen Momma

Air Staff Office

Approx. 950

Air Defense Command

ADC/CC
Lt Gen Inatsuki



Approx. 27,200

Air Support Command

ASC/CC
Lt Gen Ando



Approx. 5,100

Air Training Command

ATC/CC
Lt Gen Sakamoto



Approx. 6,000

Air Development and Test Command

AD&TC/CC
Lt Gen Sato



Approx. 900

Air Materiel Command

AMC/CC
Lt Gen Kojima



Approx. 3,700

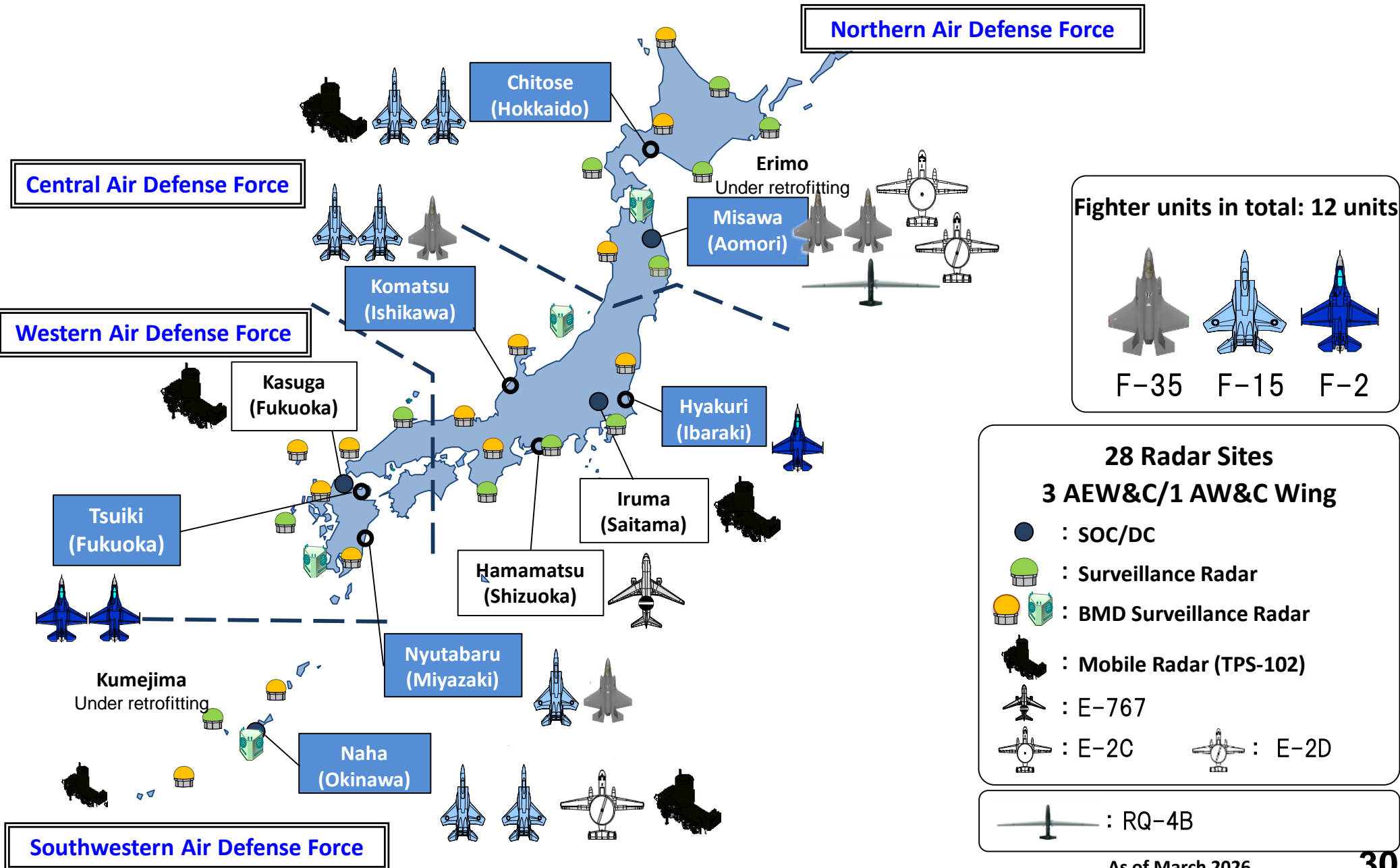
Others

Space Operations Wing etc.

Approx. 5,700



3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command



Launch of SAM

Central Air Defense Force

Northern Air Defense Force

Northern Air Defense Missile Group (Misawa)

- Chitose 2 SQs
- Naganuma 2 SQs
- Yakumo 2 SQs
- Shariki 2 SQs

Central Air Defense Missile Group (Iruma)

- Narashino 1 SQ
- Takeyama 1 SQ
- Kasumigaura 1 SQ
- Iruma 1 SQ
- Gifu 2 SQs
- Aibano 1 SQ
- Hakusan 1 SQ

Western Air Defense Force

Western Air Defense Missile Group (Kasuga)

- Ashiya 2 SQs
- Tsuiki 1 SQ
- Kouradai 1 SQ

Southwestern Air Defense Force

Southwestern Air Defense Missile Group (Naha)

- Naha 1 SQ
- Chinen 2 SQs
- Onna 1 SQ



Equipment Deployment



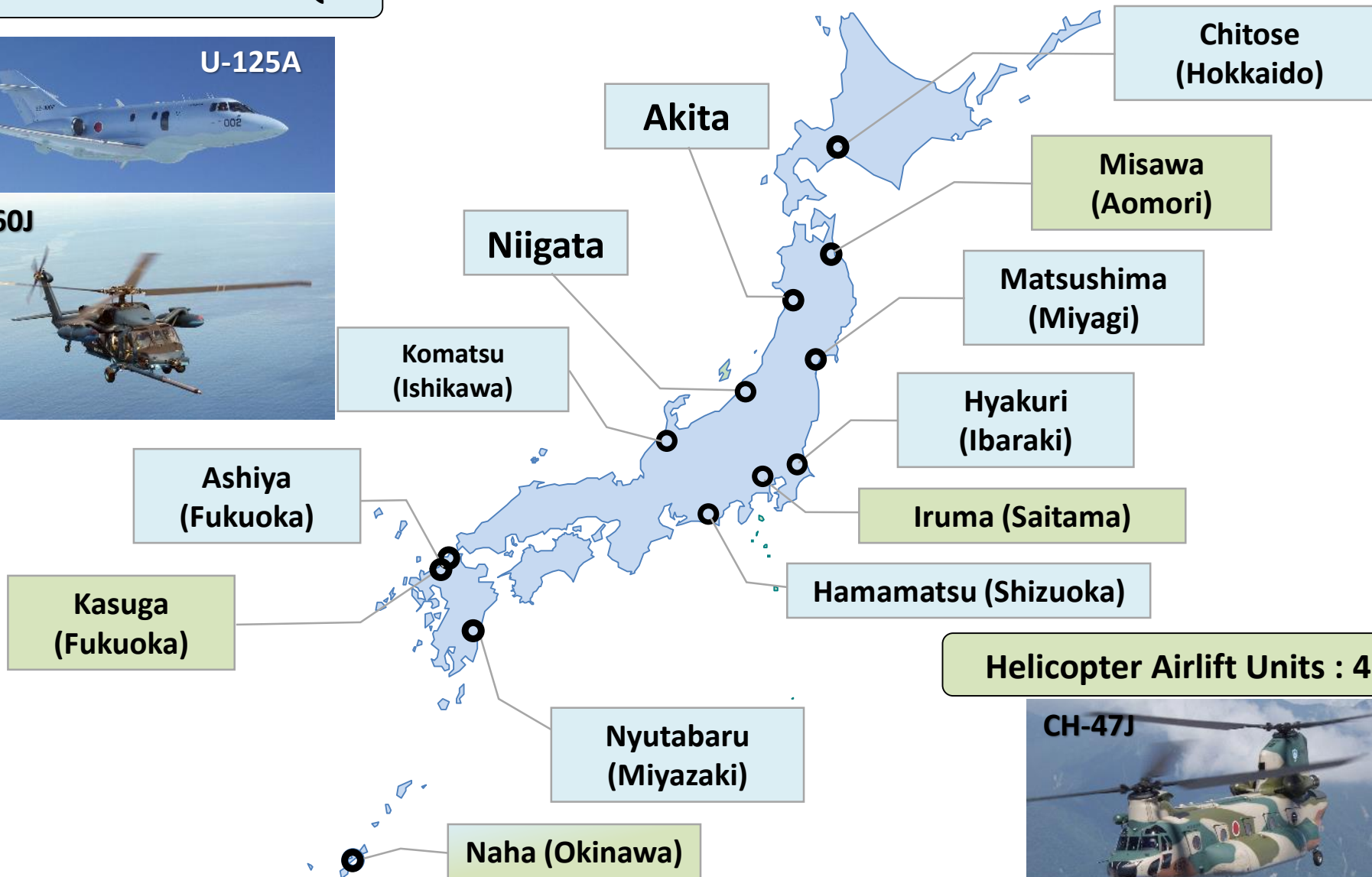
3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Defense Command

Air Rescue Units : 10 SQs

U-125A



UH-60J



Helicopter Airlift Units : 4 SQs

CH-47J





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command

Commander, Air Support Command

HQs, Air Support Command (Fuchu)

Tactical Airlift Wing (Komaki, etc.)

- Airlift missions
- Support JGSDF Airborne unit
- Education and training to pilots and maintainers



Air Traffic Control Group (Fuchu, etc.)

- Air traffic control
- Aviation recourse management
- Flight information service



Air Weather Group (Fuchu, etc.)

- Weather forecast
- Weather observation
- Weather information



Flight Check SQ (Iruma)

- Flight check service for facilities of aeronautical security and air traffic control



Special Airlift Group (Chitose)

- Transport service for state guests using special cargo aircraft (B-777)



Aeromedical Evacuation SQ (Komaki, etc.)

- Onboard medical care for patients in critical condition
- Research and surveys for onboard medical service
- Education on emergency care





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command



B-777



C-2



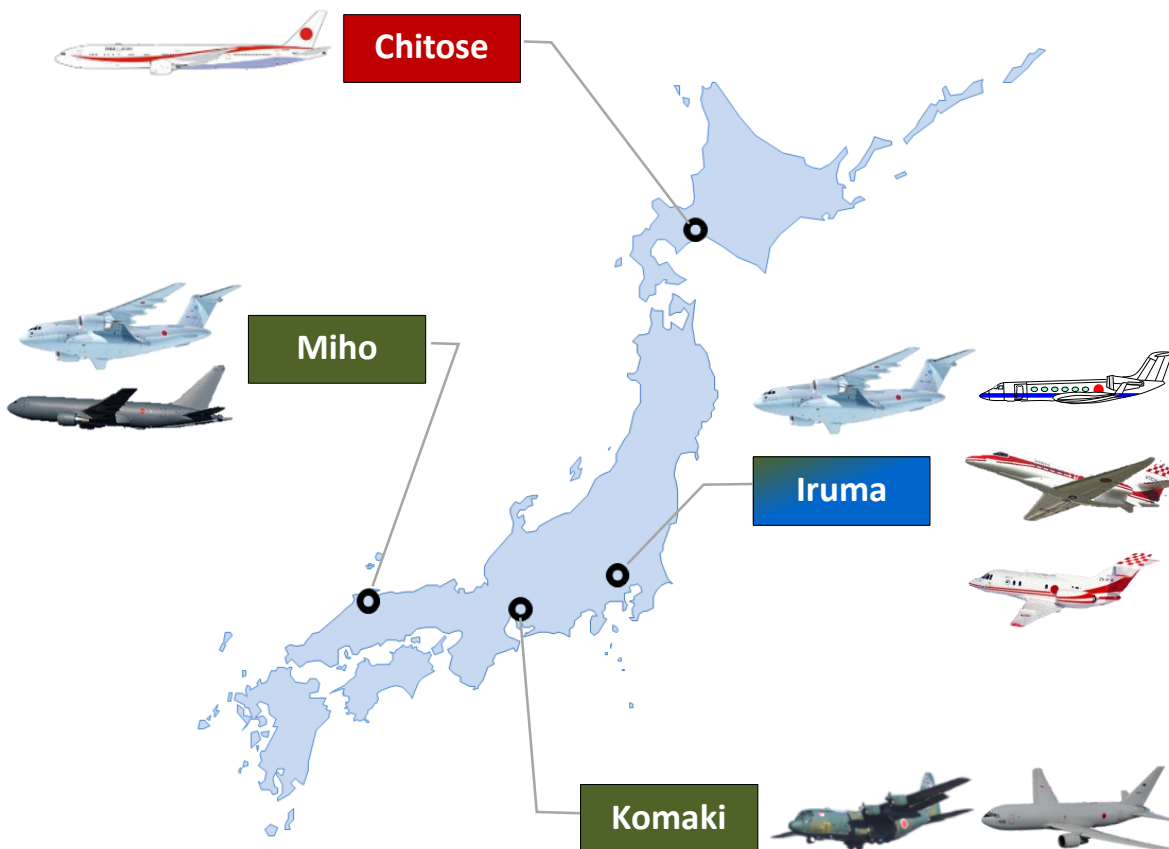
KC-46A



KC-767



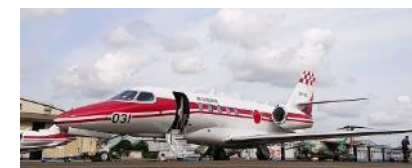
U-4



C-130H



U-125



U-680A

- Tactical airlift unit
- Air refueling / transport unit
- Flight check unit
- Special airlift unit

Tactical airlift unit: 3 SQs
 Aerial refueling / transport unit: 2 SQs
 Flight check unit: 1 SQ
 Special airlift unit: 1 SQ

*As of MAR 2026

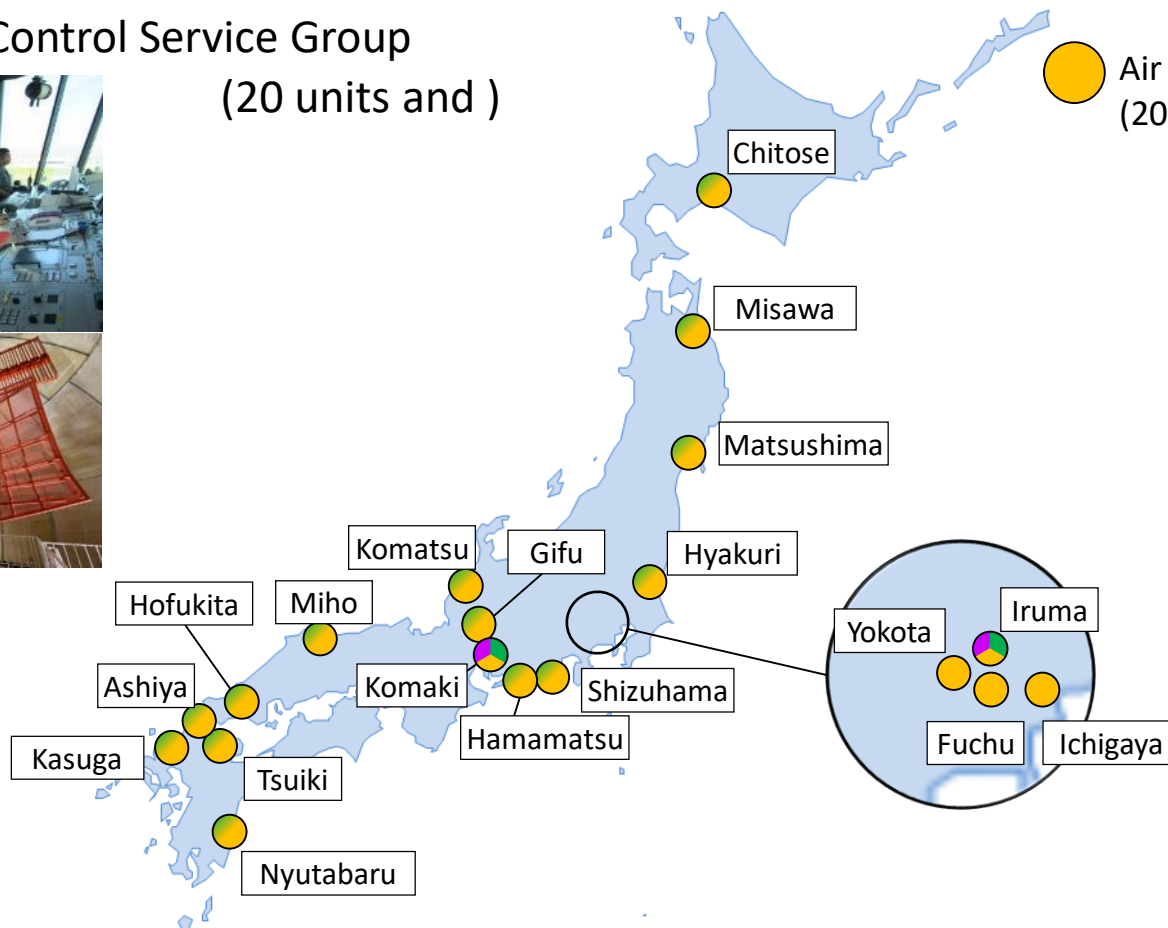


3 Organization chart of Koku-Jieitai: Air Support Command

Green Circle Air Traffic Control Service Group
(20 units and)



Yellow Circle Air Weather Service Group
(20units and HQ of Air Weather Group)



Purple Circle Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Training Command



*The broken lines indicate supervision by the Commander of the Air Training Command.



3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Development and Test Command

Commander, Air Development and Test Command

HQ (Fuchu)

Air Development and Test Wing (Gifu)

- Test, evaluate and basic operational research of aviation equipment
- Support Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency (ATLA)
- Test flight for receiving based on request from ATLA
- Education and training for test pilots



Electronics Development and Test Group (Fuchu)

- Test, evaluate and conduct basic operational research of ground communication electronics equipment
- Support ATLA
- Technical research regarding radio wave and quality of communications



Aviation Safety and Aeromedical Research Group (Iruma)

- Research on aviation medicine, and preventing accident
- Practical test
- Evaluate and training
- Information gathering and education on flight safety
- Site survey for accidents
- Cooperation with other services, ATLA





3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Air Materiel Command

Commander, Air Materiel Command

HQ (Jujo)

- Planning, arrangement of logistics and management for each depot

2nd Air Depot (Gifu, Jujo)

- Store and maintain aircraft
- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on aircraft parts and engines



3rd Air Depot (Iruma)

- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on equipment for communications and electronics, photo and weather services



4th Air Depot (Iruma, etc.)

- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on firearms, ammunition, targets, and towing equipment
- Procure, store, supply, maintain and conduct research on clothing/tools, vehicles, aircraft support equipment, chemical and facility equipment



*The broken lines indicate supervision by the Commander of the Air Materiel Command.



3 Organization of Koku-Jieitai: Space Operation Wing



- Mar 2026 Establish **Space Operation Wing**
- Mar 2024 **Space Operations GP** Reorganized
- Mar 2023 **Space Operations GP** Reorganized

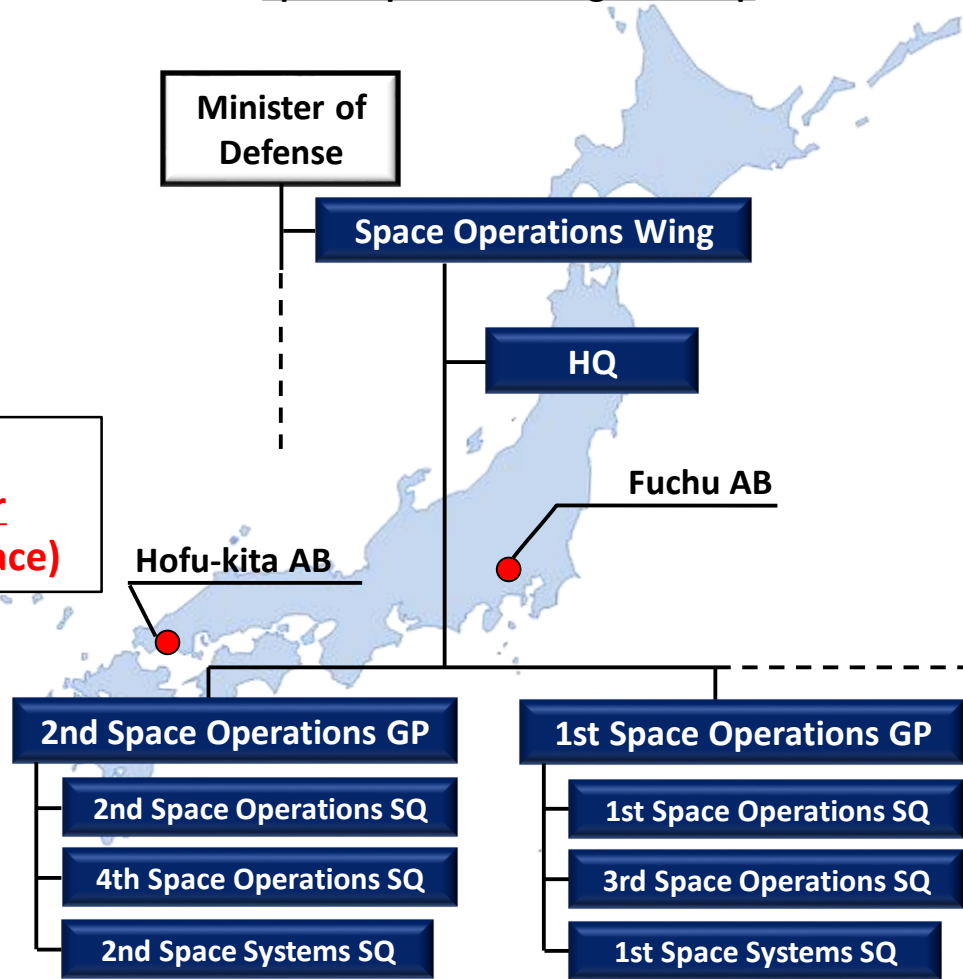
【Defense Buildup Plan (16 DEC 2022)】
 ■ Establish new space unit commanded by a General Officer
 ■ Koku-Jieitai will be renamed **Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Uchu= Space)**

- Mar 2022 **Space Operations GP** Stood-up
- Mar 2020 **Space Operations SQ** Stood-up



【National Defense Program Guidelines since 2019】
Koku-Jieitai will possess space-specialized unit

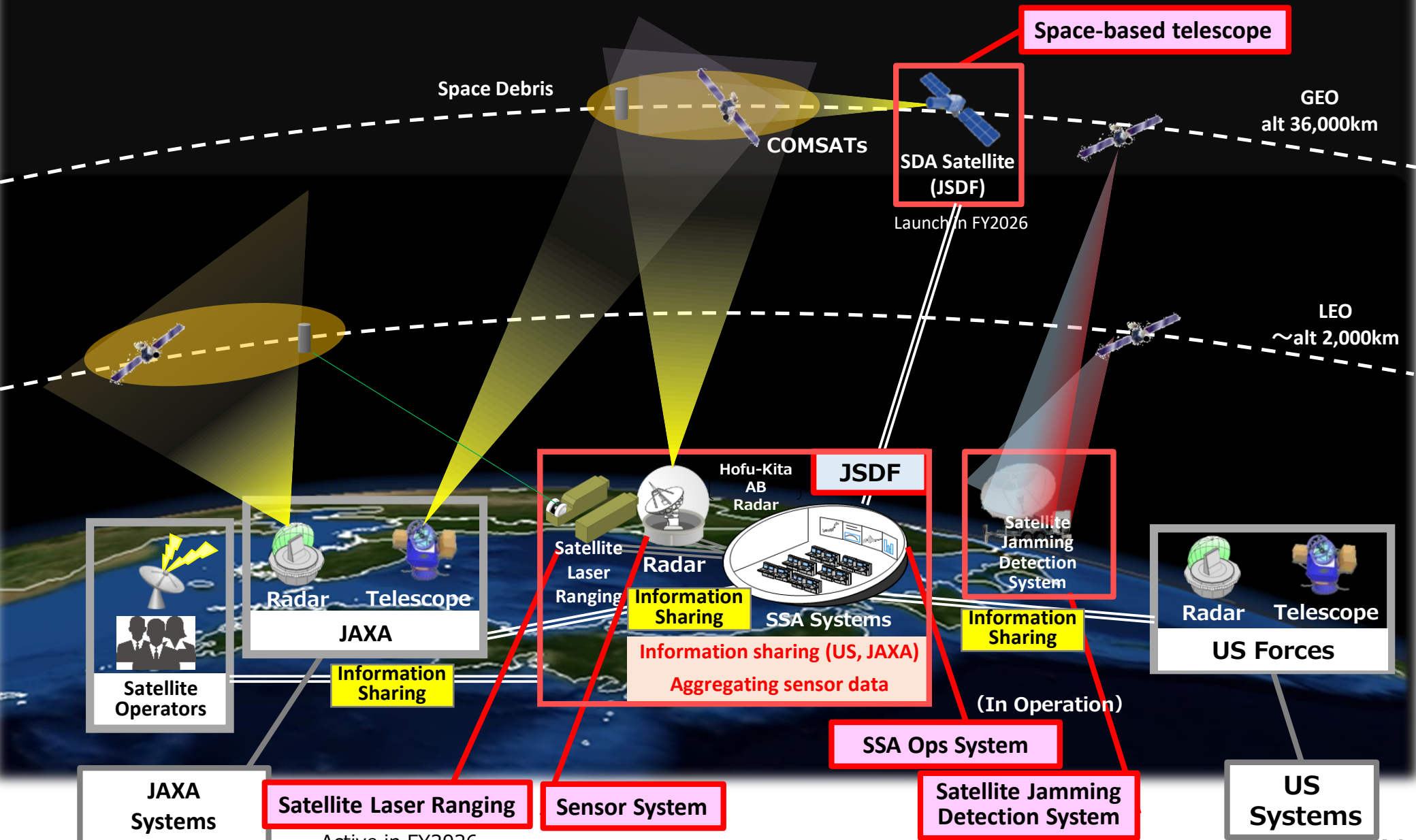
Organization after Space Operation Wing Stood-up



Approx. 670 personnel as of Mar 2026



Space Domain Posture Development



※ SDA (Space Domain Awareness)



III

Defense Capability Transformation

- 1 National Security Strategy of Japan/
National Defense Strategy/
Defense Buildup Program
- 2 Core Functions for Air Defense Capabilities and
Seven Key Focus Areas
- 3 Key Projects of FY2025
- 4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-minded Countries



Strategy Architecture

National Security Strategy

Provide strategic guidance for Japan's national security policy areas in addition to diplomacy and defense, including economic security, technology, cyber, intelligence etc. (Executed approximately 10-year timeframe)

National Defense Strategy

Set **defense objectives** and demonstrate **approaches** and **means** by which Japan accomplishes those objectives (Executed approximately 10-year timeframe)

Koku-Jieitai will be renewed Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Uchu= Space)

Defense Buildup Program

- Set **the level of defense capability**
 1. Organization of Self-Defense Forces (10 years ahead)
 2. Total expenditures for the next five years and quantities of major procurement

A new specialized space domain missions unit commanded by a general officer will be established, and Koku-Jieitai will be renamed to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai.



Seven Key Focus Areas (Seven Pillars)

➤ Koku-Jieitai focuses on **the 7 fields for the fundamental reinforcement of defense capabilities.**

● **Disrupt and defeat invading forces over long distances, thereby deterring invasion itself**

① Stand-off Defense Capabilities



② Integrated Air and Missile Defense capabilities



● **Should deterrence fail and an invasion of Japan occur, in addition to ① and ②, leverage manned as well as unmanned assets to ensure asymmetric advantage and gain superiority across domains** such as underwater, surface, and air.

③ Unmanned defense capabilities



④ Cross-domain capabilities



⑤ C2 / Intelligence functions



● **Operate in a swift and persistent manner** to crush to the opponent's will to invade

⑥ Mobile deployment capabilities / Civil protection



⑦ Sustainability / Resiliency





2 Core Air Defense Functions and the Seven Focus Areas



Command & Control
JADGE



Operational Support
Air Transportation, Aerial Refueling, Air Rescue



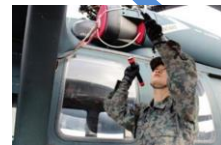
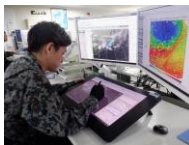
Sensors
Ground and Airborne Radars



Shooters
Fighters, SAMs



Operational Basis
MX , CE, ATC, Meteorology



- ① Stand-off Capabilities
- ② IAMD capabilities
- ③ Unmanned Capabilities
- ④ Cross-domain Capabilities
- ⑤ C2 / Intelligence
- ⑥ Mobile deployment/ Civil protection
- ⑦ Sustainability / Resiliency



3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Stand-off Defense Capabilities

- Acquire Stand-off Missiles (JSM, JASSM)
- Acquire & Upgrade of Launch Platforms (F-35A & F-2 Upgrade)



JSM*1

(Conceptual image)



JASSM*2

(Conceptual image)



F-35A Procurement



F-2 Upgrade

*1 JSM: Joint Strike Missile

*2 JASSM: Joint Air-to-Surface Stand-Off Missile

IAMD Capabilities

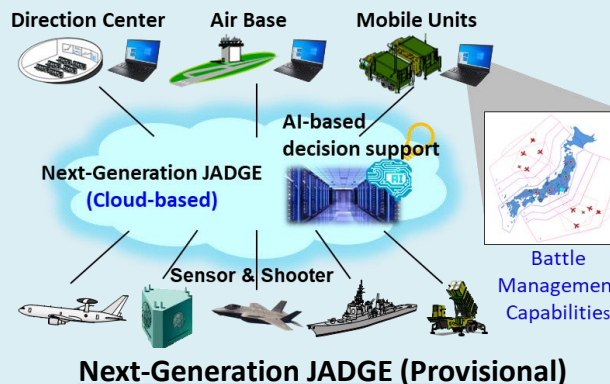
- Next-Generation JADGE (tentative name)
- Upgrade Patriot System
- Upgrade FPS-5/FPS-7
- Replace FPS-3 to FPS-7



FPS-5



FPS-7





3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Unmanned Defense Capabilities

- UAVs for radar site defense
- Anti-ship strike UAVs
- UAVs for target intelligence collection



Target Intelligence Collection UAVs

(Conceptual image (for illustrative purposes only))



SHIELD※ *(Conceptual image (for illustrative purposes only))*

※ Synchronized, Hybrid, Integrated and Enhanced Littoral Defense

Cross-domain Operation Capabilities

- Enhancing Capabilities in the Space Domain
 - Fielding Satellite Jamming Detection Systems
 - Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (tentative name)
 - Establishment of the Space Operations Command (tentative name)



Satellite Jamming Detection System



3 FY2026 Budget: Key Projects

Cross-domain Operation Capabilities

- **Cyber Domain**
 - Risk management framework–related expenditures (whole-of-ministry project)
- **Electromagnetic Domain**
 - Acquisition of the RC-2 (SIGINT aircraft)
- **Air Domain**
 - Acquisition of F-35A and F-35B



SIGINT aircraft (RC-2)



F-35B

C2 & Intelligence

- Development of Next-generation JADGE (tentative)

Mobile Deployment Capabilities and Civil Protection

- Acquisition of KC-46A



KC-46A

Sustainability & Resilience

- **Securing Ammunition**
 - Continued acquisition of ammunition and related materiel
- **Equipment Sustainment (Maximizing Availability)**
 - Appropriate acquisition of spare parts in accordance with procurement lead times
- **Infrastructure Development**
 - Modernizing existing facilities and undergrounding major headquarters
 - Development of F-35 operating facilities
 - Implementation of facility hardening and required measures



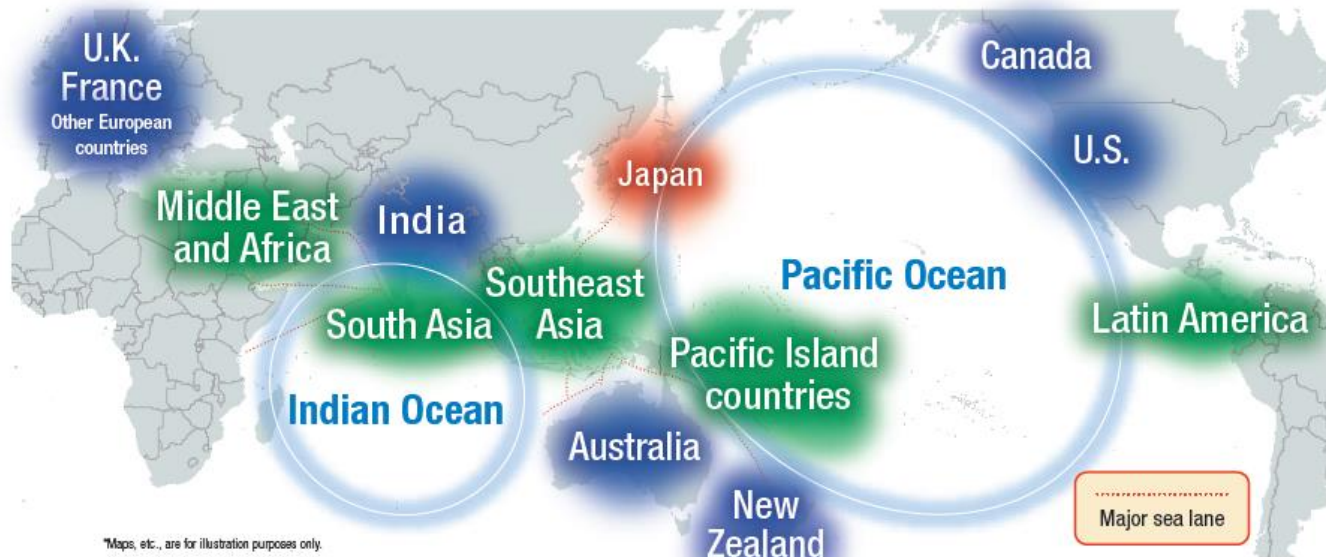
AIM-120



4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-Minded Countries

Policy on Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)



Koku-Jieitai's Initiatives in Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

Actively promoting **bilateral and multilateral** defense cooperation and exchanges including **high-level and working-level engagements and bilateral/multilateral exercises** in support of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific.



4 Cooperation with Allies and Like-Minded Countries

High-Level Engagement



Unit-to-Unit/Working-Level-Exchanges



RAF



RAAF



Indonesia (TNI AU)

Bilateral/Multilateral-Exercises



US-led multilateral exercise
Mobility Guardian 25



Japan-US-AUS
Bushido Guardian 25



Atlantic Eagles

- **Koku-Jieitai fighters' first-ever friendly visits to Canada and Europe (UK and Germany) to promote mutual understanding and advance defense cooperation and exchanges**
- **Period: 14 September (Sun) – 1 October (Wed), 2025**



 **Eielson AFB**



 **CFB Goose Bay**



 **RAF Coningsby**



 **Laage AB**





Exchange with ROKAF Black Eagles

- Hosted the ROKAF Black Eagles at Naha AB and conducted refueling support and unit-level exchanges to promote **mutual understanding between Koku-Jieitai and the ROKAF, and to advance defense cooperation and exchanges**
- Dates: 28 January (Wed) and 24 February (Tue), 2026





Strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance

- **Japan-US Alliance with its security framework at its core**, contributes significantly to peace, stability, and prosperity in Japan, the Indo-Pacific region and the international community
- Japan and the US will deepen **mutual understanding and communication** to strengthen **deterrence and response capabilities**, and will conduct **bilateral talks and exercises at multiple levels to enhance interoperability**

Strategic

Align strategies through high-level engagements



Japan-US Defense Ministerial Meeting



Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff



CoS with CSAF

Operational

Deepen cooperation in operational level



JJOC-USFJ HQ



07 JX



Schriever Wargame 2025

Tactical

Enhance tactical interoperability through bilateral/multilateral training



Japan-US Bilateral Training



REFORPAC



Bushido Guardian 2025 (Japan-US-AUS)



Strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance



Elephant Walk with Japan-US Fighters



Escort Flight with US Bomber



Japan-US Air Defense Missile Live-fire Exercise



Japan-US Airfield Damage Repair Exercise



Multilateral Training with Like-minded Countries

➤ **Strengthening cooperation with Indo-Pacific partners and like-minded countries** by utilizing air power in support of government efforts toward a Free and Open Indo-Pacific





Training with Like-Minded Countries

Japan-US-Australia Trilateral Training (Bushido Guardian 25) in Misawa



Japan-US-Australia Press Conference



Combined Flight with Participating Aircraft



Source: Ministry of Defense Website

- Training with the US and Australian air forces **in support of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific**
- First Japan-US-Australia trilateral F-35A training in Japan
- Enhance interoperability through bilateral/multilateral training for peace and stability in Indo-Pacific



Training with Like-Minded Countries

Japan–Philippines HADR Joint Exercise (Doushin–Bayanihan 5-25), Philippines



Airdrop training



MASCAL response training



Airlift of relief supplies for the Cebu offshore earthquake

- Japan–Philippines C-130H participation in airdrop and mass-casualty response training
- Airlift relief supplies in response to the earthquake off Cebu Province during the exercise
- **First application of the Japan–Philippines RAA** to both training and HADR operations



Capacity Building Assistance

- Koku-Jieitai participates in the MOD's **Capacity Building Assistance** programs contributing to capability building in ASEAN and other countries. (**International aviation law, Aviation meteorology, Aerospace medicine, Flight safety, Aeronautical search and rescue, Aeromedical evacuation, Air traffic control, Cybersecurity and WPS**)
- Koku-Jieitai implements the invitation program "Professional Airmanship Program (PAP)" under the Vientiane Vision 2.0 framework for Japan–ASEAN defense cooperation

Examples of Capacity Building Assistance



Sri Lanka


- Air Rescue
- AE



Aeromedical Evacuation (Komaki)




Rescue Equipment (Hamamatsu)



Vietnam

- Weather
- Air Rescue
- Cybersecurity
- Flight Safety
- IAL



Mobile Weather Radar System (Fuchu)



Philippines


- Aviation Medicine



Japan-Philippines (Iruma)




Facility Tour (Iruma)




ASEAN

- WPS
- Cybersecurity



Japan-ASEAN WPS Cooperation Project (Tokyo)



Japan-ASEAN Cybersecurity Cooperation Project (Tokyo)



Capacity Building Assistance



2025.12 Sri Lanka (Hamamatsu) (Rescue)



2025.11 Vietnam (Fuchu) (Weather)



2025.9 Philippines (Iruma) (Aviation Medicine)



2025.7 ASEAN (Tokyo) (Cybersecurity)



IV

Topics

- 1 Establishing “Core Values”
- 2 Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (tentative name)
- 3 Stand up 5th Air Wing / 202nd Squadron (tentative name)
- 4 GCAP Development
- 5 Efforts to Secure Human Resources
- 6 Harassment Prevention Efforts
- 7 Community Engagement & Cooperation



1 Establish “Core Values”

➤ Established “Core Values” as an **enduring moral foundation for personnel** amid the Koku-Jieitai’s 70th anniversary in 2024 and the upcoming reorganization to “Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Japan Air and Space Self-Defense Force (tentative name))”

“Core Values”

Integrity

(The attitude of each member sincerely and faithfully engaging with their duties)

Readiness

(The importance of fully employing the unique attributes of air defense capabilities including their readiness and mobility)

Challenge

(The determination to take on unprecedented challenges with courage and initiative)





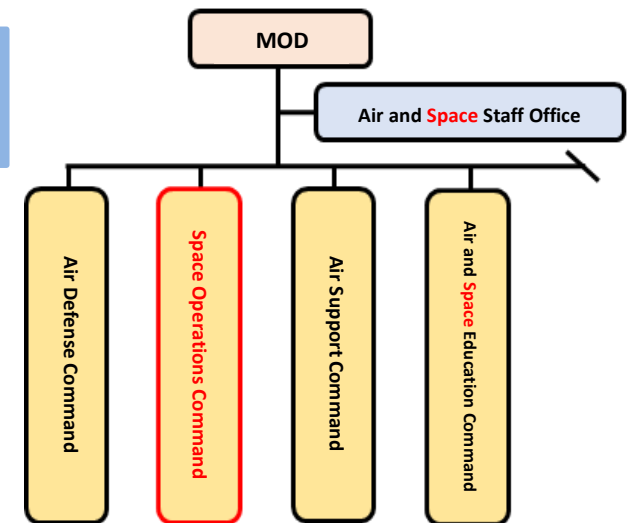
2 Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai

- The stable use of space is the foundation of C2 and intelligence collection and is equally **essential to civilian life through communications, observation and positioning**. Military operations in the space domain are as important as those on land, at sea, and in the air
- **A dedicated space domain unit was established in FY2020** and expanded its personnel in subsequent years to **strengthen space defense capabilities**
- Stand up the Space Operations Group (provisional), launch SDA satellites, and enhance SDA capabilities to enable full-scale operations aimed at disrupting an adversary's C2 and communications systems by FY2026
- Space will no longer be only a domain for Koku-Jieitai to monitor but will **become an operational domain in FY2026**



Reorganization to Koku-Uchu-Jieitai (Air and Space Self-Defense Force (tentative name))

- **The first-ever renaming since the inception of the Self-Defense Forces in 1954**
- Demonstrating Japan's commitment to ensure the **stable use of space** to make a significant contribution to **strengthening the nation's deterrence**.



* All names in red are tentative

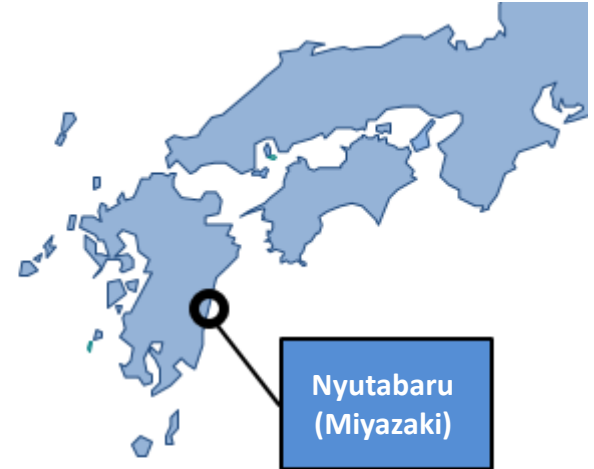


3 Stand up 5th Air Wing / 202nd Squadron (tentative)

- Phased delivery of the F-35Bs to Nyutabaru Air Base since FY2025
- As a preparatory unit, the “Temporary F-35B Squadron” has been established since FY2024. In FY2026, with the deployment of approximately 10 aircraft to Nyutabaru Air Base, the Temporary F-35B Squadron of the 5th Air Wing (Nyutabaru AB) will be dissolved and the operational **“202nd Squadron (tentative name)”** is planned to be established



F-35B Deployment Commemoration Ceremony
Nyutabaru AB (7 Feb 2025)





4 Next Generation Fighter Co-development

- Co-developing next generation fighter with the UK and Italy since December 2022 which can effectively counter numerically superior adversaries and secure long-term air superiority
- Koku-Jieitai and ATLA work closely together and actively engage in GCAP development to ensure it meets user requirements
- Established GIGO, an intergovernmental organization for GCAP in December 2024 and dispatched Koku-Jieitai personnel to the UK as GIGO staff

*Conceptual Image of
Next-Gen Fighter*



Japan-UK-Italy Cooperation





5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Talent Acquisition)

Improving Working Conditions

➤ **Improving working and living conditions** and securing human resources to ensure defense capabilities

Year	Items
FY2023	Payment of allowances to personnel assigned to radar sites conducting surveillance and monitoring operations
FY2024	New allowance for personnel assigned radar sites
	New allowance for personnel assigned to Direction Centers
	Increase in allowances for night shift base security duties
FY2025	Improvement of treatment for personnel engaged in demanding missions, including pilots and aircraft maintenance personnel
	Review of initial pay standards for rehiring former SDF Personnel
	New allowance for intelligence collection and related duties in air operations



Work in Extreme Conditions ①



Work in Extreme Conditions ②



5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Talent Acquisition)

Reemployment of Retired SDF Pilots

[Pilot Reemployment System]

➤ Reemployment of Mandatory Retirees

FY2022: Added education and training conducted onboard aircraft as flight instructors

FY2023: Added flight inspection

From October 2025: Expanded eligibility to include personnel who, after mandatory retirement, temporarily separated from service as SDF members

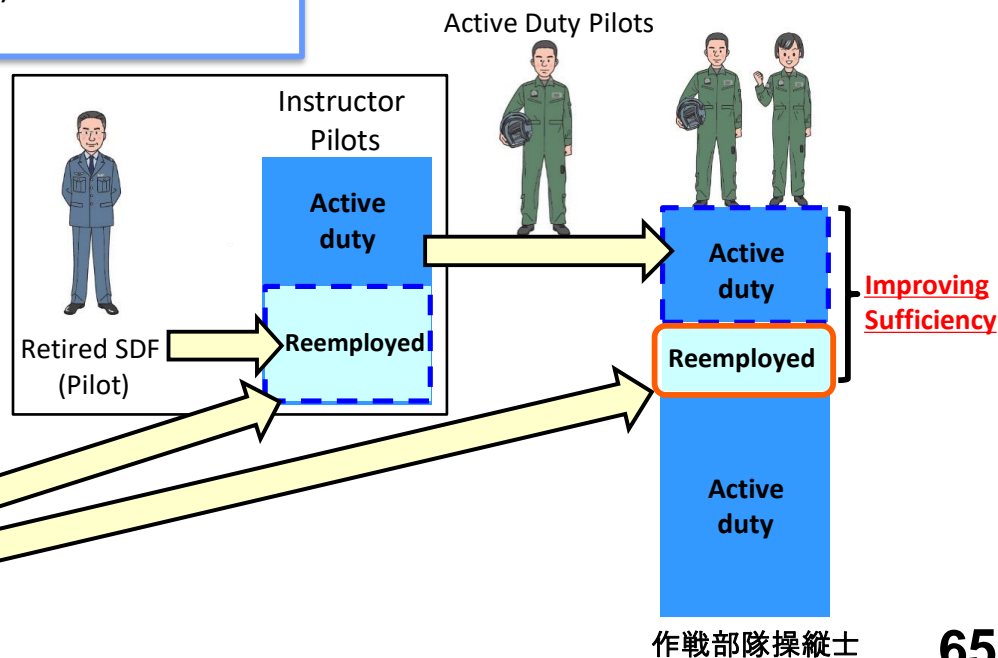
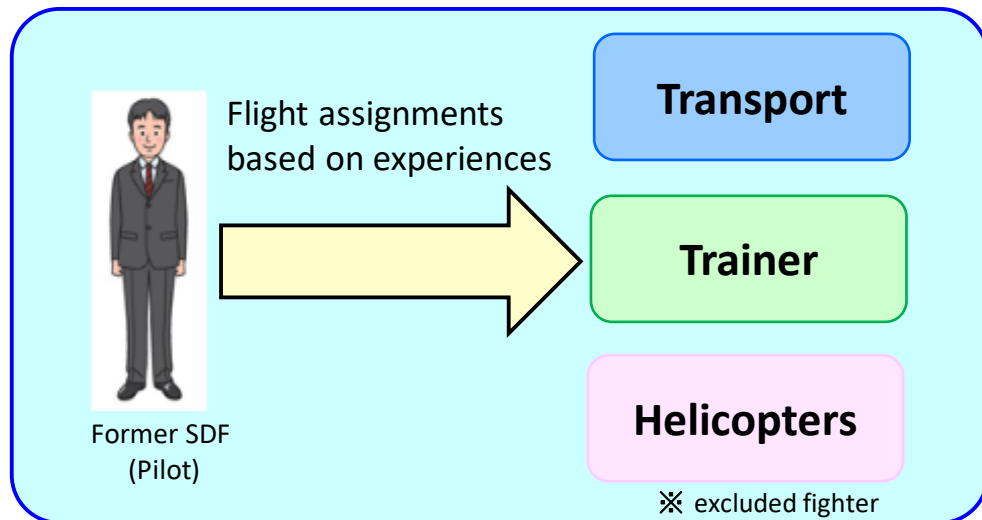
➤ Reemployment of Former Self-Defense Force Personnel

From FY2023: Start reemployment of pilots (excluding fighter aircraft)

Reemployment of Retired Instructor Pilots



Reemployment of Retired/Separated Pilots





5 Strengthening the Human Foundation (Gender Equality and Inclusion)

【Promotion of Women’s Empowerment】

- In November 2015, Koku-Jieitai lifted assignment restrictions on female personnel across **all occupational specialties** including fighter pilots
- **Female recruitment quotas** for enlisted personnel were abolished across all recruitment categories in FY2024
- **Female personnel are assigned to a wide range of positions** based on individual motivation, ability, and suitability

Fighter Pilots/Aircraft Maintainers



Overseas Training



【Work–Life Balance Promotion Initiatives】

- Promoting awareness and utilization of childcare/caregiving support
- Workstyle reformation (flexible working hours and locations)
- Promotion of leave utilization

Childcare Leave



Caregiving Leave



Flexible Working Hours

- Staggered Working Hours
- Flextime System, etc.

Flexible Work Locations

- Telework
- Online Education and Training



6 Harassment Prevention Effort

➤ Continuing proactive efforts to build an **environment that does not tolerate any harassment**



**Harassment prevention education led by an external expert
Hōfu-Minami AB (Air Training Wing) 15 Jan 2026**

Harassment Prevention Month (2026.02.01~02.28)

- **Awareness-raising** through harassment model cases
- **Commitment building** through handwritten anti-harassment declarations
- **“Do not engage, do not allow, do not ignore.”**

ハラスメント防止に関する宣言書

私は、ハラスメントが、隊員の尊厳や人格を傷つけ、隊員相互の信頼関係を失墜させ、精強性を揺るがす、決してあってはならない行為であることを認識し、次のことを宣言します。

- 1 ハラスメントの定義を正しく理解します。
- 2 大切な仲間を尊重し、絶対にハラスメントを起こしません。
- 3 ハラスメントを目撃した場合は、決って見逃しません。
- 4 被害に遭った隊員には、しっかり寄り添います。
- 5 ハラスメントを一切許容しない組織環境を構築します。

Establishing a Zero-Tolerance Harassment Environment



7 Collaboration with local community

Blue Impulse Demonstration Flight



- Build **public trust** and supporting **public relations** through Blue Impulse demonstration flights

Engage in Disaster Drills



- Build **coordination framework with local governments** through exercises and enhance mutual **disaster-response capabilities**

Training at Civilian Airports



- Ensure full capability in all situations by maintaining **access to various civilian airports for Koku-Jieitai**
- Continue utilizing civilian airports for training, with deliberate coordination with local communities

Band Performances



- **Promote** the SDF and strengthen community relations through **band performances** and musical instruction nationwide



航空自衛隊

Japan Air Self-Defense Force

HP



X



Facebook



Instagram



YouTube

