Part III

Initiatives to Protect the Lives and Property of the People as well as Securing Territorial Land, Water, and Airspace

Organizational Structure Bearing Defense Capability

- Reorganization of the Ministry of Defense (MOD) was implemented in October 2015 based on the “Direction of the Ministry of Defense Reform” (August 2013).
- Unification of work relating to actual operations into the Joint Staff
- Establishment of the Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency as a new extra-ministerial organization that brings together and consolidates departments in the MOD related to the procurement of equipment
- Reform of the Internal Bureaus for strengthening the policy making function and the defense capability build-up function

Effective Deterrence and Response

Ensuring Security of Sea and Airspace Surrounding Japan

- The Self-Defense Forces (SDF) persistently engages in warning and surveillance activities in the waters and airspace surrounding Japan in peacetime so that it can respond to various contingencies immediately and seamlessly.
- In 2015, SDF confirmed intrusions of Chinese government ships into Japanese territorial seas. In addition, SDF confirmed activities by Chinese Navy vessels including passage through the southwestern islands and several activities near the contiguous water zone of Japan. Due to those situations, the MOD/SDF is working to strengthen collaboration with relevant government ministries and agencies, by sharing information with the Japan Coast Guard.
- In September 2015, a Russian aircraft (assumed) intruded into Japanese airspace off the coast of the Nemuro Peninsula, to which the ASDF responded by scrambling its fighters. In FY2015 the ASDF aircraft scrambled 873 times. Of these, the number of times that the ASDF aircraft scrambled against Chinese aircraft was 571, which set a record high since the MOD began releasing the number of scrambles by country and region. The MOD/SDF continues its utmost efforts in warning and surveillance in both the sea and airspace around Japan and also engages in strict counter-measures to airspace intrusion.

Number and Breakdown of Scrambles since the Cold War

[Graph showing the number and breakdown of scrambles from 1984 to 2015 by country (Russia, China, Taiwan, Other countries, total).]

Note: The peak of the cold war

MSDF P-3C patrol aircraft (upper) conducting warning and surveillance, and ASDF E-767 airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft (lower)

F-15 fighter scrambling
In order to respond to attacks on the remote islands, it is important to position troops and so forth in accordance with the security environment, and also to detect signs at an early stage and to obtain and secure maritime and air superiority through persistent intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) conducted by the SDF from peacetime. If signs of attack are detected in advance, troops will be swiftly deployed and concentrated in an area expected to be invaded ahead of the deployment of enemy units, and, deter and remove enemy attacks through the joint operation combining all of the three services (the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF). In case of an invasion of the islands, the SDF suppresses the enemy force by ground attack from aircraft and vessels, and then implements operations to retake the islands through the amphibious landing of GSDF units and other initiatives operations to retake.

For defense posture buildup in the southwestern region, in January 2016, the ASDF newly established the 9th Air Wing, while the GSDF newly formed the Yonaguni coast observation unit in Yonaguni in March of the same year. Going forward, the SDF will station a security unit in the remote islands area in the southwestern region, establish an “Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade” (tentative name) equipped with a full function for amphibious operations, and acquire fixed wing patrol aircraft (P-1), patrol helicopters (SH-60K), and other equipment.

For the purpose of ensuring capabilities for swift and large-scale transportation and deployment of units, the improvement of Osumi class transport LSTs (Landing Ship, Tank) and obtainment of V-22 Ospreys will be carried out.

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**Conceptual Image of Defending Japan’s Offshore Islands**

- Secure and maintain marine superiority and air superiority
- Surface vessels
- Anti-submarine warfare
- Maritime air support
- Amphibious warfare
- Overall air defense
- Aerial refueling
- Strategy to recapture remote islands in the case of an invasion
- SDF troops will be swiftly deployed and concentrated in an area expected to be attacked ahead of the deployment of enemy units and they will try to intercept and defeat any invaders.
- Defend the defended
- Full-scale anti-rocket defense
- Anti-submarine warfare
- Submarine

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The ASDF 9th Air Wing Commander receiving the flag of the State Minister of Defense Wakamiya

Western Army Commanding General receiving the flag of the Coast Observation Unit from the Minister of Defense Nakatani
**Part 3**

**Initiatives to Protect the Lives and Property of the People as well as Securing Territorial Land, Water, and Airspace**

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**Japan’s Defense against Ballistic Missiles and Other Attacks**

- Japan’s BMD is an effective multi-tier defense system with upper tier interception by Aegis-equipped destroyers and lower tier by Patriot PAC-3, both interconnected through the Japan Aerospace Defense Ground Environment (JADGE).
- In response to North Korea’s ballistic missile launch, which was purported to be an “earth observation satellite,” in February 2016, the Minister of Defense issued the Order for destruction measures against ballistic missiles and the MOD deployed destroyers equipped with SM-3 missiles and the PAC-3 units. At the same time, every necessary measure including dispatching the GSDF units to the Southwestern Islands was also taken in case any debris were to fall from the sky.

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**Response to Attacks by Guerillas, Special Operations Forces and Others**

- Illegal activities by infiltrated armed agents and sabotage carried out by guerillas or special operations forces can pose a serious threat to Japan’s peace and security, even if these are small-scale infiltrations and attacks.
- The MOD/SDF conducts joint exercises and training with relevant government and local government agencies such as police and the Japan Coast Guard, and strive to strengthen its cooperation with them.

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**Initiatives towards Ensuring Maritime Security**

- In order to maintain the order of “Open and Stable Seas” and to ensure the safety of maritime traffic, the MOD/SDF promotes various kinds of initiatives such as conducting counter-piracy activities as well as providing capacity building assistance to coastal countries, and conducting joint exercises in close cooperation with the ally and others.
- With regard to the relationship between Japan and China, MOD has had meetings the China defense authorities towards the commencement of the maritime and air communication mechanism in order to avoid and prevent unexpected contingencies.

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**Responses in Space**

- From the perspective of further promoting cooperation in the space domain between the defense authorities of Japan and the United States, these two countries established the “Space Cooperation Working Group (SCWG)” in April 2015. The SCWG promotes reviews in broader fields such as: (1) promotion of policy-related consultation regarding space, (2) closer information sharing, (3) cooperation for developing and securing experts, and (4) implementation of tabletop exercises.
The SDF will protect Japanese nationals overseas, etc., in the country to which it has been dispatched, and safely guide them to aircraft, ships, and vehicles and transport them. The SDF maintains operational readiness, with the GSDF designating helicopter unit and unit personnel in charge of lead and transport Japanese evacuees, the MSDF designating vessels such as transport ships (including boarded aircraft), and the ASDF designating airlift units and personnel for dispatch.

Since the transportation of Japanese nationals overseas requires close coordination between the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF, joint exercises are carried out in peacetime and the SDF participates in the annual multinational joint exercise “Cobra Gold” in Thailand.

When large-scale disasters natural disasters occur, the SDF, incooperates with local governments, engages in various activities such as search and rescue of disaster victims and missing ships or aircraft, fighting floods, offering medical treatment, preventing epidemics, supplying water, and transporting personnel and goods, etc.

During the Kanto-Tohoku Heavy Rainfall Disaster in September 2015, in Ibaraki, Tochigi, and Miyagi Prefectures, the SDF conducted lifesaving operations and evacuation assistance using boats etc., mobilizing approximately 7,540 personnel accumulated number. Responding to the Kumamoto Earthquake disaster in April 2016, in Kumamoto and Oita Prefectures, approximately 814,000 personnel accumulated number conducted lifesaving operations and livelihood support for the victims (transportation of goods, provision of food and water, bathing service, medical treatment assistance, etc.).
Active Promotion of Security Cooperation

- In today’s international community, it is extremely difficult for any country to ensure its own national security only by itself, and it has become inevitable that countries sharing strategic interests deal with the issues in a coordinated manner. Moreover, as the roles of military forces have diversified, there are increasing opportunities for such forces to play an important role in promoting confidence-building and friendly relationships between nations such as supporting post-conflict reconstruction.

- Amid the situation where the necessity and potentiality of international cooperation in the security area are increasing, the MOD/SDF, from the standpoint of “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation, is required to actively contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of Japan, the Asia-Pacific region, and the entire international community. For this reason, the MOD/SDF enhances bilateral and multilateral defense cooperation and exchanges, and at the same time actively promotes international peace cooperation activities, and other relevant efforts.

Achievements in High-Level Defense Exchanges (January 2015 – June 2016)

Toward Strategic International Defense Cooperation

- With regard to defense exchanges and cooperation, in addition to conventional bilateral dialogues and cooperation exchanges, Japan has combined various means such as joint exercises and capacity building assistance, defense equipment and technology cooperation to create deeper cooperative relationship. Along with this initiative, multilateral defense cooperation and exchanges are also in the process of developing toward strategic international defense cooperation for establishing order within the region.

- Initiatives under the Multilateral Security Framework and through Dialogue
  - Japan has been working to strengthen multilateral cooperation such as its participation in the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM) Plus in November 2015 and the holding of the Japan-ASEAN Defense Vice-Ministerial Forum in September of the same year.
  - Japan also actively engages in capacity building assistance in order to actively create stability within the region and improve the global security environment.
Defense Cooperation and Exchanges with Other Countries

- **Australia**: In November 2015, the Japan-Australia Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting was held. In December of the same year, new initiatives for strengthening Japan-Australia security and defense cooperation were approved in the Summit meeting.
- **ROK**: The Japan-ROK Defense Ministerial Meeting was held in the ROK in October 2015, for the first time in four years and nine months.
- **India**: In December 2015, during the Japan-India Summit Meeting, the two leaders signed Agreement between the government of Japan and the government of the Republic of India concerning the transfer of defense equipment and technology and the Agreement between the government of Japan and the government of the Republic of India concerning security measures for the protection of classified military information.
- **China**: The Japan-China Ministerial Meeting was held in November 2015 for the first time in four years and five months.
- **Indonesia**: In December 2015, the first Japan-Indonesia Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting was held.
- **The Philippines**: The Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology was signed in February 2016.
- **United Kingdom**: The second Japan-U.K. Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting was held in January 2016.
- **Canada**: The Japan-Canada Vice-Ministerial "2+2" Dialogue was held in April 2016.

Ensuring Maritime Security

For Japan, as a major maritime state, strengthening the maritime order based on fundamental principles such as the rule of law and the freedom of navigation, as well as ensuring safe maritime transport, is the foundation for its peace and prosperity. For this reason, in cooperation with the relevant countries, the MOD/SDF has engaged in anti-piracy operations, as well as promoting various initiatives including assistance for capacity building in this field for those coastal states alongside the sea lanes, and making the most of various opportunities to enhance joint training and exercises in waters other than those in the immediate vicinity of Japan.

For counter-piracy operations, Japan has participated in CTF151 and carried out it mission in cooperation with other participating countries.

Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

- **United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)**
  Currently, Japan dispatches an Engineer Unit approximately 350 personnel and staff officers to engage in activities corresponding to the need of UNMISS such as improvement of main roads in South Sudan.

- **Cooperation to the UN Peacekeeping Operations in the Area of Human Resources Development**
  Japan has dispatched SDF personnel as lecturers to PKO Centers in different countries and Instructors for the Project for Africa Rapid Deployment of Engineering Capabilities (ARDEC). In addition Japan co-hosted the United Nations Training of Trainers (TOT) with the United Nations.

Initiatives for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

Japan plays an active role in international initiatives for arms control, disarmament, and nonproliferation in regard to weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, as well as missiles.
Measures on Defense Equipment and Technologies

Promotion of Research and Development for Ensuring Technological Superiority
- Japan conducts research and development on defense equipment that integrate dual-use technologies in order to ensure technological superiority. In April 2016, the first flight of the Advanced Technology Demonstrator (X-2) was carried out.
- Considering application of defense equipment, the MOD’s own funding program called “Innovative Science & Technology Initiative for Security” (competitive funding) was launched in FY2015 to discover ingenious research conducted by universities, public research institutes and companies etc., and to nurture promising research. In FY2015, nine research projects were selected.

Efforts toward Project Management, etc.
- The Department of Project Management was set up in the Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency with the aim to manage the acquisition process of defense equipment throughout its lifecycle. The Department works to realize effective and efficient acquisition of defense equipment with strategic perspective, by selecting twelve programs as subject for acquisition management.
- The MOD intends to reduce the procurement cost and ensure stable procurement by the procurement of defense equipment and services based on long-term contracts, improved efficiency in the maintenance of equipment, bulk purchase and other methods.

Defense Equipment and Technology Cooperation
- Based on the Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, Japan promotes defense equipment and technology cooperation with other countries in order to contribute to maintenance and enhancement of defense production and technological bases, as well as promoting peace and international cooperation.
- In order to ensure maintenance bases of Japan-U.S. common equipment, Japan has carried out a few initiatives such as promoting the involvement of Japanese industries in the manufacturing process and the establishment of common maintenance bases in preparation for the F-35A acquisition, and maintaining both the GSDF’s and the United States Marine Corp’s Osprey aircraft in GSDF Camp Kisarazu.
- In November 2015, with Australia, Japan submitted the review result of the Australian Future Submarine Program. (In April 2016, the Government of Australia made a decision on a French company to be their international partner for the Submarine Program)
- With India, the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of India concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology was signed in December 2015, and it was expressed that potential and future projects including US-2 should be sought.
- With the Philippines, the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Philippines concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology Agreement was signed in February 2016, and in May 2016 it was agreed to put the transfer of MSDF’s training aircraft TC-90 to the Philippine Navy into practice.
In light of Japan’s recent severe fiscal condition, the realignment of Western defense industries, and the advance in international joint development and production projects, the “Strategy on Defense Production and Technological Bases” was adopted in June 2014. The Strategy showed various measures for maintaining and strengthening defense production and technological bases, courses of action for each area of defense equipment, etc.

**Interaction with Local Communities and Japanese Citizens**

The MOD/SDF conducts a range of cooperation activities to support the life of citizens, further deepening the mutual trust between local communities/citizens and the SDF, as well as largely contributing to the maintenance and activation of local communities.

**Collaboration with Local Communities**

- The MOD/SDF conducts activities to widely inform nationals of the current circumstances of the SDF. For example, as part of the commemoration of the SDF anniversary, the SDF Marching Festival is held at Nippon Budokan arena every year. In addition, a troop review, a fleet review, and an air review are hosted in rotation by the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF respectively. In 2015, the SDF fleet review was held at Sagami Bay.

**A Variety of Public Relations Activities**

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