The most consequential responsibility of the Government of Japan is to maintain Japan’s peace and security, to ensure its survival and to defend to the end Japanese nationals’ life, person and property and territorial land, waters and airspace. This is the foremost responsibility that Japan must fulfill as a sovereign nation. Carrying out this responsibility by exerting efforts on its own accord and initiative is at the very heart of Japan’s national security. Japan’s defense capability is the ultimate guarantor of its security and the clear representation of the unwavering will and ability of Japan as a peace-loving nation. And maintaining Japan’s peace and security is an essential premise for its prosperity.

Expanding and intensifying military activities in Japan’s surroundings where clear trends are observed in further military buildup and increase in military activities.

Security Environment Surrounding Japan

At present, security environment surrounding Japan is changing at extremely high speeds. Changes in the balance of power in the international arena are accelerating and becoming more complex, and uncertainty over the existing order is increasing. Rapid expansion in the use of new domains, which are space, cyberspace and electromagnetic spectrum is poised to fundamentally change the existing paradigm of national security, which has prioritized responses in traditional, physical domains, which are land, sea and air.

Situations in the Space, Cyberspace, and Electromagnetic Spectrum

Japan, amid the dramatically changing security environment, needs to fundamentally strengthen its national defense architecture with which to protect, by exerting efforts on its own accord and initiative, life, person and property of its nationals, territorial land, waters and airspace, and its sovereignty and independence, thereby expanding roles Japan can fulfill.

Expansion and Intensification of Chinese Military Activities

High-level growth of defense expenditures (See Part I, Chapter 2, Section 2) Expansion and intensification of activities by the Chinese Navy and Air Force

Expansion and intensification of activities by the Chinese Navy and Air Force

Enhancement of Ballistic Missiles by North Korea

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Strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance as well as security cooperation with other countries are critical to Japan’s national security, and this cannot be achieved without Japan’s own efforts. The international community also expects Japan to play roles that are commensurate with its national power.
National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2019 and beyond (NDPG)

Strengthening Japan’s Defense Capability

Japan must squarely face the realities of national security and ensure necessary and sufficient quality and quantity so as to build a new defense capability by a truly effective defense capability that does not lie on a linear extension of the past.

In particular, it has become essential that Japan achieve superiority in new domains, which are space, cyberspace and electromagnetic spectrum. To build a new defense capability that combines strengths across all domains (Multi-Domain Defense Force), Japan needs to engage in a transformation at a pace that is fundamentally different from the past, completely shedding the thinking that relies on traditional division among land, sea, and air.

Strengthening Capabilities in the New domains of Space, Cyberspace and Electromagnetic Spectrum

In order to realize cross-domain operations, the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) will acquire and strengthen capabilities in new domains, which are space, cyberspace and electromagnetic spectrum.

Enhancing Capabilities in Traditional Domains

The SDF will enhance capabilities to effectively counter attacks by aircraft, ships and missiles during cross-domain operations in close combination with capabilities in the new domains.

Strengthening Sustainability and Resiliency

To be able to sustain a range of requisite activities at all stages from peacetime to armed contingencies, the Ministry of Defense (MOD)/SDF will promote measures necessary for enhancing sustainability and resiliency of defense capability including logistics support.

Reinforcing Human Resource Base

The MOD/SDF will make efforts to assure human resources for and improve the ability and morale of SDF personnel, which constitutes the core element of defense capability.

Reviewing Equipment Structure

The MOD/SDF will examine the existing equipment structure from a joint operation perspective and build an optimized equipment structure.

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Japan-U.S. Alliance and Security Cooperation

The Japan-U.S. Alliance, together with Japan’s own defense architecture, continues to be the cornerstone of Japan’s national security. Japan’s fulfillment of its foremost responsibility as a sovereign nation is the very way to fulfill its roles under the Japan-U.S. Alliance and further enhance the Alliance’s ability to deter and counter threats, and is a foundation upon which to strategically promote security cooperation in line with the vision of free and open Indo-Pacific.

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As uncertainty over the existing order is increasing, inter-state competition is becoming prominent across the political, economic and military realms. Gray zone situations are becoming persistent over a long period of time. “Hybrid warfare,” a method of altering the status quo that intentionally blurs the boundaries between the military and non-military realms, is sometimes adopted.

Technological progress is about to fundamentally change how security should be managed. Security of maritime traffic; securing stable use of new domains: space and cyberspace, response to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs); and response to regional conflict and international terrorism

Importance of domains of space, cyberspace, and electromagnetic spectrum; and game-changing technologies that could drastically change the conduct of future warfare

Security challenges, which cannot be dealt with by a single country alone, are prominently emerging. Security of maritime traffic; securing stable use of new domains: space and cyberspace, response to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs); and response to regional conflict and international terrorism

Technological progress is about to fundamentally change how security should be managed. Security of maritime traffic; securing stable use of new domains: space and cyberspace, response to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs); and response to regional conflict and international terrorism

The United States possesses the world’s largest comprehensive national power. The United States engages in rebuilding of its military power, strengthens alliances and partnerships, and frames the Indo-Pacific as a priority region.

The United States has positioned the Indo-Pacific region as a priority region, and maintains a forward military presence in the region. In June 2019, the United States released the Indo-Pacific Strategy Report (IPSR), indicating its policy to ensure combat-credible forces to be forward-postured in the region, and reinforce and expand its alliances and partnerships, and evolve them to be networked.

The United States has maintained sanctions and continues its efforts to pursue the denuclearization of North Korea, maintaining firm military readiness including through U.S. Forces in Korea.

The United States imposed sanctions on a Chinese military organ and a leader. The United States imposed tariffs on Chinese hi-tech products, heightened scrutiny of Chinese investment in the United States, and charged espionage agents.

In a speech about the United States’ policy towards China, Vice President Mike Pence mentioned an incident in which a Chinese naval vessel approached abnormally close to a U.S. Navy vessel conducting Freedom of Navigation Operations. He went on to say that the U.S. Navy will continue to fly, sail, and operate wherever international law allows and U.S. national interests demand.

The Trump administration’s stance on China has bipartisan support in Congress, which appears likely to be maintained going forward.

Under the recognition that North Korea’s nuclear capabilities constitute a threat to the United States, it has maintained sanctions and continues its efforts to pursue the denuclearization of North Korea, maintaining firm military readiness including through U.S. Forces in Korea.

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In order to fully transform the people’s armed forces into world-class forces by the mid-21st century, China has sustained high-level growth of its defense budget without transparency, engaging in broad, rapid improvement of its military power in qualitative and quantitative terms with focus on nuclear, missile, naval, air and air forces. In doing so, it has attached importance to strengthening its operational capabilities in order to steadily acquire information superiority, and also enhanced its capabilities in the domains of space, cyber and electromagnetic spectrum.

By bolstering these capabilities, China is likely planning to make such activities routine, given that the Chinese fleet and Air Force are more frequently advancing to the Pacific region, enhancing and intensifying its activities in the surrounding sea areas and airspace of Japan, including the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk, and areas surrounding the Senkaku Islands. They are also conducting activities based on a unilateral claim on the Senkaku Islands, and cases involving China’s unilateral actions have been seen, creating a situation of great concern to Japan.

While implementing a policy of civil-military fusion across the board, with the aim of promoting two-way links between military and civilian resources in various fields, China is striving to develop and acquire cutting-edge technologies that can be used for military purposes, and improve its operational capabilities.

### Activities in the Surrounding Sea Area and Airspace of Japan

The Chinese Navy and Air Force have expanded and intensified their activities in the surrounding sea areas and airspace of Japan, including the area surrounding the Senkaku Islands. They are also conducting activities based on a unilateral claim on the Senkaku Islands, and cases involving the one-sided escalation of activities have been seen, creating a situation of great concern to Japan.

China is likely planning to make such activities routine, given that the Chinese Navy and Air Force are more frequently advancing to the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Japan in recent years. It appears that China continues to improve the quality of its activities, and efforts can be seen to build practical joint operational capabilities.

In the South China Sea, China is moving forward with militarization, as well as expanding and intensifying its activities in the maritime and aerial domains by deploying aircraft. China continues unilateral efforts to change the status quo by coercion to create a fait accompli.

### Rapid Military Modernization

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### Activities in Distant Seas

China is steadily increasing its capabilities to conduct operations in more distant seas such as the Indian Ocean in recent years.

While it is thought that the “Belt and Road” Initiative includes a strategic intention to expand its influence in the region, it is possible that the construction of infrastructure based on the initiative will further promote the activities of the PLA in the Indian Ocean, Pacific Ocean and elsewhere. Furthermore, the Chinese military is possibly taking on the role of the shield behind the initiative by such means as the stabilization of areas via counter-piracy activities and joint exercises.

### Relations with Countries and Regions

While the United States has been toughening its stance on China, China has maintained an uncompromising stance on its “core interests.” Concerning trade and military issues, developments feeding mutual antagonism emerged between the United States and China.

- Raising of import tariffs by China as countermeasures against the same measures by the United States
- Abnormally close approach by a Chinese naval vessel to a U.S. Navy vessel conducting Freedom of Navigation Operations in the South China Sea, etc.

It has been confirmed that regarding military exchange, which has remained stable in recent years, there are activities indicating a possible change.

- Moves to review projects have been seen among some countries cooperating in the “Belt and Road” Initiative, due to such factors as their deteriorating financial situation.

Regarding Taiwan, since the inauguration of the Tsai administration, five countries severed diplomatic relations with Taiwan, with the United States and China. While the United States has continued and reinforced its engagement in Taiwan, China has repeatedly expressed its strong protest against Taiwan’s independence.

The overall military balance between China and Taiwan is shifting in favor of China, and the gap appears to be growing year by year.
North Korea

Overview

North Korea has repeatedly expressed the intention to work towards denuclearization at the U.S.-North Korea summit meeting in June 2018 and other occasions. North Korea has announced the suspension of nuclear tests and test-firing of ICBMs, and publicly destroyed the Punggye-ri nuclear test site. Moreover, North Korea announced that it will dismantle the missile engine test site and launch platform in the Tongch’ang-ri district in the future, and that it will close the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon if the United States lifts sanctions.

On the other hand:
1. It is assessed that North Korea has already miniaturized nuclear weapons to fit ballistic missile warheads;
2. North Korea possesses and deploys several hundred ballistic missiles capable of reaching, every part of Japan and
3. North Korea continues to possess capabilities for conducting surprise attacks against Japan utilizing a Transporter-Erector-Launchers (TEL) and submarines.

In light of the above, there has been no essential change in North Korea’s nuclear and missile capabilities. Military trends in North Korea continue to pose a serious and imminent threat to the security of Japan.

It is now necessary to keep close watch on what kind of concrete actions North Korea will take towards the dismantlement of nuclear weapons and missiles.

Current Status of the Nuclear and Missile Development

The possibility cannot be discounted that the sixth nuclear weapons test in September 2017 was of a hydrogen bomb.

Given the technological maturity obtained through the past six nuclear tests, it is assessed that North Korea has already miniaturized nuclear weapons to fit ballistic missile warheads. In May, July and August 2019, North Korea launched a new type of short-range ballistic missiles (presumed) and others nine times toward the Sea of Japan.

Regarding ballistic missiles, North Korea aims to:
1. increase the firing range of ballistic missiles;
2. enhance the accuracy and operation capabilities necessary for saturation attacks;
3. improve its ability to conduct surprise attacks; and
4. diversify the forms of launches.

North Korea continues to possess capabilities for conducting surprise attacks against Japan utilizing a Transporter-Erector-Launchers (TEL) and submarines.

In the large-scale Vostok 2018 exercise, in addition to units of the Eastern Military District, units of the Central Military District and the Northern Fleet participated. Notable features of this year’s exercise were that the size was considered the largest since the time of the Soviet Union, and that China and Mongolia participated for the first time.

Russia

Trends in the Vicinity of Japan

Russia appears to be stepping up military activities not only in the Arctic, Europe, areas near the United States, and the Middle East, but also in the Far East, so close scrutiny of developments in this regard will be required.

The number of scrambles against Russian aircraft in the Far East has remained high. In addition, Russian aircraft intruded into Japan’s territorial airspace in June and July 2019.

Regarding the Northern Territories, Russia announced that it deployed surface-to-ship missiles to Etorofu and Kunashiri Islands in 2016. It is reported that three Su-35 fighter aircraft were deployed in Etorofu Island in 2018, showing a military build-up by Russia.

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Modernization of Nuclear Forces and Development of New Weapons

In order to supplement its inferiority in conventional forces and to strike a balance with the nuclear forces of the United States, Russia has prioritized the modernization of nuclear forces. Under the recognition that the United States’ installation of missile defense systems both at home and abroad undermines the balance of nuclear forces, Russia is moving forward with the development of new weapons such as the Avangard hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV) that are said to be capable of reliably penetrating the systems.

The United States provided notice of its intention to withdraw from the INF Treaty, and announced its intention to develop surface-launched intermediate-range missiles capable of carrying conventional warheads. In response, Russia announced plans to develop a ground-launched adaptation of the existing sea-launched intermediate-range cruise missile system, along with hypersonic ground-launched intermediate-range cruise missiles.

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Major states endeavor to develop weapons that leverage cutting-edge, potentially game-changing technologies that could drastically change the conduct of future warfare.

States are developing autonomous drones equipped with artificial intelligence (AI).

The United States indicates that Russia and China are developing advanced hypersonic missile capabilities that challenge existing missile defense systems.

Reports have been published of successful tests and planned deployment of electromagnetic railguns and high-power laser weapons that are expected to provide more effective firepower.

In outer space, various countries are rapidly developing their capabilities for the purpose of enhancing electromagnetic (EM) and space control systems. In order to respond to these threats, the United States is considering creating a space force with status equal to that of the army, the navy and the air force.

Major countries make efforts to enhance the capabilities of a variety of satellites and launch them for the purpose of enhancing C4ISR (command, control, communication, computer, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance) functions.

In outer space, various countries are rapidly developing their capabilities to ensure their military superiority. It has also been noted that China and Russia have been enhancing capabilities to impede the United States and its allies from using outer space.

In order to respond to these threats, the United States is considering creating a space force with status equal to that of the army, the navy and the air force.

Securing use of the electromagnetic spectrum is indispensable for the operation of communication equipment and radar systems. Major countries have recognized electronic attacks for interrupting adversaries’ use of electromagnetic spectrum as a means to effectively hamper adversaries’ military performance, enhancing electronic warfare capabilities.

It has been reported that China routinely conducts jamming operations against communication and radar systems and GPS satellite systems in exercises.

It is reported that Russia used various electronic warfare systems in eastern Ukraine and Syria to interrupt adversaries’ command and control traffic and radar systems, improving electronic warfare capabilities.

In the waters and airspace in the East and South China Seas, it has become increasingly common for countries to unilaterally assert their rights or take actions, based on their unique assertions which are incompatible with the existing international order.

Piracy seen at various locations has become a threat to maritime traffic. The international community is collectively conducting counterpiracy operations.

The Arctic Ocean has traditionally been used for the deployment of strategic nuclear forces and as their transit route. With the decrease in sea ice in recent years, ships have been able to navigate for a longer period of time and more extensively than before. It is therefore considered that the region could be used for maneuvering military forces in the future.

The transfer and proliferation of WMDs, such as nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) weapons, and ballistic missiles that deliver such weapons, have been recognized as a significant threat since the end of the Cold War.

In particular, there still remain strong concerns that non-state actors, including terrorists, against which traditional deterrence works less effectively, could acquire and use WMDs. Additionally, the proliferation of ballistic missiles has the risk of leading to the destabilization of that region.

Conflicts or disputes concerning racial, religious, territorial, resources and other issues are occurring or continuing at various locations in the world.

International terrorist groups’ activities have remained a grave challenge for the international community. Terrorism threats have diffused and deepened on the diversification of terrorist attacks and others.
The NSS developed in December 2013 specifies, as Japan’s fundamental principle of national security, that Japan will contribute more proactively than ever before to the peace, stability, and prosperity of the international community, while committed to continuing the path as a peace-loving nation, and seeking its own security as well as peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region from the perspective of a “Proactive Contribution to Peace” based on the principle of international cooperation.

The National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2019 and Beyond (NDPG)

The NDPG was approved by the National Security Council and the Cabinet in December 2018. The NDPG establishes the posture of Japan’s defense forces and the level to achieve, envisioning approximately 10 years.

Changes in the balance of power are accelerating and becoming more complex, thereby increasing uncertainty over the existing order. Rapid expansion in the use of the new domains of space, cyberspace and electromagnetic spectrum is poised to fundamentally change the existing paradigm of national security, which has prioritized responses in the domains of land, sea and air. In addition, qualitatively and quantitatively superior military powers concentrate in Japan’s surroundings where clear trends are observed in increase in military activities.

Priorities in Strengthening Defense Capability

In order to adapt to increasingly rapid changes in the security environment, Japan will enhance priority capability areas as early as possible.

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Chapter 4

Build-up of Defense Capability in FY2019

In FY2019, which is the first fiscal year for implementing the NDPG and the MTDP, the MOD/SDF will steadily build up its defense capability as a truly effective defense capability towards building a Multi-domain Defense Force.

Main Projects of Build-up of Defense Capabilities in FY2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Main Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presence in strengthening capabilities necessary for cross-domain operations</td>
<td>• Acquisition of the Space Situational Awareness (SSA) System • Acquisition of Cyber Defense System (CDS) • Enhancement of electronic warfare capability of JSDF aircraft (F-15J/15 K) • Acquisition of the regional Electronic Warfare System (EWS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing capabilities in traditional defense</td>
<td>• Acquisition of ADAS (Air Defense Aquisition System) • Acquisition of a new air defense system for islands (Type 91) • Research and studies for development of battle destroyers • Research and studies for improvement of ship’s electronics • Research and studies for development of a new long-range cruise missile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing sustainability and resiliency</td>
<td>• Acquisition of environmental protection systems (e.g., systems to reduce water and energy consumption) • Acquisition of fighter aircraft missiles and equipment necessary for ensuring air and maritime security, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving living environment and living space</td>
<td>• Improvement of facilities for personnel, including the establishment of facilities for families, etc. • Improvement of facilities for civilian personnel, including the establishment of facilities for families, etc. • Improvement of facilities for civilian personnel, including the establishment of facilities for families, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving training education</td>
<td>• Improvement of training and education facilities (e.g., technical training centers, etc.) • Improvement of training and education facilities (e.g., technical training centers, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Pillars of Japan’s Defense
(Means to Achieve the Objectives of Defense)

Chapter 1
Japan’s Own Architecture for National Defense

1. Response from Peacetime to Grey Zone Situations
   Persistent Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) in the Area Surrounding Japan

   The Self-Defense Forces (SDF) is engaged in persistent intelligence collection and warning and surveillance during peacetime over Japan’s territorial waters and airspace, as well as the surrounding sea and airspace so that it can respond to various contingencies immediately and seamlessly.

   As part of its regular warning and surveillance activities in Japanese territorial waters, the SDF is carrying out information gathering on vessels suspected of violating the United Nations (UN) Security Council sanctions. During the period from 2018 to the end of June 2019, the SDF has confirmed 20 observations of North Korean vessels strongly suspected of engaging in ship-to-ship transfers, and made public announcement on the subject.

   In response to these illicit maritime activities including transshipments, the United States, and France carried out early warning surveillance activities in sea areas surrounding Japan. In addition, naval vessels of the U.S. Marine Corps, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and France carried out early warning surveillance activities in sea areas surrounding Japan.

   In December 2018, Gowonagaeto, the Great class destroyer of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Navy, directed a fire control radar at a Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) patrol aircraft conducting warning and surveillance activities off the coast of Noto Peninsula (within Japan’s exclusive economic zone). The Ministry of Defense (MOD) published its final statement, compiling objective facts, and has been urging the Korean side to take recurrence prevention measures. The MOD will expend all possible means to monitor the situation and gather intelligence.

2. Response from Combat to Grey Zone Operations
   Warnings and Emergency Takeoffs (Scrambles) in Preparation against Intrusion of Territorial Airspace

   The Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) detects and identifies aircraft flying in airspace surrounding Japan using warning and control radars as well as early-warning and control aircraft. If any suspicious aircraft heading to Japan’s territorial airspace are detected, fighters and other aircraft scramble to approach them in order to confirm the situation and monitor the aircraft as necessary.

   In FY2018, ASDF aircraft scrambled 999 times, which is the 2nd highest number. Breaking this figure down, aircraft scrambled 638 times in response to Chinese aircraft, a decrease by 47 times from the previous fiscal year.

3. Defense of Japan including its Remote Islands

   Defense of Japan’s Remote Islands

   In response to attack on Japan including its remote islands, the SDF will quickly maneuver and deploy resources to block access and landing of invading forces while ensuring maritime and air superiority. Even when maintaining maritime and air superiority becomes untenable, the SDF will block invading forces’ access and landing from outside their threat envelopes. Should any part of the territory be occupied, the SDF will take it by employing all necessary measures.

   For defense posture buildup in the southwestern region, the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) deployed some units, including an area security unit in Amami Oshima, and an area security unit in Miyakojima Island, in March 2019. The GSDF will deploy an area security unit and other units also in Ishigakijima Island.

   The SDF started research and development on technologies required for new anti-ship missiles and Hypersonic Gliding Projectiles (HSP) for the defense of remote islands to take all initiatives necessary to defend the islands since FY2018.

   In order to secure capabilities for swift and large-scale transportation and deployment of units, initiatives are underway to enhance rapid deployment capabilities through: the improvement of Landing Ship, Tank; and the introduction of V-22 Ospreys and C-2 transport aircraft.

4. Response to Missile Attacks

   Currently, Japan’s Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) is an effective multi-layered defense system with the upper tier interception by Aegis equipped destroyers and the lower tier by Patriot PAC-3, both interconnected and coordinated by the Japan Aerospace Defense Ground Environment (JADGE).

   The upcoming introduction of the land-based Aegis system, Aegis Ashore, will enable our forces to intercept missiles in the upper tier not just from Aegis destroyers but from land.

   In order to counter increasingly complex and diverse airborne threats and minimize damage, the SDF will establish a structure with which to conduct integrated operation of various equipment pieces, including those for missile defense as well as air defense equipment, and thereby provide persistent nation-wide protection from peacetime. It will also enhance its comprehensive air and missile defense capability so that it can simultaneously deal with multiple, complex airborne threats.

5. Responses in the Domains of Space, Cyberspace and Electromagnetic Spectrum

   Responses in Space Domain

   Initiatives for the Development of the SSA System

   The MOD aims to establish Space Situational Awareness (SSA) by 2022; and is also working to deploy radar to monitor threats to Japanese satellites, such as space debris, and its operating space domain.

   Based on the Medium Term Defense Program (FY2019-FY2023; MTDP), the MOD/SDF will work to enhance capabilities to ensure superiority in use of space. The efforts include:

   (1) establishing an SSA system;
   (2) improving various capabilities that leverage space domain including information-gathering, communication and positioning capabilities; and
   (3) building the capability to disrupt C4I (command, control, communication, computer, and intelligence) of opponents.
Three Pillars of Japan’s Defense (Means to Achieve the Objectives of Defense)

Response in Cyber Domain

The MOD/SDF Comprehensive Measures to Deal with Cyber Attacks

- Ensuring safety of information systems
- Enhancing the ability to appropriately manage and coordinate the use of electromagnetic spectrum
- Strengthening information collection and analysis capabilities related to electromagnetic spectrum

Response in Electromagnetic Domain

- With the development of technology, the use of electromagnetic spectrum has expanded in range and purpose, and it is now recognized as a major operational domain in today’s warfare.
- The MOD/SDF will:
  1. Enhance its ability to appropriately manage and coordinate the use of electromagnetic spectrum;
  2. Strengthen information collection and analysis capabilities related to electromagnetic spectrum, and develop an information sharing posture;
  3. Strengthen capabilities to neutralize the radar and communications of opponents who intend to invade Japan.

Response to Large-Scale Disasters

- The SDF works in collaboration with local governments, engaged in various activities such as the search and rescue of disaster victims or ships in distress, and preventing epidemics. In FY2018, the SDF conducted 443 disaster relief operations.

Response to Natural Disasters, etc.

- The SDF uses its aircraft to transport emergency patients from isolated islands and remote areas. In FY2018, out of a total of 443 cases of disaster relief, 334 cases involved the transportation of emergency patients.

Japan-U.S. Alliance

Significance of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

- The Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, together with Japan’s own national defense architecture, constitute a cornerstone for Japan’s national security.
- The Japan-U.S. Alliance, with the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements as its core, plays a significant role for peace, stability and prosperity of not only Japan but also the Indo-Pacific region and the international community.

Outline of the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation

- The Guidelines manifest a strategic vision for a more robust Alliance and greater shared responsibilities by modernizing the Alliance and enhancing its deterrence and response capabilities in all phases, from peacetime to contingencies.

Policy Consultations between Japan and the United States

- On April 19, 2019, the Japan-U.S. “2+2” Meeting was held in Washington, D.C. Both side shared the view that the two countries will strengthen cooperation for cross-domain operations, including capability enhancement in new domains, such as space, cyberspace, and the electromagnetic spectrum.

Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting

- Since October 2018, on various occasions, including the Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meetings, Japan and the United States have confirmed the following points:
  1. Need to deepen Japan-U.S. cooperation with a sense of urgency with respect to new domains, such as space, cyberspace and the electromagnetic spectrum;
  2. Cooperation with the United States to maintain and strengthen a free and open Indo-Pacific;
  3. Continuation of ensuring full implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions toward the abandonment of all weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and all ranges of ballistic missiles by North Korea in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner; and
  4. Close cooperation to make steady progress in implementing the plan for the realignment of the U.S. Forces, including the relocation of MCAS Futenma to Henoko.

Strengthening Ability of Japan-U.S. Alliance to Deter and Counter Threats

- In all stages from peacetime to armed contingencies as well as during disasters, in order to ensure Japan’s peace and security, Japan is promoting cooperation with the United States in various fields, including “cooperation in space and cyber domains,” “comprehensive air and missile defense,” “bilateral training and exercises,” “ISR activities,” “maritime security,” “logistics support,” and “Cooperation in Response to a Large-Scale Disaster in Japan.”
In order to create a desirable security environment including maintaining and enhancing free and open maritime order, and with an eye on increasing Japanese and U.S. presence in the Indo-Pacific region, Japan will conduct bilateral activities on “capacity building assistance,” “humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HADR),” and “trilateral and multilateral training and exercises,” and promote “defense equipment and technology cooperation,” joint/shared use of facilities and areas, and others.

Therefore, Japan accepts the stationing of the US forces based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and it is a cornerstone of Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

**Significance of the Presence of the U.S. Forces in Japan (USFJ)**

- It is necessary to maintain the presence of the USFJ and its readiness to make rapid and agile actions in case of emergency, so that Japan-U.S. Alliance functions enough as a deterrent power that contributes to the peace and stability of the defense of Japan and the region.
- Therefore, Japan accepts the stationing of the US forces based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and it is a cornerstone of Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

**Changes in the Number and Area of USFJ Facilities and Areas (Exclusive Use) in Okinawa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Facilities/Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>As of 31 March 2019</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2015</td>
<td>Relocation of training to outside Okinawa (approximately 2 ha of land near Gate 5) was conducted.</td>
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**Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Okinawa**

- Approximately 70% of USFJ facilities and areas (exclusive use) are concentrated in Okinawa Prefecture, occupying approximately 14% of the main island of Okinawa. Therefore, it is necessary to continue to make utmost efforts to mitigate the impact.
- Regarding the distribution of bases offered by MCAS Futenma, the development of facilities is being promoted to transfer the function of accepting transient aircraft in contingencies to Tsuiki Air Base and Nyutabaru Air Base.
- A land-fill operation for the Futenma Replacement Facility has started in the waters south of Camp Schwab.
- The following progress has been made involving the return of USFJ land:
  - March 2015: West Futenma Housing Area within Camp Zukeran (Camp Foster) (approximately 51 ha) was returned.
  - December 2016: A major portion of the Northern Training Area (approximately 4,000 ha) was returned. This is the largest of its kind since the reversion of Okinawa to the mainland.
  - July 2017: A portion of MCAS Futenma (approximately 4 ha along Ginowan City road 11) was returned.
  - March 2018: A portion of Makiminato Service Area (Camp Kinser) (approximately 3 ha of land to expand Route S8) was returned.
  - March 2019: A portion of Makiminato Service Area (Camp Kinser) (approximately 2 ha of land near Gate 5) was returned.
- Relocation of training of U.S. Marine Corps (Gopen, etc.) to outside Okinawa has been conducted.

**Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Regions Other Than Okinawa**

- In regions other than Okinawa, the MOD is implementing measures to secure the stable presence of the U.S. Forces by maintaining its deterrence and trying to mitigate the impact on local communities, such as realigning of USFJ and its facilities and areas.

**Measures to Mitigate the Impacts of USFJ Facilities and Areas**

- Ensuring the safety of local residents is of prime importance in USFJ operations, and an accident or incident must not occur. Both Japan and the United States cooperate with a prime focus on ensuring the safety.

**Significance of the Presence of the U.S. Forces in Japan (USFJ)**

- It is necessary to maintain the presence of the USFJ and its readiness to make rapid and agile actions in case of emergency, so that Japan-U.S. Alliance functions enough as a deterrent power that contributes to the peace and stability of the defense of Japan and the region.
- Therefore, Japan accepts the stationing of the US forces based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and it is a cornerstone of Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

**Promotion of Defense Cooperation and Exchanges**

- **Australia**: The Japan-Australia “2+2” and a Defense Ministerial Meeting were held in October 2018. Defense Ministerial Meetings were also held in January and June 2019. The Ministers agreed to deepen and expand bilateral defense cooperation.
- **India and Sri Lanka**: At the Japan-India Summit Meeting in October 2018, Japan and India agreed to establish Japan-India 2+2 Ministerial dialogues, and to commence negotiations on the Japan-India Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA). The JSDF and the Indian Army, and the ASEF and the Indian Air Force had their first bilateral exercises in November and December 2018, respectively. Meanwhile, in August 2018, then Defense Minister Onodera made the first visit to Sri Lanka as a Japanese Defense Minister.
- **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member states**: Under “Vientiane Vision,” as a guideline for the Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation, Japan has strengthened cooperation under multilateral frameworks in addition to bilateral cooperation efforts. A Japan-Philippine Defense Ministerial meeting was held in April 2019, and a Japan-Vietnam Defense Ministerial Meeting and a Japan-Singapore Defense Ministerial Meeting were held in May 2019.
- **ROK**: Concerning negative actions by the ROK side related to the flag of the MSDF, and an incident of a destroyer of the ROK Navy directing its fire-control radar at SDF patrol aircraft, the MOD/SDF will continue to call on the ROK side to appropriately deal with these matters. In addition, in August 2019, the Government of the ROK announced its intention to terminate the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA). The Ministry of Defense made a statement that it was “extremely regrettable,” and that Japan urges the ROK side to wisely respond to secure appropriate cooperation between Japan and the ROK, and between Japan, the United States and the ROK.
- **European countries**: The Japan-France “2+2” Meeting was held in January 2019. In October 2018, the JSDF and the British Army held their first bilateral exercise in Japan.
- **China**: In October 2018, the Japan-China Defense Ministerial Meeting was held for the first time in three years. In April 2019, an MSDF destroyer visited China for the first time in about seven and a half years.
- **Russia**: In July 2018, then Minister of Defense Onodera became the first Japanese Minister of Defense to pay a visit to Russia. He joined the Japan-Russia “2+2” Meeting and the Defense Ministerial Meeting. These Meetings were held in Tokyo in May 2019.
- **Pacific Island countries**: At the Pacific Alliance Leaders Meeting held in 2018 and in the NDGF published in the same year, Japan referred to its intention to promote cooperation and exchanges with the Pacific island countries.
Promotion of Multilateral Security Cooperation

- Multilateral framework initiatives, such as the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM)-Plus and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), have made steady progress and served as an important foundation for discussion and cooperation and exchange in the security field in the Asia-Pacific region.

- Japan has contributed to the enhancement of multilateral cooperation in the region by holding the Japan-ASEAN Defense Vice-Ministerial Forum and the Tokyo Defense Forum annually. As the Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation program, Japan-ASEAN Ship Rider Cooperation Program (May 2018), the Japan-ASEAN Symposium on International Law (November 2018), and the Japan-ASEAN Invitation Program on HADR (January 2019) were conducted.

Proactive and Strategic Initiatives for Capacity Building Assistance

- Since 2012, the MOD/SDF has provided capacity building assistance in such areas as HAV, peacekeeping operations (PKO), and maritime security to 15 countries and one organization in the Asia-Pacific and other regions.

- Specifically, Japan supported the establishment and training of the military band of the Papua New Guinea Defense Force. The band gave an excellent performance in front of national leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in November 2018. Other programs that have thus far been conducted include seminars on air rescue, PKO, and submarine medicine in Vietnam, and seminars and field training on aviation meteorology for the establishment of a weather services unit of the Myanmar Air Force. In addition, programs have been conducted in Mongolia, Timor-Leste, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, and Djibouti.

Ensuring Maritime Security

- For Japan, a maritime nation, strengthening the order based on fundamental norms, 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, which is extremely important.

- The SDF has been dispatching the Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement, the Deployment Air Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement, and the Deployment Support Group for Counter Piracy Enforcement since 2009 in order to protect vessels from acts of piracy in the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

- In addition to strengthening cooperation with coastal states of the Indo-Pacific region through exercises and port calls, the MOG has been implementing capacity building assistance in maritime security of coastal countries, and working on cooperation for maritime security within regional security dialogue frameworks such as the ADMM-Plus.

Cooperation in Use of Space and Cyber Domains

- Regarding cooperation in the use of space domain, the MOG/SDF has taken part in the annual SSA multinational tabletop exercise (Global Sentinel) and the Schriever Wargame, a multinational tabletop exercise on space security, hosted by the U.S. Forces.

- Regarding cooperation in the use of cyber domain, the MOG has held cyber dialogues with the respective defense authorities of the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, and others. With the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Japan has participated in international conferences, and in a cyber defense exercise as an observer. In addition, the MOG has dispatched personnel to the Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CoCDE) since March 2019.

Efforts to Support International Peace Cooperation Activities

The MOG/SDF is proactively undertaking international peace cooperation activities working in tandem with diplomatic initiatives, including the use of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for resolving the fundamental causes of conflicts, terrorism and other problems.

Dispatch to the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO)

- In April 2019, a Cabinet Decision was made to dispatch staff officers, and subsequently Japan started to dispatch 2 staff officers to the MFO Headquarters as the first international peace cooperation activity.

- The two officers are engaging in liaison and coordination between governments of the Egypt and Israel or other relevant organizations and the MFO as a Deputy Chief of Liaison and an Assistant Liaison Operation Officer at the MFO Headquarters, which is located in the south camp at Sharm El-Sheikh in the southern part of the Sinai Peninsula.

- These activities express Japan’s commitment to more active involvement in the peace and stability of the Middle East. It is also expected to promote collaboration with the other countries dispatching officers, including the United States, and create new opportunities for human resource development.

United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)

- The peace and stability of South Sudan is not only essential for the country itself, but also for the peace and stability in Africa as a whole, as well as a crucial issue that should be dealt with by the international community.

- After the engineering unit’s withdrawal, Japan has continued dispatch of four officers (logistics officer, information database officer, engineering officer, and aviation operations officer) to the UNMISS headquarters, and will contribute to the activities of UNMISS.

Support to the UN Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities

- Japan has been dispatching GSDF personnel to the International Peace Support Training Centre in Kenya, as instructors since the trial training in September 2015. Training regarding the operation of heavy equipment has been provided in seven sessions to date for a total of 211 members from eight African countries.

- Considering that more than 30% of PKO personnel are from Asia, Japan decided to implement the project for the first time in Asia and the surrounding region in 2018, trial training took place in Vietnam for 16 personnel from nine Asian and the surrounding regions.

Revision of the UN Peacekeeping Missions Military Engineer Unit Manual

- The MOG/SDF served as chair of the working group to the UN Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities in November 2018.

- The MOG/SDF served as chair of the working group on the engineer unit manual since 2013 with the aim of supporting the development of UN Military Unit Manuals and contributed to the completion of the manual.

- The UN asked Japan to serve as chair of the working group again for revision of the manual, and as chair, the MOG/SDF held the first expert meeting in Tokyo in December 2018. The MOG/SDF will continue to work for the revision of the manual and support for its dissemination.
Core Elements Comprising Defense Capability, etc.

Human Resource Base and Medical Functions that Sustain the Defense Capability

Reinforcing Human Resource Base that Sustains the Defense Capability

The National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2019 and beyond (NDPG) specifies that securing human resources for Self-Defense Force (SDF) personnel and improving their ability and morale are essential to strengthening defense capability. This has become an imminent challenge in the face of shrinking and aging population with declining birth rates. Also in light of the sustainability and resilience of defense capability, the SDF needs to work even further to reinforce the human resource base that sustains the defense capability.

Raise of Upper Age Limit

- The upper age limit of general candidate for enlistment (upper) and candidates for uniformed SDF personnel was raised from “under 27” to “under 33” in October 2018 in order to secure diverse human resources from a broader range.
- Also regarding SDF Reserve Personnel and SDF Reserve Personnel, recruitment and appointment were expanded, and the upper age limit for recruitment of leading privates and lower personnel was raised.

Effective Use of Human Resources

Improvement of Living and Work Environment and Treatment

In order to secure readiness, the SDF will steadily renovate everyday workplace facilities, and secure the necessary quantities of everyday necessities in addition to accelerating the securing and reconstruction of the necessary barracks and housing.

Further Promotion of Work-Life Balance and Women’s Participation

Working Style Reform

With the increase of personnel facing time-consuming constraints for child/family care, the MOD/SDF is promoting correction of working hours and encouraging taking leave so that every member can exert his/her full potential.

Reform to Combine a Successful Career with Childrearing and Nursing Care

For MOD/SDF staff to balance work with childrearing/nursing care, the MOD/SDF is setting up workplace nurseries, and encouraging its male staff to take childcare leave.

Enhancement of Medical Functions

Enhancing Seamless Medical Care and Evacuation Posture

The MITDP states that, in order to respond to various emergency situations, the MOD/SDF will enhance a seamless medical care and evacuation posture from the frontline. On this occasion, in light of the geological characteristics of Japan, the MITDP places a special focus on the enhancement of medical functions in the southwestern region.

Securing of Medical and Nursing Officers/Enhancement of Education and Research

The NDPG, etc. state that the SDF will endeavor to secure high-quality talents by improving the operations of the National Defense Medical College and enhancing its research functions, as well as aiming to better secure medical officers. Also, in order to improve capabilities to treat combat injuries, the SDF will promote development of necessary medical training infrastructure common to all SDFs.

Measures on Defense Equipment and Technology

Reinforcing Technology Bases

- Review of the Medium- to Long-Term Defense Technology Outlook is now underway in order to enhance Japan’s technological superiority in the strategically important equipment and technology field, including technologies pertaining to new domains and other potentially game-changing important technologies. The MOD published the “Research and Development (R&D) Vision—Toward Realization of Multi-Domain Defense Force and Beyond,” which presents principles on R&D, technological challenges, and a roadmap of the technologies required for our future defense capability.

Optimizing Equipment Procurement

- The MOD has been promoting effective and efficient equipment acquisition by selecting 17 items for major programs designated for project management. At the same time, the MOD strives to cut equipment procurement costs by making bulk orders utilizing long-term contracts.
- Efforts for streamlining of Foreign Military Sales (FMS) procurement include cost reduction through striving to acquire equipment in coordination with the U.S. Forces by synchronizing the timing of procurement and adjusting specifications, and improvement in cost transparency and enhancement of execution management through close Japan-U.S. consultations.

Strengthening Defense Industrial Base

In order to strengthen Japan’s defense industrial base, the MOD will work on the following initiatives: (1) reforming the existing contract system towards creating a competitive environment among companies; (2) strengthening risk management of supply chain for defense equipment; (3) further participation of Japan’s defense industry in sustainable and maintenance of imported equipment, etc.; and (4) promoting appropriate overseas transfer of defense equipment under the Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology.

Defense Equipment and Technology Cooperation

- Based on the Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology, Japan promotes cooperation in defense equipment and technology with other countries in order to contribute to the maintenance and strengthening of defense production and technological bases, as well as contributing to the promotion of our national security, peace and international cooperation.
- Transfer of parts and maintenance equipment of the UH-1H utility helicopters to the Philippines started in March 2019 after the signing of an arrangement between the defense officials.
- From the viewpoint of promoting defense equipment and technology cooperation, the MOD has participated in international defense equipment exhibitions, and held the Public-Private Defense Industry Forum with Italy and other countries.

Interaction with Local Communities and Japanese Citizens

Collaboration with Local Communities

The MOD/SDF conducts various cooperation activities to support the lives of citizens, including the disposal of unexploded ordnance and underwater mines. On the other hand, amid the harsh recruitment and employment situation, the cooperation from local governments and relevant organizations is vital to secure highly qualified personnel and to support the re-employment of uniformed SDF personnel who retire at a relatively young age.

Measures to Promote Harmony between Defense Facilities and Surrounding Areas

- In order to promote harmony between the defense facilities and the surrounding areas, the MOD is taking measures to prevent, reduce or mitigate aircraft noise and other impacts caused by the establishment/operation of airport and other defense facilities in the surrounding area.

Initiatives for Public Document Management and Information Disclosure

- Public records are intellectual resources shared by the people in supporting the basis of sound democracy, and it is an important responsibility to manage them appropriately and respond to the public’s information disclosure requests properly. The MOD is implementing various initiatives for management of public records and information disclosure requests, based on measures taken by the whole government.