

JDF

JAPAN DEFENSE FOCUS

No.108
Feb. 2019



ACTIVITIES

Minister of Defense Iwaya visits JS Izumo

Look Back on the Year of 2018

Official Visit by Indian Air Force Chief of Staff

Japan-India Joint Training Shinyuu Maitri-18 and Dispatch of Personnel to US-India Joint Training "Exercise Cope India"

FY 2018 Japan-U.S. Bilateral Command Post Training Exercise *Yama Sakura* (YS-75)

Operation Christmas Drop (OCD) 2018

The JSDF Transports Donated Goods to the Republic of the Marshall Islands from Japan

Type 07 Mobility Support Bridge and Type 92 Heavy Floating Bridge

The *Henro*



Minister of Defense Iwaya visits JS *Izumo*



Minister of Defense Iwaya visited JS *Izumo* on December 19th. The refurbishment of *Izumo* is stated in the new National Defense Program Guidelines and the Mid-Term Defense Program. *Izumo* is a multipurpose and multi-functional destroyer with helicopter operation capabilities, command and control center, medical functions, personnel accommodation and transport capabilities.

Look Back on the Year of 2018

As the new year of 2019 starts, this issue takes a look back at the Ministry of Defense (MOD) /Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) activities in 2018 by introducing activities featured in the JDF.

JAN. FEB. MAR. APR. MAY. JUN. JUL. AUG. SEP. OCT. NOV. DEC.

- 01 01
- 02 02
- 03 03
- 04 04
- 05 05
- 06 06
- 07 07
- 08 08
- 09 09
- 10 10
- 11 11
- 12 12
- 13 13
- 14 14

- 0110-0111 Minister of Defense's Visit to Hawaii **01**
- 0115 Japan-Spain Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0126-0127 Japan-France 2+2 and Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0108-0218 Iron Fist 18
- 0121-0223 Cobra Gold 18 **02**
- 0204-0311 Cope North Guam
- 0224 F-35A First Aircraft Arrival Ceremony
- 0228 Japan-Latvia Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0307, 0312, 0316, 0320 Delivery and Commission Ceremonies for DD *Asahi*, SS *Seiryu*, MSO *Hirado*, and ASR *Chiyoda* **03**
- 0327 Establishment of the Ground Component Command and Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade **04**
- 0409 Japan-Viet Nam Defense Ministerial Meeting **05**
- 0420 Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0504 Japan-Finland Defense Ministerial Meeting **06**
- 0506 Japan-Estonia Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0510-0515 Japan-ASEAN Ship Rider Cooperation Program
- 0521 Japan-Singapore Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0528-0630 Red Flag Alaska
- 0529 Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0602-0603 The 17th IISS Asia Security Summit -Shangri-La Dialogue-
- 0608-0616 Malabar 2018
- 0614-0628 Khaan Quest 18
- 0627-0802 RIMPAC 2018 **07**
- 0730 Naming and Launching Ceremony for DDG *Maya* **08**
- 0731 Japan-Russia 2+2 and Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0820 Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0821 Defense Minister Onodera's visit to Sri Lanka
- 0826 Fuji Firepower Review 2018
- 0826-1030 ISEAD18
- 0904 Japan-Netherlands Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0906 Japan-Italy Defense Ministerial Meeting **09**
- 0911 Japan-Malaysia Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 0922, 0928-0930 The JASDF Central Band Performs in the German Military Tattoo and the Netherlands International Military Tattoo **10**
- 0930-1012 Vigilant Isles
- 1003 Minister of Defense Succession Ceremony **11**
- 1003-1026 International Disaster Relief Operation in Indonesia **12**
- 1010 Japan-Australia 2+2 and Defense Ministerial Meeting
- 1014 FY2018 Troop Review for the Anniversary of the Establishment of the JSDF **13**
- 1019-1020 5th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) Plus and Bilateral Talks
- 1105-1214 UN Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities (RDEC) Activities Undertaken in Asia and Surrounding Regions
- 1121-1123 JSDF Marching Festival 2018 **14**
- 1126-1127 Defense Minister's Courtesy Call to, and the Visit to JGSDF Narashino Training Area by, His Majesty King Abdullah II of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- 1210-1214 Official visit by Air Chief Marshal Dhanoa, Chief of Staff, Indian Air Force
- 1219 Minister of Defense Iwaya visits JS *Izumo*



Official Visit by Indian Air Force Chief of Staff

On December 11th, Minister Iwaya received a courtesy call from Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa, Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force (IAF), who was visiting Japan on the official invitation General Marumo, Chief of Staff, Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF).

Minister Iwaya and the Air Chief Marshal confirmed the growing defense cooperation and exchanges between two countries, being promoted by the close relationship between the Prime Ministers of Japan and India. They welcomed the rapid development of cooperation and exchanges between

the JASDF and the IAF with the first ever joint air force training exercises “Shinyuu-Maitri” conducted in early December. They also discussed ways of deepening their cooperative relationship in the future.

In addition, the Air Chief Marshal met with Admiral Kawano, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, The JSDF and General Marumo, and visited the JASDF Naha Air Base. This visit enhanced and strengthened mutual understanding and the relationship of trust between Japan and India.



Japan-India Joint Training “Shinyuu Maitri-18 and Dispatch of Personnel to US-India Joint Training “Exercise Cope India”

From December 1st to 8th, the JASDF took part in the Japan-India joint training “Shinyuu-Maitri” to enhance the air transportation capabilities and build mutual understanding between the forces of both countries.

This is the first ever joint exercise between the JASDF and IAF, and also this symbolizes the further deepening of Japan-India bilateral defense cooperation.

Also, following an agreement made at the Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting in August 2018, four personnel from the JSDF joined the US-India joint training exercise “Cope India” as open observers from December 3rd to 10th.

Japan and India agreed to seek more concrete and effective cooperation between the two countries to promote cooperation and exchange in wide variety of fields including training.





FY 2018 Japan-U.S. Bilateral Command Post Training Exercise *Yama Sakura* (YS-75)

From December 3rd to 17th, Japan-U.S. bilateral command post training exercise called *Yama Sakura* (YS-75) was conducted at Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Camp Higashi-Chitose.

Approx. 5,000 personnel from the Japan side including members of the JGSDF Northern Army and approx. 1,600 U.S. forces service members from I Corps (Washington State) participated in this training.

This is the largest-scale command post training exercise of the JGSDF. It is conducted by the JGSDF, U.S. Army

and the U.S. Marine Corps to improve judgement of unit commanders in the size smaller than army-level and enhance coordination capabilities of the staff for conducting joint operations.

Such joint training not only contributes to enhance tactical skills of the JSDF, but also strengthens cooperation of the Japan-U.S. alliance. Also, demonstrating such ties is effective to enhance deterrence and coping skills of the Japan-U.S. alliance as a whole and show Japan's will and high capabilities toward stabilization of Asia Pacific region.



The JSDF Transports Donated Goods to the Republic of the Marshall Islands from Japan

The JASDF transported and handed the donated goods given to the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) from Japan, landing on the Marshall Islands on December 7th, en route to the training at the U.S. Air Force Advanced Airlift Tactics Training Center (AATTC).

The JASDF C-130 transport aircraft and approx. 30 JASDF personnel departed Japan with ten wheelchairs, 330 volley balls, baseball equipment, and stationary which were donated by organizations including public interest incorporated foundations in Japan and made a visit to the RMI.

These wheelchairs were once used in families and later repaired for reuse by technical high school students in Japan.

This year celebrates the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Japan and the RMI. There was a ceremony to hand over the donated goods to the RMI on the day of the JSDF transporter arrival, and there attended RMI President Heine as well as all the JSDF personnel participating in the training. It contributed to further deepen the friendly relations between the two countries.



Operation Christmas Drop (OCD) 2018

The JSDF took part in a humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) training called Operation Christmas Drop (OCD) in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and other countries from December 5th to 17th to improve interoperability with the U.S. and Australian forces.

One JASDF C-130 transport aircraft and approx. 30 personnel joined the U.S. and Australian forces in Guam and visited FSM, the Republic of Palau, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to conduct the airdrop supply training.

This training provided a valuable opportunity for the JSDF to gain experience with maritime airdrop training that is difficult to conduct domestically and continued participation in this mission will contribute to improving the capabilities of the JSDF.

The MOD/JSDF will continue to take part in such joint trainings to enhance the abilities of the JSDF and to further improve interoperability with the U.S. and Australia.

Type 07 Mobility Support Bridge and Type 92 Heavy Floating Bridge

In this edition, we will take a closer look at the type 07 mobility support bridge and the type 92 heavy floating bridge.

The type 07 mobility support bridge is constructed at rivers and gullies to facilitate mobility.

The type 92 heavy floating bridge is constructed at locations with running water such as rivers, to swiftly allow crossing of tanks and heavy vehicles. It is used as a floating bridge or a ferry by linking bridge section units together.

Each equipment is critical for ensuring the rapid mobility of our forces and is constructed by our corps of engineers.

Specifications (Type 07 Mobility Support Bridge)

- ▷Length: 60m
- ▷Bridge grade: CL60
- ▷Width: 4.2m
- ▷Bridge structure type: Single span bridge

Specifications (Type 92 Heavy Floating Bridge)

- ▷Maximum Length: approx. 104m
- ▷Width: approx. 4m



The Henro



©Kagawa Prefecture Tourism Association

The Shikoku region in Japan's southwest is comprised of the four prefectures, Tokushima, Kochi, Ehime and Kagawa Prefectures.

A pilgrimage that involves walking around 88 sacred sites, referred to as the *Henro*, has flourished in this region since ancient times. This pilgrimage traces the footsteps of Kukai (Koubou Daishi), the monk who promulgated the Shingon sect of Buddhism in ninth century Japan.

The *Henro* has various purposes today including praying for happiness in the next world for someone who has passed away, praying for good health, or achieving good fortune. A *Kongo-zue* (pilgrim's staff), *Sugegasa* (a sedge hat), and *Byakue* (white robes) are the traditional dress for the pilgrimage.

The word "*ninin*" written on the sedge hat that pilgrims carry refers to a pilgrim and Koubou Daishi, meaning that the pilgrim is making the *Henro* with Koubou Daishi.

In Zentsuji City, Kagawa Prefecture on Shikoku, is the JGSD Camp Zentsuji. At this post are the 14th Brigade Headquarters, the 15th Rapid Deployment Regiment, the 14th Logistic Support Unit, the 14th Reconnaissance Unit, the 14th Signal Unit, the 14th NBC-defense Unit, the 14th Brigade Headquarters Support Unit, and the 14th Band. The 14th Brigade Headquarters takes charge of disaster relief dispatch and defense of the four prefectures of Shikoku.



- The Meeting on the revision of the UN Peace-keeping Missions Military Engineer Unit Manual (Dec. 12 to 14)



Parliamentary Vice Minister of Defense Suzuki



JDF NEWSLETTER Be the first to receive updates!

Send us a blank message at jdfmod@mod.go.jp to sign up for our newsletter.



For inquiry, contact following office:

Public Affairs Division, Ministry of Defense, Japan TEL:+81-3-3268-3111 (switch board) Web:<http://www.mod.go.jp/e/index.html>



www.facebook.com/JapanGov

[@JapanGov](https://twitter.com/JapanGov)

We Are Tomodachi
-Magazine to our friends around the world-



November 2018: "We Are Tomodachi Autumn 2018" Released