

JDF

JAPAN DEFENSE FOCUS



Jan. 2020

No. 119



6th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus "Sustainable Security"

18 November 2019 | Bangkok, Thailand

ASEAN
THAILAND 2019
ADVANCING PARTNERSHIP
FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Special Feature

ADMM-Plus

- Japan-Australia Defence Ministerial Meeting
- IISS Manama Dialogue 2019
- Japan-India 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting (2+2 Ministerial Meeting)
- UN Triangular Partnership Project

- JSDF Marching Festival 2019
- JSDF Joint Exercise (01JX)
- Pacific Reach 2019 Submarine Rescue Exercise
- HA/DR cooperation with Indonesia
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ADMM-Plus

From November 17th to 18th, Minister of Defense Kono visited Thailand to attend the 6th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) and an ASEAN-Japan

Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting, as well as held meetings with several defense ministers of countries represented at the ADMM-Plus.

The 6th ADMM-Plus

On November 18th, the 6th ADMM-Plus was held with the Minister-level participants from ten ASEAN Member States and eight Plus-countries. Minister Kono stated that Japan would continue to place importance on the framework of ADMM-Plus, the Ministry of Defense (MOD)/Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) would play a constructive role in contributing to regional resilience and would endeavor to maintain and strengthen an international order based on the "rule of law" under the vision for a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific." In the meeting, the participants exchanged views on the regional and international security environment. The meeting also adopted a Joint Statement on Advancing Partnership for Sustainable Security.

<Sideline Meetings>

ASEAN-Japan Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting

On November 17th, an ASEAN-Japan Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting was held. The participants exchanged views on the theme of "review of the previous initiatives of Japan for ASEAN and further cooperation contributing to regional security" and Minister Kono announced an updated version of Vientiane Vision "Vientiane Vision 2.0", with a view to accelerate the momentum of Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation. Ministers of ASEAN Member States welcomed "Vientiane Vision 2.0" and expressed their expectation towards promoting even more practical Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation in future.



Japan-U.S.-ROK Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono convened a Japan-U.S.-Republic of Korea Defense Ministerial Meeting with Minister of National Defense Jeong Kyeong-doo of Republic of Korea and U.S. Secretary of Defense Mark Esper.



Japan-ROK Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Republic of Korea Defense Ministerial Meeting with Minister of National Defense Jeong Kyeong-doo.



Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting with Secretary of Defense Esper.



Japan-Thailand Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Thailand Defense Ministerial Meeting with Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Prayut.



Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting with Defence Minister Singh.



Japan-New Zealand Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-New Zealand Defense Ministerial Meeting with Minister of Defence Mark.



Japan-Philippines Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Philippines Defense Ministerial Meeting with Secretary of National Defense Lorenzana.



Japan-Myanmar Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Myanmar Defense Ministerial Meeting with Minister of Defence Sein Win.



Japan-Singapore Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Singapore Defense Ministerial Meeting with Minister for Defence Ng.



Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministerial Meeting



Minister Kono held a Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministerial Meeting with Defence Minister Prabowo.



Japan-Australia Defence Ministerial Meeting

On November 20th, Defense Minister Kono and Australian Minister for Defence, Senator Linda Reynolds held a Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting. The Ministers welcomed the significant progress in the defense relationship in 2019, including the first bilateral fighter

jet exercise BUSHIDO GUARDIAN and Japan's largest ever participation in the Australia-U.S. joint exercise TALISMAN SABRE. The Ministers committed to strengthening bilateral cooperation in order to deepen the Special Strategic Partnership between the two countries.



IISS Manama Dialogue 2019

From November 23rd to 24th, Defense Minister Kono attended the 15th IISS Manama Dialogue.

Summary of Speech by Minister Kono

Minister Kono gave a speech in the session "Maritime Security in the Middle East." In the speech, he touched on the facts that maritime security of the Middle East is directly linked to the peace and economic prosperity of the world, including that of Japan's and talked about the personnel contributions that the JSDF has made to maritime security of the Middle East to date. Moreover, he stated that Japan's ties with the Middle East have become closer, including participation in exercises, defense equipment cooperation, developing person-to-person links, etc. in this region.

Next, he stated that Japan has contributed to the peace and stability of this region even at a time of increasing concern about security in Japan's immediate vicinity, because an open and secure maritime order provides the basis for a stable and prosperous international community, and that ensuring that the maritime commons of the Middle East remain a global public good is critical for the peace and stability of the entire world, as Japan takes the position that the principle of freedom of navigation and the rule of law at sea are essential.

Moreover, Minister Kono conveyed his strong concerns regarding escalation of the tension in the Middle East and talked about how Japan has persistently made diplomatic

efforts to help ease tensions and to bring stability to the Middle East. He announced that, in an effort to reinforce information gathering capabilities, Japan has started to consider how it can best utilize the assets of the JSDF as Japan's independent efforts, with the aim of contributing not only to ensuring the safety of Japan-related ships, but also to securing the peace and stability of the Middle East region.

Finally, he stated that Japan will strive to maintain an international order and maritime order based on the rule of law under the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" vision rooted in the principle of international cooperation, and that it was his conviction that this vision would contribute to not only maritime security in the Middle East but also the peace and stability of the world.



Japan-India 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting (2+2 Ministerial Meeting)



On November 30th, Mr. Motegi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Minister Kono held the first Japan-India 2+2 Foreign and Defence Ministerial Meeting (2+2 Ministerial Meeting) with External Affairs Minister of India, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Defence Minister of India, Mr. Rajnath Singh.

“Free and Open Indo-Pacific” vision, “ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)” and India’s “Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative” will produce a synergy effect. They also discussed North Korean issues, situation in the South China Sea and other issues on regional/international situation.

The Ministers exchanged their views on bilateral security and defense cooperation, including Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement (ACSA) currently under negotiation, bilateral exercises, exchange of information under the “Implementing Arrangement for Deeper Cooperation between the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force and Indian Navy” as well as the defense equipment and technology cooperation. The Ministers reaffirmed to further cooperate with ASEAN for promoting peace and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific. The ministers expressed their hope that Japan’s



Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting

On November 30th, Minister Kono and Defence Minister of India, Mr. Rajnath Singh held a Defense Ministerial Meeting on the sidelines of the 2+2 Ministerial Meeting.

The Ministers reaffirmed the progress in cooperation so far and exchanged views on further concrete defense cooperation on bilateral exercises between all three components, defense equipment and technology cooperation, maritime security and the third countries cooperation. The Ministers agreed to continuously coordinate in order to deepen defense cooperation.



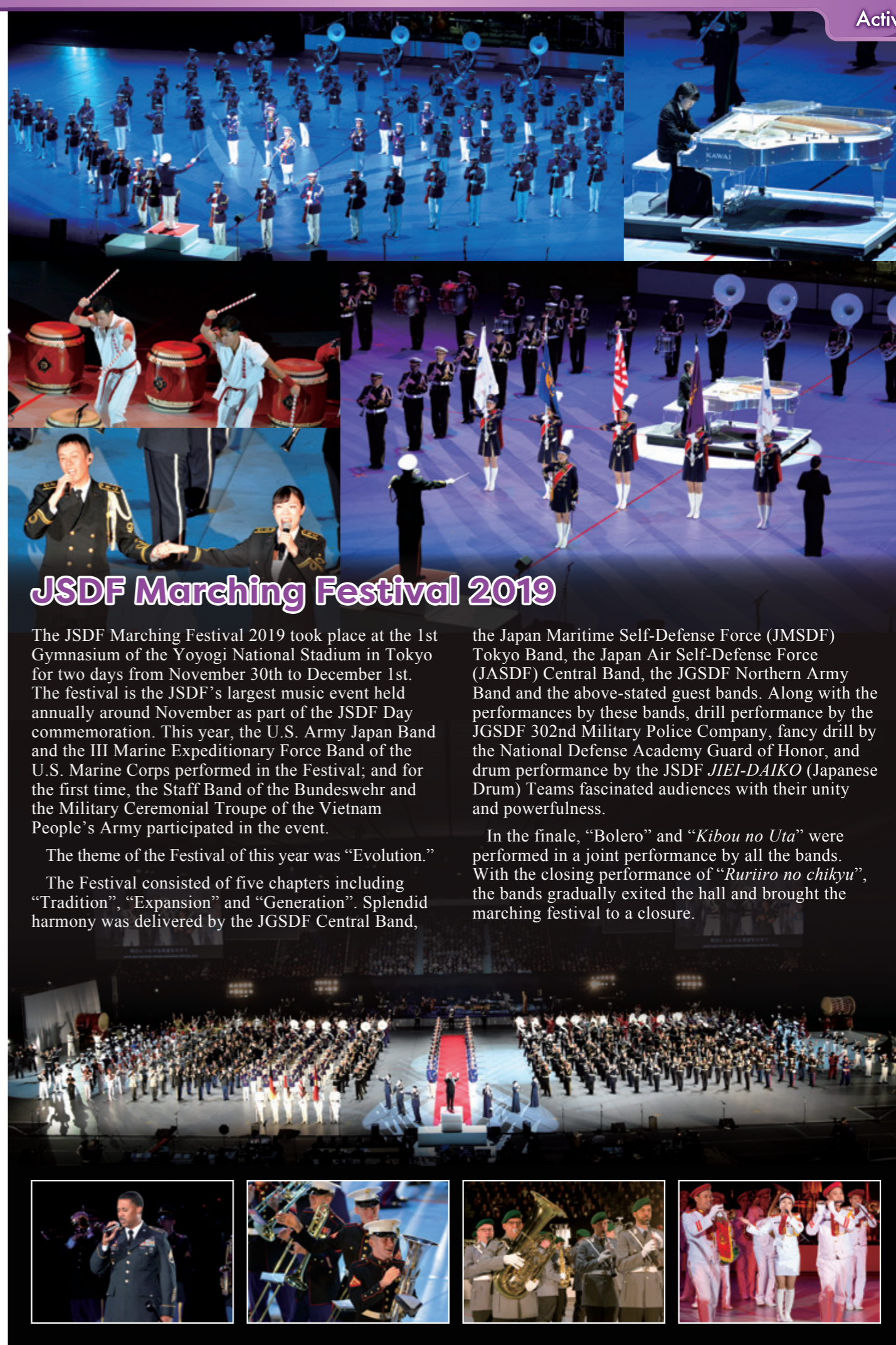
The Ministers welcomed the significant progress made in the negotiations of ACSA and agreed to accelerate efforts on the negotiations before a visit of Prime Minister Abe to India.



UN Triangular Partnership Project

From August 26th to November 15th, 22 Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) personnel were dispatched to Uganda to instruct engineering personnel from the Defense Force of Republic of Uganda on the operation of heavy equipment under the UN Triangular Partnership Project for Rapid Deployment of Enabling Capabilities, which is implemented by the UN Department of Operational Support.

Since 2015, the MOD/JSDf has conducted a total of nine operational training exercises for heavy equipment in Africa, to which a total of 172 JSDf personnel and officers have been dispatched to train 277 engineering personnel from African countries.



JSDf Marching Festival 2019

The JSDf Marching Festival 2019 took place at the 1st Gymnasium of the Yoyogi National Stadium in Tokyo for two days from November 30th to December 1st. The festival is the JSDf’s largest music event held annually around November as part of the JSDf Day commemoration. This year, the U.S. Army Japan Band and the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band of the U.S. Marine Corps performed in the Festival; and for the first time, the Staff Band of the Bundeswehr and the Military Ceremonial Troupe of the Vietnam People’s Army participated in the event.

the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Tokyo Band, the Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) Central Band, the JGSDF Northern Army Band and the above-stated guest bands. Along with the performances by these bands, drill performance by the JGSDF 302nd Military Police Company, fancy drill by the National Defense Academy Guard of Honor, and drum performance by the JSDf JIEI-DAIKO (Japanese Drum) Teams fascinated audiences with their unity and powerfulness.

The theme of the Festival of this year was “Evolution.”

The Festival consisted of five chapters including “Tradition”, “Expansion” and “Generation”. Splendid harmony was delivered by the JGSDF Central Band,

In the finale, “Bolero” and “Kibou no Uta” were performed in a joint performance by all the bands. With the closing performance of “Ruriro no chikyu”, the bands gradually exited the hall and brought the marching festival to a closure.



Pacific Reach 2019 Submarine Rescue Exercise

From November 4th to 15th, the JMSDF participated in the Pacific Reach 2019, the eighth submarine rescue exercise in the Western Pacific.

The exercise was conducted by the countries holding the submarine rescue capabilities in the Western Pacific for the purpose of improving the capabilities and enhancing trust among the participating navies.

This year's event was hosted by Australia, joined by Japan, the United States, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia. The JMSDF dispatched Submarine Rescue Ship "Chiyoda." to jointly conduct submarine rescue exercise, and search and rescue Table Top Exercise as well as a medical symposium and other events with the participating countries.

Through this exercise, the MOD/JSDF worked to increase mutual knowledge and experience in submarine rescue and to enhance relationships of trust with the participating countries.



JSDF Joint Exercise (01JX)

The JSDF held the 2019 JSDF Joint Exercise (field training exercise) from November 11th to 21st. This is the largest joint exercise in this year, involving approx. 32,000 personnel, approx. 1,600 vehicles, eight warships, and approx. 160 aircraft from the Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces.

The objective of the exercise is to maintain and improve the joint operational capability of the JSDF. The participating units carried out training for joint operations in new domains such as electromagnetic spectrum and cyberspace as well as in the conventional areas of land, sea and air.

In the amphibious operations drills conducted on Tane-gashima Island in Kagoshima Prefecture, a total of 1,500 personnel participated, including the Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade and 1st Helicopter Brigade from the JGSDF; destroyers JS *Kaga* and JS *Fuyuzuki*, transport

vessels JS *Shimokita* and JS *Kunisaki* from the JMSDF; and F-2 fighters from the JASDF. They conducted landing drills using amphibious vehicles, and in addition, the destroyers and fighters conducted fire drills at Oki Daito Jima Range.

Furthermore, in the exercise on "comprehensive air and missile defense" which was incorporated in the latest National Defense Program Guidelines formulated at the end of last year, drills such as anti-fighter combat drills and air defense drills were conducted by middle-range multi-purpose missile units from the JGSDF; destroyer JS *Atago* from the JMSDF; F-15, F-2 fighters and air defense missile units from the JASDF.

The electronic warfare drill was also carried out by using EP-3 utility aircraft from the JMSDF and YS-11 electronic support aircraft from the JASDF.



HA/DR cooperation with Indonesia

On November 20th, the MOD/JSDF held a Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HA/DR) Seminar in Jakarta as a kick-off for a defense cooperation project in Indonesia. The seminar enhanced Tentara Nasional Indonesia (TNI) s' understanding of the JSDF disaster response capabilities, and contributed to strengthening cooperation between the MOD/JSDF and Indonesia MOD/TNI.



Namahage



Akita
Prefecture

©oga city

There are various traditional folk events held throughout Japan. Among such events, Namahage is particularly famous, which is practiced on the Oga Peninsula in Akita Prefecture located in the Tohoku region.

Namahage is a folk event in which messengers from the regional mountain gods visit local houses on New Year's Eve to drive away evil spirits.

The messengers wear demonic masks and traditional straw garments. They make the rounds of homes shouting phrases like, "Any lazy people here?" or "Any kids here who don't listen to their parents?"

It is an event held to caution against laziness and to bring good health and plentiful harvests from the fields, mountains, and seas.

In 2018, it was added to the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO as 10 "ritual visits of deities in masks and costumes".

JGSDF Camp Akita is located in Akita City, Akita Prefecture. The 21st Infantry Regiment is stationed at the base to fulfill the responsibility for defense, security, and disaster relief operations throughout Akita Prefecture.



● Japan-Mongolia Defense Ministerial Meeting (Dec. 3)



H.E. Mr. Nyamaa ENKHBOLD, Minister of Defense, Mongolia



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October 2019: "We Are Tomodachi Autumn / Winter 2019" Released