

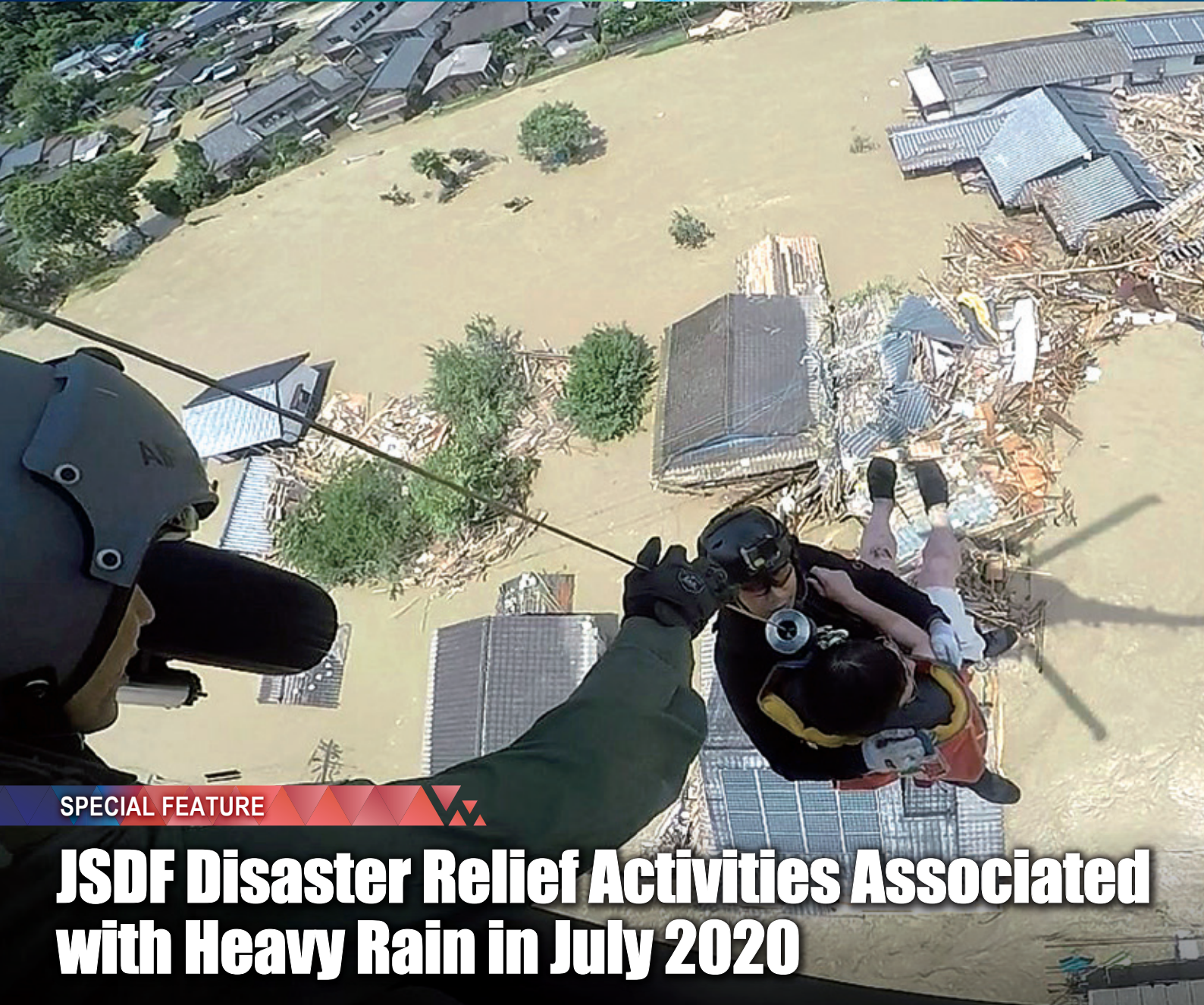
JDF

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SPECIAL FEATURE



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JSDF Disaster Relief Activities Associated with Heavy Rain in July 2020

In response to disaster relief requests from affected local authorities following heavy rains in July 2020, the Ministry of Defense/Japan Self-Defense Forces (MOD/JSDF) dispatched the Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces (hereinafter JGSDF, JMSDF, JASDF) units to the affected areas. They have engaged in lifesaving activities such as searching for missing persons, rescue by helicopters or boats in isolated areas, and rescue by utilizing civil engineering equipment. In addition, the JSDF has performed operations that require its readiness and expertise, such as food and water supply assistance, bathing support, transportation of supplies, medical support, epidemic prevention support, and disaster waste disposal, to complement the roles of local authorities.

In southern Kyushu, including Kumamoto and Kagoshima Prefectures, record-breaking rainfalls started on the

night of July 3rd. A string of flooding and landslides occurred along the Kuma River in Kumamoto and the Chikugo River in Oita. On July 4th, the Governor of Kumamoto Prefecture submitted a disaster relief dispatch request to the JGSDF 8th Division Commanding General (DCG). In response, the MOD/JSDF readied 10,000 personnel (including logistics support units) which consisted of three JSDF components, mainly from the JGSDF Western Army. The response units were then sent to the affected areas.

On the same day, the 8th Aviation unit and Western Aviation Group of the JGSDF, the Fleet Air Wing 22 of the JMSDF, and the Western Air Defense Force, Ashiya and Nyutabaru Air Rescue Squadrons of the JASDF began airlift rescue operations by helicopters in Yatsushiro City, Hitoyoshi City, and Kuma Village in Kumamoto Prefec-

ture. The JGSDF 8th Division carried out rescue activities on the ground in Hitoyoshi City, Yatsushiro City and Ashikita Town. The JASDF 9th AC&W Squadron removed landslide debris in Kagoshima Prefecture.

On July 5th, Minister Kono ordered up to 200 JSDF Ready Reserve Personnel to convene based on a Cabinet decision to call up the Personnel. The decision marks the sixth time that JSDF Ready Reserve Personnel were mobilized since the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Their most recent dispatch was for the disaster-relief mission to respond to Typhoon Hagibis last year.

In addition, on July 7th, the Governors of Fukuoka and Oita Prefectures issued disaster relief dispatch requests to the 4th DCG of the JGSDF. On the same day, the MOD/JSDF decided to boost the number of personnel who would

be assigned to the disaster relief activities by up to 20,000 personnel. From the 7th, the JGSDF accepted the JSDF Ready Reserve Personnel, and from the 8th, they started their activities in the JGSDF Western Army logistic support unit.

On July 9th, an order was issued to mobilize up to 400 JSDF Ready Reserve Personnel and up to 100 Reserve Personnel.

On July 13th, the Governor of Yamaguchi issued disaster relief dispatch request to the commander of Western Army Defense Force.

As of July 20th, JSDF ground forces and aircraft have rescued a total of 1,775 people. Approx. 2,130 personnel and 8 aircrafts have engaged in disaster relief activities, such as search and rescue operations for missing persons, disposal of disaster waste, and livelihood support.



Defense in the Electromagnetic Domain

Electromagnetic spectrum is a general term for radio waves, infrared rays, visible light, X-rays, etc. In everyday life, radio waves are particularly being used for various purposes ranging from television and mobile communications to geolocation information through global positioning systems.

Electromagnetic spectrum has also been being used for command/communication, and warning/surveillance in the field of defense. With the development of the technology, its use has expanded in range and purpose, and it is now recognized as a major operational domain situated on the frontline of the offense-defense dynamic in today's warfare. Therefore, together with space and cyberspace, electromagnetic spectrum is regarded as an essential domain in the FY2019 National Defense Program Guidelines (NDPG).

In FY2020, the MOD/JSDF has been building and reinforcing the following capabilities to gain superiority in the electromagnetic spectrum.

- ▶ **Development of Standoff Electronic Warfare Aircraft**
To support JSDF air operations by conducting effective jamming of an adversary's communication.
- ▶ **Research on Anti-air Electronic Warfare Device 1**
To neutralize the radar of invading aircraft by emitting radio waves from the ground.
- ▶ **Procurement of three F-35A fighter aircraft 2**
To secure air superiority by procuring F-35A fighter aircraft with superior electronic protection capabilities.
- ▶ **Procurement of six F-35B fighter aircraft 3**
To improve flexibility of fighter operation by procuring F-35Bs with superior electronic protection capabilities.
- ▶ **Improvement of F-15 fighter aircraft's capabilities 4**
To improve electronic warfare capabilities by upgrading programs.
- ▶ **Establishment of an Electronic Warfare Unit**
To strengthen operational capabilities in the electromagnetic domain.



Through these efforts, the MOD/JSDF will continue to promote the development of truly effective defensive capabilities.

Electronic Warfare (image)

Electronic warfare capabilities

Warfare (electronic warfare*) capabilities to effectively and proactively utilize electromagnetic spectrum to ensure the use and effect of electromagnetic spectrum while interfering with the use and effect by an enemy.

(※) Electronic warfare is categorized as electronic attack, electronic protection, and electronic warfare support in general.

Electromagnetic spectrum management capabilities

Capabilities to appropriately manage and coordinate the use of electromagnetic spectrum among SDF units by ascertaining the status of electromagnetic spectrum in the theater and preventing interference with the aim of securing electronic warfare capabilities.

Electronic attack

- Emit electronic waves to communication devices and radars of an enemy, thereby reducing or disabling their communication

Electronic protection

- Reduce or nullify the impact of electromagnetic spectrum used by an enemy by using stealth technology

Electronic warfare support

- Collect and analyze such information as electromagnetic spectrum used by an enemy



The figure is for illustrative purposes.

Recent Conferences

Defense Minister's Conferences

Japan-United States-Australia

On July 8th, a virtual trilateral defense ministerial meeting was held between Australian Minister for Defence Reynolds, U.S. Secretary of Defense Esper, and Minister Kono. The ministers reaffirmed their joint commitment to enhance security,

stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region while keeping their shared values and longstanding alliances and close partnerships. The ministers also exchanged views on the roles of defense authorities in light of the global spread of

COVID-19 and regional issues such as the situation in the East and South China Seas, Hong Kong, and North Korea. They also discussed the importance of ongoing support for partners in South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific region.

United States

On June 24th, Minister Kono held a video teleconference with Representative Diana DeGette (U.S. Congresswoman). On July 10th, the minister received a courtesy call

from U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun. They exchanged views on regional affairs, including North Korea.



Chief of Staff, Joint Staff's Teleconferences

On June 30th, General Yamazaki, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff held a teleconference with Lieutenant General Aviv Kochavi, Chief of the General Staff, Israel Defense Forces. The two leaders reaffirmed the importance of promoting Japan-Israel defense cooperation.

teleconference with General Sir Nick Carter GCB CBE DSO ADC Gen, British Chief of the Defence Staff. In the respective teleconferences, the leaders discussed the security environment which grows increasingly severe, as well as reaffirmed the importance of the Japan-France and Japan-UK defense cooperation and exchanges.

UAE Armed Forces. The two leaders confirmed the importance of promoting Japan-UAE defense cooperation.

In each of these teleconferences, General Yamazaki coincided with each counterpart on closely cooperating to address common challenges in order to ensure the peace and stability in the international community and the region. Opinions were also exchanged about the situation affected by COVID-19 and the efforts to prevent the spread of the virus.

On July 2nd, General Yamazaki and General François Lecointre, French Chief of the General Staff, held a video teleconference, and on July 6th, General Yamazaki had a video

teleconference with H.E. Staff Lt. Gen. Hamad Mohammed Thani Al Rumaithi, Chief of Staff,



JMSDF Chief of Staff's Teleconferences

On July 22nd, ADM Yamamura, Chief of Staff, JMSDF held a video teleconference with VADM Giovanni Carlo J. Bacordo, Flag Officer in

Command, Philippine Navy. In this VTC, both leaders agreed to further promote defense cooperation, by such means as maritime exercise, in order

to maintain and strengthen the Free and Open Indo-Pacific even under the COVID-19 situation.

JASDF Chief of Staff's Teleconferences

On June 25th, General Marumo, Chief of Staff, Koku-Jieitai (JASDF) held a teleconference with General David L. Goldfein, Chief of Staff,

U.S. Air Force. Under a new phase called "With Corona," the two senior leaders reaffirmed the importance of the Japan-U.S. alliance, which marks

its 60th anniversary this year and agreed to further enhance the strong partnership between the two air forces.

DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2020

On July 14th, the defense white paper for 2020, Defense of Japan 2020, was released. The objective of Defense of Japan is to provide a widespread awareness of the current state of our nation's defense, as well as related issues and initiatives, thereby gaining the understanding of readers both within Japan and overseas.

The first edition of the defense white paper was compiled in 1970, and the paper has been published annually since 1976. Defense of Japan 2020 marks 50 years since the publication of Japan's first defense white paper.

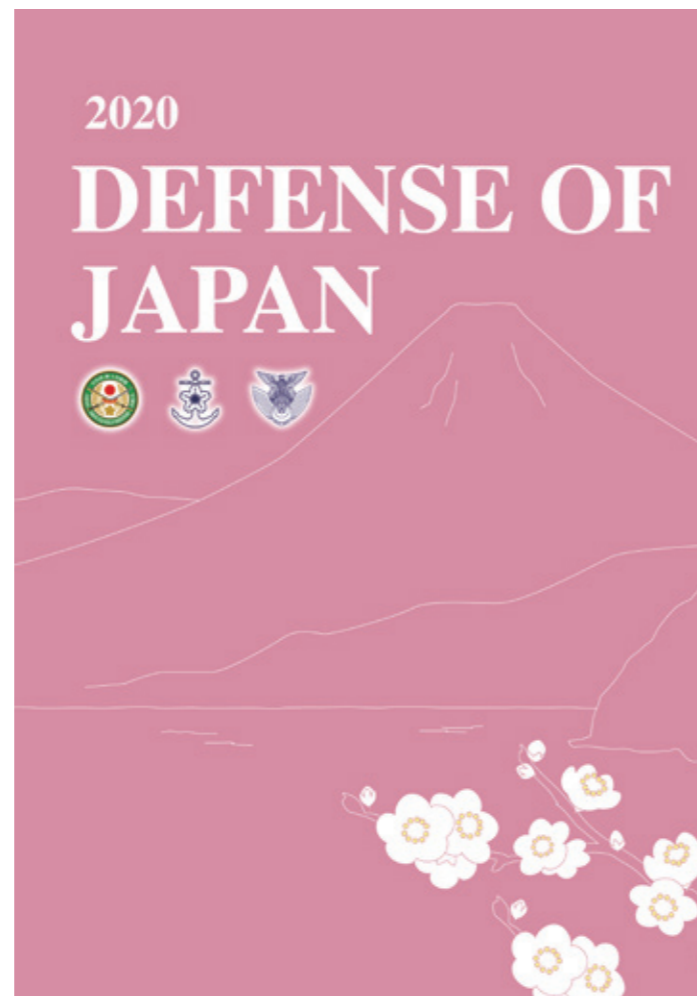
Defense of Japan 2020 focuses on major international trends and key activities of the MOD/JSDF in FY2019, such as the MOD/JSDF activities against COVID-19 using all available resources, disaster relief operations for the torrential rains and typhoons that occurred repeatedly over the last year, and the commencement of information gathering activities for ensuring the safety of Japan-related vessels in the Middle East.

The MOD/JSDF sought to make this year's white paper more accessible and user-friendly than before. In particular, the paper introduces voices of approx. 50 JSDF personnel who have deployed in various settings both within Japan and overseas and contains QR codes that link users to more than 50 videos related to stories.

The cover of the Defense of Japan 2020 features Mt. Fuji, which also appeared on the cover of Japan's first defense white paper 50 years ago. Also, illustrations of Japanese plum blossoms and their color make the cover since the name of the era, "Reiwa," is derived from a poem about plum blossoms in *Manyoshu*.

The international situation and the security environment surrounding Japan are changing at extremely high speeds. The role and activities of the MOD/ JSDF have been expanding more than ever, and all of them are covered in the latest white paper.

On the MOD website, the digest versions of Defense of Japan 2020 are published in English, Russian, Chinese, Korean, and French.



JGSDF Northeastern Army Band

JGSDF Northeastern Army Band Participates in Hamina Tattoo Video Greeting Project

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the JGSDF Northeastern Army Band, which was formed in 1960. The band, based at Camp Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture, travels around six prefectures of Tohoku region to hold concerts approx. 100 times annually, serving as a bridge between people and the JGSDF. Their mission is to boost morale among JSDF personnel through performance and to perform for ceremonies and public events.

Given such circumstances, the JGSDF Northeastern Army Band has stopped holding concerts. Instead, the band has performed remote ensembles on the JGSDF Northeastern Army Band's YouTube channel.

As part of these activities, the JGSDF Northeastern Army Band was invited to participate in a video greeting project designed by Hamina Tattoo, a biennial military music festival in Finland.

The Hamina Tattoo International Military Music Festival has a 30-year history, and each year has drawn an audience of more than 100,000 from around the world. Unfortunately, this year's event was cancelled due to the spread of COVID-19 infections, but the tattoo asked the participants in the past festivals to send music performances and video messages, aiming at disseminating voices of encouragement to the world's healthcare workers fighting against COVID-19.

The JGSDF Northeastern Army Band answered the call and decided to join in the project with a sense of unity to overcome COVID-19 through the remote ensemble and joy at coming together with people all over the world.

The video was released worldwide on August 4th on YouTube.

This year, out of concerns for droplet infection and contact infection arising from the global spread of COVID-19, the situation around the pandemic has made it difficult for people to easily go out, not to mention that they have been asked to avoid congregation in large groups.



Major Abe (Commander and Conductor)



JSDF's response to COVID-19



JSDF vehicles and the Diamond Princess cruise ship



JS Takanami deployed to the Middle East



JMSDF personnel engaging in information gathering

JMSDF Training and Exercises

Mine Warfare Exercise and Special Minesweeping Exercise (Japan-US bilateral exercise)

From July 18th to 30th, JMSDF conducted a mine warfare exercise and a mine sweeping special exercise including a Japan-U.S. bilateral exercise in Mutsu Bay, Aomori Prefecture. The JMSDF sent its 15 ships from the Mine Warfare Force (two minesweeper tenders, two minesweeper oceans, and eleven minesweepers) along with eight aircraft (three MCH-101s, three P-3Cs, and two P-1s). Two ships (two minesweepers) participated in this exercise from the U.S. Navy.

In the exercise, mine laying, minesweeping, and diving training were conducted.

The exercise was aimed at maintaining and improving JMSDF mine warfare capabilities and strengthening cooperation with the U.S. Navy.

The JMSDF Mine Warfare Force which conducted the latest exercise was formed by combining Mine Warfare Force Division 1 (responsible for minesweeping and training, formed in October 1954 under the direct command of the Director-General of the Defense Agency), and Mine Warfare Force Division 2 (responsible for developing tactics and R&D, formed in 1961) in March 2000.

Subsequently, in 2016, MF was reorganized to incorporate Landing Ship Division 1, which consists of three large transport ships.

Approx. 10,700 mines laid by the United States, and 55,000 mines laid by Japan, remained in Japan's coastal waters after the war. The force's original mission was to ensure the safety of maritime traffic from damage caused by these mines and to open up shipping lanes. Later, the force worked to clear mines laid during the Korean War and performed minesweeping missions in the Persian Gulf after the Gulf War. The large minesweeper tenders are also utilized to provide transport of supplies in the event of disasters, and search and rescue services taking advantage of their high mobility.



Japan-Philippine Maritime Exercise

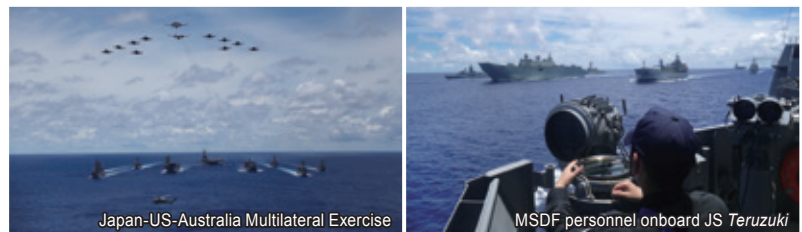
On July 18th, JS *Teruzuki* conducted a communication exercise with the Philippine Navy's C-90 aircraft in the South China Sea. This C-90 was formerly a JMSDF TC-90 training aircraft, which was later transferred to the Philippines. Through this exercise, the JMSDF strengthened cooperation with the Philippine Navy.



Japan-US-Australia Multilateral Exercise

From 19th to 23rd July, JS *Teruzuki* conducted a multilateral exercise with the US Navy ships, USS Ronald Reagan, USS Antietam, USS Mustin, the Royal Australian Navy ships, HMAS Canberra, HMAS Hobart, HMAS Arunta, HMAS Stuart and Sirius in the South China Sea and east of the Philippines through Guam. The JMSDF continues multi-national exercises to pursue the vision of a "Free and Open Indo-Pa-

cific" under the current circumstances of COVID-19 situation.



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