

JDF



Visit to Hawaii by Defense Minister Koizumi

On January 12, DM Koizumi visited Hawaii. The summary is as follows. Note that date and time below are in local time.

1 Visit to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM)

DM Koizumi visited U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and had a meeting with Admiral Paparo, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. DM Koizumi candidly exchanged views on the security environment surrounding both countries and bilateral defense cooperation. They confirmed that they will continue to work closely together to strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Alliance.



2 Visit to USS Arizona Memorial

DM Koizumi visited the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor and laid a wreath with H.E. Mr. Glass, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan, Admiral Paparo, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, and Lieutenant General Jost, Commander, U.S. Forces, Japan, in attendance.



3 Visit to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific

DM Koizumi visited the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, “Punchbowl,” and laid a wreath with H.E. Mr. Glass, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Japan, , with Admiral Koehler, Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, and Lieutenant General Jost, Commander, U.S. Forces, Japan, in attendance.



4 Visit to Hawaiian Memorial Park

DM Koizumi visited the Hawaiian Memorial Park and laid flowers at the grave of Mr. Hirofumi Mikami, a Nisei who translated Rear Admiral Ichimaru Rinosuke’s letter “A Message to President Roosevelt” into English, just before his death in the battle of Iwo Jima. The letter is still remembered in the U.S. today.



5 Meeting with General Brunson, Commander of U.S. Forces Korea

DM Koizumi had a meeting with General Brunson, Commander of U.S. Forces Korea, Combined Forces Command, and United Nations Command. They confirmed the importance to further strengthen Japan-U.S.-ROK defense cooperation for peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific.



6 Courtesy call on President Whipples of the Republic of Palau

DM Koizumi paid a courtesy call on President Whipples of the Republic of Palau. They confirmed to further enhance collaboration between the two countries for peace and stability in the region.



7 Keynote speech at the Honolulu Defense Forum

DM Koizumi attended the Honolulu Defense Forum and delivered a keynote speech. He emphasized Japan’s resolve to further play a leading role in promoting the peace and stability of the region as countries in the region face common challenges.



Scan this QR code to go to DM Koizumi's speech.



Visit to Los Angeles by Defense Minister Koizumi

On January 13, DM Koizumi visited Los Angeles. The summary is as follows. Note that date and time below are in local time.

1 Visit to Neros Technologies

DM Koizumi visited Neros Technologies and received an overview briefing on the company's drone business.



2 Attendance at a reception hosted by the Japanese Consul General in Los Angeles

DM Koizumi joined the reception marking the 15th Anniversary of Operation Tomodachi and the JSDF's 71st birthday at Japanese Consul General in Los Angeles. He expressed a strong commitment to strengthening the Japan-U.S. Alliance and enhancing the defense industry through talks with industry leaders.



Visit to Washington, D.C. by Defense Minister Koizumi

On January 14, 15 and 16, DM Koizumi visited Washington, D.C. The summary is as follows. Note that date and time below are in local time.

1 Physical Training (PT)

In the early morning of January 15, DM Koizumi, together with SDF personnel, conducted physical training with Secretary of War Hegseth and the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Regiment (Old Guard). They deepened their friendship through sweating together during U.S. military-style trainings.



2 Courtesy call on Hon. JD Vance, Vice President of the United States of America

On January 15, DM Koizumi visited the White House and paid a courtesy call on the Hon. JD Vance, Vice President of the United States of America. They discussed regional security environment and Japan's efforts to strengthen defense capabilities.



3 Visit to Arlington National Cemetery

On January 15, DM Koizumi visited Arlington National Cemetery and laid a wreath. The cemetery is the resting place of approximately 400,000 veterans and their dependents.



4 Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting

On January 15, DM Koizumi and Secretary of War Hegseth held discussions at the U.S. Department of War. The Ministers confirmed that Japan and the United States have been working closely together under the unwavering Alliance, as demonstrated in four Defense Ministerial engagements over the past three months. In light of the increasingly severe security situation in the Indo-Pacific region, the Ministers also exchanged candid views on concrete measures to further enhance Japan-U.S. defense cooperation, such as expansion of bilateral joint presence in the southwestern region of Japan, enhancement of more advanced and realistic bilateral training across Japan, advancing defense equipment and technology cooperation, and enhancing cooperation in Integrated Air Missile Defense capabilities and space domain.



5 Visit to Palantir Technologies

On January 16, DM Koizumi visited Palantir Technologies in Washington D.C., a company that develops AI and data analytics platforms. He received briefing on the company's business and discussed security environment in the region.



6 Visit to RAND

On January 16, DM Koizumi visited RAND Corporation in Virginia, and engaged in discussions on new ways of warfare involving AI and unmanned systems as well as regional security environment.



7 Meeting with Dr. Hamre, President and CEO, CSIS

On January 16, DM Koizumi met with Dr. Hamre, President and CEO, CSIS. They engaged in discussions on various matters including regional security environment and Japan-U.S. defense cooperation.



8 Visit to Hawkeye360

On January 16, Defense Minister Koizumi visited Hawkeye360 in Virginia, a commercial satellite company which meets Department of War's security standards, and received briefing on the company's business and exchanged views on space domain.



Japan-New Zealand Defense Ministerial Meeting

On December 19, 2025, DM Koizumi and New Zealand DM the Hon Judith Collins KC held a Japan-New Zealand Defense Ministerial Meeting (Breakfast Meeting).

At the outset, DM Koizumi briefed the radar incidents of Chinese military aircraft illuminating radar onto JSDF fighters on December 6 and the Chinese-Russian bombers' joint flight on 9th December. DM Koizumi shared grave concerns over this incident with DM Collins and they concurred to closely communicate with each other. In addition, DM Koizumi emphasized to respond to such acts conducted by China in a calm and yet resolute manner.

They confirmed their intention to continue to cooperate with each other in strengthening cooperation with the Pacific Island countries.

They also welcomed that the Information Security Agreement and the ACSA will be signed (These were signed on the same day after the meeting).

They concurred in closely working together to further deepen bilateral defense cooperation towards the realization of a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP).



The Japan-Philippines Defense Ministers' Video Teleconference

On December 18, 2025, DM Koizumi held a Defense Ministerial Video Teleconference with Philippine Secretary of Defense, Gilberto Teodoro.

At the outset, DM Koizumi welcomed the opportunity to reconnect via video teleconference with Secretary Teodoro following the recent four-country defense ministers' meeting in Malaysia with Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles and United States (U.S.) Secretary of War Pete Hegseth. Both ministers reaffirmed the need to further strengthen and develop bilateral cooperation under the increasingly severe security environment surrounding both countries.

They also exchanged views on regional security issues. DM Koizumi briefed the radar incident on December 6 in which a Chinese military aircraft illuminated a JSDF aircraft with radar and the Chinese-Russian bombers' joint flight from the Eastern Sea to the Pacific that occurred on December 9 and shared his grave concerns over these. They reiterated their strong opposition to any unilateral attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion in the East China Sea and the South China Sea.

Furthermore, they concurred on strengthening operational collaboration, including the Japan-Philippines RAA which came into effect in last September, and reaffirmed their commitment to further promote defense equipment and technology cooperation.



The Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministers' Video Teleconference

On December 22, 2025, DM Koizumi and DM Sjafrie held a Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministers' video teleconference. The summary is as follows.

At the outset, DM Koizumi expressed his heartfelt condolences to those who lost their lives in the floods and landslides that occurred in Indonesia in last November, and conveyed his prayers for the swift recovery of the affected individuals and the early restoration of the disaster-stricken areas. DM Sjafrie expressed his appreciation for these sentiments.

They also exchanged views on regional security issues. DM Koizumi briefed the radar incident on December 6 in which a Chinese military aircraft illuminated a JSDF aircraft with radar and the Chinese-Russian bombers' joint flight from the East China Sea to the Pacific that occurred on December 9 and conveyed his grave concerns over these incidents.

DM Sjafrie expressed his understanding that Japan's position in responding to the situation is grounded in international norms. Both Ministers concurred on the importance of enhancing communication and working together to promote peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

Furthermore, DM Koizumi stated his intention to further strengthen bilateral defense cooperation under the relationship of trust built with Minister Sjafrie. They concurred on accelerating efforts to enhance Japan-Indonesia defense cooperation and exchanges, including close communication under the "Integrated Defense Dialogue Mechanism" agreed upon during Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministers' Meeting in last November.



SMOD Received a Courtesy Call from Commander of the Turkish Land Forces

On January 9, State Minister of Defense (SMOD) Miyazaki received a courtesy call from Gen. TOKEL, Commander of the Turkish Land Forces. They exchanged views on bilateral defense cooperation/exchanges, and reaffirmed that they will continue to cooperate on achieving regional peace and stability.



SMOD Met with State Secretary of Defence of the Netherlands

On January 15, SMOD Miyazaki met with Mr. Tuinman, State Secretary of Defence of the Netherlands. They welcomed the steady progress of the bilateral cooperation and concurred to further deepen the Japan-Netherlands relationship under the shared view on the current security environment.



Meeting between CSJJS Gen UCHIKURA and ADM PAPARO, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

On January 13, CSJJS Gen Uchikura had a meeting in Honolulu with ADM Samuel PAPARO, Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. They shared their views on the current security environment in the Indo-Pacific region. They also exchanged opinions on matters such as future initiatives in Japan-U.S. defense cooperation.

Following the visit by DM Koizumi to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command on January 12, today's meeting between Gen Uchikura and ADM PAPARO demonstrated close high-level coordination between Japan and U.S. JJS will continue to promote cooperation with our regional partners to realize a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" and contribute to the peace and stability of the region.



Land Forces Summit (LFS) 2025

On December 18, 2025, GEN Arai, CS, JGSDF hosted the Land Forces Summit (LFS) 2025, inviting Chief of Staffs and Commanders from the U.S. Army Pacific, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, Australian Army, Philippine Army, Philippine Marine Corps, Malaysian Army, and Indian Army.

During the LFS plenary session, participants exchanged views on their assessment of the strategic environment and shared a common recognition of the importance of cooperation among like-minded nations for the peace and stability of the Indo-Pacific region.

At the Quadrilateral Army Chiefs' Meeting of Japan, the United States, Australia, and the Philippines, the participants agreed on the future direction of cooperation and shared the recognition that they would further enhance their relationships in order to strengthen deterrence and response capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.

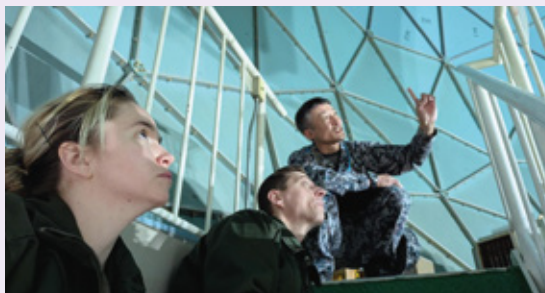


Japan-France Junior Officer Exchange

From December 15 to 19, 2025, JASDF invited airborne weapons control officers of E-3F Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) from the French Air and Space Force (FASF) to Hamamatsu Air Base, Misawa Air Base, and Omaezaki Sub Base for a junior officer exchange. The exchange program has been conducted since 2004, and this time marks the 13th iteration.

During the exchange, FASF officers met with JASDF senior officers at each base and, for the first time for foreign military personnel other than U.S. Forces, experienced familiarization flights aboard a JASDF E-767 AWACS aircraft that had been upgraded to enhance warning and surveillance capabilities. They also visited aircraft control and warning units at each base and held discussions with JASDF weapons control officers and other personnel to share knowledge on weapons control in both air services and to enhance mutual understanding.

JASDF will continue to promote defense cooperation and exchanges with FASF, based on the recognition that the security of Euro-Atlantic and of the Indo-Pacific are inseparable and interconnected, thereby contributing to regional peace and stability.



Chief of JMSDF's Visit to Vietnam

From December 10 to 13, 2025, Admiral Saito, Chief of Staff, JMSDF visited Vietnam to mark the 70th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Navy's establishment, and met with the Chief of Armed Forces and Navy's Commander-in-Chief. JMSDF will work closely with Vietnam to realize a FOIP.



New Year Jump in Indo Pacific 26



On January 11, DM Koizumi observed New Year Jump in Indo Pacific 26 led by the JGSDF 1st Airborne Brigade(1AbnB) at Narashino Maneuver Area and encouraged personnel. 14 countries (Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Thailand, Türkiye, UK and U.S.) participated in the event and enhanced mutual cooperation.

The 1AbnB is Japan's only parachute unit, capable of rapid airmobile operations using aircraft, and is one of the most powerful units that the JSDF takes pride in.

In the case of an invasion or large-scale disasters, the brigade is required to conduct parachute landings in the most challenging and critical situations and accomplish all assigned missions with unwavering resolve.



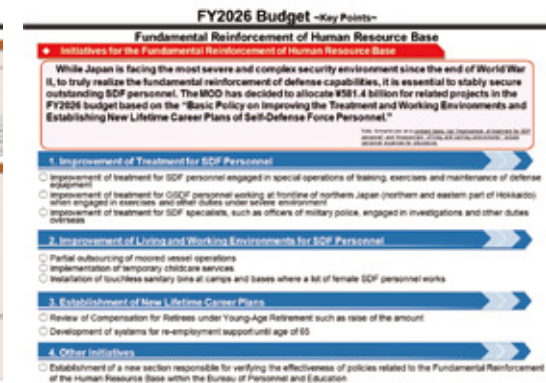
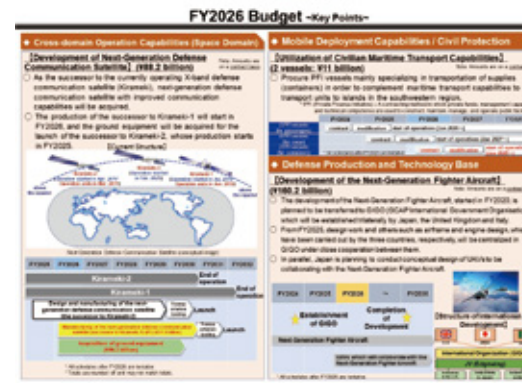
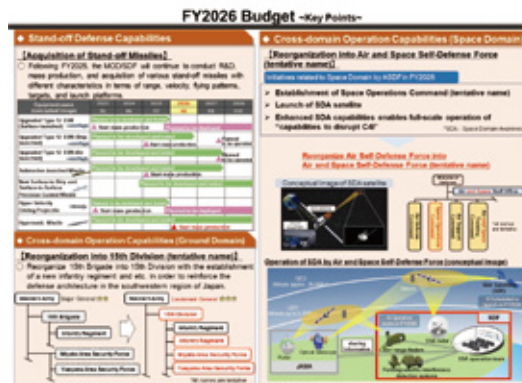
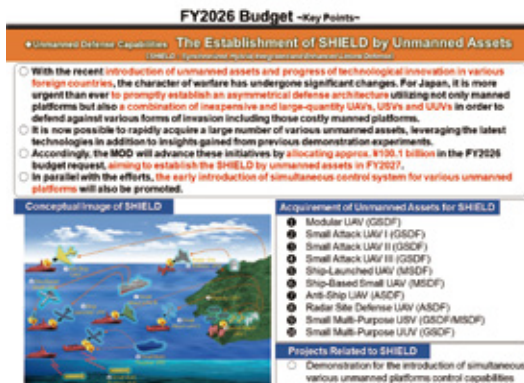
FY 2026 Budget Plan Approved

On December 26, 2025, FY26 budget plan was approved by the Cabinet.

As the security environment is rapidly changing across various fields, JMOD secured over ¥9tril as the necessary and sufficient budget to achieve the fundamental reinforcement of

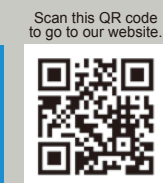
defense capabilities based on the current Defense Buildup Program (DBP).

This defense budget will be mainly used for establishing a multi-layered coastal defense system [SHIELD] by unmanned assets, Stand-off defense and cross-domain operation capabilities, improving the treatment of JSDF personnel, and enhancing their living and working conditions



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