

JDF



Courtesy Call on Philippine President Marcos, Jr.



Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting (Apr. 18)



Japan-Indonesia Defense Ministerial Meeting (May 4)

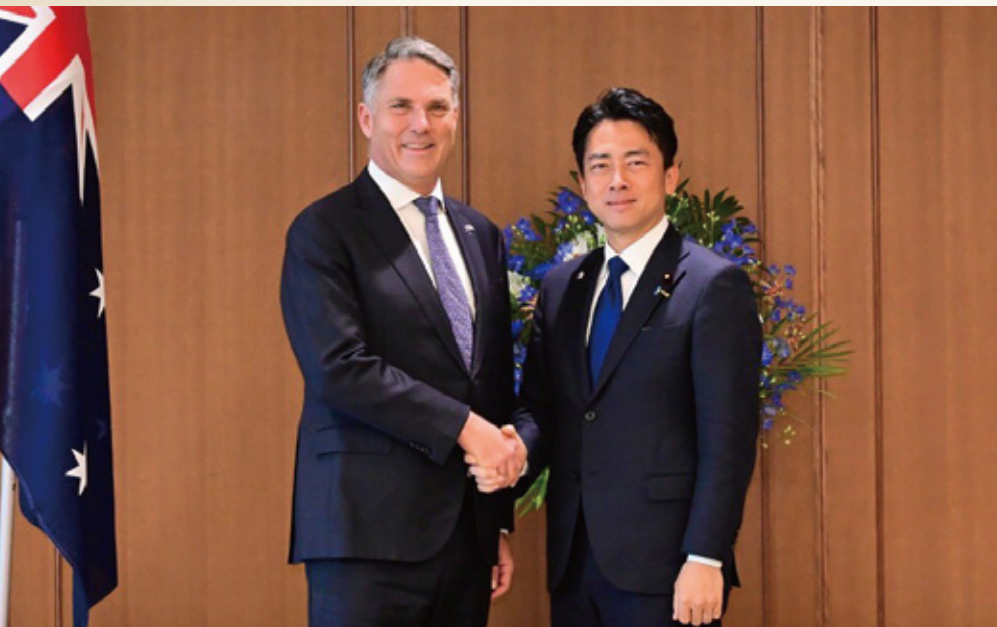


Japan-Philippines Defense Ministerial Meeting (May 5)



Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting (Apr. 8)

On April 8, DM Koizumi held a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence of Australia the Hon Richard Marles MP under the Framework for Strategic Defence Coordination (FSDC). They exchanged views on regional affairs including the Middle East, and agreed to continue discussions on enhancing Japan-Australia defense cooperation.



Japan-Australia Defense Ministerial Meeting (Apr. 18)

On April 18, in Melbourne, DM Koizumi held a meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence of Australia the Hon Richard Marles MP under the Framework for Strategic Defence Coordination (FSDC). The Ministers confirmed to further strengthen Japan-Australia defense cooperation building upon the Australian National Defence Strategy 2026 and the conclusion of the contract of Australia's General Purpose Frigate. The Ministers released a joint statement after the meeting.



On the same day, the Ministers attended a ceremony aboard the JMSDF frigate JS Kumano, which was berthed in Melbourne, to commemorate the conclusion of the contract of Australia's General Purpose Frigate and the signing of arrangements between the relevant authorities.

At the ceremony, the Ministers signed the Memorandum of Cooperation ('Mogami Memorandum') and confirmed their commitment to promoting this project through close public-private cooperation between Japan and Australia.



DM Koizumi Met with Defence Minister Sjafrie of Indonesia (Apr. 16)



On April 16, DM Koizumi met with Defence Minister of Indonesia the Hon Sjafrie Sjamsuddin for the first time since their defense minister's meeting in November 2025.



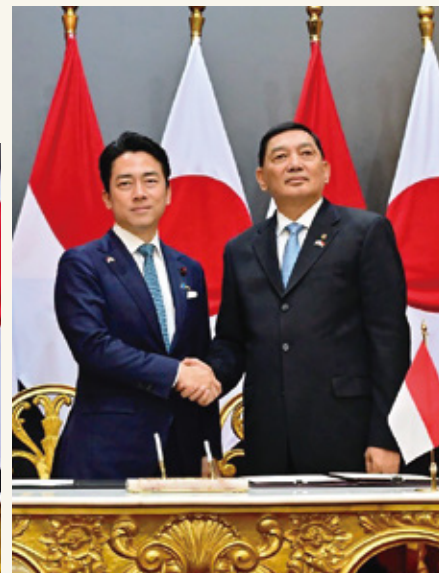
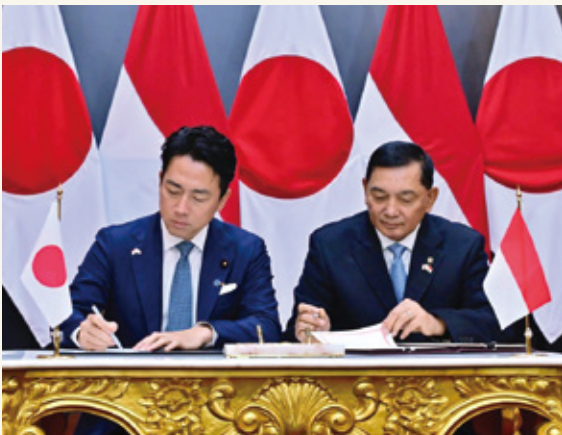
DM Koizumi Visited Indonesia (May 3-4)



On May 4, DM Koizumi received the guard of honor at the Indonesian Ministry of Defense and was briefed by Defence Minister the Hon Sjafrie Sjamsuddin on the statue of Sudirman who was the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indonesian military and a national hero of Indonesia.



On the same day, DM Koizumi held a meeting with Defense Minister Sjafrie of Indonesia. They signed the Japan-Indonesia Defense Cooperation Arrangement.



DM Koizumi visited the Kalibata Heroes' Cemetery (Taman Makam Pahlawan Nasional Utama Kalibata) and laid flowers. National heroes who had contributed to the nation-building of Indonesia and former Japanese soldiers rest in the cemetery.



DM Koizumi Visited the Philippines (May 5-6)

On May 5, DM Koizumi visited the Rizal monument and laid flowers, paying tribute to the national hero who played a pivotal role in the Philippine independence movement.



On May 5, DM Koizumi paid a courtesy call on Philippine President Marcos Jr. They welcomed the steady progress in bilateral cooperation in the defense field and agreed to further develop Japan-Philippines cooperation under the strategic partnership.



DM Koizumi and Defense Secretary Teodoro held a meeting and agreed to further enhance Japan-Philippines defense cooperation, including in the areas of policy, operations and defense equipment and technology.



On the same day, DM Koizumi and Defense Secretary Teodoro signed the Statement on Further Promotion of Defense Equipment and Technology Cooperation and agreed to establish a working group to discuss the transfer of defense equipment, including Abukuma-class destroyers and TC-90 aircraft.



Balikatan 26

JSDF participated in the U.S.-Philippines-led Multinational Joint Exercise Balikatan 26 in Philippines from April 20 to May 8, 2026. Through this exercise conducting trainings such as amphibious operations, anti-landing fire, and anti-ship combat, the JSDF enhanced its various capabilities and improving interoperability with partner nations.

On May 6, DM Koizumi, together with Philippine Defense Secretary Teodoro, observed the first-ever live-fire exercise of the JSDF's Type 88 surface-to-ship missile (SSM) in Ilocos Norte, Laoag City, Philippines, conducted as part of Exercise Balikatan 2026.



Courtesy Call by British Ambassador to Japan on DM Koizumi

On April 15, DM Koizumi received a courtesy call from H.E. Ms. Julia Longbottom, British Ambassador to Japan. They reaffirmed their resolve to strongly advance Japan-UK defense cooperation, recognizing that security of the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific is inseparable.



Courtesy Call by MP, Foreign Secretary of the UK on DM Koizumi

On April 20, DM Koizumi received a courtesy call from The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper, MP, Foreign Secretary of the UK. They welcomed the close partnership between both countries and confirmed to further advance bilateral defense cooperation as each other's closest security partners in Asia and Europe respectively.



DM Koizumi Had a VTC with Minister for Defence of New Zealand

On April 15, DM Koizumi held a VTC with Minister for Defence of New Zealand the Hon Chris Penk and expressed his congratulations on DM Penk's inauguration. The Ministers exchanged their views on defense cooperation in the future and concurred to work closely together to deepen Japan-New Zealand defense cooperation.



Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Forces Visited the MOD

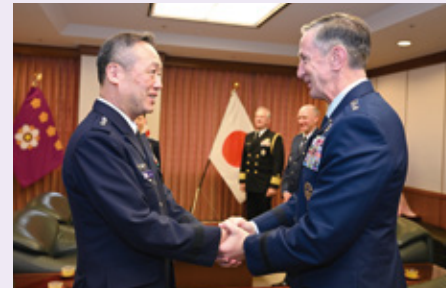
1 Courtesy Call on DM Koizumi

On April 28, DM Koizumi received a courtesy call from Gen Kevin B. Schneider, Commander, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF). They discussed defense cooperation, welcomed the arrival of a dedicated 5th Air Force Commander in Yokota Air Base this March, and reaffirmed the robust Alliance through close Japan-U.S. communication at all levels.



2 Courtesy Call on CSJJS

On April 28, CSJJS Gen Uchikura received a courtesy call from Gen Kevin B. Schneider, Commander, PACAF. During the meeting, they shared views on the security environment surrounding Japan as well as the situation in the Indo-Pacific region, and exchanged views on the respective roles of their countries in maintaining peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific. They also reaffirmed that Japan-U.S. will continue to work closely together to realize a Free and Open Indo-Pacific and further strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance.



3 Courtesy Call on Chief of Staff, JASDF

Gen Morita, Chief of Staff, JASDF, met with Gen Kevin B. Schneider at JMOD. They welcomed the steady progress in training and more.



CJJS Had a VTC with USSTRATCOM Commander

On April 9, CJJS Gen Uchikura had a video teleconference with USSTRATCOM Commander ADM Richard. A. Correll. This is the first meeting since ADM Richard. A. Correll assumed the position of commander. They shared views on the strategic environment, including the recent international situation, and agreed to continue close cooperation at the strategic level.



Courtesy Call by Commander, U.S. Forces Japan on CSJJS

On April 16, CSJJS Gen Uchikura received a courtesy call from Lt Gen Stephen F. Jost, Commander, United States Forces Japan. During the meeting, the two leaders agreed to further develop the efforts to strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance. They also shared their views on the recent strategic environment and concrete initiatives to further strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance, and confirmed that they will continue to work closely together.



Courtesy Call by Commander, U.S. Forces Japan on JJOC

On 17 April 2026, Admiral Tawara, Commander, Japan Self-Defense Forces Joint Operations Command (JJOC) received an office call from Lieutenant General Jost, Commander, United States Forces Japan, and held talks with him.

ADM Tawara welcomed the visit of Lt Gen Jost, and expressed appreciation for his dedication to JJOC, which was established in March 2025, and the both commanders agreed to further strengthen our cooperation in a variety of areas under the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements with ADM Tawara, new commander, JJOC appointed on March 23, 2026 and Lt Gen Jost, who became the dedicated USFJ Commander from March 24, 2026.

Based on talks between the two commanders, JJOC will further strengthen coordination with USFJ Headquarters. Furthermore, with Japan and the United States at its core, JJOC will advance cooperation with regional partners. This will ensure timely, appropriate, and reliable responses to the most severe and complex security environment since the end of the WWII.



Chief of Staff, JGSDF Had a VTC with Commanding General of the Philippine Army

GEN Arai, Chief of Staff, JGSDF, held a VTC with Lieutenant General Nafarrete, Commanding General of the Philippine Army. This marked their third dialogue.

They exchanged views on the regional security environment and shared their understanding of the current status and future direction of Japan-Philippines defense cooperation and exchanges. In particular, they reaffirmed the importance of communication at all levels, including high-level engagements, and agreed on strengthening cooperation through joint training opportunities and collaboration in multi-layered areas, including defense equipment and technology cooperation.



Chief of Staff, JGSDF Had a VTC with Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps



GEN Arai, Chief of Staff, JGSDF, held a VTC with Major General Blanco, Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps. This marked their second dialogue.

They exchanged views on the regional security environment and shared their understanding of the current status and future direction of Japan-Philippines defense cooperation and exchanges. In particular, they agreed on strengthening cooperation in joint training and promoting collaboration in areas of mutual interest through expert exchanges.

They also shared the importance of further developing Army-to-Army cooperation to further strengthen bilateral ties, and reaffirmed their commitment to contributing to work together toward peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.



Courtesy Call by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet on Chief of Staff, JMSDF



ADM Saito, Chief of Staff, JMSDF received a courtesy call from ADM Koehler, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, and exchanged views on the future interoperability between JMSDF and USN. Through our strong partnership, we will contribute to regional peace and stability.



Chief of Staff, JASDF Met with Gen Saltzman U.S. Space Force



Gen Morita, Chief of Staff, JASDF, met with Gen Saltzman, Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force in Colorado and signed a Statement of Intent between JASDF and USSF reinforcing the future collaboration in the space domain to ensure safe and stable use of space.



JMOD/JSDF Conducted ATC Capacity-Building for Mongolian Air Force Officers



From August 20, 2025 to April 23, 2026, JMOD/JSDF invited three Mongolian Air Force officers and conducted air traffic control (ATC) capacity-building at the 5th Technical School, JASDF. Over eight months, they earnestly engaged in lectures and practical training, greatly enhancing their ATC skills.



Locked Shields 2026

From April 20 to 24, JMOD/JSDF participated in Locked Shields 2026, the world's largest international cyber defense exercise organized by NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (CCDCOE) by teaming up with Lithuania.



On April 22, SM Miyazaki, together with H.E. Dr. Aurelijus Zykas, Lithuanian Ambassador to Japan, observed Japan team participating in Locked Shields 26.



On April 22, CSJJS Gen Uchikura and JJOC Commander Adm Tawara observed Locked Shields 2026 and received briefings from JSDF cyber unit personnel and Cyber Reserve personnel participating in the exercise.



JS ASAHI Conducted Bilateral Exercises with Malaysia and the U.S.



JS ASAHI conducted a bilateral exercise "MALPAN" with the Royal Malaysian Navy SELANGOR and Royal Malaysian Air Force Hawk Mk 208 in the South China Sea to strengthen cooperation to realize the Free and Open Indo-Pacific.



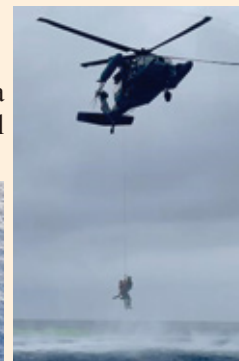
JS ASAHI conducted a bilateral exercise with the U.S. Navy. Through this exercise, the JMSDF was able to improve the JMSDF's tactical capabilities and improve interoperability between the JMSDF and the U.S. Navy.



Cope Angel 26



From April 20 to 27, JASDF and the U.S. Forces conducted a Japan-U.S. bilateral search and rescue training, Cope Angel 26, at Naha Air Base and its surrounding areas.



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