

Section
2

Ensuring Maritime Security

The NDPG states that for Japan, a maritime nation, strengthening the order of “Open and Stable Oceans” based on fundamental norms, such as the rule of law and the freedom of navigation, as well as ensuring safe maritime and air transport, is the foundation for its peace and prosperity, which is extremely important. From this viewpoint, the MOD/SDF will promote assistance that contributes to improving capabilities pertaining to the maritime security of coastal states in the Indo-Pacific region, such as India,

Sri Lanka, and other South and Southeast Asian states. Moreover, Japan will promote such activities as joint training and exercises, unit-to-unit exchanges, and active port visits on these occasions. Japan will also conduct activities such as anti-piracy efforts in cooperation with relevant countries and cooperation for strengthening the capabilities of the Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).

Q See Chapter 1, Section 2-1-3 (Initiatives towards Ensuring Maritime Security)

1 Counter-Piracy Operations

Piracy is a grave threat to public safety and order on the seas. In particular, for Japan, which depends on maritime transportation to import most of the resources and food necessary for its survival and prosperity as a maritime nation, it is an important issue that cannot be ignored.

1 Basic Concept

The Japan Coast Guard (JCG), one of the law enforcement agencies in Japan, is primarily responsible for coping with piracy. However, in cases where it is deemed extremely difficult or impossible for the JCG to cope with piracy by itself, the SDF is to take action as well.

2 Circumstances Surrounding Incidents of Piracy and Initiatives by the International Community

For Japan and the international community, the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden are extremely important sea lanes, connecting Europe and the Middle East with East Asia. Successive United Nations Security Council resolutions¹ were adopted, such as United Nations Security Council Resolution 1816, which was adopted in June 2008 in response to the frequent occurrence of and rapid increase in the piracy incidents with the purpose of acquiring ransoms by detaining hostages caused by pirates, who are armed with machine guns and rocket launchers. These resolutions have requested that various countries take actions, particularly the dispatch of warships and military aircraft, to deter piracy in the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

To date, approximately 30 countries, including the United

States, have dispatched their warships to the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden. As part of its counter-piracy initiatives, the EU has been conducting Operation Atalanta since December 2008, in addition to the counter-piracy operations conducted by the Combined Task Force 151 (CTF 151)² that was established in January 2009. Meanwhile, other countries have been dispatching their assets to the area. The international community continues to have a critical interest in and take actions to tackle the acts of piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden.

As these initiatives by the international community have proved to be effective, the number of acts of piracy occurring in the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden has currently hovered at a low level. However, the assumed root causes of piracy such as terrorism and poverty in Somalia have still remained unsolved. In addition, considering the fact that Somalia's capability to crack down on piracy is also still insufficient, if the international community reduces its counter-piracy efforts, the situation could be easily reversed. Therefore, there is no great change in the situation in which Japan must carry out its counter-piracy operations.

Q See Part II, Chapter 5, Section 2-3 (3) (Counter-Piracy Operations) Fig. III-3-2-1 (Piracy Incidents Off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden (Comparison with the Number of Incidents in Southeast Asia))

3 Japanese Initiatives

(1) Legislation Concerning Counter-Piracy Operations

In March 2009, following the order for Maritime Security

Chapter
3

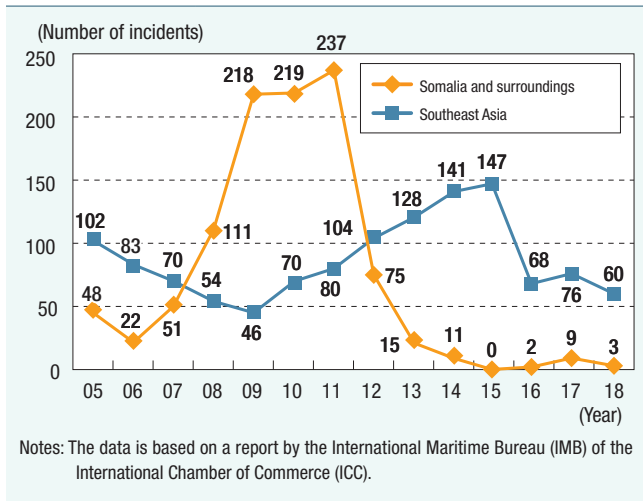
Security Cooperation

¹ Other United Nations Security Council resolutions calling for cooperation in deterring piracy are: Resolutions 1838, 1846, and 1851 (adopted in 2008), Resolution 1897 (adopted in 2009), Resolutions 1918 and 1950 (adopted in 2010), Resolutions 1976 and 2020 (adopted in 2011), Resolution 2077 (adopted in 2012), Resolution 2125 (adopted in 2013), Resolution 2184 (adopted in 2014), Resolution 2246 (adopted in 2015), Resolution 2316 (adopted in 2016), Resolution 2383 (adopted in 2017), and Resolution 2442 (adopted in 2018).

² The CMF, the headquarters of which is located in Bahrain, announced the establishment of the CTF in January 2009 as a multilateral combined task force for counterpiracy operations.

Fig. III-3-2-1

Piracy Incidents Off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden (Comparison with the number of incidents in Southeast Asia)



Personnel of the Deployment Support Group conducting a security operation at the base in Djibouti

Operations for the purpose of protecting Japan-affiliated vessels from acts of piracy in the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, two MSDF destroyers³ began providing direct escort to Japan-affiliated vessels, while MSDF P-3C patrol aircraft also commenced warning and surveillance operations in June the same year.

In view of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Japan subsequently enacted the Anti-Piracy Measures Act⁴ in July the same year in order to deal appropriately and effectively with acts of piracy. This act made it possible to protect the vessels of all nations from acts of piracy, regardless of their flag states. Moreover, it also enabled the use of weapons to a reasonable extent, if no other means were available, in order to halt vessels engaging in acts of piracy, such as approaching civilian vessels.

Furthermore, the Act on Special Measures concerning the Security of Japanese Flagged Vessels in Areas that Are Highly Susceptible to Acts of Piracy came into force on November 2013, which made it possible to have security guards on board a Japanese ship provided certain requirements are met, enabling them to carry small arms for the purpose of security operations.



See Reference 15 (Main Operations of the Self-Defense Forces); Reference 16 (Statutory Provisions about Use of Force and Use of Weapons by SDF Personnel or SDF Units);

(2) Activities by the Self-Defense Forces

a. Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement

The Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (DSPE) conducts counterpiracy measures using MSDF destroyers (one destroyer dispatched). The DSPE strives to ensure the safety of ships navigating in the area in two different

manners – direct escort of private vessels across the Gulf of Aden, and zone defense in allocated areas in the Gulf of Aden. There are JCG officers aboard the MSDF destroyer.⁵

b. Deployment Air Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement

The Deployment Air Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (DAPE) conducts counterpiracy activities using the MSDF P-3C patrol aircraft (two aircraft dispatched). The unit conducts warning and surveillance operations in the flight zone that is determined in coordination with the CTF 151 headquarters and confirms any suspicious boats. At the same time, the unit also provides information to the MSDF destroyers, the naval vessels of other countries and civilian vessels, responding by such means as confirming the safety of the surrounding area immediately, if requested. The information gathered by MSDF P-3Cs is constantly shared with other related organizations, and contributes significantly to deterring acts of piracy and disarming vessels suspected of being pirate ships.

c. Deployment Support Group for Counter Piracy Enforcement

In order to improve the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the DAPE, the Deployment Support Group for Counter Piracy Enforcement (DGPE) carries out activities such as maintenance of the facility set up in the northwest district of Djibouti International Airport.

d. Transport Unit

The Airlift Squadron regularly operates ASDF transport aircraft to carry out air transport of materials required by the DAPE and the DGPE.

e. CTF 151 Deployed Unit at the Headquarters

In order to strengthen coordination with the units of other countries engaged in counter-piracy operations and enhance the effectiveness of the SDF's counter-piracy operations,

³ The number of destroyers was changed to one from December 2016.

⁴ Official name: Acts on Punishment of and Measures against Acts of Piracy

⁵ Eight JCG officers are onboard and conduct judicial law enforcement activities, including arresting and interrogating pirates, as required.

Fig. III-3-2-2 Structure of the Deployed Forces

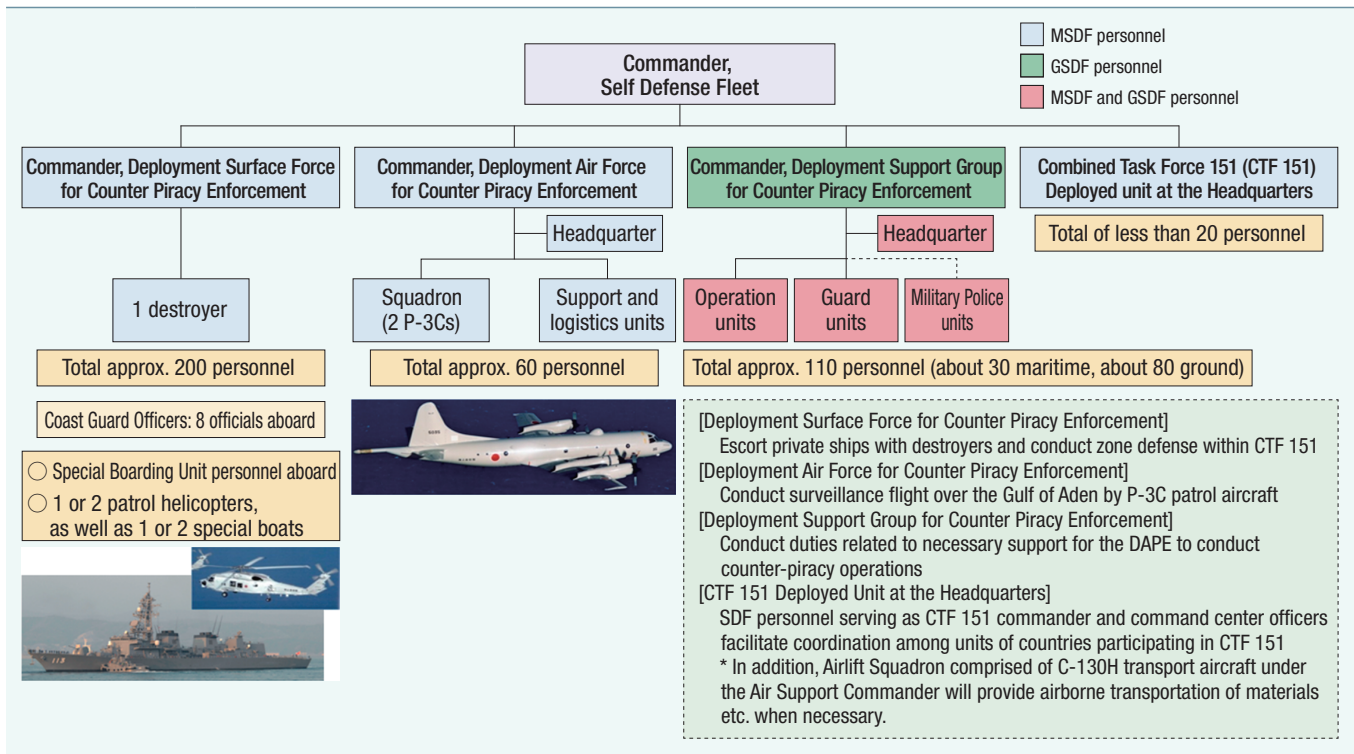
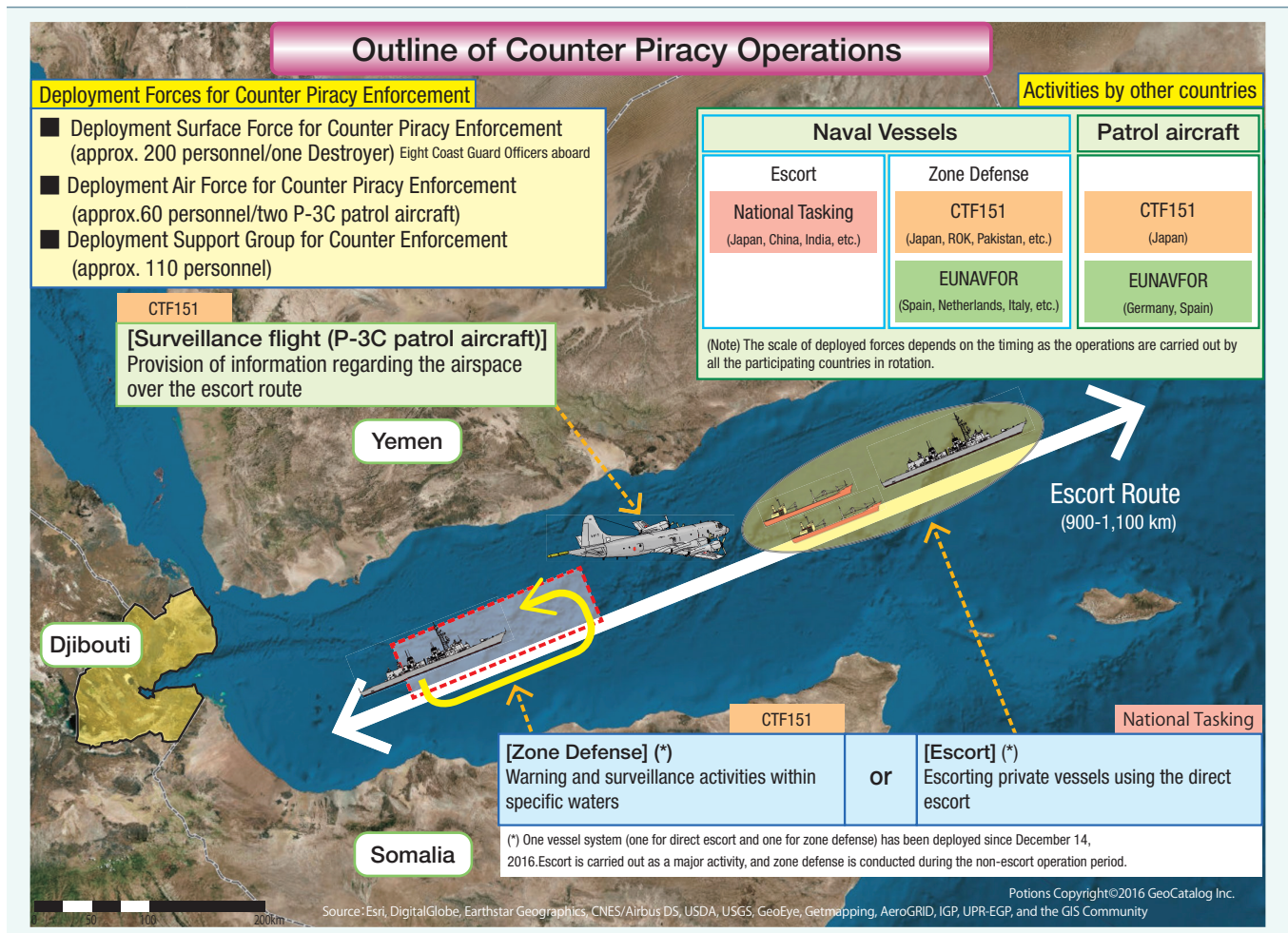


Fig. III-3-2-3 SDF's Counter Piracy Operations (image)



the MOD has dispatched SDF personnel to the CTF 151 Headquarters since August 2014. During the period from May to August 2015, the SDF also dispatched a CTF 151 commander for the first time, while between March and June 2017 and March and June 2018 a CTF 151 commander as well as staff were also dispatched to the Headquarters.

f. Achievements

As of May 31, 2019, the DSPE has escorted 4,005 vessels. Under the protection of the SDF destroyers, not a single vessel has come to any harm from pirates and these vessels have all passed safely across the Gulf of Aden.

As for the DAPE has conducted the following activities: aircraft have flown 2,288 missions with their flying hours totaling 17,230 hours; and information was provided to vessels navigating the area and other countries engaging in counter-piracy operations on around 14,070 occasions. The activities conducted by the DAPE account for approximately 70-80% of the warning and surveillance operations carried out in the Gulf of Aden by the international community.

Q See Fig. III-3-2-2 (Structure of the Deployed Forces)
Fig. III-3-2-3 (SDF's Counter Piracy Operations (image))

4 Praise for Japan's Endeavors

The counter-piracy operations by the SDF have been highly praised by the international community. For example,



Parliamentary Vice Minister of Defense Yamada attending the 33rd DAPE return ceremony (January 2019)

national leaders and others have expressed their gratitude and the SDF has also been repeatedly well-received by the United Nations Security Council Resolution. Moreover, the MSDF destroyers, which are engaging in counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, has received many messages from the captains and ship owners of the vessels that its units have escorted, expressing their gratitude that the ships were able to cross the Gulf of Aden with peace of mind and asking them to continue escorting ships there. Additionally, The Japanese Shipowners' Association and other groups expressed appreciation for protection of Japan-related vessels and asked for continuation of efforts in fighting against piracy.

2 Training-Centered Initiatives

The MSDF not only endeavors to enhance its tactical skills through joint training with coastal states alongside sea lanes, but also strives to contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region, promote mutual understanding, and strengthen relationships of trust. Recently, the Indo Southeast Asia Deployment, consisting of three destroyers including Destroyer JS "Kaga," carried out training with India and Sri Lanka, among others, during a lengthy deployment to the Indo-Pacific region between August and October 2018. Three destroyers, including Destroyer JS "Izumo," also conduct

Indo-Pacific Deployment in 2019. The vessels also made a number of port calls timed to coincide with this training.

Strengthening cooperation with coastal states of the Indo-Pacific region through the joint training and port calls contributes to the maintenance of maritime security, which has extremely high significance.

Q See Reference 51 (Participation in Multilateral Training (Last Three Years))
Fig. III-3-2-4 (Visit to Ports and Airports by SDF (2018))

3 Cooperation in Maritime Security

The MOD/SDF implements capacity building assistance in maritime security for Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines and Sri Lanka, thereby supporting coastal countries to enhance their MDA and other capabilities. Such program contributes to strengthening cooperation with partners countries that share common strategic interests with Japan.

The Basic Plan on Ocean Policy, which was approved by a Cabinet decision in May 2018, calls for strengthening cooperation related to maritime security with various countries through security dialogue and defense interaction among defense authorities at bilateral and multilateral levels with the aim of maintaining and advancing "free and open seas" supported by a maritime order defined by laws and



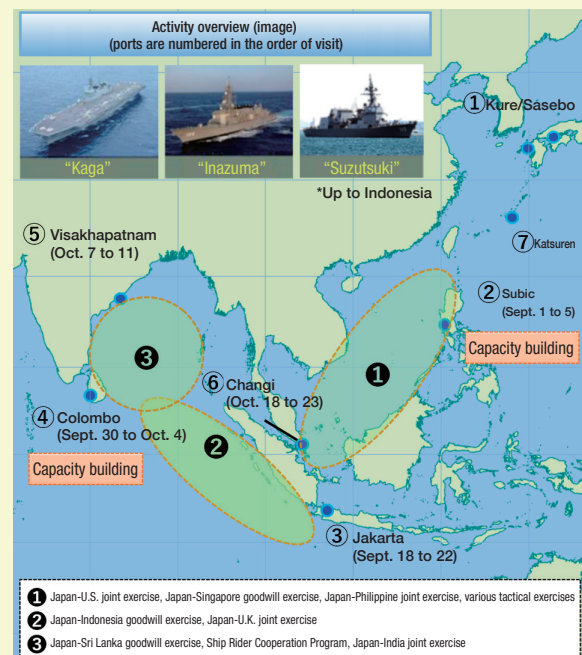
Indo Southeast Asia Deployment

For August 26 to October 30, 2018, MSDF Destroyers JS “Kaga,” “Inazuma” and “Suzutsuki,” and five helicopters (with approximately 820 crewmembers) participated in Indo Southeast Asia Deployment.

The purpose of the deployment was to conduct joint exercises with navies in the Indo-Pacific region to enhance tactical techniques of our troops and promote cooperation with the navies. We conducted exercises with seven countries, and visited five countries to conduct unit-to-unit exchanges and the Ship Rider Cooperation Program.

“The free and open Indo-Pacific” is premised on regional peace and stability. Towards its realization, the MSDF will promote cooperation by increasing mutual understanding and strengthening confidence with other countries.

indicates approximate sea area of the exercise, etc.



Welcome event at port of Jakarta
(joint press conference)



Destroyer JS “Kaga” and C-90 aircraft transferred
from Japan to the Philippines
(Japan-Philippine joint exercise)



Sri Lankan navy officers participating in Ship Rider
Cooperation Program

rules. In response to this, the MOD has been working on cooperation for maritime security within regional security dialogue frameworks such as the ADMM-Plus and the ISM on MS. In February 2019, the first Japan-Sri Lanka Navy to Navy staff talks took place, at which the two sides agreed to hold the annual joint exercise “JA-LAN”.



Exchange of the signed document on the agreement reached at Japan-Sri Lanka
Navy to Navy staff talks (February 2019)