

Section
2

Strengthening Ability of Japan-U.S. Alliance to Deter and Counter Threats

The NDPG provides that, for strengthening the ability of the Japan-U.S. Alliance to deter and counter threats, in all stages from peacetime to armed contingencies as well as during disasters, Japan will enhance information sharing with the United States, conduct effective and smooth bilateral coordination involving all relevant organizations and take all necessary measures to ensure Japan's peace and security.

For these purposes, Japan will further deepen various operational cooperation and policy coordination with the

United States. In particular, Japan will expand and deepen cooperation in: space and cyber domains; comprehensive air and missile defense; bilateral training and exercises; bilateral ISR operations; and bilateral flexible deterrent options. Japan will also promote development and update of bilateral plans and deepen the Extended Deterrence Dialogue. In addition, Japan will even more actively conduct activities such as logistic support for U.S. force activities and protection of U.S. ships and aircraft.

1 Cooperation in Space and Cyber Domains

1 Cooperation on Space

With regard to cooperation on space, based on the agreement at the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in November 2009 to promote cooperation in the area of space security as part of initiatives to deepen the Japan-U.S. Alliance, the two countries have periodically been working together to discuss how they should cooperate in the future, such as the holding of the 1st Japan-U.S. Space Security Dialogue in September 2010 with the participation of relevant ministries and agencies.

Furthermore, the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in April 2012 decided to deepen the space-based partnership for civil and security purposes and to create a whole-of government comprehensive dialogue on space, enabling relevant ministries and agencies to hold the 1st whole-of government Japan-U.S. Comprehensive Dialogue on Space in March 2013. The two countries have been sharing information on their respective space policies and discussing plans for future cooperation on a regular basis.

Moreover, based on the instructions given by the Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting of April 2015, the two countries established the Space Cooperation Working Group (SCWG) to further promote the cooperation among bilateral defense authorities in the area of space. The SCWG has held six meetings in total since its establishment in October 2015 (the most recent meeting was in February 2020). Going forward, Japan and the United States will leverage this working group to deepen discussions in a wide variety of areas, including (1) promoting space policy dialogue, (2) reinforcing information sharing, (3) working together to develop and secure experts, and (4) continued participation

in tabletop exercises.



Chapter 3, Section 3-1 (Cooperation in the Use of Space Domain)

2 Cooperation on Cyberspace

Concerning cooperation on cyberspace, the Cyber Defense Policy Working Group (CDPWG) was established in October 2013 as a framework between the MOD and the DoD to discuss a broad range of professional and concrete issues, including the sharing of information at the policy level, human resources development, and technical cooperation.

The Guidelines released in April 2015 and the CDPWG Joint Statement published in May 2015 cited the prompt and appropriate establishment of an information sharing structure and the protection of the critical infrastructure upon which the SDF and the U.S. Forces depend to accomplish their missions as examples of cooperation between the Japanese and U.S. Governments. In addition, as part of cooperation between the SDF and the U.S. Forces, the securing of the resiliency of their respective networks and systems and the implementation of educational exchanges and joint exercises were also cited. Japan and the United States will further accelerate bilateral cyber defense cooperation in line with the direction presented by the Guidelines and the CDPWG Joint Statement. At the "2+2" Meeting in April 2019, Japan and the United States agreed to strengthen cooperation in the field of cyberspace, affirming that international law applies in cyberspace and that a cyber attack could, in certain circumstances, constitute an armed attack for the purposes of Article V of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty.



Chapter 3, Section 3-2 (Cooperation in the Use of Cyber Domain)

VOICE**Enhancement of Multidimensional Japan-U.S. Bilateral Response Capabilities**

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A field exercise with the U.S. Army (“Orient Shield 19”) in Japan in early September 2019 was conducted by the GSDF and the U.S. Army with the aim of enhancing bilateral response capability based on the respective chains of command. I participated in the exercise as a member of the firepower coordination center for cross-domain operations. Cross-domain operations can make overall operations advantageous through synergy effects that blend existing domains, including land, sea and air, with new domains, such as space, cyber and electromagnetic spectrum. In this exercise, as part of cross-domain operation, a bilateral exercise was carried out in cooperation between the Multi Domain Task Force (MDTF) (its first participation in “Orient Shield 19”) of the U.S. Army and the GSDF 1st Electric Warfare Unit to mutually complement the abilities of Japanese and U.S. forces.

Through this training, I learned about perspectives and points for utilizing the electromagnetic spectrum domain. The training greatly broadened my perspective on anti-ship



The author attending a meeting for cross-domain operations
 (2nd from right of the front row)

combat while deepening cooperation with the U.S. Army MDTF and others through the coordination. I believe that a basis of mutual trust between Japan and the United States is necessary to improve Japan-U.S. bilateral response capabilities in multiple dimensions, which is indispensable to enable effective deterrence and response.

This training was a big step into a new domain for the GSDF as well. I will make day-to-day efforts to take advantage of the new domain.

2 Comprehensive Air and Missile Defense

Regarding the response to airborne threats coming to Japan, such as ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and aircraft, Japan-U.S. bilateral response capabilities have been enhanced by sharing operation information and establishing response procedures.

For the repeated ballistic missile launches by North Korea, Japan and the United States have conducted coordinated responses utilizing the ACM. Also, in the systems and

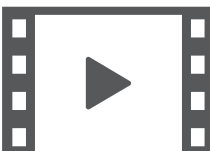
technology field, the cooperative development of a new ballistic missile defense (BMD) interceptor with enhanced capabilities (SM-3 Block IIA) is steadily in progress. In January 2019, the United States released its Missile Defense Review (MDR) in which it clearly indicated the importance of cooperation with allies, including Japan.

Q See Chapter 1, Section 2-2 (Response to Missile Attacks)

3 Bilateral Training and Exercises

Bilateral training in peacetime not only contributes greatly to maintaining and enhancing the Japan-U.S. bilateral response capabilities by improving interoperability including mutual

understanding of tactics and communication, but is also beneficial for improving tactical skills for each participant. In particular, the knowledge and techniques that the



Video: Field exercise with the U.S. Army in Japan (Orient Shield 2019)
URL: <https://youtu.be/Z8QI1Bh6SE4>



Meeting during the Japan-U.S. Bilateral Regional Army command post exercise in FY2019



Japan-U.S. joint training by MSDF Destroyer JS "Myoko" and USS "Ronald Reagan"



Japan-U.S. joint training

Japanese side can learn from the U.S. Forces, which have vast experience in actual fighting, are invaluable and greatly contribute to improving SDF capabilities.

In addition, conducting bilateral training at effective times, places, and scales demonstrates the unified commitment and capabilities of Japan and the United States, which has a deterrent effect. In light of these perspectives, the MOD/SDF is continuing its initiatives to enrich the contents of bilateral training and exercises.

Bilateral training has been expanded not only within Japan but also to the United States by dispatching SDF units there. Continuous efforts are being made to enhance interoperability and Japan-U.S. bilateral response capabilities at the military branch and unit levels, including the Japan-U.S. bilateral regional army command post exercises, special anti-submarine exercises, and Japan-U.S. bilateral fighter combat training.

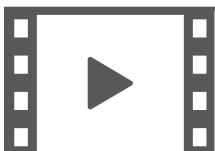
Since FY1985, mostly on an annual basis, command post exercises and field training exercises have been conducted alternately as the Japan-U.S. bilateral joint exercise. In 2020, a command post exercise was conducted in January in the MOD's Ichigaya area and other locations.

As for recent training and exercises, the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) and the Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) participated in a field exercise (Talisman Saber 19) with U.S. forces held in Australia from June to August 2019, which included multinational and bilateral command and staff operations and landing exercises. In December 2019, the U.S. Army and the Marine Corps participated in the Japan-U.S. Bilateral Regional Army command post exercises, Yamasakura 77 in Japan. In January 2020, the GSDF participated for the first time in a field training exercise

at the Joint Readiness Training Center in the United States.

In addition, Japan and the United States have conducted bilateral training in various sea and airspace areas. In August 2019, the MSDF destroyer JS "Myoko" and the U.S. aircraft carrier USS "Ronald Reagan," among others, conducted bilateral training in sea and airspace areas from the vicinity of the Bashi Strait to the southern part of the Kanto region. In October 2019, the MSDF destroyer JS "Fuyuzuki" and the U.S. aircraft carrier USS "Ronald Reagan" and other vessels conducted bilateral training in the sea and air areas from southern Okinawa to southern Kanto. In November 2019, the MSDF conducted a field exercise (including Japan-U.S. bilateral maritime exercises) in the seas and airspace around Japan, practicing various maritime operations for the defense of the country. Since 2017, the Air Self-Defense Force (ASDF) has conducted various training with U.S. Air Force strategic bomber B-52 in airspace over the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, etc.

These series of bilateral training were conducted with the



Video: Iron Fist 20

URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Z09vuM-Xdo>

aim of enhancing the tactical skills of the SDF and bolstering collaboration with the U.S. Forces. It is believed that strengthening Japan-U.S. collaboration and demonstrating the bilateral ties as an outcome will effectively enhance the deterrence and response capabilities of the overall Japan-U.S. Alliance further and demonstrate Japan's determination and high capacity towards stabilizing the region in an

increasingly severe security environment surrounding Japan.

In recent years, the USFJ have also participated in disaster drills organized by local governments, thereby deepening cooperation with relevant institutions and local governments.

Q See Reference 21 (Record of Main Japan-U.S. Bilateral Exercises in FY2019)

4 ISR Activities

With regard to bilateral ISR activities, it is important to implement ISR activities in a broad Asia-Pacific region in cooperation between Japan and the United States to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the activities of both countries.

The expansion of these ISR activities will function as deterrence capabilities, and will also ensure information superiority over other nations and enable the establishment of a seamless cooperation structure in all phases from peacetime to contingencies.

5 Maritime Security

In accordance with the Guideline and others, the two governments will cooperate closely with each other on measures to maintain maritime order based upon international law, including freedom of navigation. The SDF and the U.S. Forces will cooperate, as appropriate, on various efforts

such as maintaining and enhancing bilateral presence in the maritime domain through ISR and training and exercises, while further developing and enhancing shared maritime domain awareness including by coordinating with relevant agencies, as necessary.

6 Logistics Support

Japan-U.S. cooperation is also being steadily promoted through logistics support based on the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) signed in 1996 and revised in 1999 and 2004. The Agreement is designed to positively contribute to the smooth and effective operation under the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and to initiatives for international peace taken under the leadership of the United Nations (UN). Its scope of application includes various occasions such as bilateral training and exercises in peacetime, disaster relief activities, UN PKO, international disaster relief activities, situations in areas surrounding Japan, and armed attack situations. If either the SDF or the U.S. Forces request the other party to provide supplies or services, the Agreement, in principle, allows the requested party to do so.¹

Following the passage of the Legislation for Peace and Security in September 2015, the new Japan-U.S. ACSA was signed in September 2016, ratified by the Diet on April 14, 2017, and entered into force on April 25. This has enabled the same framework as the existing Japan-U.S. ACSA, such as settlement procedures, to be applied to the provision of supplies and services that had become possible under the Legislation for Peace and Security, so that since April 2017 food and fuel have been provided to the U.S. Forces engaged in information collection and other activities.

Q See Part II, Chapter 5, Section 2-4 (Conclusion of the New Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement [ACSA])
Fig. III-2-2-1 (Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement [ACSA])

¹ The categories of supplies and services as provided under the Agreement include: food; water; billeting; transportation (including airlift); petroleum, oils, and lubricants; clothing; communications; medical services; base support; storage services; use of facilities; training services; spare parts and components; repair and maintenance services; airport and seaport services; and ammunition (provision of weapons is not included).

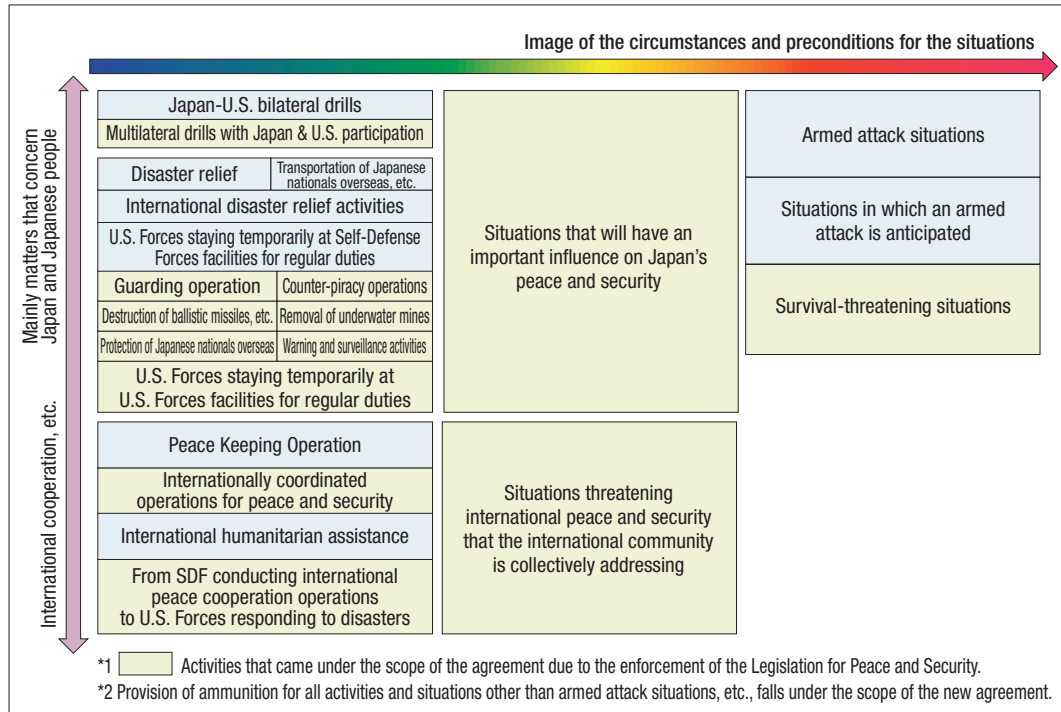
Fig. III -2-2-1

Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)

Significance of reciprocal provision of supplies and services

In general, supplies and services necessary for unit operations are replenished by the units themselves. However, in such cases where allied nations are operating together, the reciprocal provision of supplies and services on site would enhance the flexibility of the operations.

Scope of the Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)



7 Cooperation in Response to a Large-Scale Disaster in Japan

In the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, the SDF and the U.S. Forces demonstrated their high-level joint response capabilities based on the strong ties they had developed. The success of the joint response between the SDF and the U.S. Forces through Operation Tomodachi was the result of Japan-U.S. Bilateral Training and Exercises over many years, and will lead to the Alliance being deepened further in the future. Operation Tomodachi involved the deployment of a large-scale force at its peak, including troops of approximately 16,000 personnel, around 15 ships, and around 140 aircraft, resulting in relief activities that were unprecedented in scale and contributing greatly to Japan's restoration and reconstruction. Not only those affected but numerous Japanese at large were filled with a deepened sense of appreciation and trust for the USFJ.

On the other hand, some issues have emerged, such as clarifying the roles, missions and capabilities of Japan and the United States in the event of a disaster within Japan, as well as stipulating more concrete joint guidelines to facilitate greater participation by the U.S. Forces in disaster

prevention drills, and examining mechanisms for the sharing of information and more effective coordination mechanism.

In light of these issues, the December 2013 Response Plan for a Massive Earthquake in the Nankai Trough listed the Japan-U.S. Joint Response Plan, and the two countries have conducted several bilateral comprehensive disaster prevention exercises aimed at maintaining and enhancing earthquake disaster handling capabilities to be demonstrated through collaboration between the SDF, USFJ, related ministries and agencies, and related local governments in the event of occurrence of a Nankai Trough earthquake.

In response to the Kumamoto Earthquake in 2016, Japan-U.S. cooperation was manifested in the form of the transportation of daily necessities by the Osprey (MV-22) of the U.S. Marine Corps and the transportation of SDF personnel by C-130 transport aircraft. The ACM was utilized on that occasion, including the Japan-U.S. Joint Coordination Office locally established by the joint task force organized for the earthquake response.