

Defense Chronology

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	
1945	Aug. 15	World War II ends	1950	Oct. 26	House of Representatives approves Peace Treaty and Japan-U.S. Security Treaty (House of Councilors approval given November 18)	1957	Jan. 31	Acting Prime Minister Kishi concurrently becomes, ad interim, Minister of State for Defense	
	Aug. 17	Higashikuniomiya Cabinet established		Dec. 26	Inauguration of third reshuffled Yoshida Cabinet (third term)		Feb. 02	Kotaki becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Aug. 17	Republic of Indonesia declares independence	1952	Jan. 19	ROK proclaims sovereignty over neighboring ocean areas (Rhee Line)		Feb. 25	Kishi Cabinet established	
	Aug. 28	Provisional government of People's Republic of Vietnam established		Feb. 28	Japan-U.S. Administrative Agreement signed		Mar. 15	House of Councilors passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs	
	Sep. 02	GHQ established		Apr. 26	Maritime Guard established within the Japan Coast Guard		May 15	U.K. conducts its first hydrogen bomb test	
	Oct. 09	Shidehara Cabinet established		Apr. 28	Japan-Taiwan Peace Treaty concluded		May 20	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Basic Guidelines for National Defense	
	Oct. 15	General Staff Office and Military Command abolished		Apr. 28	Japan-U.S. Peace Treaty and Japan-U.S. Security Treaty enter into force		Jun. 14	National Defense Council decision and Cabinet understanding adopted on First Defense Build-up Plan	
	Oct. 24	United Nations established		Apr. 28	Far East Commission, Allied Council, and GHQ Abolished		Jun. 21	Kishi-Eisenhower talks; joint statement on the early withdrawal of the USFJ issued	
	Nov. 30	Army and Navy Ministries abolished		May 01	May Day riot at Imperial Palace Plaza		Jul. 10	Inauguration of reshuffled Kishi Cabinet; Tsushima becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	1946	Jan. 04		GHQ orders purge from public office	May 26		U.S., U.K., and France sign peace agreement with Germany	Aug. 06	Japan-U.S. Security Council inaugurated
Jan. 10		First session of U.N. General Assembly (London, through February 14)		May 27	European Defense Community (EDC) Treaty signed	Aug. 26	USSR announces successful ICBM test		
Jan. 27		GHQ orders the suspension of Japanese administrative right over Ryukyu and Ogasawara Islands		Jul. 21	Subversive Activities Prevention Law promulgated and enters into force	Aug. 27	Trial startup of reactor at Tokaimura		
Feb. 26		Far East Commission formed	Jul. 26	Japan-U.S. Facilities and Areas Agreement signed	Sep. 10	National Defense Council decision to produce P2V-742 aircraft domestically, Cabinet report on September 17			
Mar. 05		Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech	Jul. 31	National Safety Agency Law promulgated	Oct. 04	USSR launches the world's first artificial satellite, Sputnik 1			
Apr. 05		First meeting of Allied Council on Japan	Aug. 01	National Safety Agency established; Prime Minister Yoshida concurrently becomes Director-General of the National Safety Agency; Coastal Safety Force inaugurated	Nov. 23	World Congress of Communist Parties issues the Moscow Declaration			
Apr. 24		Civil administration of Okinawa established	1953	Oct. 15	National Safety Force inaugurated	1958	Jan. 01	Japan becomes non-permanent member of the U.N. Security Council	
May 03		International Military Tribunal for the Far East opened		Oct. 30	Inauguration of fourth Yoshida Cabinet; Kimura becomes Director-General of the National Safety Agency		Jan. 01	European Economic Community (EEC) starts	
May 22		Yoshida Cabinet established		Nov. 12	U.K. carries out its first atomic bomb test		Jan. 14	First ocean training exercises (Hawaii, through February 28)	
Oct. 01		International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg renders judgment		Nov. 01	U.S. carries out its first hydrogen bomb test		Jan. 31	U.S. successfully launches an artificial satellite	
Nov. 03	The Constitution of Japan promulgated	Nov. 12		Japan-U.S. Ship Leasing Agreement signed	Feb. 17		ASDF begins scrambling against aircraft intruding into territorial airspace		
Dec. 19	First Indochina War starts (through 1954)	Jan. 01		Security Advisory Group in Japan inaugurated	Apr. 18		House of Representatives passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs		
1947	Mar. 12	Truman Doctrine announced		Apr. 01	National Safety Academy (predecessor of National Defense Academy) established		Jun. 12	Inauguration of second Kishi Cabinet; Sato becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	May 03	The Constitution of Japan takes effect		May 21	Inauguration of fifth Yoshida Cabinet		Aug. 23	Chinese People's Liberation Army attack on Quemoy intensifies	
	Jun. 01	Katayama Cabinet established		Jul. 27	Korean War Armistice Agreement signed		Sep. 11	Fujiyama-Dulles talks (Washington, D.C.); agreement on revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty	
	Jun. 05	Marshall Plan announced		Aug. 12	USSR carries out its first hydrogen bomb test		Oct. 04	Treaty Commencement of Japan-U.S. talks on the revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty	
	Aug. 15	India and Pakistan gain independence	Sep. 27	Yoshida and Shigemitsu talk	Oct. 23	Dulles talks with Chiang Kaishek; joint statement issued denying counteroffensive against mainland China			
	Aug. 15	First India-Pakistan conflict (through 1965)	Oct. 01	U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty signed	Dec. 17	U.S. test-launches Atlas ICBM			
	Oct. 05	Cominform established	Oct. 30	Ikeda-Robertson talks; joint statement issued on gradual increase in self-defense strength	1959	Jan. 12	Ino becomes Minister of State for Defense		
	Dec. 17	Police Law promulgated (National Rural Police and municipal police forces established)	Dec. 25	Japanese administrative rule over Amami Islands restored		Jan. 30	Tokyo District Court rules the stationing of U.S. Forces unconstitutional in the Sunagawa case		
	1948	Mar. 10	Ashida Cabinet established	1954		Jan. 21	U.S. launches world's first nuclear submarine (USS Nautilus)	Jun. 18	Inauguration of second reshuffled Kishi Cabinet; Akagi becomes Minister of State for Defense
		Apr. 01	USSR imposes Berlin blockade (through May 12, 1949)			Mar. 01	U.S. carries out hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll	Aug. 25	China-India border dispute
Apr. 27		Japan Coast Guard Law promulgated	Mar. 08			Daigo Fukuryu maru (Lucky Dragon V) incident	Sep. 18	USSR General Secretary Khrushchev proposes complete military reductions at U.N.	
May 14		Israel gains independence; First Middle East War starts (through February 24, 1949)	May 14			Mutual Defense Assistance (MDA) agreement signed	Sep. 26	Disaster relief teams dispatched after Typhoon Vera	
Jun. 11		U.S. Senate Vandenberg resolution	Jun. 02			Japan and U.S. sign Land Lease Agreement on naval vessels	Sep. 27	U.S.-Soviet summit; joint statement issued at Camp David	
Jun. 26		Berlin airlift starts	Jun. 09			House of Councilors passes resolution prohibiting dispatch of troops overseas	Nov. 06	National Defense Council decision to produce 200 F-104 aircraft domestically, approved by Cabinet on November 10	
Aug. 15		Republic of Korea (ROK) declares independence	Jul. 01			Promulgation of Defense Agency Establishment Law, Self-Defense Forces Law and Protection of National Secrecy Law pertaining to the MDA	Dec. 01	Antarctica Treaty signed	
Sep. 09		North Korea established	Jul. 21			Defense Agency established; Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces inaugurated	Dec. 16	Supreme Court reverses original ruling in the Sunagawa case	
Oct. 19		Inauguration of the second Yoshida Cabinet	Sep. 03		Geneva Agreement on armistice in Indochina signed	1960	Jan. 11	Defense Agency moves to Hinoki-cho	
Nov. 12		International Military Tribunal for the Far East renders judgment	Sep. 08		Chinese People's Liberation Army shells Quemoy and Matsu for the first time		Jan. 19	New Japan-U.S. Security Treaty is signed (enters into force June 23)	
1949	Jan. 25	Council for Mutual Economic Cooperation (COMECON) established	Dec. 02	Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) formed by signing of collective defense pact	Feb. 13		France conducts its first nuclear test in the Sahara		
	Feb. 16	Inauguration of third Yoshida Cabinet	Dec. 10	U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty signed	May 01		U-2 reconnaissance plane belonging to U.S. shot down in Soviet airspace		
	Apr. 04	North Atlantic Treaty signed by 12 nations (becomes effective August 24) (NATO established)	1955	Mar. 19	Inauguration of second Hatoyama Cabinet; Sugihara becomes Minister of State for Defense		May 24	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the earthquake and tsunami in Chile	
	Apr. 21	Nationalist-Communist talks break up; Chinese Communist Army launches general offensive		Apr. 18	Africa-Asia conference held at Bandung		Jul. 19	Ikeda Cabinet established; Esaki becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	May 06	Federal Republic of Germany established (West Germany)		May 05	West Germany formally admitted to NATO		Jul. 20	U.S. conducts successful underwater launch of Polaris SLBM	
	Jul. 05	Shimoyama incident		May 06	Live shell fire by U.S. forces at Kita Fuji Maneuver Area; opposition to firing intensifies		Dec. 08	Inauguration of second Ikeda Cabinet; Nishimura becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Jul. 15	Mitaka incident		May 08	Protests begin at Sunagawa Base		Dec. 20	Formation of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front	
	Aug. 17	Matsukawa incident		May 14	Signing of Warsaw Pact (WPO starts)		1961	Jan. 13	National Defense Council decides to reorganize GSDF units (into 13 divisions); presented to Cabinet January 20
	Sep. 24	USSR declares possession of atomic bomb		Jul. 31	Sunada becomes Minister of State for Defense	Apr. 12		USSR successfully launches manned spacecraft	
	Oct. 01	People's Republic of China established		Aug. 06	First World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs held in Hiroshima	May 16		Military junta seizes power in a coup in ROK	
Oct. 07	German Democratic Republic established (East Germany)	Aug. 31		Shigemitsu-Dulles meeting; joint statement issued on revision of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty	Jul. 06	Soviet-North Korea Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed			
Dec. 07	Chinese Nationalist Party takes refuge in Taiwan	Nov. 14		Japan-U.S. Atomic Energy Agreement signed	Jul. 11	Sino-North Korean Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed			
1950	Jan. 27	U.S. signs MSA agreement with NATO countries	Nov. 22	Inauguration of third Hatoyama Cabinet; Funada becomes Minister of State for Defense	Jul. 18	Inauguration of second reshuffled Ikeda Cabinet; Fujieda becomes Minister of State for Defense			
	Feb. 14	Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance signed	Dec. 19	Atomic Energy Basic Law promulgated	Jul. 18	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Second Defense Build-up Plan			
	Jun. 21	John Foster Dulles, adviser to the U.S. Department of State, visits Japan	1956	Feb. 09	House of Representatives passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bomb tests (House of Councilors, February 10)	Aug. 13		Construction of Berlin Wall	
	Jun. 25	Korean War (ends July 27, 1953)		Feb. 14	Stalin criticized at the 20th Congress of Soviet Communist Party in Moscow; Khrushchev proclaims policy of peaceful co-existence with the West	Jul. 18		Inauguration of second reshuffled Kishi Cabinet; Shiga becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Jun. 28	Inauguration of third reshuffled Yoshida Cabinet		Mar. 23	Defense Agency moved to Kasumigaseki	Jul. 23		International Agreement on the Neutrality of Laos signed in Geneva International Conference	
	Jul. 07	United Nations Force formed for dispatch to Korea		Apr. 17	USSR announces dissolution of Cominform	Aug. 15	GSDF completes 13 division organization		
	Jul. 08	General MacArthur authorizes the establishment of the National Police Reserve, consisting of 75,000 men, and the expansion of the Japan Coast Guard by 8,000 men		Apr. 26	First Japan-made destroyer Harukaze completed	Oct. 15	Type 61 tank first introduced		
	Aug. 10	National Police Reserve Ordinance promulgated and put into effect		Jul. 02	National Defense Council Composition Law promulgated	Oct. 20	China-India border dispute (through November 22)		
	Aug. 13	Ordinary personnel recruitment for the National Police Reserve begins		Oct. 19	Egyptian President Nasser nationalizes the Suez Canal	Oct. 24	U.S. Navy imposes sea blockade of Cuba (through November 20)		
	Aug. 14	Masuhara appointed first Director-General of the National Police Reserve		Oct. 23	First domestically-produced F-86F fighter delivered	Oct. 28	Premier of the Soviet Union Khrushchev declares dismantling of missile bases in Cuba		
Sep. 07	National Police Reserve headquarters moves from the National Police Agency headquarters to Etchujima	Oct. 29		Joint declaration on restoration of Japanese-Soviet relations	Nov. 01	Defense Facilities Administration Agency established			
Sep. 15	U.N. troops land at Inchon	Dec. 18		Hungarian Revolution	Nov. 09	Shiga visits U.S. for first time as Minister of State for Defense (through November 26)			
Oct. 25	Chinese Communist volunteers join Korean War	Dec. 23	Second Middle East War (Suez War; through November 6)	1962	Jul. 18	Inauguration of second reshuffled Ikeda Cabinet (second term); Shiga becomes Minister of State for Defense			
Nov. 24	U.S. announces the seven principles for concluding a peace treaty with Japan	1951	Jan. 23		Minister of State Ohashi takes charge of the National Police Reserve	Jul. 23	International Agreement on the Neutrality of Laos signed in Geneva International Conference		
Dec. 18	NATO Defense Commission agrees to establishment of NATO Forces		Jan. 29		First Yoshida-Dulles talks (peace treaty negotiations)	Aug. 15	GSDF completes 13 division organization		
1949	Jan. 25		Council for Mutual Economic Cooperation (COMECON) established		Mar. 01	Special recruitment of Military and Naval Academy graduates to serve as police officers 1st and 2nd class begins	Oct. 15	Type 61 tank first introduced	
	Feb. 16		Inauguration of third Yoshida Cabinet		Apr. 11	MacArthur was dismissed as Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers	Oct. 20	China-India border dispute (through November 22)	
	Apr. 04		North Atlantic Treaty signed by 12 nations (becomes effective August 24) (NATO established)		Jul. 04	Inauguration of third reshuffled Yoshida Cabinet (second term)	Oct. 24	U.S. Navy imposes sea blockade of Cuba (through November 20)	
	Apr. 21		Nationalist-Communist talks break up; Chinese Communist Army launches general offensive		Aug. 30	U.S.-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty signed	Oct. 28	Premier of the Soviet Union Khrushchev declares dismantling of missile bases in Cuba	
	May 06		Federal Republic of Germany established (West Germany)		Sep. 01	Australia-New Zealand-U.S. sign ANZUS Treaty	Nov. 01	Defense Facilities Administration Agency established	
	Jul. 05		Shimoyama incident		Sep. 08	49 countries sign Peace Treaty with Japan; Japan-U.S. Security Treaty concluded	Nov. 09	Shiga visits U.S. for first time as Minister of State for Defense (through November 26)	
	Jul. 15		Mitaka incident		Oct. 20	Ozaki unit dispatched for the first time on a rescue relief operation to Kita Kawachi Village, Yamaguchi Prefecture, in the wake of Typhoon Ruth			
	Aug. 17		Matsukawa incident						
	Sep. 24	USSR declares possession of atomic bomb							
	Oct. 01	People's Republic of China established							
Oct. 07	German Democratic Republic established (East Germany)								
Dec. 07	Chinese Nationalist Party takes refuge in Taiwan								

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1963	Jun. 20	Agreement signed for U.S.-Soviet hotline	1971	Aug. 02	Nishimura becomes Minister of State for Defense	1976	Sep. 15	Inauguration of reshuffled Miki Cabinet
	Jul. 18	Inauguration of second reshuffled Ikeda Cabinet (third term); Fukuda becomes Minister of State for Defense		Aug. 09	India-Soviet Friendship Treaty signed		Oct. 29	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Defense Plan for Defense Build-up beyond FY1977
	Aug. 08	Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty signed by U.S.-USSR-U.K. (enters into force on October 10)		Sep. 30	U.S. and USSR sign agreement on measures to reduce the danger of nuclear war		Nov. 05	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Immediate-term Defense Build-up and Handling Major Items in Preparations for Defense Forces
	Aug. 14	Japan joins Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty		Oct. 25	U.N. General Assembly adopts resolution to admit China and expel Taiwan		Dec. 24	Fukuda Cabinet established; Mihara becomes Minister of State for Defense
	Sep. 16	Malaysian Federation established		Nov. 24	House of Representatives resolution on nonnuclear weapons			
Dec. 09	Inauguration of third Ikeda Cabinet	Nov. 27	ASEAN declares SEA neutrality					
Dec. 17	ROK transits to civilian government, Park Chung-hee becomes President	Dec. 03	Third India-Pakistan conflict					
1964	Jun. 15	Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty enters into force for Japan	Dec. 03	Esaki becomes Minister of State for Defense	1977	Feb. 17	Mito District Court renders judgment in Hyakuri Base suit	
	Jul. 18	Inauguration of third reshuffled Ikeda Cabinet; Koizumi becomes Minister of State for Defense	Dec. 05	ASDF first domestic supersonic aircraft ASDF XT-2 delivered		Jun. 30	South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) dissolved (Treaty remains effective)	
	Aug. 02	Gulf of Tonkin incident	1972	Jan. 07		Sato-Nixon joint statement on the agreement of the return of Okinawa and the reduction of bases	Jul. 01	Implementation of two maritime laws, proclaiming a 200-mile fishing zone and 12-mile territorial waters
	Oct. 16	China successfully carries out its first nuclear test		Feb. 08		National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Outline of 4th Five-Year Defense Build-up Plan	Aug. 01	North Korea establishes military demarcation lines in Sea of Japan and Yellow Sea
	Nov. 09	Sato Cabinet established		Feb. 27		U.S. President Nixon visits China; China-U.S. Joint Communiqué	Aug. 10	Defense Agency starts Emergency Legislation Study
Nov. 12	U.S. nuclear submarine (Sea Dragon) enters a Japanese port (Sasebo) for the first time	Apr. 10		Japan signs Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC)	Nov. 28	Inauguration of reshuffled Fukuda Cabinet; Kanemaru becomes Minister of State for Defense		
		Apr. 18		National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on SDF deployment in Okinawa	Dec. 29	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on introduction of F-15s and P-3C		
1965	Feb. 07	U.S. starts bombing of North Vietnam	Apr. 18	Return of Okinawa	1978	Apr. 12	Chinese fishing fleet infringes on waters around Senkaku Islands	
	Feb. 10	Diet debate on Mitsuya study	May 15	SALT I and agreement to limit ABM signed during the visit of U.S. President Nixon to USSR		Aug. 12	Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China signed in Beijing	
	Jun. 03	Inauguration of reshuffled Sato Cabinet; Matsuno becomes Minister of State for Defense	May 26	India-Pakistan truce signed		Sep. 21	Defense Agency announces modality and purpose of emergency legislation study	
	Jun. 22	Japan-ROK Basic Treaty signed	Jul. 03	ROK and North Korea make a Joint Statement for peaceful unification		Nov. 03	Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Agreement signed	
	Sep. 01	Second India-Pakistan conflict (to September 22)	Jul. 04	Tanaka Cabinet established; Masuhara becomes Minister of State for Defense		Nov. 27	(ASDF) First Japan-U.S. bilateral training exercises (east of Misawa and west of Akita, through December 1)	
Nov. 10	Icebreaker Fuji leaves on first mission to assist Antarctic observation (through April 8, 1966)	Jul. 07	Prime Minister Tanaka visits China; normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China	Nov. 27				
1966	May 16	Cultural Revolution starts in China	Sep. 29	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Situation Judgment and Defense Concepts in the Fourth Defense Build-up Plan, Key Matters for Inclusion in Fourth Defense Build-up Plan, and Measures to Enhance Civilian Control	Nov. 27	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee approves Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Cooperation, presented to and approved by Cabinet following deliberation by the National Defense Council on November 28		
	Jul. 01	France withdraws from the NATO command (rejoined April 4, 2009)	Oct. 09	East-West Germany Basic Treaty signed	Dec. 05	Afghanistan-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Good Relations and Cooperation signed		
	Aug. 01	Inauguration of reshuffled Sato Cabinet (second term); Kambayashi becomes Minister of State for Defense	Dec. 21	Inauguration of second Tanaka Cabinet	Dec. 07	Ohira Cabinet established; Yamashita becomes Minister of State for Defense		
	Oct. 27	China successfully carries out its first nuclear missile test	Dec. 22		Dec. 25	Vietnamese troops invade Cambodia (withdrawal completed on September 26, 1989)		
	Nov. 29	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Outline of Third Defense Build-up Plan						
Dec. 03	Inauguration of reshuffled Sato Cabinet; Masuda becomes Minister of State for Defense							
1967	Jan. 27	Outer Space Treaty signed	1973	Jan. 23	14th Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee meeting agrees on consolidation of U.S. bases in Japan (Kanto Program)	1979	Jan. 01	U.S. and China normalize diplomatic relations, U.S. notifies termination of the U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty after one year
	Feb. 17	Inauguration of second Sato Cabinet		Jan. 27	Vietnam peace agreement signed (ceasefire takes effect on January 28)		Jan. 07	Fall of Phnom Penh, establishment of Heng Samrin regime announced
	Mar. 14	National Defense Council decision adopted on Key matters for inclusion in Third Defense Build-up Plan (Cabinet decision on March 14)		Feb. 01	Defense Agency publishes Peacetime Defense Strength		Jan. 11	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on introduction of E-2C
	Mar. 29	Sapporo District Court renders judgment on Eniwa Case		Feb. 21	Laos Peace Treaty signed		Feb. 11	Islamic Revolution takes place in Iran
	Jun. 05	Third Middle East War (through June 9)		Mar. 29	U.S. forces complete their withdrawal from Vietnam		Feb. 17	Sino-Vietnamese War (through March 5)
Jun. 17	China successfully carries out its first hydrogen bomb test	May 29	Yamanaka becomes Minister of State for Defense	Mar. 26	Egypt-Israel peace treaty signed			
Jul. 01	Formation of European Community (EC)	Jun. 22	General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union visits U.S.; convention on the prevention of nuclear war signed	Jun. 18	SALT II signed			
Aug. 08	Formation of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)	Jul. 01	Commencement of SDF air defense mission on Okinawa	Jul. 17	Announcement of Mid-Term Defense Estimate (FY1980-FY1984)			
Nov. 25	Inauguration of second reshuffled Sato Cabinet	Sep. 07	Sapporo District Court rules SDF unconstitutional (Naganuma Judgment)	Jul. 25	Minister of State for Defense Yamashita makes first visit to ROK as an incumbent Minister (through July 26)			
1968	Jan. 16	Prime Minister Wilson announces withdrawal of U.K. troops east of Suez	Sep. 21	Japan-North Vietnam establish diplomatic relations	Nov. 09	Inauguration of second Ohira Cabinet; Kubota becomes Minister of State for Defense		
	Jan. 19	U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier (Enterprise) enters a Japanese port (Sasebo) for the first time	Oct. 06	Fourth Middle East War (ends October 25)	Dec. 27	Soviet Union invades Afghanistan		
	Jan. 23	Seizure of U.S. Navy intelligence vessel Pueblo by North Korea	Oct. 08	Japan-Soviet summit (Moscow)				
	Feb. 26	New Japan-U.S. nuclear agreement signed	Oct. 17	Ten OPEC countries decide to reduce crude oil supplies	1980	Feb. 04	Hosoda becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	May 13	First formal Vietnamese peace talks held in Paris	Nov. 07	Pakistan formally withdraws from SEATO		Feb. 26	Maritime Self-Defense Force takes part in RIMPAC for the first time (through March 18)	
Jun. 26	Ogasawara Islands revert to Japan	Nov. 25	Inauguration of second reshuffled Tanaka Cabinet	Apr. 11		Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance lapses		
Jul. 01	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty signed	Jan. 05	Japan-China Trade Agreement signed	May 18		China tests an ICBM in the direction of the South Pacific Ocean for the first time		
Aug. 20	Soviet and Eastern European troops invade Czechoslovakia	Jan. 18	Israel and Egypt sign Egyptian-Israeli Disengagement Treaties	Jul. 17		House of Councilors establishes special committee for Security Treaty, Okinawa, and Northern Territories issues		
Aug. 24	France carries out its first hydrogen bomb test in the South Pacific	Apr. 20	Japan-China Aviation Agreement signed	Jul. 17	Suzuki Cabinet established; Omura becomes Minister of State for Defense			
Nov. 30	Inauguration of second reshuffled Sato Cabinet (second term); Arita becomes Minister of State for Defense	Apr. 25	National Defense Medical College opens	Aug. 18	Interceptors begin to be armed with missiles			
1969	Jan. 10	National Defense Council decision to produce T04 F-4E aircraft domestically, approved by Cabinet	May 18	India carries out its first underground nuclear test	Aug. 19	Arming escorts with live torpedoes announced		
	Mar. 02	Armed clashes between Chinese and Soviet forces on Chenpao Island (Damansky Island)	Jul. 03	U.S. President Nixon visits USSR, Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests (Threshold Test Ban Treaty) signed	Aug. 21	Soviet nuclear submarine has an accident off the main island of Okinawa		
	Apr. 15	North Korea shoots down U.S. EC-121 reconnaissance plane	Oct. 08	Eisaku Sato, former Prime Minister, receives Nobel Prize	Sep. 03	First meeting of the Japan-U.S. Systems and Technology Forum (Washington, D.C., through September 4)		
	Jun. 10	South Vietnam announces establishment of Provisional Revolutionary Government	Nov. 11	Inauguration of second reshuffled second Tanaka Cabinet (second term); Uno becomes Minister of State for Defense	Sep. 22	Iran and Iraq enter into full-fledged war		
	Jul. 25	U.S. President Nixon announce Guam Doctrine (later the Nixon Doctrine)	Nov. 13	Japan-China Marine Transport Agreement signed	Jan. 06	February 7 decided as Northern Territories Day (Cabinet understanding)		
Nov. 21	Sato-Nixon joint statement (extension of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, return of Okinawa to Japan by 1972)	Nov. 15	U.N. forces in Korea discovers a North Korean infiltration tunnel	Apr. 22	Defense Agency announces classification of the laws and regulations subject to the Studies on Emergency Legislation			
1970	Jan. 14	Inauguration of third Sato Cabinet; Nakasone becomes Minister of State for Defense	Nov. 23	U.S. President Ford visits USSR, makes joint statement on SALT II	Jul. 07	Tokyo High Court renders judgment in Hyakuri Base suit		
	Jan. 24	Formation of integrated WPO (Warsaw Pact) forces (involving seven countries)	Dec. 09	Miki Cabinet established; Sakata becomes Minister of State for Defense	Jul. 13	Hachioji branch of Tokyo District Court renders judgment in 1st and 2nd Yokota Air Base noise suits (GSDF) First Japan-U.S. bilateral exercises (in communications) staged at Higashi Fuji Maneuver Area (through October 3)		
	Feb. 03	Japan signs Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty	1975	Apr. 01	Director General instructs to create draft plan for defense forces after FY1977 (second instruction October 29)	Oct. 01	Inauguration of reshuffled Suzuki Cabinet; Ito becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Feb. 11	First domestically produced artificial satellite successfully launched		Apr. 23	U.S. President Ford declares end of Vietnam War	Nov. 30	Poland declares martial law and establishes the Military Council of National Salvation	
	Mar. 05	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty comes into force		Apr. 30	South Vietnamese Government surrenders unconditionally	Dec. 13	(GSDF) First Japan-U.S. bilateral command post exercise (staged at Takigahara, through February 19)	
Mar. 31	Yodo hijacking	Aug. 01		Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) adopts the Helsinki Declaration (Helsinki)	Apr. 02	Falklands dispute (ends June 14)		
Apr. 16	U.S. and USSR begin SALT I strategic arms limitation talks	Nov. 17		First summit meeting of most industrialized nations (Rambouillet, through November 17), held annually since	May 15	Israel retums all of Sinai Peninsula		
Apr. 24	China successfully launches its first satellite	1976	Apr. 05	Demonstrators and police clash in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China (1st Tiananmen Incident)	Jun. 06	Use of some sections of land within facilities and areas located in Okinawa starts under the Special Land Lease Law		
Jun. 23	Automatic extension of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty		Jun. 04	Publication of second white paper on defense, "The Defense of Japan" (henceforth published annually)	Jun. 08	Israeli forces invade Lebanon		
Aug. 12	West Germany-USSR sign non-aggression pact		Jun. 08	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty comes into force for Japan	Jun. 08	BWC enters into force in Japan		
Aug. 20	Publication of "The Defense of Japan," the first white paper on defense		Jul. 02	Socialist Republic of Vietnam (unified Vietnam) proclaimed	Jun. 09	Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW), Protocols I, II and III concluded		
Nov. 25	Yukio Mishima commits suicide by ritual disembowelment at the GSDF Eastern Army Headquarters in Ichigaya		Jul. 08	Sub-Committee for Defense Cooperation (SDC) established	Jun. 29	Commencement of Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START-I) U.S.-Soviet Union (Geneva)		
1971	Feb. 11	Signing of treaty forbidding the use of the seabed for military purposes	Aug. 05	Sapporo High Court renders judgment in Naganuma Nike suit	Jul. 23	1981 Mid-Term Defense Estimate presented to and approved by National Defense Council		
	Jun. 17	Agreement on the Return of Okinawa signed	Aug. 18	U.S. military officers slain at Panmunjom by North Korea				
	Jun. 29	Okinawa Defense Agreement (Kubo-Curtis Agreement) signed	Sep. 06	MIg-25 forced to land at Hakodate Airport				
	Jul. 05	Inauguration of third reshuffled Sato Cabinet; Masuhara becomes Minister of State for Defense						
	Jul. 30	All Nippon Airways plane collides with SDF aircraft (Shizukuishi)						

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events
1982	Aug. 17	U.S.-China Joint Statement about U.S. weapons sales to Taiwan	1988	May 29	U.S.-Soviet Union summit talks (Moscow, through June 1, instruments of ratification of INF Treaty exchanged)	1991	Nov. 05	House of Representatives establishes the Committee on National Security
	Sep. 09	Supreme Court renders judgment on Naganuma Nike Missile Base Case		Jun. 01	Supreme Court renders judgment on an appeal against the enshrining of an SDF officer killed in an accident		Nov. 05	Miyazawa Cabinet established; Miyashita becomes Minister of State for Defense
	Oct. 12	China successfully tests SLBM water launch		Jul. 23	Submarine and civilian fishing boat in collision (off Yokosuka)		Nov. 26	Clark USAF Base formally returned to Philippines
	Oct. 20	Yokohama District Court renders judgment in 1st Atsugi Air Base noise suit		Aug. 17	First joint verification of an underground nuclear test carried out by U.S. and Soviet Union (Nevada)		Dec. 05	Ukrainian independence declared by Supreme Council of Ukrainian Republic
	Nov. 27	Nakasone Cabinet established; Tanikawa becomes Minister of State for Defense		Aug. 20	Ceasefire agreement reached in Iran-Iraq War		Dec. 08	CIS agreement signed by leaders of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine at summit (Brest, Belarus)
1983	Jan. 01	U.S. establishes new Unified Combatant Command (Central Command)	Aug. 24	Tazawa becomes Minister of State for Defense	1992	Feb. 07	Twelve EC countries sign the European Union Treaty (Maastricht Treaty)	
	Jan. 14	Government decides to pave the way for the transfer of military technologies to the U.S. (Statement by the Chief Cabinet Secretary)	Sep. 20	First Japan-made T-4 medium trainer introduced		Feb. 25	China promulgates and enacts Territorial Waters Act, designating the Senkaku Islands as an integral part of China	
	Mar. 23	U.S. President Reagan announces Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)	Oct. 17	U.S. and Philippines sign negotiated agreement on revised Military Bases Agreement		Apr. 01	Custody of government aircraft (B-747) transferred to the Defense Agency	
	Jun. 12	Director Tanigawa first Minister of State for Defense to inspect Northern Islands	Nov. 29	Japanese and U.S. Governments sign memorandum and detailed arrangements relating to FS-X joint development		Apr. 01	First female students enter National Defense Academy of Japan	
	Sep. 01	KAL airliner shot down by Soviet fighters near Sakhalin	Dec. 07	General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev delivers speech to the U.N. on the decommissioning of 500,000 Soviet troops		Apr. 27	Tokyo District Court renders judgment in suits pertaining to the surrender of land for Atsugi Air Base	
	Oct. 09	19 ROK Government officials, including cabinet ministers, killed in Burma by North Korean terrorists	Dec. 27	Inauguration of reshuffled Takeshita Cabinet		May 22	North Korean soldiers invade the South Korean side of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and fire guns	
	Oct. 25	U.S. and six Caribbean nations send troops to Grenada	1989	Jan. 07		Demise of Emperor Showa	May 23	START-I Treaty signed between the U.S. and four Soviet States including Russia
	Nov. 08	Signing of negotiation statement for sharing military technology with the U.S. based on the U.S. and Japan Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement	1989	Feb. 15		Soviet Union completes the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan	May 25	IAEA officials make the first designated inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities (through June 5)
1984	Jan. 01	Brunei gains independence from the U.K. (joins ASEAN on January 7)	Mar. 09	Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) started (Vienna)	Jun. 19	Announcement of "International Peace Cooperation Law" (enacted August 10), announcement and enactment of "Plan to Amend Law Concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams" (enacted June 29)		
	Jun. 11	(MSDF) First Japan-U.S. bilateral command post exercise (Yokosuka, through June 15)	Mar. 15	Confidence and Security-Building Measures (CSBM) started (Vienna)	Aug. 10	International Peace Cooperation Law comes into force		
	Oct. 16	Defense Agency announces procedures, etc., of future Studies on Emergency Legislation in Studies on Legislation to Deal with Emergencies	Mar. 30	Hachioji branch of the Tokyo District Court renders judgment in the 3rd Yokota Air Base noise suit	Aug. 24	China and the ROK establish diplomatic relations		
	Nov. 01	Inauguration of second reshuffled Nakasone Cabinet; Kato becomes Minister of State for Defense	Apr. 01	New BADGE system begins operations	Sep. 17	Departure commences of 1st Cambodia Dispatch Facilities Battalion (All units returned to Japan by September 26, 1993)		
	1985	Mar. 12	U.S.-Soviet Union arms control talks begin	Apr. 10	Consumption Tax Law enforced	Sep. 19	Departure of Electoral Observer to Cambodia (Narita)	
		Apr. 02	USAF begins to station F-16 fighters at Misawa	May 10	START-I reopened at U.S.-Soviet foreign ministers conference, agreement achieved (Moscow, through May 11)	Sep. 30	U.S. returns Naval Base Subic Bay (Philippines)	
		Jun. 04	China announces the reduction of one million personnel from the People's Liberation Army	Jun. 03	Uno Cabinet established; Yamasaki becomes Minister of State for Defense	Nov. 09	CFE Treaty becomes formally effective	
		Aug. 12	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the JAL aircraft crash	Jun. 04	Chinese martial law units fire on demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in Beijing (2nd Tiananmen incident)	Nov. 24	U.S. returns Air Station Cubi Point (Philippines) (withdrawal from Philippines complete)	
		Sep. 18	National Defense Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on Mid-Term Defense Program; National Defense Council decision and Cabinet understanding adopted on introduction of Patriots	Jun. 20	Supreme Court renders judgment in the Hyakuri Base suit	Dec. 03	U.N. Security Council adopts resolution to allow military action by multinational forces in Somalia	
		Dec. 27	Detailed arrangements for the supply of military technologies to the U.S. concluded	Jun. 22	Yokohama District Court renders judgment in the Atsugi Air Base suit to vacate the premises	Dec. 12	Inauguration of reshuffled Miyazawa Cabinet; Nakayama becomes Minister of State for Defense	
Dec. 28		Inauguration of second reshuffled Nakasone Cabinet (second term)	Jun. 24	Zhao Ziyang relieved of post as General Secretary of the Communist Party of China, and replaced by Jiang Zemin	Dec. 16	U.N. Security Council adopts resolution to deploy peacekeeping operations in Mozambique		
1986		Feb. 24	First Japan-U.S. bilateral joint command post exercise (Hinoki-cho, headquarters of USFJ, etc., through February 28)	Aug. 10	Kaifu Cabinet established; Matsumoto becomes Minister of State for Defense	Dec. 18	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on Modification of the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY1991-FY1995)	
	Apr. 09	Tokyo High Court renders judgment in 1st Atsugi Air Base noise suit	Sep. 26	Vietnam completely withdraws from Cambodia	Dec. 21	Yokohama District Court renders judgement in 1st Atsugi Air Base noise suit		
	Apr. 26	Accident at Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Soviet Union	Nov. 09	GDR permits free departures to the West (virtual demolition of the Berlin Wall)	1993	Jan. 03	U.S.-Russia summit (Moscow); START-II signed	
	Jul. 01	Security Council Establishment Law enacted	Feb. 13	U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers agree on upper limit of 195,000 U.S. and Soviet troops in Central Europe and 225,000 U.S. troops in Europe	Jan. 13	Japan signs CWC		
	Jul. 22	Inauguration of third Nakasone Cabinet; Kurihara becomes Minister of State for Defense	Feb. 20	Joint Military Technology Commission decides to provide "military technology related to FS-X" to U.S.	Feb. 25	Supreme Court renders judgement in 1st Atsugi Air Base noise suit and 1st and 2nd Yokota Air Base noise suits		
	Aug. 10	U.S. announces suspension of its obligations to New Zealand under the ANZUS Treaty in treaty talks (San Francisco, through August 11)	Feb. 28	Inauguration of second reshuffled Kaifu Cabinet; Ishikawa becomes Minister of State for Defense	Mar. 12	North Korea announces secession from NPT		
	Aug. 15	Japan, U.S., USSR open hotline operations	Mar. 03	Japan-U.S. summit meeting (Kaifu, G.H.W. Bush, Palm Springs, through March 4)	Mar. 25	Aegis ship (Kongo) enters service		
	Sep. 05	Government approves the first transfer of military technology to the U.S.	May 29	Naha District Court renders judgment in administrative handling suit pertaining to Special Measures Law for USFJ Land	Apr. 08	Death of U.N. Volunteer (UNV) Atsuhito Nakata in Cambodia		
	Sep. 22	Conference on Disarmament in Europe (CDE) adopts final documents (Stockholm)	Jun. 19	Japan-U.S. Joint Committee confirms moves to prepare necessary steps to return U.S. military facilities in Okinawa (23 items)	May 04	Multinational forces deployed to Somalia move to United Nations Operation in Somalia II (UNISOM II)		
	Oct. 15	USSR announces partial withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan	Jun. 21	Japan and the U.S. reach agreement in principle on the establishment of a ministerial conference on security	May 11	Death of Superintendent Haryuiki Takada, a civilian police officer in Cambodia		
1987	Jan. 24	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on a program for the future build-up of defense capacity	Aug. 02	Iraq invades Kuwait	May 14	Mozambique Dispatch Transport Coordination Unit begin departing for Mozambique (All units returned home by January 8, 1995)		
	Jan. 30	Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective June 1)	Aug. 02	U.S. President G.H.W. Bush gives speech at Aspen	May 29	United Nations Operation in Mozambique headquarters staff depart for Mozambique		
	May 27	Metropolitan Police Department arrests two employees of Toshiba Machine Co., Ltd., in connection with unfair exports that breach the rules of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls (COCOM) to Communist areas	Oct. 03	German unification	Jun. 01	North Korea conducts a ballistic missile test over the central Sea of Japan		
	May 29	Director Kurihara first incumbent Director to visit China (through June 4)	Oct. 16	Bill on Cooperation with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations submitted to Diet	Jun. 09	Along with full operation of the private government plane (B-747), Special Air Transport Squadron newly established		
	Jul. 15	Tokyo High Court renders judgement in 1st and 2nd Yokota Air Base noise suits	Oct. 24	USSR conducts underground nuclear tests in the Arctic	Jun. 11	Wedding ceremony of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince		
	Jul. 20	U.N. Security Council adopts Iran-Iraq Conflict Cease Fire resolution (Number 598)	Nov. 10	Bill on Cooperation with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations annulled	Jun. 11	North Korea reserves the right to withdraw from the NPT in a joint statement issued during first round of U.S.-North Korea consultations		
	Aug. 26	Law Concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams enacted	Nov. 12	Coronation of Emperor	Jul. 12	Disaster relief teams dispatched to Hokkaido in response to the earthquake off southwestern Hokkaido (through August 12)		
	Oct. 06	First Japan-U.S. Meeting on COCOM held (Tokyo, through October 7)	Nov. 23	Great Thanksgiving Festival	Aug. 04	Signing of peace treaty in Rwandan civil war		
	Oct. 21	Follow-on aircraft for F-1 study results decided and announced	Dec. 20	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on Mid-Term Defense Program (FY1991-FY1995)	Aug. 09	Hosokawa Cabinet established; Nakanishi becomes Minister of State for Defense		
	Nov. 06	Takeshita Cabinet established; Kawara becomes Minister of State for Defense	Dec. 29	Inauguration of second reshuffled Kaifu Cabinet; Ikeda becomes Minister of State for Defense	Sep. 01	U.S. DoD announces the Bottom Up Review		
1988	Nov. 29	KAL airliner blown up by North Korean terrorists over the Bay of Bengal	1991	Jan. 17	Cabinet decision adopted on establishment of the Gulf Crisis Countermeasures Headquarters	Sep. 13	Israel and PLO sign a declaration of the principles of provisional autonomy	
	Dec. 08	INF Treaty signed	Jan. 17	Coalition forces launch air attacks against Kuwait and Iraq, Operation Desert Storm	Sep. 23	U.N. Security Council adopts resolution to establish the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH)		
	Dec. 18	Security Council of Japan approves a study on the state of air defense on the high seas	Jan. 24	Government pledges an additional U.S.\$9 billion to efforts to restore peace in the Gulf region	Oct. 13	Japan-Russia agreement on prevention of marine accidents signed		
	Mar. 02	Revised protocol of the Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective June 1)	Jan. 25	Cabinet decision adopted on ordinance on interim measures for the airlifting of Gulf Crisis refugees (promulgated and enacted on January 29, annulled April 19)	Nov. 01	Maastricht Treaty comes into effect; European Union established		
	Mar. 14	Armed clashes between China and Vietnam in the waters around the Spratly Islands	Mar. 13	Kanazawa District Court renders judgment on the 1st and 2nd Komatsu Air Base noise suits	Dec. 02	Aichi becomes Minister of State for Defense		
	Apr. 12	Signing of official documents for the transfer of military technologies in certain areas of defense from the U.S. to Japan under the Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement between the two countries	Mar. 31	WPO (Warsaw Pact structures) dismantled	1994	Feb. 24	Okinawa branch of Naha District Court renders judgement in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Kadena Air Base noise suits	
			Apr. 11	Gulf War formally ended	Mar. 23	First female aviation students join MSDF		
			Apr. 24	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on "Sending minesweepers to the Persian Gulf"	Mar. 24	First female aviation students join ASDF		
		Apr. 26	Total of six MSDF vessels, including minesweepers, depart for the Persian Gulf	Mar. 30	Tokyo High Court renders judgement in 3rd Yokota Air Base noise suit			
		Jun. 03	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the eruption of Fugendake on Mt. Unzen	Apr. 28	Hata Cabinet established; Kanda becomes Minister of State for Defense			
		Jul. 31	U.S. and Soviet leaders sign START-I in Moscow	Jun. 08	U.S. DoD submits "Report on Activities and Programs for Countering Proliferation" pertaining to weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear weapons			
		Sep. 06	Soviet State Council approves independence of three Baltic states	Jun. 30	Murayama Cabinet established; Tamazawa becomes Minister of State for Defense			
		Sep. 17	U.N. General Assembly approves 7 member nations, including North and South Korea, and 3 Baltic nations	Sep. 22	U.S. DoD announces "Nuclear Posture Review"			
		Oct. 09	SDF personnel join U.N. teams carrying out inspections on Iraq chemical weapons for the first time					

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1994	Oct. 21	U.S.-North Korea talks, both sides sign "Framework Agreement" relating to support for North Korean light water reactors, and provision of substitute energy	1996	Nov. 18	Basic NATO agreement to keep a multinational stabilization force (SFOR) to succeed IFOR in Bosnia- Herzegovina	1999	Sep. 02	North Korea announces the invalidation of the Northern Limit Line in the Yellow Sea and the establishment of a new military demarcation line on the sea
	Dec. 01	First Asia-Pacific Security Seminar (under the auspices of the National Institute for Defense Studies, through December 17)		Dec. 02	SACO final report approved by Japan-U.S. Joint Security Council		Sep. 23	SDF personnel dispatched to implement the transportation of necessary resources for international disaster relief operations in the Republic of Turkey (through November 22)
	Dec. 01	Commander of U.S.-ROK Combined Forces develops operational control in peacetime to ROK forces		Dec. 24	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on responses to foreign submarines traveling underwater in Japanese territorial waters		Sep. 29	Russian military unit advances into the Republic of Chechnya
	Dec. 05	START-I comes into force	1997	Jan. 02	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the Russian Nakhodka shipwreck and oil spill disaster (through March 31)		Sep. 30	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the accident at a uranium processing facility in Tokaimura (through October 3)
	Dec. 18	Russia starts military operations against Chechnya		Jan. 20	Establishment of Defense Intelligence Headquarters		Oct. 05	Inauguration of second Obuchi Cabinet; Kawara becomes Minister of State for Defense
	Dec. 20	First visit to Japan by the ROK's naval training vessel (Harumi, through December 23)		Apr. 29	CWC enters into force		Nov. 22	SDF personnel dispatched to Indonesia for Timor-Leste Refugees Support (through February 8, 2000)
Dec. 26	Kanazawa branch of Nagoya High Court renders judgement in 1st and 2nd Komatsu Air Base noise suits	May 12		Russia-Chechnya peace treaty signed	Nov. 22		Governor of Okinawa Prefecture declares the site proposed for the relocation of Futenma Air Station	
1995	Jan. 17	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the Great Hanshin- Awaji Earthquake (through April 27)		Jun. 09	Self-Defense Official (Director General of the Inspection Bureau) dispatched to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) (through June 2002)		Dec. 17	U.N. Security Council adopts a comprehensive resolution relating to the Iraq issue and establishes UNMOVIC in place of UNSCOM
	Mar. 09	Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) established		Jul. 01	Hong Kong reverts to China		Dec. 20	Rule over Macao transferred to China
	Mar. 20	SDF personnel dispatched teams to carry out rescue operations in the sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway system (through March 23)	Jul. 03	The first artillery live-fire training by U.S. Marines stationed in Okinawa conducted on the mainland of Japan (at Kita Fuji, through July 9)	Dec. 27		Decision with the Japan Coast Guard on the "Joint Response Manual for Suspicious Ships"	
	May 11	NPT extended indefinitely	Jul. 16	North Korean soldiers cross the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) and exchange fire with ROK troops	Dec. 27		Mayor of Nago City, Okinawa Prefecture announces the acceptance of alternative facilities for Futenma Air Station	
	May 19	Enactment of "Act on Special Measures Incidental to Reversion of Lands in Okinawa Prefecture Offered for Use by United States Forces in Japan" (effective June 20)	Sep. 23	Inauguration of second reshuffled Hashimoto Cabinet	Dec. 28		Cabinet decision adopted on Government Policy for the Relocation of Futenma Air Station	
	Jun. 05	The defense authorities of Japan and the ROK both issue the "letter concerning the prevention of accidents between aircraft of the Japan Self-Defense Forces and military aircraft of the Republic of Korea"	Nov. 10	Guidelines for New Japan-U.S. defense cooperation approved by Security Consultative Committee (SCC)	2000	Jan. 17	Anti-personnel mine disposal begins	
	Jul. 28	Vietnam officially joins ASEAN	Dec. 03	China-Russia summit talks: China-Russian joint statement signed (Beijing), and demarcation of the China- Russian eastern border declared		Feb. 16	First assembly of the Research Commissions on the Constitution in the Upper House (Lower House on February 17)	
	Aug. 01	1st KEDO Meeting (Japan-U.S.-ROK) held (New York)	Dec. 19	Final Report of the Administrative Reform Committee		Apr. 01	Enactment of the "Self-Defense Forces Personnel Ethics Act"	
	Aug. 08	Inauguration of reshuffled Murayama Cabinet; Eto becomes Minister of State for Defense	1998	Mar. 26		Introduction of a system of SDF Ready Reserve Personnel	Apr. 05	Mori Cabinet established
	Sep. 04	Japanese schoolgirl assaulted by three U.S. soldiers based in Okinawa		Apr. 28		The signing of an agreement to revise the Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement	Apr. 14	Russian Duma ratifies the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty II (START-II)
	Sep. 15	Ratification of Chemical Weapons Convention		May 11		India carries out underground nuclear tests (repeated May 13)	May 07	Russian Acting President Putin officially assumes duties as President
	Oct. 27	Announcement of "Law Relating to the Treatment of Defense Agency Personnel Dispatched to International Organizations" (effective January 1, 1996)		May 22		Naha branch of Fukuoka High Court renders judgement in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Kadena Air Base noise suits	May 08	Defense Agency moves to the Ichigaya building
	Nov. 17	Cabinet decision adopted on establishment of a consultation forum to discuss issues relating to U.S. bases in Okinawa		May 28		Pakistan carries out underground nuclear tests (repeated May 30)	Jun. 16	The Special Law for Nuclear Emergency Preparedness (Establishment of nuclear disaster relief dispatch) comes into force
	Nov. 19	Prime Minister Murayama and U.S. Vice President Gore agree on the establishment of the Special Action Committee on Facilities and Areas in Okinawa (SACO)		Jun. 06		U.N. Security Council resolution adopted that condemns nuclear tests by India and Pakistan	Jul. 04	Inauguration of second Mori Cabinet; Torashima becomes Minister of State for Defense
	Nov. 28	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on National Defense Program Outline for the period from FY1996	Jun. 12	Announcement and enactment of Basic Act on Central Government Reform		Jul. 21	Kyushu-Okinawa Summit (through July 23)	
	Dec. 14	Security Council of Japan decision adopted on Mid-Term Defense Program (FY1996-FY2000) (Cabinet decision on December 15)	Jun. 12	Revision of the International Peace Cooperation Law promulgated and comes into force (the section concerning use of force enters into force July 12)		Aug. 25	Replacement Facilities Council on the Relocation of Futenma Air Station established	
	Dec. 14	Security Council of Japan makes decision "Regarding upgrading of Next-Generation Support Fighter" (December 15, Cabinet approval); Model of Next-Generation Support Fighter "F-2" decided	Jun. 22	A North Korean submarine intrudes into the east coast of ROK, seized by ROK forces		Sep. 13	SDF personnel dispatched to dispose of Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACW) in China	
	Dec. 14	Formal signing of the Bosnian Peace Agreement in Paris	Jul. 27	China publishes its first comprehensive defense white paper, "Defense of China"	Nov. 20	The 22nd Japanese Communist Party Convention decides to accept the SDF		
Dec. 20	IFOR, consisting mainly of NATO troops, replaces UNPROFOR and formally commences operations	Jul. 29	Bilateral search and rescue exercise between MSDF/ASDF and Russian Navy — the first full-fledged bilateral exercise between Japan and Russia	Dec. 05	Inauguration of second reshuffled Mori Cabinet; Saito becomes Minister of State for Defense			
Dec. 26	Tokyo High Court renders judgement on remanded appeal trial for 1st Atsugi Air Base noise suit	Jul. 30	Obuchi Cabinet established; Nukaga becomes Minister of State for Defense	Dec. 15	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on Mid-Term Defense Program (FY2001-FY2005)			
1996	Jan. 11	Hashimoto Cabinet established; Usui becomes Minister of State for Defense	Aug. 31	North Korea launches a ballistic missile which flies through Japanese airspace	2001	Feb. 05	SDF units dispatched to India for International Disaster Relief Operation (through February 11), following the major earthquake which hit western India on January 26	
	Jan. 26	START-II ratified by U.S. Senate	Sep. 01	Temporary freezing of Japan-North Korea normalization talks		Feb. 09	Personnel dispatched to UNMOVIC (through March, 2005)	
	Jan. 31	SDF units dispatched to United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)	Sep. 02	Additional sanctions on North Korea (suspension of charter flights) implemented		Feb. 10	Collision between Ehime Maru and U.S. submarine	
	Mar. 08	China carries out three missile firing exercises in total, naval and air force live-fire drills and, ground, naval and air force integrated exercises in the waters close to Taiwan March 8-25	Sep. 24	Japan-ROK Fisheries Agreement concluded (Takeshima Issue shelved)		Mar. 01	The Ship Inspection Operations Law comes into effect	
	Mar. 23	Taiwan holds its first direct presidential elections; Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui re-elected	Sep. 30	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty concluded		Mar. 07	Former Maritime Self-Defense official is given a jail sentence for providing confidential documents to officer of the Russian Embassy	
	Apr. 12	Prime Minister Hashimoto meets U.S. Ambassador Mondale (agreement reached on the total return of Futenma Air Station, Okinawa, within five to seven years after conditions are satisfied)	Oct. 21	KEDO signed		Apr. 01	Information Disclosure Act (IDA) comes into force	
	Apr. 15	Signing of Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement and its procedural arrangements (effective October 22)	Nov. 14	Departure of GSDF dispatch units to Honduras (operations in region November 18-December 1, return to Japan December 5)		Apr. 01	Collision between U.S. and Chinese military planes	
	Apr. 16	Cabinet decision adopted on promotion of solutions to issues relating to facilities and areas of U.S. forces in Okinawa Prefecture	Nov. 15	First joint exercise involving all three branches (a total of 2,400 personnel from the GSDF, MSDF and ASDF) (Iwo Jima)		Apr. 26	Koizumi Cabinet established; Nakatani becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Apr. 17	Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security issued	Nov. 20	Norota becomes Minister of State for Defense		Jun. 15	Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) established	
	Jul. 12	Inaugural meeting of Wassenaar Arrangement (Vienna)	Dec. 17	U.S. and U.K. forces initiate Operation Desert Fox against Iraq as a punishment for refusal to cooperate with UNSCOM inspections (through December 20)		Aug. 08	Disaster relief teams dispatched for submarine rescue ship Chihaya to cooperate in raising the Ehime Maru (returned December 16)	
	Jul. 20	U.N. Treaty on the Law of the Seas goes into effect in Japan	Dec. 22	Cabinet decision adopted on introduction of information gathering satellite		Sep. 11	Terrorist attacks in the U.S. occur	
	Jul. 26	First visit to Russia by MSDF ships (Vladivostok, through July 30, Russian Navy's 300th anniversary naval review)	Dec. 22	Aha Training Area returned (the first resolved issue of SACO)		Sep. 12	U.N. Security Council adopts resolution condemning the terrorist attacks	
	Jul. 29	China conducts underground nuclear test (its 45th), then announces moratorium on nuclear testing	Dec. 25	Security Council approves Japan-U.S. Cooperative Research on Ballistic Missile Defense Technologies	Sep. 19	Prime Minister Koizumi announces immediate measures in response to the September 11th terrorist attacks in the U.S.		
	Aug. 28	First visit by MSDF ships to ROK (Pusan, through September 6)	1999	Jan. 14	Inauguration of reshuffled Obuchi Cabinet	Oct. 02	In response to the September 11th terrorist attacks in the U.S., NATO invokes Article 5 (on collective self-defense) of the North Atlantic Treaty	
	Aug. 28	Supreme Court renders judgement in lawsuit regarding mandamus pertaining to proxy signature with regard to the Act on Special Measures Concerning USJ Land Release		Jan. 23	Discovery of a suspicious ship off the Noto Peninsula (Maritime security operations ordered on March 24)	Oct. 06	International peace cooperation for the relief of Afghan refugees (through October 12)	
	Sep. 10	U.N. General Assembly adopts the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)		Mar. 23	GSDF establishes first brigade	Oct. 07	U.S. and U.K. forces begin attacks in Afghanistan (October 19, U.S. Forces sends special operation forces, first ground fighting)	
	Sep. 18	North Korean minisubmarine runs aground on the east coast of ROK, its crew intruding into ROK territory (clearing operation completed November 7)		Mar. 29	Establishment of Committee for the Promotion of Information Gathering Satellites (Cabinet)	Oct. 08	Government of Japan establishes the Emergency Anti-Terrorism Headquarters and decides upon Emergency Response Measures at the first meeting	
	Sep. 26	Hong Kong protest vessels (Baodiao) etc., intrude into Japan's territorial waters around the Senkaku Islands		Apr. 01	Agreement between Japan and U.S. to amend the "Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement" (adding cooperation for operations to respond to situations in areas surrounding Japan) approved in Diet (effective September 25)	Oct. 29	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and other measures passed in the House of Councillors plenary session	
	Sep. 27	Taliban gains control of the Afghan capital, Kabul, and declares the establishment of the provisional government		May 24	Act Concerning the Measures for Peace and Safety of Japan in Situations in Areas Surrounding Japan promulgated (enters into force August 25); Act for Partial Revision of the Self-Defense Forces Act promulgated and enters into force	Nov. 02	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and Law to Amend the Self-Defense Forces Law are promulgated and enforced (strengthening penalties to ensure secrecy is separately enforced on November 1, 2002)	
	Oct. 03	Russia-Chechnya ceasefire agreed	Jun. 15	Shooting incident between North Korean Naval ships which had crossed the Northern Limit Line and South Korean Naval ships	Nov. 25	Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, an MSDF supply vessel, minesweeper tender, and destroyers depart for cooperation and support activities		
	Nov. 07	Inauguration of second Hashimoto Cabinet; Kyuma becomes Minister of State for Defense	Jul. 23	Tokyo High Court renders judgment in 2nd Atsugi Air Base noise suit	Nov. 27	Exchange of fire in the Korean demilitarized zone (DMZ)		
		Aug. 05	First Bilateral Exercise of Search and Rescue Exercise between MSDF and ROK Navy (waters west of Kyushu)	Dec. 05	U.S. and Russia complete implementation of START-I			
		Aug. 25	The Law Concerning Measures to Ensure the Peace and Security of Japan in Situations in Areas Surrounding Japan comes into force	Dec. 20	U.N. Security Council adopts a resolution establishing an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)			
				Dec. 22	Afghanistan Interim Authority formed, with Hamid Karzai serving as Chairman			
				Dec. 22	Suspicious boat incident in waters southwest of Kyushu			

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2001	Dec. 29	Russia withdraws troops from its base in Cuba	2003	Sep. 22	Inauguration of reshuffled Koizumi Cabinet (second term)	2005	Jul. 14	Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry announces permission granted to Teikoku Oil for trial drilling in the East China Sea	
2002	Jan. 29	U.S. President G.W. Bush depicts "Axis of Evil" in the State of the Union Address		Sep. 30	Cabinet decision adopted on establishment of award for people engaged in dangerous activities (November 3, 2003 Former SDF personnel are conferred the award for people engaged in dangerous activities for the first time)		Aug. 05	An MSDF vessel dispatched to conduct international disaster relief activity in connection with the accident of a small submarine of the Russian Navy off Kamchatka (All units returned home by August 10)	
	Feb. 15	Cabinet decision adopted on international cooperation execution plan for Timor-Leste		Oct. 07	Joint communique signed for the first time at Japan-China-ROK Summit meeting		Sep. 09	First China-Russia joint military exercises "Peace Mission 2005" (through August 25)	
	Mar. 02	680 SDF personnel dispatched on the First Dispatch Engineering Group to Timor-Leste (through June 25, 2004)		Oct. 10	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law remains in force for another two years		Sep. 09	Five destroyers of the Chinese Navy, including Sovereignty Class, are navigating in the sea area surrounding "Kashi" gas field near the median line between Japan and China in the East China Sea	
	Mar. 06	Kanazawa District Court renders judgement in 3rd and 4th Komatsu Air Base noise suits		Oct. 15	China launches its first manned spacecraft Shenzhou 5		Sep. 21	Inauguration of third Koizumi Cabinet	
	Mar. 27	Introduction of Candidates for SDF Reserve Personnel System		Nov. 19	Inauguration of second Koizumi Cabinet		Oct. 12	SDF units dispatched for Japan Disaster Relief operations in response to large-scale earthquake in Pakistan, etc. (All units returned home by December 2)	
	Apr. 22	2nd Western Pacific Submarine Rescue Exercise held (the first multilateral exercise organized by Japan, through May 2)		Dec. 18	Iran signs IAEA agreement		Oct. 20	GSDP and Hokkaido Prefectural Police conduct joint field training against terrorist attacks for the first time	
	May 04	Russia completes return of the Cam Ranh base to Vietnam.		Dec. 19	Libya announces abandonment of weapons of mass destruction program		Oct. 29	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2," Washington, D.C.) joint announces "Japan-U.S. Alliance: Transformation and Realignment for the Future"	
	May 20	The United Nations Transitional Administration in Timor-Leste (UNTAET) switches to the United Nations Mission Support in Timor-Leste (UNMIST)		Dec. 19	Government decides to introduce ballistic missile defense system (Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions)		Oct. 31	Inauguration of third reshuffled Koizumi Cabinet; Nukaga becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	May 24	Signing of Treaty Between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions		Dec. 30	Relief materials transported by air in response to great earthquake in Iran under the Law concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams (January 1-2, 2004)		Oct. 31	Partial amendment of the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law comes into force (validity is extended for one year)	
	May 30	Hachioji branch of Tokyo District Court renders judgement in 5th, 6th and 7th Yokota Air Base noise suits	2004	Jan. 22	ASDF main contingent leaves for Kuwait		Nov. 11	Cabinet decision adopted on "the Government's actions to be taken for the time being in connection with the matters approved at the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee held on October 29, 2005"	
	Jun. 13	U.S. withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty		Feb. 03	Departure of first SDF contingent for Iraqi humanitarian and reconstruction support activities		Nov. 27	Field training under the Civil Protection Law takes place for the first time in Fukui Prefecture	
	Jun. 29	Exchanges of fire between ROK patrol boats and North Korean patrol boats which crossed the NLL		Feb. 09	Implementation of Iraq-related response measures approved in Diet		Nov. 30	Tokyo High Court renders judgement in 5th, 6th and 7th Yokota Air Base noise suits	
	Jul. 16	U.S. Government releases "National Strategy for Homeland Security"		Feb. 09	MSDF unit for marine transport leaves for Kuwait (return on April 8)		Dec. 14	The first East Asia Summit is held (Kuala Lumpur)	
	Jul. 29	Basic Plan of the Futenma Replacement Facility agreed		Mar. 04	Disaster relief teams dispatched for the first time in response to bird flu (Tanbacho, Kyoto Prefecture, through March 11)		Dec. 16	U.N. General Assembly adopts resolution criticizing the human rights situation in North Korea	
	Sep. 04	Incident in central Sea of Japan (response to a suspicious ship)		Mar. 26	Diet decides on installation of ballistic missile defense system (FY2004 draft budget passed in the House of Councillors plenary session)		Dec. 24	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on "Japan-U.S. Joint Development of Interceptor Missiles Having Improved Capability of Ballistic Missile Defense"	
	Sep. 17	Japan-North Korea Summit held Kim Jong-Il, the North Korean President, admits and apologizes for abductions		Apr. 15	First transport of Japanese nationals living overseas implemented, 10 nationals transported from Iraq to Kuwait		2006	Jan. 10	Iran begins an uranium enrichment experiment
	Sep. 20	U.S. Government announces "National Security Strategy"		Apr. 15	Ceremony commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Defense Agency/SDF		Feb. 04	Japan-North Korea negotiations concerning abduction issue, normalization of diplomatic relations and nuclear/missile issues are held (through February 6)	
	Sep. 30	Inauguration of reshuffled Koizumi Cabinet; Ishiba becomes Minister of State for Defense		Apr. 28	U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1540 calling for the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction		Mar. 06	At the Japan-China intergovernmental conference, China makes a proposal of joint development of gas field in East China Sea (through March 7)	
	Oct. 01	Personnel deployed to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) (Head of Operations and Planning Branch) (through July 6)		May 22	Japan-North Korea Summit held (Pyongyang). Five family members of abductees return to Japan		Mar. 27	Partial amendment (measures for destructing ballistic missiles, etc., establishment of Joint Staff Office, etc.) of the Defense Agency Establishment Law is enacted. With the creation of the Joint Staff Office, the SDF establishes a joint operations posture	
	Oct. 13	First International Fleet Review in Japan (Tokyo Bay)		Jun. 01	U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1546 on reconstruction of Iraq		Apr. 23	Japan and the United States agree to the sharing of expenses of relocation of U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa to Guam as part of realignment of USFJ	
	Oct. 15	Five of those abducted return to Japan		Jun. 14	Seven bills on legislation concerning contingency response measures passed in House of Councillors plenary session and conclusion of three treaties approved		May 01	The Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2," Washington, D.C.) announces the "United States-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation"	
	Oct. 16	U.S. Government issues statement that North Korea admitted to having a program to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons, during Assistant Secretary of State Kelly's visit to North Korea		Jun. 14	Special Measures Law for the Embargo on Specific Ships passed		May 11	The Governor of Okinawa Prefecture and Minister of State for Defense sign a basic agreement on the realignment of USFJ	
	Oct. 16	Yokohama District Court renders judgement in 3rd, 4th and 5th Atsugi Air Base noise suits		Jun. 18	Cabinet agreement for SDF's activities in Iraq for humanitarian and reconstruction assistance after reestablishment of Iraq sovereignty (joining multinational forces)		May 29	First P-3C visit to Australia	
	Oct. 31	Naha branch of Fukuoka High Court renders judgement in the suit pertaining to the surrender of land for Sobe Communication Site		Jun. 28	Transfer of sovereignty to the Iraqi Interim Government		Jun. 01	SDF units dispatched to Indonesia to conduct international disaster relief activity for damages from the earthquake that occurred in central Java on May 27 (through June 22)	
	Nov. 01	Introduction of stricter penalties in order to protect classified information (defense secrets)		Aug. 13	U.S. helicopter crash at the university campus in Ginowan City, Okinawa		Jun. 20	The Government makes a decision to discontinue the activities of the GSDP contingent dispatched to Iraq. ASDF units continue to support the United Nations and the multinational forces	
	Nov. 14	KEDO Executive Board decides to freeze provision of heavy oil to North Korea from December		Sep. 27	Inauguration of second reshuffled Koizumi Cabinet; Ohno becomes Minister of State for Defense		Jun. 23	Agreement concerning provision of arms and military technologies to the United States is signed	
	Nov. 18	First SDF and police authority hold joint command post exercise in Hokkaido		Oct. 25	PSI exercise for maritime interdiction operation hosted by Japan for the first time (in the offing of Sagami Bay and in Yokosuka Harbor, through October 27)		Jun. 29	Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting, joint document "The Japan-U.S. Alliance of the New Century" announced	
	Nov. 21	NATO Prague Summit decides new membership for seven countries in Central and Eastern Europe		Nov. 10	Intrusion of submerged Chinese nuclear powered submarine into Japan's territorial waters-Maritime security operations order issued (through November 12)		Jul. 05	North Korea launches a total of seven ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan	
	Dec. 02	SDF personnel dispatched for the first time to the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO)		Nov. 16	Chinese Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs expresses regret over its nuclear submarine's intrusion into Japan's territorial waters		Jul. 13	Tokyo High Court renders judgement in 3rd, 4th and 5th Atsugi Air Base noise suits	
	Dec. 12	North Korea announces it will resume operation and establishment of nuclear-related facilities		Dec. 10	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on "National Defense Program Guidelines, FY2005" and "Mid-Term Defense Program for FY2005-FY2009"		Jul. 31	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Defense Agency Establishment Law (inc. reinforcement of facilities administration function of the agency, establishment of the Equipment headquarters and reorganization of the Prefecture Liaison Offices into the Provincial Cooperation Offices)	
	Dec. 16	Kirishima, vessel equipped with Aegis air defense systems, departs the port of Yokosuka, according to revision (December 5) in Implementation Plan based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law		Dec. 28	MSDF ships dispatched to the offing of Thailand's Phuket Island to engage in the international disaster relief activities for Indonesia's Sumatra earthquake and Indian Ocean tsunami disaster (through January 1, 2005)		Aug. 16	A Russian patrol boat fires on a Japanese fishing boat, killing one of its crew members. The Government files a strong protest to Russia	
	Dec. 17	U.S. announces deployment of a missile defense system (ground- and sea-based interceptor missiles and PAC-3)		2005	Jan. 04	SDF units dispatched to Indonesia to engage in international emergency assistance in response to the major earthquake off the coast of Sumatra and tsunami in the Indian Ocean that occurred on December 26, 2004 (all teams returned home by March 23)	Aug. 29	U.S. Navy, deploys Aegis ships equipped with SM-3 at Yokosuka naval facility	
2003	Jan. 10	North Korea announces it is leaving the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)		Jan. 19	The Japanese Government newly formulates measures to cope with intrusion of the submerged submarines in Japan's territorial waters		Aug. 29	The Council Meeting on Measures for Relocation of Futenma Air Station established, and its first meeting held	
	Jan. 24	U.S. Department of Homeland Security established		Feb. 10	North Korean Foreign Ministry releases a statement implying its manufacture of nuclear weapons (May 11, announces the unloading of 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods)		Sep. 26	Abe Cabinet established; Kyuma becomes Minister of State for Defense	
	Jan. 28	Establishment of Consultative Body on Construction of Futenma Replacement Facility concerning Futenma Air Station Replacement		Feb. 17	Okinawa branch of Naha District Court renders judgement in 4th Kadena Air Base noise suit		Oct. 09	North Korea conducts an underground nuclear test	
	Feb. 08	Disposal of antipersonnel landmines complete (with some exceptions)		Feb. 19	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2," Washington, D.C.) — common strategic objectives confirmed		Oct. 13	Sanctions implemented against North Korea, which announced that it had conducted a nuclear weapon test	
	Mar. 20	U.S. and U.K. Forces begin military operations in Iraq		Mar. 08	ROK's Government protest over Asahi Shimbusu aircraft approaching Takeshima without authorization		Dec. 19	U.N. General Assembly adopts draft resolution condemning abduction of foreign citizens by North Korea	
	Mar. 27	Act for Partial Revision of the Defense Agency Establishment Act, etc. (changes in SDF personnel quota and number of Ready Reserve Personnel) enters into force		Mar. 14	National People's Congress adopts "Anti-Secession Law"		2007	Jan. 09	Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Defense Agency Establishment Law (reorganization of the Defense Agency into the Ministry of Defense and stipulation of the SDF's international peace cooperation activities as its primary mission)
	Mar. 30	International peace cooperation activities are conducted for relief of Iraqi refugees (Airborne unit for Iraqi refugee relief returns to Japan on April 2)		Mar. 14	A Japanese boat attacked in the Straits of Malacca, and three crew abducted (Released on March 20)		Jan. 09	Kyuma becomes Minister of Defense	
	May 01	U.S. President G.W. Bush declares termination of major military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan		Mar. 16	Shimane Prefecture establishes "Takeshima Day"		Jan. 12	China conducts an anti-satellite test	
	May 13	Hachioji branch of Tokyo District Court renders judgement in 4th and 8th Yokota Air Base noise suits		Mar. 25	Cabinet decision adopted on Basic Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians		Feb. 13	North Korea agrees to disable all of its nuclear facilities during the 5th Six-Party Talks	
	May 31	U.S. President G.W. Bush proposes Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) for the first time		Apr. 25	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the railroad accident on JR West's Fukuchiyama Line				
	Jun. 01	U.S.-Russia leaders talk, enforcement of Treaty Between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions							
	Jun. 06	Three Armed Attack Situation Response related laws passed in the House of Councillors plenary session							
	Jul. 17	International peace cooperation activities are conducted for relief of affected people in Iraq (Airborne unit for relief of affected people in Iraq returns to Japan August 18)							
	Jul. 26	Law concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq passed in the House of Councillors plenary session							
	Aug. 27	First Round of the Six-Party Talks held (Beijing, through August 29)							
	Sep. 12	First PSI exercise held in the Coral Sea northeast of Australia (through September 14)							

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events
2007	Mar. 05	First Aviation Training Relocation associated with realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan (Tsuki, through March 8)	2008	Sep. 25	The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS "George Washington" arrives in the port of Yokosuka for the first time	2010	Feb. 05	Decision made to dispatch SDF units to United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) (February 6, deployment commences) (January 25, 2013, operation completed)
	Mar. 13	Australian Prime Minister Howard visits Japan, and the Japan-Australia Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation signed		Sep. 25	China launches a manned spacecraft "Shenzhou 7," and conducts successful extravehicular activity for the first time		Feb. 27	U.S. announces "Quadrennial Defense Review" (QDR) and "Ballistic Missile Defense Review" (BMDR)
	Mar. 23	Emergency response procedures for destruction measures against ballistic missiles are prepared		Oct. 03	U.S. DoD informs Congress of sale of PAC-3s, AH-64Ds, attack helicopters, etc., to Taiwan		Mar. 07	Russia publishes new Navy doctrine
	Mar. 28	Establishment of the GSDF Central Readiness Force		Oct. 10	U.S. removes North Korea from its list of state sponsors of terrorism		Mar. 11	ASDF Hyakuri Air Base, joint civilian use of runway
	Mar. 30	A Patriot PAC-3 system is deployed at the ASDF Iruma Air Base for the first time		Oct. 19	Four Chinese naval warships including a destroyer sail through Tsugaru Strait for the first time		Mar. 26	ROK naval patrol ship "Cheonan" sank in the Yellow Sea by a torpedo attack from a North Korean submarine
	Mar. 30	SDF personnel dispatched for the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) as military observers (through January 18, 2011)		Oct. 22	Japan-India Summit Meeting: Japan-India Joint Statement on the Advancement of the Strategic and Global Partnership, and Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation signed		Mar. 26	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (new establishment of the 15th Bridge and reorganization of the Youth Technical School)
	Apr. 16	First Japan-U.S.-India trilateral exercise (MSDF, U.S. Navy and Indian Navy)		Oct. 24	SDF personnel dispatched to United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) (through September 30, 2011)		Apr. 01	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (establishment of the job status of GSDF students)
	Apr. 16	Kanazawa Branch of Nagoya District Court renders judgment on the 3rd and 4th trials for the suits pertaining to noise generated by the Komatsu Air Base		Nov. 02	Four Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean for the first time		Apr. 06	U.S. announces "Nuclear Posture Review" (NPR)
	May 01	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2," Washington, D.C.) announces the joint statement "Alliance Transformation: Advancing United States-Japan Security and Defense Cooperation"		Dec. 02	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 1846 on countering piracy off the coast of Somalia		Apr. 12	1st Nuclear Security Summit (Washington, D.C., through April 13)
	May 18	ASDF controllers positioned at the Yokota RAPCON facility		Dec. 20	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on Review of the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY2005-FY2009)		May 01	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to foot and mouth disease in Miyazaki Prefecture (through July 27)
	May 29	Supreme Court renders judgement in 5th, 6th and 7th Yokota Air Base noise suits		Dec. 23	ASDF Airlift Wing that was deployed under the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq returns to Japan		May 19	Signing of Japan-Australia ACSA
	Jun. 01	Partial amendment (abolition of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency and its consolidation into the Ministry of Defense, establishment of the Inspector General's Office of Legal Compliance and the Local Defense Bureau, joint units of GSDF, MSDF and ASDF, etc.) of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law and the Self-Defense Forces Law enacted		Dec. 26	ASDF Airlift Wing that was deployed under the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq returns to Japan		May 23	The MOD/SDF dispatches units to the Pacific Partnership 2010 for the first time (through July 15)
	Jul. 04	Koike becomes Minister of Defense	Jan. 08	ASDF deploys F-15s to Okinawa (Hyakuri Air Base)	May 26	Enactment of the "Act on the Preservation of the Law-Water Line and Development of Basic Infrastructure of Remote Islands for Maintaining and Promoting Utilization of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf"		
	Jul. 20	Enactment of the "Basic Act on Ocean Policy"	Jan. 15	Ministry of Defense decides on "Basic Policy Relating to the Development and Use of Space"	May 27	U.S. announces "National Security Strategy" (NSS)		
	Aug. 10	Signing and entry into force of the Japan-U.S. General Security of Military Information Agreement	Feb. 10	Order issued relating to the conclusion of withdrawal duties for the Iraq Reconstruction Support Group by the redeployment group	May 28	Joint Statement of Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2")		
	Aug. 27	Inauguration of reshuffled Abe Cabinet; Koumura becomes Minister of Defense	Feb. 17	Signing of the "Agreement on the Relocation of USMC in Okinawa to Guam"	Jun. 08	Kan Cabinet established		
	Aug. 29	Enactment of the USFJ Realignment Special Measures Law	Feb. 27	Naha branch of Fukuoka High Court renders judgement in 4th Kadena Air Base noise suit	Jun. 09	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 1929 regarding additional sanction on Iran		
	Sep. 01	Local Cooperation Bureau, Equipment and Facilities Headquarters, Inspector General's Office of Legal Compliance, and Local Defense Bureau created	Mar. 13	Cabinet decision adopted on Anti-Piracy Measures Law	Jun. 25	Signing and entry into force of the Japan-Nato Information Security Agreement		
	Sep. 26	Fukuda Cabinet established; Ishiba becomes Minister of Defense	Mar. 13	SDF mobilization order issued for maritime security operations as part of anti-piracy measures off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden	Jun. 28	Information Security Agreement		
	Oct. 03	The Six-Party Talks Joint Statement, the "Second-Phase Actions for the Implementation of the Joint Statement," is announced	Mar. 14	Two MSDF ships are dispatched to protect vessels with ties to Japan from the piracy off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden	Jul. 01	Release of the U.S. "National Space Policy" (NSP)		
	Oct. 17	First Japan-U.S.-Australia trilateral exercise (MSDF, U.S. Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force)	Mar. 27	SDF action order for implementation of destruction measures against ballistic missiles is issued (through April 6)	Jul. 13	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (establishment of the job status of SDF recruits)		
	Nov. 01	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law expires Order issued on termination of response measures based on Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law	Mar. 30	MSDF ships begin escort missions as part of anti-piracy measures	Jul. 29	Cabinet decision adopted on "Act on the Preservation of the Law-Water Line and Development of Basic Infrastructure of Remote Islands for Maintaining and Promoting Utilization of the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf"		
	Nov. 16	Council for MOD Reform established	Apr. 03	Foreign Minister Nakasone signs Status of Forces Agreement with Djibouti	Aug. 31	Naha branch of Fukuoka High Court renders judgement in 1st and 2nd Futenma Air Station noise suits		
	Nov. 28	Chinese naval vessel visits Japan for the first time (through December 1)	Apr. 05	North Korea launches a ballistic missile which flies through Japanese airspace	Sep. 07	Air transport activities by helicopter in aid of flood disaster in Pakistan (through October 10)		
	Dec. 18	Aegis vessel MSDF Kongo conducts a successful test on counter-missile by ballistic missile	Apr. 10	Supreme Court renders judgement in 4th and 8th Yokota Air Base noise suits	Sep. 10	Chinese fishing boat collides with Japan Coast Guard patrol vessel in waters near the Senkaku Islands		
	Dec. 19	Front headquarters of 1st Corps headquarters of U.S. forces formed at USFJ Camp Zama in line with the USFJ realignment	May 04	1st ARF Disaster Relief Training (Philippines)	Sep. 10	Cabinet decision adopted on dispatch of SDF officers as key military contact personnel (military observers) to the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) (dispatched on September 27)		
	Dec. 24	"Improvement of next fixed-wing aircraft" and "Important issues among contents of Defense Capability Buildup in FY2008"	May 15	Order issued for P-3C to be dispatched to Djibouti for counter-piracy activities off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden	Sep. 17	Inauguration of reshuffled Kan Cabinet		
	Dec. 24	Cabinet decisions adopted on "Changes of emergency response measures on destruction measures by ballistic missiles"	May 19	"Agreement on the Relocation of USMC in Okinawa to Guam" comes into force	Oct. 01	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (abolition of the lowest enlisted ranks)		
	2008	Jan. 16	Enactment of the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law (units depart for Indian Ocean on January 24, 25)	May 25	North Korea conducts the 2nd underground nuclear test	Nov. 01	Russian President Medvedev visits the Kunashiri Island	
		Jan. 25	New Special Measures Agreement concerning the Cost Sharing on the Stationing of U.S. forces in Japan signed	Jun. 02	Basic Plan for Space Policy formulated	Nov. 23	North Korea shells the ROK's Yeonpyeong island	
		Feb. 19	Collision between Aegis vessel MSDF and fishing boat U.S. Navy Aegis ship succeeds in shooting down out-of-control satellite outside the earth's atmosphere with an SM-3	Jun. 04	North Korea launches a total of seven ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan	Dec. 07	Establishment of a governmental committee to review information security, as a result of the leakage of the video showing the fishing boat collision off the Senkaku Islands	
		Feb. 21	Based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law, MSDF replenishment ships resume refueling U.S. ships in the Indian Ocean (through January 15, 2010)	Jul. 14	Ratification of Convention on Cluster Munitions	Dec. 17	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2011 and Beyond and the Mid-term Defense Program (FY2011 to FY2015)	
Mar. 18		Cabinet decision adopted on "Basic Plan on Ocean Policy"	Jul. 17	Announcement of Law Concerning the Prohibition of Manufacture of Cluster Munitions and Regulation of their Possession	2011	Jan. 11	China conducts test flight of fighter aircraft touted as the next-generation stealth aircraft	
Mar. 26		Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (inc. reorganization of the SDF Command and Communication Unit)	Jul. 24	Anti-Piracy Measures Law enacted, Order issued for anti-piracy operations		Jan. 14	Inauguration of reshuffled Kan Cabinet (second term)	
Apr. 24		Announcement by U.S. Government that North Korea assisted with the construction by Syria of nuclear facilities destroyed in an air attack	Jul. 31	Completion of withdrawal of non-American multinational forces from Iraq		Jan. 21	Signing of the new Special Measures Agreement in connection with cost-sharing arrangements on the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan (comes into effect on April 1)	
Jun. 24		First visit of MSDF vessel to China (through June 28)	Aug. 01	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (inc. establishment of the Defense Council and the Special Advisors to the Minister of Defense, and abolition of the Defense Councilors System)		Jan. 27	Supreme Court renders judgement in 4th Kadena Air Base noise suit	
Jun. 26		Agreement reached between the Government of Japan and Government of China on the joint development of natural gas in the East China Sea	Sep. 16	Hatoyama Cabinet established; Kitazawa becomes Minister of Defense		Feb. 04	The United States releases "National Security Space Strategy" (NSSS)	
Jun. 26		Okinawa branch of Naha District Court renders judgement in 1st and 2nd Futenma Air Station noise suits	Oct. 05	SDF units dispatched to aid international disaster relief activities after the Padang earthquake in Indonesia (through October 17)		Feb. 05	New START comes into effect	
Jul. 07		G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit (through July 9)	Oct. 27	Destroyer collides with ROK cargo ship in the Kammon Straits		Feb. 23	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to the earthquake in New Zealand (through March 3)	
Jul. 15		Report by the Council for Reforming the Ministry of Defense released	Nov. 10	North and South Korean ships engage in fire in the Yellow Sea		Mar. 11	Four pirates that had shot at Japanese vessels off the Oman Coast in the Arabian Sea were arrested under the Anti-Piracy Law	
Jul. 17		Tokyo High Court renders judgement in 4th and 8th Yokota Air Base noise suits	Nov. 23	Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (DSPE) receives the IMO Award for Exceptional Bravery at Sea		Mar. 11	Great East Japan Earthquake strikes	
Aug. 02		Inauguration of reshuffled Fukuda Cabinet; Hayashi becomes Minister of Defense	Dec. 01	Lisbon treaty comes into effect		Mar. 11	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake (through August 31)	
Aug. 08		Russian Armed Forces intervene in military clashes between Georgian and South Ossetian forces	Dec. 03	Tokyo High Court rejects appeal by MSDF Lieutenant Commander in Aegis information leakage case (appeal to Supreme Court)		Mar. 12	Nuclear disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake (through December 26)	
Aug. 10		Armed groups attack public security facilities in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, China	Dec. 05	START I lapses		Mar. 16	Cabinet decisions adopted on first disaster call-up of SDF Reserve Personnel and Ready Reserve Personnel in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake	
Aug. 29		TRDI receives prototype of next-generation fixed-wing patrol aircraft XP-1 no. 1	Dec. 17	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on the build-up of defense capability for FY2010	Mar. 16	Disaster relief call-up order is issued to dispatch GSDF Ready Reserve Personnel and Reserve Personnel (through August 31)		
Sep. 24		Aso Cabinet established; Hamada becomes Minister of Defense	Jan. 11	China announces that it has performed missile interception test	Mar. 19	The coalition force led by the U.S., U.K., and France commence military operations against Libya		
			Jan. 17	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to the earthquake in Haiti (February 14, operation completed)	Apr. 11	Reconstruction Design Council in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake established		
			Jan. 19	"2+2" joint statement on the 50th anniversary of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty	Apr. 15	Disaster relief call-up order is issued to dispatch MSDF and ASDF reserve personnel (through August 31)		
		Jan. 29	First test flight of Russian fifth-generation fighter PAK FA	Apr. 27	Partial revision to the Environmental Improvement Law (extended target projects for subsidies to improve the environment surrounding specified defense facilities)			

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events
2011	May 02	U.S. President Obama announces the killing of Osama bin Laden, leader of the international terrorist organization Al-Qaeda	2012	Dec. 04	Launch of capacity building program in East Timor	2013	Nov. 23	China announces establishment of the "East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone"
	Jun. 01	SDF activity base in Djibouti initiates operation		Dec. 07	SDF action order for implementation of destruction measures against ballistic missiles is issued (terminated December 12)		Nov. 24	Iran and EU3 (U.K., France, Germany) +3 (U.S., China, Russia) reach first phase agreement for the comprehensive settlement of the nuclear issue
	Jun. 21	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2" in Washington, D.C.) joint statement; release of "Toward a Deeper and Broader Japan-U.S. Alliance: Building on 50 years of Partnership"	Dec. 12	North Korea launches a ballistic missile disguised as a "Satellite"	Dec. 04	National Security Council established		
	Jun. 22	U.S. President Obama announces guidelines to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan	Dec. 13	A Chinese aircraft violates Japanese airspace for the first time (airspace surrounding the Senkaku Islands)	Dec. 08	The ROK announces establishment of new Air Defense Identification Zone		
	Jun. 24	Exercise of the Basic Act on Reconstruction	Dec. 26	Inauguration of second Abe Cabinet; Onodera becomes Minister of Defense	Dec. 13	Act on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets promulgated		
	Jun. 28	First meeting of the headquarters for reconstruction measures	2013	Jan. 16	Abduction of Japanese nationals in Algeria	Dec. 14	Chinese lunar probe successfully achieves soft lunar landing	
	Jul. 08	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 1996 to establish UNMISS		Jan. 19	A Chinese naval vessel may direct fire-control radar at a helicopter based on a JMSDF destroyer	Dec. 17	National Security Council and Cabinet decisions adopted on "National Security Strategy," "National Defense Program Guidelines for FY2014 and beyond," and "Medium Term Defense Program (FY2014-FY2018)"	
	Jul. 09	Independence of the Republic of South Sudan	Jan. 20	SDF dispatch to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) ended (ceremony to return unit flag)	Dec. 23	Three Chinese vessels sail southwest of the main island of Okinawa to the Pacific Ocean		
	Aug. 10	Conducts its first navigation Chinese aircraft carrier Varyag	Jan. 20	As a measure for the Transportation of Japanese Nationals Overseas (TJNO) prescribed in the Self-Defense Forces Act, SDF transports Japanese victims of the Algerian hostage crisis from Algeria to Japan (return home on January 24)	Dec. 23	Second Russian Borey-class SSBN commissioned (incorporated into Pacific Fleet)		
	Aug. 24	The Chinese fisheries patrol ships enter Japan's territorial waters near the Senkaku Islands	Jan. 25	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet decisions adopted on build-up of defense capability for FY2013	Dec. 27	Governor of Okinawa Prefecture approves application for public water reclamation for the Futenna Replacement Facility construction project		
	Sep. 02	Noda Cabinet established; Ichikawa becomes Minister of Defense	Jan. 25	"Basic Plan on Space Policy" is decided by the Strategic Headquarters for Space Development	2014	Jan. 01	Entry into force of the Japan-U.K. Information Security Agreement	
	Sep. 09	24 Russian vessels sail through Soya Strait	Jan. 25	A Chinese vessel directs fire-control radar at a JMSDF destroyer in the East China Sea		Jan. 07	National Security Secretariat launched	
	Sep. 19	Detection of cyber attacks against defense industry	Jan. 30	Three Chinese vessels sail northeast of Miyako Island to the Pacific Ocean	Jan. 15	Collision accident between transport vessel and fishing vessel in the Hiroshima Bay		
	Sep. 27	Japan-Philippines Summit (Tokyo), Japan-Philippines joint statement made	Jan. 31	Japan-Australia ACSA enters into force	Jan. 22	Committee for Promoting the Mitigation of the Impact of Bases on Okinawa established		
	Sep. 29	Chinese space laboratory "Tiangong 1" launched	Jan. 31	Partial enforcement (regarding Japan-Australia ACSA) of partially amended laws, including the Self-Defense Forces Act, etc.	Feb. 14	Council for Promoting the Mitigation of the Impact of MCAS Futenma on Okinawa established		
	Sep. 30	Cabinet decisions adopted on "Promotion of the operational Quasi-Zenith Satellite System project" and "Promoting development and utilization of aerospace" ATR to Guam as part of the U.S. Forces realignment (through October 28)	Feb. 01	Partial enforcement (regarding pilot allowance) of partially amended laws, including the Self-Defense Forces Act, etc.	Mar. 01	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		
	Oct. 10	Supreme Court renders judgement in 1st Futenma Air Station noise suit	Feb. 07	Russian fighters intrude into Japan's territorial airspace	Mar. 03	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
	Oct. 24	Signing and entry into force of the Japan-France Information Security Agreement	Feb. 12	North Korea's underground nuclear test	Mar. 11	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to the missing Malaysian Airplane (through April 28)		
	Oct. 31	NATO ends operations in Libya	Feb. 20	Naha District Court renders judgement on Henoko environmental assessment case	Mar. 18	Russian "annexation" of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea		
	Nov. 15	Cabinet decision adopted on dispatch of SDF personnel as headquarters staff for the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) (departing Japan on November 28)	Feb. 23	Meeting between U.S. President Obama and Prime Minister Abe	Mar. 19	A submarine seen navigating underwater in Japan's contiguous zone (waters east of Miyako Island)		
	Nov. 22	Six Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Mar. 01	Statement by the Chief Cabinet Secretary on participation of Japan's industries in the production of the F-35A	Mar. 24	Prime Minister Abe attends 3rd Nuclear Security Summit (Hague, through March 25)		
	Dec. 18	Completion of U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq	Mar. 15	SDF dispatch for the MINUSTAH mission ended (ceremony to return unit flag)	Mar. 26	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
	Dec. 20	Decision made by the Security Council and seconded by the Cabinet regarding "acquisition of the next-generation fighter aircraft"	Mar. 22	Entry into force of Japan-Australia Information Security Agreement	Apr. 01	Partial enforcement (establishment of Faculty of Nursing at National Defense Medical College) of partially amended laws, including the Self-Defense Forces Act, etc.		
	Dec. 20	Cabinet Decision on dispatching engineer units, etc. for United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (deployed from January 11, 2012) (Operation completed on May 31, 2017)	Mar. 26	Partial enforcement (regarding shift of Air Rescue Wing's affiliation) of partially amended laws, including the Self-Defense Forces Act, etc.	Apr. 01	Cabinet decision adopted on "Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology"		
	Dec. 27	Statement by the Chief Cabinet Secretary on Guidelines for Overseas Transfer of Defense Equipment etc.	Mar. 30	Four Chinese vessels sail southwest of the main island of Okinawa to the Pacific Ocean	Apr. 28	U.S. and Philippines sign Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA)		
	Dec. 28	Environmental impact statement for the Futenna Replacement Facility construction project is submitted to Okinawa Prefecture (through January 6, 2012)	Apr. 02	North Korea announces that it will readjust and restart the graphite moderated reactor that was mothballed and disabled under an agreement reached at the Six-Party Talks	May 02	Two Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		
	2012	Jan. 11	1st Advance unit for UNMISS starts departing Japan	Apr. 26	Cabinet decision adopted on "Basic Plan on Ocean Policy"	May 07	Collision and confrontation between Chinese and Vietnamese vessels occur (through mid-July)	
		Jan. 13	Inauguration of reshuffled Noda Cabinet; Tanaka becomes Minister of Defense	May 07	Two Chinese vessels sail northeast of the Yonaguni Island to the Pacific Ocean	May 14	"Protocol to amend the agreement concerning the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam" comes into force	
Feb. 10		Establishment of the Reconstruction Agency	May 27	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	May 15	The Advisory Panel on Reconstruction of the Legal Basis for Security submits its report		
Mar. 16		Chinese government ship "Haijian" enters Japan's territorial waters near the Senkaku Islands	Jul. 04	Signing of the Japan-U.K. Agreement Concerning the Transfer of Arms and Military Technologies and the Japan-U.K. Information Security Agreement	May 21	Yokohama District Court renders judgement in 6th, 7th, and administrative 1st and 2nd Atsugi Air Base noise suits		
Mar. 26		Transfer of ASDF Air Defense Command to Yokota Air Base	Jul. 05	China-Russia first joint naval exercise "Naval Interaction 2013" (through July 11)	May 24	Chinese fighter jets fly abnormally close to SDF aircraft		
Mar. 27		Prime Minister Noda attends the Nuclear Security Summit	Jul. 13	Chinese naval fleets sail through Soya Strait to the Sea of Okhotsk	Jun. 07	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		
Mar. 30		SDF action order for implementation of destruction measures against ballistic missiles is issued (terminated April 13)	Jul. 22	China Coast Guard sign put up	Jun. 11	Japan-Australia "2+2" (Tokyo)		
Apr. 13		North Korea launches a ballistic missile disguised as a "Satellite"	Jul. 24	Chinese early warning aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advances to the Pacific Ocean for the first time	Jun. 11	Chinese fighter jets fly abnormally close to SDF aircraft		
Apr. 13		Kim Jong-un becomes the First Chairman of the National Defense Commission	Aug. 21	Three Chinese vessels sail through Osumi Strait to the Pacific Ocean	Jun. 19	Strategy on Defense Production and Technological Bases released		
Apr. 17		Ten-month extension of SDF dispatch to support the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) (through February 28, 2013)	Aug. 22	Russian bombers intrude into Japan's airspace	Jun. 21	Partial enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (response to early retirement system)		
Apr. 27		Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee "2+2" joint statement	Aug. 27	Two Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Jun. 29	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
Apr. 29		Three Chinese vessels sail through Osumi Strait to the Pacific Ocean	Aug. 27	"Direction of the MOD Reform" released	Jun. 29	ISIL declares establishment of "Islamic State" and caliphate		
May 17		Signing of the Japan-Australia Information Security Agreement	Aug. 30	Unmanned aircraft (presumed) of unidentified nationality flies over the East China Sea	Jul. 01	Cabinet decision adopted on "Development of Seamless Security Legislation to Ensure Japan's Survival and Protect its People"		
Jun. 04		Inauguration of reshuffled Noda Cabinet (second term); Morimoto becomes Minister of Defense	Sep. 08	1st meeting of MOD/SDF Special Action Committee on the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games held	Jul. 08	Japan-Australia Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology is signed		
Jul. 01		26 Russian vessels sail through Soya Strait (through July 2)	Sep. 09	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 2118 on elimination of Syrian chemical weapons	Jul. 08	Japan-Australia Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology is signed		
Jul. 03		First PSI Air Interdiction Exercise hosted by Japan (Hokkaido, through July 5)	Sep. 10	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 2118 on elimination of Syrian chemical weapons	Jul. 09	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
Jul. 11		Three vessels of Chinese Fishery Law Enforcement Command (FLEC) enter Japanese waters near the Senkaku Islands	Sep. 27	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 2118 on elimination of Syrian chemical weapons	Jul. 13	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
Jul. 12		One FLEC vessel enters Japanese waters near the Senkaku Islands	Oct. 03	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee ("2+2", Tokyo)	Jul. 25	Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (establishment of Vice-Minister of Defense for International Affairs)		
Jul. 12		Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Law for Establishment of Cabinet Office	Oct. 03	Signing of the "Protocol to amend the agreement concerning the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam"	Jul. 26	North Korea launches a ballistic missile		
Aug. 10		South Korean President Lee Myung-bak visits Takushima	Oct. 16	Disaster relief teams dispatched after Typhoon No. 26 (through November 8)	Aug. 01	Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (quota for SDF personnel posts of Internal Bureau, establishment of Air Tactics Development & Training Wing, etc.)		
Sep. 07		"Toward Stable and Effective Use of Cyberspace by the MOD/JSDF" is released	Oct. 23	Five Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Aug. 8	U.S. Central Command begins airstrikes on ISIL in Northern Iraq		
Sep. 11		Government's purchase of the three Senkaku Islands	Oct. 30	Three Chinese vessels sail southwest of the main island of Okinawa to the Pacific Ocean	Aug. 12	Russian Armed Forces conduct exercises in the Northern Territories and Chishima Islands		
Sep. 23		SDF dispatch to the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) ended	Nov. 12	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to typhoon disaster in the Philippines (through December 18)	Aug. 19	Chinese fighter jets fly abnormally close to U.S. Forces' patrol aircraft		
Sep. 25		The first Chinese aircraft carrier "Liaoning" commissioned	Nov. 15	Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) decides on detailed terms of the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons, etc.	Aug. 20	Disaster relief teams dispatched for lifesaving activities in Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture (through September 11)		
Oct. 01		Inauguration of reshuffled Noda Cabinet (third term)	Nov. 22	Revisions of the Self-Defense Forces Act (e.g., expanded category of people who may be transported by the JSDF, in the event of disasters, insurgencies, and other emergencies overseas) promulgated and entered into force	Aug. 28	MOD formulates "Basic Policy Relating to the Development and Use of Space (revised)"		
Oct. 16		Seven Chinese warships pass through the waters between the Yonaguni Island and the Nakanokami Island for the first time			Sep. 01	Japan-India summit meeting (Tokyo); "Tokyo Declaration for Japan-India Special Strategic and Global Partnership"		
Nov. 26	Promulgation and partial enforcement (regarding Japan-U.S. ACSA) of partially amended laws, including the Self-Defense Forces Act, etc.			Sep. 03	Eto becomes Minister of Defense			
				Sep. 03	2nd Reshuffled Abe Cabinet is established			

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events
2014	Sep. 10	U.S. President Obama announces strategy to counter ISIL	2015	Jul. 30	Tokyo High Court renders judgment in 6th, 7th and administrative 1st and 2nd Atsugi Air Facility noise suits	2016	Mar. 04	The government announces it would accept the court's settlement recommendation in the "Case regarding retraction order request for cancellation of the reclamation permit based on provisions of Article 245-8, Paragraph 3 of the Local Autonomy Act" ("administrative substitute execution suit") and suspends landfill work (Futenma Replacement Facility construction project)
	Sep. 22-	The United States and other coalition countries begin airstrikes on ISIL in Syria		Aug. 17	Seven Chinese vessels sail Tsushima Strait northward. Subsequently, China-Russia naval combined exercise, Joint Sea 2015 (II), is held (Sea of Japan) (August 20-28). Following the exercise, five vessels sail Soya Strait eastward (August 29), sail in the high seas in the Bering Sea (statement by U.S. DoD official, September 2), and enter into U.S. territorial waters near the Aleutian Islands (statement by U.S. DoD official, September 4).		Mar. 10	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles
	Sep. 26	Prime Minister Abe attends U.N. Summit Meeting on UN Peacekeeping Operations (New York)		Aug. 20	Shelling incident occurs between North Korea and the ROK		Mar. 18	North Korea launches a ballistic missile
	Sep. 27	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the eruption of Mt. Ontake (through October 16)		Aug. 22	Russian Prime Minister Medvedev visits Etorofu Island		Mar. 22	Terror bombing attacks occur in Brussels, Belgium
	Sep. 29	Afghanistan's new government is launched		Aug. 26	Signing of agreement on the resolution of the conflict in South Sudan		Mar. 28	Two Chinese vessels sail through Osumi Strait to the Pacific Ocean
	Oct. 26	Air Review commemorating the 60th anniversary of the MOD/SDF		Sep. 15	Presumed Russian aircraft intrudes into Japanese territorial airspace over the coast of the Nemuro Peninsula		Mar. 28	Establishment of Camp Onaguni
	Nov. 16	Candidate Onaga defeats incumbent Governor Nakaima in Okinawa gubernatorial election		Sep. 19	Legislation for Peace and Security ("Bill for the Development of Legislation for Peace and Security" and "International Peace Support Bill") is passed in the House of Councillors plenary session		Mar. 29	Enforcement of Legislation for Peace and Security ("Act for the Development of the Legislation for Peace and Security" and "International Peace Support Act")
	Nov. 21	"Global Hawk" is decided as the model of unmanned aerial vehicle		Sep. 28	Signing of the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Stewardship Relating to the U.S. Armed Forces of Japan, Supplementary to the Status of U.S. Forces Agreement (SofA)		Mar. 31	Nuclear Security Summit (Washington, D.C.) (through April 1)
	Nov. 24	ROK Armed Forces conduct military drill in waters near Takeshima		Oct. 01	Enforcement of the Law for Partial Amendment of the Ministry of Defense Establishment Law (unification of actual unit operations into Joint Staff, establishment of Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency, etc.)		Apr. 07	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean
	Nov. 28	Transport of supplies necessary for Japan Disaster Relief operations in response to the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in West Africa (Republic of Ghana, through December 11)		Oct. 01	Technical Research and Development Institute and Equipment Procurement and Construction Office are abolished; Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency is established		Apr. 08	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean
	Dec. 01	SDF personnel dispatched to NATO for the first time		Oct. 03	Shooting attack in Bangladesh (one Japanese national is killed, ISIL Bangladesh claims responsibility for the attack in a statement)		Apr. 14	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake (through May 30)
	Dec. 04	Five Chinese vessels sail through Osumi Strait to the Pacific Ocean		Oct. 07	Inauguration of the third reshuffled Abe Cabinet		Apr. 15	North Korea launches ballistic missile
	Dec. 04-	Chinese People's Liberation Army begins exercise in Western Pacific. Subsequently, some vessels transit Soya Strait (December 24) and Tsushima Strait (December 27) and circle Japan		Oct. 15	Iwakuni Branch of Yamaguchi District Court renders judgment in 1st, 2nd and 3rd Iwakuni Air Base noise suits		Apr. 17	Disaster relief call-up order for Ready Reserve Personnel is issued (through May 9)
	Dec. 10	Act on the Protection of Specially Designated Secrets enters into force		Oct. 26	U.S. naval destroyer USS Lassen sails within 12 nautical miles of Subi Reef, Spratly Islands in the South China Sea and conducts Freedom of Navigation Operation		Apr. 20	China's early warning aircraft flies between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island through to the Pacific Ocean
	Dec. 19	Joint Statement of the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (2+2)		Oct. 27	Cabinet verbal understanding regarding "Revocation of reclamation approval based on the Act on Reclamation of Publicly-owned Water Surface pertaining to the Futenma Replacement Facility construction project"		Apr. 23	North Korea launches an SLBM
	Dec. 24	Inauguration of the third Abe Cabinet, Nakatani becomes Minister of Defense		Oct. 28	Written notice regarding start of construction work related to Futenma Replacement Facility construction project is submitted to Okinawa Prefecture		Apr. 28	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles
	Dec. 24	Arms Trade Treaty comes into effect		Nov. 11	A Chinese Navy AGI repeatedly conducts east-west passages near the contiguous zone south of the Senkaku Islands (through November 12)		Apr. 28	Alleged murder case involving a civilian component member of the USFJ in Okinawa Prefecture
	Dec. 26	Deployment of U.S. Forces TPY-2 ("X-band radar") to Kyogamisaki is completed		Nov. 26	Suit is instituted for "Case regarding retraction order request for revocation of the landfill permit based on provisions of Article 245-8, Paragraph 3 of the Local Autonomy Act" ("administrative suit")		Apr. 29	Transitional Government of National Unity of South Sudan is established
	Dec. 31	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to disappearance of AirAsia plane (through January 11)		Nov. 27	China's four bombers and intelligence gathering aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island through to the Pacific Ocean (Air Force spokesperson of China announces flight by PLA Air Force aircraft). At around the same time, four bombers and early warning aircraft conduct operations near the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island.		May 10	A U.S. destroyer sails within 12 nautical miles of Fiery Cross Reef, Spratly Islands in the South China Sea as part of the "Freedom of Navigation Operation"
2015	Jan. 02	ISIL releases video of Japanese hostages (videos of the murder of the Japanese nationals subsequently released on January 24 and February 1)	Dec. 04	Japan-U.S. Joint Press Release "Implementation of Bilateral Plans for Consolidating Facilities and Areas in Okinawa"	May 10	A U.S. destroyer sails within 12 nautical miles of Fiery Cross Reef, Spratly Islands in the South China Sea as part of the "Freedom of Navigation Operation"		
	Jan. 09	"Basic Plan on Space Policy" is decided by the Strategic Headquarters for Space Development	Dec. 07	Three Chinese vessels sail through Osumi Strait to the Pacific Ocean	May 17	A Chinese PLA fighter jet flies abnormally close to a U.S. Navy reconnaissance aircraft over the South China Sea		
	Jan. 21	First Japan-U.K. Foreign and Defense Ministers' Meeting (London)	Dec. 12	Japan-India Agreement Concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology is signed (New Delhi)	May 22	U.S. President Obama visits Vietnam (through May 25), fully lifts arms embargo on Vietnam		
	Feb. 06	The United States releases "National Security Strategy" (NSS)	Dec. 12	Signing and entry into force of the Japan-India General Security of Military Information Agreement	May 31	North Korea launches a ballistic missile		
	Feb. 12	Minsk agreement II (German, French, Russian, and Ukrainian leaders agree on new ceasefire agreement)	Dec. 13	Two Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Jun. 07	A Chinese PLA fighter jet conducts dangerous flight, approaching a U.S. Air Force reconnaissance aircraft at a high speed over the East China Sea		
	Feb. 13	Two Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Dec. 26	A China Coast Guard vessel carrying weapons that appear to be cannons intrudes into Japanese territorial waters surrounding the Senkaku Islands for the first time	Jun. 09	A Chinese naval combatant vessel enters the contiguous zone near the Senkaku Islands for the first time		
	Feb. 14	China's intelligence gathering aircraft flies between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island through to the Pacific Ocean (February 15)	Dec. 31	Russia revises National Security Strategy	Jun. 15	A Chinese naval intelligence gathering vessel sails in Japan's territorial waters near Kuchinoerabu Island and Yakushima Island in Kagoshima Prefecture and then sails within Japan's contiguous zone north of Kitadaito Island. Subsequently, the vessel repeatedly conducts east-west passages outside the contiguous zone near the Senkaku Islands. (June 19 through 20)		
	Mar. 02	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles	Jan. 06	North Korea conducts fourth nuclear test which it called a "hydrogen bomb test"	Jun. 16	Five Chinese naval vessels sail between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		
	Mar. 13	Japan-France Agreement concerning the Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology is signed (Tokyo)	Jan. 11	Chinese Ministry of National Defense announces organizational realignment of the Central Military Commission (dismantlement of four general departments, CMC's introduction of multiple section system)	Jun. 20	Ten Russian vessels pass through the Soya Strait and move to the Okhotsk Sea.		
	Apr. 21	National Defense Medical College instructor dispatched to support WHO's epidemiological studies on the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in West Africa, etc. (through May 29)	Jan. 26	Two Russian bombers conduct flight along the perimeter of Japan	Jun. 22	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles		
	Apr. 27	Japan Disaster Relief Team dispatched in response to earthquake in Nepal (through May 22)	Jan. 30	A U.S. naval destroyer sails within 12 nautical miles of Triton Island, Paracel Islands in the South China Sea and conducts Freedom of Navigation Operation	Jul. 2	Bangladeshi militants take hostages (7 Japanese nationals are killed); ISIL claims responsibility on the Internet		
	Apr. 27	The new "Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation" is approved at the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee meeting ("2+2," New York)	Jan. 31	China's intelligence gathering aircraft and early warning aircraft pass Tsushima Strait for the first time through to the Sea of Japan	Jul. 8	The U.S. and ROK decide on the deployment of THAAD to U.S. Forces Korea		
	Apr. 30	Promulgation and enforcement of the Special Measures Act on the Number of Years of the National Subsidization of Specific Defense Procurements (so-called "Long-term Contract Act")	Feb. 01	Chinese Ministry of National Defense dismantles seven Military Regions and announces the establishment of five theaters of operations	Jul. 9	North Korea launches a submarine-launched ballistic missile		
	May 09	North Korea announces SLBM launch test was conducted successfully	Feb. 02	Four Chinese vessels sail through Tsugaru Strait to the Pacific Ocean	Jul. 11	ASDF aircraft dispatched to Juba, the capital of South Sudan, to transport Japanese nationals overseas due to the situation deterioration in South Sudan (through July 26)		
	May 14	Cabinet decision on "Bill for the Development of Legislation for Peace and Security" and "International Peace Support Bill"	Feb. 04	A Chinese Navy AGI conducts round-trip northeast-southwest passages near the contiguous zone southeast of the Boso Peninsula (through February 8)	Jul. 12	The arbitral tribunal renders a final award in which nearly all of the Philippines' submissions are ruled in favor of the Philippines with regard to arbitral proceedings pursuant to the South China Sea		
	May 14	Cabinet decisions on "Responses to Foreign Naval Vessels Carrying Out Navigation through the Territorial Sea or the Internal Waters of Japan that Does Not Fall Under Innocent Passage in International Law," "The Government's Responses to Illegal Landing on a Remote Island or its Surrounding Seas by an Armed Group," and "Responses to Acts of Infringement When Self-Defense Force Ships or Aircraft Detect Foreign Ships Committing Said Acts Against Japanese Private Ships on the High Seas"	Feb. 07	North Korea launches a ballistic missile disguised as a "Satellite"	Jul. 15	Terror attack with a truck occurs in Nice, France		
	May 21	Two Chinese bombers fly between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island to the Pacific Ocean (Air Force spokesperson announces first flight by Chinese Air Force aircraft in this airspace)	Feb. 16	Locations of equipment deemed to be surface-to-air missile in Woody Island, Paracel Islands are confirmed	Jul. 18	Chinese Air Force announces that it will be conducting combat patrol in the South China Sea on a regular basis		
	May 26	China releases defense white paper, "China's Military Strategy"	Jan. 06	North Korea conducts fourth nuclear test which it called a "hydrogen bomb test"	Jul. 19	North Korea launches three ballistic missiles		
	May 31	Dispatched MSDF personnel as commander of Combined Task Force (CTF 151) for counter-piracy operations (through August 27)	Jan. 11	Chinese Ministry of National Defense announces organizational realignment of the Central Military Commission (dismantlement of four general departments, CMC's introduction of multiple section system)	Aug. 3	2nd Reshuffled 3rd Abe Cabinet is established		
	Jun. 11	Naha District Court's Okinawa Branch renders judgment in 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th Futenma Air Station noise suits	Jan. 26	Two Russian bombers conduct flight along the perimeter of Japan	Aug. 3	Inada becomes Minister of Defense		
	Jun. 12	Two Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Jan. 30	A U.S. naval destroyer sails within 12 nautical miles of Triton Island, Paracel Islands in the South China Sea and conducts Freedom of Navigation Operation	Aug. 3	North Korea launches two ballistic missiles (one of them fell into Japan's EEZ)		
	Jul. 01	U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Dempsey releases National Military Strategy	Jan. 31	China's intelligence gathering aircraft and early warning aircraft pass Tsushima Strait for the first time through to the Sea of Japan	Aug. 5	200 to 300 Chinese fishing vessels operate in the waters near the Senkaku Islands. Chinese government vessels intrude into Japan's territorial waters following the fishing vessels for the first time (total of 15 vessels in 5 days / through August 9)		
	Jul. 03	Disaster relief teams dispatched to support search of missing persons in Mt. Ontake (through August 7)	Feb. 01	Chinese Ministry of National Defense dismantles seven Military Regions and announces the establishment of five theaters of operations	Aug. 12	Three Chinese naval vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		
Jul. 18	Three Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean	Feb. 02	Four Chinese vessels sail through Tsugaru Strait to the Pacific Ocean	Aug. 18	A Chinese early warning aircraft and two bombers fly over Tsushima and advance to the Sea of Japan			
Jul. 29	China's intelligence gathering aircraft, early warning aircraft, and two bombers fly between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island through to the Pacific Ocean (July 30)	Feb. 04	A Chinese Navy AGI conducts round-trip northeast-southwest passages near the contiguous zone southeast of the Boso Peninsula (through February 8)	Aug. 24	North Korea launches a submarine-launched ballistic missile			
		Feb. 07	North Korea launches a ballistic missile disguised as a "Satellite"	Aug. 30	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the heavy rainfall due to Typhoon 10 in Iwate Prefecture (through September 16)			
		Feb. 16	Locations of equipment deemed to be surface-to-air missile in Woody Island, Paracel Islands are confirmed	Aug. 31	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the heavy rainfall due to Typhoon 10 in Hokkaido (through September 18)			
				Sep. 05	North Korea launches three ballistic missiles (fell into Japan's EEZ)			
				Sep. 09	North Korea conducts its fifth nuclear test			

Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	Year	Date	Major Events	
2016	Sep. 12	First training relocation involves Tilt-Rotor/Rotary wing aircraft outside of Okinawa Prefecture in the context of the realignment of the U. S. Forces (through October 5)	2017	May 24	A U.S. naval destroyer sails within 12 nautical miles of the Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea and conducts the "Freedom of Navigation Operation" (reported)	2017	Nov. 23	Four Chinese bombers and an intelligence gathering aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island to reach the Pacific Ocean and thereafter pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island again to fly toward the East China Sea. An intelligence gathering aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island via Sakishima Islands in the South Pacific and flies toward the East China Sea	
	Sep. 25	Four Chinese bombers, two intelligence gathering aircraft, and two fighter jets (probable) pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean (fighter jets [probable] are observed for the first time passing)		May 29	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (fell into Japan's EEZ)		Nov. 28	Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and moves to the East China Sea	
	Oct. 15	North Korea launches a ballistic missile		May 31	Dispatch of SDF units to UNMISS is terminated		Nov. 29	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (lands in Japan's EEZ)	
	Oct. 20	North Korea launches a ballistic missile		Jul. 01	Establishment of Southwestern Air Defense Force		Dec. 05	Chinese vessels sail east bound from the Osumi Strait and advances to the Pacific Ocean	
	Oct. 20	Three Chinese naval vessels pass through the Osumi Strait and advance to the Pacific Ocean		Jul. 02	A Chinese naval Dongdiao-class intelligence gathering ship sails within Japan's territorial waters near the southwest of Kojima Island, Matsumae Town, Hokkaido		Dec. 07	A Chinese early warning aircraft and four bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island to reach the Pacific Ocean and thereafter pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island again	
	Oct. 21	A U.S. destroyer sails around the Paracel Islands in the South China Sea as part of the "Freedom of Navigation Operation"		Jul. 02	A U.S. naval destroyer conducts the "Freedom of Navigation Operation" within 12 nautical miles of Triton Island, Paracel Islands in the South China Sea (reported)		Dec. 07	A Chinese vessel passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and moves to the East China Sea	
	Oct. 27	China's early warning aircraft and intelligence gathering aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean		Jul. 04	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (lands in Japan's EEZ)		Dec. 07	A Chinese vessel passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and moves to the East China Sea	
	Oct. 28	Signing and entry into force of the Japan-U.S.-Australia Trilateral Information Sharing Arrangement		Jul. 05	Disaster relief teams dispatched in response to the heavy rain in North Kyushu in July 2017 (through August 20)		Dec. 09	Four Chinese bombers and an electronic warfare aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island to reach the Pacific Ocean and thereafter pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island again to fly toward the East China Sea	
	Nov. 01	Cabinet Decision regarding changes to the procedures for responding to piracy (reducing the number of ships to engage in counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden from two to one)		Jul. 05	16 Russian vessels pass through the Soya Strait and move to the Sea of Japan		Dec. 09	The Iraqi government declares liberation of all areas from the ISIL	
	Nov. 15	Cabinet Decision on changes in the "Implementation Plans for the International Peace Cooperation Assignment for the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)" (mission of "kakesuke-keigo" was added)		Jul. 13	Two Chinese bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean. Four other bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and fly toward the East China Sea		Dec. 09	Two Chinese bombers, two fighter jets (probable), an intelligence gathering aircraft and an electronic warfare aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island to reach the Pacific Ocean and thereafter two fighter jets (probable) turn around and pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island again to fly toward the continent. The bombers, electronic warfare aircraft and intelligence gathering aircraft fly toward the Bashi Channel via the south of Sakishima Islands on the Pacific Ocean side	
	Nov. 18	The Russian Forces announces the deployment of surface-to-ship missile on the islands of Etorofu and Kunashiri		Jul. 15	Two China Coast Guard vessels sail in Japan's territorial waters in the southeast of Tsushima-shimajima (Tsushima City, Nagasaki Prefecture) and north of Okinoshima (Munakata City, Fukuoka Prefecture)		Dec. 11	President Putin visits Syria and announces withdrawal of the main part of troops (The two bases in Syria will continue daily operation)	
	Nov. 23	Signing and entry into force of Japan-ROK General Security of Military Information Agreement		Jul. 17	Two China Coast Guard vessels sail in Japan's territorial waters in the west-northwest of Henashisaki (Nishitsugaru County, Aomori Prefecture) and northeast of Tappizaki (Higashitsugaru County, Aomori Prefecture)		Dec. 13	Fall of a U.S. Forces helicopter window onto Futenma Dai-ni Elementary School in Ginowan City, Okinawa Prefecture	
	Nov. 25	Two bombers, two intelligence gathering aircraft, and two fighter jets fly over the sky between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island (four aircraft except the fighter jets fly from the south of Sakishima Islands)		Jul. 20	A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft, an intelligence gathering aircraft and four bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and fly toward the East China Sea. Four bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance from the East China Sea to the Pacific Ocean		Dec. 17	A Chinese intelligence gathering aircraft and two electronic warfare aircrafts pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and fly to the East China Sea	
	Dec. 01	Japan-France defense equipment and technology agreement takes effect		Jul. 24	Chinese bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies toward the East China Sea		Dec. 18	A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies to the East China Sea	
	Dec. 10	Two Chinese fighter jets, two bombers, and two intelligence gathering aircraft fly between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island (four aircraft except the fighter jets fly toward the Bashi Channel)		Jul. 28	Minister of Defense Kishida came into office		Dec. 18	The United States releases the National Security Strategy	
	Dec. 22	The implementation Guidelines for Article 95-2 of the SDF Law (decided by the National Security Council)		Jul. 28	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (lands in Japan's EEZ)		Dec. 18	A Chinese Su-30 fighter jet's advance to the Sea of Japan is confirmed for the first time	
	Dec. 22	Transition to the joint production and deployment phases of advanced interceptor missiles for BMD (SM-3 Block IIA) (decided at the National Security Council)		Aug. 01	China conducts a flag raising ceremony for the Support Base in Djibouti		Dec. 19	National Security Council and Cabinet approval on the "fundamental improvement in ballistic missile defense capability"	
	Dec. 25	Six Chinese naval vessels including an aircraft carrier sail between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance into the Pacific Ocean (first time a Chinese aircraft carrier is observed sailing into the Pacific Ocean)		Aug. 03	Minister of Defense Onodera came into office		Dec. 19	The United States denounces North Korea for the cyber attack using malware "WannaCry" in May 2017	
	Dec. 26	Governor of Okinawa Onaga withdraws his cancellation of the reclamation approval (Futenma Replacement Facility construction project)		Aug. 09	A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies toward the East China Sea		Dec. 20	A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies to the East China Sea	
	Dec. 27	"China's Space Activities in 2016" is released		Aug. 10	A U.S. naval destroyer conducts the "Freedom of Navigation Operation" within 12 nautical miles of the Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea (reported)				
	2017	Jan. 09		Six Chinese bombers, an early warning aircraft, and an intelligence gathering aircraft fly over the Tsushima Strait and advance to the Sea of Japan	Aug. 12		A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft and two bombers pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and fly toward the East China Sea		
		Jan. 14		Signing of Japan-Australia Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) (Sydney)	Aug. 13		Two Chinese electronic warfare aircrafts pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and fly toward the East China Sea		
		Jan. 24		Two Russian bombers fly and circle around Japan	Aug. 14		A Chinese electronic warfare aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies toward the East China Sea		
		Feb. 08		U.S. Navy P-3 patrol aircraft and Chinese military aircraft fly abnormally close to each other (South China Sea)	Aug. 17		A car runs into pedestrians in Barcelona, Spain		
		Feb. 12		North Korea launches a ballistic missile	Aug. 23		Two Russian bombers fly and circle around Japan		
		Mar. 02		A Chinese early warning aircraft, six bombers (probable), and six fighter jets (probable) fly between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advance to the Pacific Ocean (total of 13 aircraft, the largest fleet so far)	Aug. 24		Six Chinese bombers, after passing between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island, fly over the Pacific Ocean in the south of Kyushu and Shikoku, turn around off the Kii Peninsula, and fly to the East China Sea on a similar route (First time for a Chinese aircraft to fly northeast bound after advancing to the Pacific Ocean)		
		Mar. 02		Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and moves to the East China Sea	Aug. 26		MSDF SH-60J helicopter falls into the sea west of Tappizaki, Aomori Prefecture		
Mar. 05		Chinese vessels sail west bound from the Osumi Strait	Aug. 26	India announces agreement between India and China on disagreement of border personnel at Doklam following the confrontation of their forces					
Mar. 06		North Korea launches four ballistic missiles (three of them fell into Japan's EEZ)	Aug. 29	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (flies over Japan)					
Mar. 22		North Korea launches a ballistic missile	Sep. 03	North Korea conducts sixth nuclear test which it called a "hydrogen bomb test for ICBM"					
Mar. 23		Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and moves to the East China Sea	Sep. 15	North Korea launches a ballistic missile (flies over Japan)					
Mar. 27		Transfer of MSDF TC-90 to the Philippines	Oct. 01	Shooting in Las Vegas, United States					
Mar. 27		Completion of development of future transport aircraft (XC-2)	Oct. 10	A U.S. naval destroyer conducts the "Freedom of Navigation Operation" around the Paracel Islands in the South China Sea (reported)					
Apr. 02		Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advances to the Pacific Ocean	Oct. 11	A U.S. Forces helicopter conducts an emergency landing and catches fire in Higashi-son, Kunigami-gun, Okinawa Prefecture					
Apr. 05		North Korea launches a ballistic missile	Oct. 17	ASDF UH-60J helicopter crashed in the Pacific Ocean south of Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture					
Apr. 06		U.S. launches strikes on Syria	Nov. 11	Three U.S. carrier strike groups conduct joint exercises in the western Pacific (through November 14)					
Apr. 16		North Korea launches a ballistic missile	Nov. 18	A Chinese intelligence gathering aircraft passes between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and flies toward the Bashi Channel					
Apr. 18		Chinese vessels sail west bound from the Osumi Strait	Nov. 19	Four Chinese bombers, an intelligence gathering aircraft and an electronic warfare aircraft pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island from the East China Sea to reach the Pacific Ocean and thereafter pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island again to fly toward the East China Sea					
Apr. 20		China launches its first unmanned cargo spacecraft "Tianzhou 1"	Nov. 20	The United States re-designates North Korea as a State Sponsor of Terrorism					
Apr. 24		Chinese vessels pass between the main island of Okinawa and Miyako Island and advances to the Pacific Ocean							
Apr. 25		Commencement of seawall construction (Futenma Replacement Facility construction project)							
Apr. 26		China's first domestically built aircraft carrier is launched							
Apr. 29		North Korea launches a ballistic missile							
May 14		North Korea launches a ballistic missile							
May 18		An object believed to be a small unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) flies over the front of the bridge of a Chinese government ship which is within Japan's territorial waters near the Senkaku Islands							
May 21		North Korea launches a ballistic missile							
May 23		Martial law is declared in Mindanao in the Philippines							