



April 9, 2021

Statistics on scrambles through FY2020

1. Overall

The Japan's Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) fighter aircrafts were scrambled 725 times in FY2020.

A breakdown of JASDF scrambles by country and region showed about 63% against Chinese aircraft, about 36% against Russian aircraft, and about 1% against other aircraft, although the numbers include estimates.

2. Breakdown of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Forces

In FY2020, fighter aircraft of the Northern Air Defense Force were scrambled 206 times, those of the Central Air Defense Force 36 times, those of the Western Air Defense Force 79 times, and those of the Southwestern Air Defense Force 404 times.

3. Characteristics of Responses in FY2020

The JASDF fighter aircraft were scrambled 458 times against Chinese aircraft and 258 times against Russian aircraft.

In FY2020, a total of 14 flight cases were made public, including the joint flight by Chinese H-6 bomber and Russian Tu-95 bomber from the Sea of Japan to the Pacific Ocean via the East China Sea.

The JASDF conducted many of the scrambles in FY2020 against intelligence gathering aircraft among Chinese and Russian military aircraft, although the data includes estimates.

The data above was collected between April 1, 2020, and March 31, 2021.

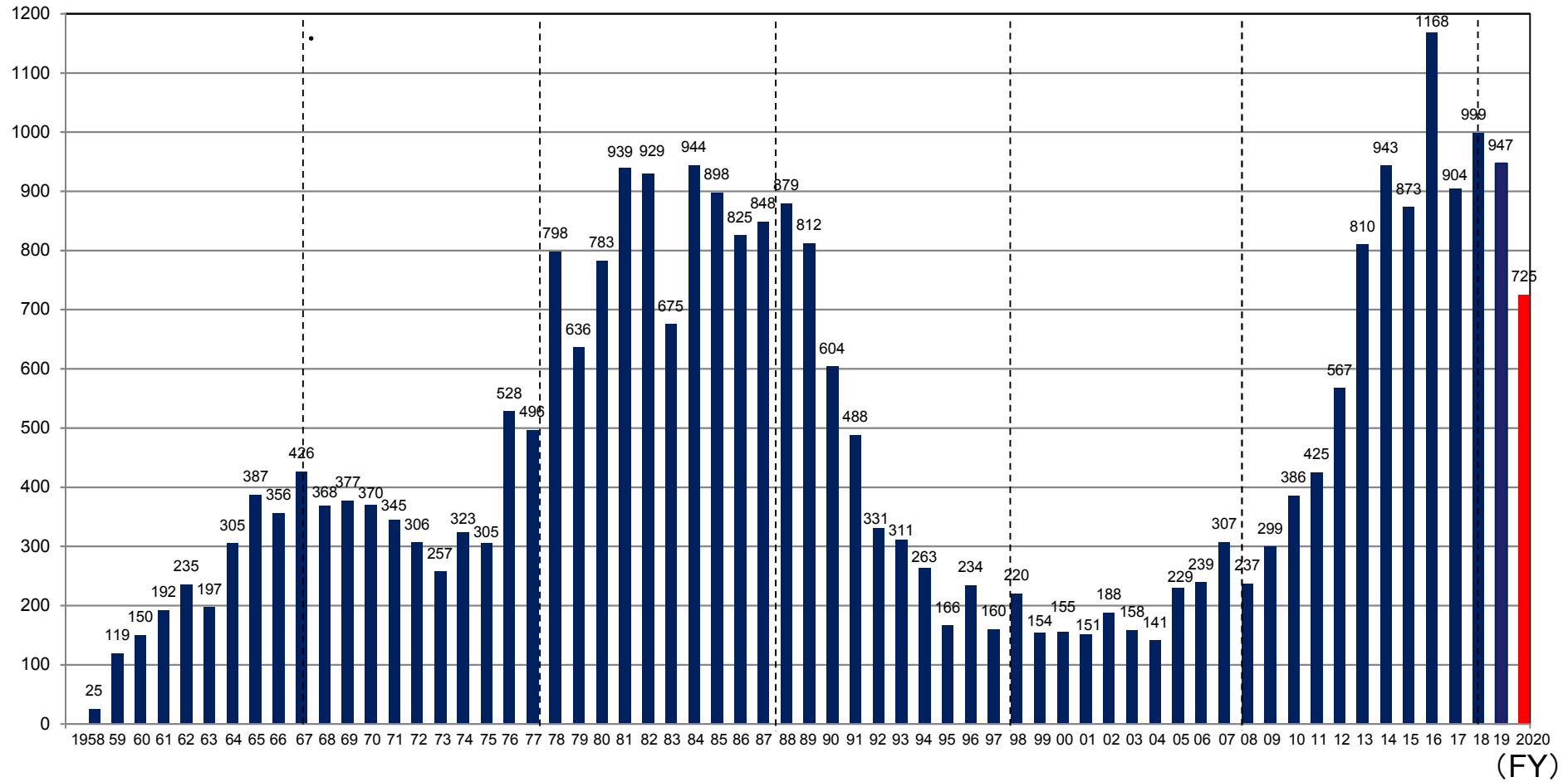
References

1. Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year
2. Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Forces (Past Five Years)
3. Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)
4. Number of Scrambles by Quarter (FY2020)
5. Examples of Flight Pattern of Russian and Chinese Aircraft subject to Scrambles
6. Cases of Detection of Airspace Intrusions Made Public
7. List of Violation of Territorial Airspace Made Public in FY2020
8. List of Cases of Unusual Flights Made Public in FY2020

Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year

(Number of times)

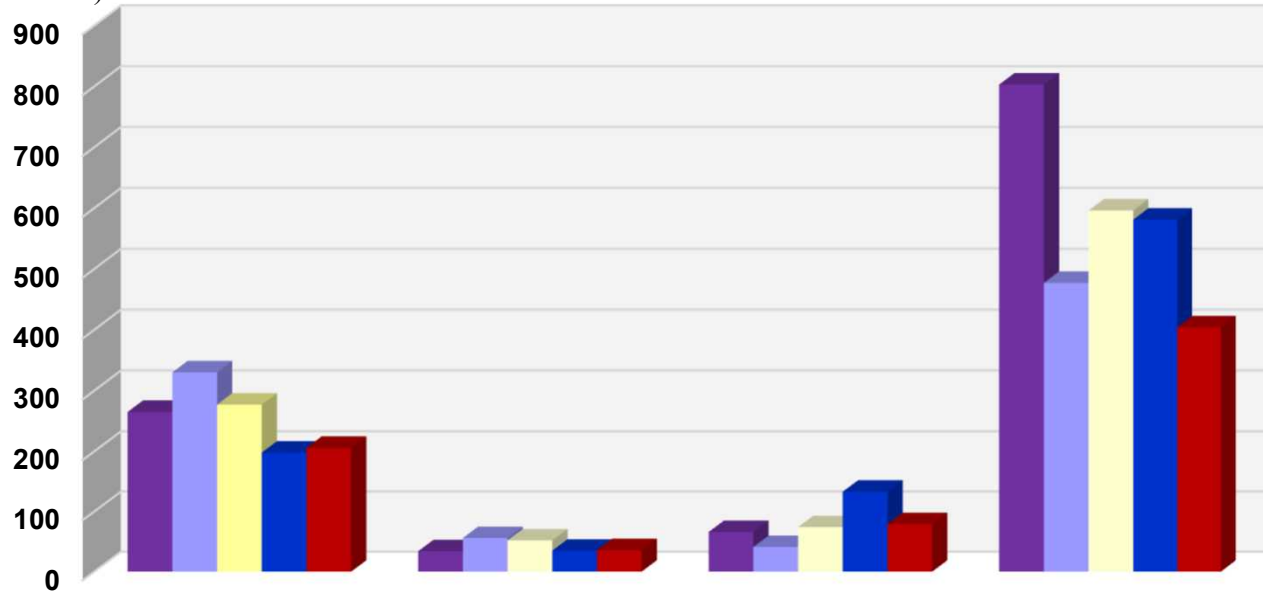
(As of March 31, 2021)



Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force (Past Five Years)

(As of December 31, 2021)

(Number of times)



	Northern Air Defense Force	Central Air Defense Force	Western Air Defense Force	Southwestern Air Defense Force	Total
■ FY2016	265	34	66	803	1168
■ FY2017	330	56	41	477	904
■ FY2018	277	52	74	596	999
■ FY2019	198	35	133	581	947
■ FY2020	206	36	79	404	725

Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)

(As of December 31, 2021)

Country/ Region FY	Russia	China	Taiwan	North Korea	Other countries	Total
2016	301	851	8	0	8	1168
2017	390	500	3	0	11	904
2018	343	638	0	0	18	999
2019	268	675	0	0	4	947
2020	258	458	0	0	9	725

※ The number of times of scrambles by country/region includes some unconfirmed cases.

Number of Scrambles by Quarter (FY2020)

(As of March 31, 2021)

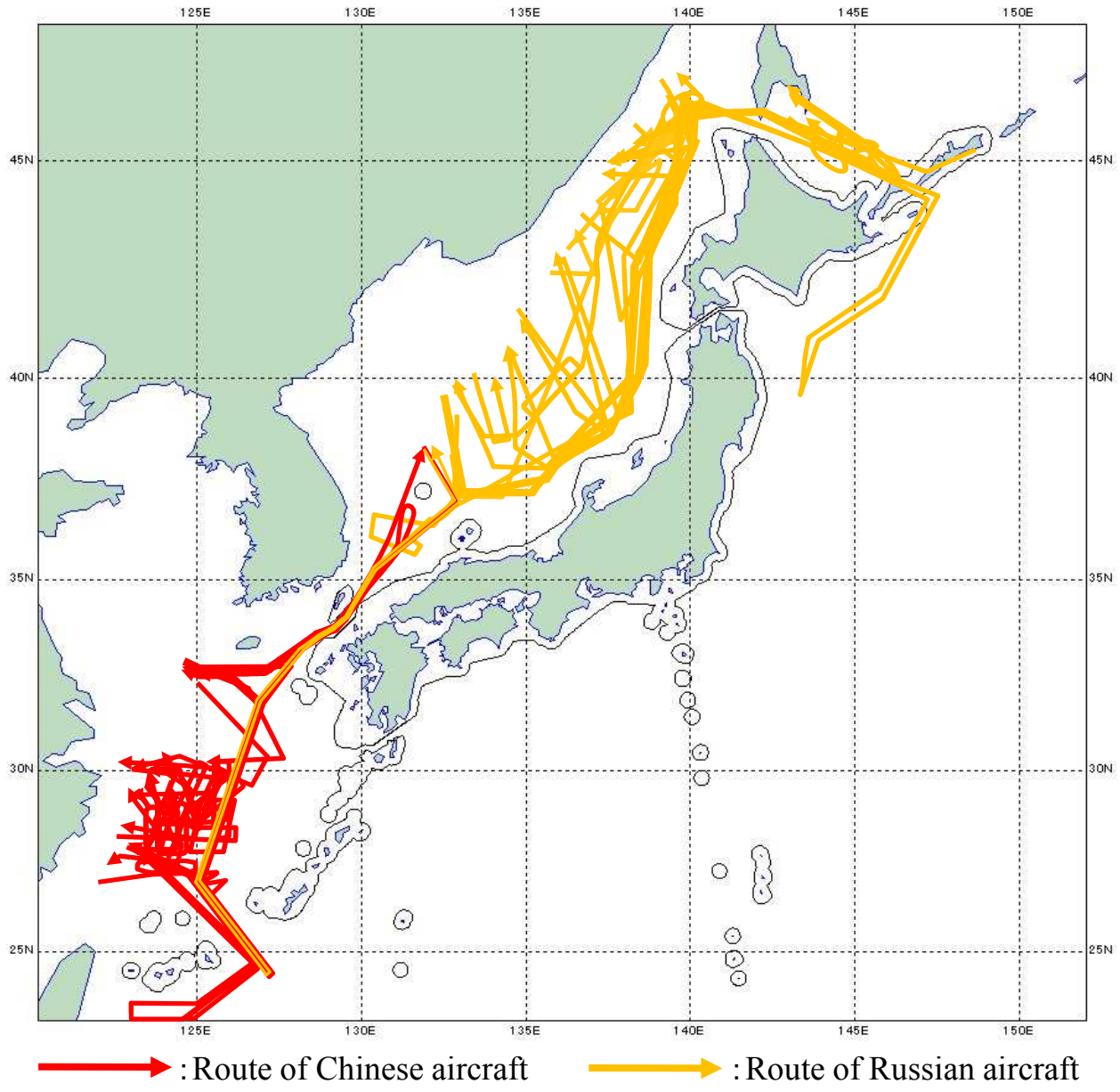
1. Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force

	Northern Air Defense Force	Central Air Defense Force	Western Air Defense Force	Southwestern Air Defense Force	Total
1 st Quarter	55	4	33	102	194
2 nd Quarter	61	9	15	92	177
3 rd Quarter	50	13	20	90	173
4 th Quarter	40	10	11	120	181
Total	206	36	79	404	725

2. Number of Scrambles by Country/Region

	Russia	China	Taiwan	North Korea	Other countries	Total
1 st Quarter	60	131	0	0	3	194
2 nd Quarter	74	103	0	0	0	177
3 rd Quarter	72	97	0	0	4	173
4 th Quarter	52	127	0	0	2	181
Total	258	458	0	0	9	725

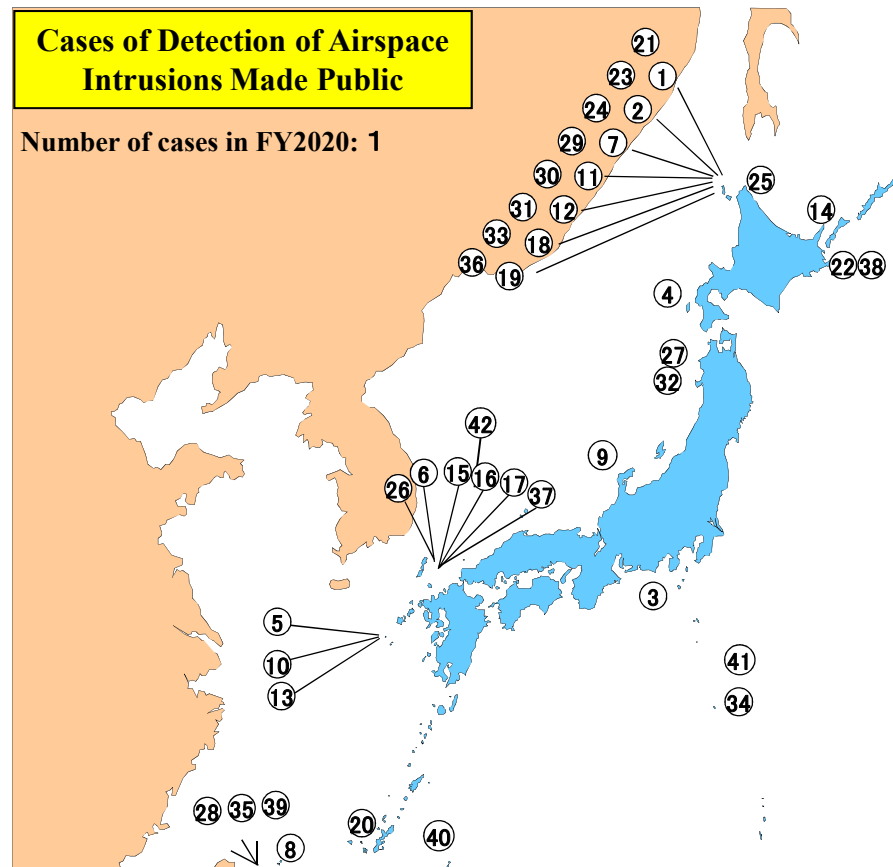
Flight Pattern Examples of Russian and Chinese Aircraft Subject to Scrambles



No.	Date	Point of Territory Invasion	Country/Region	Type of Aircraft × Number of Aircraft
1	1967.8.19	Over Rebus Island, Hokkaido	The Soviet Union (USSR)	unknown × 1
2	1974.2.7	Over Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
3	1975.9.24	Over the territorial waters between Shikine Island and Kodu Island of the Izu Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
4	1976.9.6	Over from off Cape Motta, Hokkaido to Hakodate Airport (MIG-25 incident)	USSR	MIG-25 × 1
5	1977.9.7	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Shirase Island, in the western of the Goto Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
6	1978.3.17	Over the territorial waters eastward of Tsushima Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 1
7	1978.12.5	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
8	1979.11.15	Over the territorial waters southward of Taisho Island of the Senkaku Islands	USSR	TU-95 × 2
9	1980.6.29	Over the territorial waters northeastward of Hegura Island, in the north of the Noto Peninsula	USSR	IL-38 × 2
10	1980.8.18	Over the territorial waters southeastward of the Goto Islands	USSR	IL-62 × 1
11	1981.6.6	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	IL-14 × 1
12	1981.7.24	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
13	1982.4.3	Over the territorial waters westward of Torishima Island of the Danjo Islands, Nagasaki Prefecture	USSR	IL-62 × 1
14	1983.10.15	Over the territorial waters in the northeastward of the Shiretoko Cape, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 2
15	1983.11.15	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-16/95 × 1 each
16	1984.11.12	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-16 × 1
17	1984.11.23	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	USSR	TU-95/142 × 1 each
18	1986.2.6	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
19	1987.8.27	Over the territorial waters westward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
20	1987.12.9	Over the Okinawa Main Island and the territorial waters between Tokunoshima Island and Okinoerabu Island	USSR	TU-16 × 1
21	1989.4.21	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	unknown × 1
22	1991.7.6	Over the territorial waters southward of the Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido	USSR	AN-30 × 1
23	1991.8.15	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	USSR	TU-95 × 2
24	1992.4.10	Over Rebus Island and the territorial waters northwestward of Wakkanai, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	AN-12 × 1
25	1992.5.7	Over the territorial waters off Esashi, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	unknown × 1
26	1992.7.28	Over the territorial waters eastward of Tsushima Islands, Nagasaki Prefecture	Russian Federation	TU-154 × 1
27	1993.8.31	Over the territorial waters westward of Kyurokujima Island, Aomori Prefecture	Russian Federation	IL-20 × 1
28	1994.3.25	Over the territorial waters of Uotsuri Island and Kuba Island of the Senkaku Islands	Taiwan	B-350 × 1
29	1995.3.23	Over the territorial waters of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	MIG-31 × 1
30	2001.2.14	Over the territorial waters of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	TU-22 × 2, unknown × 2


Cases of Detection of Airspace Intrusions Made Public

Number of cases in FY2020: 1



No.	Date	Point of Territory Invasion	Country/Region	Type of Aircraft × Number of Aircraft
31	2001.4.11	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	unknown × 1
32	2001.4.11	Over the territorial waters westward of Kyurokujima Island, Aomori Prefecture	Russian Federation	SU-24 × 1
33	2006.1.25	Over the territorial waters northward of Rebus Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	AN-72 × 1
34	2008.2.9	Over the territorial waters of Sofugan, in the southern part of the Izu Islands	Russian Federation	TU-95 × 1
35	2012.12.13	Over the territorial waters southward of Uotsuri Island of the Senkaku Islands	China	Y-12 × 1
36	2013.2.7	Over the territorial waters southwestward of Rishiri Island, Hokkaido	Russian Federation	SU-27 × 2
37	2013.8.22	Over the territorial waters northwestward of Okinoshima Island, Fukuoka Prefecture	Russian Federation	TU-95 × 2
38	2015.9.15	Over the territorial waters off Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido	Estimated to be Russian Federation	unknown × 1
39	2017.5.18	around the Senkaku Islands of Japan	China	One drone-like object
40	2019.6.20	Over the territorial waters north west of Minamidaito Island	Russian Federation	TU-95 × 2
41		Over the territorial waters north west of Hachijo Island	Russian Federation	TU-95 × 1
42	2019.7.23	Over the territorial waters off Takeshima Island	Russian Federation	A-50 × 1
43	2020.10.2	Flight in the territorial airspace near the headland of Shiretoko	Russian Federation	Mi-8 × 1

List of Airspace Violation Case Made Public (Third Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Friday, October 2, 2020	Russia Mi-8 One aircraft	Flight in the territorial airspace near the headland of Shiretoko	

List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (First Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Thursday, April 9, 2020	Russia IL-38 Two aircraft	Round-trip from the Sea of Okhotsk to the Sea of Japan	
2	Wednesday, June 10, 2020	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
3	Monday, June 22, 2020	China Y-9 One aircraft	Round-trip flight from the East China Sea to the Sea of Japan through Tsushima Strait	
4	Sunday, June 28, 2020	China H-6 Two aircraft	Round-trip from the East China Sea to the Pacific	

List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (Second Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
5	Friday, August 14, 2020	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
6	Wednesday, August 19, 2020	Russia Tu-95 Two aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
		Possibility Russia Six aircraft		
7	Friday, August 28, 2020	Russia IL-38 Two aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
8	Friday, September 25, 2020	China Y-9 One aircraft	Round-trip from the East China Sea to the Pacific	

List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (Third Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
9	Friday, November 6, 2020	Russia A-50 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
		Possibility Russia Eight aircraft		
10	Saturday, November 21, 2020	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
11	Thursday, December 22, 2020	China H-6 Four aircraft	Joint flight over the Sea of Japan, the East China Sea, and the Pacific through Tsushima Strait	
		Russia Tu-95 Two aircraft		

List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (Fourth Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
12	Thursday, March 11, 2021	Russia A-50 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk	
		Possibility Russia Eight aircraft		
13	Monday, March 29, 2021	China Y-9 One aircraft	Round-trip from the East China Sea to the Pacific	
		China Y-9 One aircraft		
14	Monday, March 29, 2021	Russia IL-38 Two aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	