

# Chapter 4

## Strengthening of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

### Overview

#### Section 1. The Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

#### Section 2. Japan-U.S. Security Consultation on the Future of the Japan-U.S. Alliance

#### Section 3. Measures and Policies for Enhancing Credibility of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements



The defense ministers of Japan and the United States meet the press after a meeting of the Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (SCC) in October last year



Japanese Minister of State for Defense Nukaga and U.S. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld to start the Japan-U.S. Defense Ministers Meeting



Futenma Air Station



Japan's F-15 jet fighter receiving air-to-air refueling from a U.S. military plane

Section 1. The Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

The Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty<sup>1</sup> are a pillar of the defense of Japan. The Japan-U.S. alliance, founded on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, constitutes a foundation that is indispensable to the maintenance of peace and stability not only of Japan but also of the Asia-Pacific region. The close Japan-U.S. partnership based on the Japan-U.S. alliance

plays an important role in effectively responding to many difficult security challenges in the world. Also, the Japan-U.S. alliance is becoming increasingly important in promoting the fundamental values that Japan and the United States share, including basic human rights, freedom, democracy, and rule of law, in the international community.

This section explains today's significance of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements in terms of the security of Japan, and recent developments. (See Fig. 4-1-1)

Major Milestones in the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty

1951	<b>Former Japan-U.S. Security Treaty approved by the Diet</b>
1952	Treaty enters into force
1958	Fujiyama-Dulles Talks (agreement on revision of the Treaty)
1960	<b>Japan-U.S. Security Treaty approved and enters into force</b>
1968	(Ogasawara Islands revert to Japan)
1969	Sato-Nixon Talks (extension of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, return of Okinawa to Japan by 1972)
1972	(Return of Okinawa)
1978	Former guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation
1996	Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security
1997	Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation

Fig. 4-1-1

1. The Significance of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

Japan owes its prosperity and development since the end of World War II to the wisdom and hard work of its people, and to the fact that Japan has taken all possible measures to ensure peace and security by conducting defense efforts by itself and by ensuring the effective functioning of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. When restoring independence after the end of World War II, Japan has decided to form an alliance with the United States and become a member of the Free World based on freedom and democracy, as Japan's security strategy. This decision led to the prosperity and development of Japan since then.

The international situation remains full of unpredictable and uncertain elements. A number of destabilizing factors are also prevalent in the Asia-Pacific region, including armed antagonism in the Korean Peninsula, the expansion and modernization of military capabilities by regional countries, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles. In addition, as represented by the fight against terrorism since the 9-11 terrorist attacks in the United States, security issues have been increasingly globalized. In such environment, the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and cooperative relationship between Japan and the U.S. based on such arrangements play the following roles in Japan's defense and regional peace and stability as well as in the improvement of the international security environment. Japan therefore needs to maintain and further strengthen the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements on a continuous basis.

(1) Maintenance of Japan's Security

In today's international community, any country intending to secure peace and independence must build

a watertight system of defense strong enough to cope with every contingency, ranging from various types of armed attacks, including the use of nuclear weapons, to threats or intimidation backed up by military force. In today's globalized international community, however, it is impossible even for the United States, a superpower in the world, to ensure its security alone. It is not therefore feasible for Japan to establish and maintain such a defense posture by itself, in terms of its population, land, and economy. Also, it would not be an appropriate political stance for Japan to take and would not necessarily contribute to regional stability.

Therefore, Japan has maintained the alliance with the U.S., which possesses immense military power, shares with Japan the basic values of ideals of democracy, respect for freedom and human rights, and interests in the maintenance of peace and security in the world, has strong economic ties with Japan, and is widely accepted in the Asia-Pacific region. Japan believes that it can build a watertight defense posture to ensure its security by using the deterrent power realized by the immense military power of the United States effectively and by maintaining an appropriate level of defense forces.

Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty provides that Japan and the United States will take bilateral actions in the event of an Armed Attack on Japan. The U.S. obligation to defend Japan means that any country attempting an Armed Attack on Japan would have to contend not only with the SDF but also with the overwhelming military power of the United States. This would surely make potential aggressors hesitate to invade Japan, and therefore act as a deterrent to any such invasion.

## **(2) Maintenance of Peace and Stability in the Region Surrounding Japan**

Article 6 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty provides that the United States is granted the use of facilities and areas in Japan for the purpose of contributing to the "security of Japan" and the "maintenance of international peace and security in the Far East". This provision was made based on the recognition that the maintenance of peace in the Far East is closely related to the maintenance of security of Japan.

The close relationship between Japan and the United States, founded on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, including the presence of U.S. forces in Japan, forms a basis for securing the engagement of the United States necessary for maintaining the peace and stability of the region surrounding Japan. Together with alliances<sup>2</sup> and friendly relations between the United States and other countries of this region, the Japan-U.S. alliance continues to play a key role in securing the peace and stability of the region in the post-Cold War era.

## **(3) Improvement of International Security Environment**

The Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements provide the foundation for comprehensive and overall Japan-U.S. friendly and cooperative relations in a wide range of areas, including politics, economy, and society in addition to defense. The Japan-U.S. partnership, founded on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, constitutes a basis for Japan's foreign policy and helps Japan play a positive role in maintaining the peace and stability of the international community, including the promotion of multilateral security dialogues/cooperation and contributions to U.N. activities.

The international community has been increasingly concerned about new threats and diverse contingencies, such as international terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, since the 9-11 terrorist attacks in the United States. Under these circumstances,



The leaders of Japan and the United States shook hands before their summit meeting  
[Public Relations Office of Cabinet Office]

the close partnership between Japan and the United States based on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements is essentially important for the international community to effectively implement cooperative activities to improve its security environment.

In particular, under the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, the SDF and U.S. forces are making efforts to improve coordination in various fields in normal times. This close coordination forms a basis for effective cooperation between the SDF and U.S. forces.

The peace and prosperity of the international community is closely linked with Japan's peace and prosperity. Japan, therefore, can further ensure its peace and prosperity by cooperating with the United States, which has excellent ability to conduct international activities, in implementing measures to improve the international security environment.

## **2. Presence of U.S. Forces in Japan**

### **(1) Significance of Presence of U.S. Forces in Japan**

The United States stations its forces in Japan based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. In the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, Article 5 regulates the U.S. obligation to defend Japan, on the other hand, Article 6 provides that the United States is granted the use of facilities and areas in Japan for the purpose of contributing to the security of Japan and the maintenance of international peace and security in the Far East; therefore, obligations of both countries are balanced taken all together. This is the difference from the North Atlantic Treaty which regulates only action for defense in concert with the other parties.

In addition, if an Armed Attack against Japan breaks out, the USFJ facilities and areas will play an important role in helping both countries take bilateral actions immediately in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, and maintaining stable use of them is extremely important in the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

As already mentioned, the opponent will directly confront the U.S. forces in addition to the SDF. The U.S. forces in Japan will therefore act as deterrence to prevent an Armed Attack against Japan.

Furthermore, operations to defend Japan will be made not only by the U.S. forces in Japan but also by timely reinforcements. The U.S. forces in Japan will provide such reinforcements of U.S. forces with bases.

The U.S. forces in Japan fulfill these functions and play an extremely important role in ensuring Japan's security. Military presence of the U.S. forces provides the basis for U.S. involvement in the region, which is indispensable for maintaining regional peace and stability. (See Fig. 4-1-2)

### **(2) Facilities and Areas of the U.S. Forces in Japan and Local Communities which Host such Facilities and Areas**

In order that the facilities and areas of the U.S. forces in Japan fulfill their roles, understandings and cooperation of local communities where such facilities and areas are located are essential. On the other hand, during the past several tens of years since the conclusion of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, the social environment surrounding these facilities and areas has greatly changed, such as the progress of urbanization. For the U.S. facilities and areas to fulfill their roles and to be truly accepted and supported by Japanese people, it is necessary to minimize the impacts of facilities and areas on local communities.

As the land of Japan is comparatively small and plain areas are limited, facilities and areas of U.S. forces are adjacent to urban or industrial areas in many communities. In such communities, the presence of facilities and areas of USFJ and takeoffs and landings of aircraft impact heavily on the daily lives of local people and regional developments. That is a reason why appropriate efforts for reduction of the burdens on local communities are necessary.

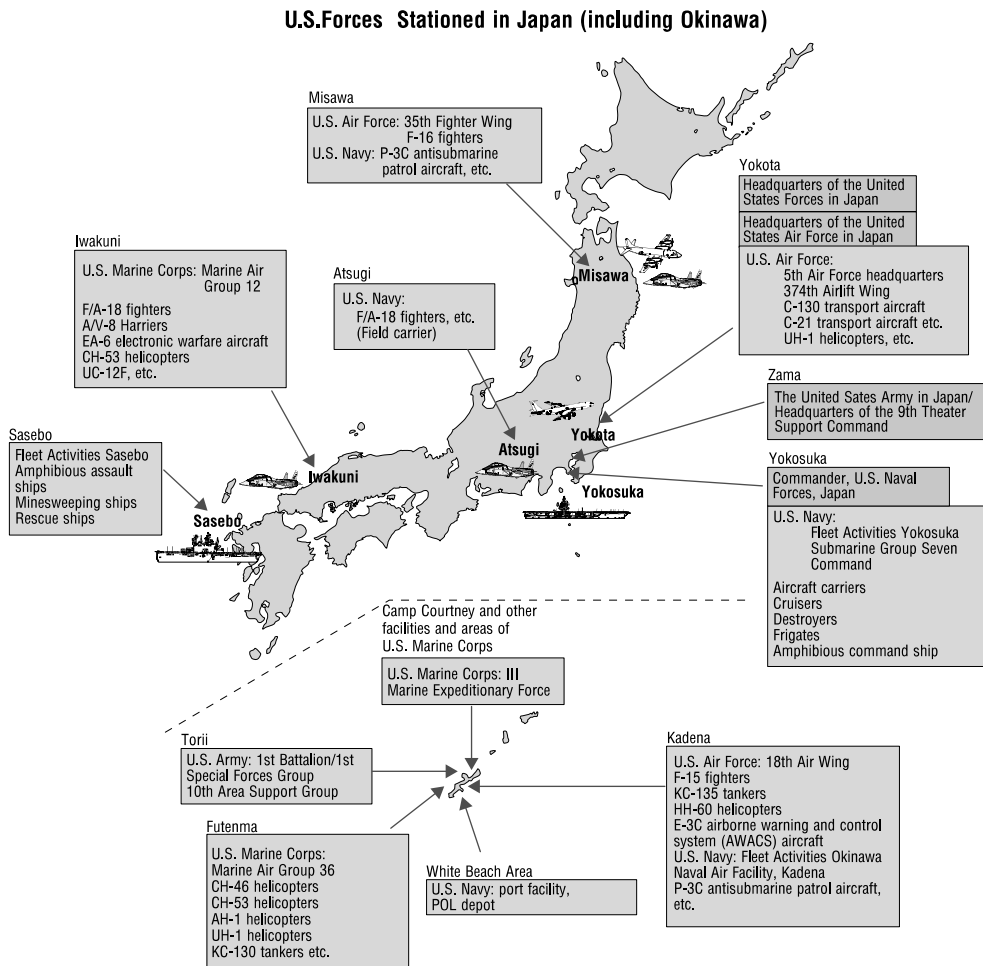


Fig. 4-1-2

### (3) U.S. Forces in Okinawa

Okinawa is located closer to countries in East Asia than U.S. mainland and territories such as Hawaii. Therefore, in case of emergency in this region, U.S. forces in Okinawa may rapidly respond to the situation. Furthermore, Okinawa has a geographic advantage that it is situated at certain distances from countries surrounding Japan. It would appear that the U.S. forces, including Marine Corps in charge of primary response to contingencies, station in Okinawa for above-mentioned reasons.

U.S. bases in Okinawa were provided to U.S. forces as facilities and areas under the Status of Forces Agreement when Okinawa was returned to Japan in May 1972. At present, many U.S. bases, including airfields, training

areas and logistical support facilities, are located in the prefecture. In terms of space, about 75% of the facilities and areas (exclusive use facilities) of U.S. forces in Japan are concentrated in Okinawa. It is therefore especially important to examine measures to reduce the burdens on Okinawa.

### 3. The Japan-U.S. Alliance in the New Century

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi visited the United States and had a Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting with U.S. President George W. Bush on June 29, 2006.

At the meeting, both leaders confirmed that the Japan-U.S. Alliance in the global context had been enhanced and established a basis for the Japan-U.S. Alliance in the next millennium in the last five years, and that Japan and the U.S. shares common values and interests and can contribute to the stability and prosperity of regions and the world. Issues such as humanitarian and reconstruction assistance in Iraq and situations in North Korea were also discussed, and with respect to the multiple launches of missiles by North Korea, the two leaders agreed on recognition that the said missile launches pose a serious issue to the international community.

Also at this summit meeting, a joint statement entitled "the Japan-U.S. Alliance in the Next Century" in which achievements and directions of the Japan-U.S. cooperation was published. In this statement, a new Japan-U.S. Alliance of global cooperation for the 21st century was declared, and followings are presented with respect to the issues including security cooperation.



The leaders of Japan and the United States jointly meeting the press after their summit meeting  
[Public Relations Office of Cabinet Office]

- The President and Prime Minister welcomed the tremendous progress in the U.S.-Japan security relationship achieved during their tenures. Bilateral security cooperation has deepened as a result of ballistic missile defense cooperation and legislation in Japan to deal with contingencies.
- The two leaders welcomed the establishment of common strategic objectives of February 2005 as well as the conclusion of watershed agreements to transform the alliance for the future. These agreements, including the most significant realignment of U.S. and Japanese forces in decades, constitute historic steps forward that make the U.S. military presence more enduring and effective, and ensure the capabilities necessary for the alliance to cope with diverse challenges in the evolving security environments. The two leaders agreed that full and prompt implementation of these agreements is necessary, not only for Japan and the United States, but also for peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.
- The two leaders affirmed that robust U.S.-Japan cooperation embraces the dynamism of China, and helps to maintain peace and tranquility in Northeast Asia. They called on North Korea to fulfill denuclearization pledges made in the September 2005 Joint Statement of the Six Party Talks and to continue to adhere to its missile test moratorium.
- The two leaders reaffirmed their common efforts on a wide range of global activities including recent successes in the war on terrorism, support for the new government in Iraq, and cooperation on counterproliferation activities, including on Iran. The President praised Japan's humanitarian and reconstruction assistance in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as Japan's support provided to coalition forces operating in the Indian Ocean.

Furthermore, it is stated in the statement that the two leaders shared the expectation that the U.S.-Japan

friendship and global cooperation shall continue to grow stronger, and that with respect to the security aspect, they agreed that full and prompt implementation of a series of Japan-U.S. agreements explained in the following Section is necessary.

As the Ministers emphasized the importance of examining the scope of security and defense cooperation in the Joint Statement of the SCC May 2006, we intend to deepen discussions with related ministries, agencies and the U.S. counterparts.

At any rate, it is required of the Defense Agency to examine broadly the vision of the Japan-U.S. security and defense cooperation for the next ten to twenty years.