

Summary of *Defense of Japan 2006*

To ensure peace and security for Japan and the international community, Japan needs to implement diverse measures in a comprehensive manner in response to the changing security environment surrounding the country. In particular, defense capability should play an important role in these measures.

The 9-11 attacks demonstrated that, in addition to traditional inter-state confrontations, non-state actors such as international terrorist organizations have emerged as a dire threat in today's security environment. The international community is facing urgent new threats and diverse contingencies, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles, as well as international terrorist activities.

There still exist massive military might including nuclear arsenals in the vicinity of Japan and a number of countries in the region are pouring efforts to modernize their military forces. There remain also unpredictable and uncertain factors, including problems concerning the Korean Peninsula and the cross-Taiwan Strait relations.

The National Defense Program Guidelines in and after 2005 (hereinafter "NDPG"), which was formulated in December 2004, sets out two objectives: (1) to prevent any threats from reaching Japan; and (2) to improve the international security environment. These objectives will be attained by combining the following three approaches in a comprehensive manner: (1) Japan's own efforts; (2) cooperative efforts with the United States, Japan's alliance partner; and (3) cooperative efforts with the international community. The following shows major developments made in each of these approaches.

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(1) As Japan's own efforts, the SDF improved its defense capability and shifted to a joint operational posture in March 2006 based on the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 2005 -2009). In addition, a draft bill was submitted to the Diet, with an aim to make the transition of the Defense Agency into a ministry and to upgrade cooperative activities that the SDF conducts in cooperation with the international community for improving the international security environment ("international peace cooperation activities") to a primary mission of the SDF.

(2) As cooperative efforts with the United States, Japan's alliance partner, the consultation on the realignment of the U.S. forces in Japan which had been conducted between two countries in order to make the Japan-U.S. Alliance even more effective reached a final agreement in May 2006

(3) As cooperative efforts with the international community, the SDF troops were engaged in a wide spectrum of international peace cooperation activities, including the humanitarian and reconstruction assistance operations in Iraq, the activities conducted pursuant to the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and overseas disaster relief operations.

The Defense Agency/ SDF are thus making strenuous efforts to fulfill their expected roles in security, for which people's trust in them is essential. There were, however, a series of incidents involving the Agency and the SDF, which damaged people's confidence in them. The Defense Agency and the SDF are now strongly committed to regain people's trust. In addition, they are enhancing their organizational structures to retain highly capable human resources and implementing measures to gain the understanding and cooperation of local communities and citizens.

In view of the facts described above, *Defense of Japan 2006* explains fundamental issues concerning Japan's defense and its present and future direction, focusing on the following themes.

Chapter I Japan's Security Environment

Today's security environment is characterized by diverse and complex threats and it is becoming

increasingly difficult to predict when and where these threats will emerge. In particular, activities of non-state actors such as international terrorist organizations are posing serious threats to countries. Also, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction such as nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons and ballistic missiles as a means of delivery of those weapons is recognized as a major threat. Furthermore, the international community has great concerns over regional conflicts stemming from religious and ethical problems.

Security of a country is closely related to regional and global security and it is becoming more important for countries to cooperate together for the stability of the international community.

In the Asia-Pacific region, there still remain inter-state and regional confrontations although the possibility of a full-scale invasion to Japan is declining. Security concepts and threat perceptions vary by country, and many countries in the region have been expanding and modernizing their military capabilities against the backdrop of economic growth.

In other areas, the United States announced its new national security strategy in the Quadrennial Defense Review Report (QDR), which shows the country's security and national defense policies formulated in consideration of the current security environment.

The North Korea's military movements, including the development, deployment and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles are increasing tension in the Korean Peninsula and are considered as an unstable factor that seriously threatens the security of the entire East Asian region. The launching of ballistic missiles by the North Korea in July 2006 was a cause of grave concerns.

China recorded a two-digit growth rate in its initial defense budget for 18 consecutive years. China seems to continue to modernize its military power and we need to remain attentive to its future course.

Chapter II The Basis of Japan's Defense Policy

In order to give appropriate responses to the post 9-11 international security environment while complying with the Constitution of Japan and the Basic Policy on National Defense, the Japanese government formulated the NDPG in December 2004 as a document to state(proclaim) its basic stance in security, significance and roles of defense capability, and basic guidelines for the future enhancement of defense capability.

In addition, the government formulated the Mid-Term Defense Program (MTDP) to reach the level of defense capability as provided for in the NDPG. The defense capability has since been enhanced pursuant to this MTDP.

Regarding measures to ensure the peace and security for the nation and the people in situations such as an armed attack against Japan, the government has been making basic frameworks under the emergency legislations.

Furthermore, to strengthen the posture to deal with contingencies and to establish a framework to proactively implement measures for the peace and stability of the international community on its own initiative, the government submitted a draft bill to the Diet on June 9, 2006, which provides for the transition of the Defense Agency to a ministry and the upgrading of international peace cooperation activities to a primary mission of the SDF.

Chapter III Operations of Self-Defense Forces for Defending Japan and Civil Defense

This chapter explains the response of the SDF to defend the country clearly stated in the NDPG, from the viewpoint of the responses to new threats and diverse contingencies, to large-scale natural disasters, and to a full-scale invasion against Japan. In particular, for the SDF to fulfill its missions in an even more prompt and effective manner, the government has taken the following steps:

- (1) In March 2006, the SDF introduced joint operational postures.
- (2) In December 2005, the government decided to start Japan-U.S. joint development of interceptor missiles that improve the capability of the Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) system.
- (3) The government formulated a plan to protect people, and cooperates with local governments to ensure the smooth implementation of measures for protecting people.

Chapter IV Strengthening of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

The Japan-U.S. Alliance, with the Japan-U.S. security arrangements as its core, continues to play an important role for the defense of Japan, the peace and stability of the region, and the improvement of the international security environment. At the Japan-U.S. summit meeting held in June 2006, the two leaders announced a joint statement titled "Japan-U.S. Alliance of the New Century."

In order to adapt the Japan-U.S. Alliance to the changing security environment, the two countries had conducted the consultation on the future of the alliance including the realignment of the force postures. The consultations took a three staged approach: (1) common strategic objectives; (2) roles, missions, and capabilities of the two countries; and (3) realignment of the force postures, under the basic principles of maintaining deterrence and reducing burdens to local communities.

The document adopted at the meeting of the Security Consultative Committee ("2+2" meeting) held in February 2005 specified common strategic objectives. As a result of subsequent examinations, the document approved at the "2+2" meeting held in October 2005 entitled "Transformation and Realignment for the Future" indicated specific orientations for roles, missions and capabilities of two countries and for the realignment of U.S. forces in Japan and related SDF .

The "2+2" meeting of May 2006 finalized the realignment initiatives in a document entitled "United States-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation" as an achievement of a series of bilateral consultations. The Roadmap indicates concrete implementation plans for realignment initiatives, including those in Okinawa.

This is the result of the consultation that Japan proactively conducted with the U.S. , and marks an important step forward to make the Japan-US security arrangements even more effective by maintaining deterrence while reducing burdens on local communities. Japan will timely and thoroughly implement the plans in cooperation with the United States.

In addition to the aforementioned efforts, Japan has been implementing various measures relating to the facilities and areas of U.S. forces in Japan and other measures to improve the credibility of the Japan-US security arrangements.

Chapter V Improvement of International Security Environment

The NDPG states that the SDF will positively engage in international peace cooperation activities. Accordingly, the SDF conducted the following operations during the past year.

To support the reconstruction of Iraq as a peaceful, democratic and responsible nation without providing breeding ground for terrorists, the SDF, based on the Law Concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq, conducted humanitarian and reconstruction assistance operations in coordination with the assistance through the ODA. As a result, Al-Muthanna Province where the operations were conducted basically got out of a situation in which it required emergency assistance in the areas of both reconstruction and maintenance of security. Therefore, the Japanese Government decided in June 2006 to redeploy the Ground SDF troops from the Province, but to continue the airlift support by the Air SDF troops in response to requests from the United Nations and others.

To contribute proactively to the international fight against terrorism, the SDF has been conducting

cooperation and support activities based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law. These activities contribute to more effective operations of the vessels of coalition countries in the India Ocean to prevent the escape of terrorists and the proliferation of weapons and ammunitions, and they are highly appreciated by the international community including the United States.

The Japanese Government dispatched international emergency relief teams at the occasions of the accident on a Russian submarine off the coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula (in August 2005), a large-scale earthquake that took place in Pakistan and surrounding areas (in October 2005), and an earthquake in the middle part of Java, Indonesia (in May 2006).

To improve the international security environment, the government promotes security dialogues, defense exchanges, bilateral and multilateral exercises with countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and implements measures for arms control and disarmament and nonproliferation, including those for the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).

Chapter VI The Public and the Defense Agency/SDF

Majority of SDF personnel are committed to their daily missions and make strenuous efforts to meet people's expectations and trust. Defense forces do not fully function, unless supported by people with strong trust in them. In view of this, the Defense Agency / SDF strongly recognize their responsibility for a series of scandals which damaged people's trust. We are determined to prevent the recurrence of similar problems by taking the following approaches.

We thoroughly investigated the facts concerning collusive bidding at the Defense Facilities Administration Agency and examined drastic measures to prevent similar scandals. As a result, we have indicated the following as the measures to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents: (1) bidding procedures invulnerable to collusive bidding; (2) review of the early retirement practice and self-restraint on outplacement after retirement; (3) clarification of criteria for disciplinary punishment for bid rigging; (4) improvement in personnel management; and (5) organizational reform including the dislocation of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency and the integration of its functions into the Defense Agency.

To prevent the use of illegal drugs by SDF personnel, we will steadily take the following anti-drug measures: (1) education and guidance on discipline; (2) introduction of a drug check; (3) setting up advice and consultation centers for various purposes.

To prevent the information leakage on the Internet, we will implement specific measures from the viewpoint of (1) information security; (2) intelligence security; and (3) disciplinary measures.

The Defense Agency and the SDF are endeavoring to employ and train talented personnel and to improve the organizational foundations including IT infrastructures, as well as other measure to gain understanding and cooperation of local communities and people.