
Part I Security Environment Surrounding Japan

Overview

Chapter 1 Issues in the International Community

Chapter 2 National Defense Policies of Countries

Part II The Basics of Japan's Defense Policy and Build-up of Defense Capability

Chapter 1 The Basic Concepts of Japan's Defense Policy

Chapter 2 The National Defense Program Guidelines and
Build-up of Defense Capability

Part III Measures for Defense of Japan

Chapter 1 Operations of the Self-Defense Forces for Defense
of Japan and Responses to Diverse Situations

Chapter 2 Strengthening of the Japan-U.S. Security
Arrangements

Chapter 3 Improvement of the International Security
Environment

Chapter 4 Citizens of Japan, the Ministry of Defense and the
SDF

Part IV Reform of the Ministry of Defense

Section 1 Council for Reforming the Ministry of Defense

Section 2 Efforts for Realizing Reform of the Ministry of
Defense

Section 3 Other Efforts



T-90 tank training



Ceremony marking the launch of submarine *Unryu*



Airborne F-2 fighters

Chapter 1 Issues in the International Community

Although various countries have continued the fight against terrorism, terrorism has still occurred in many places throughout the world. The United States has proceeded its policies to combat terrorism based on its new strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The transfer and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles would be regarded as a serious threat. In particular, the acquisition and the use of weapons of mass destruction by terrorists, against whom deterrence is less effective, should be seriously concerned.

In Iraq, the security situation has been improved, and the Iraqi government has made their efforts to promote national unity and reconciliation.

Complex and diverse regional conflicts are occurring around the world, and acts of piracy have frequently happened, particularly off the coast of Somalia. Competition for energy resources and the issue of climate change may possibly cause regional conflicts in the future. Moreover, outer space and cyber space activities and outbreaks of epidemics are considered security issues.



ISAF supplies in flames following an attack by Islamist armed groups [EPA/JIJI]



The Iranian Shahab-3 medium-range ballistic missile [EPA/JIJI]



An Israeli air strike on the town of Rafah in the autonomous Palestinian territories [EPA/JIJI]

In the current international community, states have deepened their mutual dependency, and it is important to work cooperatively for issues such as regional conflicts, international terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In the Asia-Pacific region, elements of uncertainty and instability are persisting, and promoting and developing multi-level approaches is important

Chapter 2 National Defense Policies of Countries

The new Obama U.S. administration intends to strengthen and expand its alliances and use all elements of its national power to meet challenges.

North Korea is advancing its development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles (such as nuclear tests and missile launches), and there are also concerns about their transfer or proliferation.

China has modernized its military capabilities (such as missile forces and air forces), and has increased its maritime activities. Moreover, a number of military cadets have recently been expressing their support for the possession of aircraft carriers. Furthermore, efforts have been made in the areas of military use of space and improvement of cyber warfare capabilities. Meanwhile, details of the national defense budget and the future vision for its military forces remain uncertain.

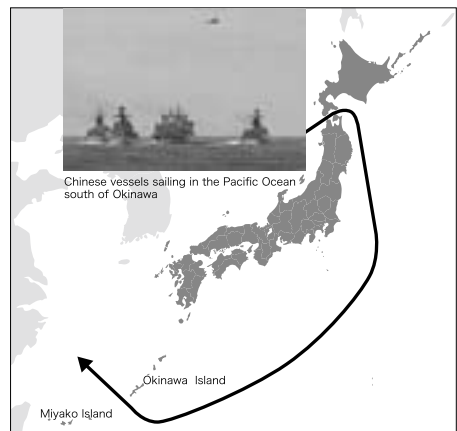
Russia has continued to promote military reforms. Russian military operations seem to be increasingly more active in the vicinity of Japan

India has been making efforts to enhance international cooperation and expand military exchanges, thereby increasing its presence in the international community.

Australia has been actively involved in resolving security issues in the Middle East and other regions, in addition to those in neighboring areas, by dispatching military forces.



North Korea's missile launch in April 2009 [KPS/JIJI]



Route of the Chinese destroyer that passed through the Tsugaru Strait in October 2008



President Medvedev of Russia and U.S. President Obama shaking hands at a press conference after the G20 summit [AFP/JIJI]

Part II

The Basics of Japan's Defense Policy and Build-up of Defense Capability

Chapter 1 The Basic Concepts of Japan's Defense Policy

Under the Constitution, Japan's basic philosophy is to maintain an exclusively defense-oriented policy and not become a military superpower that poses a threat to other nations. In line with this basic philosophy, while continuing to maintain the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, Japan continues to ensure civilian control, uphold the Three Non-Nuclear Principles, and voluntarily maintain appropriate defense capabilities.

With the enactment of the Basic Space Law, the Ministry of Defense has been deliberating on measures, for example, about the feasibility of the development and use of space in the new security context, in coordination with discussions on the use of space of the entire government.

Based on the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, a cabinet decision was made to adopt the Basic Plan on Ocean Policy, which stipulates the important measures for ensuring maritime security. In response to this Plan, the Ministry of Defense has been making efforts to conduct operations such as human resources development, development of equipment and joint naval exercises.

Incidents caused by armed pirates off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden are frequent and the number of such incidents is rapidly increasing. These acts of piracy represent an issue requiring urgent action from the international community. The Self-Defense Forces have dispatched escort ships and patrol aircraft to this sea area, which is extremely important for Japan as it serves as a shipping route that connects Europe and the Middle East with East Asia, conducting necessary maritime security operations to protect Japan-related ships from acts of piracy.



The second meeting of the Strategic Headquarters for Space Policy



Sazanami escorting a Japanese ship



MSDF P-3C and U.S., German and Spanish patrol aircraft units responsible for counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden (at Djibouti International Airport)

Recognizing the important role played by its defense capabilities, Japan continues to do its utmost to protect national security, while working to achieve security in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

Chapter 2 The National Defense Program Guidelines and Build-up of Defense Capability

The security environment surrounding Japan continues to be faced with issues of new threats and diverse contingencies, such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and international terrorism. Amid this situation, Japan needs to act more flexibly or appropriately to respond to increasing expectations for Japan's involvement in international peace cooperation activities.

The National Defense Program Guidelines are subject to necessary revisions by the end of 2009. Accordingly, the Government held the Council on Security and Defense Capabilities in order to conduct comprehensive deliberations on the visions for Japan's security and defense capabilities from a wide range of perspectives.

In order to contribute to reviews at the Government level on the revision of the Guidelines, the Defense Posture Review Board was established at the Ministry of Defense. These discussions are carried out organically linking with other discussions, such as the reform of the Ministry of Defense.

The Ministry of Defense has set the goal of reducing expenditures for research and development, procurement and maintenance of defense equipment by 15% in FY2011 compared with FY2006. The reduction in FY2009 is expected to be approximately 280 billion yen: about a 13.9% reduction.



Shooting training from a light-armored vehicle



US-2 search and rescue amphibian



F-15 fighters

Part III Measures for Defense of Japan

Chapter 1 Operations of the Self-Defense Forces for Defense of Japan and Responses to Diverse Situations

In order to ensure the peace and security of the country and its people in armed attack situations, the efforts to establish a legislative framework and the SDF operational structure have been continued.

In the event of North Korea's missile launch in April this year, the SDF deployed Aegis vessels and Patriot PAC-3 in order to be prepared for debris falling on Japanese territory, and promptly transmitted various information to the Prime Minister's office and others.

Moreover, in order to respond to natural disasters with speed and accuracy, the SDF has actively participated in various disaster prevention trainings such as joint disaster prevention exercises, in addition to making efforts to ensure cooperation with local governments in peacetime.

Furthermore, in response to the countermeasures against new-type flu from April this year, the SDF dispatched SDF doctors and nurses to airport quarantine stations to provide quarantine assistance.



Aegis destroyer spraying water from its deck as part of the SDF's nuclear weapons response



Patriot PAC-3 missiles deployed in Akita prefecture



GSDF personnel distributing water after the Iwate-Miyagi Inland Earthquake

The Ministry of Defense and the SDF have been making consistent efforts to properly deal with new threats, diverse contingencies and a full-scale invasion under the joint operations posture. In addition, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF have strived to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, which have great significance for Japan's national defense and the peace and security of the region.

Chapter 2 Strengthening of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements

Japan and the United States have been engaged in security consultations on the future of the Japan-U.S. alliance. Japan and the United States are engaged in all types of efforts in close coordination based on the agreement on force posture realignment and others.

Concerning the Relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam, the costs for on-base infrastructure projects and design projects (approximately 34.6 billion yen) were appropriated in the JFY2009 budget.

Moreover, the Government of Japan signed an agreement concerning the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam with the United States of America. This agreement entered into force on May 19, 2009, after it was approved by the Diet.

The deployment of the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS George Washington contributes to the security of Japan and to the maintenance of the peace and security of the region.

Other than the above measures, we are making constant efforts to ensure the effectiveness and enhancement of credibility of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements through, for example, the development of laws, Japan-U.S. bilateral training exercises, exchange of equipment/technologies and various measures concerning USFJ facilities and areas.



Meeting between Minister of Defense Hamada and U.S. Secretary of Defense Gates (May 2009)



The U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS George Washington entering the Port of Yokosuka [U.S. Navy]



GSDF and U.S. Marine Corps conducting field training exercises

Part III Measures for Defense of Japan

Chapter 3 Improvement of the International Security Environment

Two years ago, international peace cooperation activities were stipulated as a primary mission of the SDF, together with the defense of Japan and the preservation of public order.

As activities responding to international terrorism, MSDF has been conducting replenishment activities based on the Replenishment Support Special Measures Law for vessels of the countries engaged in counter-terrorism maritime interdiction operations in the Indian Ocean.

As international peace cooperation activities, we dispatched headquarters personnel to the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) while continuing the activities in the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). In November last year and May this year, instructors were dispatched to the PKO center in Egypt.

We have also been proactively working to help improve the international security environment by deepening and broadening the scope of security dialogues and defense exchanges.

In addition, we have been taking part in putting forth initiatives on the issues of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation including the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).



The enclosed bridge of the French frigate displaying a banner with a thank-you message during the 100th replenishment operation



GSDF personnel addressing the UNMIS Commander upon reporting for duty



Suzunami (right) alongside an Indian vessel during Japan-India goodwill exercises

Resolving global threats is difficult with the independent efforts of a single country and requires the concerted efforts of the international community. Furthermore, for the execution of the missions of the SDF that forms the core of our defense it is essential to gain the understanding and support of the people.

Chapter 4 Citizens of Japan, the Ministry of Defense and the SDF

It is indispensable for the SDF, as the core of Japan's defense capabilities, to gain the understanding and support of the Japanese citizens in order to execute its missions and it is also important to improve its human and material resources.

The Ministry of Defense is making efforts to employ and to promote more women while giving due consideration to maintaining the strength of the SDF as well as to the capability, aptitude and motivation of each individual. In September 2008, restrictions with regard to assignments to destroyers and others were lifted.

The SDF is carrying out support activities for residents in a number of fields linked with the people, based on requests from local governments and relevant organizations.

The Ministry of Defense strives to minimize the impact of the presence and operation of defense facilities on the daily lives of local residents through various measures.

The Ministry of Defense is proactively promoting various efforts for the environment based on various programs of the government. A facility that adopts an "all electricity" system is scheduled for completion in 2010.

The Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces offer SDF Life Experience Tours and Enlistment Experience Programs at the request of private companies.



A female member of the uniformed SDF personnel serving on an SDF naval destroyer



GSDF personnel disposing of unexploded ordnance



Enlistment Experience Program

Part IV Reform of the Ministry of Defense

The Ministry of Defense and the Self-Defense Forces are advancing fundamental reforms so as to revitalize the organizations that are responsible for ensuring the peace and independence of the nation.

Established at the Prime Minister's Office two years ago, the Council for Reforming the Ministry of Defense compiled a report last July. The report proposed the following three principles for reform:

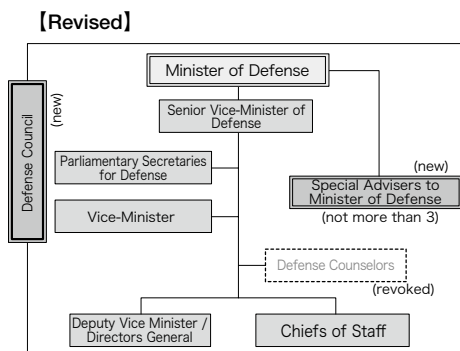
- (1) Thorough adherence to rules and regulations
- (2) Establishment of professionalism (professional awareness)
- (3) Establishment of a management of work that prioritizes execution of duties, with the aim of total optimization

In line with the basic direction laid out in the report by the Council, the Ministry of Defense Reform Head Office headed by the Minister of Defense was established last July. This was followed by the development of the Implementation Plan for Realizing Reform of the Ministry of Defense last August. The Ministry of Defense is undertaking various efforts to fully implement the three principles for reform proposed by the Council.

The Ministry of Defense compiled the Organizational Reforms Measures to be Implemented in FY2009 and the Basic Concept for FY2010 Organizational Reforms in December 2008. In FY 2009, the advisory structure by Defense Counselors will be abolished and the Defense Council will be established by law followed by measures including the establishment of the Special Advisor to the Minister of Defense in order to ensure civilian control. For FY 2010, enhancement of the functions of the Bureau of Defense Policy and of the Joint Staff, unification of defense capacity build-up sections, etc., are under consideration.



Report issued by the Council for Reforming the Ministry of Defense



Strengthening the advisory system to the Minister of Defense



Ministry of Defense Reform Head Office meeting