

## Section 2. The Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements

Based on the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty, the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements constitute one of the pillars of Japan’s national defense. The Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements also serve as the foundation of the Japan–U.S. Alliance, and are indispensable not only to maintaining the peace and security of Japan, but also that of the entire Asia-Pacific region. In addition, the close cooperative relationship between Japan and the United States resulting from their alliance is proving to be extremely significant for effective responses to the diverse security challenges occurring throughout the world. Furthermore, the Japan–U.S. Alliance is playing an increasingly important role by advancing the shared fundamental values in the international community such as democracy, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a capitalist economy. Japan will further develop the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements and expand cooperation into new areas.

(See Fig. III-2-2-1)

This section explains the current significance of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements for Japan’s security.

Fig. III-2-2-1 Major Milestones in Security Cooperation between Japan and the United States

1951		The former Japan–U.S. Security Treaty is signed
1952	The era of the former Japan–U.S. Security Treaty	The treaty enters into force
1958		Fujiyama-Dulles Talks (agreement on the revision of the treaty)
1960	Revision of Japan–U.S. Security Treaty and the new Japan–U.S. Security Treaty	The new Japan–U.S. Security Treaty is signed and enters into force
1968		Ogasawara Islands are returned to Japan
1969		Sato-Nixon Talks (agreement on the renewal of the new Japan–U.S. Security Treaty and the return of Okinawa to Japan)
1972		Return of Okinawa to Japan
1976	Establishment of the former guidelines and expanding Japan–U.S. Defense cooperation	Agreement on the establishment of Sub-Committee for Japan–U.S. Defense Cooperation
1978		Establishment of the former Guidelines for Japan–U.S. Defense Cooperation (the Former Guidelines)
1991	End of the Cold War and establishment of the new guidelines	Collapse of USSR and end of the Cold War
1993		North Korea withdraws from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT)
1996		Japan–U.S. Joint Declaration on Security (Hashimoto-Clinton Talks) SACO Final Report
1997		Establishment of the new Japan–U.S. Defense Cooperation (the New Guidelines)
2001	Japan–U.S. relations since terrorist attacks in the United States	Terrorist attacks in the United States
2003		Japan–U.S. Global Alliance (Koizumi-Bush Talks)
2006		Formulation of the United States–Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation Japan–U.S. Alliance of the New Century (Koizumi-Bush Talks)
		North Korea conducts nuclear test Japan–U.S. Alliance for the World and Asia (Abe-Bush Talks)
2007		Irreplaceable Japan–U.S. Alliance (Abe-Bush Talks)
2009		(North Korea conducts nuclear tests) Japan U.S. Summit (Hatoyama-Obama summit)
2010		50th anniversary of the revision of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty

## 1. The Significance of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements

### 1. Maintenance of Japan's Security

In the current international community, a watertight defense system capable of responding to every contingency, ranging from all types of armed attacks, from the use of nuclear weapons to military threats or intimidation, is necessary to secure the peace, security, and sovereignty of the nation. In today's globalized international community, it is impossible even for a superpower like the United States to guarantee its security by acting alone. Therefore, it would be practically impossible for Japan to ensure its national security solely through independent efforts given its population, land, and economy. Moreover, such a strategy would not be politically appropriate and would not necessarily contribute to regional stability.

Consequently, Japan maintains an alliance with the world's dominant military superpower, the United States, with whom it shares the aforementioned basic values as well as the goal of maintaining the peace and security of the world. In addition, the United States has strong economic ties with Japan and also has a shared interest in the Asia-Pacific region.

Specifically, Article 5 of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty designates that Japan and the United States will take bilateral action in the event of an armed attack against Japan. The U.S. obligation to defend Japan in the event of an armed attack means that an attacker must be prepared to confront not only the military power of the SDF, but also the overwhelming military strength of the United States when planning such an act. As a result, the opposing nation becomes aware that they will suffer grievously if they carry out an invasion and such desires are stopped at the planning stage. In other words, this serves to deter attacks.

Japan intends to effectively utilize the deterrence of the power of the U.S. military in addition to maintaining adequate Japanese defense forces in order to create a seamless posture and secure Japan's safety.

### 2. Maintenance of Peace and Stability in the Region Surrounding Japan

Article 6 of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty provides for the use of facilities and areas by the U.S. Forces within Japan for the purpose of contributing to the security of Japan, and also for the maintenance of international peace and security in the Far East. This provision is based on the recognition that the security of Japan is closely tied to the peace and security of the Far East region to which Japan belongs.

Even in the post-Cold War era of today, the region is still facing elements of instability including North Korea's development and deployment of WMD and missiles, the division of the same race in the Korean peninsula, as well as the Taiwan issue. In such a security environment, the presence of U.S. Forces stationed in Japan provides deterrence against unexpected contingencies caused by unclear and indeterminate regional factors, providing a great sense of security to the nations of the region, and thus fulfill a role as a public good.

Also, the close bonds of cooperation based on the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements also constitute the

foundation of the United States' commitment to the peace and security of the region. These arrangements are complemented by the alliances the United States has built with other countries such as South Korea and the Philippines as well as the friendly relations it has developed with other countries in the region, and continue to play an important role in preserving the peace and security of the region in the post-Cold War security environment.



Japan–U.S. Summit meeting (June 28, 2010) [Cabinet Public Relations Office]

### **3. Improvement of International Security Environment**

The Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements are the foundation for a comprehensive and friendly cooperative relationship between Japan and the United States, not only in the defense area but also in a wide range of areas, including political, economic, and social aspects. The friendly relationship between Japan and the United States, founded on their security arrangements, also forms the basis for Japan’s foreign policy. It contributes to Japan’s ability to implement positive measures to maintain the peace and security of the international community, including promoting dialogue and cooperation on multinational security and cooperating with the United Nations in all areas of its operations.

Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States, the international community has been increasingly concerned about new kinds of threats and diverse contingencies, such as international terrorist attacks and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and methods for their transportation. In this international environment, the strong bonds forged between Japan and the United States are playing an important role in achieving effective cooperative measures that can improve the security of the international community.

In particular, under the auspices of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements, the SDF and U.S. Forces are working together in peacetime in a variety of areas to improve the levels of coordination. This kind of close coordination forms the foundation for every kind of international collaboration, such as antipiracy, undertaken by the SDF and U.S. Forces, and is resulting in the heightened operational effectiveness of the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements.

Peace and prosperity of the international community is closely linked to that of Japan. Accordingly, by cooperating with the United States, which possesses preeminent international operational capabilities, Japan is able to advance its measures to improve the international security environment. This in turn is enhancing the security and prosperity of Japan.

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

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

The security environment surrounding Japan remains challenging. Given that environment, in order for the Japan–U.S. Security Arrangements to continue to fulfill the roles described above, it is necessary that U.S. military presence in Japan is secured which functions adequately as a deterrent that contributes to Japan’s defense as well as regional peace and security, and that a posture is maintained in Japan and the surrounding area so that the USFJ can respond swiftly and expeditiously to emergencies.

For this purpose, based on the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty, Japan allows the stationing of the U.S. military in Japan. This results in the necessity for opposing nations to be prepared to find themselves in direct confrontation with U.S. Forces in addition to the SDF when attacking Japan as mentioned previously. Thus the USFJ serves as a deterrent against aggression towards Japan. Further, the realization of a stable USFJ presence is necessary for a swift Japan–U.S. joint response based on Article 5 of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty in the event of an armed attack on Japan. Additionally, the actions of the USFJ in the defense of Japan will be assisted by the timely reinforcement of other U.S. Forces, and the USFJ forms the foundation for such support.

In order for the USFJ to carry out the above role, it is necessary that all the services of the U.S. Forces, including the USFJ, are functionally integrated. For instance, the U.S. Forces holds a primarily offensive role as a “spear” when responding to armed aggression on Japan in cooperation with the SDF. When the U.S. Forces function in this way, it can be expected that the U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Marines stationed in Japan work as one to function adequately.

Note that while Article 5 of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty stipulates the obligation of the United States to defend Japan, Article 6 allows for the use by the United States of facilities and areas in Japan for maintaining

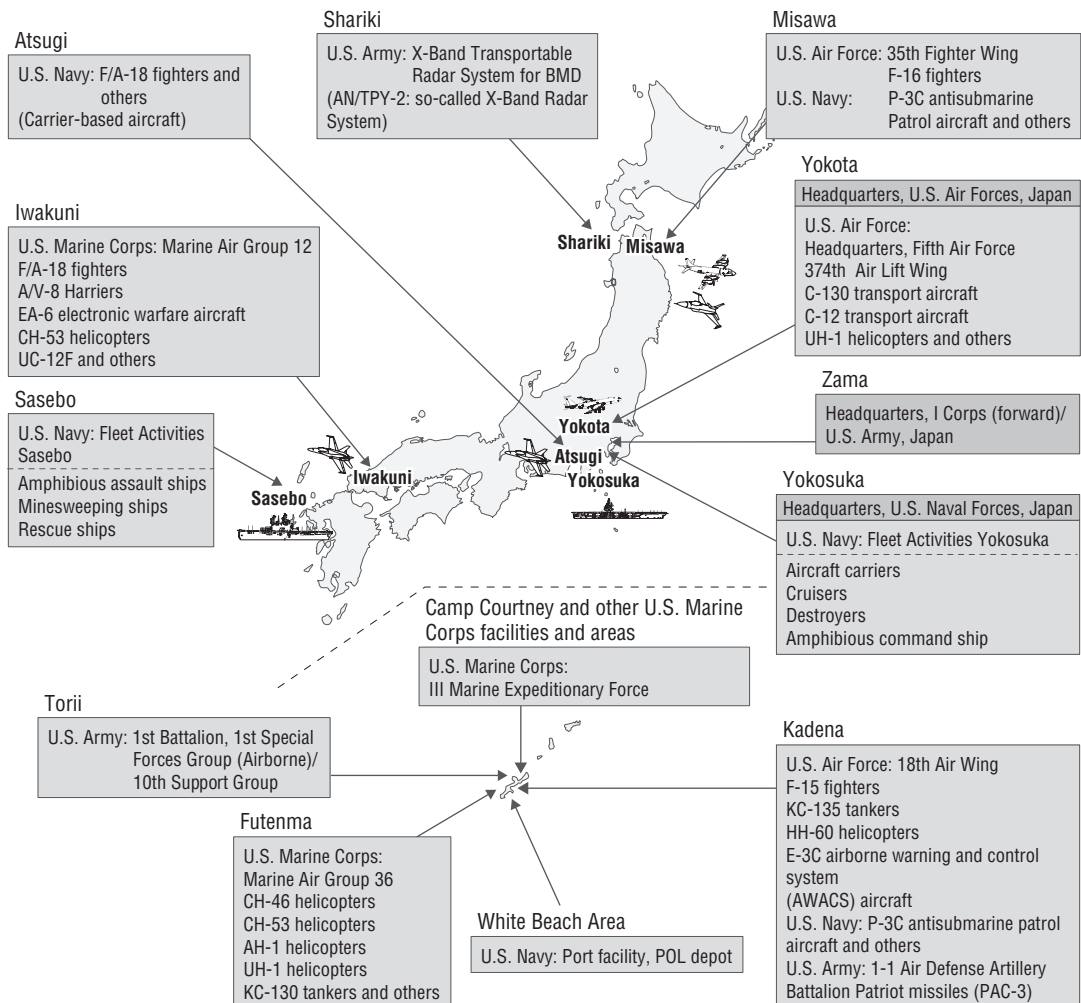
the security of Japan and international peace and security in the Far East, and overall Japan–U.S. obligations are kept in balance. This point is in contrast to the North Atlantic Treaty which stipulates only joint defense of contracting nations.

(See Fig. III-2-2-2)

## 2. USFJ Facilities and Areas and the Local Japanese Communities

In order for USFJ facilities and areas to fully exert their capabilities, it is vital to gain the cooperation and understanding of the local communities. Meanwhile, the social environment in the surrounding areas has changed a lot through, for example, their urbanization over the past several decades since the conclusion of the Japan–U.S. Security Treaty. In light of such changes, it is necessary to reduce the impact of the facilities and areas as much as possible in order to gain the acceptance and support of the public in the true sense as well as to allow them to perform to the best of their capabilities.

Fig. III-2-2-2 Deployment Map of USFJ



Our national land is narrow with limited plains and there are many cases where USFJ facilities and areas are located close to urban and business areas. In such areas, factors including the existence of those facilities and areas and the takeoff and landing of U.S. Forces' aircraft have a considerable impact on the residents' living environment and local development. It is therefore necessary to make efforts to reduce the burden according to the real situation of each local area.

### 3. USFJ in Okinawa

In comparison to areas such as the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, and Guam, Okinawa is located close to countries in East Asia. Consequently, when it is necessary for units to respond rapidly in the region, U.S. Forces stationed in Okinawa are able to do so swiftly. In addition, Okinawa has the geographic advantage that it has a certain distance from countries neighboring Japan. Thus the stationing of U.S. Forces in Okinawa —including the U.S. Marine Corps which is in charge of first response for a variety of contingencies and is capable of high mobility and rapid response— with its geographical characteristics, contributes greatly not only to the security of Japan but also to the peace and stability of the Asia Pacific region.

Meanwhile, many USFJ facilities and areas are located within Okinawa Prefecture, including airfields, maneuver areas, and logistics support facilities. As of January 2010, about 74 percent of the land area of the USFJ facilities and areas nationwide (for their exclusive use) was concentrated in Okinawa. Utmost efforts must therefore be given to ease the burden on Okinawa while keeping in mind the aforementioned security considerations.

(See Fig. III-2-2-3, Section 4)

Fig. III-2-2-3 Significance and Role of the U.S. Marines in Okinawa

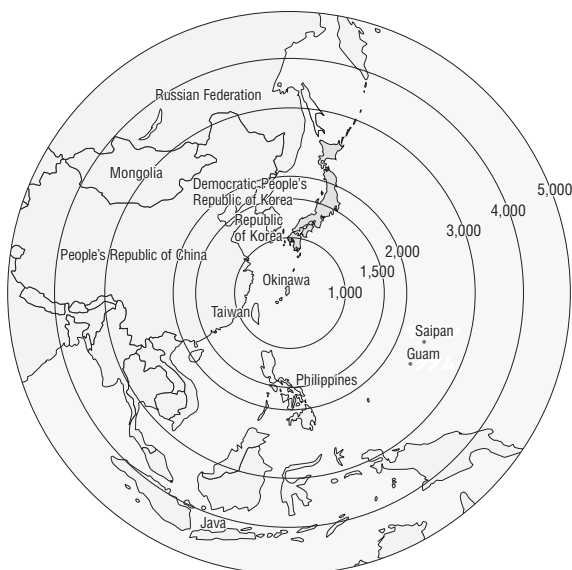
#### 4 Significance and role of the U.S. Marines in Okinawa —the strategic position of Okinawa

##### 1. Reasons for stationing U.S. Marines in Okinawa

- Okinawa is closer to the regions of East Asia than mainland U.S.A., Hawaii, and Guam.  
→ The U.S. forces in Okinawa can respond swiftly when an emergency deployment is called for in the region
- Further, Okinawa has the geographical advantage of being at a reasonable distance from surrounding countries.

##### 2. Significance and role of the U.S. Marines in Okinawa

- Due to their high mobility and swift response<sup>1</sup>, the Marines stationed in Okinawa play a diverse role in securing the peace and security of the region, such as in their response to the earthquake in Java, Indonesia in May 2006, in addition to defending Japan.  
→ The stationing of U.S. Forces, beginning with the U.S. Marines in charge of first response for a variety of contingencies and capable of high mobility and rapid response, in Okinawa with its geographical characteristics, contributes greatly to the security of Japan and the peace and stability of the Asia Pacific region



Note 1: The U.S. Marines make use of all fighting elements (air, ground, and maritime) when training or carrying out operations and are capable of swiftly responding to diverse contingencies.