

## Section 2 Defense Production, Technological Bases, and Acquisition of Equipment .....357

1. Defense Production and Technological Bases ..... 357
2. Acquisition of Equipment and Materials ..... 362
3. Research and Development of the Technical Research & Development Institute (TRDI) ..... 367

## Section 3 Interaction between the Ministry of Defense and the SDF, and the Local Community and Japanese Citizens .....369

1. Activities in Civic Life and Contributions to Society ..... 369
2. Cooperation from Local Public Organizations and Other Related Organizations for the SDF ..... 371
3. Measures for Harmony between Defense Facilities and Surrounding Areas ..... 372
4. Public Relations Activities, Information Disclosure, and Related Activities ..... 375

## References .....381



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Part I

Commentary Smart Defense ..... 79

### Part II

Commentary 7th Division Joint Long-distance Mobilization Exercise & Logistical Support Arrangements ..... 116

Commentary Deployment of a Coastal Monitoring Unit & Mobile Warning Squadron on Yonaguni Island ..... 143

Commentary C-130R Acquisition ..... 149

Q & A Questions Concerning the F-35A ..... 157

Commentary Activities Related to Maritime Security ..... 161

### Part III

VOICE Voice of a Pilot Engaging in Air Scrambles ..... 178

VOICE Voice of SDF Personnel Stationed on Remote Island Bases -Tsushima, Miyakojima and Minamitorishima Islands- ..... 180

Q & A Threats in cyberspace ..... 183

Commentary Importance of Initial Response (within 72 hours) in Saving Human Lives ..... 199

Commentary Digitization of the Ground SDF ..... 208

VOICE A Message from Mr. Tsuyoshi Nagabuchi ..... 214

Commentary Reflecting on the Lessons of the Response to the Earthquake (Field Communication System) ..... 216

VOICE An Array of Messages Sent to MOD/SDF ..... 219

Commentary MV-22 Osprey ..... 229

VOICE Japan-US Joint Exercise -the First Participation in KŌA KAI- ..... 234

VOICE Tomodachi Operation a bond that tied Japan and the U.S. .... 239

Commentary Relocation of the Air Defense Command to Yokota ..... 261

Commentary Exchange between Local Residents and US Forces .. 266

VOICE Military Medical Cooperation in the ADMM-Plus .. 271

VOICE Japan-US-Austria Joint Exercise -Cope North Guam- .. 282

VOICE Voice of a Defense Attache (ASDF) ..... 290

VOICE The Progress of Japan-UK Defense Relations .... 296

VOICE Voice of Personnel in Duty at Djibouti SDF Facility 305

VOICE Voice of Personnel Dispatched to South Sudan PKO and the Family ..... 314

VOICE Looking Back the First Dispatch Based on the PKO Law -Cambodia PKO- ..... 328

Commentary Marking the 60th Anniversary -Efforts by the National Institute for Defense Studies ..... 337

VOICE Voice of SDF Reserve Personnel -To be a SDF Reserve Personnel and Member of Society- ..... 343

VOICE Voice of Female SDF Personnel -First Female Graduates from National Defense Academy who are active in various places- ..... 351

VOICE Excellent Human Asset -Abilities of Retired SDF Personnel- ..... 356

VOICE Voice from the Defense Industry ..... 358

Commentary New Research and Development -CBRN Threat Assessment System Technology- ..... 368

VOICE Continuing Exchange between Afflicted Areas and Troops ..... 370

VOICE Message from the Mayor of Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture ..... 371

Commentary Cooperation with the Filming of "Yamamoto Isoroku" ..... 376

Q & A SDF Personnel Who Are Active on the World Stage -Olympic and SDF Personnel- ..... 379

coordination with the following three pillars: 1) selection of prioritized areas to be invested in<sup>6</sup>, 2) specialization in areas where members have the strength<sup>7</sup> and 3) promotion of joint procurement and joint operations of equipment. The NATO Defence Ministers Meeting held in October 2011 approved the promotion of the concept of the Smart Defence and the NATO Defence Ministers Meeting in February 2012 reached an agreement on a way to share the cost for Alliance Ground Surveillance system by unmanned aircraft, which is the major

program of this concept<sup>8</sup>. The Chicago NATO Summit declared Interim Capability<sup>9</sup> for missile defence system<sup>10</sup> that links together missile defence assets such as interceptors and radars from allied members under NATO's command and control to protect the people and the territory of NATO from ballistic missile attack and also approved a package of more than 20 multinational projects, including joint procurement of remotely-controlled robots which can clear roadside bombs and joint pooling of maritime patrol aircraft.



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Smart Defense

In the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), significant reduction in defense expenditure in member countries and disparities in terms of military capabilities among member countries, particularly between the U.S. and European countries, are escalating. At present, the U.S. accounts for more than 70% of total defense expenditure in all NATO member countries; the European-led military operation in Libya in 2011 exposed the European countries' lack of capabilities in such areas as intelligence gathering, warning and surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR\*), which they depended on the U.S.

In response to this situation, under the leadership of Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen, NATO has been promoting the concept of "Smart Defense", with the objective of "building greater security with fewer resources through multinational cooperation". NATO approved a package of more than 20 multinational projects at its summit in May 2012. In an age of austerity, it is necessary to continue to focus attention on such initiatives by NATO in order to maintain more effective and efficient security capabilities.

\* Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance

- 6 At the Lisbon NATO summit meeting in November 2010, the allies committed to focus their investment on 11 prioritized areas, including missile defence, cyber defense, medical assistance, and intelligence activities.
- 7 It indicates that every Allied country does not necessarily need to possess all the defense capabilities, but each nation specializes in areas where it has the strength. As an example already in place, Baltic states depends its air policing operations on NATO allies while making a certain contribution to ISAF mission in Afghanistan and abandoning the investment in procurement and maintenance of expensive aircraft.
- 8 Five unmanned aircraft RQ-4 (Global Hawk) of the United States will be procured by 13 countries, including the U.S., Germany and Italy and will be deployed between 2015 and 2017. The procurement contract was signed in the margins of the Chicago NATO summit in May 2012.
- 9 Although details are not fully known, it seems to indicate that NATO acquired limited capability against missiles by installing command and control functions that links interceptors with radars.
- 10 NATO has been developing its unique Theater Missile Defense system, called Active Layered Theater Ballistic Missile Defence (ALTBMD) since 2005 to protect deployed NATO forces from short- and medium-range ballistic missiles with a range of up to 3,000 kilometers. The Lisbon Declaration of 2010 has expanded the area protected by this system to all the NATO populations and territories.

policies such as securing civilian control, maintaining the three non-nuclear principles, and building a modest defense force. At the same time, to address the threat of nuclear weapons, Japan will play a constructive and active role in nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts so as to achieve the long-term goal of creating a world without nuclear weapons. At the same

time, as long as nuclear weapons do exist, Japan will closely cooperate with the United States to maintain and improve the credibility of the extended deterrence<sup>1</sup>, with nuclear deterrent as a vital element and also appropriately implement its own efforts including ballistic missile defense and civil protection.



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### 7th Division Joint Long-distance Mobilization Exercise & Logistical Support Arrangements

#### 7th Division Joint Long-distance Mobilization Exercise

From October 29 to December 2, 2011, the 7th Division (Higashi-Chitose) conducted a long-distance mobilization exercise involving their transfer to the Western Army's territory, with the objective of improving the control and coordination abilities required for long-distance mobilization and increasing unit readiness through exercises in partnership with the Western Army.

This was the first time that the 7th Division had conducted a joint long-distance mobilization exercise; during the mobilization stage, 410 troops and approximately 120 heavy vehicles, including Type 90 tanks and armored cars, were moved swiftly from Hokkaido all the way to Kyushu using various means of transport, including a civilian vessel (high-speed transport ship) and by rail.

This kind of long-distance mobilization exercise is one of the important initiatives aimed at building a dynamic defense force set forth in the National Defense Program Guidelines for FY 2011 and beyond, and we will continue to prioritize such exercises in our future endeavors.



Armored cars being transported by rail in the course of their duties

#### Logistical Support Arrangements for Island Defense (Including Long-distance Mobilization)

In mobilization for defense purposes or disaster relief operations, when the Self-Defense Forces carry out their duties, movement over long distances is required, along with large quantities of supplies, including fuel, ammunition and provisions. Securing the transport capacity required for units to operate, preparing and distributing supplies, and putting in place the requisite vehicles is called logistical support.

In particular, in island defense involving long-distance mobilization, logistical support plays an extremely important role in securing transport capacity using both the Self-Defense Forces and the civilian sector, as well as in refueling and supplying various equipment; accordingly, it is necessary to strive to enhance logistical support arrangements for active units, while reflecting the lessons learned from large-scale disasters and international peace cooperation activities.



Type 90 tank transported using a high-speed transport ship

<sup>1</sup> This is the U.S. deterrence against attacks on allies and friendly nations of the U. S. such as Japan. Deterrence against attacks on the U. S. itself is called the basic deterrence.



### Deployment of a Coastal Monitoring Unit & Mobile Warning Squadron on Yonaguni Island

The National Defense Program Guidelines for FY 2011 and beyond stipulated that there will be an intensive focus on warning and surveillance functions and that efforts will be made to enhance defense readiness, including in southwestern Japan; moreover, the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY2011-FY2015) stated that as well as forming and deploying a new Ground Self-Defense Force coastal monitoring unit in island areas of southwestern Japan, Air Self-Defense Force mobile warning radar equipment would also be deployed there. In light of this, having given comprehensive consideration to the fact that the region is close to the boundaries of Japan's territorial waters and airspace, and that vital land and social infrastructure is located there, the Ministry of Defense decided at the end of September 2011 to deploy these on Yonaguni Island, which is Japan's westernmost point.



Yonaguni Island, Japan's westernmost point



Coastal monitoring unit facility

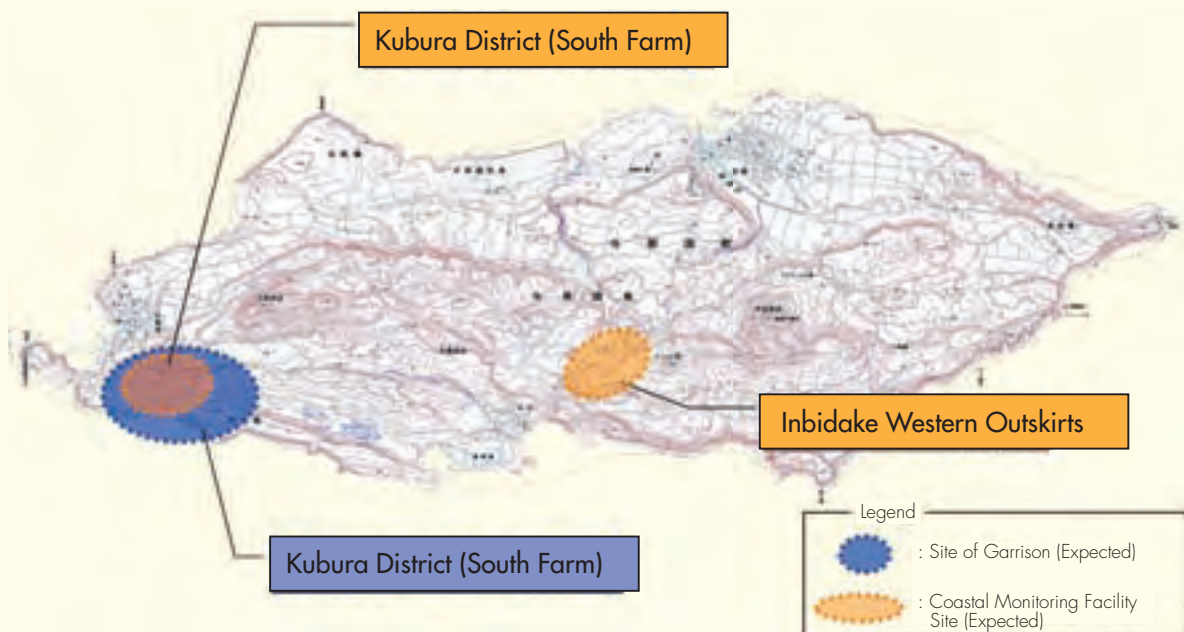


Mobile warning radar equipment facility

Deploying the coastal monitoring unit on this island will make it possible to detect at an early stage any signs of ships or aircraft approaching the vicinity, while the deployment of the mobile warning radar equipment will facilitate more effective warning and surveillance of regard to aircraft passing through surrounding areas.

In the FY2012 budget, approximately ¥1 billion was allocated for the expenditure required to deploy the coastal monitoring unit and mobile warning squadron.

The Ministry of Defense intends to deploy the coastal monitoring unit until the end of FY2015, with the understanding and cooperation of local citizens.







### C-130R Acquisition

During the Great East Japan Earthquake, the YS-11 transport aircraft of the Maritime Self-Defense Force carried relief supplies with all effort from across Japan to those afflicted by the disaster, and their flying hours increased sharply. As a result, the schedule for the decommissioning of these aircraft has been brought forward and is imminent, so in FY2011, the Ministry of Defense decided to acquire six KC-130R aircraft maintained in storage by the US Navy, and restore them to operational status as C-130R (refurbished aircraft), in order to avoid deficiencies in the transportation capability.

As well as having the flight performance required for operations under normal circumstances, the C-130R (refurbished aircraft) also have a high transport capacity for large-scale disasters. Possessing six such aircraft makes it possible to land at disaster-stricken airports, carrying the Maritime Self-Defense Force Mobile Construction Group troops required for the restoration of the airport, and to build a base for the storage of supplies as soon as possible. Moreover, it will be possible for the refurbished aircraft to operate for at least another 20 years, so the cost of acquiring them is cheaper than buying new aircraft.

Thus, not only is this the first instance in which refurbished aircraft have been acquired, but it can also be said to be a groundbreaking example of equipment acquisition, in which a high level of transport capacity was put in place in a very cost-effective manner.



KC-130R

Comparison of Transport Capacity

	YS-11	C-130R (refurbished aircraft)
Weight on board	Approximately 5 tons	Approximately 20 tons
Range	Approx. 2,200km (with a load of 1.5 tons)	Approx. 4,000km (with a load of 5 tons)
Rough terrain takeoff & landing ability	×	○



### Questions Concerning the F-35A

Question 1 What are the features of the F-35A fighter ?

The F-35A fighter has the following characteristics:



F-35A fighter

(1) Its advanced stealth performance makes it difficult for enemy sensors to detect it, giving it an advantage in combat.

(2) Its diverse range of sensors give it the ability to gather the intelligence required for combat.

(3) It has superb networking capacity, so it is able to share the intelligence required for combat with other friendly fighter aircraft and ground troops.

(4) Data from a diverse range of sensors (including those other than the sensors mounted on the aircraft itself) are analyzed and merged for projection onto a single display, enabling the pilot to gain a comprehensive understanding of the combat situation.

Question 2 Which countries other than Japan use F-35 fighter ?

The full-scale joint development of F-35 fighter began in the autumn of 2001 by nine countries - the U.S., the U.K., Italy, Netherlands, Turkey, Canada, Australia, Denmark, and Norway. In addition to these nine countries, Israel has also decided to introduce it.

The USA plans to procure the following:

(1) CTOL\*1 (type A) for the US Air Force

(2) STOVL\*2 (type B) for the US Marine Corps

(3) CV\*3 (type C) for the US Navy

\*1: Conventional Take-Off and Landing

\*2: Short Take-Off and Vertical Landing

\*3: Carrier Variant



F-35B fighter



F-35C fighter

sonar technologies and capabilities that can detect noise-reduced submarines, and improved torpedoes for submarines, 3) dealing with pirates off the Coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, and 4) strengthening cooperation with the Japan Coast Guard through joint training to deal with unidentified ships.

See Part III, Chapter 3, Section 3



P-3C maritime patrol aircraft conducting surveillance activities



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Activities Related to Maritime Security

The Maritime SDF participated in the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) for the first time as an observer in April 2012. At the symposium chiefs of naval staff from countries surrounding the Indian Ocean, including African nations, discussed issues relating to maritime security.

In response to the recent changes in the security environment, the 2010 National Defense Program Guidelines call for the development of Dynamic Defense Force focusing on operation. The MSDF has thus far been actively engaging not only in activities to deal with emergencies in areas surrounding Japan, such as warning and surveillance, but also in activities to create a more stable security environment at the regional and global levels, particularly those relating to maritime security, in order to maintain the free and open maritime order. As a maritime country, Japan depends on imports from abroad for the supply of most natural resources, so it is important to maintain the maritime order including ensuring the freedom of navigation at the global level, not to mention the security of maritime traffic leading to Japan.

The MSDF will share the results achieved through past various activities not only with the Asia-Pacific region but with countries around the world, including those surrounding the Indian Ocean, through which the sea lanes of communication leading to Japan go, by making use of this symposium and other multilateral frameworks, and it will thereby make efforts to improve the global security environment.



Indian Ocean Naval Symposium



## Column

### VOICE

### Commentary

### Q&A

## Voice of a Pilot Engaging in Air Scrambles

Yuta Yamazaki, First Lieutenant, 204th Air Squadron, 83rd Air Wing

As a pilot of fighter aircraft (F-15) based at the Air SDF Naha Airbase, I am engaging in the alert mission in order to scramble against intruding aircraft in the Southwestern region. A scramble is an important mission concerning national authority. Once a scramble order has been issued, we must scramble against aircraft of unidentified nationality approaching Japanese airspace as soon as possible. Although this is a very difficult mission with an incessant feeling of strain, I feel strong satisfaction and pride in performing it.



The writer sitting in the cockpit of F-15 fighter aircraft



A formation of F-15s

I remember an occasion in which I felt my legs shaking with nervousness at my first sight of an aircraft of unidentified nationality during a scramble soon after I was assigned to the alert mission. Any action taken by us could trigger an international dispute. We cannot afford to make a mistake. I always do my job while telling myself to act calmly and carefully.

In the Southwest region in recent years, activities by neighboring countries have become brisk, leading to an increase in the number of scrambles. The Southwest region is certain to become an increasingly critical area from the perspective of national defense. I will continue self-improvement efforts with a view to becoming a tough fighter pilot.

In light of lessons learned from the incident involving an unidentified vessel off Noto Peninsula in 1999<sup>4</sup> and the incident involving an unidentified vessel in the sea southwest of Kyushu in 2001<sup>5</sup>, the Japanese Government has been taking

all necessary precautionary measures in order to effectively and safely deal with unidentified vessels, while the Ministry of Defense and the SDF have strengthened cooperation with other relevant ministries and agencies.

<sup>4</sup> An SDF patrol aircraft (P-3C) discovered two unidentified vessels in a surveillance operation in Japanese territorial waters east of the Noto Peninsula and west of Sadogashima Island. These were suspected to be North Korean spy ships disguised as Japanese fishing vessels. The two vessels were pursued around the clock by patrol vessels, destroyers, and aircraft but fled to outside the air defense identification zones (ADIZ). They are presumed to have reached a port in the northern part of North Korea.

<sup>5</sup> An SDF patrol aircraft (P-3C) discovered an unidentified vessel in a surveillance operation and monitored it with patrol vessels and aircraft. The vessel did not stop despite repeated orders by the Japan Coast Guard. As a result, the JCG fired warning shots after alerting the vessel. However, the vessel continued to make its getaway and made an armed attack on the patrol ship which fired shots in self-defense. The vessel subsequently exploded from possible self-destruction and sunk. Based on facts revealed in the investigation process the vessel was identified as a North Korean spy ship. Further, in 2002, a patrol aircraft (P-3C) discovered an unidentified vessel in waters approximately 400 km north-northwest off the Noto Peninsula (beyond the exclusive economic zone of Japan) in a surveillance operation. The vessel was tracked and observed by patrol vessels of the Japan Coast Guard, destroyers and aircraft.





# Column

## VOICE

## Commentary

## Q&A

### Voice of SDF Personnel Stationed on Remote Island Bases -Tsushima, Miyakojima and Minamitorishima Islands-

Japan is comprised of more than 6,000 islands and is surrounded by the vast seas. The total area size of Japan's territorial waters and exclusive economic zones is as large as approximately 4.47 million square kilometers, the sixth largest in the world. On remote numerous islands which constitute the Japanese territories, a large number of SDF personnel are performing their duties every day.

#### GSDF serviceman stationed on Tsushima Island

Yutaka Niibo, Sergeant Major, Tsushima Guard Unit

I am serving as the head of a medical corps of the Tsushima guard unit, which is deployed in a site close to the border with the Korean Peninsula. Tsushima has historically been at the forefront of national border defense, and each member of the unit has strong awareness of their position as a national border guard and is routinely conducting practical exercises. As a member of the "Yamaneko (wildcat) Unit" that guards a national border, I will devote myself to my mission in order to become a tougher SDF man and make our unit stronger.

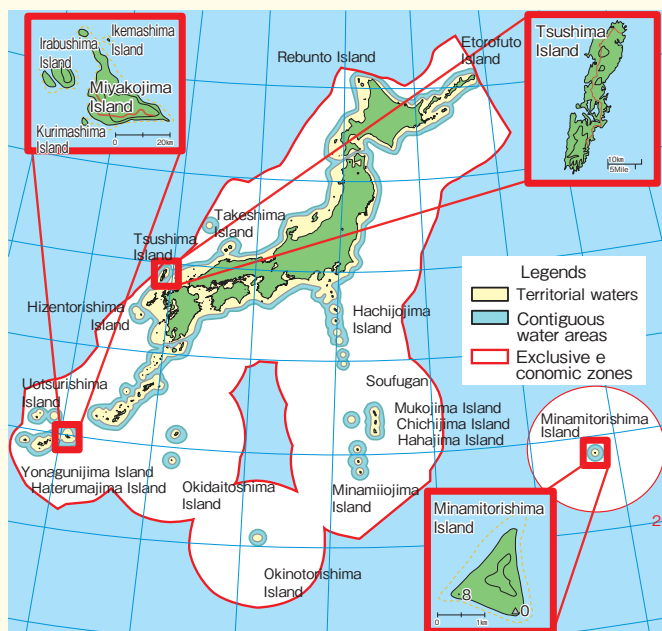


#### ASDF serviceman stationed on Miyakojima Island

Kentaro Imazeki, Staff Sergeant, 53rd warning group, Southwest air warning unit

The Miyakojima Sub Base where I serve is a sub base located in the southernmost and westernmost region among the ASDF sub bases. The main mission of the radar site is warning and surveillance around this region, and I am responsible for the maintenance of radar equipment as a maintenance crew member.

The number of scrambles has increased in the Southwest region in recent years, and in order to provide support in this respect, I am performing my mission with a feeling of strain.



#### MSDF serviceman stationed on Minamitorishima Island

Hiroshi Osawa, Petty Officer 2nd Class, Minamitorishima air dispatch unit

I am serving as a member of the Minamitorishima air unit. Although this island is very inconvenient due to the absence of shops, I am working with my colleagues to contribute to the protection of Japanese territories and exclusive economic zones. On this island, which is located in Japan's easternmost region, the temperature often rises above 25 degrees Celsius even during the winter, and doing jobs in a strong sunlight and heat is laborious. However, I will continue working hard.

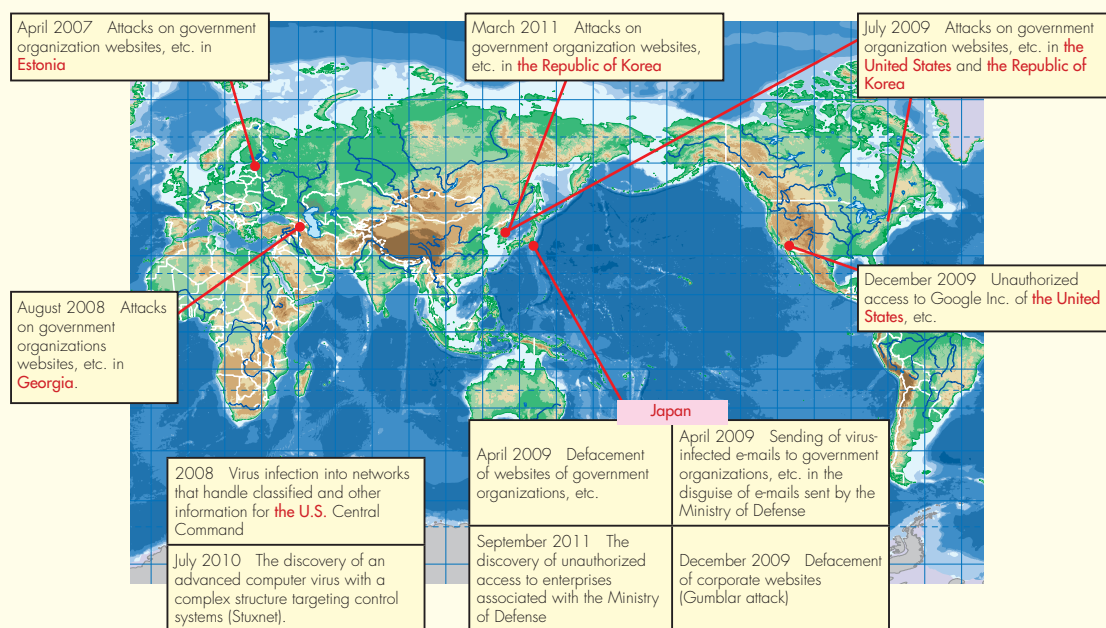




## Threats in cyberspace

## Question 1: What are the characteristics of cyber attacks and what is the trend of cyber attacks?

In cyberspace, a variety of entities are conducting various malicious activities, such as theft or falsification of information, and shutdown and malfunction of systems. Such cyber attacks are launched across national borders and it is difficult to identify the source of the attacks. There has been controversy over how to treat such attacks under international laws. Therefore, ensuring cyber security has emerged as a security issue for Japan and other countries in recent years (Part 1, Chapter 2, Section 2).

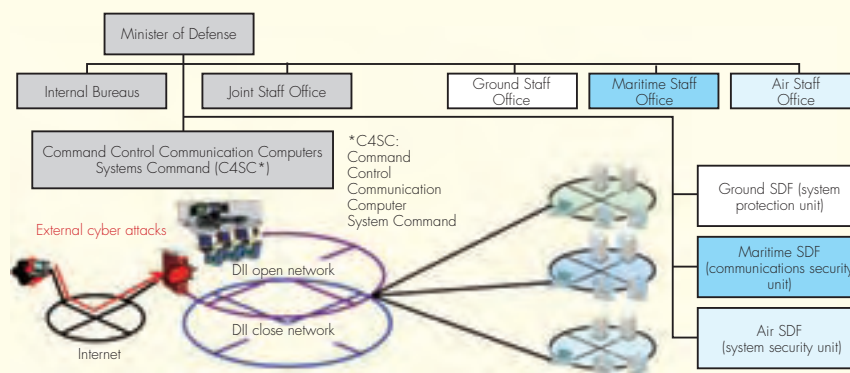


## Question 2: How do the Ministry of Defense and SDF deal with cyber attacks?

Today, cyberspace constitutes essential infrastructure that supports the activities of the Ministry of Defense and SDF.

Therefore, the Ministry of Defense and SDF are implementing various measures to protect their own systems and networks on the assumption that they are routinely exposed to various risks (Part III-Chapter 1 Section 2).

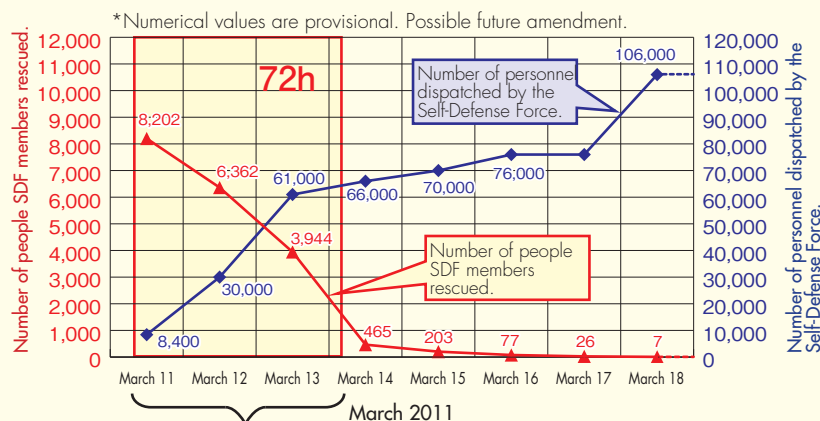
Moreover, they will contribute to the improvement of Japan's overall security level in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies, the private sector and allied countries (Part II, Chapter 3, Section 6).





### Importance of Initial Response (within 72 hours) in Saving Human Lives

Number of human lives saved by the SDFs after the Great East Japan Earthquake and the number of personnel dispatched.



The 72-hour period from the occurrence of disaster is critically important for saving human lives.

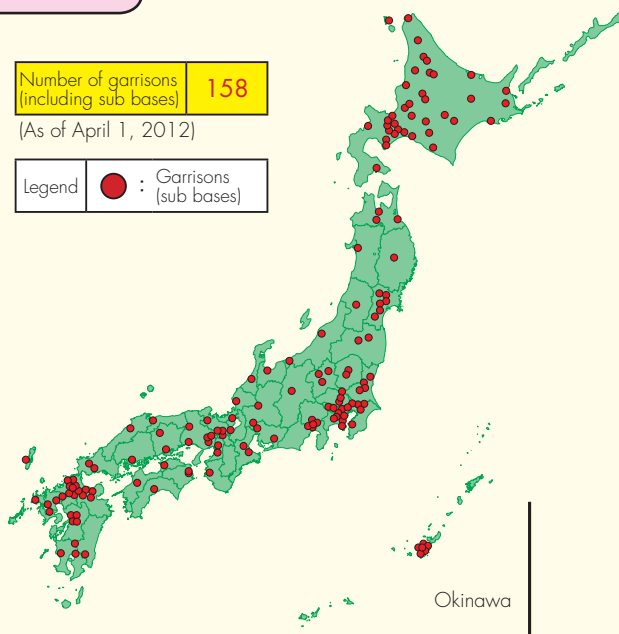
For example, in order to enable initial response to be made quickly anytime and anywhere in response to any emergency, the Ground SDF keeps personnel stationed in 158 garrisons and sub bases (131 garrisons and 27 sub bases) across Japan. With those garrisons and sub bases as its footholds, the Ground SDF keeps operating units standby in each army group for quick dispatch to deal with various emergencies, including disasters.

Because of this standby system, the Ground SDF quickly made an initial response on a large scale after the Great East Japan Earthquake; for example, around 8,400 personnel were deployed to engage in rescue activity on the day that the earthquake occurred.

Number of garrisons (including sub bases) 158

(As of April 1, 2012)

Legend : Garrisons (sub bases)



Routinely maintaining a system that enables units stationed in local communities to make an initial response quickly.



SDF engaging in rescue activity

Since the transport of overseas Japanese nationals needs to be carried out through the collaboration among the Ground, Maritime, and Air Self-Defense Forces, joint exercises are



People boarding a KC-767 mid-air refueling and transport aircraft during a training for the transport of Japanese nationals resident overseas, etc.

carried out using transport aircraft and vessels.

The Ministry of Defense participates in the exercise for the transportation of Japanese nationals abroad, in the annual multinational joint exercise “Cobra Gold” in Thailand, with local Japanese Embassy staff, their family members, and Japanese Embassy staff located outside of Thailand, based on the support provided by the Japanese Embassy in Thailand. Through such exercises, our implementation of the coordination procedures with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and operational skills for the SDF overseas have been improved, which have been contributing to enhance our capabilities to carry out the mission. Transport of overseas Japanese nationals has been assigned as an SDF primary mission since January 2007. (See Fig. III-1-2-22)

See References 22, 23



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Digitization of the Ground SDF

Since fiscal 2007, the Ground SDF has been conducting the C4ISR\*1 unit experiments with a view to establishing the method of future warfare adapted to innovations in the field of information and communication technology. As a result of the experiments conducted so far, it became known that the use of state-of-the-art C4ISR equipment enables the collection of more accurate information than before and quickly incapacitates the enemy through flexible means. In particular, it was confirmed that the use of UAV\*2, UGV\*3 and the firing command and control system ensures information superiority in various emergencies that may occur across wide areas and involve multiple incidents and always enables proactive operation of units. In addition, through those experiments, a new method of warfare was developed which impedes the enemy's exercise of military power by paralyzing its line of command and disrupting organized fighting capability in terms of functions.

Moreover, those experiments are also intended to enable quick and flexible response to all foreseeable emergencies, including full-scale aggression, attacks on remote islands and major disasters and create a more effective Ground SDF under joint operation by developing the 2nd Division (Asahikawa) as a pioneer digitized unit.

\*1 C4ISR: Command, Control, Communication, Computer, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

\*2 UAV: Unmanned Air Vehicle

\*3 UGV: Unmanned Ground Vehicle



An SDF service man using the firing command and control system





# Column

## VOICE

## Commentary

## Q&A

### A Message from Mr. Tsuyoshi Nagabuchi

The Ministry of Defense and the SDF received a powerful message from Mr. Tsuyoshi Nagabuchi, a popular singer who provided strong support for disaster relief activities in areas hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake as well as other activities by the Ministry of Defense and the SDF.



Mr. Nagabuchi receiving a special letter of appreciation from the Minister of Defense (December 2011)



Cheering SDF personnel in Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture (April 2011)



Giving a live performance at the ASDF Matsushima Base to cheer SDF personnel (April 2011)



Giving a live performance at the Ministry of Defense facility (Ichigaya) to cheer SDF personnel (November 2011)



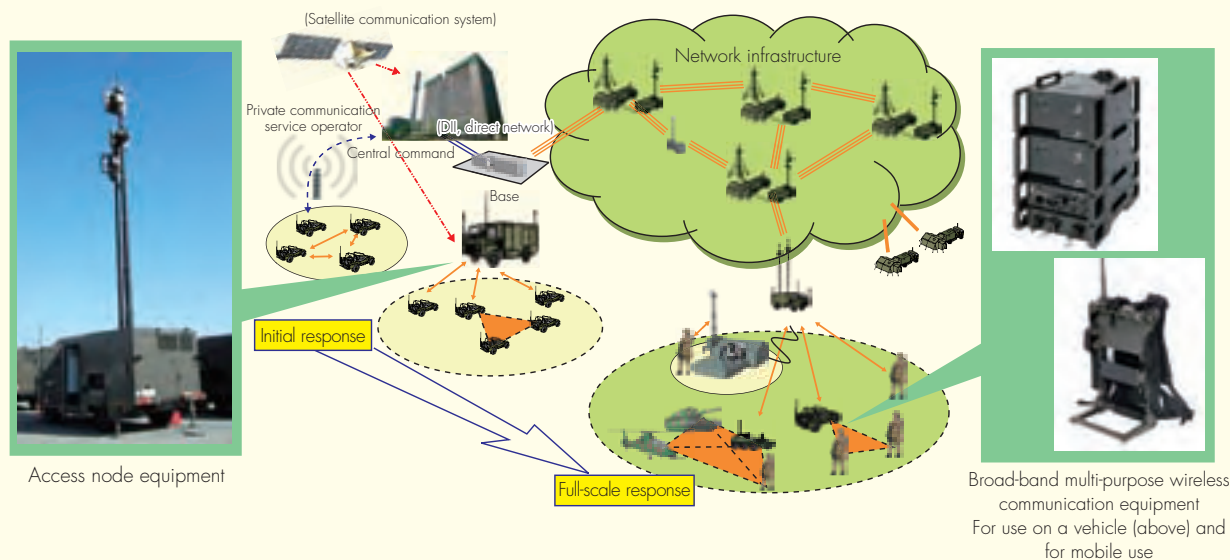
## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&amp;A

### Reflecting on the Lessons of the Response to the Earthquake (Field Communication System)



The field communication system has been developed as a replacement of communication equipment currently used by the Ground SDF, in order to ensure continuous field communication necessary for the command, control of and communication of information to army groups and divisions.

The new system enables the provision of a broad-area, high-speed network environment from the central command to individual personnel through the use of communication networks linking Ground SDF garrisons, field communication networks and private networks.

Moreover, the new system enables direct communication between each force of the SDFs as well as between the SDF and relevant external organizations through the use of software wireless technology. That is expected to facilitate information sharing with relevant organizations, the importance of which was learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake.

## 4 Evaluation of the Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

In an opinion poll carried out by the Cabinet Office in January 2012, 97.7% of respondents answered that they “have a high opinion”<sup>1</sup> of the SDF in relation to their disaster relief mission associated with the Great East Japan Earthquake. Moreover, many messages of encouragement, hope and thanks have been

received through various media from people - including those affected by the disaster - in response to the activities of the Ministry of Defense and SDF in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

<sup>1</sup> The figure for “have a high opinion” is the total for the responses “I have a very high opinion of them” and “I have a fairly high opinion of them”.



# Column

## VOICE

## Commentary

## Q&A

### An Array of Messages Sent to MOD/SDF

Messages sent from all over the country including the disaster-affected areas were a strong source of support for MOD/SDF to carry out support activities.

We really appreciate these messages.

"I learned activities of SDF personnel on the internet. Thank you. I can do nothing but express my gratitude to young SDF personnel. They were working for the people even though their own family members also suffered from the disaster. Each of your activities touched our heart. Your activities will continue in difficult situations but each member of the nation that you protected will think of this. I truly hope that you will return to your family safely and with smiles."

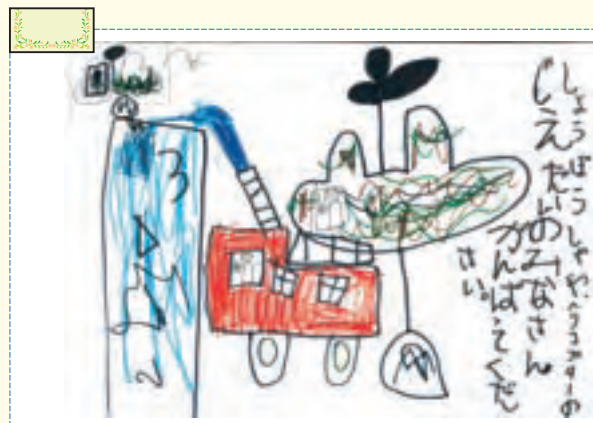


Many letters sent to MOD/SDF

"I appreciate very much for your diligent daily activities and am profoundly grateful for your families who support you. Please take good care of yourselves as I expect difficult days are yet to continue. All Japanese people are cheering for you and are proud of you! I, too, will look for what I can do and take action.

Hold out Tohoku, Hold out Japan!

Let us all Japanese help to each other toward reconstruction and bring smiles to the disaster areas.



"At the Great East Japan Earthquake... I am deeply grateful for you all who went into actions at the risk of your own lives as well as for your families. Thank you so much. We will also do our best whatever we can. I wish you well. Thank you."



"It has been nearly three months since the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred on March 11. The degree of damage in the afflicted areas is becoming visible almost every day and a large number of people are cooperating toward reconstruction. The other day I saw SDF personnel working in protective clothing on television. Looking at the personnel trying hard to find missing persons and family mementos out of piles of things that had been swept from inside of houses by tsunami, I grieved at the scene. However, SDF personnel who are actually working for reconstruction there must be feeling far greater sadness than mine. Living together in Japan, I will do my best in what I can do now, even if small things, together with SDF personnel."



and overall Japan-U.S. obligations are kept in balance. This point is different in contrast to the North Atlantic Treaty which stipulates only joint defense of member countries.

## 2 USFJ Facilities and Areas and the Local 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 conditions in the surrounding areas have 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.

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 considerable impact on the residents' living environment and local development. It is therefore necessary to make efforts to reduce the burden with

the realities of each area in mind.

## 3 U.S. Forces in Okinawa

In comparison to areas such as the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, and Guam, Okinawa is located closer to 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. Furthermore, it is situated in the extremely important location with regard to security—it is located roughly in the center of the Nansei Islands and is close to Japan's sea lanes. Thus, the stationing of U.S. forces in Okinawa — including the U.S. Marine Corps which has high mobility and readiness and is in charge for a variety of contingencies — with the abovementioned 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 2012, about 74% of the land area of the USFJ facilities and areas nationwide



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### MV-22 Osprey

The MV-22 is an aircraft possessing the combined technologies of a rotorcraft, which enables vertical take-off and landing and hovering functions, and a fixed wing aircraft, which enables high velocity and a long flight range. Compared with the CH-46, the MV-22 boasts about twice the maximum velocity, three times the carrying capacity, and four times the cruising radius. Fulfilling all of the reliability and safety requirements, the U.S. Government decided to mass-produce the MV-22 in 2005 as a medium-sized air transport aircraft, and the Marine Corps is planning to procure 360 MV-22s. As of July 1, 2012, the Marine Corps possesses about 150 MV-22s and these aircrafts have been deployed globally and operated in various missions such as Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and disaster relief activities in Haiti.

The Marine Corps is advancing its plan to replace its outdated rotorcraft, the CH-46, with the MV-22 that has superior basic capabilities, and the U.S. Department of Defense made an announcement in June 2011 concerning updating the CH-46 currently deployed at Futenma Air Base with the MV-22. Then, the U.S. Government gave the Japanese Government a Host Nation Notification on June 29, 2012, that one CH-46 squadron at Futenma Air Base would be replaced with one MV-22 squadron in October 2012.



MV-22 Osprey



may carry out the missions conferred by the Armed Attack Situation Response Law and the Law concerning the Measures to Ensure the Peace and Security of Japan in Situations in Areas



ASDF troops conducting a joint search and rescue drill with U.S. troops, envisaging a situation in which there are casualties resulting from a tsunami or shipwreck. This was the 26th time for such a drill to take place since 1979. (Ukibaru-jima Island, Okinawa Prefecture; December 2011)

Surrounding Japan, and other laws. Such efforts also serve to maintain and enhance the credibility and deterrent effect of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

Therefore, the SDF has conducted a variety of bilateral training and exercises with the U.S. forces. For example, the Japan-U.S. Bilateral Joint Training Exercise that commenced in 1985 involves a generally annual, alternative command post exercise and field training exercise; the command post exercise held in January 2012 was the 19th to be held.

In addition, the GSDF, MSDF and ASDF are expanding the scope of joint exercises, by such means as dispatching units not only to areas within Japan, but also to the U.S., to participate in exercises such as the Japan-U.S. Joint Regional Army command post exercises, special anti-submarine exercises, and Japan-U.S. Joint Fighter combat training; thus, continuous efforts are being made to improve interoperability at the military service and unit levels.

(See Fig. III-2-1-9)



# Column

## VOICE

## Commentary

## Q&A

### Japan-US Joint Exercise – the First Participation in KOA KAI

Captain **Shinji Marusawa**, commander, Escort Division 2 (commander of contingent to the U.S. exercise KOA KAI)

From October to December of 2011, I as the commander of an escort division participated in 2011 U.S. KOA KAI exercise conducted in Hawaii and its surrounding ocean area. This was the first participation for the MSDF. I boarded the escort vessel Kurama and took its command.

KOA KAI means "marine warrior" in Polynesian. The exercise is aimed at checking and evaluating whether the Hawaiian surface vessels under the Commander of Destroyer Squadron 31 are prepared for real missions.

Because this was our first participation, we conducted the exercise on the common platform with the U.S. Navy focusing on acquisition of tactics of the U.S. Navy to carry out real missions. I believe that we could achieve the original purpose by improving tactical skills through the exercise. At the same time, the fact that MSDF vessels joined the exercise for the U.S. Navy that has a great deal of experience in real missions and could carry out the exercise to-toe with them proves a high interoperability and close coordination between the MSDF and U.S. Navy. I believe that MSDF's participation in KOA KAI will be beneficial for MSDF also in the future.



The author (left) and the Commander of the Destroyer Squadron 31 (right)



### Tomodachi Operation – a bond that tied Japan and the U.S.

**Stephen (Steve) A. Town** (now ex-service) Former Director, Army Air & Missile Defense Division (AAMDD) Liaison Officer in Japan

For about four and a half months from just after the Great East Japan Earthquake to the end of July 2011, I as a liaison officer at the Joint Staff Office at Ichigaya was engaged in liaison and coordination between the JSDF that was responding to the disaster and the U.S. forces that were supporting them.

Supporting Japanese people in cooperation with the JSDF that was responding to the unprecedented disaster required wide ranging coordination. Through the coordination efforts, we recognized anew that there are differences in culture and those in operation procedure based on the former between Japan and the United States. However, we could overcome these differences by mutual understanding developed through exchanges and joint exercises during peace time and the efforts on the both side to bring Japan-U.S. cooperation to a success for reconstruction of the disaster areas as early as possible.

Thanks to proactive Japan-U.S. coordination and the efforts of the people involved such as personnel in the field, Operation Tomodachi produced results including expeditious recovery of the Sendai Airport that was heavily damaged by the earthquake, showing a strong “bond” between the two countries.





## Relocation of the Air Defense Command to Yokota



ASDF Air Defense Operations Group's operation commencement ceremony (March 2012)

In the Security Consultative Committee (2+2) Document "U.S.-Japan Alliance: Transformation and Realignment for the Future" in October 2005, it was clearly stated that Japan's Air Defense Command would be collocated with the headquarters of the U.S. 5th Air Force at Yokota Air Base. Through subsequent consultations the governments of Japan and the United States agreed on "United States-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation" in May 2006.

Based on the Roadmap, the ASDF developed facilities necessary for the operation of the Air Defense Command at Yokota Air Base while moving command and control systems including command system and Japan Aerospace Defense Ground Environment (JADGE) as well as

associated equipments. The ASDF completed the relocation of the Air Defense Command and relevant units on March 26, 2012 and started operation of the Air Defense Command at Yokota Air Base.

With the Air Defense Command, the Air Intelligence Wing and the Air Defense Operations Group relocating from Fuchu Base to Yokota Air Base, the number of personnel at the Base is now about 800.

The collocation of the Air Defense Command with the headquarters of the U.S. 5th Air Force enables more rapid Japan-U.S. information sharing necessary for air defense and ballistic missile defense that need only a short period of time for response and strengthens cooperation between the headquarters organizations of the two countries to improve interoperability. This collocation has an essential importance for the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and contributes to the enhancement of the effective deterrent and response capabilities.

relocation project<sup>9</sup> at MCAS Iwakuni (the relocation of the runway approximately 1,000 meters offshore), the safe aircraft operations will be realized with less impact on the living environment of the surrounding communities.

In consideration of these, Carrier Air Wing Five (CVW-5) squadrons will be relocated from Atsugi Air Facility to MCAS Iwakuni. This relocation, consisting of F/A-18 and other aircraft, will be completed by 2014, subsequent to the follow-

ing: 1) completion of necessary facilities, and 2) adjustment of training airspace and the Iwakuni RAPCON airspace.

The relocation will be ① conducted after the runway is moved offshore to mitigate impacts of the increased operations at MCAS Iwakuni due to this relocation. Related measures will also be taken, including ② the relocation of MSDF EP-3 and other aircraft from MCAS Iwakuni to Atsugi Air Facility, ③ the regular rotational deployment of KC-130 aircraft (which are to

<sup>9</sup> A project involving the relocation of the runway at MCAS Iwakuni by approx. 1,000m to the east (offshore), in response to requests from Iwakuni City and other local authorities. The new runway began operations in May 2010. The project was completed at the end of FY2010.



## Column

**VOICE**
**Commentary**
**Q&A**

### Exchange between Local Residents and US Forces

Understanding and cooperation of residents living in the vicinity of U.S. bases are essential for the presence of US forces in Japan. Since 2008 MOD has been holding Japan-US exchange events in areas surrounding U.S. base for interaction of U.S. military officials, their families and residents living in the vicinity of U.S. base through sports and culture.

In FY2011, MOD held a Japan-US exchange joint concert near Iwakuni Base (Iwakuni City). In this concert Japanese and American elementary and junior high school students played koto (Japanese harp), consort and chorus incorporating marching and danced to a version of soranbushi (folk song of Hokkaido.) After the last consort and chorus by all players, about 1,000 thousand audience generously applauded the students.



Music exchange (Iwakuni City)

Other exchange events include a food culture exchange near Misawa Base (Misawa City,) a music exchange by elementary and junior high school students near Yokota Base (Hamura City) and a tea ceremony exchange by high school students near Yokosuka Base (Yokosuka City), which were all received well by the participants and residents.

MOD intends to actively promote such Japan-US exchange events to deepen exchange between residents living in the vicinity of U.S. and U.S. officials and their families.



Food culture exchange (Misawa City)



Music exchange (Hamura City)



Tea ceremony exchange (Yokosuka City)



Fig. III-3-1-4

ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) Organizational Chart

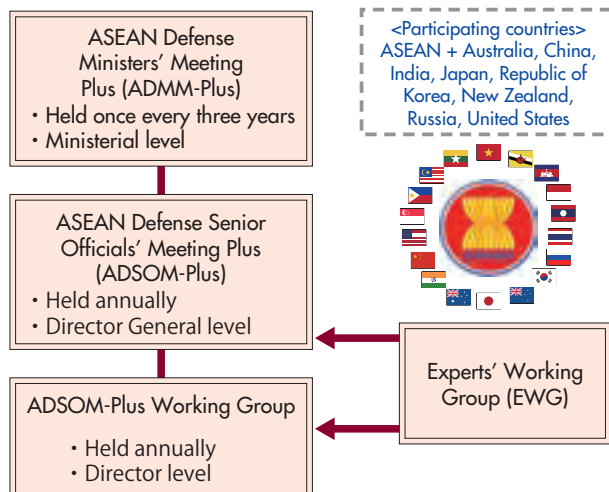


Fig. III-3-1-5

Main Points of the Hanoi Joint Declaration

- I ADMM-Plus is the highest ministerial defense and security consultative and cooperative mechanism for regional security issues.
- II Strengthen regional defense and security cooperation through conduct of concrete and practical cooperation such as capacity building.
- III Establish an ASEAN Defence Senior Officials' Meeting-Plus (ADSOM-Plus) to implement the understandings and decisions of the ADMM-Plus.
- IV Establish specific Expert Working Groups on the five fields: 1) humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, 2) maritime security, 3) counter-terrorism, 4) military medicine, and 5) peacekeeping operations.



Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&amp;A

## Military Medical Cooperation in the ADMM-Plus

COL(DR) **KANG WEE LEE** Chief of Medical Corps, Singapore Armed Forces  
Co-Chair, ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine

The inauguration of the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in October 2010 represents an important response to the evolving strategic developments in the wider region. The ADMM-Plus which brings together the ten ASEAN Member States and eight "Plus" countries, including Japan, is a key component of the regional security architecture that allows key stakeholders to work together to enhance the peace and stability of the region.

Apart from facilitating strategic discussions at the Ministerial level, the ADMM-Plus plays a crucial role in strengthening regional cooperation amongst the armed forces of the ADMM-Plus countries. In this regard, the Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) – launched six months after the inaugural ADMM-Plus meeting – is a valuable platform for the militaries to forge practical cooperation in five key areas, namely humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), maritime security, peacekeeping operations, counter-terrorism and military medicine. The EWG on Military Medicine (EWG-MM) is co-chaired by Japan and Singapore. Our partnership underscores the strong bilateral defense relations between the two countries.

The EWG-MM is a distinctive platform to enhance practical military medical cooperation because this is the first time military medicine is on the agenda of an ASEAN security-related forum. In our EWG-MM co-chairmanship, Japan and Singapore will lead the ADMM-Plus' military medical services in enhancing the regional HADR medical response framework by driving the development of useful initiatives in the areas of inter-operability and coordination, information sharing and medical training.

To this end, the inaugural EWG-MM meeting in Singapore in July 2011 garnered strong support for a set of recommendations to strengthen the operational interface and facilitate the inter-operability of ADMM-Plus' military medical services. Significant achievements include the establishment of a register of points-of-contact, an inventory of medical support capabilities and a set of Standard Operating Procedures for disaster medical assistance.

With a strong foundation laid by the first EWG-MM meeting, Japan and Singapore co-hosted a EWG-MM Tabletop Exercise, focusing on the medical support for HADR operations, in Japan in July 2012. This is aligned to the EWG-MM's strategic direction to progress towards more operationally challenging activities and to enhance inter-operability, which is an important test of regional capability given that the military is often one of the first responders to a disaster scene. In this regard, a collective approach in building the regional capacity and capability for HADR medical response is an important and necessary step to meet the challenges in the scale and complexity of modern day disasters.

\* Standard Operating Procedure





## Column

**VOICE**
**Commentary**
**Q&A**

### Japan-US-Austria Joint Exercise –Cope North Guam –

Major Hirofumi Murai Western Air Defense Force Headquarters

As a F-2 pilot I participated in a joint exercise with the US Air Force and Australia Air Force (Cope North Guam) conducted in Guam in February 2012.

The exercise has been conducted every year since FY1999 with the aim of enhancing Japan-US joint coping capacity and tactical skills, but the Australian Air Force participated for the first time.

Just like ASDF the Australian Air Force is in a close relationship with the US Air Force and operates fighters in a similar way. This was the first Japan-US-Austria joint exercise but we could carry out the exercise without any anxiety.

Through the exercise I am deeply impressed by their gentlemanly behavior and enthusiastic attitude to actively try to deepen mutual understanding of tactics between Japan and Australia. In this sense, I felt that an exercise with Australian Air Force can be very productive.

At the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011, C-17 transport aircraft of Australian Air Force provided transport support in close coordination with JSDF and the US force in Japan. Australian force is an important partner of JSDF. I hope that we can further deepen mutual collaboration and cooperation not only in security areas but also in disaster relief and humanitarian support activities.



The author coordinating the exercise with pilots of Australian Air Force in a briefing room (left)



Group photo of the participants of 2011 Japan-US-Austria joint exercise



## Voice of a Defense Attaché (ASDF)

Colonel Shinju Terauchi Defense Attaché at Japanese Embassy in Russian Federation

Russia, "our neighboring country," has a huge impact on the security of the Asia-Pacific region including Europe and Central Asia. Consequently, it is essential for Japan's security to promote mutual trust and a cooperative relationship through defense exchanges between Japan and Russia.

At Japanese Embassy in Moscow I am currently working on a variety of plans concerning defense exchange between the two countries. For example, I am groping for a new form of defense exchanges such as mutual visits between ASDF transport aircrafts and Russian transport air force as unit-level exchange. For the success of such a defense exchange, I am making efforts to realize exchanges in cooperation with the Defense Ministry of Russia and the Russian Eastern District Army Headquarters as well as the relevant organizations on the Japanese side.

I am flying around from east to west of the vast Eurasia over nine time zones to a planning meeting with the Defense Ministry of Russia in Moscow and then with the Eastern District Army Headquarters in Khabarovsk where exchanges are planned to be held, for example.

My task is to prepare "stage" for players of the defense exchanges and support realization of productive "exchange." I will be very happy as a Defense Attaché if the defense exchange builds a bridge of security cooperation in Far East and with "our neighboring country."



The author in Russia (third from the left)

High-level talks between heads of state and defense	May 2010 Mar. 2011 Aug. 2011 Feb. 2012 Jun. 2012	Visit to the U.K. by the ASDF Chief of Staff Visit to Japan by the first Minister of Navy and the U.K. Royal Navy Chief of Staff Visit to Japan by the U.K. Royal Air Force Chief of Staff Visit to the U.K. by the MSDF Chief of Staff Visit to the U.K. by the GSDF Chief of Staff
Regular discussions between defense ministry representatives	Nov. 2009 Feb. 2011	10th Japan–U.K. Consultation between foreign affairs and defense authorities, Sixth Japan–U.K. Consultation between defense authorities 11th Japan–U.K. Consultation between foreign affairs and defense authorities, Seventh Japan–U.K. Consultation between defense authorities
Unit-level exchange, etc.	Jul. 2009 Feb. 2010 Oct. 2010 Dec. 2010 Oct. 2011 Feb. 2012 Feb. 2012	Japan–U.K. unit exchange (Japan) (Ground) Exchange of research and development personnel (Japan) (Ground) Exchange between Japan and U.K. troops (U.K.) (Ground) Exchange between Japan and U.K. troops (Japan) (Ground) Exchange between Japan and U.K. troops (Japan) (Maritime) Exchange between Japan and U.K. troops (U.K.) (Ground) Exchange between Japan and U.K. troops (Japan) (Ground)



Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&amp;A

## The Progress of Japan-UK Defense Relations



Prime Ministers Noda and Cameron (Tokyo, April 2012)  
[Cabinet Public Relations Office]

Our military relationship with Japan goes back a long way. In the late 19th Century it was the United Kingdom's maritime operational and shipbuilding experience that the Imperial Japanese Navy chose to draw on. Admiral Togo studied in the UK and sailed with the Royal Navy as he established himself as a brilliant tactician and naval forces commander.

Japan is the UK's most import ally in the region and an ally with a very similar outlook on international affairs. We want peace, global stability and prosperity for all. We are committed to the principles of international law, and are actively engaged across the world in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. And we both have immensely close relationships with the United States.

In April 2012, Prime Ministers Cameron and Noda met in Tokyo and endorsed a new Defense Cooperation Memorandum that defines this new relationship, which was signed by our Defense Ministers in June 2012. The memorandum also sets out new areas

for cooperation such as cyber security and counter-piracy. We also want to reduce the burden of acquiring increasingly expensive defense equipment by increasing cooperation between our two defense industries.

We therefore intend to take every opportunity to share our experiences, advice and information for our mutual benefit – not only in Japan and the UK but around the world.





## Voice of Personnel in Duty at the Djibouti SDF Facility

Lieutenant **Masanori Aoki** Leader of Public Relations Unit, the 9th Deployed Air Force for Anti-Piracy Operations

Sent to the Republic of Djibouti in December 2011 as the leader of public relations unit of the 9th Deployed Air Force for Anti-Piracy Operations, I have been pushing forward with public relation duties. In this column I will describe the local exchange activities on which I have been working to contribute to creating a facility-surrounding environment suitable for carrying out our duties in Djibouti.

Deployed Air Force for Anti-Piracy Operations has been engaged in local exchange in various forms. During the time of my duty here, I built a relationship with schools near the facility with which we have had no exchange in the past and expanded the relationship through donation of goods and cultural exchange. In the environment where even one pencil is treasured unlike in Japan, I saw students who listen to their teacher with shining eyes. I'll never forget their pure eyes.

The principal of an elementary school said to me "Japan was hit by a great earthquake last year and lost so many things due to tsunami. I wonder how Japan, in such a difficult situation, can help people of other countries. Thank you very much." This was a moment when I realized that the "cordiality" of Japanese people can contribute to establishing friendly relations with other countries.



The author making arrangements with people of an elementary school



Commemorative photo at the school where an exchange took place  
(the author is second from the left in the back row)

## 4

## Praise for Japan's Endeavors

The anti-piracy operations by the Japan Self-Defense Forces have been highly praised by the international community including leaders of other countries, who have expressed their gratitude. Moreover, the Maritime Self Defense Force engaging in anti-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden have received many messages from the captains and shipowners of the vessels escorted by the Self-Defense

Forces units thanking for safe navigation in the Gulf of Aden while requesting the continuation of the operations. From the first to the tenth unit, total 2,040 messages have been received.

In this way so far, no single piracy incident occurs during the escort operations, meaning that Self-Defense Forces units fulfill their missions with complete safety.



Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&amp;A

## Voice of Personnel Dispatched to South Sudan PKO and the Family

Warrant Officer **Yoshihiro Isono**

Dispatched Personnel, Command Sergeant Major of the Central Readiness Regiment

When I was studying abroad about 15 years ago, I visited the boundary line with a neighboring country. I still remember the landscape there. Seeing the gap between the rich and the poor across the border fence with my own eyes, I was choked with sorrow and couldn't help thinking "what if I were born on the opposite side of the fence?"

13 years later, I was sent to Haiti as a member of the 1st International Relief Unit for Haiti. Now I am in South Sudan as a member of the 1st contingent of engineer unit and assisting local people toward realization of their dreams and hopes. I was born in Japan but no one can choose to be born in a country like Japan that provides help, or in a country that needs help.

Furthermore, even if you are lucky enough to be born in a country that provides help, you may suddenly find yourself on the side that needs help. I felt this strongly during the disaster dispatch in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake last year. It is truly an honor for me as a person born on the side that provides help to be given an opportunity to assist others as my task. Appreciating the opportunity, I will sweat a lot at work today as usual to show my gratitude.



The author with children of South Sudan



Mayumi (second from the right) and the family

**Mayumi Isono**, his wife

South Sudan...When I first heard the name of the country, I had no idea even about its location. This is the third dispatch for him in the last three years following Haiti two years ago and the Great East Japan Earthquake last year.

Every time I worry about his physical and mental health: hygiene, temperature, food, and the shock he might have by seeing the local conditions with his own eyes. He is so far away that we could not see him easily if something happens. This increases my anxiety.

However, he always sets out saying "Everything's going to be all right" with a smile and sends caring words to us from the location he was dispatched to.

"I will go to help people in need." Seeing his attitude, our children feel encouraged rather than lonely.

These missions are hard for both dispatched personnel and their family, but make us think about the meaning of "doing something for somebody." "Take good care of yourself and keep up good job!" These plain words I always say are all I wish for.



## Column

### VOICE

### Commentary

### Q&A

## Looking Back the First Dispatch Based on the PKO Law - Cambodia PKO -

Tetsuya Nishimoto, former Chairman of the Joint Staff Council (Chief of Staff, GSDF at the time of Cambodia PKO)

20 years have passed since June 1992 when the PKO Law was enacted and Japan participated in PKO in Cambodia for the first time.

At that time, having only a little more than three months after the enactment of the PKO Law, we experienced significant difficulties in preparation. First, we struggled in selection of personnel, formation of unit and training. Second, preparation and packing of enormous amount of equipment and arrangement of transportation means to send them to the site required huge amount of work. Third, we needed to make sure for removing anxiety of the personnel's families about the overseas dispatch as the first PKO by the SDF and to establish a support system for them.

In the field, they completed construction/repair of roads and bridges and improvement of ports to facilitate withdrawal of other troops, which was highly appreciated.

Meanwhile, the first general election for Cambodia was held under the tense situation in which U.N. volunteer Atsuhito Nakata and Civilian Police Superintendent Haruyuki Takada were killed in April and May 1993, respectively. At that time the biggest challenge was to ensure safety of 41 election observers sent from Japan. I believe that, because guarding them was not allowed by the law, the SDF personnel investigating roads/bridges near polling stations and sending food and water were conducive to ensuring their safety.



Visiting a field of Cambodia PKO as GSDF Chief of Staff (then)  
(second from the left)



The accomplishments are the result of humble and dedicated activities of the dispatched personnel and the organizing power nurtured by our predecessors. Supports by our brothers in the MSDF and ASDF are also unforgettable. I truly cannot thank them enough.

Since then Japan's international peace keeping activities have made major advances. I think this development is only natural for Japan, which has only limited natural resources and therefore is dependent on trade. It is strongly desirable to develop a legal system necessary to make the activities more effective and ensure safety of personnel.



## Marking the 60th Anniversary – Efforts by the National Institute for Defense Studies

The National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS), a think tank of the Ministry of Defense, conducts policy-oriented research and studies mainly on security and history of warfare, while fulfilling the function of a defense college to train high-ranking cadre of SDF. Research results are provided to the decision makers of the Ministry as needed. Major results are made available to the public on the website of the institute (<http://www.nids.go.jp/>; e.g. East Asian Strategic Review, NIDS China Security Report, NIDS Journal of Defense and Security, NIDS Military History Studies Annual, and Briefing Memo.) NIDS also manages and publishes warfare history materials serving as the country's largest warfare history research center.

NIDS also functions as a pioneering international exchange organ of MOD. With the aim of contributing to the improvement of security environment through enhancement of trusting relationship with countries in the world and enhancing the quality of research studies and education, NIDS conducts academic exchanges and joint researches with overseas defense universities and security research institutes.

NIDS marks the 60th anniversary on August 1, 2012. During these 60 years, NIDS has played a central role in Japan's security study. NIDS is expected from various quarters to continue activities as a center of security study in the world responding to the demands of the times.



National Institute for Defense Studies

## 2 Systems to Support the Minister of Defense

The Minister of Defense is responsible for issues related to the defense of Japan as the head of the Ministry of Defense and is in overall charge of the SDF in accordance with the provisions of the Self-Defense Forces Act. The Minister is supported by the Parliamentary Senior Vice-Minister of Defense and two Parliamentary Vice-Ministers of Defense. There are also Special Advisors to the Minister of Defense who advise the Minister of Defense and the Defense Council in deliberations concerning general policies related to the MOD. Furthermore, there is an Administrative Vice-Minister of Defense who organizes and supervises administrative affairs to support the Minister of Defense.

In addition, in order to enhance the support system for political appointees led by the Minister of Defense, the



The ministerial succession ceremony for Minister of Defense Morimoto (June 2012)

“Administrative Deputy Minister of Defense”<sup>2</sup> is to be created in FY2012 who will carry out the overall coordination of duties

<sup>2</sup> With the changes in the security situation, the functions of MOD/SDF, as a policy-making government ministry especially to handle foreign affairs, have been increased. In response to these changes, the Administrative Deputy Minister of Defense is to be established as the new position that collectively coordinates the affairs beyond the boundaries of bureaus in Ministry of Defense at a high level and steadily negotiates with top-level government officials from the U.S. and other countries about important policies that involve the Ministry as a whole.





## Voice of SDF Reserve Personnel – To be a SDF Reserve Personnel and Member of Society

Reserve Leading Private **Yoko Kawano** (former Reserve Candidate of open recruitment)

When I tell people around me that I am a SDF reserve personnel, they ask me endless questions with astonishment that they found “SDF personnel” among them and that I am a woman, as well as from curiosity about the unknown world of the SDF.

It seems that few people know about SDF reserve personnel, but I feel that my friends and acquaintances accept the fact with interest as activities of a person who work and live a civilian life together with them.

Spending a lot of time contacting with general public, I am often asked questions and considered to be just “SDF personnel” by lay public without distinction from regular SDF personnel.

Therefore, I try to behave honorably and learn minimum knowledge about the SDF and defense on the daily basis so that I can facilitate public understanding and interest as a person standing between SDF and the general public.

I maintain physical fitness and keep myself in good shape as my obligation so that I can respond to a sudden calling.

I will continue to conduct myself always with awareness and responsibility as SDF reserve personnel.



The author working in her workplace that deals with interior goods

### d. Cooperation with Companies Employing Reserve Personnel

As SDF Reserve Personnel are involved in their own jobs, they must participate in muster for exercises and training to maintain the level of skills required, by either adjusting their work schedule or using days off from work. Therefore, the understanding and cooperation of the companies that employ these SDF Reserve Personnel are essential for the smooth operation of the program. In particular, SDF Ready Reserve Personnel are supposed to attend training for 30 days per year, so the necessary cooperation in regard to their employees is sought, such as allowing Ready Reserve Personnel to take a leave of absence.

To enable reserves to participate in training sessions with peace of mind, the Ministry of Defense has taken into consideration the burden on companies employing Ready Reserve

Personnel and provides a special subsidy to companies which allow such personnel to attend training sessions.

### (3) Administrative Officials, Technical and Engineering Officials, Instructors, and Other Civilian Personnel

There are approximately 22,000 civilian personnel — administrative officials, technical and engineering officials, instructors, and others — in addition to uniformed SDF personnel, in the Ministry of Defense and the SDF. These civilians are mainly employed through the Recruitment Examination for National Public Officials Level I, or the Class I, II, or III Examination for Defense Ministry Civilian Personnel. After participating in the same training course, civilian personnel who have passed Level I and Class I and II undertake a wide range of work<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>8</sup> Until FY2011, the Ministry of Defense conducted the Class I, II and III Examinations for Defense Ministry Civilian Personnel separately from the Level 1 Examination for National Public Officials run by the National Personnel Authority. However, due to the introduction of a new examination system in FY2012, it has been decided to abolish the Class I, II and III Examinations for Defense Ministry Civilian Personnel and to employ personnel from among those who have passed the Examination for National Public Officials for either career track or general staff run by the National Personnel Authority. In addition, positions in the examination categories of “foreign languages” and “international relations”, which were previously filled by those who passed the Class II Examination for Defense Ministry Civilian Personnel, will now be filled from among those who pass the Examination for Defense Ministry Professional Civilian Officials.



### Voice of Female SDF Personnel - First Female Graduates from National Defense Academy who are active in various places -

20 years after entering the National Defense Academy as first female students in 1992, they are now active in various places of the country.

#### GSDF

Lieutenant Colonel **Yoko Yato**

Personnel Planning Division, Personnel Department,  
GSDF Staff Office

After graduating from the National Defense Academy, I served as a company commander of the 10th Signal Battalion and engaged in international activities as a member of the 5th Iraq reconstruction assistance while being supported by many people. Now I am doing a job concerning personnel affairs in GSDF Staff Office. I wish to contribute to people and society and try new duties taking advantage of my past precious experiences.



The author working at GSDF Staff Office (Ichigaya)

#### MSDF

Vice Commander of the training ship "Kashima"

Commander **Ryoko Azuma**

As Vice Commander of the training ship "Kashima" whose duty is long training cruise I am teaching interns who have just graduated from an officer candidate school. Guidance by many superiors and predecessors and support of subordinates made me who I am today. Partly to repay their favor, I continue to work for development of younger people and pave the way for female juniors.



The author working as Vice Commander of training ship

#### ASDF

Lieutenant Colonel **Yukari Yoshida**

Commanding Officer, Matsushima Air Traffic Control Unit, Air  
Traffic Control Service Group

After graduating the academy, I first worked in Hamamatsu Air Traffic Control Unit, then in the academy (instructor) and ASDF Staff Office. Now I am working in Matsushima Base as the Commanding Officer of the Matsushima Air Traffic Control Unit. With support of so many people I could live a fulfilling life as a SDF personnel and mother of a child. For the future, I will continue my duty never forgetting my feeling of gratitude and treasuring bonds with people so that they are filled with "love and smiles."



The author working in Matsushima Base  
Traffic Control Tower as commander



# Column

## VOICE

## Commentary

## Q&A

### Excellent Human Asset – Abilities of Retired SDF Personnel

#### Heiwa Sangyo Co., Ltd.

Business activities: Sales and manufacturing of components for precision machinery (important components that support high performance and safety of aircrafts, space crafts and railway vehicles)

##### [Retired SDF personnel]

**Mr. Kenji Kobayashi,**  
Quality Assurance Director (former ASDF Colonel)

I am extremely busy everyday, working as both Quality Assurance Director and QMS\* General Manager among other duties. Due to IT I am continuing to work and study day and night but I hope to contribute to the company and society taking advantage of my experience, knowledge, qualifications and network of contacts I have gained in the SDF.



\*QMS: Quality Management System

##### [Employer side]

**Mr. Yasuhiro Yao,**  
President

We are a machine manufacturer serving aerospace companies and plant manufacturing company. Mr. Kobayashi has demonstrated outstanding insights and performance in big-picture judgment and problem solving, which I cannot find in other employees. I have a high expectation in his activities as a director.



#### Ebara Environmental Plant Co., Ltd.

Business activities: design and construction, maintenance and repair work of environment/energy-related facilities

##### [Retired SDF personnel]

**Mr. Kazuya Abematsu,** Chief of Gonoike Power Plant Management Office\* (former MSDF Commander)

While working in the SDF, I tried to deal with many people and fit together feeling of various people and relationships in workplace to accomplish a single task. This experience greatly helps me in my current job.

\* Gonoike Power Plant Management Office  
Conducts operation and management of biomass fuel power plant



##### [Employer side]

**Mr. Motoyuki Ito,** O&M Business Division, Maintenance and Management Department

When we launched a new business, I received reports of trouble every day. In this situation, Mr. Abematsu organized employees and made arrangement for operation in the field. I think this proves that the knack for dealing with people acquired in SDF service is useful also in the general public.



#### Shikoku Godo Tsuun Co., Ltd.

Business activities: transportation and general waste collection

##### [Retired SDF personnel]

**Mr. Masashi Kasai,** Driver of the Heavy Vehicle Team 1 (Former GSDF Leading Private)

Good manners I have learned in the SDF are helpful here, which I owe to the people of the 6th Engineer Group (Toyokawa). Now, under the kind guidance of the people of the company I am working with "ensure safe delivery of important packages of customers" as my first principle and "drive carefully" as my motto.



##### [Employer side]

**Mr. Takashi Miki**  
Team Leader of the Heavy Vehicle Team 1

Mr. Kasai is working on everything straightforwardly. Overseeing disaster dispatch of the SDF just after the occurrence of the Great East Japan Earthquake, he carried out transportation tasks with strong will that "as a former SDF member I will also complete my task overcoming the difficult situation," which greatly influenced our employees.



Against this policy backdrop, the Ministry of Defense hosted a meeting involving the Study group on Defense Production and Technological Bases<sup>1</sup> in November 2010, membership of which includes academics, representatives of defense business-related organizations, and deliberations concerning approaches to the Strategy.

### (1) Deliberations Concerning the Strategy on Defense Production and Technological Bases

In June 2012, the Study group on Defense Production and technological bases compiled a report entitled “Final Report of the Study group on Defense Production and Technological Bases”, outlining the outcomes of its deliberations to date, and submitted its recommendations to the Ministry of Defense, to serve as a point of reference when formulating the Strategy. The outline of the report is as follows:

#### a. Current status of and issues concerning defense production and technological bases in Japan

In Japan, there is no national arsenal (state-owned munitions factory), so the defense industry handles almost all of the functions and roles of the defense production and technological bases. In order to avert the risk that their management will be governed largely by fluctuations in defense-related expenditures, most defense-related companies are not so-called “specialized defense manufacturers”, but have rather maintained their defense-related business through flexible management resources and civilian sector business within the same company. However, amid a worldwide recession triggered by the Lehman Shock in the autumn of 2008 and the ongoing appreciation of the yen, the civilian business that supports defense business finds itself in a severe predicament, so it is becoming difficult to maintain defense business in a form reliant upon civilian



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Voice from the Defense Industry

The Shipbuilders' Association of Japan, Naval Ships & Patrol Ships Sub-Committee

Shipbuilders with cooperation of government-furnished equipment makers and subcontractors support operations of Maritime Self-Defense Force vessels through construction of vessels, checking-out, maintenance and repair of vessels in commission.

They operate MSDF vessel business leveraging technologies unique to navy vessels and knowhow accumulated over the years based on their equipment, technology and human resources for construction/repair of merchant vessels.

Most of the newly constructed merchant vessels are for overseas client, and our business environment is extremely severe. In addition to the strong yen, serious oversupply is going on due to the global decline in construction demand combined with the expanded construction capacity of Korea and China.

If merchant vessel business that accounts for over 70% of all vessel business sales does not turn up, it will have a serious impact on the navy vessel business that is built on the foundation of the former. Even repair of navy vessels would become difficult in the worst case.

While ensuring continual work load is essential to maintain the base for navy vessel construction and repair, recently the need to strengthen design/development capability and optimize production systems is also strongly recognized as means to reinforce international competitiveness of the entire vessel business, which prompts shipbuilders' move toward enterprise partnership and integration of business.



Keihin Shipyard of Universal Shipbuilding Corporation,  
a member of the Shipbuilders' Association of Japan

<sup>1</sup> For an overview of Study Group on Defense Production and Technological Bases Study Group, see <<http://www.mod.go.jp/j/approach/agenda/meeting/seisan/gaiyo.html>>





## Column

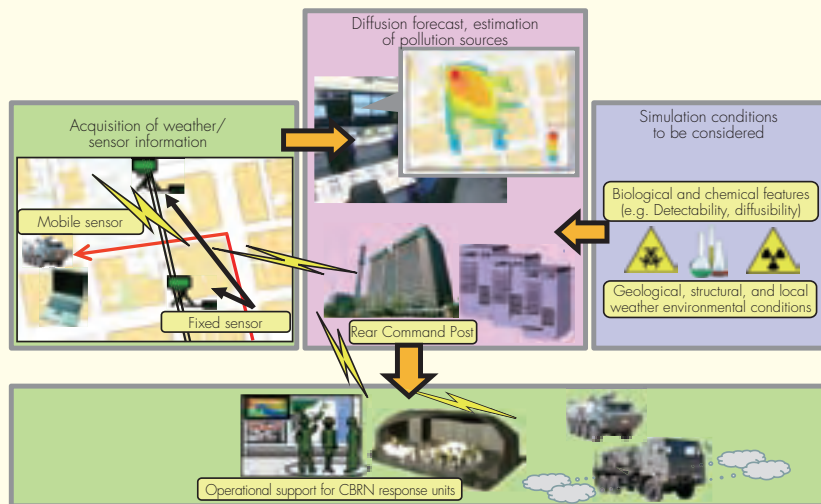
**VOICE**
**Commentary**
**Q&A**

### New Research and Development -CBRN Threat Assessment System Technology-

The research on the CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) Threat Assessment System Technology deals with systems capable of not only prediction and assessment of atmospheric diffusion of CBRN threat but also estimation of the location of pollution source based on the data from various CBRN detection sensors.

Because CBRN diffusion is influenced by various factors such as geographical features, urban constructions, and the direction/velocity of wind, visualization of invisible CBRN threat by precisely predicting atmospheric diffusion in view of those factors is important to ensuring the safety of soldiers.

The goal of the research is to establish methods for estimation of the location of pollution source and dynamic correction that incorporate actually measured data from the MOD/SDF's mobile/fixed CBRN detection sensors and weather sensors, assuming the situation where the source of pollution would be unclear. Although the private sector offers a large number of diffusion forecast systems to assess environmental impact and disaster prevention, they are not equipped with the function of estimating the location of pollution source. Therefore, the Technical Research and Development Institute (TRDI) plans to conduct research in this area from JFY2012 to 2019.



Operational Concept of CBRN Threat Assessment System Technology



A member of an MSDF band gives a flute recital. Bathing support and performances by bands to cheer up disaster-affected citizens were provided on board the amphibious ship Osumi.



ASDF troops visit an evacuation shelter and interact with local children



## Column

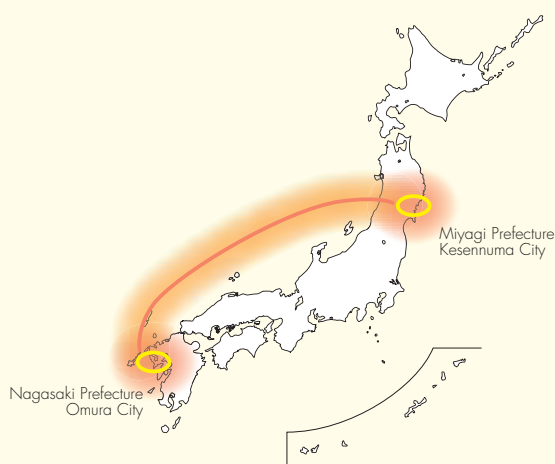
VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Continuing Exchange between Afflicted Areas and Troops

Let us introduce an exchange between Kesennuma City (Miyagi Prefecture) and the troops of the Camp Omura (Nagasaki Prefecture).



Ms. Takahashi, Ms. Sasaki and Ms. Miura (from left), invited from Kesennuma City to a Fureai Concert held in Omura City.

On March 18, 2012, about one year after the Great East Japan Earthquake, five guests including Ms. Kaai Takahashi, Ms. Masaka Sasaki and Ms. Toshie Miura were invited from Kesennuma City (Miyagi Prefecture) to "Fureai Concert" held by the Camp Omura (Nagasaki Prefecture).

At the time of the disaster, the 16th Infantry Regiment of the Camp Omura was working on disaster relief operation. Then, Ms. Takahashi and Ms. Sasaki who were members of a high-school brass band participated in a musical performance played by the regiment to entertain local people, where Ms. Miura, an employee of Kesennuma City, acted as MC, which triggered the exchange.

At the concert Ms. Miura looked back the circumstances at that time:

"I lost everything in the tsunami. Chased by the tsunami, I had a narrow escape from death, but I was spent mentally as well as physically. Then I had a chance to listen to the musical performance. Songs sung by personnel were a ray of light in utter darkness. It gave courage to me. I felt greatly comforted. Citizens of Omura and members of the regiment, I thank you very much!"

Even now over one year after the Great East Japan Earthquake, exchange continues between the people of the disaster-affected areas and the troops that conducted disaster relief operation there.

providing support for both the bodies and minds of local citizens. Moreover, even after their withdrawal from the region,

some troops have continued to engage in exchange activities with people in disaster-afflicted areas.

## 2 Cooperation from Local Public Organizations and Other Related Organizations for the SDF

### 1 Cooperation in Recruitment of Uniformed SDF Personnel and Support for Outplacement

Amid the recent harsh recruitment environment and employment situation, the cooperation of local public organizations and relevant organizations is vital to secure highly qualified personnel and to assist the outplacement of uniformed SDF personnel who retire at relatively younger ages.

### 2 Support and Cooperation for SDF Activities

SDF camps and bases are located in all prefectures, and maintain close relations with the local communities. Various

forms of cooperation and support from the local communities are indispensable for the SDF to conduct diverse activities. The SDF has also received words of encouragement from the people including local residents and relevant organizations. Moreover, some of the local authorities hosting camps and bases have commented that the presence of the SDF in their communities helps to support the local economy and employment in the region.

In addition to this kind of support and cooperation from the local communities, many letters of encouragement are sent by the people to SDF personnel engaging in international peace cooperation activities, which raise the morale of SDF personnel and reinforce their awareness of serving the people of Japan.



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Message from the Mayor of Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture

Yuto Yoshida, Mayor of Yokosuka City

Yokosuka is the center of Japan's sea defense where not only the Self Defense Fleet Headquarters and Yokosuka District Headquarters of JMSDF headquarters are located, but also the U.S. Seventh Fleet Headquarters and the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan are situated. We also have JGSDF and JASDF troops here as well as the National Defense Academy educating future JSDF officials. Yokosuka is truly essential to Japan's security.

Today, as the security environment of the region surrounding Japan is unclear and uncertain, it is important that JSDF and the U.S. Navy base in the city are securely operated while gaining local understanding. As the Mayor, I believe it is one of my major jobs to create such environment.

At the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake last year, the Commander of the Self Defense Fleet Headquarters issued sailing order to all available vessels 6 minutes after the earthquake, and a large number of U.S. vessels turned out from the Yokosuka Base in "Operation Tomodachi." Seeing these activities with their own eyes, the residents of Yokosuka City felt that JSDF and the U.S. forces are reliable in case of an emergency.

Approximately 10,000 JSDF personnel and 13,000 U.S. force personnel are living in the City. In order to provide a comfortable environment for the troops and their families, we will continue to work our best in improving the municipal administration.



At the send-off party for JMSDF Training Squadron 2012



The FY2011 SDF Marching Festival was held at the Nippon Budokan, based on the theme "Love, Hope, and Courage: Overcoming the Present for the Future"

being aboard MSDF vessels in each region; and demonstration flights and boarding experience on aircraft at open base festivals held at ASDF bases. In addition, at camps and bases throughout the country, events including equipment exhibitions, unit tours, and SDF musical band concerts are held on the anniversary of a unit's foundation. In some instances, they also hold parades through cities both in vehicles and on foot, with cooperation from the local communities concerned. Furthermore, in commemoration of the anniversary of the foundation of the SDF, events such as the SDF Marching Festival, a troop review, a fleet review, and an air review are held. In 2011, the SDF Marching Festival<sup>6</sup> was held at the Nippon Budokan arena, in a spirit of mourning for the deceased of the Great East Japan Earthquake and hope for the recovery of the region and



## Column

VOICE

Commentary

Q&A

### Cooperation with the Filming of "Yamamoto Isoroku"

In summer of 2010, we were asked by a studio to cooperate with a film production. The producer said: "I wish to depict the fact that an Imperial Navy officer, who was against war to the end, was to open the war, but actually aimed to conclude a peace at an early date." The movie was "Yamamoto Isoroku."

Let me introduce some of its impressive scenes. First, the scene of a heated debate between the Tripartite Pact proponents and opponents in the 1st Technical School's Auditorium (Etajima City) that was used to resemble the National Diet Building. The Auditorium, a historic building built in 1917 made of granite that was also used for the National Diet Building, added profound feeling to the picture. Next, the scene on the flagship "Nagato" was shot on our transport ship "Kunisaki." Pure white uniforms make navy more attractive, and some may feel them dazzling. Transport ship "Kunisaki" had just returned to Kure after three months of disaster relief dispatch in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake. In this movie, about 110 MSDF personnel cooperated as extras. After the completion of shooting on "Kunisaki" all crew members sent off the leading actor Mr.Koji Yakusho. The shooting lasted only for one day, but Mr.Yakusho was moved to tears by the traditional "Swing Cap" of MSDF.



The 1st Technical School's Auditorium (Etajima City) where the heated debate scene was shot



Transport "Kunisaki" where the scene on the flagship "Nagato" was shot

<sup>6</sup> This was also on broadcast live via the internet.





## SDF Personnel Who Are Active on the World Stage -Olympic and SDF Personnel-

**Question 1** Let us know about SDF personnel who will participate in London Olympic Games.

A total of 13 personnel will participate including: Captain Hitomi Obara, who won a gold medal in women's 48-kg class of the World Wrestling Championships twice in 2010 and 2011; First Lieutenant Shinichi Yumoto, who competes in 55-kg class freestyle wrestling; Second Lieutenant Tatsuhiro Yonemitsu, who won a silver medal in 66-kg class freestyle of the 2011 World Wrestling Championships; Sergeant First Class Tsutomu Fujimura, who competes in 66-kg class Greco-Roman; Second Lieutenant Katsuaki Susa, who competes in flyweight class in boxing; Second Lieutenant Satoshi Shimizu, who competes in bantamweight class in boxing; Second Lieutenant Yasuhiro Suzuki, who competes in welterweight class in boxing; Sergeant First Class Midori Yajima, who is the winner of the 2012 Asian Championships in rifle; Sergeant First Class Yuki Yamazaki, who competes in a 50-km walk; Ensign Ken Takakuwa, who competes in 200-meter individual medley swimming; Sergeant Shinichi Tomii, who competes in the modern pentathlon; Leading Private Shino Yamanaka, who is the first Japanese woman to participate in the modern pentathlon; and Reserve Sergeant First Class Yukari Konishi (Aska Kotsu Co.), who competes in pistol shooting.

**Question 2:** Let us know about past Olympic athletes who were SDF personnel.

Many SDF personnel flourished in the past Olympic games. For example, at the Tokyo Olympics, then Second Lieutenant and weightlifter Yoshinobu Miyake won the first gold medal for Japan and then Sergeant Koukichi Tsuburaya, who made the entire country glued to the game, won a bronze in marathon. At the Mexico Olympics, in addition to Miyake, then Second Lieutenant Masaaki Kaneko and Sergeant First Class Shigeo Nakata each won a gold medal in wrestling. At the Los Angeles Olympics, then Second Lieutenant Takeo Kamachi, who was 49 years old when participated the game, and then Sergeant Atsuji Miyahara both won gold medals in pistol and wrestling, respectively.

### 13 Athletes Participated in 2012 London Olympics



Captain, Hitomi Obara



First Lieutenant, Shinichi Yumoto



Second Lieutenant, Tatsuhiro Yonemitsu



Sergeant First Class,  
Tsutomu Fujimura



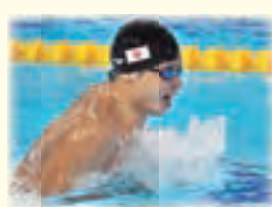
Second Lieutenant,  
Katsuaki Susa



Second Lieutenant,  
Satoshi Shimizu



Second Lieutenant,  
Yasuhiro Suzuki



Ensign, Ken Takakuwa



Sergeant First Class,  
Yuki Yamazaki



Sergeant 1st Class,  
Midori Yajima



Reserve Sergeant First Class,  
Yukari Konishi



Sergeant, Shinichi Tomii



Leading Private,  
Shino Yamanaka