

# Defense Chronology

## July-December 2014

Jul.	Jul. 1	Cabinet decision on "Development of Seamless Security Legislation to Ensure Japan's Survival and Protect Its People"	
	Jul. 1	Commencement of construction of the airfield and the Futenma Replacement Facility in the Futenma Replacement Facility construction project	
	Jul. 7	Japan-New Zealand summit meeting (Auckland)	Agreement reached on studies on a possible Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA)
	Jul. 8	Japan-Australia summit meeting (Canberra)	Signing of Japan-Australia Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology Agreement
	Jul. 11	Japan-U.S. Defense Ministers' Meeting (Washington)	Confirmation of the progress in the review of the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation
	Jul. 25	Entry into force of the partial revision of the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Defense (establishment of the post of Defense Councillor)	
	Jul. 29	Japan-France Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a statement of intent concerning defense cooperation and exchanges
Aug.	Aug. 1	Entry into force of the partial revision of the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Defense (the authorized number of posts for uniformed SDF personnel in internal subdivisions fixed, organization of the Tactical Fighter Training Group, etc.)	
	Aug. 14	Commencement of offshore work (boring survey) for the Futenma Replacement Facility construction project	
	Aug. 20	Dispatch of disaster relief units on a lifesaving mission in Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture (through September 11)	
	Aug. 26	Completion of the relocation of KC-130 of the U.S. Armed Forces from Futenma to Iwakuni	
Sep.	Sep. 1	Japan-India summit meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a memorandum on Japan-India defense cooperation and exchange
	Sep. 27	Dispatch of disaster relief units in response to the volcanic eruption of Mount Ontake (through October 16)	
	Sep. 30	Return of part of the land of Sagami General Depot (Approximately 17ha)	The first return of land on the mainland based on the Roadmap
Oct.	Oct. 7	Sixth Japan-ASEAN Vice-Ministerial Forum (Yokohama)	Exchange of views on promotion of maritime defense cooperation, cooperation in equipment and technology, and capacity-building
	Oct. 16	Japan-Australia Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	Agreement to continue studies enhancing Japan-Australia and Japan-U.S.-Australia joint exercises
	Oct. 26	Aviation inspection parade in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Ministry of Defense/Self-Defense Forces	
	Oct. 28	Japan-Finland Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	
	Oct. 29	Japan-ROK Defense Vice-Ministerial Meeting (Seoul)	Discussion of Japan-ROK defense cooperation and exchange, and explanation of Japan's security initiatives
Nov.	Nov. 4	Japan-Spain Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a memorandum on Japan-Spain defense cooperation and exchanges
	Nov. 19	First Japan-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Roundtable (Bagan)	Exchange of views on cooperation in non-traditional security areas, such as humanitarian assistance/disaster relief and maritime security
	Nov. 23	Dispatch of disaster relief units in response to an earthquake with an epicenter in northern Nagano Prefecture	
	Nov. 28	Transportation of supplies necessary for international disaster relief activities to respond to the Ebola hemorrhagic fever epidemic in Western Africa (Republic of Ghana, through Dec. 11)	
Dec.	Dec. 1	First dispatch of SDF personnel to NATO	Female SDF personnel dispatched as the NATO Secretary General's Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security
	Dec. 6	Dispatch of disaster relief units in response to heavy snow in Tokushima Prefecture (through December 11)	
	Dec. 19	Joint announcement of Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (2+2)	Decision to deepen discussions toward completion of the review of the Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Defense Cooperation in the first half of 2015
	Dec. 26	Completion of the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces TPY-2 Radar (so-called X-band Radar) at Kyogamisaki	
	Dec. 31	International disaster relief activities for the missing AirAsia plane (through January 11, 2015)	

# January-May 2015

Jan.	Jan. 12	Fourth joint working group talks between Japanese and Chinese defense authorities on "Marine and Air Communications Mechanism" (Tokyo)	Agreement to strive toward the early commencement of the operation of the "Marine and Air Communications Mechanism"
	Jan. 15	Dispatch of disaster relief units in response to avian influenza (Okayama Prefecture: January 15 through January 19; Saga Prefecture: January 18 through January 20)	
	Jan. 18	Visit by Defense Minister Nakatani to Djibouti	
	Jan. 19	Visit by Defense Minister Nakatani to South Sudan	
	Jan. 20	Release of video of Japanese nationals detained by ISIL released (subsequent release of videos of the murder of the Japanese nationals on January 24 and February 1)	
	Jan. 21	Japan-U.K. Defense Ministers' Meeting, First Japan-U.K. Foreign and Defense Ministerial Meeting (2+2) (London)	Shared recognition of the need to cooperate between Japan and U.K. in relation to Japanese nationals detained by ISIL in Syria and contribute to the international community's fight against terrorism
	Jan. 29	Japan-Philippines Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a memorandum of understanding on Japan-Philippines defense cooperation and exchange
Feb.	Feb. 3	Acceptance of Australian Defense Ministry personnel by the Ministry of Defense	Acceptance of personnel under the agreement reached at the bilateral Defense Ministers' Meeting in 2012 as part of Japan-Australia cooperation in the area of support for capacity-building
	Feb. 10	Cabinet decision on the "revision of the Implementation Plans for International Peace Cooperation Assignments in South Sudan" (extension of the dispatch period to the end of August 2015)	
	Feb. 20	Japan-Qatar summit meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a memorandum of understanding on Japan-Qatar defense exchange
Mar.	Mar. 13	Second Japan-France Foreign and Defense Ministers' Meeting (2+2) (Tokyo)	Signing of an agreement concerning Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology between Japan and France Agreement and confirmation that Japan and France will enhance cooperation in Africa and the Middle East and join the international community in fighting against terrorism
	Mar. 19	Japan-China security dialogue (Tokyo)	Renewed confirmation that both sides will strive toward the early commencement of the operation of the "Maritime and Air Communication Mechanism"
	Mar. 20	Japan Timor-Leste Defense Ministers' Meeting	
	Mar. 23	Japan-Indonesia summit meeting (Tokyo)	Signing of a memorandum on Japan-Indonesia defense cooperation and exchange
	Mar. 30	Japan-India Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	Agreement to strive toward early progress in defense equipment cooperation and continuation with periodic land and air cooperation, including bilateral naval exercises
Apr.	Mar. 31	Return of West Futenma residential area (approximately 51ha)	
	Apr. 8	Japan-U.S. Defense Ministers' Meeting (Tokyo)	
	Apr. 27	International disaster relief activities in response to an earthquake in Nepal (through May 22)	
	Apr. 27	Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee (2+2) (New York)	Approval of new Guidelines
	Apr. 28	Japan-U.S. summit meeting (Washington)	
	Apr. 28	Japan-U.S. Defense Ministers' Meeting (Washington)	
May	Apr. 30	Promulgation and enforcement of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Years of Expenditures with Treasury Obligations Related to Specified Defense Procurement (so-called the Long-Term Contract Act)	Introduction of long-term contracts enabling cost reductions and stable procurement, thereby realizing the defense buildup in a reliable and systematic manner
	May 14	Cabinet decision on "Legislation for Peace and Security" and the "International Peace Cooperation Bill"	Development of a seamless system for ensuring the peace and security of Japan and the international community
	May 29	Dispatch of disaster relief units in response to a volcanic eruption on Kuchinoerabujima Island (through June 1)	
	May 30	Participation by Defense Minister Nakatani in the 14th Asia Security Summit (IISS Shangri-La Dialogue) (Singapore) (through May 31) Japan-U.S. Defense Ministers' Meeting (Singapore) Japan-U.S.-Korea Defense Ministers' Meeting and Japan-U.S.-Australia Defense Ministers' Meeting (Singapore)	
	May 31	Appointment of MSDF personnel as the commander of Combined Task Force 151 (CTF 151) for counter-piracy operations	Commander of a multinational force since the foundation of the SDF