DEFENSE OF JAPAN 2004

防衛白書　英語版

INTER GROUP CORP.

Junichiro Koizumi
Prime Minister

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces.

Over the past half-century Japan has emerged from postwar chaos to become the world's second largest economy. Credit for this goes to Japan's firm adherence to a purely defensive posture and its implementation of a suitable defense policy while focusing on the stable livelihood of its people and endeavoring to pursue peaceful diplomacy, thus enabling Japan to enjoy peace throughout the Cold War without once being drawn into a conflict.

During this period, Japan consistently maintained the minimum defense capabilities necessary and appropriate to an independent country and the SDF has, in conjunction with the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, served as a deterrent to an invasion of Japan.

The Cold War finally drew to a close 40 some years after the end of World War II, but since then new elements of instability have appeared, as seen in the Gulf War. Cooperation within the international community in dealing with these issues has grown even more important.

The SDF, since its minesweeping mission in the Persian Gulf, has actively represented Japan in the forefront of international contributions, participating in peacekeeping operations, providing counterterrorism support in the Indian Ocean, and supplying humanitarian and reconstruction assistance to Iraq.

At this half-century mark, Japan is giving careful consideration to the defense capabilities it needs to deal with new threats such as international terrorist organizations and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles.

Needless to say, the peace and safety of the nation cannot be secured simply through the efforts of the Defense Agency and the SDF, and public understanding and support is essential.

It is my sincere hope that this White Paper will be widely read by the public, that it will prove helpful in giving them a better understanding and appreciation of Japan's defense efforts, and that it will encourage them to grant the Defense Agency and the SDF their strong support.

Foreword

Shigeru Ishiba
Minister of State for Defense

On December 24, 2003, with the participation of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi in his capacity as commander-in-chief, a ceremony was held at Komaki Air Base to mark the formation of the first ASDF transport unit to be dispatched to Iraq under the Humanitarian Relief and Iraqi Reconstruction Special Measures Law.

I felt somehow apologetic about hosting an event that signified the assignment of young SDF personnel to a difficult mission on a day that for many people is one of the happiest of the year.

At the send-off party held after this ceremony, I circulated through the venue to exchange words with, and offer encouragement to, as many SDF personnel as possible. As I was doing so, a young airman shook my hand and said, "Hearing an address by the Prime Minister in person and receiving such encouragement from the Minister of State for Defense has made this my best Christmas Eve ever. I promise to carry out my assignment to the best of my ability." Nothing had moved me quite as much since becoming the Minister of State for Defense, and I shall not forget that moment as long as I live.

To know that Japan has young people such as he and that the SDF is an organization made up of such men and women gave me immense pride in serving as Minister of State for Defense at this particular time.

I enjoyed a similarly moving experience on June 6 this year at the party held to welcome home the first GSDF troop to return to Japan after completing outstandingly their mission in Samawah, Iraq.

I have no adequate words to describe the efforts these SDF personnel made to win the hearts of the local people and carry out their duties safely in the still dangerous city of Samawah. They admirably accomplished the objectives of their dispatch to Iraq: serving the national interests of Japan, carrying out the country's responsibilities as a member of the international community, meeting the needs and expectations of the Iraqi people, and strengthening bilateral trust under the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

Recent years have seen a dramatic improvement in the high regard with which the SDF is held both in Japan and abroad. One opinion poll has noted that nearly 70% of the Japanese public now has a positive opinion of the SDF, twice the level of 20 years ago, and heads of state and defense ministers visiting my office at the Defense Agency have been quite forthright in their praise of the SDF's performance. This genuine acclaim from observers inside and outside Japan has been more than justified by the SDF's efforts in translating Japan's desire for peace and its goodwill into reality in such challenging environments as Iraq, the Golan Heights, the Indian Ocean, and East Timor, and by the efforts of the men and women of the SDF at home in carrying out their oath to maintain the nation's independence and peace and protect the lives and property of its people.

Nevertheless, we are by no means content to rest on our laurels.

The security environment encompassing Japan has become much more complicated since the end of the Cold War, especially since 9-11. Drastic reforms are needed across the board—in legal framework, equipment, organization, and operations—to cope with these challenges, and even short delays in making these reforms would be inexcusable for a responsible government.

To put it into a catchphrase, our policy must be shifted "from the SDF that exists to the SDF that functions." This requires thorough examination of all aspects of the four areas of reform mentioned above.

Work on Defense Posture Review to be completed by the end of the year and it is being pursued day and night at the Defense Agency, and discussions are also underway at the Council on Security and Defense Capabilities set up under the Prime Minister's Office.

The Concept of Basic Defense Force proposed in the 1976 National Defense Program Outline and essentially carried over in the present Outline has proven truly useful in its time in long protecting the independence and peace of Japan. Nonetheless, a fundamental debate is needed on whether it will continue to be effective in future.

In engaging in the debate, it should be borne in mind that a self-protective or defensive attitude on the part of individuals or organizations is by no means conducive to an effective solution worthy of being termed "defense reform for the nation."

Japan must also go beyond domestic debate to positively declare what steps it should take internationally and how the international community should address new threats, and then act on these pronouncements.

At the conference hosted by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in Singapore this year and last, I raised several issues regarding the need for using defense capabilities in a manner similar to the exercise of police authority. Consensus has yet to be reached within the international community on what actions constitute terrorism and whether measures against terrorism constitute a "war" in the conventional sense. The U.S. is indisputably the sole superpower today, but there are naturally limits to what the U.S. can do alone in tackling problems in this confused world. Therefore, Japan should also accept a role to clarify its stance on how the international community should address such matters.

Enjoying benefits, of course, entails assuming risks. As with the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, security for a nation is only viable if the fulfillment of its obligations also serves its national interests, and considerable effort must be made to preserve security.

If Japan desires, as stated in the preamble of the Constitution, "to occupy an honored place in an international society," then it must make clear what systems it believes are needed internationally and what risks Japan will assume therein. Might without right is no more than brute violence, but right not backed by might is powerless.

Public opinion of late has tended to view arguments on defense via a simplistic dichotomy—liberal or conservative, reliance on the U.S. or independent defense—but reality is not so simple. All discussions of defense issues should be elaborate and rational rather than careless and emotional.

Whether we wish it or not, we are living at a turning point in history. Francis Fukuyama earlier termed the conclusion of the Cold War "the end of history," but this also means the start of a new history. The rule of law has yet to be firmly established within the international community, and it does not appear that this will come about in the foreseeable future. A new order can only be established by realizing the rule of law worldwide, and making it standard international practice through cumulative effort will likely remain the best approach. As apparent in the various legal framework being discussed by the government at present, Japan is seeking to frame a new legal theory. We must think and act with pride and with the sense of responsibility incumbent on those living in this era.

I would be extremely gratified if this White Paper helps encourage these elaborate and rational reflections and actions, and I sincerely hope that readers will not hesitate to offer us their suggestions and comments.

Special to mark 50th anniversary of founding of Defense Agency and SDF

50-year history of Defense Agency and SDF in pictures

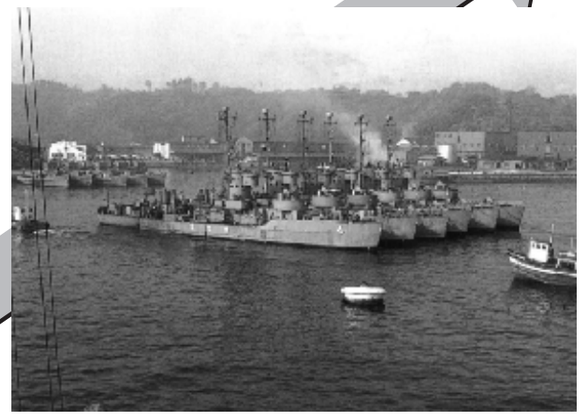
Half a century has passed since the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces were established on July 1, 1954. This special collection of pictures is intended to offer a retrospective on the path the agency and the SDF have jointly taken in the past 50 years with the Japanese people, and record the footprints left by them.

1954

Students taking an oath at the ceremony to mark transformation of National Security Academy into National Defense Academy upon foundation of Defense Agency (Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture)

Exercise by ASDF Kanoya air squadron (Kagoshima 1954)

Ceremony to mark foundation of ASDF
(Hamamatsu base in Shizuoka Prefecture on July 1, 1954)



MSDF ships on loan from United States
(Yokosuka port in Kanagawa Prefecture in July 1954)

Ranking officers of GSDF, MSDF and ASDF at first Joint Staff Council meeting (July 8, 1954)

Ceremony to mark establishment of Defense Agency (SDF members saluting Minister of State for Defense Tokutaro Kimura) (roof of Defense Agency building in Ecchujima, Koto Ward, Tokyo on July 1, 1954)

16 ASDF members put on piloting course begin training
(Matsushima base of U.S. military in Miyagi Prefecture on June 22, 1954)

First delivery of vessels from U.S. to Japan under bilateral vessel loan pact in Charleston in the United States; *Asakaze* and *Hatakaze*, delivered to Japan's MSDF
(October 19, 1954)

SDF members participating in rescue operations for victims of mishap involving Toya-maru ferryboat linking Aomori and Hakodate, which capsized off Hakodate due to powerful No. 15 typhoon that hit Japanese mainland (off Hakodate, Hokkaido in September 1954)

Essentials being supplied to new GSDF members
(Nerima camp in Tokyo in November 1954)

SDF flag (left) and SDF ship flag (right) adopted to mark establishment of Defense Agency, with Minister of State for Defense Kimura standing in the center (Ecchujima, Koto Ward, Tokyo on June 26, 1954)

Defense of Hokkaido transferred to GSDF Northern Army from 16th unit of U.S. Army
(Makomanai camp in Hokkaido on September 24, 1954)

Defense Agency and SDF inaugurated on July 1, 1954

Year	1954
International Situation	☆ U.S. hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll (March) ☆ First artillery bombardment by People's Liberation Army at Kinmen and Matsu (September) ☆ Signing of Southeast Asia Collective Defense Treaty (September) ☆ Signing of Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and Taiwan (December)

1955 to 1959

Exercise by first batch of SDF rangers
(Fuji School in Shizuoka Prefecture on November 17, 1956)

Armored vehicles parading in Ginza after SDF troop review (Tokyo on November 1, 1958)

Villages submerged or isolated due to flooding of Nikko River
(Aichi Prefecture in September 1959)

1959
Dispatch for disaster relief operation (typhoon in Ise Bay)

SDF members trying to restore broken banks in muddy stream
(Aichi Prefecture in September 1959)

Japanese jets (T-33) with rising-sun flag on first flight over Kyushu
(January 19, 1955)

Graduation ceremony for students enrolled in National Defense Academy on its first year of foundation
(Yokosuka in Kanagawa Prefecture on March 26, 1957)

1958
First practice ocean cruising
Measures being introduced to counter invasion of air space

1957
First fleet review

Escort ship *Harukaze* leaving Hawaii after two-week visit there as part of MSDF's first overseas training cruise
(Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on February 11, 1958)

SDF members transporting relief supplies for victims of flooding in Izu Peninsula area
(September or October of 1958)

Troop review to mark first anniversary of foundation of Defense Agency (Jingu-Gaien in Tokyo on October 1, 1955)

1956
Defense Agency headquarters transferred to Kasumigaseki area

Newly built Defense Agency headquarters building in Tokyo's Kasumigaseki area
(March 1956)

First fleet review takes place in Tokyo Bay
(October 2, 1957)

Scramble-takeoff operations shortly after measures against air-space invasion are introduced (Chitose base in Hokkaido on May 13, 1958)

1955
Troop review to mark first anniversary of foundation of Defense Agency

Year	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
International Situation	☆ Signing of Warsaw Pact (May) ☆ West Germany formally joins NATO (May)	☆ Second Middle East War (October to November)	☆ The Soviet Union announces successful ICBM test (August)	☆ The United States succeeds in trial launch of ICBM (December)	☆ Leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union hold summit, and issue Camp David joint statement (September)

1960 to 1964

First maritime transport drill participated in by GSDF, MSDF and ASDF (Shizuoka Prefecture in November 1962)

Transport ship *Shiretoko* evacuating students from Miyakejima Island in the wake of volcanic eruption and earthquake (September 1962)

SDF members being dispatched from Shibata camp to remove snow from trunk road in Niigata Prefecture, hit by record-breaking snowfall (January 1963)

SDF members removing earth and sand accumulated after high tide caused by Niigata earthquake recedes (Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture in June 1964)

1964
Dispatch for disaster rescue operations after Niigata earthquake and support of Tokyo Olympic Games

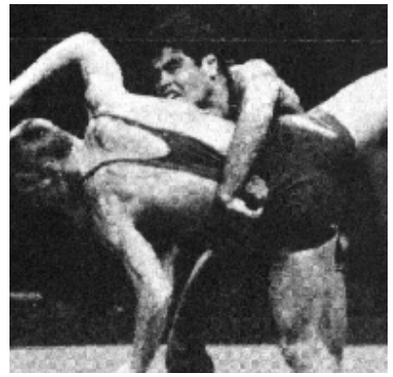
MSDF vessels conducting rescue and relief operations after rushing to areas damaged by Niigata earthquake, in the background Niigata City is wrapped in flames and black smoke (June 16, 1964)

Members of SDF's 101st construction unit demonstrating laying of railway track
(training site in Tsudanuma in Chiba Prefecture in June 1960)

Plate for newly established Defense Facilities Administration Agency being put up (Minato Ward, Tokyo in November 1962)

1963
Dispatch for disaster rescue operations in areas of heavy snowfall

GSDF Sergeant Kokichi Tsuburaya competing in men's marathon held on final day of Tokyo Olympic Games (October 1964)



GSDF Second Lieutenant Sakurama wrestling in Tokyo Olympic Games (October 1964)

Defense Agency headquarters transferred to Roppongi (Hinokicho) in Tokyo's Minato Ward
(January 1960)

1962
Defense Facilities Administration Agency established

Cenotaph completed at Ichigaya camp in memory of SDF members who died on duty. Construction of cenotaph is part of events held to mark 10th anniversary of SDF's founding (Tokyo on May 26, 1962)

Pattern of Olympic mark being painted in air by ASDF's Blue Impulse team at opening ceremony of Tokyo Olympic Games
(over National Stadium on October 10, 1964)

GSDF Second Lieutenant Miyake lifting weight [Kyodo News] (October 1964)

GSDF Second Lieutenant Miyake (left), GSDF Sergeant Tsuburaya (center) and GSDF Second Lieutenant Sakurama (right) report their Olympic achievements to Minister of State for Defense Junya Koizumi and shake hands with the minister (October 24 1964)

1960
Defense Agency headquarters transferred to Hinokicho

Protesters against Japan-U.S. Security Treaty surrounding Diet building (January 1960)

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
International Situation	☆ France conducts first nuclear test (February) ☆ Shooting down of U.S. U-2 bomber (over the Soviet Union) (May)	☆ Signing of Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and North Korea (July) ☆ Signing of Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between China and North Korea (July) ☆ Berlin Wall built (August)	☆ U.S. Navy's blockage of Cuba (October to November) ☆ Soviet Prime Minister Khrushchev declares plan to remove missiles from Cuba (October)	☆ Signing of Partial Test Ban Treaty by the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union (August) ☆ U.S. President Kennedy assassinated (November)	☆ China succeeds in its first nuclear test (October)

Comprehensive firing drill by SDF members at Fuji School, opened to public for first time that year (Shizuoka Prefecture on September 8, 1966)

SDF members conducting restoration work in Misawa City, Aomori Prefecture, following a major fire (January 11, 1966)

First Ordnance Unit of SDF removing discarded bombs in Kiyose Town (now Kiyose City) in Shimokita Tama County in Tokyo (July 1966)

GSDF's female cadets after attending enlistment ceremony (Asaka camp in Tokyo on April 1, 1968) SDF's recruitment of female nurses began upon foundation of SDF

1969

Exercise being conducted to maintain public security (in areas under jurisdiction of Western Army in 1969)

1968
Recruitment of female personnel (GSDF) begins Return of the Ogasawara Islands to Japan

1967
Support in arranging state-sponsored funeral ceremony for former Prime Minister Yoshida

GSDF's 302nd Military Police Company members acting as guard of honor at state-sponsored funeral ceremony for former Prime Minister Yoshida (Nippon Budokan in Tokyo on October 31, 1967)

SDF members assisting Health and Welfare Ministry (currently Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry) in recovering the remains of Japanese soldiers killed in battle waged against the United States on Iwo Jima (June 1969)

1966

From mid-1950 to early 1970, SDF members, responding to requests from municipalities, help local farmers with rice-planting and other agricultural works during farming season, mainly in Hokkaido and Tohoku areas (agricultural support). Picture shown above is GSDF members from Jinmachi camp transplanting rice seedlings (Wago Village in Yamagata Prefecture on June 5, 1965)

1965
Support of Antarctic expedition begins

Families and others seeing off SDF members aboard icebreaker Fuji, leaving on first voyage to support Antarctic expedition (Tokyo's Harumi wharf on November 20, 1965)

Japanese national flag hoisted on Iwo Jima (June 26, 1968)

Year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
International Situation	☆ U.S. military begins bombing of North Vietnam (February) ☆ Second India-Pakistan war breaks out (September)	☆ Cultural Revolution begins in China (May) ☆ China succeeds in first nuclear missile test (October)	☆ Third Middle East War (June) ☆ China succeeds in its first hydrogen bomb test (June)	☆ Signing of Nonproliferation Treaty (July) ☆ Soviet and East European invasion of Czechoslovakia (August)	☆ Declaration for establishment of Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam

1970 to 1974

SDF members participating in children's festival of Osaka World Exposition as flag-carrying unit
(Suita City in Osaka Prefecture in June 1970)

MSDF vessel unloading ¥54 billion worth of currency at Okinawa port for use by Okinawa people following Okinawa's return to Japan
(Naha Port in Okinawa Prefecture on May 2, 1971)

Ceremony to return Naha base to Japan's SDF
(Okinawa Prefecture on May 15, 1972)

Novelist Yukio Mishima delivering speech while hanging out a written appeal on balcony of SDF's Eastern Army Headquarters (Ichigaya camp in Tokyo on November 25, 1970)[Kyodo News]

Cover of defense white paper published for first time when Nakasone heads Defense Agency
(October 1970)

SDF members engaging in search and rescue operations in Shizukuishi areas in Iwate Prefecture where ANA plane crashed after colliding with SDF plane (July 30, 1971)

Support by C-46 transport plane in artificial rainfall project during Sanin district drought
(Miho Base in Tottori Prefecture on August 4, 1973)

First seven MSDF female officers visiting units
(October 1974)

First entrance ceremony for National Defense Medical College
(Iruma base in Saitama Prefecture on April 25, 1974)

Emperor Showa providing morale support to SDF members at one of venues for Sapporo Olympic Games in Makomanai (Sapporo City in Hokkaido Prefecture on February 4, 1972)

SDF members maintaining 90-meter-class Nordic jump slope on Mt. Okurayama
(Sapporo City in Hokkaido Prefecture in January 1972)

SDF members improving prefectural roads on consignment of village
(Toga Village in Toyama Prefecture on August 8, 1974)

Drifted mine is artificially exploded and disposed of
(January 14, 1974)

SDF members removing Soviet-made mine that drifted ashore off Shimane Prefecture (January 14, 1974)

1970
Support of Osaka World Exposition
Defense white paper's first publication
Mishima incident

1971
Shizukuishi air collision

1972
Okinawa's return to Japan
Support for Sapporo Olympic Games

1973

1974
Opening of National Defense Medical College
MSDF and ASDF begin recruiting female personnel

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
International Situation	☆ Unified Armed Forces of states participating in Warsaw Treaty Organization are formed (7 countries)(January)	☆ United Nations adopts resolution calling for invitation of China and expulsion of Taiwan (October)	☆ U.S. President Nixon visits China and joint statement between the United States and China is issued (February) ☆ U.S. President Nixon visits the Soviet Union and signs SALT-I treaty and treaty to restrict ABM (May)	☆ U.S. military completes withdrawal from Vietnam (March) ☆ Fourth Middle East War (October)	☆ India conducts first underground nuclear test (May)

1975 to 1979

SDF members being dispatched for disaster relief operation following eruption of Mt. Usu (By Lake Toya in Hokkaido Prefecture on August 7, 1977)

SDF members conducting restoration work after typhoon No. 9 hits Kagoshima
(Okinoerabu Island in Kagoshima Prefecture on September 10, 1977)

Female MSDF and ASDF personnel participate in troop review for first time (Asaka camp in Tokyo on October 30, 1977)

1979

Transport ship *Ojika* coming alongside pier of Numazu City for first drill against possible occurrence of Tokai Earthquake
(June 4, 1979)

1978

SDF members supplying water to people as part of disaster-relief operations following earthquake off Miyagi Prefecture
(June 13, 1978)

SDF members supplying water to people following earthquake in waters near Izuoshima Island
(January 1978)

ASDF members loading supplies for first logistic support exercise (activities like maintenance work, goods supply and transport) (September 18, 1978)

1977

First full-scale airlifting drill by ASDF since its foundation
(Between Shintawara base in Miyazaki Prefecture and Komatsu base in Ishikawa Prefecture on April 19, 1977)

Enrollment of first six female cadets to ASDF
(Nara base in Nara Prefecture on April 6, 1977)

1976
MIG-25 incident

Soviet fighter MIG-25 makes forced landing at Hakodate Airport
(Hakodate City in Hokkaido Prefecture in September 1976)

1975

Year	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
International Situation	☆Fall of Saigon, Government of South Vietnam makes unconditional surrender (April) ☆Industrial countries hold first summit (November); summit later evolves into annual meeting.	☆Socialist Republic of Vietnam (unified Vietnam) is formally established (July)	☆North Korea sets military demarcation line in Sea of Japan and Yellow Sea (August)	☆Vietnam military invades Cambodia (December)	☆Islamic revolution in Iran (February) ☆U.S. and Soviet leaders sign SALT-II (June) ☆The Soviet Union invades Afghanistan (December)

1980 to 1984

Members of special guard-of-honor unit formed from GSDF's 302nd Military Police Company firing in air in honor of late Prime Minister Ohira at his funeral, sponsored by Cabinet and LDP
(Nippon Budokan in Tokyo on June 12, 1980)

Last flight demonstration by F-86F Blue Impulse
(Iruma base in Saitama Prefecture on February 8, 1981)

SDF members disposing of abandoned bomb found in Tone River (May 1980)

Escort ship *Hiei* joining U.S. Navy-sponsored Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC)
(March 1980)

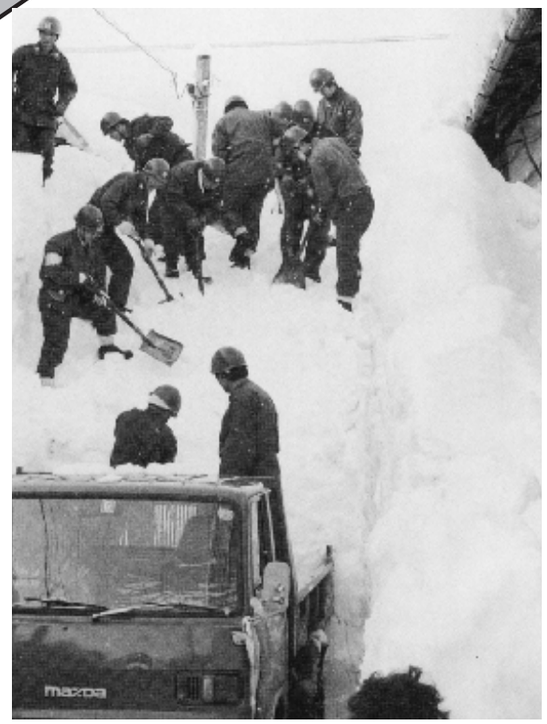
Graduation ceremony for students enrolling in National Defense Medical College on first year of its foundation (Tokorozawa City in Saitama Prefecture on March 16, 1980)

1980
First participation in RIMPAC

1981

1982

First joint command post exercise between GSDF and U.S. Army, called Yamasakura
(Takigahara camp in Gotemba City in Shizuoka Prefecture in February 1982)



SDF members removing snow as part of disaster-relief operations following heavy snowfall in 1981 (Katsuyama City in Fukui Prefecture in January 1981)

Armored personnel carriers breaking through multi-layered earth that serves as obstacles to block passage of tanks at drill sponsored by GSDF's 7th Division (drilling ground in Hokkaido Prefecture in October 1984)

SDF members conducting disaster-relief operations after earthquake in western Nagano
(Otaki Village in Nagano Prefecture in October 1984)

1983
Shooting down of Korean Airlines passenger jet

ASDF radar site which collected information on shooting down of Korean Airlines jet
(Wakkanai City in Hokkaido Prefecture in 1983) [Jiji Press]

1984

Central Command Post completed at Defense Agency headquarters
(Roppongi, Minato Ward) (March 31, 1984)

Year	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
International Situation	☆ Iran and Iraq enter into state of full-scale war (September)	☆ U.S. President Reagan takes office (January)	☆ Falkland Islands Conflict (April to June)	☆ U.S. President Reagan announces SDI (March) ☆ The Soviet Union shoots down Korean Airlines jet over Sakhalin (September)	☆ The United States and Iraq resume diplomatic relations for first time in 17 years (November)

SDF member rescuing survivor of JAL jet crash by hauling her up into hovering helicopter (Mt. Osutaka in Gunma Prefecture in August 1985)

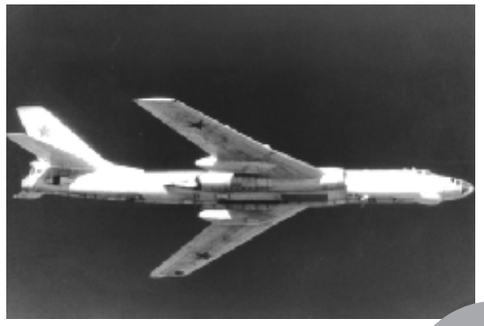
SDF members searching for bodies of JAL jet crash victims on steep mountainside amid daily scorching temperatures of over 30˚C (Mt. Osutaka in Gunma Prefecture in August 1985)

SDF members offer flowers and silent prayer to altar set up on JAL jet crash site (Mt. Osutaka in Gunma Prefecture in August 1985)

1985
JAL jet crash
Dispatch for disaster relief

Super Puma, operated by special flying unit formed to transport VIPs visiting Tokyo Summit
(Kisarazu camp in Chiba Prefecture in March 1986)

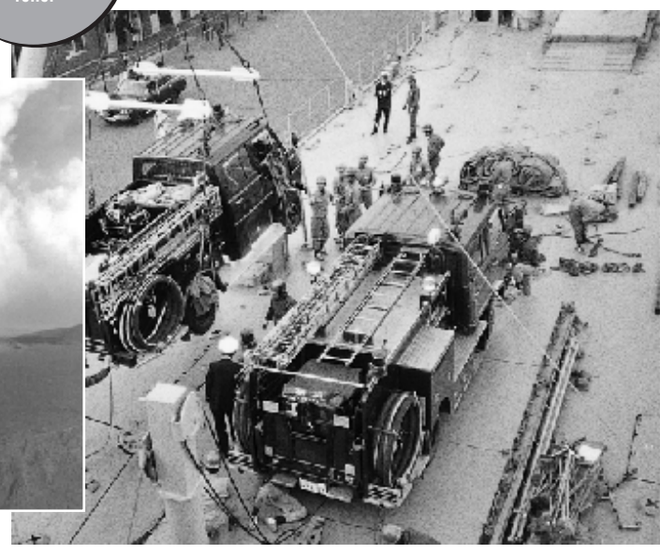
Icebreaker Shirase (left) breaks Australia's observation ship Nella Dan out of ice
(December 16, 1985)



Soviet military jet TU-16 Badger violates Japan's airspace over Okinawa twice
(ASDF launches signal-firing for first time)
(December 9, 1987)

1986
Dispatch to Izuoshima Island for disaster relief

Volcanic fumes rising from crater of Mt. Mihara
(November 1986)



Fire engines and other vehicles aboard SDF vessel being unloaded at port in Izuoshima Island, transport is in response to request by Tokyo metropolitan government (November 1986)

1987

Fishing boat *Daiichi Fujimaru* being raised after it sank following collision with MSDF submarine *Nadashio*
(off Yokosuka in Kanagawa Prefecture on July 28, 1988)[Jiji Press]

1988
***Nadashio* accident**

GSDF helicopter transporting foreign VIPs set to attend the funeral of Emperor Showa (at Akasaka State Guest House on February 25, 1989)

1989
Support in preparation for funeral of Emperor Showa

MSDF guard-of-honor unit members present arms while a hearse carrying coffin of Emperor Showa passes main gate of Imperial Palace during the funeral (February 24, 1989)

About 800 SDF members waiting for passage of Emperor and Empress's motorcade (February 24, 1989)

First Japan-U.S. unified training exercise, conducted in Hokkaido, Pacific waters and airspace over Pacific with participation of about 13,000 Japanese and U.S. troops (Chitose camp in Hokkaido Prefecture on October 13, 1986)

Year	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
International Situation	☆ Soviet General Secretary Gorbachev takes office (March)	☆ U.S.-Soviet summit meeting (Reykjavik in October)	☆ Signing of INF Treaty (December)	☆ China and Vietnam have armed clash in waters near the Spratlys (March)	☆ Soviet forces complete withdrawal from Afghanistan (February) ☆ Tiananmen Square incident (June) ☆ Berlin Wall effectively collapses (November)

Emperor and Empress's motorcade passing by as SDF music band performs music for their enthronement ceremony (November 20, 1990)

GSDF helicopter transporting "Takamikura" chair being used at new Emperor's enthronement ceremony (Tachikawa camp in Tokyo in December 1990)

1990
Support in preparation of new Emperor's enthronement ceremony
Japan decides to provide the United States with arms technologies related to FS-X fighter

Life-sized mockup of next FS-X fighter model opens to public (June 1992)

Minesweeper *Sakushima* disposing of mines found in No.10 dangerous mine area by exploding them (furthest part of Persian Gulf in August 1991)

SDF member protected in life jacket, goggle, mask and helmet standing guard amid scorching heat (July 1991)

1991
Dispatch of minesweepers to Persian Gulf
Dispatch for disaster-relief operations after eruption of Unzen-Fugendake

SDF members restoring road damaged by large-scale pyroclastic flow at Unzen-Fugendake by removing sizzling volcanic ash with use of 75-type bulldozer; four bodies are found in vehicle shown left (Nagasaki Prefecture on June 5, 1991)

Many local citizens seeing off SDF members who are leaving Cambodia after finishing their mission (Takeo Province on September 12, 1993)

Special government jet put under control of Defense Agency (April 1992)

1992
Cambodia PKO
National Defense Academy starts to admit women

SDF members repairing roads mainly used by local people (Takeo in January 1993)

Supplies being unloaded from ASDF plane at Pochentong airport (September 1992)

SDF members removing trees that fell due to typhoon in order to prevent secondary disaster (Kusu Town in Oita Prefecture in May 1992)

GSDF units attending ceremony held by local community to express their thanks to SDF for relief operations in areas hit by eruption of Unzen-Fugendake (December 1991)

Transport ship *Miura* at Sihanouk port in Cambodia (October 1992)

Emergency medical support training, Big Rescue, conducted by GSDF's Northern Army (drilling site in Hokkaido Prefecture in August 1991)

Female students standing in a row at entrance ceremony for National Defense Academy, the first female group allowed to study at the academy (Yokosuka City in Kanagawa Prefecture in April 1992)

Year	1990	1991	1992
International Situation	☆ Iraqi troops invade Kuwait (August) ☆ Two Germanys are unified (October)	☆ Multilateral force begins "Operation Dessert Storm" against Iraq (January) ☆ Warsaw Treaty Organization disbanded (March) ☆ Cease-fire agreement for Persian Gulf War takes effect (April) ☆ U.S. and Soviet leaders sign START-I (July) ☆ Republics of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine hold summit and sign pact on Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) (December)	☆ UNTAC is formally launched (March) ☆ 12 EC countries sign Maastricht Treaty (February)

1993 to 1995

Camp site for SDF members dispatched for relief operations for Rwandan refugees
(October 1994)

Transport mission for Rwandan refugees
(October 1994)

Children surrounding SDF members shouldering cresol tanks used for epidemic prevention
(November 1994)

SDF members cleaning subway platform to remove sarin
(Tokyo's Korakuen station on March 20, 1995)

SDF members cleaning subway platform to remove sarin
(Tokyo's Kasumigaseki station on March 20, 1995)

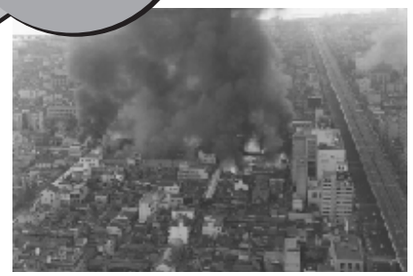
1995
Disaster relief for victims of the Hanshin-Awaji Great Earthquake
Sarin attack on Tokyo subway

Troop exchange between Communications Battalion of Portuguese military and GSDF's Transport Coordination Company
(Matola Camp in October 1993)

C-130H transport plane arrives at Maputo airport for transport mission
(January 1994)

1994
Relief of Rwandan refugees

SDF members disposing of chemical weapons left in Iraq after end of Persian Gulf War
(Baghdad on January 31, 1994)

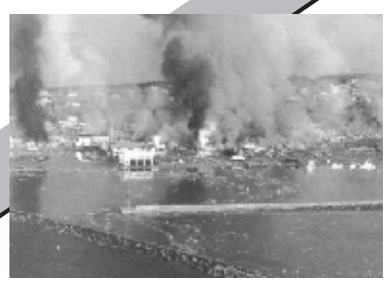


Fire continuing to hit areas from Kobe's Sannomiya to Katori as fire fighting is made difficult by suspension of water supply (January 1995)

SDF members searching for missing persons based on information given by survivors of quake (Kobe City in Hyogo Prefecture on January 21, 1995)

SDF members and children in Mozambique
(November 11, 1993)

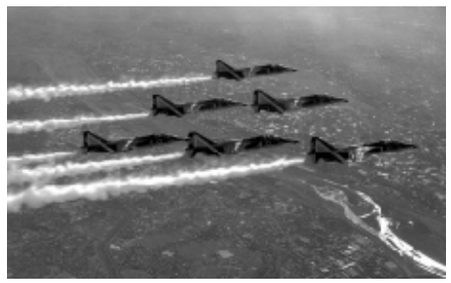
1993
Mozambique PKO
SDF's first operation of special government plane
SDF dispatch to areas hit by earthquake off southwestern Hokkaido



Aonae district of Okushiri Island ablaze due to fire following earthquake and tsunami tidal wave (July 13, 1993)

Special government plane put to service for first time under SDF's operation (used for Deputy Prime Minister Watanabe's U.S. visit) (February 11, 1993)

SDF members searching for persons missing in Aonae district of Okushiri Island due to devastating tsunami tidal wave following earthquake in the seas off southwestern Hokkaido
(July 14, 1993)



Blue Impulse jets on their way home after winding up last T-2 jet flight demonstration
(over Tenryu River in Shizuoka Prefecture on December 3, 1995)

MSDF vessels at anchor at New Kobe port for water and goods supply, and other relief operations (January 1995)

Quake victims seeing off SDF members who are leaving aboard vehicle after finishing meal supply; victims raising banners expressing thanks for their relief and support operations
(Kobe City in Hyogo Prefecture on February 11, 1995)

SDF members, both men and women, unloading emergency provisions through the night
(Kobe City in Hyogo Prefecture in January 1995)

Year	1993		1994		1995
International Situation	☆ U.S. and Russian leaders hold summit in Moscow and sign START-II (January) ☆ Signing of Chemical Weapons Convention (January) ☆ North Korea declares withdrawal from NPT (March)	☆ North Korea test-fires a ballistic missile in Sea of Japan waters (May) ☆ UNTAC mission completed and disbanded (September) ☆ EU launched (November)	☆ First ASEAN Regional Forum (Bangkok in July) ☆ The United States and North Korea sign Agreed Framework (October)	☆ North Korean Leader Kim Il Sung dies (July) ☆ Russian troops complete withdrawal from former East Germany and three Baltic countries (August)	☆ KEDO launched (March) ☆ Extension of NPT for indefinite period of time adopted (May) ☆ U.S. President Clinton announces diplomatic normalization with Vietnam (July)

SDF members disposing of depleted chemical weapons (Lake Kussharo in Hokkaido Prefecture in October 1996)

SDF members manually digging out vehicles buried after collapse of Toyohama Tunnel despite bitterly cold temperatures exceeding minus 10˚C (Furubira Town, Hokkaido Prefecture on February 10, 1996)

SDF members engaging in epidemic prevention work in Honduras (November 21, 1998)

SDF members standing by for possible issuance of order for transporting Japanese nationals in the event of armed conflict in Cambodia (U-Taphao in Thailand in July 1997)

SDF member setting up water-purifying kit in Honduras (November 24, 1998)

First transport unit of SDF dispatched to UNDOF (Ziouani Camp in Israel on February 12, 1996)

U.N. Secretary-General Annan visiting site for SDF transport unit operations (Ziouani Camp in Israel on March 22, 1998)

Oil-smeared SDF members recovering large amount of oil spill washed ashore on beach (Katanomachi Beach in Kaga City in Ishikawa Prefecture on January 12, 1997)

SDF members recovering oil spill at side of escort ship (January or February 1997)

Overseas flight demonstration by Blue Impulse T-4 jets (Nevada State in the United States on April 25, 1997)

Prime Minister Hashimoto reviewing ASDF units at first air troop review (Hyakuri Base in Ibaraki Prefecture on October 27, 1996)

SDF member dispatched to OPCW as international public servant and becomes first Inspectorate Division Director of OPCW (The Hague in the Netherlands in June 1997)

First joint exercise between Japan and Russia for search and rescue operations (off Vladivostok in July 1998)

1996
PKO in Golan Heights

1997
Nakhodka maritime accident
Dispatch to seas damaged by oil spill

1998
International emergency relief activities in Honduras
Support of Nagano Olympic Games
North Korea's test-firing of missiles over Japan

GSDF fanfare unit play at opening ceremony of Nagano Olympic Games (February 1998)

Former senior official at Defense Agency's Central Procurement Office arrested on breach of trust charges, officials of Tokyo Public Prosecutors' Office seize related materials and documents at Central Procurement Office (September 1998) [Jiji News]

Missile launched from North Korea (August 1998) [Jiji Press]

Aegis system-equipped escort ship Myoko conducts information-gathering activities (August 1998)

First unified training exercise conducted on Iwo Jima (November 15, 1998)

Escort ship Kurama (second from right) arrives in Vladivostok port to participate in international fleet review being held to commemorate 300th anniversary of founding of Russian Navy (September 1996)

Year	1996	1997	1998
International Situation	☆ China conducts military exercise in waters off Taiwan (March) ☆ Taiwan conducts its first direct presidential election (March) ☆ Small North Korean submarine runs aground on east coast of South Korea; crew enter into South Korean territory (September) ☆ Taliban controls Afghanistan's capital Kabul and declares establishment of interim government (September) ☆ U.N. General Assembly adopts CTBT (September)	☆ Hong Kong returns to China (July) ☆ Signing of anti-personnel mine convention (Ottawa in December)	☆ India conducts underground nuclear test (May) ☆ Pakistan conducts underground nuclear test (May) ☆ U.S. military bombs terrorist-linked facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan (August)

1999 to 2000

Ichigaya district after Defense Agency headquarters is relocated there (May 2000)

Suspicious vessel emerges in waters off Noto Peninsula (March 1999)

2000
Disaster relief for victims of Mt. Usu eruption
Disaster relief for victims of Miyake Island eruption
Defense Agency headquarters transfer to Ichigaya
Support of Okinawa Summit

As part of unified disaster prevention drill (Big Rescue 2000 in Tokyo), SDF members inspecting how to ensure transportation methods that could be used for rescue operations in the event of an earthquake by using quake-resistant Oedo Subway Line (Tokyo in September 2000)

GSDF helicopter assisting transport work for Okinawa Summit (Naha in July 2000)

G-8 leaders leaving Shuri Castle after attending banquet hosted by Japanese Prime Minister Mori during Okinawa Summit (Naha City on July 22, 2000) [Kyodo News]

Disaster-relief activities after eruption of Mt. Usu (Hokkaido in March 2000)

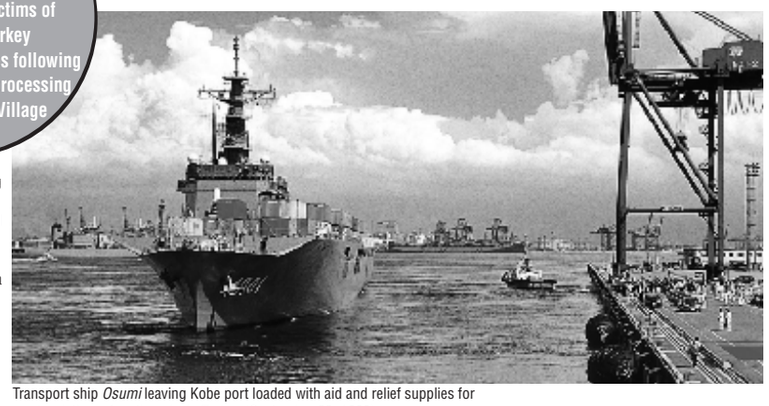
SDF escort ship conducting joint drill with Japan Coast Guard's patrol boat in the wake of suspicious ship case off Noto Peninsula (March 1999)

Reconnaissance jet RF-4 flying near Miyakejima Island (July 2000)

Mt. Usu erupts (March 31, 2000)

1999
First issuance of order for maritime defense activities
International emergency relief activities to help victims of earthquake in Turkey
Disaster-relief activities following accident at uranium processing facilities in Tokai Village

Members of SDF unit dealing with chemical weapons gather at Engineering School following issuance of order for disaster-relief mission (Katsuta camp in Hitachinaka City in Ibaraki Prefecture on October 1, 1999)



Transport ship *Osumi* leaving Kobe port loaded with aid and relief supplies for use by victims of earthquake in Turkey (September 23, 1999)

Japanese and U.S. troops exchanging views on plane maintenance at first bilateral joint exercise in Guam (U.S. Air Force's Andersen base in June 1999)

24th Pacific Armies Management Seminar in Tokyo held as part of the GSDF's 50th anniversary ceremony (September 2000)

Year	1999		2000	
International Situation	☆ NATO launches air assault on Yugoslavia (March to June)	☆ U.N. Security Council adopts resolution calling for establishment of UNTAET (October) ☆ Russian President Yeltsin resigns (December)	☆ Presidential election in Taiwan (March) ☆ Russian Acting President Putin wins presidential election (March)	☆ North and South Korea hold summit (June) ☆ U.S. Secretary of State Albright visits North Korea (October)

2001

ASDF members on transport mission to help Afghan refugees
(Islamabad airport in Pakistan in October 2001)

MSDF members and families of victims of *Ehimemaru* accident line up and watch *Ehimemaru* detached and sunk in deep waters (off Oahu, Hawaii, on November 25, 2001)

Submarine rescue vessel Chihaya departing Pearl Harbor on its way home after winding up mission
(December 4, 2001)

Minesweepers' mother ship *Uraga* delivering aid supplies for disaster victims
(Karachi in Pakistan in December 2001)

SDF members teaching local people how to set up tents
(February 2001)

Members of submarine rescue vessel Chihaya searching for students missing after collision between U.S. nuclear-powered submarine and training ship of Uwajima Fisheries High School
(off Oahu, Hawaii, in August 2001)

Support activities against terrorism

Five MSDF vessels being dispatched to Indian Ocean as first dispatch unit
(November in 2001)

Cooperation and support in raising sunken ship *Ehimemaru*

SDF members being cheered up before departure for Indian Ocean
(Sasebo base in Nagasaki Prefecture in November 2001)

SDF member conversing with his family before departure for Indian Ocean
(Sasebo base in Nagasaki Prefecture in November 2001)

Indian troops unloading arrived emergency relief supplies
(Bhuj airport in India in February 2001)

International emergency relief activities to help victims of earthquake in India

SDF member operating oil pipe to be used for sea-based refueling
(December 2001)

C-130H transport plane and U.S. soldiers transporting supplies between U.S. bases in Japan as part of efforts to support U.S. campaign against terrorism
(Yokota base in Tokyo in November 2001)

2001

Year	2001			
International Situation	☆ U.S. President Bush takes office (January) ☆ The United States successfully conducts first missile-intercepting test since launch of Bush administration (July)	☆ Simultaneous terrorist attacks occur in the United States (September) ☆ U.S. and British military begin action against Afghanistan (October)	☆ NATO formally decides to apply Article 5 of North Atlantic Treaty (clause on collective defense) to simultaneous terrorist attacks in the United States (October) ☆ Northern Alliance in Afghanistan controls Kabul (November)	☆ The United States notifies Russia of withdrawal from ABM treaty (December) ☆ Transitional Administrative Council established in Afghanistan (December)

SDF member teaching music to local children (February 2002)

SDF members engaging in road restoration work (June 2002)

C-130H transport plane unloading airlifted goods to be supplied to East Timor
(Dili airport in August 2002)

Support activities against terrorism (continued)

Aegis-equipped escort ship *Kirishima* and other MSDF vessels under navigation for Indian Ocean (December 2002)

International fleet review (sponsored by Japan for first time)

Prime Minister Koizumi taking off his hat to return salute given by SDF units being reviewed under fleet review (October 2002)

Multilateral joint training (sponsored by Japan for first time)

Female SDF members participating in PKO for the first time (May 2002)

Prime Minister Koizumi visiting dispatched SDF units (April 2002)

Escort ship *Shirane* participating in international fleet review being hosted by Japan to commemorate 50th anniversary of founding of MSDF (Tokyo Bay in October 2002)

MSDF LCAC coming alongside pier for transport of GSDF vehicles (2002)

Second western Pacific submarine rescue exercise hosted by Japan
(Waters southwest of Kyushu in April 2002)

East Timor PKO

First joint map drill between SDF and police (Sapporo camp in Hokkaido Prefecture in November 2002)

Multilateral search and rescue exercise hosted by Japan
(Waters south of Kanto in October 2002)

Review ship *Yamagiri* passing by Chilean training sailboat (October 2002)

2002

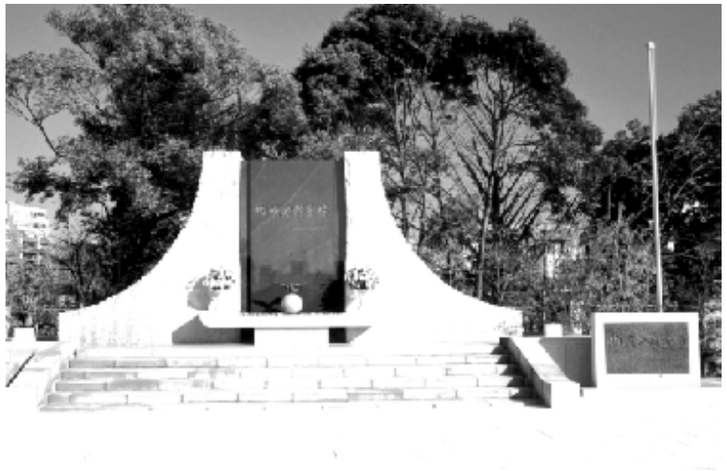
Year			2002	
International Situation	☆ U.S. President Bush describes three nations as ''axis of evil'' in State of Union message (January) ☆ Israeli military places Palestinian Leader Arafat under confinement (March to May)	☆ East Timor becomes independent; Gusmao become first president of East Timor (May)	☆ Japan-North Korea summit (September) ☆ U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts resolution 1441 on Iraq (November)	☆ NATO summit approves new membership for seven Central and Eastern European countries (November) ☆ North Korea announces lifting of freeze on nuclear-related facilities (December)

2003

MSDF supply ship *Tokiwa* refueling French Navy vessel (front) on Indian Ocean (March 2003)

MSDF supply ship *Hamana* (left) refueling German Navy vessel on Indian Ocean (June 2003)

MSDF transport ship *Shimokita* transporting Thai Army's heavy machines and equipment for construction use from Thailand to Indian Ocean so they can be used by U.S. soldiers to build airport facilities in Afghanistan (February 2003)



Memorial zone improved
(Camp Ichigaya in Tokyo in September 2003)

SDF members teaching local people how to operate equipment presented to them (East Timor in 2003)

C-130H transport plane to airlift emergency aid supplies to help victims of earthquake in southeastern Iraq
(Kerman airport on December 30, 2003)

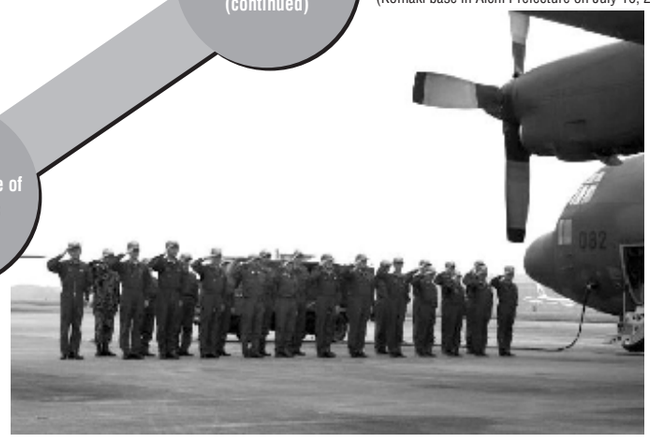
Prime Minister Koizumi encourages SDF members before their departure to Kuwait and other countries
(Komaki base in Aichi Prefecture on December 24, 2003)

SDF members packing foam extinguishers for transport to Tomakomai City, Hokkaido Prefecture to help put out fire at industrial complex following earthquake off Tokachi
(Chitose base in Hokkaido Prefecture in September 2003)

ASDF's F-15 fighters and airborne early warning aircraft participating in Cope Thunder
(Japan-U.S joint exercise) in Alaska for first time
(over Alaska, the United States, in June 2003)

SDF members delivering aid goods for Iraqi refugees to United Nations employees in Amman in Jordan
(March 31, 2003)

SDF members to depart for Jordan's Amman to transport aid goods for Iraqi refugees
(Komaki base in Aichi Prefecture on July 10, 2003)



ASDF's first air-to-air refueling drill
(air territory over west of Kyushu)

First exercise to protect U.S. military facilities in Japan
(ammunition warehouse in Kawakami, Hiroshima Prefecture in November 2003)

Dispatch to areas hit by earthquake off Tokachi

International emergency relief to help victims of earthquake in Iran

Humanitarian relief and reconstruction support in Iraq

East Timor PKO (continued)

Support activities against terrorism (continued)

Relief and rescue of Iraqi refugees

2003

Year	2003			
International Situation	☆ North Korea declares withdrawal from NPT (January) ☆ U.S. and British militaries launch military action against Iraq (March)	☆ National People's Congress of China elects Hu Jintao as president (March) ☆ The United States, Russia, the United Nations and the EU present "Road Map," a new peace framework for Palestine (April) ☆ U.S. President Bush announces major combat operations have ended (May)	☆ U.S. President Bush announces PSI (May) ☆ Iraqi Governing Council launched (July) ☆ First Six-Party Talks held to deal with North Korea's nuclear issues (August)	☆ Suicide terrorists bomb U.N. headquarters in Baghdad (August) ☆ China becomes third country to successfully launch manned space flight after the United States and the Soviet Union (October) ☆ Former Iraqi President Hussein taken into custody (December)

2004

SDF members measuring candidate site for camp for Iraqi mission
(March 2004)

SDF members installing sluice gate for water supply
(March 2004)

SDF members supplying water to tanks
(April 2004)

SDF member teaching children in Samawah how to make origami
(March 2004)

SDF members engaging in facility reconstruction and maintenance work
(April 2004)

Sandstorm in camp site in Samawah
(April 2004)

2004

Disaster-relief operations to help areas hit by avian flu

SDF members entrusted with epidemic prevention work in the wake of outbreak of avian flu
(Tamba Town in Kyoto Prefecture in March 2004)

C-130H transport plane flown by airlifting unit for Iraqi humanitarian and reconstruction mission heading for Kuwait
(January 2004)

Humanitarian relief and reconstruction support in Iraq (continued)

SDF advance team chief Sato and Iraqi children (2004)

Aid supplies being loaded into a C-130H transport plane
(Kuwait International Airport on April 2, 2004)

Light armored vehicles of GSDF and other vehicles being loaded onto transport ship *Osumi* for use in Iraq (Muroran City in Hokkaido Prefecture in February 2004)

SDF member of ASDF's airlifting unit on Iraqi reconstruction mission watches from his plane (2004)

First airlifting of Japanese nationals

SDF liaison officer talking to Japanese journalists arriving from Iraq (first airlifting of Japanese nationals by SDF)
(Mubarak airport in Kuwait on April 15, 2004)

SDF members offering medical advice to local medical staff
(April 2004)

Chief of first group of SDF contingent for Iraqi reconstruction and support mission returns home and returns group flag to Minister of State for Defense Ishiba
(Asahikawa camp in Hokkaido Prefecture in June 2004)

Transport ship *Osumi* cruising for Kuwait (February 2004)

Year	2004			
International Situation	☆ Second six-nation talks held to deal with North Korea's nuclear issues (February)	☆ Authority of UNMISET transferred to East Timor (May)	☆ Japan-North Korea summit (June)	☆ Iraqi interim government established (June)

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Chapter I

International Military Situation

Iraqi Interim Government President Ghazi Yawer (right) and Prime Minister Iyad Allawi attending a ceremony at CPA headquarters (June 2004, Baghdad) [AFP-Jiji]

Prime Minister Koizumi (left) and North Korean National Defense Commission Chairman Kim Jong Il (right) shaking hands prior to Japan-North Korea Summit meeting (May 2004, Pyongyang) [Pooled photo]

Recently, world security has seen many changes: threats are now being posed not only by states but also non-state actors, and illegal acts such as terrorism are increasingly affecting security. Under these conditions, states are required to change or diversify the role of their military forces, and new international relations are being formed centering on the United States, the only superpower in the world.

In the Asia-Pacific region, territorial disputes and unification issues remain, activities of international terrorist organizations are on the rise, and concerns over weapons of mass destruction are emerging.

In this chapter, security issues that the international community faces and its responses to these issues are examined, and the military situation in the Asia-Pacific region is explained.

Chapter II

Japan's Defense Policy

AH-1S firing training ammunition

P-3C patrol aircraft carrying out warning and surveillance over the sea

SH-60K patrol aircraft in engineering/service tests

In order to ensure peace and security, Japan has endeavored to establish a more stable security environment in the world through diplomatic efforts, and to build a sound basis for security by promoting stability in people's lives. However, since it is difficult to ensure security by these efforts alone, Japan adopts watertight defense measures by, for example, developing, maintaining, and administrating appropriate self-defense capabilities, as well as firmly maintaining the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and improving their reliability.

Chapter II describes Japan's security measures, the relationship between the Constitution and the right of self-defense, basic defense policies, an outline of the national defense program, improvements in defense capabilities, and the meaning of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements and the measures implemented in relation to them.

Latest "TAKANAMI"-type destroyer

F-15 receiving in-flight fueling from a U.S. jet fighter

SDF personnel consulting with U.S. soldiers in the "NORTHWIND 04" Japan-U.S. joint exercises

SDF personnel with U.S. soldiers in the "Cope North Guam 03" Japan-U.S. joint exercises

Chapter III

National Defense and Responses to Various Situations

A fighter-interceptor (F-15J) launching an air-to-air missile

ASROC (anti-submarine torpedo) launched from a destroyer

SDF personnel engaged in a street-fighting drill to deal with guerillas and special task forces

SDF personnel wearing protective clothing against chemicals

SDF personnel engaged in machine gun training

The SDF mainly tackles national defense issues and prepares to repel any attempted invasion of the country. However, in incidents that may significantly influence national peace and safety or in large-scale disasters, the SDF works with relevant organizations to maintain and improve its readiness for immediately and appropriately dealing with a variety of situations. Such situations include discovery of suspicious boats, armed agent activities, and terrorism by nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons.

In additions to three laws to respond to situations of Armed Attack and other situations enacted in 2003, enactment of seven further laws to respond to situations of Armed Attack and other situations and the conclusion of three related conventions following submissions to the Diet in 2004 meant the establishment of a legal infrastructure to deal with the most important situations, such as Armed Attacks, for the peace and safety of the country and its citizens.

In this chapter, typical operations that the SDF may carry out, frameworks for diverse situations, and efforts for legislation to respond to situations of Armed Attack and other situations will be explained.

A rescue helicopter (UH-60J) in a mountain rescue drill

Chapter IV

Efforts to Ensure Peace and Security in the International Community

Minister of State for Defense Ishiba presents a flag to the Commander of ASDF's Air Support Command

GSDF Chief of Staff Massaki (left) takes a first-hand look at Iraqi reconstruction operations by the first GSDF contingent for such a mission

C-130H transport plane unloading aid goods and materials for victims of a large earthquake in southeastern Iran

Scene of Asia-Pacific Security Seminar sponsored by the National Institute for Defense Studies (National Institute for Defense Studies)

SDF personnel issuing instructions for maritime refueling on the deck of an MSDF ship

Efforts to ensure peace and security in the international community are one of the important activities of the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in terms of Japan's contribution to building a more stable security environment in the world.

The Defense Agency and the SDF have been providing a variety of support and assistance activities to help promote the reconstruction of Iraq in line with the Humanitarian Relief and Iraqi Reconstruction Special Measures Law. The Defense Agency and the SDF perform a variety of activities, including responding to international terrorism activities in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States, participating in U.N. peacekeeping operations, assisting international disaster relief activities in response to large-scale natural disasters abroad, participating in confidence-building security dialogues and defense interchanges with foreign defense and military officials, and working on efforts toward armament management and disarmament.

This chapter explains the significance and achievements of these activities of the Defense Agency and the SDF.

MSDF personnel engaging in refueling a U.S. warship aboard the supply ship Tokiwa

Chapter V

People and the Defense Agency/SDF

Female college students who participated in an enlistment experience program and SDF personnel

U.S. carrier-based aircraft performing landing practices on Iwo Jima Island

It is important to win the understanding and support of the general public on a regular basis and to establish human and material bases through the promotion of education, training of personnel, and securing of equipment for the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in order to defend the country, respond to various situations, and fulfill other duties effectively.

Such bases have been established through various relationships with people, local communities, and private companies. As part of their support for people's livelihood, the Defense Agency and SDF contribute toward making people's lives safe and secure by disposing of dangerous objects. In return, local governments cooperate with the Defense Agency and SDF in the form of recruitment and reemployment support. Moreover, the facilities of the SDF and U.S. forces stationed in Japan can be conveniently used only with understanding and cooperation of the Japanese people.

This chapter will describe various bases that support Japan's defense capability and relationships between the Defense Agency/SDF and the general public.

ASDF officer candidates receiving computer education

MSDF Officer Candidate School graduates marching

Personnel of the GSDF 302nd Security Company acting as guards of honor for a foreign VIP

Retired ASDF personnel working at a private company

Chapter VI

The Future of the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces

Emergency nighttime recovery of stranded U.N. vehicle by SDF transport personnel during the 16th Golan Heights Mission

PATRIOT missile

Missile test of U.S.' sea-based Aegis system [AFP-Jiji]

The Defense Agency is engaged in extensive studies on future defense posture in working to ensure defense capabilities truly suited to Japan's national security in the 21st century.

Japan must become a country able to stand firm in the face of crisis while allowing its citizens to live in safety and with peace of mind, and must fulfill its responsibilities in ensuring the prerequisite peace and safety of the international community.

This chapter discusses the principal matters for consideration in the Defense Agency's studies on defense posture as well as the direction of, and schedule for, the development of future defense capabilities. Also examined are the approach to joint operations that has become a key issue in Japan's defense posture review and the ballistic missile defense system approved for introduction by the government last year.

Collapse of the World Trade Center Building [AFP-Jiji]

Aegis vessel *Myoko*

Meeting of Joint Staff Council

Defense Chronology

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1945			Aug 15 Aug 17 Sep 2 Oct 9 Oct 15 Nov 30	World War II ends Higashikuni Cabinet formed GHQ established Shidehara Cabinet formed General Staff Office and Military Command abolished Army and Navy Ministries abolished	Oct 24	United Nations established
1946			Jan 27 Feb 26 Apr 5 Apr 24 May 3 May 22 Nov 3	GHQ orders the suspension of Japanese administrative right over Ryukyu and Ogasawara Islands Far East Commission formed First meeting of Allied Council on Japan Civil administration of Okinawa established International Military Tribunal for the Far East opened Yoshida Cabinet formed Constitution of Japan promulgated	Jan 10 Mar 5 Oct 1 Dec 19	First session of U.N. General Assembly (London, through February 14) Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech International War Crimes Tribunal in Nuremberg delivers verdicts First Indochina War starts
1947			May 3 Jun 1 Dec 17	Constitution of Japan takes effect Katayama Cabinet formed Police Law promulgated (National Rural Police and municipal police forces established)	Mar 12 Jun 5 Oct 5	Truman Doctrine announced The Marshall Plan announced Comintern established
1948			Mar 10 Apr 27 Oct 15 Nov 12	Ashida Cabinet formed Japan Coast Guard Law promulgated Yoshida Cabinet formed International Military Tribunal for the Far East delivers verdicts	Apr 1 May 14 Jun 26 Aug 15 Sep 9	USSR imposes Berlin blockade (through May 12, 1949) First Middle East War starts (through February 24, 1949) Berlin airlift starts Republic of Korea (ROK) established Democratic People's Republic of Korea established
1949			Jul 5 Jul 15 Aug 17	Shimoyama incident Mitaka incident Matsukawa incident	Jan 25 Apr 4 Apr 21 May 6 Sep 24 Oct 1	COMECON established North Atlantic Treaty signed by 12 nations (becomes effective August 24) Nationalist-Communist talks break up; Chinese Communist Army launches general offensive Federal Republic of Germany established (West Germany) USSR declared possession of atomic bomb People's Republic of China established

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1949					Oct 7	German Democratic Republic established (East Germany)
					Dec 7	Chinese Nationalist Party takes refuge in Taiwan
1950	Jul 8	General MacArthur authorizes the establishment of the National Police Reserve, consisting of 75,000 men, and the expansion of the Japan Coast Guard by 8,000 men	Jun 21	John Foster Dulles, adviser to the U.S. Department of State, visits Japan	Jan 27	U.S. signs MSA agreement with NATO countries
			Nov 24	U.S. announces the seven principles for concluding a peach treaty with Japan	Feb 17	China-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance signed
					Jun 25	Korean War (ends July 27, 1953)
	Aug 10	National Police Reserve Ordinance promulgated and put into effect			Jul 7	United Nations Force formed for dispatch to Korea
	Aug 13	Ordinary personnel recruitment for the National Police Reserve begins			Sep 15	U.N. troops land at Inchon
					Oct 25	Chinese Communist volunteers join Korean War
	Aug 14	Masuhara appointed first Director-General of the national Police Reserve			Dec 18	NATO Defense Commission agrees to establishment of NATO Forces
	Sep 7	National Police Reserve headquarters moves from the National Police Agency headquarters to Etchujima				
1951	Jan 23	Minister of State Ohashi takes charge of the National Police Reserve	Jan 29	First Yoshida-Dulles talks (peace treaty negotiations)	Aug 30	U.S.-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty signed
			Sep 8	49 countries sign Peach Treaty with Japan	Sep 1	Australia-New Zealand-U.S. sign ANZUS Treaty
	Mar 1	Special recruitment of Military and Naval Academy graduates to serve as police officers 1st and 2nd class begins		Japn-U.S. Security Treaty concluded		
			Oct 26	House of Representatives approves Peace Treaty and Japan-U.S. Security Treaty (House of Councillors approval given November 18)		
	Oct 20	Ozuki unit dispatched for the first time on a rescue-relief operation to Kita Kawachi Village, Yamaguchi Prefecture, in the wake of Typhoon Ruth				
1952	Feb 28	Japan-U.S. Administrative Agreement signed	Apr 28	Japan-Taiwan Peace Treaty concluded	Jan 18	ROK proclaims sovereignty over neighboring ocean areas (Rhee Line)
	Apr 26	Maritime Guard established within the Japan Coast Guard		Japan-U.S. Peace Treaty and Japan-U.S. Security Treaty enter into force	May 26	U.S.-U.K.-France sign peace agreement with Germany
	Jul 26	Japan-U.S. Facilities and Areas Agreement signed		Far East Commission, Allied Council, and GHQ abolished	May 27	European Defense Community (EDC) Treaty signed
	Jul 31	National Safety Agency Law promulgated	May 1	May Day riot at Imperial Palace Plaza	Oct 3	U.K. carries out its first atomic bomb test
	Aug 1	National Safety Agency established	Jul 21	Subversive Activities Prevention Law promulgated and enters into force	Nov 1	U.S. carries out its first hydrogen bomb test
		Prime Minister Yoshida concurrently appointed Director-General of the National Safety Agency				
		Coastal Safety Force inaugurated				
	Oct 15	National Safety Force inaugurated				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1952	Oct 30	Kimura appointed Director-General of the National Safety Agency				
1953	Jan 1	Security Advisory Group in Japan inaugurated	Aug 1	Weapons Production Law promulgated	Mar 5	USSR General Secretary Stalin dies
	Apr 1	National Safety Academy (predecessor of National Defense Academy) established	Dec 25	Japanese administrative rule over Amami Islands restored	Jul 27	Truce signed in Korean War
					Aug 12	USSR carries out its first hydrogen bomb test
					Oct 1	U.S.-ROK Mutual Defense Treaty signed
	Oct 30	Ikeda-Robertson talks; joint statement issued on gradual increase in self-defense strength				
1954	Mar 8	Mutual Defense Assistance (MDA) agreement signed	Mar 1	Daigo Fukuryu maru (Lucky Dragon V) incident	Mar 1	U.S. carries out hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll
	May 14	Japan-U.S. sign Land Lease Agreement on naval vessels	Dec 10	Hatoyama Cabinet formed	Jul 21	Geneva Agreement on armistice in Indochina signed
	Jun 2	House of Councillors passes resolution prohibiting dispatch of troops overseas			Sep 3	Chinese People's Liberation Army shells Quemoy and Matsu for the first time
	Jun 9	Promulgation of Defense Agency Establishment Law, Self-Defense Forces Law and Protection of National Secrecy Law pertaining to the MDA			Sep 8	South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) formed by signing of collective defense pact
	Jul 1	Defense Agency established; Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Forces inaugurated			Dec 2	U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty signed
	Dec 10	Omura appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1955	Mar 19	Sugihara appointed Minister of State for Defense	May 8	Protests begin at Sunagawa Base	Apr 18	Africa-Asia conference held at Bandung
	May 6	Live shell fire by U.S. forces at Kita Fuji Maneuver Area; opposition to firing intensifies	Aug 6	First World Conference Against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs held at Hiroshima	May 5	West Germany formally admitted to NATO
					May 14	Signing of Warsaw Pact
	Jul 31	Sunada appointed Minister of State for Defense	Aug 31	Shigemitsu-Dulles meeting; joint statement issued on revision of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty		
	Nov 22	Funada appointed Minister of State for Defense				
			Nov 14	Japan-U.S. Atomic Energy Agreement signed		
			Dec 19	Atomic Energy Basic Law promulgated		
1956	Jan 30	Japan-U.S. joint statement on reduction of Japan's share of defense spending	Feb 9	House of Representatives passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bomb tests (House of Councillors, February 10)	Feb 14	Stalin criticized at the 20th Congress of Soviet Communist Party in Moscow; Khruschev proclaims policy of peaceful co-existence with the West
	Mar 22	Japan-U.S. Technical Agreement relating to sharing of knowledge on patents and technology signed in accordance with MDA	Oct 19	Joint declaration on restoration of Japanese-Soviet relations	Apr 17	USSR announces dissolution of Comintern
			Dec 18	Japan joins the U.N.	Jul 26	Egyptian President Nasser nationalizes the Suez Canal
	Mar 23	Defense Agency moved to Kasumiga-seki	Dec 23	Ishibashi Cabinet formed	Oct 23	Hungarian Revolution

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1956	Jul 2	National Defense Council Composition Law promulgated			Oct 29	Second Middle East War (Suez War) (through November 6)
	Sep 20	First domestically-produced F-86F fighter delivered				
	Dec 23	Prime Minister Ishibashi concurrently becomes Minister of State for Defense				
1957	Jan 31	Acting Prime Minister Kishi concurrently becomes, ad interim, Minister of State for Defense	Feb 25	Kishi Cabinet formed	May 15	U.K. conducts its first hydrogen bomb test
			Mar 15	House of Councillors passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs	Aug 26	USSR announces successful ICBM test
	Feb 2	Kotaki appointed Minister of State for Defense	Aug 6	Japan-U.S. Security Council inaugurated	Oct 4	USSR launches the world's first man-made satellite, Sputnik 1
	May 20	Basic Guidelines for National Defense adopted by the National Defense Council and the Cabinet			Nov 23	World Congress of Communist Parties issues the Moscow Declaration
	Jun 14	First Defense Build-up Plan adopted by the National Defense Council and approved by the Cabinet				
	Jun 21	Kishi-Eisenhower talks; joint statement on the early withdrawal of the USFJ issued				
	Jul 10	Tsushima appointed Minister of State of Defense				
1958	Jan 14	First ocean training exercises (Hawaii, through February 28)	Apr 18	House of Representatives passes resolution to ban atomic and hydrogen bombs	Oct 23	Dulles talks with Chiang Kai-shek; joint statement issued denying counteroffensive against mainland China
	Feb 17	ASDF begins measures to counter invasions of territorial airspace	Sep 11	Fujiyama-Dulles talks (Washington); agreement on revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty	Dec 17	U.S. test-launches Atlas ICBM
	Jun 12	Sato appointed Minister of State for Defense	Oct 4	Commencement of Japan-U.S. talks on the revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty		
1959	Jan 12	Ino appointed Minister of State for Defense	Mar 30	Tokyo District Court ruled the stationing of U.S. forces to be unconstitutional in the Sunagawa case	Aug 25	China-Indian border dispute
	Jun 18	Akagi appointed Minister of State for Defense			Sep 18	Soviet Premier Khrushchev proposes total and complete disarmament at U.N.
			Dec 16	Original ruling in the Sunagawa case was reversed by the Supreme Court	Sep 27	U.S.-Soviet summit; joint statement issued at Camp David
					Dec 1	Antarctica Treaty signed
1960	Jan 11	Defense Agency moves to Hinoki-cho	Jan 19	New Japan-U.S. Security Treaty signed (goes into force June 23)	Feb 13	France conducts its first nuclear test
	Jul 19	Esaki appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jul 19	Ikeda Cabinet formed	May 1	U-2 reconnaissance plane belonging to U.S. shot down in Soviet airspace
	Dec 8	Nishimura appointed Minister of State for Defense			Jul 20	U.S. conducts successful underwater launch of Polaris SLBM

Year		Defense		Domestic		International
1960					Dec 20	Formation of the South Viet Nam National Liberation Front
1961	Jan 13 Jul 18	National Defense Council decides to reorganize GSDF units (into 13 divisions); presented to Cabinet January 20 Fujieda appointed Minister of State for Defense Second Defense Build-up Plan adopted by National Defense Council and Cabinet			May 16 Jul 6 Jul 11 Aug 13	Military junta seizes power in coup d'état in ROK Soviet-North Korea Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed China-North Korea Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance signed Construction of Berlin Wall
1962	Jul 18 Nov 1 Nov 9	Shiga appointed Minister of State for Defense Defense Facilities Administration Agency established Shiga visits U.S. for first time as Minister of State for Defense (through November 26)			Oct 20 Oct 24 Oct 28	Chinese-Indian border dispute (through November 22) U.S. Navy imposes sea blockade of Cuba (through November 20) USSR General Secretary Khruschev declares dismantling of missile bases in Cuba
1963	Jul 18	Fukuda appointed Minister of State for Defense	Aug 14	Japan joins to Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty	Jun 20 Aug 14	Agreement signed for U.S.-Soviet hotline Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty signed by U.S.-USSR-U.K. (comes into force on Oct 10)
1964	Jul 18	Koizumi appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jun 15 Nov 9 Nov 12	Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty comes into force for Japan Sato Cabinet formed U.S. nuclear submarine (Sea Dragon) enters a Japanese port (Sasebo) for the first time	Aug 2 Oct 16	Gulf of Tonkin incident China successfully carries out its first nuclear test
1965	Feb 10 Jun 3 Nov 20	Diet debate on Mitsuya study Matsuno appointed Minister of State for Defense Icebreaker Fuji leaves on first mission to assist Antarctic observation (through April 8, 1966)	Jun 22	Japan-ROK Basic Treaty signed	Feb 7 Sep 1	U.S. starts bombing Viet Nam Second India-Pakistan conflict (through September 22)
1966	Aug 1 Nov 29 Dec 3	Kambayashiyama appointed Minister of State for Defense Outline of Third Defense Build-up Plan adopted by National Defense Council and Cabinet Masuda appointed Minister of State for Defense			May 16 Jul 1 Oct 27	Cultural Revolution starts in China France withdraws from the NATO command China carries out its first successful nuclear missile test
1967	Mar 13	Key matters for inclusion in Third Defense Build-up Plan agreed by National Defense Council; adopted by Cabinet on March 14	Mar 29	Sapporo District Court rules in Eniwa Case	Jun 5	Third Middle East War (through June 9) China carries out its first successful hydrogen bomb test Formation of European Community (EC)

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1967					Aug 8	Formation of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)
1968	Nov 30	Arita appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jan 19 Jun 26	U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier (Enterprise) enters a Japanese port (Sasebo) for the first time Ogasawara Islands revert to Japan	Jan 23 May 13 Jul 1 Aug 20 Aug 24	Seizure of U.S. Navy intelligence vessel Pueblo by North Korea First formal Vietnamese peace talks held in Paris Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty signed Soviet and Eastern European troops invade Czechoslovakia France carries out its first hydrogen bomb test in the South Pacific
1969	Jan 10	National Defense Council decision to produce 104 F-4E aircraft domestically, approved by Cabinet	Nov 21	Sato-Nixon joint statement (extension of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, return of Okinawa to Japan by 1972)	Mar 2 Jun 10 Jul 25	Armed clashes between Chinese and Soviet forces on Chenpao Island (Damansky Island) South Viet Nam announces establishment of Provisional Revolutionary Government Nixon Doctrine announced
1970	Jan 14 Oct 20	Nakasone appointed Minister of State for Defense Publication of "The Defense of Japan," the first white paper on defense	Feb 3 Feb 11 Mar 31 Jun 23 Nov 25	Japan signs Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty First domestically produced artificial satellite successfully launched Yodo hijacking Automatic extension of Japan-U.S. Security Treaty Yukio Mishima commits suicide by ritual disembowelment at the GSDF Eastern Army Headquarters in Ichigaya	Jan 24 Mar 5 Aug 12	Formation of integrated Warsaw pact forces (involving seven countries) Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty comes into force West Germany-USSR sign non-aggression pact
1971	Jun 29 Jul 5 Jul 30 Aug 2 Dec 3	Okinawa Defense Agreement (Kubo-Curtis Agreement) signed Masuhara appointed Minister of State for Defense All Nippon Airways plane collides with SDF aircraft (Shizukuishi) Nishimura appointed Minister of State for Defense Ezaki appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jun 17 Nov 24	Agreement on the Return of Okinawa signed House of Representatives resolution on non-nuclear weapons	Feb 11 Sep 30 Oct 25 Dec 3	Signing of treaty forbidding the use of the seabed for military purposes U.S.-USSR sign agreement on measures to reduce the danger of nuclear war U.N. General Assembly adopts resolution to admit China and expel Taiwan Third India-Pakistan conflict (through December 17)
1972	Feb 7	National Defense Council adopts Outline of 4th Five-Year Defense Build-up Plan, approved by Cabinet on February 8	Jan 7 Apr 10 May 15	Sato-Nixon joint statement on the agreement of the return of Okinawa and the reduction of bases Japan signs Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) Return of Okinawa	Feb 28	President Nixon visits China; China-U.S. Joint Communiqué

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1972	Apr 17	National Defense Council decision on SDF deployment in Okinawa, presented to Cabinet on April 18	Jul 7 Sep 29	Tanaka Cabinet formed Prime Minister Tanaka visits China; normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China	Apr 10	Signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction
	Jul 7	Masuhara appointed Minister of State for Defense			May 26	SALT-I and agreement to limit ABM signed on the visit of President Nixon to USSR
	Oct 9	National Defense Council determines key matters for inclusion in Fourth Defense Build-up Plan and measures to enhance civilian control, adopted by Cabinet			Jul 3	India-Pakistan truce signed
					Dec 21	East-West Germany Basic Treaty signed
1973	Jan 23	14th Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee meeting agrees on consolidation of U.S. bases in Japan (Kanto Program)	Sep 7	Sapporo District Court rules SDF unconstitutional (Naganuma Judgement)	Jan 27	Viet Nam peace agreement signed (cease-fire takes effect on January 28)
			Sep 21	Japan-North Viet Nam establish diplomatic relations	Mar 29	U.S. forces complete their withdrawal from Viet Nam
	Feb 1	Defense Agency publishes Peacetime Defense Strength	Oct 8	Japan-Soviet summit (Moscow)	Jun 22	General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev of the Soviet Union visits U.S., convention on the prevention of nuclear war signed
	May 30	Yamanaka appointed Minister of State for Defense				
	Jul 1	Commencement of SDF air defense mission on Okinawa			Oct 6	Fourth Middle East War (ends October 25)
					Oct 17	Ten OPEC countries decide to reduce crude oil supplies
1974	Apr 25	National defense Medical College opens	Dec 9	Miki Cabinet formed	May 18	India carries out its first underground nuclear test
	Nov 12	Uno appointed Minister of State for Defense			Jul 3	President Nixon visits USSR, Treaty on the Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests (Threshold Test Ban Treaty) signed
	Dec 9	Sakata appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1975	Aug 29	Japan-U.S. defense summit meeting (Sakata-Schlesinger, Tokyo)			Mar 26	Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) enters into force
					Apr 30	Fall of Saigon, South Vietnamese Government surrenders unconditionally
					Aug 1	Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) adopts the Helsinki Declaration (Helsinki)
					Nov 15	First summit meeting of most industrialized nations (Rambouillet, through November 17), since held annually
1976	Jun 4	Publication of second white paper on defense, "The Defense of Japan" (henceforth published annually)	Jun 8	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty comes into force for Japan	Jul 2	Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (unified Viet Nam) proclaimed
			Dec 24	Fukuda Cabinet formed	Aug 18	U.S. military officers slain at Panmunjom
	Jul 8	Sub-Committee for Defense Cooperation			Sep 9	Death of Chairman of Chinese Communist Party Mao Zedong

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1976	Sep 6	MIG-25 forced to land at Hakodate Airport				
	Oct 29	National Defense Council and Cabinet adopt National Defense Program Outline				
	Nov 5	National Defense Council and Cabinet adopt Immediate-term Defense Build-up Program				
	Dec 24	Mihara appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1977	Apr 15	Establishment of systematic defense programs	Jul 1	Implementation of two maritime laws, proclaiming a 200-mile fishing zone and 12-mile territorial waters	Jun 30	South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) dissolved (Treaty remains effective)
	Nov 28	Kanemaru appointed Minister of State for Defense				
	Dec 28	National Defense Council decides on introduction of "F-15s and P-3Cs," approved by Cabinet on December 29			Aug 1	North Korea establishes military demarcation lines in Sea of Japan and Yellow Sea
1978	Sep 21	Defense Agency announces modality and purpose of emergency legislation study	Aug 12	Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China signed in Beijing	Sep 7	Camp David Agreement
					Dec 16	U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty annulled
	Nov 27	(ASDF) First Japan-U.S. joint training exercises (east of Misawa and west of Akita, through December 1) Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee approves Guidelines for Japan-U.S. Cooperation, presented to and approved by Cabinet following deliberation by the National Defense Council on November 28	Dec 7	Ohira Cabinet formed	Dec 25	Vietnamese troops invade Cambodia
	Dec 7	Yamashita appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1979	Jan 11	Introduction of E-2C approved by National Defense Council and Cabinet	Nov 9	Second Ohira Cabinet formed	Jan 1	U.S. and China normalize diplomatic relations
					Jan 7	Fall of Phnom Penh, establishment of Heng Samrin regime announced
	Jul 17	Announcement of Mid-Term Defense Estimate (FY1980–FY1984)			Feb 1	Islamic Revolution takes place in Iran
	Jul 25	Minister of State for Defense Yamashita makes first visit to ROK as an incumbent Minister (through July 26)			Feb 17	China-Viet Nam conflict (through March 5)
					Mar 26	Egypt-Israel peace treaty signed
					Jun 18	SALT-II signed
	Nov 90	Kubota appointed Minister of State for Defense			Oct 26	Assassination of ROK President Park Chung Hee
					Dec 27	Soviet Union invades Afghanistan
1980	Feb 4	Hosoda appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jul 17	Suzuki Cabinet formed	Apr 11	China-Soviet Treaty on Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance lapses

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1980	Feb 26	Maritime Self-Defense Force takes part in RIMPAC for the first time (through March 18)	Dec 1	Ministerial council on comprehensive national security established	May 18	China tests an ICBM in the direction of the South Pacific for the first time
	Jul 17	Omura appointed Minister of State for Defense			Sep 22	Iran and Iraq enter into full-fledged war
1981	Apr 22	Defense Agency announces classification of the laws and regulations subject to the Studies on Emergency Legislation	Nov 30	Reshuffled Suzuki Cabinet formed	Dec 13	Poland declares martial law, and establishes the Army Council of National Salvation
	Oct 1	(GSDF) First Japan-U.S. joint exercises (in communications) staged at Higashi Fuji Maneuver Area (until October 3)				
	Nov 30	Ito appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1982	Feb 15	(GSDF) First Japan-U.S. combined command post exercise staged (Takigahara, through February 19)	Jun 8	BWC enters into force in Japan	Apr 2	Falklands dispute (ends June 14)
			Jun 9	Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW), Protocols I, II and III concluded	Jun 6	Israeli forces invade Lebanon
	May 15	Use of some sections of land within installations and areas located in Okinawa starts under the Special Land Lease Law			Jun 29	Commencement of Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START-I) U.S.-Soviet Union (Geneva)
			Sep 9	Supreme Court ruled on Naganuma Nike Missile Base Case		
	Jul 23	1981 Mid-Term Defense Estimate (for FY 1983–FY 1987) presented to and approved by National Defense Council	Nov 27	Nakasone Cabinet formed	Oct 16	Successful underwater launch of an SLBM by China
	Nov 27	Tanigawa appointed Minister of State for Defense				
1983	Jan 14	Government decides to pave the way for the transfer of military technologies to the U.S.	Dec 2	CCW Protocols I, II and III enter into force in Japan	Mar 23	U.S. President Reagan announces Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)
			Dec 27	Second Nakasone Cabinet formed	Sep 1	KAL passenger liner shot down by Soviet fighters over Sakhalin
	Dec 12	(ASDF) First Japan-U.S. combined command post exercise staged (Fuchu, through December 15)			Oct 9	19 ROK government officials, including cabinet ministers, killed in Burma by North Korean terrorist explosion
	Dec 27	Kurihara appointed Minister of State for Defense			Oct 25	U.S. and six Caribbean nations send troops to Grenada
1984	Jun 11	(MSDF) First Japan-U.S. combined command post exercise staged (Yokosuka, through June 15)	Nov 1	Reshuffled second Nakasone Cabinet formed		
	Oct 16	Defense Agency announces procedures etc. of future Studies on Emergency Legislation in “Studies on Legislation to Deal with Emergencies”				
	Nov 1	Kato appointed Minister of State for Defense				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1985	Sep 18	Mid-Term Defense Program approved by National Defense Council and Cabinet	Aug 12	Japan Airlines aircraft crashes	Feb 1	New Zealand refuses to allow U.S. destroyer Buchanan to enter port
	Dec 27	Detailed arrangements for the supply of military technologies to the U.S. concluded	Dec 28	Reshuffled second Nakasone Cabinet formed	Mar 11	Mikhail Gorbachev installed as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party
					Mar 12	U.S.-Soviet Union arms control talks begin
					Jun 4	China announces cut of one million personnel from the People's Liberation Army
1986	Feb 24	First Japan-U.S. integrated command post exercise (through February 28)	July 22	Third Nakasone Cabinet formed	Apr 26	Accident at Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Soviet Union
	Jul 1	Security Council Establishment Law enacted			Aug 10	U.S. announces termination of its obligations to New Zealand under the ANZUS Treaty
	Jul 22	Kurihara appointed Minister of State for Defense				
	Sep 5	Government approves the first transfer of military technology to the U.S.			Sep 22	Conference on Disarmament in Europe (CDE) adopts final documents (Stockholm)
	Oct 27	First Japan-U.S. integrated field exercises staged (through October 31)			Oct 11	U.S.-Soviet Union summit talks (Reykjavik, through October 12)
	Dec 30	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet approve plans for dealing with the Immediate-term Defense Build-up Program authorized by the Cabinet on November 5, 1976 and included in the FY 1987 budget				
1987	Jan 24	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet agree on a program for the future build-up of defense capacity	May 27	Metropolitan Police Department arrests two employees of Toshiba Machine Co., Ltd., in connection with unfair exports that breach the rules of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls (COCOM) to Communist areas	Nov 29	KAL airliner blown up by North Korean terrorists while flying over the Bay of Bengal
	Jan 30	Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective June 1)			Dec 8	INF Treaty signed
	Nov 6	Kawara appointed Minister of State for Defense				
	Dec 18	Security Council of Japan approves a study on the state of air defense on the high seas	May 28	Supreme Court ruled on case of seeking the repeal of administrative measures relating to the Nihonbara training area		
			Aug 26	Law Concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams enacted		
			Oct 6	First Japan-U.S. Meeting on COCOM held (Tokyo, through October 7)		
			Nov 6	Takeshita Cabinet formed		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1988	Mar 2	Revised protocol of the Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective June 1)	Mar 13	Aomori-Hakodate Undersea Tunnel opens	Mar 14	Armed clashes between China and Viet Nam in the waters around the Spratly Islands
			Jun 1	Supreme Court rules on an appeal against the enshrining of an SDF officer killed in an accident	May 29	U.S.-Soviet Union summit talks (Moscow, through June 1, instruments of ratification of INF Treaty exchanged)
	Apr 12	Signing of official documents for the transfer of military technologies in certain areas of defense from the U.S. to Japan under the Mutual Defense Assistance Agreement between the two countries	Dec 27	Second Takeshita Cabinet formed	Aug 17	First joint verification of an underground nuclear test carried out by U.S. and Soviet Union (Nevada)
					Aug 20	Cease-fire agreement reached in Iran-Iraq War
	Jul 23	Submarine and civilian fishing boat in collision (off Yokosuka)			Dec 7	General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev delivers speech to the U.N. on the decommissioning of 500,000 Soviet troops
	Aug 24	Tazawa appointed Minister of State for Defense				
	Nov 29	Japanese and U.S. Governments sign memorandum and detailed arrangements relating to FS-X joint development				
1989	Jan 27	Establishment of a commission for the study of defense capability	Jan 7	Emperor Showa dies	Feb 15	Soviet Union completes the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan
			Feb 24	Emperor Showa's funeral		
			Jun 3	Uno Cabinet formed	May 17	China-Soviet summit (Beijing): state-to-state and government-to-government relations normalized
	Jun 3	Yamazaki appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jun 20	Supreme Court rules on the Hyakuri Base action		
						Gorbachev announces the reduction of the Soviet Far East forces by 120,000 (Beijing)
	Aug 10	Matsumoto appointed Minister of State for Defense	Aug 10	Kaifu Cabinet formed		
					Jun 4	Tiananmen Square incident
					Nov 9	GDR permits free departures to the West (virtual demolition of the Berlin Wall)
					Dec 2	U.S.-Soviet summit talks (Malta, through December 3)
1990	Feb 28	Ishikawa appointed Minister of State for Defense	Feb 28	Second Kaifu Cabinet formed	Aug 2	Iraq invades Kuwait
			Aug 30	Government decides to donate US$1 billion to efforts to restore peace in the Gulf region	Sep 30	Soviet Union-ROK establish diplomatic relations
	Jun 19	Japan-U.S. Joint Committee confirms that the two countries will push ahead with procedures to coordinate the return of facilities by U.S. forces (23 items) in Okinawa			Oct 3	German unification
					Nov 19	CFE Treaty and 22-Nation Joint Declaration, signing of Paris Charter Signing of CSBM Vienna document
			Sep 14	Government pledges an additional US$1 billion of economic aid toward efforts to restore peace in the Gulf region plus US$2 billion to countries adjacent to the conflict		
	Jun 21	Japan and the U.S. reach agreement in principle on the establishment of a ministerial conference on security	Oct 16	Bill on Cooperation with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations submitted to Diet		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1990	Dec 20	Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 1991–FY 1995) approved by the National Security Council and the Cabinet	Nov 10	Bill on Cooperation with United Nations Peacekeeping Operations annulled		
	Dec 29	Ikeda appointed Minister of State for Defense	Nov 12	Coronation of Emperor		
1991	Jan 14	New Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective April 17)	Jan 17	Cabinet approves the establishment of the Gulf Crisis Countermeasures Headquarters	Jan 17	Coalition forces launch air attacks against Kuwait and Iraq, Operation Desert Storm
	Jan 25	Cabinet approves ordinance on interim measures for the airlifting of Gulf Crisis refugees (promulgated and enacted on January 29)	Jan 24	Government pledges an additional US$9 billion to efforts to restore peace in the Gulf region	Feb 24	Coalition forces ground troops advance on Kuwait and Iraq
	Apr 26	Total of six MSDF vessels, including minesweepers, depart for the Persian Gulf	Nov 5	Miyazawa Cabinet formed	Feb 28	Coalition forces cease combat action against Iraq
	Jun 3	Disaster relief dispatch with the eruption of Fugendake on Mount Unzen (through December 16, 1995)			Mar 31	Warsaw Pact structures dismantled
	Oct 9	SDF personnel join U.N. teams carrying out inspections on Iraq chemical weapons for the first time			Jun 25	Croatian and Slovenian Republics secede from Yugoslavia
	Nov 5	Miyashita appointed Minister of State for Defense			Jul 10	Russian President Yeltsin takes office
					Jul 31	U.S.-Soviet leaders sign START-I in Moscow
					Sep 6	Soviet State Council approves independence of three Baltic states
					Sep 17	ROK and North Korea simultaneously admitted to the U.N.
					Dec 8	CIS agreement signed by leaders of Russia, Belarus and Ukraine at summit
1992	Apr 1	Custody of Government aircraft (B-747) transferred to the Defense Agency	Jun 29	Law Revising Part of the Law Concerning the Dispatch of International Disaster Relief Teams comes into force	Feb 7	EC countries sign the European Union Treaty (Maastricht Treaty)
	Sep 17	SDF units dispatched to the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) (through September 26, 1993)	Aug 10	International Peace Cooperation Law comes into force	Feb 25	China promulgates and enacts Territorial Waters Act, designating the Senkaku Islands as an integral part of China
	Dec 11	Nakayama appointed Minister of State for Defense	Oct 23	Emperor and Empress visit China (through October 28)	May 25	IAEA officials make the first designated inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities (through June 5)
	Dec 18	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet authorize modification of the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 1991–FY 1995)			Jun 16	Massive cuts in strategic arms agreed at U.S.-Russia summit in Washington (through June 17)
					Jul 2	U.S. President Bush announces completion of the withdrawal to the U.S. of ground- or sea-based tactical nuclear weapons deployed overseas
					Aug 24	China-ROK establish diplomatic relations
					Nov 9	CFE Treaty becomes formally effective

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1992					Nov 24	U.S. completes withdrawal of its Armed Forces from the Philippines
1993	May 11	SDF units dispatched to the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) (through January 8 1995)	Jan 13	Japan signs CWC	Jan 3	U.S.-Russia summit (Moscow); START-II signed
			Feb 25	Supreme Court ruled on the first and second suits relating to jet noise at Yokota Air Base	Jan 13	Signing of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction
	Jul 12	Disaster relief teams dispatched to Hokkaido in response to the earthquake off southwestern Hokkaido (through August 12)	Jun 9	Wedding ceremony of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince	Mar 12	North Korea announces secession from NPT
			Aug 9	Hosokawa Cabinet formed	May 29	North Korea conducts ballistic missile test over the central Sea of Japan
	Aug 9	Nakanishi appointed Minister of State for Defense	Sep 9	Supreme Court ruled on an appeal seeking a ban on the continued construction work for Ikego housing for use by U.S. Forces	Jun 11	North Korea reserves the right to withdraw from the NPT in a joint statement issued during first round of U.S.-North Korea consultations
	Oct 13	Japan-Russia agreement on prevention of marine accidents signed			Sep 1	U.S. Defense Department announces the Bottom Up Review
	Dec 2	Aichi appointed Minister of State for Defense			Sep 13	Israel and PLO sign a declaration of the principles of provisional autonomy
					Oct 3	Armed clashes between UNOSOM II and armed Somali factions result in the deaths of 18 U.S. soldiers and a number of casualties
					Nov 1	European Union established
1994	Mar 1	First Japan-China security dialogue (Beijing)	Mar 30	Tokyo High Court ruled on the third suit relating to jet noise at Yokota Air Base (neither defendant nor plaintiff appeal; ruling was fixed on April 14)	Jan 11	NATO summit adopts the Partnership for Peace (PfP)
	Apr 28	Kanda appointed Minister of State for Defense			Mar 3	IAEA nuclear inspection team starts inspections of seven nuclear facilities declared by North Korea (through March 14)
	Jun 30	Tamazawa appointed Minister of State for Defense	Apr 28	Hata Cabinet formed		
			Jun 30	Murayama Cabinet formed	Mar 25	U.S. forces dispatched to Somalia complete their withdrawal
	Sep 17	SDF units dispatched to Zaire to assist Rwandan refugees (through December 28)	Dec 26	Kanazawa Branch of Nagoya High Court ruled on the first and second suits relating to jet noise at Komatsu Air Base (neither plaintiff nor defendant appeal; ruling was fixed on January 10, 1995)	Mar 31	U.N. Security Council adopts a chairman's statement to urge North Korea to complete nuclear inspections (North Korea refuses April 4)
	Nov 9	First Japan-ROK working-level defense policy dialogue (Seoul)				
	Dec 1	First Asia-Pacific Security Seminar (under the auspices of the National Institute for Defense Studies, through December 17)			Mar 31	COCOM dissolved
					Jun 14	North Korea notifies U.S., which holds presidency of the IAEA Charter, of its withdrawal from the IAEA

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1994					Jun 17	Former U.S. President Carter visits North Korea and holds talks with North Korean President Kim Il Sung
					Jul 8	North Korean President Kim Il Sung dies
					Jul 25	First ASEAN Regional Forum (Bangkok)
					Aug 31	Russian troops complete withdrawal from the former GDR and three Baltic countries
					Oct 21	U.S.-North Korea Framework Agreement signed
					Dec 1	Commander of U.S.-ROK Combined Forces devolves operational control in peacetime to ROK forces
					Dec 5	START I comes into force
					Dec 18	Russia starts military operations against Chechnya
1995	Jan 17	Disaster relief teams dispatched after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (through April 27)	Sep 4	Japanese schoolgirl assaulted by three U.S. soldiers based in Okinawa	Jan 1	CSCE changes its name to OSCE
			Nov 17	Cabinet approves the establishment of a consultation forum to discuss issues relating to U.S. bases in Okinawa	Feb 27	U.S. Department of Defense publishes the EASR
	Mar 20	SDF personnel dispatched teams carry out rescue operations in the sarin gas attack on the Tokyo subway system (through March 23)	Nov 19	Prime Minister Murayama and U.S. Vice President Gore agree on the establishment of the Special Action Committee on Facilities and Areas in Okinawa (SACO)	Mar 9	Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) established
					May 11	NPT extended indefinitely
	Jun 5	Japan and ROK defense authorities exchange correspondence on measures to prevent accidents between SDF and ROK military aircraft			Jun 7	Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui visits U.S.
					Jul 11	U.S. President Clinton announces the normalization of U.S.-Viet Nam relations
	Jun 9	Security Council of Japan meets for the first time to discuss the state of future defense capabilities (total of 13 meetings through December 14)	Dec 26	Tokyo High Court ruled on appeal case of the referred first suit relating to jet noise at Atsugi Air Base (neither plaintiff nor defendant appeal; ruling was fixed on January 10, 1996)	Dec 14	Formal signing of the Bosnian Peace Agreement in Paris
					Dec 15	10 Southeast Asian nations sign the South East Asia Non-Nuclear Zone Treaty at ASEAN summit meeting
	Aug 8	Eto appointed Minister of State for Defense			Dec 20	IFOR, consisting mainly of NATO troops, replaces UNPROFOR and formally commences operations in Bosnia
	Sep 27	New Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective April 1, 1996)				
	Sep 29	Governor of Okinawa Prefecture refuses to implement part of the procedure for the acquisition of useable land under the Special Land Lease Law				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1995	Nov 28	Security Council of Japan and Cabinet adopt National Defense Program Outline for the period from FY 1996				
	Dec 14	Security Council of Japan adopts the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 1996–FY 2000) (Cabinet Decision of December 15)				
1996	Jan 11	Usui appointed Minister of State for Defense	Jan 11	Hashimoto Cabinet formed	Jan 26	START-II ratified by U.S. Senate
			Apr 12	Prime Minister Hashimoto meets U.S. Ambassador Mondale (agreement reached on the total return of Futenma Air Station, Okinawa, within five to seven years after conditions are satisfied)	Jan 27	France carries out nuclear tests (completion of which announced January 29)
	Jan 31	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)				
	Mar 29	Application for a court order for the Prime Minister to authorize the use of land for U.S. bases as part of the procedure for the acquisition of useable land under the Special Land Lease Law			Mar 8	China carries out missile firing exercises, naval and air force live-fire drills and integrated ground, naval and air force exercises in the waters close to Taiwan on a total of three occasions March 8–25
			Apr 15	SACO Interim Report approved by Japan-U.S. Security Consultative Committee		
	Apr 1	Lease expires on part of land being used for Sobe Communication Site	Apr 16	Cabinet approves the promotion of solutions to issues relating to facilities and areas of U.S. forces in Okinawa Prefecture	Mar 23	Taiwan holds its first direct presidential elections
	Apr 15	Signing of Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement and its procedural arrangements				Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui re-elected
			May 8	Working party for the resolution of issues relating to the return of Futenma Air Station established	Jul 29	China conducts underground nuclear test (its forty-fifty), then announces moratorium on nuclear testing
	Apr 17	Japan-U.S. Joint Declaration on Security issued				
	Jul 26	First visit to Russia by MSDF ships (Vladivostok, through July 30)			Sep 10	U.N. General Assembly adopts the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)
			Jul 20	U.N. Treaty on the Law of the Seas goes into effect in Japan		
	Sep 2	First visit by MSDF ships to ROK (Pusan, through September 6)			Sep 18	North Korean mini-submarine run aground on the east coast of ROK, its crew intruding into ROK territory
			Aug 19	Inauguration of a round-table conference on cities, towns and villages where U.S. military facilities in Okinawa are located		
	Sep 18	Governor of Okinawa carries out notification and inspection procedures in accordance with the Special Land Lease Law (through October 2)			Sep 27	Taliban gains control of the Afghan capital, Kabul, and declares the establishment of a provisional government
			Aug 28	Supreme Court ruled on suit ordering the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture to execute his duty to sign by proxy under the Special Land Lease law for use by the stationing forces		
	Oct 8	GSDF and MSDF carry out the task of removing deteriorated chemical bombs from Lake Kussharo (through October 24)			Oct 3	Russia-Chechnya cease-fire agreed
					Nov 5	Clinton reelected U.S. President
			Sep 8	Plebiscite held in Okinawa Prefecture	Nov 18	Basic NATO agreement to keep a multinational stabilization force (SFOR) to succeed IFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina
	Oct 29	First Forum for Defense Authorities in the Asia Pacific Region (through October 31, Tokyo)	Sep 17	Cabinet approves the establishment of the Okinawa Policy Council		
			Nov 7	Second Hashimoto Cabinet formed		
			Nov 19	Proposal for a round-table conference on the municipalities where USFJ bases are located		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1996	Nov 7	Kyuma appinted Minister of State of Defense	Dec 2	SACO final report approved by Japan-U.S. Joint Security Council		
	Dec 13	First Japan-Russia defense official cooperation (Tokyo)				
	Dec 24	Security Council and Cabinet approve responses to foreign submarines traveling underwater in Japanese territorial waters				
1997	Jan 20	Establishment of Defense Intelligence Headquarters	Jan 31	Futenma Implementation Group (FIG) established	Mar 14	China enacts National Defense Law
	Apr 23	Partial amendment to the Special Land Lease Law promulgated and enters into force	Apr 29	CWC enters into force in Japan	Apr 29	CWC enters into force
			Jun 10	CCW Revised Protocol II concluded	May 12	Russia-Chechnya peace treaty signed
	Apr 25	Provisional use of part of Sobe Communication Station land starts	Jul 3	First artillery live-fire training by U.S. Marines stationed in Okinawa carried out on the mainland of Japan (at Kita Fiji)(through July 9)	May 19	U.S. Defense Secretary Cohen releases Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR)
	May 15	Provisional use of part of the land belonging to 12 facilities including Kadena Air Base starts	Sep 2	Committee for the Promotion of Decentralization of Authorities presented a third recommendation (in relation to the Special Land Lease Law, and labor management and administration affairs)	May 27	Basic document on cooperation between Russia and the Alliance signed at the NATO Council of Foreign Ministers
	Jul 12	An SDF member on ranger training was killed on duty (GSDF, Mount Hakkoda in Aomori Prefecture)			Jul 1	Hong Kong reverts to China
		C-130H aircraft transferred to Utahpao, Thailand for action against armed fighting in Cambodia (through July 16)	Sep 11	Second Hashimoto Cabinet inaugurated	Jul 16	North Korean soldiers cross the military demarcation line (MDL) and exchange fire with ROK troops
			Nov 5	Plans for the construction of a sea-based heliport presented to the local authority and residents	Jul 18	NATO and Russia establish a permanent joint council
	Sep 23	New Japan-U.S. defense cooperation Security Consultative Committee (SCC)	Dec 3	Japan signs Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty	Jul 23	Agreement reached on modification of the framework of the CFE Treaty
	Dec 19	Review of the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 1996–FY 2000) approved by the Security Council of Japan and the Cabinet	Dec 21	Nago City holds a plebiscite on the planned construction of a U.S. heliport	Aug 19	KEDO holds a ceremony to mark the start of work on the light-water reactors to be provided to North Korea
			Dec 25	Nago City mayor formally announces the acceptance of the sea-based heliport	Sep 26	U.S. and Russian foreign ministers sign a protocol postponing the implementation of START-II
					Oct 8	North Korean Labor Party Secretary Kim Jong Il assumes the post of General Secretary
					Nov 10	China-Russia summit talks: China-Russian joint statement signed (Beijing), and demarcation of the China-Russian eastern border declared
					Dec 3	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty signed
					Dec 18	Russian President approves National Security Concepts

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1998	Mar 26	Introduction of a system of SDF ready reserve personnel	Feb 6	Governor of Okinawa refuses to accept the sea-based heliport	Feb 23	U.N. and Iraq sign a memorandum of understanding on the agreement by Iraq to allow immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to inspectors
	Apr 28	The signing of an agreement to revise the Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement	May 22	Naha Branch of the Fukuoka High Court ruled on the first, second and third suits relating to jet noise at Kadena Air Base (neither plaintiff nor defendant appeal; ruling was fixed on June 6)	Apr 6	U.K. and France ratify CTBT
	May 18	C-130H aircraft transferred to Payareva, Singapore in the case of riots in Indonesia (through May 27)			May 11	India carries out underground nuclear tests (repeated May 13)
	Jun 12	Revision of the International Peace Cooperation Law promulgated and comes into force (the section concerning use of force comes into force July 12)	Jul 30	Obuchi Cabinet formed	May 14	Large-scale riots in the Indonesian capital Jakarta
			Aug 31	Government refuses to sign Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO) resolution on cost sharing after North Korean missile launch	May 28	Pakistan carries out underground nuclear tests (repeated May 30)
	Jun 26	First Japan-ROK security dialogue (Seoul)	Sep 1	Temporary freezing of Japan-North Korea normalization talks	Jun 11	Government of Pakistan announces unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests
	Jul 29	Combined search and rescue operation exercise between MSDF/ASDF and Russian Navy—the first large-scale combined exercise between Japan and Russia	Sep 2	Additional sanctions on North Korea (suspension of charter flights) implemented	Jun 22	North Korean submarine trespasses in waters off east coast of ROK and arrested by ROK military forces
			Oct 16	House of Councillors adopts resolution to censure Minister of State for Defense Nukaga	Jul 2	ROK Ministry of National Defense reports Five-Year Defense Reform Plan to president
	Jul 30	Nukaga appointed Minister of State for Defense			Jul 8	Government of U.K. submits Strategic Defense Review to House of Commons
	Aug 31	North Korea launches missile over and beyond Japanese airspace	Oct 21	Japan lifts freeze on cooperation with North Korea and signs KEDO Executive Board resolution on cost sharing, but continues suspension of food aid, normalization talks and charter flights	Jul 12	Bodies of armed North Korean special forces found in waters off ROK east coast
	Sep 3	Former Director-General of Central Procurement Office arrested on suspicion of breach of trust; compulsory investigation to Defense Agency			Jul 27	China publishes its first comprehensive defense white paper, "Defense of China"
		Based on Okinawa Prefectural Land Expropriation Committee decision of use on May 19, usage of most land of 12 facilities, including Kadena Air Base, begins	Nov 15	Inamine defeats incumbent Ohta in Okinawa gubernatorial election	Aug 20	U.S. military attacks terrorist facilities in Afghanistan and Sudan
			Dec 3	CCW revised Protocol II enters into force in Japan	Sep 5	Kim Jong Il assumes posts of General Secretary of the Worker's Party and Chief of the National Defense Commission of North Korea
			Dec 22	Cabinet Decision on the introduction of information-gathering satellite Aha Training Area returned (the first resolved issue of SACO)	Oct 18	Koo Chen-fu, Chairman of the Board of the Taiwanese Straits Exchange Foundation, visits China and has talks with President and CCP General Secretary Jiang Zemin
	Nov 13	SDF units dispatched to Honduras with Japan Disaster Relief Team (through December 9)				
	Nov 15	First joint exercise involving all three branches (a total of 2,400 personnel from the GSDF, MSDF and ASDF) (Iwo Jima)				
	Nov 19	Announcement of the Basic Policy of Defense Procurement Reform			Oct 23	Israel and the Palestinian Authority sign the Wye River Memorandum
	Nov 20	Norota appointed Minister of State for Defense				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1998	Dec 25	Security Council approves On Japan-U.S. Cooperative Research on Ballistic Missile Defense Technologies			Nov 23	U.S. Department of Defense publishes revised edition of East Asia Strategic Report (EASR)
					Dec 17	U.S. and U.K. military initiate Operation Desert Fox against Iraq as a punishment for refusal to cooperate with UNSCOM inspections (through December 20)
					Dec 18	North Korean semi-submersible infiltrates ROK southern coastal waters and is attacked and sunk by ROK Navy.
1999	Jan 21	First Meeting for Responding to Serious Situations	Mar 1	Entry into force by Japan of the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty	Mar 1	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Treaty enters into force
	Mar 24	Maritime security operations ordered in response to two suspicious boats discovered off the Noto Peninsula (on March 23)	Apr 1	Establishment of the Committee on promotion of Information-Gathering Satellite (Cabinet)	Mar 24	NATO starts air campaign in Yugoslavia (through June 10)
	Mar 29	Establishment of Brigade	Jul 23	Tokyo High Court ruled on the second suit relating to jet noise at Astugi Air Base (neither plaintiff nor defendant appeal; ruling was fixed on August 7)	Apr 24	NATO summit held; New Strategic Concept adopted
	Apr 2	Announcement of Concrete Measures of Procurement Reform			May 7	NATO forces mistakenly bomb Embassy of China in Yugoslavia
	May 28	Bill Partially Amending the Self-Defense Forces Law (transportation of Japanese citizens and others in foreign countries) promulgated and comes into force	Sep 30	Critical accident at a private uranium processing facility in Tokaimura, Ibaraki Prefecture	May 20	U.S. inspection team enters North Korean nuclear facility at Kumchang-ni
					May 26	Fighting breaks out along Indian side of Jammu-Kashmir control line
			Oct 5	Second Obuchi Cabinet inaugurated with the Coalition of the LDP, Liberal Party and Komei Party	May 27	Philippines ratifies the Agreement Regarding the Treatment of United States Forces Visiting the Philippines (Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA))
		Cabinet Decision on Usage of SDF Aircraft and Vessels for the Purpose of Transportation of Japanese Nationals	Oct 12	Suspect Morodomi and 12 others found guilty of malpractice, etc. (Tokyo District Court)	Jun 4	Government of the Yugoslav Federation accepts Kosovo conflict peace plan submitted by U.S., EU and Russia
	Jun 5	Approval of the Issues and Lessons Learned in the Suspicious Boats Incident Off the Coast of the Noto Peninsular at a meeting of relevant ministers	Nov 2	The Government of Japan lifts ban on charter aircraft service, one of the sanctions put forth in response to the North Korean missile fired (on August 31, 1998)	Jun 10	U.N. Security Council adopts peace resolution which includes deployment of an international security force (KFOR), including operations in Kosovo
	Aug 5	First Joint Exercise of Search and Rescue Operations between MSDF and ROK Navy (Kyushu western waters)	Nov 15	Failure of H2 rocket launch		
			Nov 22	Governor of Okinawa Prefecture declares the site proposed for the relocation of Futenma Air Station	Jun 15	Exchange of fire between ROK patrol boats and North Korean naval vessels which crossed the Northern Limit Line
	Aug 15	An F-4 EJ crashes (Kyushu western waters, ASDF)				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1999	Aug 16	Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Infrastructure-Building for the Development of Dialogue and Exchanges between the Japanese Defense Agency and the Russian Minister of Defense (Moscow)	Dec 1	Former Prime Minister Murayama and his Mission leave for North Korea. This Mission and the Workers' Party of North Korea sign a joint announcement (through December 3)	Jun 25	Regarding the suspected nuclear facility at Kumchang-ni in North Korea, the U.S. Government releases a report stating that, at present, the activities at Kumchang-ni do not violate the 1994 Framework Agreement
		Exchange of official documents and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of Japan and the U.S. on Japan-U.S. Cooperative Research on Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD)	Dec 14	Japanese Government announces that it will begin preliminary talks for the resumption of normalization negotiations and Red Cross-Red Cross talks on humanitarian issues with North Korea. The Government also announces the cancellation of measures to forgo food assistance for North Korea	Jul 9	Taiwan "President" Lee Teng-hui describes China-Taiwan relations as a "special state-to-state relationship"
	Aug 25	The Law Concerning Measures to Ensure the Peace and Security of Japan in Situations in Areas Surrounding Japan comes into force	Dec 19	Red Cross-Red Cross talks between Japan and North Korea	Aug 10	North Korea makes government statement on Japan-North Korea relations
	Sep 23	SDF personnel dispatched to implement the transportation of necessary resources for international disaster relief operations in the Republic of Turkey (through November 22)	Dec 20	Preliminary talks for the resumption of normalization negotiations with North Korea (through December 21)	Sep 2	North Korea declares the invalidation of the Northern Limit Line in the Yellow Sea and the establishment of a boundary for maritime military affairs
	Sep 25	Agreement to amend the Japan-U.S. Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement between Japan and the United States enters into force	Dec 27	Mayor of Nago City, Okinawa Prefecture announces the acceptance of alternative facilities for Futenma Air Station	Sep 4	Announcement of the result of a residents' poll in East Timor; veto of the autonomy proposal (support for independence) was the overwhelming majority
	Sep 30	SDF personnel dispatched in response to the disaster caused by the uranium processing facilities in Tokaimura (through October 3)	Dec 28	Cabinet Decision on Government Policy for the Relocation of Futenma Air Station	Sep 15	U.N. Security Council adopts the Resolution to Approve the Dispatch of Multinational Forces for East Timor
	Oct 5	Tsutomu Kawara appointed Minister of State for Defense			Sep 24	North Korea announces its intentions to hold high-level talks hereafter and to halt any missile launches during these talks
	Nov 22	SDF personnel dispatched to Indonesia for East Timor Refugees Support (through February 8, 2000)			Sep 29	Russian military unit advances into the Republic of Chechnya
		A T-33A crashes (Iruma River riverbank, ASDF)			Oct 12	The U.S. Government releases the Perry Report
	Dec 17	The Security Council approves the Investigation of Functions Related to In-flight Refueling				Coup in Pakistan; Prime Minister Sharif overthrown
	Dec 27	Formulation of a joint operations manual on suspicious boats for use between the Defense Agency and the Japan Coast Guard			Oct 13	U.S. Senate rejects ratification of CTBT
					Oct 25	U.N. Security Council adopts a resolution for the establishment of the U.N. Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET)
					Dec 17	U.N. Security Council establishes UNMOVIC
					Dec 20	Rule over Macao transferred from Portugal to China

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
1999					Dec 31	Russian President Yeltsin resigns
2000	Mar 22	A T-2 crashes (ASDF, in mountainous area in Onagawacho, Oshikagun, Miyagi Prefecture)	Jan 1	No large-scale damage caused by the Year 2000 computer problem	Jan 4	Italy establishes diplomatic relations with North Korea (first of the G7 to do so)
	Mar 29	Disaster relief dispatch for the eruption of Mount Usu begins	Jan 17	Disposal of anti-personnel mines by civilians begins	Feb 6	Acting Russian President Putin declares the conclusion of operations to capture cities in the Chechen Republic
	Apr 1	SDF Personnel Ethics Code comes into force	Feb 1	Decision to monitor Aum Shinrikyo (renamed Aleph) made; official gazette announced	Feb 9	New Russia-North Korea Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid signed
		Special Land Lease Law Revised by the Decentralization of Power Law comes into force	Feb 16	First assembly of the Research Commissions on the Constitution in the Upper House (Lower House on February 17)	Feb 21	China announces White Paper on the One-China Principle and the Taiwan Issue
		Central Council on Defense Facilities established	Feb 29	Revealed that Aum-affiliated companies were contracted to develop the computer systems for central ministries and agencies, including the Defense Agency and the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, and large companies	Mar 18	"Presidential" elections conducted in Taiwan; Chen Shui-bian of the Democratic Progressive Party elected
	May 8	Defense Agency moves to the Ichigaya building			Mar 26	Russia holds presidential elections; Acting President Putin elected
	Jun 16	The Special Law for Nuclear Emergency Preparedness (Establishment of nuclear disaster relief dispatch) comes into force			Apr 14	Russian Duma ratifies the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty II (START II)
	Jun 27	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to the eruption of Mount Miyake	Mar 16	Policy makers of the three ruling parties propose to the Government to commence considerations on emergency legislation aiming at enactment of bills	May 7	Russian Acting President Putin officially assumes duties as President
	Jun 28	C-1 crashes (ASDF, off Oki islands, Shimane Prefecture)			May 8	Australia and North Korea agree to reopen diplomatic relations
	Jul 4	Kazuo Torashima appointed Minister of State for Defense	Mar 31	17,000 people evacuated following the eruption of Mount Usu. Emergency headquarters established	Jun 13	North-South Korean Summit (through June 15, Pyongyang)
		Two T-4's crash (ASDF, in mountainous area in Oshikamachi, Oshikagun, Miyagi Prefecture)	Apr 4	Ninth plenary session of normalization negotiations between Japan and North Korea (through April 7)	Jul 21	U.S.-Russia summit meeting held, Cooperation on Strategic Stability announced
	Sep 8	Active MSDF official arrested for leaking secret documents to military attaché of Embassy of Russia	Apr 5	Mori Cabinet formed	Jul 31	U.N. Security Council adopts resolution to establish UNMEE
			Jun 16	Her Majesty the Empress Dowager dies	Aug 12	Russian nuclear-powered submarine Kursk sinks
	Sep 11	New Special Measures Agreement concerning the cost sharing of the stationing of U.S. Forces in Japan signed (effective April 1, 2001)	Jul 4	Second Mori Cabinet inaugurated	Aug 23	Secretary General of the U.N. publishes a report on U.N. Peace operations
			Jul 21	Kyushu-Okinawa Summit (through July 23)	Sep 1	U.S. President Bill Clinton postpones decision to deploy NMD system
		Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to heavily concentrated rains in the Tokai region	Aug 15	Tenth plenary session of normalization negotiations between Japan and North Korea (through August 25)	Sep 25	ROK and North Korea hold Defense Ministers Talks (through September 26)
	Sep 13	SDF personnel dispatched to dispose of Abandoned Chemical Weapons (ACW) in Beian, China	Aug 25	Replacement Facilities Council on the Relocation of Futenma Air Station established		
			Oct 30	Eleventh plenary session of normalization negotiations between Japan and North Korea (through October 31)		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2000	Sep 23	GSDF assists in disposal of deteriorated chemical bombs found in Lake Kusshаro (through November 6)	Nov 20	The 22nd Japanese Communist Party Convention decides to accept the SDF	Sep 26	Russian strategic rocket force test-launches SS-27 (through September 27)
	Oct 6	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to 2000 Western Tottori Earthquake	Nov 21	Rejection of no-confidence motion against Mori Administration	Sep 28	Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon forcibly visits sacred site of Islam
	Oct 27	Defense Agency finishes report on Review and Reinforcement of Classified Security System	Dec 5	Second Mori Cabinet reshuffled	Oct 3	Tang Fei resigns as Premier of Taiwan
	Dec 1	Defense Agency announces Outline for Comprehensive Programs by the Defense Agency and the Self-Defense Forces to Adapt to the Information Technology Revolution			Oct 9	Cho Myong-rok, vice chairman of North Korea's National Defense Commission, visits U.S. (through October 12)
	Dec 4	Agreement between Defense Agency and National Public Safety Commission on public order activities revised			Oct 10	U.S. bill to grant China permanent most favored nation status enacted
	Dec 5	Toshitsugu Saito appointed Minister of State for Defense			Oct 11	The Institute for National Strategic Studies announces special report, "The United States and Japan: Advancing toward a mature partnership"
	Dec 15	Security Council of Japan and the Cabinet adopts the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 2001–FY 2005)			Oct 12	U.S. and North Korea announce U.S.-North Korea Joint Communiqué in Yemen, a small boat explodes, causing great damage to U.S. Navy destroyer USS Cole
					Oct 13	China carries out high-tech drill exercises
					Oct 23	Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visits North Korea (through October 25)
					Nov 9	Conference on Russian Security decides to reduce personnel of the Federation Army by 325,000 by 2005
					Dec 28	President Clinton decides not to visit North Korea
2001	Jan 6	Bureau of Finance and Equipment and Central Contract Office established	Jan 6	Reorganization of Government ministries and agencies into Cabinet Office and 12 ministries and agencies	Jan 15	North Korean General Secretary Kim Jong Il makes unofficial visit to China (through January 20)
	Feb 5	SDF units dispatched to India for International Disaster Relief Operation (through February 11)	Jan 19	Okinawa prefectural assembly passes a resolution demanding a cut back in the strength of the U.S. Marines	Jan 20	George W. Bush becomes president of the U.S.
	Feb 9	Personnel dispatched to UNMOVIC	Jan 25	Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces report on misappropriation of secret funds		Gloria Macapagal Arroyo becomes president of the Philippines
	Feb 14	OH-6D and AH-1S crash (GSDF, Amoda, Ichihara, Chiba Prefecture)	Feb 10	The Ehime Maru, a training boat from Ehime Prefecture Uwajima Fisheries High School sinks off Hawaii after collision with U.S. submarine	Mar 7	Sharon Administration is inaugurated in Israel
		Russian military aircraft, including Tu-22M Backfires, intrude into Japanese territorial airspace			Mar 26	ROK joins Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)
					Apr 1	Collision between U.S. and Chinese military planes
	Mar 1	The Ship Inspection Operations Law comes into effect			Apr 22	Taiwan's former "President" Lee Teng-hui visits Japan to receive treatment for heart disease

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2001	Mar 7	Former MSDF official gets prison sentence for leaking secret documents to military attache of Embassy of Russia	Feb 27	Special U.S. envoy sent to Japan in relation to Ehime Maru incident	Apr 24	U.S. presents a list of weapons it is capable of selling to Taiwan
	Mar 24	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to Geiyo Earthquake	Apr 1	Information Disclosure Act (IDA) comes into force	May 1	U.S. President Bush gives speech on missile defense at the National Defense University
	Apr 11	The Round-Table discussion on Biological Weapons submits proposal to Director-General of Defense Agency	Apr 26	Koizumi Cabinet formed	May 8	New Zealand announces new national defense plan
	Apr 11	Russian military aircraft, including Su-24, intrude into Japanese territorial airspace	May 3	Suspected North Koreans detained (on suspicion of illegal entry on a falsified passport)	Jun 6	U.S. completes review of policy toward North Korea
	Apr 26	Gen Nakatani appointed Minister of State for Defense	May 9	Two Japanese are suspected of spying (taking DNA information out of a U.S. medical institution)	Jun 15	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) established
	Jun 25	Accidental machine gun firing of an F-4 aircraft (near the Hokkaido Shimamatsu Training Range, ASDF)	May 15	The three daughters of the former Red Army members involved in the hijacking of JAL plane "Yodo" return form North Korea	Jun 20	Taiwan test-fires surface-to-air missiles PAC-2
	Aug 8	Release of disaster dispatch order for submarine rescue ship Chihaya for salvage cooperation of the Ehime Maru (the Chihaya departs Kure on August 10 and returns on December 16)	Jun 28	Defense Ministry Bill presented to the House of Representatives by Diet members	Jul 3	EP-3 returned to U.S. after collision with PLA Naval Air Force jet fighter
	Sep 7	FH-70 type Howitzer accidentally lands outside the GSDF maneuver area at Mt. Nunobiki, Shirakawa, Fukushima Prefecture	Jul 13	Ruled on suit disclosing materials and information for Naha JSDF facilities (Supreme Court denied the State's eligibility as a plaintiff)	Jul 14	First anti-ballistic missile test since U.S. President Bush takes office is successful
	Sep 14	T-5 crashes (MSDF, mountainous area around Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture)	Aug 13	Prime Minister Koizumi visits Yasukuni Shrine	Jul 15	Pakistani President Musharraf visits India and holds meeting with Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee
	Sep 21	First Meeting of the Committee to Consider the Modality of National Defense	Aug 29	National Space Development Agency (NASDA) successfully launches domestically produced large-size H2A rocket	Jul 16	China-Russia Summit held, Good Neighbourly Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation signed
	Oct 6	International Peace cooperation for the Relief of Afghan Refugees (Afghan refugee air transport unit delivers relief material to the UNHCR in Islamabad on October 9 and returns on October 12)	Sep 19	Prime Minister Koizumi announces immediate measures consisting of seven items in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks in the U.S.	Jul 23	President Megawati Soekarnoputri becomes the fifth President of Indonesia
			Sep 27	153rd extraordinary Diet session (through December 7)	Aug 4	Russia-North Korea Summit held, signing of "Moscow Declaration"
			Oct 5	Cabinet adopts the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Bill	Aug 22	NATO to collect and dispose of weapons and ammunition in Macedonia (through September 26)
			Oct 8	Government of Japan establishes the Emergency Anti-Terrorism Headquarters and decides upon Emergency Response Measures at the First Meeting	Sep 3	President and CCP General Secretary Jiang Zemin visits North Korea (through September 5)
					Sep 11	Terrorist attacks in the U.S. occur (two airplanes crash into the World Trade Center and one into the Pentagon, killing thousands)
					Sep 12	U.N. Security Council passes resolution condemning the terrorist attacks

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2001	Nov 2	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and Law to Amend the Self-Defense Forces Law (guarding operations, use of weapons in peacetime for guarding SDF facilities, information-gathering before a public security operation is ordered, enhanced authority in use of weapons while in public security operation and maritime security operation, strengthening penalties to ensure secrecy (defense secrets)) are promulgated and enforced (strengthening penalties to ensure secrecy is separately enforced on November 1, 2002)	Oct 29	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law and other measures passed in the House of Councillors plenary session	Sep 14	Australia decides to invoke the right of collective self-defense under the ANZUS Treaty
	Nov 9	SDF warship dispatched to the Indian Ocean for information-gathering	Nov 7	U.S. Navy calls off the in-ship search of the Ehime Maru	Sep 15	East Timor Constituent Assembly is established
	Nov 25	Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, an MSDF supply vessel, minesweeper tender, and destroyers depart for cooperation and support activities	Nov 8	Four people, including the former chairman of the Korean Bank Tokyo Credit Union, arrested under suspicion of inspection avoidance	Sep 24	President Putin of Russia announces five measures to support the U.S. regarding the September 11 terrorist attacks
	Nov 29	Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, ASDF begins aerial transportation between USFJ bases	Nov 16	A Cabinet Decision is made for a basic plan based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law	Oct 1	U.S. announces Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR)
	Dec 2	Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, MSDF supply vessels begin refueling U.S. warships in the Indian Ocean	Nov 28	Six former management members including the executive director, former financial officer and former board chairman of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryon) arrested for embezzlement charges; Chongryon headquarters searched after the arrests (November 29)	Oct 2	In response to the September 11 terrorist attacks in the U.S., NATO invokes Article 5 (on collective self-defense) of the North Atlantic Treaty
		Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, ASDF begins aerial transportation outside Japan	Dec 1	Her Imperial Highness Princess Aiko is born to Their Imperial Highnesses The Crown Prince and Crown Princess	Oct 7	U.S. and U.K. forces begin attacks in Afghanistan
	Dec 2	Considerations are implemented by the GSDF, USFJ and personnel defending USFJ facilities, etc. (through December 14)	Dec 22	Japan Coast Guard fires at Suspicious boat off the southwest coast of Kyushu; the suspicious boat sank	Oct 19	U.S. forces throw out the U.S. Special Operation Forces, the first ground attack
	Dec 6	Considerations are implemented by the GSDF, USFJ and personnel defending USFJ facilities, etc. (through December 14)			Nov 9	Afghanistan's Northern Alliance takes control of Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan
					Nov 13	Northern Alliance takes control of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan; U.S.-Russia Summit held, President George W. Bush announces policy to cut strategic nuclear weapons to between 1,700 and 2,200 over the next ten years
					Nov 24	ROK implements missile testing
					Nov 27	Fire breaks out in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) of the Korean peninsula
					Dec 1	Taiwan's ruling Democratic Progress Party, led by "President" Chen Shui-bian, wins majority in legislative election
					Dec 3	U.S. is successful in missile defense testing
					Dec 5	U.S. and Russia complete implementation of START I Agreement on Afghanistan Interim Authority (outside Bonn, Germany)
					Dec 7	Anti-Taliban force in Afghanistan takes over Kandahar

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2001	Dec 14	A bill is introduced to partially amend the Law Concerning Cooperation for U.N. PKOs and Other Operations (expansion of defense objectives to use weapons, the absolution of the exemption from Article 95 of the Self-Defense Forces Law and the absolution of the freeze on Peacekeeping Force headquarter activities)			Dec 13	U.S. informs Russia of its withdrawal from the ABM Treaty
						Assault on the Indian Parliament
					Dec 20	U.N. Security Council adopts a resolution establishing an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)
					Dec 22	Afghanistan Interim Authority formed, with Mr. Hamid Karzai serving as Chairman
		Security Council approves the Selection of In-flight Refueling Transportation Aircraft Type			Dec 29	Russia withdraws troops from its base in Cuba
2002	Jan 15	22nd Japan-U.S. Systems & Technology Forum (Hawaii)	Jan 9	Prime Minister Koizumi visits Southeast Asian countries	Jan 4	U.S. Department of Defense announces reorganization of the Office of Ballistic Missile Defense into Missile Defense Agency
	Jan 29	Based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law, MSDF supply vessels begin refueling U.K. warships in the Indian Ocean	Feb 17	U.S. President Bush visits Japan	Jan 8	U.S. Department of Defense submits the Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) to Congress
			Feb 18	Japan-U.S. Summit held	Jan 15	American and Filipino troops initiate joint-military exercises called “Balikatan 02-1” (through July 31)
	Feb 8	Japan-U.S. Vice Ministerial Defense Consultations (Wasington)	Mar 6	Kanazawa District Court ruled on the third and fourth suits relating to jet noise at Komatsu Air Base (appeal hearing since March 19)	Jan 21	International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan (through January 22, Tokyo)
	Feb 13	Thirteenth Golan Heights Dispatch SDF Transport Unit replaces the Twelfth unit	Mar 14	Japan-Pakistan Summit held	Jan 25	India test fires Agni, ballistic missile
			Mar 18	Japan-ROK Summit held	Jan 29	U.S. President Bush depicts “Axis of Evil” in the State of the Union Address
	Feb 18	Ten command personnel dispatched for International Peace Cooperation assignment in East Timor	Apr 12	Supreme Court rejected an appeal for the New Yokota Air Base Suit	Feb 5	Indonesia resumes military deployment in Aceh after 17 years
			Apr 16	Cabinet Decision on the bill to amend the Law on the Establishment of the Security Council of Japan, the bill to respond to Armed Attacks and the bill to amend the Self-Defense Forces Law	Feb 22	The Government of Sri Lanka and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) agree on an indefinite cease-fire
	Feb 20	Japan-France Defense Summit held (Nakatani-Richard, Tokyo)			Mar 7	U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan reopens dialogue with Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri (for the first time since February 2001)
	Feb 24	Organization of the First Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor is completed	Apr 27	Prime Minister Koizumi visits Southeast Asian countries and Oceania	Mar 29	Israeli Army confines Chairman Arafat (until May 2)
	Mar 2	680 SDF personnel dispatched on the First Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor	May 17	Cabinet Decision on the extension of the Basic Plan for providing military support to the counter-terrorism campaign (the plan will remain in effect until November 19)	Apr 14	East Timor holds presidential election; Mr. Xanana Gusmao is elected
	Mar 7	2 OH-6Ds crash (GSDF, Kokonoe-machi, Kusu-gun, Oita Prefecture)	May 30	Hachioji Branch of Tokyo District Court ruled on the fifth, sixth and seventh suits relating to jet noise at Yokota Air Base (appeal hearing since June 12)		
			May 31	FIFA World Cup 2002 Korea/Japan is held		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2002	Mar 27	Implementation of law to partially amend the Defense Agency Establishment Law and Self-Defense Forces Law (to change the authorized strength of SDF personnel and ready reserve personnel, the Introduction of Candidate for Reserve Personnel, and disaster call-up for reserve personnel)	Jun 11	The Investigation Report of the Incident Related to the List of People Requesting Information Disclosure Compiled and Distributed by a Lieutenant Commander working for the Maritime Staff Office is disclosed for the said incident that occurred in the Defense Agency	May 4	Russian Army returns Cam Ranh Naval Base to Viet Nam
					May 6	Military government of Myanmar lifts house arrest of Aung San Suu Kyi
					May 20	Independence of East Timor, with Mr. Xanana Gusmao becoming the country's first president
						The United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) switches to the United Nations Mission Support in East Timor (UNMISET)
	Mar 28	Japan-Canada Defense Summit held (Nakatani-Eggleton, Tokyo)	Jun 25	Japan-U.S. Summit held		
			Jul 1	Japan-ROK Summit held		
			Jul 8	Japan-EU Summit held		
	Apr 1	Development of the Independent Administrative Institution for USFJ Employees Labor Management	Jul 29	9th Meeting (i.e. final meeting) of the Consultative Body on Futenma Replacement Facility (CFR) is held	May 20	ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Anti-Terrorism (through May 21, Kuala Lumpur)
					May 24	U.S.-Russia Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions signed
	Apr 5	Minister of State for Defense gives orders concerning considerations for joint operations		Basic Plan of the Futenma Replacement Facility agreed		
			Jul 31	Ordinary Diet session closes Three Armed Attack situation response related bills are carried over	May 25	Pakistan test-fires Ghauri missile
	Apr 20	Japan-ROK Defense Summit held (Nakatani-Kim, Seoul)			May 28	NATO-Russia Summit reaches formal agreement to establish NATO-Russia Council
			Sep 11	Suspicious ship raised from the sea floor, in which a small boat is discovered in a hold (offshore Amami Oshima Island)		
	Apr 22	2nd Western Pacific Submarine Rescue Exercise held (the first multilateral exercise organized by Japan, through May 2)			Jun 11	Emergency Loya Jirga to decide a framework for the transitional administration held in Afghanistan (through June 19)
			Sep 17	Japan-North Korea Summit held		
	Apr 29	Prime Minister Koizumi visits PKO unit in East Timor		Kim Jong-Il, the North Korean President, admits and apologizes for abductions	Jun 13	U.S. officially withdraws from the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty
	Apr 30	First dispatch of SDF engineering group to East Timor (680 members) responsible for taking over the work from the Bangladeshi battalion			Jun 29	Exchanges of fire between ROK patrol boats and North Korean patrol boats which crossed the NLL
			Sep 22	Japan-ROK Summit held		
			Sep 30	Cabinet reshuffle		
			Oct 13	First International Fleet Review in Japan (Tokyo Bay)	Jul 16	U.S. Government announces National Strategy For Homeland Security
	May 1	Minister of State for Defense Nakatani inspects an SDF ship dispatched to the India Ocean (through May 5)	Oct 15	5 Those abducted return to Japan to see their families again after 24 years	Jul 18	U.K. announces A New Chapter to the Strategic Defense Review (SDR)
			Oct 16	Yokohama District Court ruled on the third, fourth and fifth suits relating to jet noise at Astugi Air Base (appeal hearing since October 29)	Aug 23	Russia-North Korea Summit held (Vladivostok)
	May 13	Japan-U.S.-ROK Trilateral Coordination and Oversight Group (TCOG) meeting in Tokyo			Aug 25	Chinese Government announces the regulations for export and control of missile-related technology
			Oct 23	APEC Summit held		
	May 14	Japan-U.S. Vice Ministerial Level Defense Conference (Tokyo)	Oct 26	Japan-U.S.-ROK Summit held		
			Oct 27	Japan-China Summit held		
			Oct 31	Naha Branch of Fukuoka High Court ruled on suit dispossessing the land at Sobe Communication Site (appeal hearing since November 13)	Sep 4	Sri Lanka rescinds criminalization of the LTTE
	May 28	Japan-U.K. Defense summit held (Nakatani-Hoon, Tokyo)			Sep 5	Assassination of President Karzai, Afghanistan is attempted
					Sep 12	U.S. President Bush makes a statement about Iraq at the U.N. meeting
			Nov 4	Japan-China-ROK-ASEAN Summit held		

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2002	Jun 1	Minister of State for Defense Nakatani participates in the IISS Asia Security Conference (sponsored by the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Singapore) (through June 2)	Nov 19	A Cabinet Decision is made for revision of a basic plan based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law (Dispatch is extended to May 19, 2003)	Sep 16	Jammu and Kashmir State Assembly Election is held (through Oct 8)
	Jun 24	Pacific Rim Exercise (RIMPAC 2002) (through Jul 23)	Nov 21	His Imperial Highness Prince Takamadonomiya Norihito passes away	Sep 20	U.S. Government announces the National Security Strategy
	Jul 9	Japan-India Defense Summit Meeting (Nakatani-Fernandes, Tokyo)	Dec 12	Three Armed Attack situation response related bills are carried over	Oct 1	U.S. Department of Defense establishes the Northern Command (NORTHCOM)
	Jul 29	1st Japan-U.K. Military to Military Talks	Dec 13	Secretaries general and chairmen of the policy research councils of three ruling parties propose to the Government to enact emergency legislation soon	Oct 3	Assistant Secretary of State Kelly visits North Korea (through Oct 5)
	Aug 14	Fourteenth Golan Heights Dispatch SDF Transport Unit replaces the Thirteenth Unit			Oct 10	China and Kyrgyz carry out anti-terrorism joint exercise (through Oct 11)
	Sep 11	Second Joint Exercise of Search and Rescue Operations between MSDF and ROK Navy (through Sep 13)			Oct 11	U.S. Congress passes the resolution to allow the use of force against Iraq
	Sep 20	Second Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor replaces the First Group			Oct 12	Terrorist bombing breaks out in Bali
	Sep 30	Ishiba appointed Minister of State for Defense			Oct 16	U.S. Government announces that North Korea admitted the fact that they had a uranium enrichment plan for nuclear weapons when Assistant Secretary of State Kelly visited North Korea
	Oct 1	One personnel dispatched to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) (as an Operation and Planning Director)			Oct 16	Indian Government announces the partial withdrawal of its units deployed on its border with Pakistan
	Oct 15	Multilateral search and rescue exercise (Southern Kanto waters and Sagami Bay)			Oct 17	Pakistani Government announces withdrawal of its units deployed on its border with India
	Oct 20	ASDF troop review (Hyakuri)			Oct 23	Chechen guerillas seize the Dubrovka Theater in Moscow
	Nov 1	Law to Amend the Self-Defense Forces Law, which strengthens penalties to ensure secrecy, is enforced			Oct 25	North Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs announces remarks proposing the U.S. to enter into a non-aggression treaty
	Nov 12	Fourth Coordinating Committee			Nov 8	U.N. Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1441 on Iraq
	Nov 14	Japan-ROK Defense Summit Meeting (Ishiba-Lee, Tokyo)			Nov 8	16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, 2002 held (through Nov 14)
	Nov 18	SDF and police authority hold joint command post exercise in Hokkaido			Nov 13	Iraq accepts the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1441
					Nov 14	KEDO Executive Board decides to freeze provision of heavy oil to North Korea

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2002	Dec 1	Law to Amend the Law Concerning Allowances, etc. of Defense Agency Personnel (amendment to the decrease in allowances) is enforced			Nov 15	First Plenary Session of the 16th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held Hu Jintao is elected as General Secretary
	Dec 2	One person dispatched to Planning and Control Team, Military Division, Department of Peace-keeping Operations (U.N. DPKO) (New York)			Nov 21	NATO Summit decides new membership for seven countries in Central and Eastern Europe, announces the Prague Declaration, and agrees to establish its high-readiness unit
	Dec 16	Kirishima, vessel equipped with Aegis air defense systems, departs the port of Yokosuka, according to revision (Dec 6) in the Implementation Plan based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law			Nov 21	U.S.-Russia Summit held
					Nov 27	U.N. Inspection Team visits Baghdad to resume inspections after four years
					Nov 27	Dispatch of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) is extended for a further year
	Dec 17	Security Consultative Committee (SCC) meeting (Kawaguchi, Ishiba, Powell, Wolfowitz, Washington) Japan-U.S. Defense Summit (Ishiba-Rumsfeld, Washington)			Nov 29	IAEA Board of Governors decides to request North Korea to accept nuclear inspection
					Dec 4	Serious rioting breaks out in Dili, East Timor
					Dec 5	Peace negotiation process in Sri Lanka reaches an agreement to establish a federation system
					Dec 7	Iraq submits a report to the U.N. on its plan for development of weapons of mass destruction
					Dec 12	North Korea announces it will resume operation and establishment of nuclear-related facilities
					Dec 13	EU Summit decides new membership for ten countries in Eastern Europe
					Dec 17	Parties in the civil war in Democratic Republic of Congo agree a peace treaty
					Dec 17	U.S. announces deployment of a missile defense system
					Dec 19	In the presidential election in ROK, Roh Moo-hyun from the Millennium Democratic Party, the country's ruling party, is elected as a president
					Dec 31	IAEA inspectors leave North Korea
2003	Jan 14	Japan-Russia Defense Summit Meeting (Ishiba-Ivanov, Moscow)	Jan 17	Cabinet decision made for revision of implementatation plan on international peace cooperation activities in Golan Heights	Jan 1	EU police units are established in Bosnia and Herzegovina and other areas
					Jan 8	India test fires Agni

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2003	Feb 8	Antipersonnel landmines possessed by the SDF are all disposed of (with some exceptions)	Mar 28	Cabinet Decision made for preparation of a plan to carry out an international peace and cooperation activity for Iraqi refugee relief	Jan 10	North Korea announces it is leaving the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)
	Feb 20	23rd meeting of the Japan-U.S. System and Technology Forum is held (Tokyo)	May 8	Tokyo District Court pronounces Ueno, the defendant, guilty of a breach of trust, etc.	Jan 24	Relevant parties of Ivory Coast disputes sign peace agreement
	Feb 26	Fifteenth Golan Heights Dispatch SDF Transport Unit replaces the Fourteenth Unit	May 9	Cabinet Decision made for revision of a basic plan based on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law (Dispatch extended to Nov 1, 2003)	Jan 24	U.S. Department of Homeland Security established
	Mar 13	Ceremony held to deliver goods to East Timor PKO Third Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor replaces the Second Group	May 13	Tokyo District Court, Hachioji branch, rules on 4th and 8th lawsuit over noise at Yokota Air Base (Appeal hearing from May 26)	Jan 27	UNMOVIC and IAEA present progress report on inspections in Iraq
	Mar 27	Law to Partially Amend the Defense Agency Establishment Law is enforced (concerning the change of the authorized strength of SDF uniformed personnel and Ready Reserve Personnel)	Jun 6	Three Armed Attack situation response related laws are passed at the Upper House plenary session and enacted	Jan 28	U.S. President Bush makes State of the Union Address
		Agreement (7th Agreement) to use Kitafuji Maneuver Area concluded	Jun 7	Japan-ROK Summit held	Feb 5	U.S. Secretary of State Powell submits evidence of Iraqi infringements found at the inspections to the U.N. Security Council
	Mar 29	Japan-ROK Defense Summit Meeting (Ishiba-Cho, Seoul)	Jun 13	Cabinet decision made regarding the bill concerning Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq	Feb 5	Eight countries in Eastern Europe make a joint declaration to support U.S. President Bush and U.S. policy on Iraq
	Mar 30	International peace and cooperation activities are conducted for relief of Iraqi refugees (Airborne unit for Iraqi refugee relief delivers materials to UNHCR in Amman on March 31, returning to Japan on Apr 2)	Jun 20	Cabinet decision made for revision of the implementation plan on international peace cooperation activities in East Timor	Feb 14	UNMOVIC and IAEA present progress report on inspections in Iraq
	Apr 11	Japan-Russia Defense Summit Meeting (Ishiba-Ivanov, Tokyo)	Jul 4	Cabinet decision made regarding the implementation plan on international peace cooperation activities for relief of affected people in Iraq	Feb 17	Moro Islamic Liberation Front rejects resumption of peace negotiations with the Philippine Government
	Apr 21	ASDF in-flight refueling training Meeting (through May 1)	Jul 26	Law concerning the Special Measures on Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq passed the House of Councilors plenary session	Feb 20	North Korean MIG 19 crosses northern borderline
	May 4	Japan-India Defense Summit Meeting (Ishiba-Fernandes, Delhi)	Jul 29	Cabinet decision made for revision of implementation plan on international peace cooperation activities in Golan Heights	Feb 24	At the U.N. Security Council unofficial meeting, U.S., U.K., and Spain submit a new resolution draft to accept the use of force against Iraq, while France, Germany, and Russia submit a memorandum stipulating a four-month extension of U.N. inspections
	May 31	Minister of State for Defense Ishiba participates in the IISS Asia Security Conference (sponsored by the International Institute for Strategic Studies and held in Singapore) (through June 1)	Sep 14	Government survey mission dispatched to Middle East countries, including Iraq	Feb 24	North Korea launches a surface-to-ship missile
	Jun 2	Defence Minister Ishiba holds talks with U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defence Wolfowitz in Japan			Feb 25	Roh Moo-hyun is elected as 16th President of South Korea.
					Feb 28	2nd Sharon Administration is established
					Mar 2	A North Korean fighter approaches and pursues a U.S. reconnaissance aircraft
					Mar 4	Terrorist bombing Davao International Airport, Philippines; Abu Sayyaf claims responsibility

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2003	Jul 7	Airborne unit for relief of affected people in Iraq, etc. formed	Sep 30	Cabinet decides to newly establish, in its decoration system, an award for people	Mar 7	UNMOVIC and IAEA present an additional report on inspections in Iraq
	Jul 17	International peace and cooperation activities are conducted for relief of affected people in Iraq (Airborne unit delivers relief materials from Italy to Amman, through August 12) (All personnel returned on August 18)		engaged in dangerous activities	Mar 7	At the U.N. Security Council meeting for foreign affairs officials, the U.S., U.K., and Spain submit a revised resolution draft to request Iraq to disarm itself of weapons of mass destruction
			Oct 7	Joint communiqué signed for the first time at Japan-China-ROK Summit meeting		
			Oct 10	Dissolution of the House of Representatives	Mar 14	U.S. President Bush announces lifting of economic sanctions against Pakistan
			Oct 10	"The Defense Ministry Establishment Bill" was scrapped concurrently with the dissolution of the House of Representatives.		
	Jul 19	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to heavily concentrated rains in the Kyushu region (through July 26)			Mar 15	China's National People's Congress elects Hu Jintao as its President, while Ziang Zemin remains as chairman of the Central Military Commission
			Oct 21	Cabinet decision made for revision of the basic plan on the Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law (Dispatch period extended to May 1, 2004)		
	Jul 26	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to earthquake in northern part of Miyagi prefecture			Mar 17	U.S. and U.K. give up adopting the revised resolution draft on Iraq at U.N. Security Council
					Mar 20	U.S. and U.K. forces begin military operations in Iraq
	Aug 26	Japan-New Zealand Defense Summit held (Ishiba-Burton, Tokyo)	Oct 24	Foreign Minister Kawaguchi announces five billion dollars worth of assistance at the International Donors' Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq in Spain	Mar 26	India and Pakistan conduct experiments with short-range ballistic missiles
	Sep 3	Japan-China Defense Summit held (Ishiba-Cao, Beijing)			Mar 31	NATO is succeeded by EU as command authority for peace-keeping operations in Macedonia
	Sep 10	Sixteenth Golan Heights Dispatch SDF Transport Unit replaces the Fifteenth Unit				
			Nov 9	General election of lawmakers of the House of Representatives	Apr 2	ROK adopts the resolution in its Diet session to dispatch troops to Iraq
	Sep 11	Ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Memorial Zone	Nov 14	Prime Minster Koizumi meets with U.S. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld in Tokyo	Apr 21	Sri Lanka and LTTE notify halt of peace negotiations
	Sep 26	Disaster relief dispatch conducted in response to Tokachi-oki earthquake (through October 3)			Apr 23	U.S.-North Korea-China trilateral consultations held (Beijing) (through Apr 25)
			Nov 19	Second Koizumi Cabinet formed		
	Sep 29	Japan-Australia Defense Summit held (Ishiba-Hill, Tokyo)	Nov 29	November 29 Ambassador Oku and First Secretary Inoue shot to death in the central region of Iraq	Apr 28	India-Pakistan Summit teleconference held
	Oct 7	Japan-Mongolia Defense Summit held(Ishiba-Gurragchaa)			Apr 29	India tests launch of the Prithvi surface-to-surface missile
			Dec 9	Extraordinary cabinet meeting decides a basic plan on (Dispatch period: by December 14, 2004)	Apr 29	Palestine Legislative Council approves the authority-controlled cabinet headed by President Abbas, PLO chairman
	Oct 10	Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law remains in force for another two years				
	Oct 23	Fourth Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor replaces the Third Group			Apr 30	U.S., Russia, U.N., and EU present Roadmap to Israeli-Palestinian peace, as a new peace process for Palestine
	Oct 26	Fleet Review (Sagami Bay)				
	Nov 3	Former SDF officials decorated for their engagement in dangerous activities			May 1	U.S. President Bush declares termination of major military operations in Iraq
	Nov 15	Japan-U.S. Defense Summit held (Ishiba-Rumsfeld, Tokyo)				
	Nov 15	SDF special research group dispatched to Iraq				
	Nov 26	Japan-ROK Defense Summit held (Ishiba-Cho, Tokyo)				

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2003	Dec 18	Defense Agency formulates implementation guideline for Law concerning Humanitarian and Reconstruction Assistance in Iraq			May 1	U.S. Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld declares termination of major military operations in Afghanistan
					May 14	U.S.-ROK Summit held
					May 22	U.N. Security Council Resolution adopted by a large majority to allow member states to give assistance for reconstruction of Iraq
	Dec 19	Government decides to introduce ballistic missile defense system (Security Council of Japan and cabinet meeting)				
					May 31	Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) proposed by U.S. President for the first time
	Dec 19	Order issued to GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF concerning implementation of response measures based on the Humanitarian Relief and Iraqi Reconstruction Special Measures Law			Jun 1	U.S.-Russia Summit meeting held and the strategic offensive reductions treaty between U.S. and Russia ratified
					Jun 23	China and India sign a statement concerning the bilateral and comprehensive cooperation principles
	Dec 24	Ceremony to confer guidons to ASDF airborne unit for reconstruction assistance to Iraq, etc.			Jul 13	Iraq's Governing Council inaugurated
	Dec 26	ASDF advance team personnel leave for Kuwait			Jul 24	Australian-led peacekeeping missions to the Solomon Islands begin
	Dec 30	Relief materials transported by air in response to great earthquake in Iran under the Law concerning the Dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief Teams (delivering relief materials at Kerman, Iran on January 1 and 2, and returning home on January 5 and 6)			Aug 1	U.N. Security Council adopts a resolution to dispatch a multinational force to Liberia
					Aug 3	North Korea holds the 11th Supreme People's Assembly election
					Aug 5	Suicide bombing against U.S. affiliated-hotel in Jakarta
					Aug 6	Shanghai Cooperation Organization holds joint anti-terrorism military maneuvers (through August 12)
					Aug 11	North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) takes over command of International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) from Germany and Netherlands
					Aug 18	Large-scale exercises held in Far Eastern region in Russia
					Aug 19	Suicide bombing on U.N. headquarters in Baghdad
					Aug 25	A series of terrorist bombings in Mumbai
					Aug 27	U.S. Air Force ends military activities at Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia
					Aug 27	First Six-Party Talks held (through August 29)
					Sep 1	China announces reduction of force by 200,000 soldiers

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2003					Sep 3	North Korea convenes the first meeting of the 11th Supreme People's Assembly
					Sep 9	North Korea marks the 55th anniversary of its founding
					Sep 12	U.N. Security Council adopts Resolution 1506 to lift the sanctions imposed against Libya since 1992, including the ban on all airline services and embargo of oil related goods
					Sep 12	First joint naval exercise held in the Coral Sea off the northeastern coast of Australia under the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) (through September 14)
					Sep 23	U.S.-France Summit held (New York)
					Sep 24	Germany-France-Russia summit held (New York)
					Oct 2	North Korean Foreign Ministry announces it has finished reprocessing spent nuclear fuel rods
					Oct 2	Russian Defense Ministry announces "The priority tasks of the Development of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation"
					Oct 3	Pakistan test-fires "Ghaznavi"
					Oct 8	Pakistan test-fires "Shaheen-1"
					Oct 15	China becomes the third country to successfully launch a manned spacecraft into orbit, following the United States and the former Soviet Union
					Oct 16	UNSC unanimously adopts Resolution 1511 on the reconstruction of Iraq
					Oct 23	International Donors' Conference for the Reconstruction of Iraq (Madrid) (through October 24)
					Oct 23	Russia establishes air force base in Kyrgyz
					Oct 29	NATO Secretary General Robertson visits Russia (through October 30)
					Nov 6	Russia-E.U. Summit held (Rome)
					Nov 8	Terrorist bombing at a housing compound at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
					Nov 12	Suicide bombing on Italian Force in southern Iraq
					Nov 12	Autonomous Palestinian government led by Ahmed Qureia formally inaugurated

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2003					Nov 15	Terrorist bombings of Jewish synagogues in Istanbul, Turkey
					Nov 20	Terrorist bombings of the British Consulate building in Istanbul, Turkey
					Nov 23	In Georgian parliament, opposition power forces President Shevardnadze to resign; former Speaker of the parliament serves as acting president
					Nov 24	U.S. President Bush makes a statement about emphasis on consultation with allies in connection with global posture review of U.S. forces
					Nov 26	Kashmir ceasefire agreement comes into force
					Nov 26	Denouncing Iran for its undeclared nuclear activities, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) board of governors unanimously adopts resolution to welcome its proactive cooperation
					Nov 27	U.S. President Bush visits Iraq
					Nov 28	Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) conference adopts protocol that calls for preventive and technical measures (with particular reference to cluster bombs) to minimize unexploded bombs and users' cooperation to collect them
					Dec 1	German Chancellor Schroeder visits China (through December 4)
					Dec 3	China issues White Paper on China's Non-Proliferation Policy and Measures
					Dec 4	Australia decides to participate in missile defense program
					Dec 5	First meeting of advisory committee on comprehensive U.N. reform held
					Dec 9	EU delegation visits North Korea
					Dec 11	ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit (Tokyo) (through December 12)
					Dec 13	U.S. forces capture former President Hussein in Iraq
					Dec 14	Attempted assassination of Pakistani President Musharraf (also attempted on December 25)
					Dec 18	Iran signs IAEA agreement
					Dec 19	Libya announces abandonment of weapons of mass destruction program
					Dec 26	Massive earthquake strikes Iran

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2004	Jan 9	Dispatch order issued to GSDF advance team and main ASDF unit	Feb 9	Implementation of response measures approved in Diet	Jan 4	In Afghanistan, new constitution adopted in the constitutional Loya Girga (Grand Assembly)
	Jan 11	Defense Minister Ishiba visits U.K., Netherlands, and France (through Jan. 16)	Feb 24	U.N. Secretary General Annan addresses the Japanese Diet	Jan 4	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Summit held (Islamabad)
	Jan 16	Ceremony to confer guidons to GSDF unit for reconstruction assistance to Iraq; unit leaves for Iraq	Feb 25	East Timor President Gusmao visits Defense Agency of Japan	Jan 12	U.S.-India announces plan called the Next Steps in Strategic Partnership
	Jan 16	Cabinet decision made for revision of implementation plan on international peace cooperation activities in Golan Heights	Mar 9	Cabinet decision made on seven bills on legislation concerning contingency response measures and three conventions required for Diet's approval	Jan 15	Secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization established
	Jan 22	Main ASDF unit leaves (Second team, on January 26)	Apr 8	Japanese hostages taken in Iraq	Jan 25	Mr. Saakashvili inaugurated as Georgia's new president
	Jan 26	GSDF first group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq formed; dispatch order issued to main GSDF unit	Apr 20	Council for security and defense capabilities established (first meeting held on April 27)	Feb 4	Pakistani government admits Dr. Khan's involvement in suspected nuclear technology proliferation issues, but denies government's involvement
	Feb 1	Ceremony to confer guidons to GSDF first group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq, etc. (main GSDF unit)	Apr 23	Cabinet decision made for revision of basic plan on Anti-Terrorism Special Measures Law (Dispatch is extended to November 1, 2004)	Feb 4	Australia publishes "Defence Capability Plan 2004-2014"
	Feb 3	Advance team of main GSDF unit leaves for Iraq	May 22	Japan-North Korea Summit held (Pyongyang)	Feb 16	India-Pakistan composite dialogue (through February 18)
	Feb 14	Dispatch maritime transport unit leaves (Kure)		5 abductees return to Japan	Feb 18	Russian President Putin mentions development of new type of missiles
	Feb 16	Dispatch maritime transport unit leaves (Yokosuka)	Jun 14	Seven bills on legislation concerning contingency response measures passed in Upper House plenary session and conclusion of three treaties approved	Feb 25	Second Six-Party Talks held (Beijing) (through February 28)
	Feb 21	First team of main GSDF unit leaves			Feb 29	Haitian President Aristide resigns
	Mar 3	ASDF begins transport activities; medical equipment, etc. transported by air from Kuwait to Iraq			Mar 2	Terrorist bombings occur in the midst of the Shiite holy Ashura rituals in Karbala and Baghdad
	Mar 3	Seventeenth Golan Heights Dispatch SDF Transport Unit replaces Sixteenth Unit			Mar 5	China's National People's Congress held, and "three representatives" theory, private property rights, etc. specified in the constitution
	Mar 4	Epidemic prevention activities conducted in response to outbreak of avian influenza in Tanba-cho, Kyoto (disaster relief dispatch) (through March 11)			Mar 8	Russia-NATO joint Command Post Exercises held (Colorado Springs) (through March 12)
	Mar 13	Second team of main GSDF unit leaves			Mar 9	Pakistan test-fires "Shaheen-2"
	Mar 15	MSDF unit arrives in Kuwait and lands GSDF vehicles, etc.			Mar 11	Terrorist bombings on commuter train system in Madrid, Spain
	Mar 17	Second-term main ASDF unit leaves (second team on April 16)			Mar 12	ROK parliament passes impeachment bill against President Roh Moo-hyun Kim Jong-Il, North Korean President, informally visits China
	Mar 21	Third team of main GSDF unit leaves			Mar 14	President Putin reelected in Russian presidential elections
					Mar 20	President Chen Shui-bian of the Democratic Progressive Party reelected in Taiwan's presidential election
					Mar 21	Malaysia's ruling coalition wins a major election victory

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2004	Mar 26	Introduction of ballistic missile defense system decided in Diet (FY 2004 budget proposal approved and enacted in Upper House plenary session)			Mar 22	EU General Affairs Council agrees upon development of the structure and organization of the rapid response capabilities of the EU
	Mar 27	GSDF first group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq arrives in Samawah (approx. 600 personnel)			Mar 22	Israel assassinates Sheikh Yassin, spiritual leader of Hamas
	Apr 8	Dispatch maritime transport unit returns home (Kure and Yokosuka)			Mar 25	EU Summit held (through March 26)
	Apr 21	GSDF second group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq formed			Mar 29	Seven central and eastern European countries newly join NATO
	Apr 23	24th Japan-U.S. regular consultative meeting on equipment and techniques (Washington D.C.)			Apr 2	President's party wins Sri Lankan general election
	Apr 24	Events in celebration of return of ASDF airborne unit for reconstruction assistance to Iraq, etc. (first-term)			Apr 7	Secretary General of NATO visits Russia
	Apr 27	Order issued for second group to replace the first group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq			Apr 14	U.S. President Bush holds talks with Israeli Prime Minister Sharon
	May 8	Ceremony to confer guidons to GSDF second group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq, etc.; first team of second main GSDF unit leaves			Apr 15	ROK holds general elections
	May 15	Second team of the second main GSDF unit leaves			Apr 17	Spanish Prime Minister Zapatero inaugurated
	May 18	Senior Vice Minister Hamada visits East Timor (through May 22)			Apr 19	A train explosion occurs at railway station at Ryongchon, northwestern part of North Korea
	May 20	Ceremony to commemorate the completion of current missions of Fourth Dispatch Engineering Group to East Timor			Apr 19	Kim Jong-Il, Chairman of the National Defense Commission, visits China (through April 21)
	May 21	Ceremony to grant East Timor PKO equipment and			Apr 20	Italian Prime Minister Berlusconi visits Russia
	May 22	materials			Apr 22	A train explosion occurs in northwestern North Korea
		Third team of second main			Apr 23	U.S. announces it will ease its economic sanctions on Libya, to
	May 23	GSDF unit leaves				a major extent
		Administrative Vice Minister for Defense Moriya visits India (through May 27)			Apr 24	Proposal to reunite Cyprus rejected
	May 31	GSDF first unit dispatched to Iraq returns; East Timor PKO headquarters personnel begin to return home			Apr 27	Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi visits EU headquarters in Belgium
	Jun 6	Ceremony to return guidons for the first group for reconstruction assistance to Iraq			Apr 28	UNSC unanimously adopts Resolution 1540 calling for the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction
					May 1	Ten Eastern European countries newly join EU
					May 2	New cabinet formed in Poland
					May 5	As a result of the Indonesian general elections, the Golkar party is returned as the leading party
					May 5	Terrorist bombing in Athens, Greece
					May 9	Chechen President Kadyrov assassinated
					May 10	Philippines holds general election

Year	Defense		Domestic		International	
2004					May 13	As a result of the Indian general elections, the Congress party is returned as the leading party
					May 14	ROK's Constitutional Court rejects impeachment against President Roh Moo-hyun
					May 14	UNSC adopts Resolution 1543 to extend the mission period of U.N. Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET)
					May 18	U.S. announces dispatch of U.S. forces in ROK to Iraq
					May 20	Taiwan's President Chen Shui-bian inaugurated
					May 20	U.N. Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISET) hands over policing and defense authority to the Government of East Timor
					May 22	Arab League Summit held (through May 23)
					May 22	New Indian cabinet, led by Singh, inaugurated
					May 29	Pakistan test-fires Gauri
					Jun 1	Interim Iraqi Government inaugurated, and Iraqi Governing Council dissolved
					Jun 8	UNSC unanimously adopts Resolution 1546 on reconstruction of Iraq
					Jun 8	Sea Island Summit held (through June 10)

* Listed in detail for two most recent years (2003–2004) as targeted in this White Paper.

Abbreviations

A

ABM / Anti-Ballistic Missile
A missile fired to intercept and destroy a strategic nuclear ballistic missile launched by another party (ABM Treaty: A treaty that limits the deployment of ballistic missiles that defend respective territories against strategic ballistic missiles in order to restrict the competition between the United States and the then-Soviet Union on strategic offensive weapons).

ACSA / Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement
Name given in U.S. municipal law regarding an agreement that stipulates a framework for acquisition and cross-servicing between U.S. forces and foreign forces. The Japan-United States Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement falls under this agreement, which stipulates a framework for the SDF and U.S. Armed Forces to provide each other with goods and services necessary for joint exercises, United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and international humanitarian relied efforts under the principle of reciprocity (entered into force in 1996). Both sides concluded an amended agreement in 1999 which also targets operations to respond to situations surrounding Japan.

AG / Australia Group
Arms control and reduction group involving the participation of 33 countries, including Japan, which implements export regulations to aim for the non-proliferation of on biological and chemical weapons materials, manufacturing equipment and related technologies.

AMORS / Asia-Pacific Military Operation Research Symposium
A forum held by the participating countries in rotation, aimed at exchanging information on logistics support activities and attended by countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

ANZUS / Australia-New Zealand-United States of America Treaty
ANZUS Treaty, a trilateral security treaty concluded among Australia, New Zealand, and the United States of America, was enacted in 1952. However, the United States has continued to suspend the defense of New Zealand since 1986, as New Zealand has adopted a nuclear-free policy.

APEC / Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
Economic cooperation that is participated in by 21 countries and regions in the Asia-Pacific region.

ARF / ASEAN Regional Forum
A forum across the region for dialogue. It began in 1994 as a forum for exchanging opinions on political and security issue in the Asia-Pacific region.

ASEAN / Association of Southeast Asian Nations
Organization for regional cooperation comprised of 10 Southeast Asian nations (established in 1967).

AWACS / Airborne Warning and Control System
Aircraft equipped with offshore oceanographic early warning control system functions and control system capabilities that act as a substitute for a land warning and control system structure.

B

BADGE / Base Air Defense Ground Environment

BMD / Ballistic Missile Defense
A defense concept which consists of TMD, currently being researched by the U.S., which defends U.S. forces stationed abroad and friendly and allied nations from tactical and theater ballistic missiles, and NMD, which defends the U.S. mainland from long-rage ballistic missiles.

BWC / Biological Weapons Convention
A convention, which took effect in 1975, banning the development, production and stockpiling of biological weapons and requiring their destruction.

C

C⁴ISR / Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance

CALS/EC / Continuous Acquisition and Life-Cycle Support/Electronic Commerce
Measure for reducing necessary time relating to cost reduction, development and procurement, and improving product quality, by sharing information gained over equipment life cycles through computerization and database creation.

CAP / Combat Air Patrol
Armed airborne alert by fighters in order to be able to respond to approaching enemy aircraft.

CBM / Confidence-Building Measures
Measures taken with the view to preventing accidental military conflicts and building confidence among states. Specific efforts include advancing military information disclosure, setting regulations on certain military actions, and promoting military exchanges.

CCS / Central Command System
Central command system that is connected online to Ground, Maritime and Air Self-Defense Force command systems, and conducts integrated processing, etc.

CCW / Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.
A convention prohibiting or restricting the use of certain conventional weapons such as landmines, booby traps, and incendiary weapons, which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or cause unnecessary suffering (enacted in 1983).

CFE / Conventional Armed Forces in Europe
CFE Treaty: First treaty for arms control and disarmament of conventional East-West war potential that stipulates a ceiling on possession of five categories of weapons, including tanks and armored vehicles, by both Eastern and Western groups (entered into force in 1992). Agreement reached in 1999 to switch to a region-specific ceiling and introduce a ceiling mechanism for individual countries and territories.

CHOD / Asia-Pacific Chiefs of Defense Conference
A forum for exchanges of views among defense chiefs from Asia-Pacific countries in the area of security, hosted each year by the U.S. forces.

CICA / Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia
A conference to share opinions on regional security issues, established in 1992 through an initiative of President Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan, with 18 member countries and organizations. Japan participates in the CICA as an observer.

CIS / Commonwealth of Independent States
A commonwealth comprised of independent states from the former Soviet Union (excluding the three Baltic republics).

CMAC / Cambodian Mine Action Center
Established in 1992 as a private organization within Cambodia by the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC), with the complete support of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). After UNTAC's 1993 pullout, it became an independent Cambodian public organization by royal decree. CMAC is now carrying out mine removal and other operations.

COCOM / Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls
An export control committee set up to regulate exports of strategic goods and technologies to ex-Communist bloc countries (1949–94).

COE / Common Operating Environment
Operating software that is shared by computer systems of each SDF body, etc.

CRYPTREC / Cryptography Research & Evaluation Committees
Committee constituted with Japanese cryptographers that evaluates the cryptographic techniques from a professional perspective.

CSBM / Confidence and Security-Building Measures
Confidence-building experiment for the exchange of military information and military exchanges, and the notification, inspection and restriction of exercises, etc. Advanced primarily in Europe since the late 1980s.

CSCE / Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
A forum for dialogue on wide-ranging issues—security, economy, and human rights—promoted in Europe since the 1970s, and subsequently absorbed by the OSCE in 1995.

CTBT / Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
A treaty totally banning nuclear tests which entail nuclear explosions. This treaty has not yet taken effect.

CWC / Chemical Weapons Convention
A convention banning the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons, and requiring the signatory countries to discard all chemical weapons they hold (entered into force in 1997).

D

DC / Direction Center
A command center that controls interception of aircraft, etc., based on information from radar sites, etc.

DII / Defense Information Infrastructure
An integrated network of all SDF provided in the Mid-Term Defense Program (FY 2001–FY 2005).

DMZ / Demilitarized Zone
A zone established along the cease-fire line between the Republic of Korea and North Korea in order to restrict the deployment of military force.

DO CONF / Director of Operations Conference
A forum held by the U.S. and participating countries in rotation each year (held twice annually in 1996 and 1997), where Directors of Operations in the Pacific Rim region exchange views.
DSRV / Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle
A type of submarine rescue equipment. It submerges under its own power, attaches itself to a distressed submarine's escape hatch and collects crew members.

E

EC / European Community
The economic integrated body of Europe.

ERW / Explosive Remnants of War

ESEP / Engineering and Scientists Exchange Program
A program conducted between U.S. and Japanese defense authorities. Engineers and scientists from either side are accepted into the other side's research institution for a certain period of time to engage in joint research projects with the engineers and scientists of the partner country.

EU / European Union
A political and integrated economic body that, based on the EC, continually advances economic and monetary union, and pursues common diplomatic and security policy, and cooperation in a wide range of areas, including judicial and home affairs.

F

FAO / Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
An organization established in 1945 for the purpose of improving the nutrition levels and living standards, enhancing the agricultural productivity, and upgrading the living conditions of rural people.

G

GDP / Gross Domestic Product

GMD / Ground-based Mid-course Defense
A system to intercept long-range ballistic missiles in mid-course from a ground silo. It enables interception of the target beyond the atmosphere.

H

HCOC / Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation
Codes of conduct for the non-proliferation of ballistic missiles, adopted in The Hague, the Netherlands, in November 2002. The code is open also to non-member countries of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

I

IAEA / International Atomic Energy Agency
An organization established to promote the peaceful use of atomic energy and prevent its conversion for military use (established in 1957).

ICBM / Intercontinental Ballistic Missile
Ballistic missile with a range of 5,500 km or more (regulated by the U.S. and the Soviet Union under SALT II). Other types include a missile with a firing range of over 6,400 km.

IFOR / Implementation Force
A multinational force approved by the U.N. Security Council and commanded by NATO, engaged in PKOs in Bosnia and authorized to use armed force to impose peace.

IISS / International Institute for Strategic Studies

IMSS / IMINT (Imaginary Intelligence) Supports System

INF / Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces
Missiles with a range of 500–5,500 km, their launcher, support facilities and equipment (regulated by the INF Treaty).

ISAF / International Security Assistance Force
Based on the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1386, the force was established to support and maintain security in Kabul and its surrounding areas. Resolution 1510 enabled the force's regional deployment.

ISG / Inter-sessional Support Symposium Group
Working-level intergovernmental group to consult on confidence-building measures prior to the ARF.

ISS / International Sea power Symposium
A forum hosted by the U.S. every other year, where naval chiefs from various countries exchange views on naval issues.

IT / Information Technology
Machine and instrument software technologies that support computers and the Internet.

J

JEGS / Japan Environmental Governing Standards
An environmental governing standard that was created by U.S. Forces Japan (USFJ) with aims to ensure the health of the people and preserve the natural environment that is affected by the activities and facilities of USFJ. It establishes the management of environmental pollutants and storage methods.

JICA / Japan International Cooperation Agency
A special corporation established in 1974 that receives training participants from and dispatches experts to developing countries, dispatches Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers and Japan Disaster Relief Teams.

JSF / Joint Strike Fighter
Fighter attacker whose basic design is commonly shared and jointly under development by the U.S. Navy, Air Force and Marines.

K

KEDO / Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization
A joint international undertaking based on the U.S.-North Korea Agreed Framework supporting North Korea's transition from graphite deceleration atomic reactors to light-water reactors and providing replacement energy.

KFOR / Kosovo Force
Multilateral force composed of the NATO Army deployed in Kosovo since 1999, based on a U.N. Security Council resolution.

L

LTTE / The Liberation Tiger of Tamil Eelam
An armed rebel organization of Tamils, a minority in Sri Lanka, established in 1976. It aims at the separation and independence of Northern and Eastern areas, where most of the Tamils live.

M

MANPADS / Man Portable Air Defense System
Surface-to-air missile systems specially designed to be carried and fired by a single individual.

MCAP03 / Multinational Cooperation program in the Asia Pacific 2003
A program to invite army representatives from the Asia-Pacific area to promote understanding concerning the GSDF and exchange opinions about multilateral cooperation, including humanitarian support and disaster relief, among the parties.

MLST / Multilateral Logistics Staff Talks
An annual forum that invites logistics personnel in turn from the Asia-Pacific and European counties to exchange opinions about logistics systems (stances).

MONUC / United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo
A peace-keeping operation established by the U.N. Security Council's resolution, mainly aiming at observing the cease-fire in Congo.

MOOTW / Military Operations Others Than War
Military activities other than war, such as PKOs and humanitarian aid activities. Also known as OOTW.

MOTAPM / Mines Other Than Anti-Personnel Mines

MTCR / Missile Technology Control Regime
A framework to ensure the non-proliferation of missile-related materials and technologies involving the participation of 33 countries, including Japan, which implements export controls on such materials and technologies.

N

NATO / North Atlantic Treaty Organization
A security alliance established primarily among European countries and the U.S. and based on the North Atlantic Treaty. It is currently composed of 19 countries and its headquarters are located in Brussels, Belgium.

NBC / Nuclear, Biological or Chemical
A generic term for substances that are related to weapons of mass destruction that are nuclear, biological or chemical. Typically dubbed "NBC weapons."

NEACD / Northeast Asia Cooperation Dialogue
An unofficial attempt for security dialogue among various northeastern Asian nations (government officials and private researchers from Japan, U.S., Russia, Republic of Korea (ROK), and China were in attendance), held by the University of California, San Diego's research institute. Governmental project.

NGO / Non-Governmental Organization
A generic term for private organizations, in relation to government institutions undertaking international cooperation activities including those of the U.N.

NLL / Northern Limit Line
A line demarcated by U.N. forces regulating the northern limit of activity for U.N. aircraft and vessels in the Korean Peninsula. The line was established in 1953.

NPO / Non-Profit Organization
An organization that carries out non-profit-making social contribution activities.

NPT / Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
A treaty designed to check the proliferation of nuclear weapons and encourage the peaceful use of nuclear materials and technology.

NSG / Nuclear Suppliers Group
A group established for the export control or nuclear exclusive and dual-use products and their related technologies. It involves the participation of 40 countries including Japan.

O

OECD / Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
International organization to coordinate and harmonize economic policies among developed countries.

ONUMOZ / United Nations Operation in Mozambique
A U.N. PKO in Mozambique, in which Japan participated from 1993 to 1995 in the headquarters, transport operations and as electoral observers.

OPCW / Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
An organization charged with carrying out the inspections prescribed in the Chemical Weapons Convention.

OSCE / Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
A regional organization aimed at promoting security and cooperation throughout the entire European region. It evolved from the Conference on Security and Cooperation Europe (CSCE) in 1995.

P

PAC-3 / PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3
A system designed to intercept short- or mid-range missiles from ground-based patriot launchers in their terminal course within the lower atmosphere.

PACC / Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference
PACC is a forum held by the U.S., every other year, with the Pacific Armies Management Seminar (PAMS). It provides an arena where the Army chiefs of Pacific region countries can exchange views.

PACC / Pacific Air Chiefs Conference
PACC is a forum held jointly by the U.S. and its participating countries in rotation, every other year. It provides an arena for the air chiefs of the participating countries to exchange views on issues of common concern to air forces.

PAMS / Pacific Armies Management Seminar
A conference held on a rotating basis by the U.S. and other members every other year, providing a forum for the armies of each country in the Asia-Pacific region to exchange information on the most effective and economical management methods for training ground troops.

PASOLS / Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar
PASOLS is a forum held by its participating counties in rotation, aimed at exchanging information on logistics support activities and attended by countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

PCC / Prague Capabilities Commitment
A commitment for NATO member countries to help reduce differences in military capabilities between the United States and European countries, including improvement in defense capabilities against chemical, biological, and radioactive weapons.

PfP / Partnership for Peace
A framework created in 1994 for the purpose of strengthening various forms of cooperation, focusing on defense cooperation between NATO and non-NATO European countries.

PKF / Peacekeeping Force

PKO / Peacekeeping Operation
Activities organized, based on a U.N. resolution, to promote international peace and stability in response to a conflict, by ensuring that ceasefires are observed by the parties to the conflict, under a U.N. mandate.

PLO / Palestine Liberation Organization
A political organization established in 1964 to represent the Palestinian people.

PSI / Proliferation Security Initative
Initiative to examine possible actions to be taken jointly by member countries to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and related materials.

Q

QDR / Quadrennial Defense Review
A review of the defense program of the U.S., conducted once every four years by the Secretary of Defense (reported to the U.S. Congress in 1997 and 2001) pursuant to the Military Capability Revision Act, which took effect in 1996.

R

RMA / Revolution in Military Affairs
A revolutionary change occurring in military operations and the nature of warfare, brought about by the advancement of technology and other such changes.

S

S&TF / Systems and Technology Forum
A forum for discussions between Japan and the U.S. on equipment technology cooperation, including joint research and development as well as procurement policy.

SAARC / South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation
A regional cooperation organization established in 1985 by seven South Asian countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), aiming at promoting the economic growth and social development of member countries.

SACO / Special Action Committee on Okinawa
A Japan-U.S. committee established in November 1995, with the purpose of consulting on the various issues relating to the facilities and areas of U.S. forces stationed in Okinawa.

SAM / Surface-to Air Missile

SCC / Security Consultative Committee
A forum for policy consultations between Cabinet members of Japan and the U.S.

SDC / Subcommittee for Defense Cooperation
A subcommittee under the SCC for study and consultation on the modalities for Japan-U.S. cooperation.

SDR / Strategic Defense Review
A report demonstrating the national defense policies of the U.K. This sets out guidelines to promote the modernization of forces in order to enable them to respond to new challenges (published 1998).

SFOR / Stabilization Force
A multinational force which took over the mission from the Implementation Force (IFOR) for peacekeeping in Bosnia in December 1996.

SLBM / Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile

SMD / Sea-based Mid-course Defense
A system designed to intercept short- or mid-range ballistic missiles in their mid-course phase outside the atmosphere, from Aegis cruisers at sea.

SOM / Senior Officials Meeting
Senior working-level meeting held prior to the ARF Ministerial Meeting.

SSC / Security Subcommittee
A forum for substantial and working-level discussions on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

SSM / Surface to Surface Missile

START I / Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty I
A treaty between the United States and Russia (former Soviet Union) signed in 1991, enacted and enforced in 1994, stipulating fixed reductions in the number of warheads maintained and the means of transportation for strategic nuclear weapons.

START II / Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty II
A treaty, following that of START I, signed by the U.S. and Russia in 1993 for the purpose of reducing strategic nuclear warheads (not yet entered into force).

T

THAAD / Theater High Altitude Area Defense
A system designed to intercept ballistic missiles from ground mobile launchers in their terminal phase outside the atmosphere or within the upper atmosphere

U

UAV / Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
An unmanned aircraft to survey and monitor the situation from the air above battle grounds.

UNDOF / United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
A U.N. PKF responsible for observing the cease-fire between Israel and Syria in the Golan Heights in southern Syria, and for the state of implementation of agreements relating to it (e.g., the arms disengagement of both Israeli and Syrian forces). Having been established in 1974 following the fourth Middle East war, UNDOF has been conducting operations for about 30 years to the present.

UNHCR / United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
An organization charged with the mission of helping refugees return to their own countries voluntarily or to resettle in a third country, by proving them with international protection.

UNMEE / United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
A U.N. PKO on the border of Ethiopia and Eritrea to monitor the cease-fire, help ensure the implementation of the cease-fire agreement by both countries, and to monitor the redeployment of troops from both countries.

UNMISET / United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor
An organization that consisted of civilian, civilian police, and military sectors. It was established on May 20, 2002, to help build East Timor, which attained independence in 2002.

UNMOVIC / United Nations Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission
Established in the basis of comprehensive U.N. Security Council Resolution 1284 (adopted in 1999). It implements a reinforced system of ongoing monitoring and verification in place of UNSCOM.

UNOSOM II / United Nations Operation in Somalia II
A U.N. PKF charged with the mission of observing the cease-fire in Somalia. This PKF was authorized to use compulsory measures under the provisions of Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter. It was stationed in Somalia between 1993–1995.

UNPROFOR / United Nations Protection Force
A U.N. PKF dispatched to the former Yugoslavia with the mission of assisting the UNHCR, promotion the cease-fire and enhancing public stability. To this end, the peacekeeping force was authorized to use armed force. It transferred its authority to IFOR in 1995.

UNTAC / United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia
Organization that temporarily administered Cambodia from 1992 to 1993, until Cambodia's general election and subsequent establishment of a government.

UNTAET / United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor
An organization that took transitional assistance control in all legislative, administrative and judicial area until the official independence of East Timor. It was established in 1999.

W

WEU / Western European Union
An organization established in 1948 by European countries for economic, social and cultural cooperation and collective defense.

WFP / The United Nations World Food Program
An organization that donates food to support economic and social development and meet emergency needs in developing countries. It was established in 1963.

WPNS / Western Pacific Naval Symposium
A symposium held on a rotating basis by participating countries in the years when no ISS is held, providing a forum for exchange of opinions among naval chiefs.

WPO / Warsaw Pact Organization
A military organization formed by the former Soviet Union and Eastern European countries, and dissolved in 1991,

WTO / Word Trade Organization
An international organization that is absorbing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and strengthening its authority.

Organizational Diagram of the Self-Defense Forces

(As of March 31, 2004)

Minister of State for Defense and Director-General of the Defense Agency

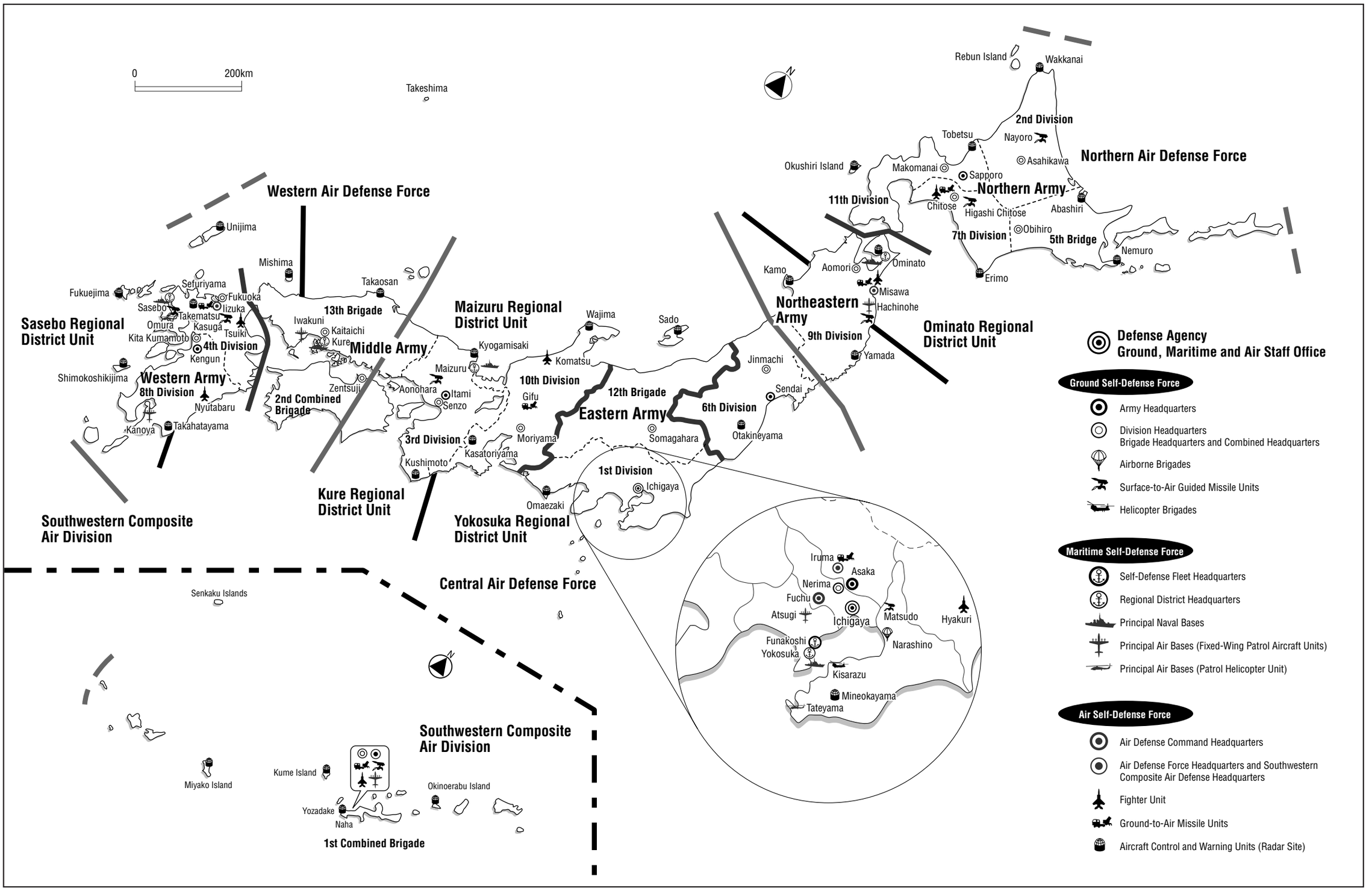
Chief of Staff, GSDF / Ground Staff Office

- **Northern Army**
  - 2nd Division (Asahikawa)
  - 5th Bridge (Obihiro)
  - 7th Division (Higashi Chitose)
  - 11th Division (Makomanai)
  - 1st Tank Group (Kita Eniwa)
  - 1st Artillery Brigade (Kita Chitose)
  - 1st Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade (Higashi Chitose)
  - 3rd Engineer Brigade (Minami Eniwa)
  - Others
- **Northeastern Army**
  - 6th Division (Jinmachi)
  - 9th Division (Aomori)
  - 2nd Artillery Brigade (Sendai)
  - 5th Antiaircraft Artillery Group (Hachinohe)
  - 2nd Engineer Brigade (Funaoka)
  - Others
- **Eastern Army**
  - 1st Division (Nerima)
  - 12th Brigade (Somagahara)
  - 1st Airborne Brigade (Narashino)
  - 2nd Antiaircraft Artillery Group (Matsudo)
  - 1st Engineer Brigade (Koga)
  - 1st Training Brigade (Takeyama)
  - Others
- **Middle Army**
  - 3rd Division (Senzo)
  - 10th Division (Moriyama)
  - 13th Brigade (Kaitaichi)
  - 2nd Combined Brigade (Zentsuji)
  - 8th Antiaircraft Artillery Group (Aonogahara)
  - 4th Engineer Brigade (Okubo)
  - 2nd Training Brigade (Otsu)
  - Others
- **Western Army**
  - 4th Division (Fukuoka)
  - 8th Division (Kita Kumamoto)
  - 1st Combined Brigade (Naha)
  - 3rd Artillery Group (Yufuin)
  - 2nd Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade (Iizuka)
  - 5th Engineer Brigade (Ogori)
  - 3rd Training Brigade (Ainoura)
  - Others
- 1st Helicopter Brigade (Kisarazu)
- Signal Brigade (Ichigaya)
- Research Headquarters (Asaka)
- Ground Material Control Center (Jujo)
- Other units and organizations

Chief of Staff, MSDF / Maritime Staff Office

- **Self-Defense Fleet**
  - **Fleet Escort Force**
    - 1st Escort Flotilla (Yokosuka)
    - 2nd Escort Flotilla (Sasebo)
    - 3rd Escort Flotilla (Maizuru)
    - 4th Escort Flotilla (Kure)
    - Others
  - **Fleet Air Force**
    - 1st Fleet Air Wing (Kanoya)
    - 2nd Fleet Air Wing (Hachinohe)
    - 4th Fleet Air Wing (Atsugi)
    - 5th Fleet Air Wing (Naha)
    - 21st Fleet Air Wing (Tateyama)
    - 22nd Fleet Air Wing (Omura)
    - 31st Fleet Air Wing (Iwakuni)
    - Others
  - **Fleet Submarine Force**
    - 1st Submarine Flotilla (Kure)
    - 2nd Submarine Flotilla (Yokosuka)
    - Others
  - Minesweeper Flotilla (Yokosuka)
  - Fleet Development Command (Yokosuka)
  - Fleet Intelligence Command (Yokosuka)
  - Others
- **Yokosuka Regional District**
- **Kure Regional District**
- **Sasebo Regional District**
- **Maizuru Regional District**
- **Ominato Regional District**
- Air Training Command (Shimofusa)
- Training Squadron (Kure)
- System Communication Command (Ichigaya)
- Oceanographic Command (Yokosuka)
- Supply Headquarters (Jujo)
- Other units and organizations

Chief of Staff, ASDF / Air Staff Office

- **Air Defense Command**
  - **Northern Air Defense Force**
    - 2nd Air Wing (Chitose)
    - 3rd Air Wing (Misawa)
    - Northern Aircraft Control and Warning Wing (Misawa)
    - 3rd Air Defense Missile Group (Chitose)
    - 6th Air Defense Missile Group (Misawa)
    - Others
  - **Central Air Defense Force**
    - 6th Air Wing (Komatsu)
    - 7th Air Wing (Hyakuri)
    - Central Aircraft Control and Warning Wing (Iruma)
    - 1st Air Defense Missile Group (Iruma)
    - 4th Air Defense Missile Group (Gifu)
    - Others
  - **Western Air Defense Force**
    - 5th Air Wing (Nyutabaru)
    - 8th Air Wing (Tsuiki)
    - Western Aircraft Control and Warning Wing (Kasuga)
    - 2nd Air Defense Missile Group (Kasuga)
    - Others
  - **Southwestern Composite Air Division**
    - 83rd Air Wing (Naha)
    - Southern Aircraft Control and Warning Wing (Naha)
    - 5th Air Defense Missile Group (Naha)
    - Others
  - Others
- **Air Support Command**
  - Air Rescue Wing (Iruma)
  - 1st Tactical Airlift Group (Komaki)
  - 2nd Tactical Airlift Group (Iruma)
  - 3rd Tactical Airlift Group (Miho)
  - Air Traffic Control Service Group (Iruma)
  - Air Weather Service Group (Fuchu)
  - Others
- **Air Training Command**
  - 1st Air Wing (Hamamatsu)
  - 4th Air Wing (Matsushima)
  - 11th Flying Training Wing (Shizuhama)
  - 12th Flying Training Wing (Hofukita)
  - 13th Flying Training Wing (Ashiya)
  - Air Basic Training Wing (Hofuminami)
  - Others
- **Air Development and Testing Command**
  - Air Development and Test Wing (Gifu)
  - Electronics Development and Testing Group (Iruma)
  - Aero-Medical Laboratory (Tachikawa)
  - Others
- Air Material Command Headquarters (Jujo)
- Other units and organizations

Location of Principal SDF Units (As of March 31, 2004)