

# JDF

## JAPAN DEFENSE FOCUS

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**SPECIAL FEATURE**

# Japan-ASEAN Defense Ministerial Roundtable Meeting



# SDF Marching Festival 2014

With energetic music and mellow songs echoing throughout autumn-colored Tokyo, the SDF Marching Festival took place at the Nippon Budokan hall for three days from November 13th to 15th. The festival is the SDF's largest music event held annually around November as part of the SDF Day commemoration. The festival this year has been especially memorable with the theme "MOVE ON," for the year of 2014 marks the 60th anniversary of the MOD/SDF establishment as well as the milestone 50th celebration of the marching festival.

Splendid harmony was delivered by the GSDF Central Band, the MSDF Tokyo Band, the ASDF Central Band, and the GSDF Northern and Eastern Army Bands as well as special guest bands from the U.S. Army Japan, the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force, the Australian Army, and the Philippine Marine Corps who took

part in the festival for the first time this year. Along with the band performances, honor guard display by the GSDF 302nd Military Police Company, fancy drill by the National Defense Academy, and taiko drum performance by the SDF Japanese Drum Teams fascinated audiences with its unity and powerfulness.

The event culminated when "RESTART," a charity song for the reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, was sung by all the bands and audiences at hall as one. Audiences left the venue, totally fascinated and utterly impatient for the next year's marching festival.

To see videos of the 2014 SDF Marching Festival, head to the GSDF YouTube channel!  
 \*Please note that not all the performances are available.  
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1LEgzQHG9LxLrvA0S1cA9Dtwt4b9o4uv> **MOVIE**

## Japan-Finland Defense Ministerial Meeting

On October 28th, Defense Minister Eto met with Mr. Carl Christoffer Haglund, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Finland, and discussed regional situation and future defense cooperation and exchanges.



### 3. Japan-Finland Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

The Ministers agreed to initiate consultations between the defense authorities and to exchange opinions on broad range of topics including bilateral cooperation.

#### 1. Opening

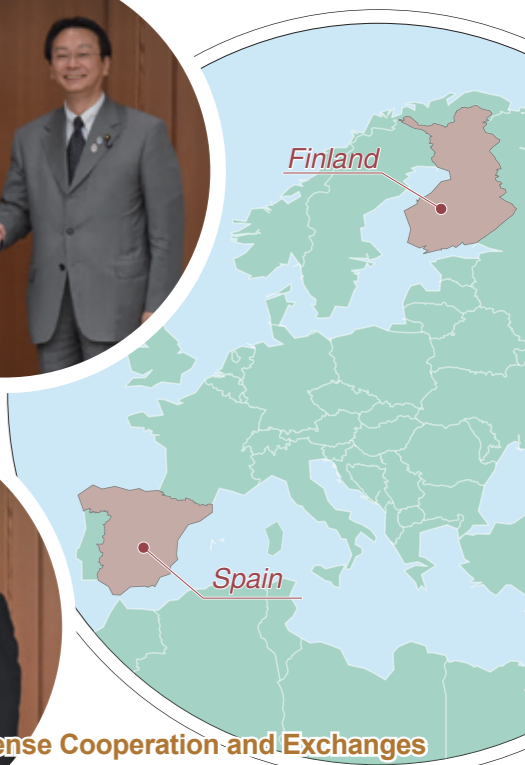
Minister Eto welcomed Minister Haglund's visit to Japan and told him that his visit would encourage future Japan-Finland defense exchanges.

Minister Haglund expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to visit Japan. He also stated his expectations for the bilateral cooperation and exchanges in the area of security and defense to progress.



#### 2. Regional Situation

The Ministers exchanged their views on regional security environment of mutual interest. The Ministers agreed to deepen mutual trust and to further promote confidence building through such exchange of opinions.



## Japan-Spain Defense Ministerial Meeting

On November 4th, Defense Minister Eto met with Mr. Pedro Morenés Eulate, the Minister of Defense of Spain, and exchanged views on defense policies of each country, future defense cooperation and exchanges, and regional situation.



### 3. Japan-Spain Defense Cooperation and Exchanges

The Ministers confirmed that the cooperation of each country is essential to deal with various new challenges and that both sides will further deepen the exchange of opinions on how to practically proceed with the Memorandum.

#### 1. Opening

Minister Eto welcomed Minister Morenés' first-ever visit to Japan as the Defense Minister of Spain. He also welcomed the signing of the Memorandum on Japan-Spain Defense Cooperation and Exchanges.

Minister Morenés expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to visit Japan for the first time as the Spanish Defense Minister. He also stated his expectations for the cooperation in the area of security and defense to be promoted based on the Memorandum on bilateral defense cooperation and exchanges.

#### 2. Defense Policy

The Ministers gave explanations on security policies to each other. Minister Morenés expressed his support for efforts of the Japan side.



#### 4. Regional Situation

At a dinner meeting, the Ministers exchanged their views on regional security environment of mutual interest.





# Japan-ASEAN Defense Ministerial Roundtable Meeting



On November 19th, Defense Minister Eto visited Myanmar where he attended the Japan-ASEAN Defense Ministerial Roundtable and held a bilateral defense ministerial meeting with Myanmar.



Bilateral Meeting with Myanmar Defense Minister Wai Lwin

## Outline of the Roundtable

1. The Roundtable chaired by Myanmar was held with the participation of the Defense Ministers from 10 ASEAN member countries as well as the ASEAN Secretariat.
2. It was the first occasion of its kind, originally proposed by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in December 2013 at the Japan-ASEAN Commemorative Summit. Minister Eto passed along a message from Prime Minister Abe extending his gratitude for the holding of the Roundtable and his expectations for the future cooperation between Japan and ASEAN.
3. At the opening, Myanmar Defence Minister Wai Lwin gave a welcome address, and afterwards the Ministers exchanged their views on cooperation in the area of nontraditional security fields such as Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HA/DR), and maritime security, which are common challenges for both Japan and ASEAN.
4. Minister Eto stated that Japan would strive to work for Japan and ASEAN's common interest, which is the peace and stability of this region, under the banner of "proactive contribution to peace" based on the principle of interna-

tional cooperation. Minister Eto pointed out that the relationship between Japanese and ASEAN defense authorities has been steadily evolving from mere exchanges to practical cooperation in areas including capacity building assistance and equipment/technology cooperation. He suggested a possibility of cooperation on the Rule of Law and forming regional order, based on the activities of the ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) Experts' Working Groups (EWG). In addition, Minister Eto proposed to promote discussions among Japan and ASEAN defense authorities at various levels by utilizing the existing frameworks in more creative manners, such as further reinforcement of Tokyo Defense Forum and Japan-ASEAN Defense Vice-Ministerial Forum, in order to support efforts to maintain and strengthen the integrity of ASEAN and to take Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation to the next level, in preparation for the establishment of the "ASEAN Community" in 2015.



5. Participating countries expressed their gratitude for the cooperation extended by the MOD/SDF in response to the disasters in the region including Typhoon Haiyan and the search for the missing Malaysian Airlines flight. The countries also appreciated the activities of Japan at the ADMM-Plus EWGs.
6. Participating countries noted that Japan and ASEAN share a wide range of nontraditional security challenges such as cyber security, HA/DR, and maritime security. The countries especially highlighted the importance of freedom of navigation and the Rule of Law. They also voiced their expectations for further Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation through capacity building assistance, joint exercise, and equipment/technology cooperation.
7. Japan and ASEAN countries agreed to study the occasions to exchange their views on defense cooperation in the area of nontraditional security field, utilizing the existing Vice-Ministerial Forum at the core.
8. Participating countries shared their view that the Roundtable has been extremely significant in putting the future Japan-ASEAN defense cooperation on track.

# Dispatch of Female SDF Personnel to NATO Headquarters

The MOD/SDF sends GSDF Lieutenant Colonel Chizu Kurita to NATO Headquarters as the adviser to NATO Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security in the office of the Secretary General from December 1st 2014, for approx. two years.

In the meeting between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the Secretary General of NATO in May 2014, it was decided that the Government of Japan would send Japanese female government personnel. Based on the decision, the dispatch of LTC Kurita to NATO HQs was arranged through necessary coordination between the government of Japan and NATO.

LTC Kurita will give advice on integrating a gender perspective into various policies and activities of NATO and promoting the active role of women based on her experiences in international affairs such as PKOs.

The dispatch of female SDF personnel to NATO HQs is expected to further enhance cooperative relationship between Japan and NATO.



LTC Kurita during UNMIT (UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste) in 2011



Greeting to Defense Minister Eto (25 Nov.) Front row, from left: Director General of Defense Policy Bureau, LTC Kurita, Defense Minister Eto, GSDF Chief of Staff



We covered her interview in JDF No.56. Find out about her experience in PKO, women's perspective in the SDF, future goals, and more.  
<http://www.mod.go.jp/e/jdf/no56/topics.html>

The JDF will continue to cover MOD/SDF personnel who play active roles overseas.



# Keen Sword 15

— Japan-U.S. Joint Field Training Exercise —



Lt. Gen. Angelella, Commander of the USFJ/5th Air Force, Admiral Kawano, Chief of Joint Staff



From November 8th to 19th, the SDF carried out Japan-U.S. Joint Field Training Exercise (FTX) called Keen Sword 15 in the seas and skies around Japan as well as at the camps and bases of the SDF and the U.S. forces. The main goal of the FTX is to maintain and improve its capability through the practice of procedures of the SDF joint operations as well as the interoperability between the SDF and U.S. forces in case of an island incursion during an armed attack. Approx. 30,700 personnel from the GSDF, MSDF, ASDF and Joint Staff took part in the exercise while approx. 10,000 U.S. personnel participated including those who assigned to U.S. Forces Japan Headquarters, U.S. Army Japan, Seventh Fleet, Pacific Air Forces, and the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force.

Joint base security training was carried out at bases in Atsugi,

Iwakuni, and Sasebo as part of the land-based component, while vessels took part in training in the waters off the coast of Shikoku as part of the sea-based component of the training. For the air-based component, fighter training was carried out in the training airspace above the Sea of Japan and air rescue training was conducted in the Mt. Haku area. The SDF alone also carried out landing exercises on Eniyananare Island in the Amami Islands as part of amphibious training. In addition, various supplies were loaded, transported, and offloaded at each base as part of the joint logistics support training.

Japan-U.S. joint training exercise was commenced in 1985 and in recent years, field training exercises and command point exercises have been alternately held every year. This year marks the 12th time FTX has been held.



Defense Minister Eto at USARJ Command Post



# Michinoku Alert 2014

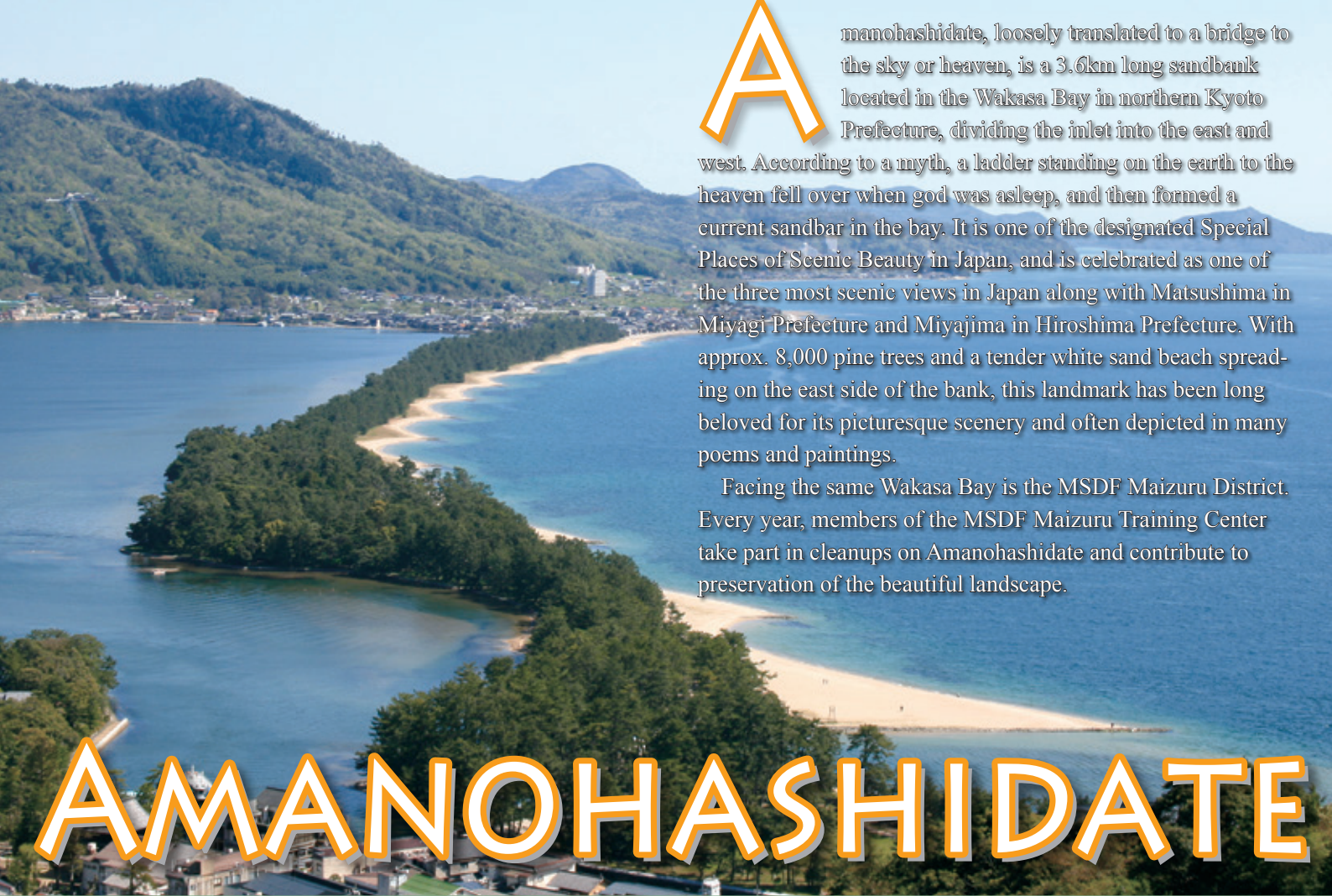
— Disaster Relief Exercise for GSDF Northeastern Army —



The Northeastern Army of the GSDF carried out the disaster relief exercise called "Michinoku Alert 2014" from November 6th to 9th based on the lessons learned from the activity following the Great East Japan Earthquake. The purpose of the exercise is to train its cooperative basics with municipalities and other related organizations, seeking to improve the capability of the Northeastern Army to respond to various disasters. It also aims to contribute to establishing the basics when collaborating between the SDF, U.S. forces, and Australian forces.

The exercise was held on the supposition of a magnitude 9.0 earthquake striking off the coast of Miyagi, triggering a large tsunami. Participating personnel carried out a series of field training exercises ranging from the initial response phase right after the disaster to the emergency recovery stage. Participating forces in the exercise included the GSDF led by the Northeastern Army, ASDF, MSDF, six prefectural governments and related organizations in Tohoku area, as well as USARJ, the U.S. 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force and the Australian forces. The U.S. MV-22 Osprey also participated in the trilateral part of this disaster relief exercise involving Japan, the U.S. and Australia.





**A**

manohashidate, loosely translated to a bridge to the sky or heaven, is a 3.6km long sandbank located in the Wakasa Bay in northern Kyoto Prefecture, dividing the inlet into the east and west. According to a myth, a ladder standing on the earth to the heaven fell over when god was asleep, and then formed a current sandbar in the bay. It is one of the designated Special Places of Scenic Beauty in Japan, and is celebrated as one of the three most scenic views in Japan along with Matsushima in Miyagi Prefecture and Miyajima in Hiroshima Prefecture. With approx. 8,000 pine trees and a tender white sand beach spreading on the east side of the bank, this landmark has been long beloved for its picturesque scenery and often depicted in many poems and paintings.

Facing the same Wakasa Bay is the MSDF Maizuru District. Every year, members of the MSDF Maizuru Training Center take part in cleanups on Amanohashidate and contribute to preservation of the beautiful landscape.

# AMANOHASHIDATE

## Latest News

### ■ 17th Annual Chief of Defense (CHOD) Conference (3-6 Nov. in Brunei)

➤ Admiral Kawano, Chief of Joint Staff attended the 17th annual CHOD conference in Brunei. Chiefs of Staff from 26 countries attended the CHOD 2014 themed “Multilateralism Practical Cooperation towards Shared Responsibility” and had candid discussion on regional security. Admiral Kawano also had bilateral/multilateral meetings with 14 countries to build mutual trust and stronger security ties.

### ■ Departing Ceremony of 20th Deployment Surface Force for Counter Piracy Enforcement (DSPE) (15 Nov.)

### ■ Send-off Ceremony of the UNMISS 7th Engineer Unit (16 Nov.)



CHOD 2014 Conference



Departing Ceremony of 20th DSPE



Send-off Ceremony of the UNMISS 7th Engineer Unit



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-Magazine to our friends around the world-



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