



Morning Alert - Wednesday, September 13, 2017

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## HEADLINES

### Morning news

Most networks gave top play to reports that Apple announced its latest phone model, “iPhone X,” on Monday. TBS led with a report that extremely powerful Typhoon Talim is approaching Japan.

Sankei gave top play to a report claiming that arrangements are being made for President Trump to visit Japan in November. [Nikkei](#) led with its one-on-one interview with Prime Minister Abe, during which he commented on issues ranging from social security to international affairs, including North Korea and China. Other papers gave top coverage to the UN Security Council’s unanimous adoption of a fresh sanctions resolution on North Korea.

## AMBASSADOR

### Ambassador Hagerty says “U.S.-Japan alliance is rock solid”

Kyodo News reported online its one-on-one [interview](#) with Ambassador Hagerty on Tuesday, quoting him as saying that the U.S.-Japan alliance is “rock solid” as their coordination against North Korea is “at the highest point” and the interoperability of the U.S. military and the SDF will be deepened further. Kyodo said that the Ambassador reiterated the Trump administration’s unyielding commitment to the defense of Japan by saying that the United States stands with Japan.

## INTERNATIONAL

### President Trump may visit Japan in early November

Asahi front-paged a report saying that it has learned from an unidentified GOJ source that the U.S. and Japanese governments are making arrangements for President Trump to visit Japan probably

from Nov. 4 to 6. If the plan is realized, it will be President Trump's first visit to Japan since he took office in January. The paper speculated that the President will stop in Japan before heading to Vietnam to attend the APEC leaders' meeting to be held on Nov. 10-11, and that arrangements are also underway for the President to visit China and other Asian nations.

The paper conjectured that President Trump and Prime Minister Abe will confirm the strong U.S.-Japan alliance and discuss their response to North Korea during their envisaged talks in Tokyo. The paper added that the President may refer to the need to reduce the trade deficit with Japan by pointing out the closed nature of Japan's auto and agriculture market.

Sankei also wrote that it has learned from several sources connected to U.S.-Japan relations that Washington and Tokyo are making arrangements for President Trump to visit Japan ahead of his trip to Vietnam in November.

### **UNSC adopts fresh sanctions resolution on North Korea**

All papers ran extensive front-paged reports on the UN Security Council's unanimous adoption on Monday of a new sanctions resolution on North Korea that is expected to reduce oil exports to the DPRK by about 30%. The papers took up the fact that the resolution was swiftly adopted only eight days after North Korea conducted a nuclear test on Sept. 3 on account of strategic and concentrated efforts by the U.S., and China's decision to endorse the resolution to demonstrate to the international community that it is acting responsibly. Nikkei wrote that the Security Council will strictly monitor UN members' implementation of the new sanctions to ensure their effectiveness.

In a related development, Prime Minister Abe stated in an [interview](#) with Nikkei that Pyongyang will need to abandon its nuclear programs before a dialogue can be held.

### **U.S., Japanese, ROK leaders may hold trilateral meeting in New York**

Yomiuri wrote that it has learned from several GOJ sources that the GOJ is making final arrangements for Prime Minister Abe to hold trilateral talks with President Trump and South Korean President Moon around Sept. 21 on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. The paper speculated that the three leaders will reconfirm close coordination against the DPRK following the adoption on Monday of a new sanctions resolution on North Korea.

### **Peru expels North Korean ambassador**

Tuesday evening's Yomiuri wrote that the Peruvian government issued a statement on Monday saying that it has declared North Korea's ambassador to Peru "persona non grata" and ordered him to leave the country within five days. Noting that Peru made the move in response to the call from Vice President Pence to break off diplomatic ties with North Korea and that Mexico also designated

its North Korean ambassador “persona non grata” last week, the paper wrote that the DPRK’s isolation from the international community is deepening.

### **Abe to depart for India today**

Mainichi and Sankei wrote that Prime Minister Abe will make a three-day visit to India starting today, speculating that he will discuss the pressure on North Korea, including the implementation of UNSC resolutions, with his Indian counterpart PM Modi. The two leaders will confirm trilateral security cooperation with the U.S., including joint military exercises, and agree on the importance of freedom of navigation with China’s maritime advancement in mind. Abe will attend a groundbreaking ceremony for a high-speed railway project connecting Ahmedabad and Mumbai.

Nikkei added that Abe and Modi are expected to agree on the idea of concluding a bilateral “open skies agreement” and the establishment of a public-private framework for discussing Japan’s exports of nuclear power generation technology.

### **Kono expresses interest in visiting Iran**

Nikkei wrote that Foreign Minister Kono told reporters on Tuesday that he would like to visit Iran as he was not able to go there on his recent Middle East tour. Kono added that he would also like to visit Israel and the Palestinian Territories as soon as possible.

## **SECURITY**

### **Ospreys may participate in drills in Kyushu**

Nikkei wrote that Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga told a news conference on Tuesday that discussions are being held on the possibility of conducting U.S.-Japan joint exercises in Kyushu that would involve Futenma-based Ospreys. Suga reportedly said that the GSDF Western Army is making preparations for participating in joint drills with the U.S. Marines.

## **ECONOMY**

### **Toshiba to postpone decision on buyer of chip unit again**

All papers wrote that Toshiba has decided to hold off on making a decision on the buyer of Toshiba Memory at its board meeting to be held today, as negotiations with Western Digital, which is part of a U.S.-Japan consortium, have stalled. According to the papers, Toshiba is now also looking at a bid made by a U.S.-Japan-South Korean consortium that it had initially picked as its favored bidder. Nikkei said that Toshiba President Tsunakawa told his company’s main creditors on Tuesday that the negotiations with Western Digital have stalled and that the company will move forward with talks by focusing on the U.S.-Japan-South Korean consortium if there is no change in the situation. Yomiuri wrote that Toshiba plans to move forward with negotiations with a U.S.-Japan-South Korea group led by Bain Capital and make a decision at a board meeting next week.

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