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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, August 23, 2016

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

NHK led with a report that a 47-year-old man in Nagoya was arrested today on charges of stabbing his 12-year-old son to death. All commercial networks gave top play to updates on Typhoon Mindulle, which made landfall in Hokkaido this morning.

## SECURITY

### Police remove 90 protesters at helipad construction site in Northern Training Area

Ryukyu Shimpo front-paged a report saying that on Aug. 22 riot police forcibly removed about 90 protesters from the helipad construction site at the Northern Training Area. The protesters, who blocked a gate to the training area with 30 vehicles, scuffled with police for about 90 minutes. A 97-year-old woman and a 63-year-old man were taken to the hospital with minor injuries.

### Construction to expand Iejima Auxiliary Airfield begins

Ryukyu Shimpo front-paged a report on the start on Aug. 22 of work to expand the landing helicopter deck for amphibious assault ships at the U.S. military's Iejima Auxiliary Airfield in Okinawa. The paper ran an editorial condemning the work as an "act of violence" that runs counter to efforts to reduce the base-hosting burden on Okinawa and calling for an immediate halt to the construction.

- [Japan to conduct railgun development](#) (Sankei)
- [SDF to start evacuation exercises at Djibouti base from Aug. 23](#) (Asahi)

## INTERNATIONAL

### [Trilateral foreign ministerial to be held tomorrow for the first time in 17 months](#)

TBS reported at noon that Chinese Foreign Minister Wang will arrive in Japan this evening for the first time since he took office to attend the planned trilateral foreign ministerial slated for August 24 in Tokyo, saying that the foreign ministers of Japan and China are planning to discuss the issue of Chinese vessels operating within Japanese territorial waters near the Senkaku Islands. The network also said FM Kishida and his South Korean counterpart Yun are expected to exchange views on the timing of Japan's 1 billion yen contribution to the comfort women foundation and the operation of the foundation. The network said attention will be focused on whether the three foreign ministers will be able to lay the groundwork for a trilateral summit within this year, adding that the ministers are also expected to discuss North Korea. Fuji TV reported that while FM Kishida is planning to clearly state Japan's position on the issue of Chinese vessels intruding into Japanese waters, he is also planning to lay the groundwork for a Japan-China summit as early as September, adding that a MOFA source told the network that "the purpose of the meeting is not to fight" and that it is "important that the meeting leads to a summit."

### [LDP Secretary General Nikai to meet with Chinese foreign minister](#)

NHK reported this afternoon that LDP Secretary General Nikai told reporters today that he is arranging to meet with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang on Wednesday. Concerning Chinese vessels' operations in Japanese territorial waters near the Senkaku Islands, the network quoted Nikai as saying he would like to meet Wang in person instead of "speculating and criticizing each other without any meetings."

- [Japan-ROK finance talks slated for Aug. 27](#) (Asahi)
- [Japan development agency to issue social impact bonds](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Cartoon: President Obama, PM Abe, and "no first use"](#) (Akahata)
- [Cartoon: DPRK resumes plutonium production](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)
- [Commentary: U.S. TPP rhetoric lacks strategic view](#) (Sankei)

## SCIENCE

### [Japan's research whaling organizations reach agreement with Sea Shepherd](#)

Jiji Press reported that the Institute of Cetacean Research and Kyodo Senpaku Co., both of which conduct research whaling in the Southern Ocean, announced today that they have reached an agreement with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (SS) and its representative Paul Watson

earlier this month over the society's obstructive behavior toward Japan's research whaling fleet. Jiji said the Japanese side will pay a settlement fee to SS and in return SS will refrain from engaging in obstructive behavior permanently. According to Jiji, the two research whaling organizations called on the federal district court in Washington State to execute an indefinite injunction barring SS from carrying out acts of obstruction.

## **POLITICS**

- [Prime minister's schedule on August 21-22](#) (Nikkei)
- [CCS Suga aims to convene extraordinary Diet session in mid-September](#) (Sankei)
- [Labor group report indicates opposition to DP-JCP united front](#) (Sankei)
- [Gov't to facilitate sale of infrastructure management rights to private sector](#) (Nikkei)
- [LDP having trouble drafting LGBT legislation](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

## **ECONOMY**

- [Second FY16 supplementary budget to include 3.9871 trillion yen economic package](#)(Mainichi)
- [MOF to ramp up FILP by 3.3 trillion yen](#) (Nikkei)
- [METI to foster female business leaders via Harvard-style approach](#) (Nikkei)
- [Gov't seeks establishment of new daycare centers by offering local tax breaks](#) (Nikkei)
- [Agricultural organizations request production material discount](#) (Nikkei)

## **TV PROGRAMS**

### **Defense Minister Inada talks about security challenges to Japan**

NHK's "News Watch 9" aired a one-on-one interview with Defense Minister Inada as the first installment of its series of interviews with newly appointed ministers of the Abe cabinet. Concerning China's escalating maritime activities near the Senkaku Islands, Inada stressed the importance of the rule of law, saying that Japan will collect information in cooperation with relevant nations. When asked whether she could envision invoking the option of ordering a maritime security operation that is authorized to use force, Inada stated that although she cannot comment on specific operational options, Japan will take all necessary steps to defend itself. Regarding North Korea's nuclear and missile tests, the defense minister stated that it is necessary for Japan to enhance its own defense capabilities to prepare for any threats in addition to strengthening its alliance with the U.S. and

cooperation with other relevant nations. Concerning the suspended FRF construction work at Henoko, Inada said that the GOJ will continue to hold dialogue with the government and people of Okinawa while proceeding with the court hearing on the matter. When asked whether she will visit Yasukuni Shrine again in the future, Inada said that although a shrine visit is a personal matter, she will act appropriately as a member of the Abe cabinet. Asked whether she will seek to become prime minister in the future, Inada said that she will make efforts to fulfill her responsibilities in the posts she is given.

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