



Afternoon Alert - Monday, August 29, 2016

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

Most networks gave top play to Typhoon Lionrock, saying that it is expected to make landfall in the Tohoku region tomorrow. NHK led with a report saying that what is believed to be the body of a missing 7-year-old girl was found in a river in Nagano this morning.

## SECURITY

### Live firing drill opened to public

Several papers reported on a GSDF exercise held in Shizuoka yesterday, noting that some 27,000 people, including Defense Minister Inada, observed the event, which was opened to the public and the media. One of simulated drills involved an integrated operation by the three SDF branches to recapture a remote island occupied by an enemy. According to Tokyo Shimbun, although unlike last year there was no demonstration flight by USMC Ospreys, a large screen showed an image of the tilt-rotor aircraft with text explaining it is used for transporting goods and personnel.

### GOJ to study alternate routes for transporting building materials for helipad construction

Ryukyu Shimpo gave top play to a report saying that despite opposition from Higashi Village Mayor Iju, the Defense Ministry is studying the possibility of using village and farm roads to transport building materials to the helipad construction site at the Northern Training Area because protesters have been trying to block Takae Bridge that connects Prefectural Route 70 to the site. The ministry is also considering the idea of using commercial helicopters to transport materials if it cannot use local roads. The SDF's CH-47 helicopters could be used as a last resort, but the idea may be

politically difficult because it would be necessary for the GOJ to obtain the agreement of the U.S.-Japan Joint Committee and an order from the defense minister to have SDF helicopters transport materials to a U.S. military facility.

### **Defense ministry to file with police report on injuries at helipad construction site**

Ryukyu Shimpo wrote that the Defense Ministry has decided to file with the Okinawa police a report on an incident in which two officials of the ministry's Okinawa Defense Bureau were injured when they scuffled with local protesters on Aug. 26. The ministry is also considering filing a theft and robbery complaint on the grounds that the protesters stole some documents from the officials.

- **U.S. military funded laser technology research at Osaka University** (Kyodo News)
- **New bill drawn up to punish organized crime** (The Japan News)
- **Okinawa budget cut by 14 billion yen** (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- **Onaga and Suga: Okinawa revitalization budget cut unrelated to Futenma issue** (Sankei)
- **Japan defense forces train to retake island** (Nikkei Asian Review)

## **INTERNATIONAL**

### **Suga says leaders of Japan, Russia to discuss various bilateral issues**

NHK reported this afternoon on PM Abe's planned visit to Russia from Sept. 2 to 4 to attend an international economic forum in Vladivostok and a summit meeting with President Putin on Sept. 2. The network quoted Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga as telling reporters this morning that the leaders agreed in May to take a new and unconventional approach to promoting the negotiations and he believes that they will hold positive and candid discussions at the summit. Suga also reportedly said a candid exchange of views between the two leaders is essential for progress in the peace treaty talks, adding that the two leaders will discuss a wide range of bilateral issues in light of President Putin's expected visit to Japan.

- **Abe, Japan Inc. eager to support African education, jobs** (Nikkei Asian Review)
- **Japanese trading houses promise to quench Africa's energy thirst** (Nikkei Asian Review)
- **Chinese top court sets rules for punishing illegal fishing, territorial sea intrusion** (Sankei)

- [Editorial: Urgent measures needed to counter growing N. Korean SLBM threat](#) (The Japan News)
- [Editorial: Sea Shepherd agreement not enough to defend Japanese whaling](#) (Sankei)
- [Editorial: Resuming currency swap pact should help boost Japan-ROK ties](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan, S. Korea, China agree to hold “Cultural City Summit” in 2017](#) (Kyodo News)
- [FM Kishida calls for improved security in capital of South Sudan](#) (Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Repeated training key to minimizing risks of GSDF missions in S. Sudan](#) (The Japan News)

## OPINION POLLS

- [Cabinet support rate rises to 62%, Nikkei poll](#) (Nikkei)
- [59% want Tokyo Olympics to be held “with Abe as prime minister,” Nikkei poll](#) (Nikkei)
- [Pollees divided over desired speed of revision of system for abdication, Nikkei poll](#) (Nikkei)
- [48% of Japanese “satisfied” with current income, Cabinet Office poll](#) (Mainichi)

## POLITICS

- [Prime minister’s schedule on August 25-26](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister’s schedule on August 26-27](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister’s schedule on August 27-28](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: DP leadership candidates must hold thorough debate on basic policy](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Cartoon: DP Leadership Election](#) (Asahi)
- [Cartoon: Party Leadership Election](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

## ECONOMY

- [Budget requests to top \101 tril.](#) (The Japan News)
- [GPIF posts 5.2 trillion yen investment loss in April-June quarter of 2016](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Japan's public sector is top shareholder in a quarter of Tokyo stocks](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan's inflation hopes dim as price slides widen](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Int'l panel discusses fishing limit of bluefin tuna](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Nations agree to limit mackerel boats](#) (The Japan News)
- [MAFF requests 458.4 billion budget increase for land reform](#) (Mainichi)
- [ANA may cancel 350 flights tied to Rolls-Royce engine](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Minister mulling overtime work cap](#) (Sankei)
- [Work reforms feature in Japan tax proposals](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

## TV PROGRAMS

### **Work Reform Minister Kato stresses need for change**

NHK's Sunday morning talk show "Nichiyo Toron" discussed problems related to working styles in Japan. Minister for Working-style Reform Kato and four experts discussed such issues as long work hours and the large number of non-regular employees in the nation. Kato expressed the Abe administration's readiness to move forward with employment reform, stressing the importance of flexibility in working styles and indicating a GOJ plan to strengthen regulations on excessive overtime work. The experts included Keio University Professor Yoshio Higuchi, Toray Corporate Business Research Institute Senior Researcher Naoki Atsumi, Work Life Balance CEO Yoshie Komuro, and Hakuhodo Brand Design Youth Research Center chief Yohei Harada.

### **Bioluminescence in deep waters**

NHK's "NHK Special" on Sunday reported on bioluminescent creatures found in deep ocean waters. Using its "4K" ultra-sensitive high-definition camera, the program showed many kinds of luminous organisms found in Monterey Canyon off the California coast, including barreleyes and ctenophore. The program said many of these deep-sea creatures emit light in order to hide themselves from enemies that detect their prey by their silhouettes.



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