
JMH JAPAN MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Afternoon Alert - Monday, November 14, 2016

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HEADLINES

Noon news

Most networks gave top play to reports on the earthquake in New Zealand.



INTERNATIONAL

PM's advisor Kawai leaves for Washington

Several networks reported at noon that PM Abe sent advisor Katsuyuki Kawai to Washington this morning in order to build ties with the staff of President-elect Trump. Kawai was quoted as telling reporters prior to his departure: "I will make all-out efforts in Washington to help build the best personal relationship of trust [between PM Abe and Mr. Trump.]" TBS said Kawai is expected to meet with members of Trump's transition team and will also visit New York.

Local pundits view “Trump Shock” as an opportunity to break free from the U.S.

Although the prevalent view among mainstream political and media circles in Japan is that Tokyo will probably have a very difficult time stewarding its relationship with Washington under “President Trump,” some local pundits are pleased with his election, which they see as a golden opportunity for Japan to become independent of the United States. Cartoonist Yoshinori Kobayashi said on his blog (11/10): “His victory was unexpected, but it was good news for patriots like me. The TPP will become irrelevant and globalism will come to an end, as Mr. Trump advocates protectionism. Japan will also be forced to become independent militarily because he may choose to pull U.S. troops out of Japan. He may even allow us to pursue the nuclear option.” Commentator Tsunehira Furuya wrote in an email newsletter (11/10): “Japan’s ‘postwar regime’ managed by pro-U.S., lightly-armed, and economy-oriented administrations will come to an end with President Trump. This is a great opportunity for nationalists calling for independence from the U.S. and constitutional revision to step up their campaigns.”

Sankei’s (11/10) managing editor Masato Inui wrote in a front-page commentary: “If Donald Trump decides to withdraw U.S. troops, Japan should opt to enhance the SDF’s equipment dramatically. In such a scenario, Japan could develop an aircraft carrier of its own. Although it is not realistic for Japan to pursue nuclear development as ‘condoned’ by Mr. Trump on account of strong domestic opposition arising from the fact that Japan is the only country to have suffered atomic bombing, the option would still be effective as a diplomatic card vis-à-vis China. We should explore the possibility of implementing the TPP without U.S. participation.... It is high time for Japan to strive to become a ‘great power’ that doesn’t need to rely excessively on the United States on the military and economic fronts.”

Ruri Miura, a rising star in Japanese academia, said in a blog (11/10) entry: “Japan must now stand on its own two feet. Donald Trump is a successful businessman who has full confidence in his ability to make a deal. He will reject Japan’s careful explanations on the history and present status of the U.S.-Japan alliance. Instead of shouldering more host nation support for the U.S. military, Japan should increase its spending on conventional weapons while taking on part of the security burden borne by the U.S. military voluntarily. Japan should pursue a responsible defense policy, actively put forward ideas on creating a new international order, and implement much-awaited economic reforms without fail.”

Some thinkers are even calling for Japan to use its own “compass” to guide the country through the uncharted waters to be created by President Trump. Chairman Jitsuro Terashima of Japan Research Institute Ltd. said in an interview with Asahi (11/12): “The world is experiencing a paradigm shift. Since the end of WWII, Japan has been accustomed to dealing with the world through the eyes of the United States. However, this approach lost its validity with the election of Donald Trump. Rather than paying more for the U.S. military with the goal of smooth relations with

the Trump administration, Japan must draw up a new security paradigm for Asia without relying on military means. East Asian leaders do not necessarily subscribe to Tokyo's call for forging robust security partnerships in order to deal with a rising China."

- [Trump's financial demands worrying](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan's bureaucracy wary of Trump's impact on economic policies](#) (Asahi)
- [Special Advisor Kawai extends trip to meet Trump confidants](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Future prospects of Japan's diplomacy in dealing with "Trump administration"](#) (Nikkei)
- [Interview: Tokyo should explain role of Japan-U.S. alliance to Trump](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Trump's perception of Japan appears to be stuck in the 1980s](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Editorial: A testing time ahead for Japan in its relations with the U.S.](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Editorial: Pending Trump presidency forces Japan to reconfirm significance of alliance](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Prevent Japan-U.S. alliance from faltering under Trump diplomacy](#) (The Japan News)
- [Abe touts Shinkansen to India's Modi on bullet train ride](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Editorial: Japan-India nuclear accord shows Japan's lacking will as A-bombed nation](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Protectionism, if pushed by Trump, will prove unfavorable for entire world](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan, India discuss cooperation as Trump victory tests Asia order](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Abe's nuclear export push faces risks in India](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [EU not sticking to year-end EPA accord with Japan](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Cartoon: Trump, Abe and the TPP](#) (Mainichi)
- [Cartoon: Trump, Abe and the TPP](#) (Asahi)
- [Cartoon: The Trump Partnership](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

- [Cartoon: President-Elect Trump](#) (Asahi)

POLITICS

[Nearly 70% negative about Trump's victory](#)

Fuji TV reported at noon on the results of its opinion survey conducted over the weekend, which put support for the Abe cabinet at 57.9% and nonsupport at 31.9%. Regarding the TPP-related bills, 48.5%, up 8.4 points from last month, expressed opposition to passing them at the current Diet session, while 38.8%, down 8.9 points, expressed support. On Trump's victory, 67.6% said it was not good, while 19.2% felt otherwise. In addition, 67.1% said it would not have a positive impact on U.S.-Japan relations, while 17.3% felt otherwise. Concerning the Northern Territories issue, 67.9% expressed hope for progress, while 30.2% did not. While 28.4% said Japan should insist on getting all four islands back, 70.0% said Japan should be more flexible.

- [Prime minister's schedule on November 12](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on November 11](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on November 10](#) (Nikkei)
- [Gist of interpellations at Upper House plenary session, Nov. 11](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Nikai faction closes in on third largest LDP faction](#) (Yomiuri)

SECURITY

[Editorial: Henoko plan should be reviewed under Trump administration](#)

Okinawa Times discussed possible security policies to be adopted by a Trump administration toward Japan, insisting that the U.S. review the existing Futenma relocation plan if it seeks additional Japanese spending for hosting U.S. troops. Although there is concern that Trump may choose to strengthen the functions of U.S. military bases in Okinawa, a breakthrough in Futenma relocation could be made by a businessman-turned president. The GOJ will probably tell the next president that the Henoko plan is the only option. However, the situation surrounding the U.S. bases in Okinawa will be destabilized by strong protests if Tokyo goes ahead with landfill work at Henoko.

[Gov. Onaga to seek environmental assessment of Osprey operations at NTA](#)

Okinawa Times wrote that Governor Onaga stated at a news conference on Friday that he will call on the GOJ together with the villages of Higashi and Kunigami to conduct another environmental assessment concerning the construction of four helipads at the Northern Training Area (NTA). The Defense Ministry's Okinawa bureau has already conducted an environmental assessment based on the assumption that the helipads will be used by CH-53 helicopters, but Osprey training has been

carried out at the helipads in the N4 and other areas at the NTA. The governor plans to file a request with the Defense Ministry when he visits Tokyo by the end of this month.

However, the paper wrote that the governor and the two villages hosting the NTA have different positions on the helipad construction at the NTA because although the villages have agreed to join the governor's call for another environmental assessment in connection with Osprey training, they have agreed to the construction itself. An MOD source was quoted as saying that since the governor cannot openly oppose the construction, he is apparently trying to use the environmental assessment to demonstrate his objection.

- [Editorial: Onaga should visit U.S. immediately to call for giving up Henoko construction plan](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- [Japan conducts defense drill to fight illegal entry of armed fishermen](#) (Kyodo News)

ECONOMY

- [Ruling parties in low spirits as Trump win casts uncertainty over TPP trade deal](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Japan business leaders call for U.S. ratification of TPP under Trump](#) (Kyodo News)
- [TPP accord's failure to deal blow to Abenomics, dampen agricultural reform drive](#) (Mainichi)
- [A TPP without the US? It's being suggested](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Govt panel urges agricultural co-ops to concentrate financial operations](#) (Jiji Press)
- [40% uncomfortable with foreign neighbors, 20% uncomfortable with foreign colleagues, JILPT survey](#) (Mainichi Evening edition)
- [Data leaks feared from Keidanren business lobby's PCs](#) (Kyodo News)

SCIENCE

- [Japan to Utilize AI, Robots for Medical, Nursing Care](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Japan to build framework to help Asia reduce global warming impact](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

- [Two space laws enacted to regulate private launching business](#) (Nikkei)

EDUCATION

- [Japan to help foreign students find work in the country](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

