



Afternoon Alert - Thursday, December 1, 2016

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

NHK, TBS, and TV Asahi gave top play to reports on OPEC's decision to cut production of crude oil for the first time in eight years, which has caused the yen to drop and the Nikkei Stock Average to rise. NTV led with a report that the Emperor called a friend and told him he was hoping for a permanent system in which the emperor would be allowed to abdicate. Fuji TV led with a report on the finding that Yokohama City submitted a document to the Tokyo government suggesting that the usage of existing facilities for the Olympics should be based on an agreement between the GOJ, the Tokyo government, the International Olympic Committee, and the Tokyo Olympic committee.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Suga says GOJ to strengthen unilateral sanctions against DPRK

NHK reported this afternoon that in response to the UNSC's adoption of a resolution to impose tougher sanctions against the DPRK, Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga stated at a press conference this morning that the GOJ is in the final stage of strengthening Japan's unilateral sanctions against North Korea. Suga also reportedly welcomed the new UNSC sanctions resolution, saying: "The resolution will reinforce the UNSC resolution adopted in March and set a concrete limit on North Korea's coal exports, which are its main source of income. Our nation will work closely with other UN member states and make all-out efforts to ensure that this resolution is effective."

- [Reaction in Japan to Trump's appointment of Mnuchin, Ross](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Trump economic policies would boost Japan, says IMF official](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Putin names new economic development minister in charge of cooperation with Japan](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Interview with JBIC CEO on incoming U.S. administration, Russia](#) (Shukan Ekonomisuto)
- [Pakistan envoy weighs in on Japan-India nuclear deal](#) (The Japan News)
- [Editorial: Park made right call by offering to quit](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Editorial: Help ASEAN states boost maritime security capabilities in S. China Sea](#) (The Japan News)

## SECURITY

### [Yokota AB commander predicts no change in U.S. policy on base under Trump](#)

Sankei reported in its Tokyo metropolitan section on press remarks by Fussa Mayor Kato on Wednesday, in which he disclosed Yokota AB Commander Kenneth Moss told him on Tuesday that he should not worry about the incoming Trump administration because U.S. policy on the base will remain the same. The municipal leader stressed that there should not be any change in the central government's subsidies for base-hosting communities as a result of the inauguration of the Trump administration.

Mainichi took up the mayor's separate remarks calling for the U.S. military and the central government to provide information on the safety of the CV-22 Ospreys to be deployed at the base starting next year.

- [Editorial: Defeat enemies in cyberspace as "fifth domain of warfare"](#) (Sankei)
- [1.3 million connected devices around world infected with viruses](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Man arrested for beaming green laser at MSDF plane in Kanagawa](#) (Kyodo News)

## ECONOMY

- [Proposal for annual NHI drug price revision provokes backlash](#) (Mainichi)

- [Gov't mulling annual revision of prices of all drugs](#) (Mainichi)
- [DP team reviewing TPP-related budget allocations](#) (Asahi)
- [Gov't, LDP seek to boost personnel related budget for fiscal 2017 by 30%](#) (Nikkei)
- [Keidanren calls for multiple options for wage increases next spring](#) (Nikkei Evening edition)
- [JA Zen-Noh to present details of organizational reform in March](#) (Mainichi)
- [Dismantling Tokai reprocessing plant to cost 217 billion yen in first 10 years](#) (Asahi)
- [Editorial: Plan to build Monju successor is outrageously irresponsible](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Japan to construct demonstration fast-breeder reactor to replace Monju](#) (Asahi)

## POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on November 30](#) (Nikkei)
- [LDP policy chief, Rengo officials meet for first time in five years](#) (Mainichi)
- [Nippon Ishin reaps benefits of aligning with Abe administration on key bills](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Cartoon: Koike and Olympics](#) (Asahi)

## SCIENCE

- [Researchers to employ AI to determine optimal cancer treatments](#) (The Mainichi)

## SOCIETY

### [American mother, son arrested in Fukuoka for smuggling marijuana](#)

Asahi reported online on Wednesday that the Fukuoka police arrested a 55-year-old American woman and her 25-year-old son on suspicion of smuggling marijuana. She allegedly sent her son packages of marijuana weighing 13.56 grams in total by placing them in a canteen included in a

parcel airlifted to Narita Airport on Oct. 31 ahead of her visit to Japan in November. The son is participating in the Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) program, having taught English in several public schools in the prefecture. The local customs authorities lodged separate accusations against them on the charge of attempting to import a prohibited item. Early this morning TBS aired a brief story on their arrest, adding that the son has taught at seven schools in Fukuoka since July this year.

- [Nagoya court repeals deportation order for Brazilian national](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Promoting diversity from Shibuya](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Infographics on how parents respond when their child is bullied, Nikkei DUAL poll](#) (Nikkei Evening edition)

## TRENDING@JAPAN

- [Universities' measures to attract female students cause stir](#)
- [Faced with extinction, rural towns become women friendly](#)
- ["Tokyoites first," "Didn't get a day care slot: Drop dead, Japan," and other buzzwords in 2016](#)

## TV PROGRAMS

### **"Japan Conference" pushing hard for constitutional revision**

TBS's "Hodo Tokushu" news magazine show on Saturday highlighted the Japan Conference and its close association with the Abe administration, noting that the ultra-right-wing lobby group advocating constitutional revision appears to be enjoying a greater say in Japanese politics these days. LDP lawmaker Hajime Funada, a liberal-minded politician who heads the party's panel on the Constitution, acknowledged that perhaps only about 100 of the over 400 ruling party Diet members share his view that the Democratic Party's involvement is imperative in pursuing constitutional amendment, and that the rest, many of whom are supporters of the Japan Conference, think the nation's supreme law should be amended soon as possible.

The broadcaster delved into why the organization wields such strong influence by examining the grassroots campaigns for constitutional revision carried out by its members across the nation. The network found that the group has encouraged its rank-and-file members to lobby assembly members in their own prefectures to adopt motions calling for the Diet to take swift action to revise the nation's supreme law. As a result, a total of 33 prefectural assemblies have already approved such resolutions. A TBS reporter said he was surprised to find that many Japan Conference members

“detest” the Constitution and think it has “corrupted” Japanese people’s morals, as evidenced by child abuse and bullying at school.

### **SDF’s PKO mission in South Sudan**

NHK’s "Close-up Gendai Plus" on Wednesday reported on the new "rush to the rescue" operations that the SDF troops currently deployed to the PKO mission in South Sudan are allowed to engage in. The program reported on the security situation in the nation, where fighting continues between government and anti-government forces. The program reported on a major clash that occurred in Juba in July, which killed more than 270 people, including civilians. Sophia University Associate Professor Higashi said the civil war in South Sudan is likely to continue for many years, adding that the GOJ needs to consider whether to continue the SDF deployment there.

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