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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

**Afternoon Alert - Wednesday, August 30, 2017**

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**HEADLINES**

**Noon news**

All networks led with reports on the announcement by North Korea on Wednesday that it launched a “Mars-12” intermediate-range ballistic missile on Tuesday to counter the ongoing U.S.-ROK joint military exercise.

**INTERNATIONAL**

**North Korea confirms launch of “Mars-12” missile**

All networks reported that North Korea announced on Wednesday that it launched a “Mars-12” intermediate-range ballistic missile on Tuesday to counter the ongoing U.S.-ROK joint military exercise and that Kim Jong Un oversaw the missile test on site. According to the North Korean state-run media, Kim stated after the test that the launch was a “prelude to a warning to Guam, which hosts bases of the enemy.” Kim also said that North Korea should conduct more ballistic missile tests with the Pacific as a target in the future and that it will continue to watch the words and actions of the U.S. before deciding what to do in the future. In view of the 107th anniversary of Japan’s annexation of Korea on Aug. 29, Kim said that Pyongyang took the action in response to its years of resentment against Japan.

**UNSC adopts chairman’s statement calling for immediate halt to missile launches**

All broadcasters reported that the UN Security Council at its emergency meeting on Tuesday unanimously adopted a chairman’s statement strongly condemning North Korea’s launch on Tuesday of a ballistic missile that flew over Japan and demanding that North Korea immediately haul the launch of ballistic missiles. NHK said that although there are differences in policies toward the

DPRK, with the U.S. and Japan seeking further sanctions and China and Russia placing importance on implementing the existing sanctions, the Security Council decided to give priority to issuing a strong message to North Korea without delay. According to the network, Japanese Ambassador to the UN Bessho told reporters afterwards that he stressed to the Security Council members the need for swiftly adopting additional sanctions.

NHK said that when asked by a reporter whether Japan will propose a ban on oil exports to North Korea as an additional sanction, the Chief Cabinet Secretary stated that Tokyo will mull future steps, including a new UNSC resolution, by studying what kind of pressure would be the most effective in resolving the issue, adding that an oil export ban could be one of the options. NTV reported that although the U.S. and Japan are insisting on the need for stronger sanctions as the next step toward Pyongyang and that attention is being focused on the possibility of an oil export ban, the Chinese ambassador to the UN expressed a cautious view about the idea by stressing the importance of dialogue. The Russian ambassador stated that sanctions alone will not resolve the North Korean issue. TV Asahi said that the U.S. and Japan, which have been seeking an additional sanction such as an oil export ban, did not make specific requests concerning the statement. A source connected to the UNSC was quoted as saying that it was important for the Security Council to demonstrate the unity of the group, including China and Russia, by issuing a chairman's statement, which is more powerful than a press statement.

### **Abe, Moon agree to put a “maximum” pressure on North Korea**

All broadcasters reported that Prime Minister Abe spoke by phone with South Korean President Moon for 20 minutes on Wednesday morning and that the two leaders agreed on the need for continued close coordination with the U.S. in seeking another UNSC resolution on stricter sanctions on North Korea. The networks said that Abe and Moon also agreed to step up pressure on North Korea to the “maximum level” to urge Pyongyang to come to the negotiating table and to call on China and Russia to play a role in stepping up sanctions.

### **LDP lawmakers to visit Hawaii**

Nikkei reported online that a group of LDP Diet members led by former State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nobuo Kishi is planning to visit Hawaii from Sept. 11 through 14 for talks with senior U.S. military officials, including PACOM Commander Harris. The delegation is looking to launch a mechanism for dialogue between Japanese parliamentarians and Hawaii-based U.S. military commanders with the goal of enhancing information sharing to deal with North Korea's provocations, China's aggressive maritime advancement, and Okinawa base issues.

- [Gist of Abe-Trump teleconference on Aug. 29](#) (Sankei)
- [Gist of PM Abe's remarks to press on North Korea](#) (Mainichi)

- [Gist of CCS Suga's remarks regarding North Korea's missile launch](#) (Asahi Evening edition)
- [Trump allegedly tells Abe he will talk to DPRK's Kim Jong Un at Aug. 15 teleconference](#) (Shukan Gendai)
- [Abe, Moon agree to put "maximum" pressure on N. Korea over missile](#) (Kyodo News)
- [S. Korea, Japan foreign ministers agree to cooperate over N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Editorial: Prime Minister should shift to active defense in light of North Korea's threat](#) (Sankei)
- [Editorial: Tougher sanctions needed to rein in bellicose North Korea](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Editorial: United trilateral front needed to meet N. Korea's latest outrage](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Ruling, opposition parties denounce North Korea's missile launch](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Japan's lower house adopts resolution protesting N. Korea missile](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Analysis: N. Korea's missile launch over Japan could become new normal](#) (Kyodo News)
- [North Korean missile tests Japan's response plan](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Survey of newspaper editorials on Japan-U.S. 2+2 meeting](#) (Sankei)
- [INSIGHTS into the WORLD / Trump may catalyze faster progress in Europe](#) (The Japan News)
- [Southeast Asia gets smart about power plants](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan sponsors tests on electric bus system in Malaysia](#) (Kyodo News)

#### AMBASSADOR

- [Abe hosts luncheon for U.S. Ambassador Hagerty](#) (Nikkei)

#### SECURITY

### **Osprey still at Oita to go through mechanical inspection**

All networks reported that the U.S. military's MV-22 Osprey that made a precautionary landing at Oita

Airport on Tuesday evening is still at the airport. NHK said that the U.S. Marines issued a statement saying that the aircraft will undergo a thorough mechanical inspection before its departure and that the aircraft's presence on the apron at the airport is not causing any inconvenience to airport operations at present. Defense Minister Onodera told reporters that he will call on the U.S. to ensure the safety of aircraft operations in view of the recent accidents involving the Ospreys.

- [Commentary: Retaliation could escalate](#) (Mainichi)
- [Commentary: North Korea's missile launch is warning and threat to Japan](#) (Mainichi)
- [Disaster Management Minister seeks to improve J-Alert](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: The North Korean threat](#) (Asahi)
- [Communications ministry to build decoy networks in bid to lure cyberattackers](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Cabinet Office makes budget request of 319 bn yen for Okinawa development](#) (Sankei)
- [U.S. military aircraft loses part...again](#) (Akahata)

**POLITICS**

- [Prime minister's schedule on Aug. 29, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Deputy PM Aso retracts remark on Hitler's Holocaust motive](#) (Kyodo News)
- [LDP's Komura says constitutional revision draft will be presented next year](#) (Mainichi)
- [Three lawmakers to form new Diet floor group before extra session opens](#) (Yomiuri)

**OPINION POLLS**

- [Analysis of cabinet support rate reveals cracks in Abe's dominance](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)

**ECONOMY**

- [Japan's job availability at 43-yr high, jobless rate steady in July](#) (Kyodo News)

**SOCIETY**

**Who's that girl? American woman seeking friend in postwar photo**

TV Asahi's "Morning Show" on Wednesday aired a 10-minute story about a photo of American and Japanese girls standing together that was probably taken just after the end of WWII. The American girl is Donna Howard, a daughter of a former U.S. Army officer who was a press attaché to Gen. Douglas MacArthur. Ms. Howard is looking for the Japanese girl in the photo. Howard was quoted as telling the network: "I've always wondered who that girl was." Her father, Lt. Col. Walter Pennino, took the picture, and an exhibition of the Pennino Collection of photos of postwar Japan from the University of Hawaii opened on Aug. 29 at the National Showa Memorial Museum in Tokyo. Howard, who now resides in Hawaii, asked the museum to help her identify the Japanese girl in the photo. She only remembers that the photo was snapped at her house in Washington Heights, a residential compound for families of U.S. Army personnel that has now become Yoyogi Park. But she neither remembers the name of the girl nor has any clues as to her whereabouts.

Saying that the Japanese girl should be around 75 years old today and probably lived in Tokyo when the photo was taken, the network asked viewers to provide the museum with information that might lead to locating her.

### **For many challenged to find burial sites, the answer is blowin' in the wind**

NHK's "Close-up Gendai+" reported that an increasing number of people are having difficulty finding places to bury the ashes of their cremated family members. Some of them keep the cremains at home because it is difficult for them to purchase a new tomb for financial reasons, while others are trying to find alternate places for their ancestors to rest in peace after dismantling their family graves because with their own passing there will be no one to tend to their upkeep. Under the circumstances, more and more companies are entering the business of scattering ashes in the sea or in the mountains on behalf of families. There are already 100 such companies.

- [U.S. woman seeks old Tokyo friend from 1947 photo](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Japan to stipulate Ainu as "indigenous people" in new law: sources](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Welfare ministry to reinforce learning support services for poor students](#) (Mainichi)