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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Thursday, September 7, 2017

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**HEADLINES****Noon news**

NHK and NTV gave top play to the Japan-ROK summit held in Vladivostok, saying that Prime Minister Abe stressed the need to work on applying pressure of a "different dimension" on North Korea. President Moon reportedly said now is the time to apply maximum pressure on the North. Abe also explained that the issue of compensation for forced labor has already been resolved and called for thorough implementation of the comfort women agreement. TBS led with a report on a draft sanctions resolution presented to the UN Security Council members by the U.S. Fuji TV gave top play to a report on the growing view that Democratic Party member Shiori Yamao will have to resign as a Diet member since she is allegedly engaged in an extramarital affair.

**INTERNATIONAL****PM Abe, ROK President Moon agree to cooperate closely on North Korea**

NHK reported this morning that Prime Minister Abe held talks with his South Korean counterpart Moon in Russia on Thursday morning, saying that the two leaders confirmed close bilateral cooperation toward an early adoption of a new UN Security Council sanctions resolution against North Korea. During their second summit that lasted for about 50 minutes, Abe reportedly said the threat of North Korea's repeated provocations has become more serious than ever, and expressed hope that Japan and South Korea, and Japan, South Korea, and the U.S. will continue to work together closely. Moon reportedly responded by saying that close cooperation has become more necessary than ever since the people of both Japan and South Korea are very worried about North Korea's repeated provocations. In addition, Abe said he hopes to build a future-oriented Japan-ROK relationship by promoting exchanges in various sectors. Moon reportedly expressed hope to begin

concrete discussions on various sectors, including economic cooperation, in addition to the North Korean nuclear issue. All commercial networks carried similar stories.

- [Gist of talks between Abe, Moon in Vladivostok](#) (Kyodo News)

### **Japanese, ROK foreign ministers confirm need for trilateral cooperation**

NHK reported online that Foreign Minister Kono met with his South Korean counterpart Kang Kyung-wha in Vladivostok on Thursday morning, during which the two ministers spent most of the time discussing North Korea. According to the network, Kono pointed out the need to make efforts to apply pressure "of a different dimension" on North Korea. The two ministers also confirmed the need for close trilateral cooperation by the U.S., Japan, and South Korea and to seek the adoption of a new UN Security Council sanctions resolution against the North. Kono told reporters after the meeting: "We confirmed that there is no difference in our positions, and agreed to elicit actions from North Korea before holding dialogue with the nation." In addition, the network speculated that the two ministers also exchanged views on the issues of the comfort women and forced labor, noting, however, that MOFA did not disclose the details but said they agreed to build a future-oriented relationship.

- [Kim Jong Un's "secret" speech offers evidence of his obsession with nuclear arms, missiles](#) (Mainichi Evening edition)
- [Abe's special envoy asks Iran's help to put pressure on N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Missiles join quakes, typhoons in annual disaster drills](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Japan, ROK defense ministers agree to put stronger pressure on North Korea](#) (Mainichi)
- [Japan, U.S., ROK concerned about DPRK's electromagnetic pulse threat](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Documentarian Megumi Sasaki hopes to bring balance to the story of Taiji in 'A Whale of a Tale'](#) (The Japan Times)
- [The other eclipse: Nazism recasts its shadow in Japan and the U.S.](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Japan lodges protest after China broadcasts video of Senkaku vicinity](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: It's time to restrict crude oil supply to N. Korea with new U.N. sanctions](#) (The Japan News)

<b>ECONOMY</b>
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- [A German-inspired small-scale communal business manages renewable energy](#) (Asahi)
- [U.S. trade deficit with Japan widens 3.7% in July](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan, Russia to lower tax rate for Japanese corporations investing in Russia](#) (Yomiuri)
- [TEPCO's Niigata nuclear plant set to clear screening to restart reactors](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Keidanren chief calls for construction of new nuclear power plants](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan's biomass power capacity seen growing 50% by early 2020s](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan to help Indonesia develop Natuna, 5 more outer islands](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan mulls extra budget as Abenomics disappoints](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [FY2018 budget requests for policy spending total a record 77 trillion yen](#) (Mainichi)
- [Ministries, agencies requesting more fiscal investment money in FY18 budget](#) (Nikkei)
- [40% of companies "unable to satisfy employees" through work-style reform, survey](#) (Nikkei)

<b>SECURITY</b>
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### **New U.S. 7th Fleet Commander meets with Yokosuka mayor**

NHK reported that Vice Adm. Phillip Sawyer, the new commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, visited Yokosuka City Mayor Ueji at Yokosuka City Hall this morning. The network said Vice Adm. Sawyer assumed the post after his predecessor was dismissed following a series of incidents involving Aegis-equipped vessels this year. The network said Mayor Ueji expressed his condolences for the victims of the collision between USS Fitzgerald and a container vessel in waters off Shizuoka and expressed hope that vessels deployed at Yokosuka will be operated in a safe and stable manner. Adm. Sawyer reportedly responded: "We are faced with a major challenge today. The operation of vessels must be safe and stable. We are keenly aware that we need to rectify whatever needs to be rectified."

- [Japan should discuss deployment of U.S. nukes inside country: Ishiba](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Govt studying lasers for missile defense](#) (The Japan News)
- [Okinawa's economics minister does some soul-searching after backlash from recent comments](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Adviser on World Heritage shows interest in U.S. base transfer plan](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Gov't to conduct survey on domestic cybersecurity to better secure IoT devices](#) (Yomiuri)

## POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on Sept. 6, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Citizens signing up to demand Sagawa's dismissal over Moritomo scandal](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Maehara: "We'll repeal security legislation and enact new laws"](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Extraordinary Diet session may be postponed](#) (Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Japan must optimize defense spending while preparing for threats](#) (The Mainichi)
- [FM Kono had "secret agreement" with Abe regarding his appointment](#) (Sentaku)
- [Noda's joining cabinet thwarts ex-PM Hosokawa's plan to realign opposition parties](#) (Sentaku)

## SCIENCE

- [MOFA cites national security risks in report on global warming](#) (Yomiuri)

## EDUCATION

### Selection of school textbooks

NHK's "Close-up Gendai+" reported on the issue of school textbook selection in Japan, saying that a number of people are directly complaining to schools and municipalities that adopt certain textbooks. The program said thousands of postcards were sent to a private school in Nagoya to protest its adoption of a state-certified history textbook that mentions the comfort women issue. The program also reported on the issue of transparency in the process of selecting school textbooks.

## SOCIETY

- [Japan sees record number of cybercrime reports in 1st half of 2017](#) (Kyodo News)

## TRENDING@JAPAN

- [In the nation of The Tale of Genji, youths losing touch with written word](#) (Yomiuri)
  - [Public facilities offer refuge to kids with back-to-school blues](#) (Asahi)
  - [In Japan, gender gap extends to sleep, with women catching fewer z's than men](#) (Yomiuri Online)
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