



Afternoon Alert - Wednesday, September 13, 2017

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

Most networks gave top play to reports on powerful Typhoon Talim, which is approaching Miyakojima in Okinawa. TV Asahi led with a report that North Korea strongly criticized the UN Security Council's new sanctions resolution, calling it a "heinous provocation."

## INTERNATIONAL

### President Trump may visit Japan, China in November

NHK reported this morning that it has learned from several sources that President Trump is studying the idea of making his first trips to Japan, China, and possibly South Korea in conjunction with his planned trip to Vietnam in November. The network said that the Trump administration is making arrangements to send an advance team to Japan in preparation for the possible presidential visit. An unnamed White House official told the broadcaster on Tuesday that the President plans to visit Asia this fall but no details have been decided yet.

All commercial networks also reported in their noon news programs that President Trump may visit Japan for the first time on around Nov. 4. Fuji-TV claimed that arrangements are being made for Assistant to the President Ivanka Trump to arrive in Tokyo on Nov. 2 to attend a conference on women' empowerment.

### President Trump calls latest UNSC resolution "small step"

TV Asahi reported at noon that President Trump hinted that he is not satisfied with the latest UN Security Council resolution against North Korea by saying that it is only "a small step." The President was quoted as saying: "We think it's just another very small step, not a big deal." Noting that a total

ban on crude oil exports to North Korea and freezing the overseas assets of Kim Jong Un were excluded from the final resolution in order to win support from China and Russia, the network said the President apparently admitted that concessions had to be made.

Meanwhile, the network quoted Acting Assistant Secretary of State Thornton as saying: "If China or Russia do not act, we will use the tools at our disposal. Just last month, we rolled out new sanctions targeting Russian and Chinese individuals and entities." She also reportedly called for a peaceful resolution by saying that the U.S. has no intention to change the North Korean regime.

### **Arrangements underway for U.S., Japan, ROK summit on Sept. 21**

NTV reported at noon that arrangements are being made to hold a trilateral summit between the U.S., Japan, and South Korea on Sept. 21 on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meeting in New York. The network said in addition to the trilateral summit, a bilateral summit between Prime Minister Abe and President Trump is also being planned on the same day. The network added that the leaders of the three nations are expected to discuss North Korea and highlight close trilateral cooperation. In addition, the network said it learned that although PM Abe was invited by the President to play golf on Sept. 17, Abe turned down the offer in order to avoid public criticism amid increasing tension over North Korea.

### **PM Abe leaves for India**

Most networks reported at noon that Prime Minister Abe left for India this morning. NHK quoted the premier as telling reporters before his departure: "I would like to exchange candid views with Prime Minister Modi on North Korea....Together with Prime Minister Modi, I would like to convey to the world that the international community must thoroughly implement the latest UN Security Council resolution and make North Korea change its policies." On Japan's cooperation in infrastructure building, including nuclear generation technology, the premier expressed hope to contribute to India's development through public-private sector cooperation, adding that while challenges remain for nuclear cooperation, he hopes that the bullet train project will stimulate growth in India. The network said Abe will be in India for three days.

- [Trump eyes 1st visit to Japan in early Nov.: source](#) (Kyodo News)
- [China has capped oil exports to DPRK since April to show U.S. it is applying pressure](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Source says "almost all" Chinese banks have halted transactions with North Koreans](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Editorial: Post-sanction diplomacy faces another vital test with N. Korea](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Expert warns diplomatic pressure indispensable to freeze DPRK's nuclear, missile](#)

[development](#) (Mainichi)

- [Commentary: North Korean crisis could lead to crisis in Middle East](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan voices support for Egypt in Middle East peace talks](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Doyukai chief welcomes new sanctions resolution against DPRK](#) (Mainichi)
- [Danish crown prince, princess to visit Japan next month](#) (Kyodo News)

## AMBASSADOR

- [U.S.-Japan ties at “highest point” amid N. Korea woes: new U.S. envoy](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Businessman Hagerty back in Tokyo as U.S. ambassador](#) (Kyodo News)
- [U.S. envoy: Japan-U.S. cooperation unshakable even in a contingency](#) (Kyodo)
- [Gist of the U.S. Ambassador’s remarks in Sept. 12 interview](#) (Kyodo)
- [U.S. envoy has “fond memories of Japan,” desires to visit disaster areas](#) (Kyodo)
- [U.S. Ambassador Hagerty’s profile](#) (Kyodo)

## POLITICS

- [Prime minister’s schedule on Sept. 12, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan won’t accept North Korea as nuclear power, Abe says](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Interview with CCS Suga on North Korea threat, Japan-U.S. alliance](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Business leaders react to Koizumi’s proposal for wealthy to forgo pensions](#) (Asahi)
- [Japan’s LDP struggles for consensus on amending constitution](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [LDP to set up in-house advisory research panel to create “vision for society, economy in 2050”](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Depopulated Kochi village suspends idea of direct democracy](#) (The Japan Times)

- [MHLW chief's dual role as abduction minister sparks concerns within ministry](#) (Shukan Ekonomisuto)

## OPINION POLLS

- [Cabinet support rate higher than nonsupport for first time in three months, NHK public opinion poll](#) (NHK Online)
- [Over 50% say they are "not optimistic" about formation of new political party, NHK public opinion poll](#) (NHK Online)

## ECONOMY

### **Ambassador Hagerty, Farm Minister Saito discuss Japan's beef safeguard**

SankeiBiz, an online business news site operated by Sankei Shimbun, posted a story about Ambassador Hagerty's meeting with Agriculture Minister Saito on Tuesday, saying that the two officials discussed Japan's safeguard measures imposed on frozen American beef imports. The Ambassador told reporters after the meeting that he had a very thorough discussion about the safeguard with the minister. The report said that although the Ambassador may have called for a review of the safeguard system, he did not disclose the details of the discussion. The Ambassador reportedly added that he had a very frank discussion with Minister Saito about topics related to agricultural products and trade and agreed to continue their discussion on a broad variety of agricultural products where their nations may cooperate.

- [U.S. to lift ban on persimmon imports from Japan](#) (Nikkei)
- [Interview with Takahide Kiuchi on BOJ's unsustainable interest rate policies](#) (Shukan Ekonomisuto)

## SCIENCE

### **Record rainfall marked in Japan this year**

NHK's "Close-up Gendai+" reported that there had been more than 80 record rainfall events in various parts of Japan this year as of the end of August, marking the highest level in recent years. The program said many small rivers flooded during record rainfall in Kyushu, adding that many large reservoirs located across Japan are at risk of overflowing during heavy rainfall, causing tsunami-like waves.

## SOCIETY

- [Inspectors link Cambodian trainee's depression to workplace abuse](#) (Kyodo News)

- [Panel drafts rules for child handovers in case of divorced couples](#) (Asahi)

**Okinawa Local Press**

**U.S. Ambassador says “Henoko is the best plan”**

Ryukyu Shimpo reported on part of Ambassador Hagerty's interview with Kyodo News on Tuesday, saying that the Ambassador commented on concerns held by local residents about the safety of the Osprey by saying that the U.S. military is operating the aircraft with utmost care. Concerning the Futenma base's relocation to Henoko, the Ambassador was quoted as saying that Henoko is the best plan

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