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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Monday, October 30, 2017

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

NHK led with a report that the mayor of Ageo, Saitama, and a member of the Ageo city assembly were arrested today on charges of interfering in a bidding process. NTV, TBS, and Fuji TV gave top play to reports on strong winds in Hokkaido. TV Asahi led with a report that the Japan Meteorological Agency announced that the first cold wind of autumn blew in Tokyo today.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Police conducting checks of vehicles in front of U.S. Embassy

NTV reported this afternoon that the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) conducted vehicle security checks today in front of the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo ahead of the upcoming visit by President Trump. The network said police officers stopped cars and explained to drivers that vehicles will be stopped for security checks around Tokyo during the President's visit to Japan starting on Nov. 5. The network said the MPD will deploy more than 10,000 officers during the visit, quoting its security department director as telling the network that he wants people to notify the police of any suspicious objects, vehicles, or people.

### Metropolitan police conduct drills to prepare for POTUS visit

Fuji TV reported at noon that the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) security police unit has been carrying out drills to prepare for the upcoming visit by President Trump. The network showed the officers conducting a drill based on the scenario of a gunman attacking the President. The network said the officers also practiced protecting the President's motorcade and blocking cars attempting to cut into the procession. The network said the MPD is planning to deploy more than 10,000 police officers for the President's visit.

## **Experts discuss North Korea, President Trump's upcoming visit to Japan**

Five experts discussed the situation surrounding North Korea during NHK's "Nichiyo Toron" Sunday debate show. The panelists included MIT senior fellow Yukio Okamoto, former Ambassador to China Yuji Miyamoto, senior research fellow at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation Tsuneo Watanabe, Nanzan University Professor Shunji Hiraiwa, and Waseda University Professor Chikako Ueki.

Concerning North Korea's "silence" since its launch of a Mars 12 ballistic missile on Sept. 15 following its repeated provocations since July, the discussants expressed the view that the Kim regime is gauging the response of the international community, especially the U.S. and China. The panelists also discussed the upcoming visit to Japan by President Trump. Watanabe said that President Trump and Prime Minister Abe will reaffirm the strong ties between the U.S. and Japan and that the President's trip to Southeast Asia will be significant in sending a message to China on its activities in the South China Sea. Okamoto expressed a similar view, adding that it is important for the U.S. and Japan to confirm their strong alliance at a time when South Korea's approach to North Korea is not perfectly in sync with that of Washington and Tokyo. The experts welcomed the President's plan to meet with the families of the Japanese abductees in Tokyo. Hiraiwa and Watanabe said that the meeting will be a good opportunity to demonstrate to North Korea that the U.S. and Japan share the same concerns over the abductions and human rights violations by the DPRK. Okamoto pointed out that President Trump spoke in his address to the United Nations in September about the abduction of a 13-year-old Japanese girl, referring to Megumi Yokota

- [Trump, Abe to highlight N. Korea in lieu of FTA: U.S. experts](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japanese Ambassador to U.S. says groundwork has not yet been laid for FTA talks](#) (Nikkei Evening edition)
- [President invites journalists' children to White House for trick or treat](#) (Asahi)
- [Viral star Piko Taro to entertain Trump during Japan visit](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Abe wants 'maximum' pressure on Pyongyang from Trump visit](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [US and Japan should hammer out new trade rules, Pence aide says](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan, China discuss trilateral summit to mend relations](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [NATO, Japan share concerns over N. Korean nuclear weapons threat](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Fewer endorse Japan's 24th anti-nuclear resolution at U.N. after disarmament tweak](#) (The Japan Times)
- [New South Korean envoy to Japan addresses statue dispute](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

- [NATO chief seeks stronger, broader partnership with Japan](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Osaka threatens San Francisco ties over sister city's 'comfort women' memorial](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Japanese, Chinese scholars gather in Beijing for academic exchange](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

## ECONOMY

- ['TPP 11' faces new challenges as clock ticks down](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Foreign investors broadening footprint in the Japanese property market](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: Heed local residents concerns about the IR legislation](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)
- [Fukushima radioactive waste storage starts full operation](#) (Kyodo News)
- [SoftBank eyes Japanese ventures with tech innovators](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Record number of firms employ septuagenarians: MHLW report](#) (Asahi)
- [Consumers feel effects of rise in wholesale bigeye tuna prices](#) (The Japan News)

## POLITICS

- [United opposition could have won 64 more seats in election: Sankei analysis](#) (Sankei)
- [46% of teens and 47% of 20-somethings voted for LDP in proportional representation segment of LH race, Asahi exit poll](#) (Asahi)
- [Cartoon: Prime Minister Abe](#) (Asahi)
- [Opposition parties divided on whom to vote for as prime minister](#) (Sankei)
- [CDPJ's Nagatsuma to grill Aso in Diet on remark attributing election victory to DPRK](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Democratic Party schedule for electing new president](#) (Sankei)
- [Tamaki says Party of Hope leadership election to focus on constitutional revision, security laws](#) (Sankei)

- [Finance Ministry opposes free higher education for all students](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 29, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 28, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 27, 2017](#) (Nikkei)

## SCIENCE

- [Japan to help developing countries' anti-global warming efforts](#) (Kyodo News)
- [High-speed underwater communications system developed with defense funds](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Japan to launch climate research satellite in December](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan eyes free satellite imaging data for businesses](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

## OPINION POLLS

- [Japanese interest in Senkaku and Takeshima disputes waning, Cabinet Office polls](#) (Sankei)

## AMBASSADOR

- [Hagerty: Goal remains the denuclearization of North Korea](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)

## SOCIETY

### Japanese boxer Ryota Murata wins WBA middleweight title

Saturday's "NHK Special" reported on Japanese professional boxer Ryota Murata, who won the WBA middleweight title on Oct. 22. A gold medalist at the 2012 Olympics, Murata lost a controversial split decision in a match against the same opponent for the same title in May that many thought he had won. The program showed how Murata survived the tough training amid increasing pressure by reading books on philosophy and psychology that he received from his father.

### The risk of morning surges in blood pressure

Sunday's "NHK Special" reported that while 10% of Japanese people have high blood pressure, many of those who have normal blood pressure actually experience morning surges in blood pressure. According to the program, people who have blood pressure surges are more likely to have strokes than those with constantly high blood pressure and more than 10 million people in Japan are

at risk of blood pressure surges. The program said measuring one's blood pressure every morning and doing moderate exercise could lower the risk.

- [Japanese doctor slams foreign vocational trainee system](#) (Kyodo News)

## SECURITY

- [Transport of stone materials to be next contentious issue in Henoko relocation](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Board of Audit finds Henoko's security costs too high](#) (Mainichi)
- [Osprey accident rate 1.5-fold higher than GOJ announcement](#) (Mainichi)
- [Memorial service held for fallen SDF members](#) (Jiji Press)



### **Okinawa area coordinator offers apology for helicopter accident at Takae**

Saturday's Okinawa Times front-paged a report saying that Okinawa Area Coordinator Nicholson offered an apology at a meeting with Vice Governor Tomikawa on Friday for the accident involving a Futenma-based CH-53E helicopter that burst into flames at Takae in Higashi Village, Okinawa. The paper wrote that this was the first time for Lt. Gen. Nicholson to apologize for the incident. The vice governor told reporters after the meeting that Lt. Gen. Nicholson expressed regret and apologized for causing anxiety among the people of Okinawa. Concerning the prefectural government's request for suspending the use of three of the six helipads at the Northern Training Area, the vice governor quoted the Marine general as saying that he promised to study the request so as to alleviate the anxiety of local residents. The paper also wrote that the meeting was held behind closed doors in accordance with a request from the U.S. side despite the prefectural government's policy of making all meetings open to the press. Vice Governor Tomikawa apologized to the press by saying that the prefecture gave priority to the visit and apology from Nicholson over the format of the meeting. Ryukyu Shimpo ran a similar story on an inside page.

- [Okinawa Defense Bureau to sign contracts for Henoko landfill work in FY17](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- [Okinawa prefectural government's major requests to U.S. military](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)



