
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, November 28, 2017

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HEADLINES

Noon news

NHK led with a report that Toray Industries Ltd. President Nikkaku announced today that one of its subsidiaries fabricated inspection data for the last eight years. All commercial networks gave top play to reports that the police will question today sumo grand champion Hakuho over the alleged assault by Harumafuji.

INTERNATIONAL

Senior U.S. diplomat urges China, Russia to stop hosting DPRK workers

Sankei took up an [op-ed](#) contributed to the New York Times by State Department Director of Policy Planning Brian Hook in which he asked China and Russia to no longer accept North Korean workers since they are used by the DPRK government as “slave labor” who raise as much as \$230 million a year for the regime’s nuclear and missile development. The DOS official claimed that China and Russia are using thousands of North Korean laborers at mines, logging camps, construction sites, including soccer stadiums for the 2018 World Cup that Moscow plans to host. He also took issue with China’s deportation of North Korean defectors, arguing that the practice constitutes a violation of China’s legal obligation under the International Refugee Convention. The Japanese daily said the senior USG official’s op-ed piece was intended to press Beijing and Moscow to more rigorously enforce sanctions on Pyongyang. The evening edition of Monday’s Mainichi and several sports tabloids published a Kyodo piece on Hook’s article.

- [Japan foreign minister to undertake “world tour” next month: sources](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan prioritizes improving relations with China through “One Belt, One Road”](#) (Yomiuri)

- [Japan-Russia business conference to be held for the first time in five years](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: U.S., DPRK leaders still not friends](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)
- [Japan opens cultural center in Taiwan](#) (Kyodo News)

AMBASSADOR

- [Interview with Ambassador Hagerty: “Japan-U.S. relationship has never been stronger”](#) (Chunichi Shimbun)

ECONOMY

- [Corporate Japan hit again: Toray admits to fudging data](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Gov’t mulls tax cut for corporate cybersecurity measures and AI investment](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan eyes private-sector group to prevent rice oversupply](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Editorial: No delay should be allowed in turning agriculture into ‘aggressive’ industry](#) (The Japan News)
- [JAL, Aeroflot to code-share flights, cooperate on mileage](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [FOCUS: Tokyo condos shutting doors on home-sharing lodging businesses](#) (Kyodo News)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister’s schedule on Nov. 27, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Gist of interpellations at Lower House Budget Committee, Nov. 27](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Kantei leading tax reform discussions, fanning discontent in LDP tax commission](#) (Mainichi)
- [Abe’s message to Nippon Kaigi pledges to achieve “historic mission” of constitutional revision](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [CDPJ asks Diet members to set up prefectural chapters within this year](#) (Mainichi)
- [Cartoon: Peace reigns in Japan](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

OPINION POLLS

- [With 14% support rate, CDPJ is head and shoulders above other opposition parties, Nikkei poll](#) (Nikkei)

SCIENCE

- [National Cancer Center forms anticancer drug R&D consortium with five Asian institutions](#) (Nikkei)
- [Panel calls on Japan to accept fact-finding mission on whaling](#) (Kyodo News)

SOCIETY

Saburo Kitajima and his racehorse “Kitsan Black”

Monday's "Close-up Gendai +" reported on Kitsan Black, a Japanese thoroughbred racehorse owned by well-known Japanese "enka" singer Saburo Kitajima. The program said that although Kitsan Black was not regarded as a promising racehorse at first, Kitajima cared for the horse as if it were his own son, making it into one of the fastest racehorses in Japan. The program looked back at the life of Kitajima, 81, and explored what made Kitsan Black so fast. Kitsan Black will retire this year.

- [Infographic: Trends in women's employment rate and no. of children on daycare wait lists](#) (Asahi)
- [Role of foreign interns under gov't-backed program changing amid labor shortage](#) (The Mainichi)

SECURITY

U.S. Marines conduct night live-fire exercise in Hokkaido

NHK Hokkaido reported this morning that the U.S. Marines began a live-fire exercise at the Yausubetsu Training Area in East Hokkaido on Monday, saying that the exercise was held at night on the first day. The network said a local council asked the chief of the Hokkaido Defense Bureau in November not to conduct the training at night. According to the network, the Marines began the exercise at 7:14 p.m. and concluded it about 36 minutes later on Monday. The network added that the live-fire training will be held until December 7.

- [FM Kono indicates need to use gov't aircraft, ships to evacuate citizens in Korean contingency](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan, Britain to start discussions on VFA](#) (The Japan News)

OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS

Okinawa assembly to adopt resolution of protest over fatal traffic accident involving Marine

Ryukyu Shimpo wrote that the Okinawa prefectural assembly's special committee on U.S. bases held a meeting on Monday to discuss a resolution of protest against the fatal traffic accident caused by a U.S. Marine who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol. The ruling parties and the LDP local chapter, which is in opposition at the local assembly, failed to reach a consensus on the language of a draft resolution. As a result, they decided to submit separate resolutions to a plenary session of the assembly to be held on Tuesday. The ruling bloc insisted that the removal of the Marines from Okinawa be mentioned in the draft resolution, but the LDP required that the language calling for a complete withdrawal of the Marines be omitted from the motion. In addition to a complete withdrawal of the Marines, the ruling parties plan to call for swift and full compensation for the family of the accident victim and a drastic review of the Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). The LDP local chapter plans to call on the U.S. side to replace the commander of forces in Okinawa, set up a committee involving the U.S., Japanese, and Okinawa governments, and drastically review the SOFA. Okinawa Times ran a similar report adding that the assembly will likely adopt a resolution to be submitted by the ruling parties by a majority vote.

- [Okinawa prefecture asks U.S. military to properly sort and store garbage at bases](#) (Okinawa Times)