
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Thursday, November 30, 2017

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HEADLINES

Noon news

All broadcasters gave top play to reports that North Korea disclosed through state media 48 photos of the launch of a "Hwasong-15" missile on Wednesday, announcing that the launch was successful. NHK said that according to analysis by a research group at Johns Hopkins University, the missile would be able to travel for 13,000 km on a normal trajectory and can reach anywhere on the U.S. mainland.

INTERNATIONAL

Suga says North Korean launched new type of ICBM

NHK reported that Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga told a press conference this morning that the ballistic missile North Korea fired on Wednesday was a new ballistic missile different from the ICBM that was fired in July given its round-shaped warhead. Concerning the disclosure of photos of the missile launch by North Korea, Suga said: "We are analyzing various information both comprehensively and expertly. We will work with the United States and South Korea and continue to carry out surveillance activities and collect information with a sense of urgency." Suga also reportedly said: "At this point, considering its flight distance and altitude, and the fact that North Korea announced that it was a new 'Hwasong-15' missile and its warhead was round-shaped, we believe it was a new type of ICBM different from the ICBM fired twice in July."

President Trump calls North Korean leader "sick puppy"

NHK reported online this morning that on Wednesday President Trump delivered a speech in Missouri in which he criticized the North Korean leader by saying: "Little rocket man....He is a sick puppy." The President also reportedly stressed that his government will protect the nation from North

Korea and any other nation and said that he will strengthen the U.S. military. All other networks carried similar stories.

- [Gist of PM Abe's comments on North Korea's missile launch](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Gist of Abe-Trump teleconference on North Korea's missile launch, Nov. 29](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Gist of Abe-Moon teleconference on North Korea's missile launch, Nov. 29](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Gist of DM Onodera's comments on North Korea's missile launch](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Growing concerns in GOJ about U.S. taking military option after latest DPRK missile launch](#) (Yomiuri)
- [FOCUS: Restart of N. Korea missile testing may upset Japan's strategy](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Editorial: Diplomacy, sanctions still best way to deal with N. Korea](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Upper and Lower Houses to adopt resolution to condemn North Korea's missile launch](#) (Mainichi)
- [Japan, Israel to facilitate bilateral investment](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: South Korean politicians further pander to anti-Japanese sentiment](#) (The Japan News)

ECONOMY

- [Keidanren to ask member companies to check for misconduct](#) (Nikkei, Evening edition)
- [Keidanren chief from Toray apologizes for data falsification](#) (Jiji Press)
- [ADB chief urges bigger private-sector role in infrastructure-building](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Health ministry to delay introduction of new drug price adjustment system](#) (Asahi)
- [Editorial: Gov't should use cost effectiveness in setting drug prices](#) (Nikkei)
- [METI may begin discussing adding nuclear plants](#) (Mainichi)

- [Record 87.8 pct of Japanese firms raise wages in 2017: gov't](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Price of imported rice hits five-year high](#) (Nikkei)
- [Patent application fees to be halved for SMEs](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan to cut tax for IoT-investing firms](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Japan to boost financial support for vocational training](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Rakuten to chase Airbnb with turnkey service for landlords](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Rhetoric and reality of Japan's skilled labor dilemma](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on Nov. 29, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Gist of interpellations at Upper House Budget Committee, Nov. 29](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [LDP headquarters to summarize constitutional revision issues before end of 2017](#) (Mainichi)
- [New audio data suggests Finance Ministry, Moritomo arranged story about buried waste](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Gov't testimony on Moritomo Gakuen scandal coming unstitched](#) (The Mainichi)

EDUCATION

- [Waseda professor proposes revisiting intrinsic purpose of studying abroad](#) (Nikkei)

SOCIETY

Who will be the next Mao Asada?

NHK's "Close-up Gendai +" reported on Japanese female figure skaters, including 18-year-old Satoko Miyahara, who just recovered from an injury, Marin Honda, 16, Mai Mihara, 18, and Wakaba Higuchi, 16. The program said these teenage skaters are in a fierce competition to qualify for the *Pyeongchang* Olympics in 2018. The All-Japan Figure Skating Championships to be held next month will be the final qualifying event prior to the selection of the Japanese Olympics Figure Skating Team.

- [170 cryptocurrency laundering cases suspected in half year from April](#) (Kyodo News)

SECURITY

- [Gov't fails to disclose signs of North Korea's missile launch](#) (Asahi)
- [Noise pollution at Atsugi remains unchanged](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)

OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS

Foreign Minister Kono to visit Okinawa

Ryukyu Shimpo and Okinawa Times wrote that Foreign Minister Kono told the press on Wednesday that he will visit Okinawa on Dec. 1-2. This will be his first visit to the prefecture as foreign minister. The papers wrote that Kono plans to hold meetings with Governor Onaga, Okinawa Area Coordinator Nicholson, and local business leaders during his visit to the island prefecture. Okinawa Times speculated that Kono will discuss with the governor such issues as Futenma relocation, the U.S. military's parachute drop training, and the recent accidents involving U.S. military aircraft. The paper also wrote that SOFA revision may be taken up as an issue for discussion with the governor because the court plans to deliver on Dec. 1 a verdict in the trial of Kenneth Franklin Shinzato, a former Marine and civilian base worker accused of assaulting and killing a local woman. The papers added that the foreign minister plans to discuss the idea of asking American schools on U.S. military bases in Okinawa to accept Japanese students and pupils in Okinawa for the purpose of improving their English-language ability. However, Ryukyu Shimpo wrote that opposition to the idea may arise in the prefecture out of concern that the arrangement could lead to the U.S. military bases' semi-permanent presence in Okinawa.
