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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Wednesday, December 6, 2017

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#### HEADLINES

##### Noon news

NHK led with a report that President Trump will announce on Wednesday that the U.S. recognizes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and will relocate the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv to there. The network said since the international community does not recognize the city as the Israeli capital, the Palestinians and Islamic nations are likely to react sharply. The network also said that terrorism may increase as a result. The network quoted Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga as telling reporters this morning: "We are aware that President Trump will officially announce his decision soon. Japan is of the position that the final status of Jerusalem and other issues should be resolved through agreements and negotiations between the parties concerned based on past UNSC resolutions. We are closely monitoring the development with serious interest." Suga also said that the GOJ has no plan to relocate the Japanese Embassy from Tel Aviv.

NTV and TBS gave top play to reports that the International Olympic Committee has decided to ban Russian athletes from participating in the Pyeongchang Olympics in February 2018 due to allegations of state-sponsored doping at the 2014 Sochi Olympics. TV Asahi led with a report that U.S. media reported that special counsel Mueller has subpoenaed Deutsche Bank to provide information on the accounts of President Trump and his family. Fuji TV gave top play to a press conference held this morning by professional shogi player Yoshiharu Habu on becoming the first professional shogi player to win a seventh title.

#### INTERNATIONAL

##### DOS spokesperson says Feltman not carrying message from U.S.

NHK reported at noon that DOS spokesperson Nauert stressed on Tuesday that UN Under Secretary General for Political Affairs Feltman's ongoing visit to North Korea is not in line with the

Trump administration's policy to increase pressure on the North. She was quoted as telling reporters on Tuesday: "We are certainly aware of his travels.... He's not traveling on behalf of the U.S. government. He's not traveling with any kind of message from the U.S. government." The network said the spokesperson pointed out that there is no sign of North Korea abandoning its nuclear and missile development programs, expressing the view that the U.S. government will wait and see how North Korea will respond to Feltman's visit.

- [Japan throws cold water on U.S.-led dialogue on N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan, China strike deal to set up E. China Sea hotline](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Survey of newspaper editorials on North Korea's launch of new ICBM](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan offers fresh aid to Madagascar to improve food, water supply](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Cartoon: DPRK missile tests](#) (Sankei)

## ECONOMY

- [Japan eyes easy consumer access to personal data](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Operator submits 30-yr plan to scrap trouble-prone Monju reactor](#) (Jiji)
- [Mizuho Bank to open office in Dallas](#) (Nikkei)
- [JAL invests \\$10 mil. in supersonic jet developer Boom](#) (Kyodo News)
- ["Japan has loopholes" in ivory trading](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Gov't to simplify duty-free system for foreign tourists in Japan](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Cartoon: The tarnished Japan brand](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)

## POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on Dec. 5, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: Moritomo and Kake scandals](#) (Akahata)
- [Cabinet and LDP support strong in Western Japan, low in Eastern Japan, trend analysis of Nikkei polls \(Part 1\)](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan Diet panel resumes debate on amending Constitution](#) (Kyodo News)

- [LDP policy council approves proposed policy package on human resources development](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Supra-partisan policy forum of Rengo-endorsed Diet members to launch in early 2018](#) (Yomiuri)

## SCIENCE

- [Yokohama City University develops way to mass-produce “micro livers” from iPS cells](#) (Nikkei)
- [New engine could make or break Japan’s rocket program](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

## SOCIETY

### Shoplifting by Vietnamese students on the rise

NHK's "Close-up Gendai+" reported that the number of shoplifting incidents involving Vietnamese in Japan is increasing, saying that Vietnamese now commit more crimes than people from any other country in Japan. According to the program, 1,208 Vietnamese nationals were arrested for petty crimes such as shoplifting last year. Most of them are students who are in dire straits because even though they work at night, they are hard pressed to repay the large loans that underwrote their studying in Japan.

- [“Unconscious biases” hinder women’s empowerment](#) (NHK Online)
- [Visa overstayer from China plans lawsuit over being set on fire](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Gov’t to allow foreign technical interns to work in Japan after passing nursing care exam](#) (Mainichi, Evening edition)

## SECURITY

- [Gov’t to seek funds for cruise missile in FY2018 budget](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan eyes air-to-surface missiles that would put North Korea in range](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [ICBM may have a range of more than 10,000 km: DM Onodera](#) (Mainichi)
- [Chinese air force practices bombing Guam to deter U.S. use of force on DPRK: expert](#) (Shukan Toyo Keizai)
- [Why doesn’t Japan release the estimate of damage from a contingency on the Korean Peninsula?](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

- [Japanese defense stocks poised for offensive in a dangerous world](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

<b>OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS</b>
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- [MOD official confirms Japan to pay 2.2 billion yen for rebuilding Henoko ammo depot](#) (Okinawa Times)
  - [Waste disposal company to make decision on garbage collection on U.S. bases today](#) (Okinawa Times)
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