
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, February 6, 2018

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HEADLINES

Noon news

NTV, TBS, and Fuji TV led with reports that the Nikkei Stock Average temporarily plunged by more than 1,200 points this morning after the Dow Jones Industrial Average posted its steepest single-day drop overnight in New York. TV Asahi led with a report that the body of the missing pilot of the GSDF attack helicopter that crashed on Monday in Saga was found near the crash site. NHK gave top play to a report on heavy snowfall in Ishikawa and Fukui.

SECURITY

Nago mayoral election

NHK's "Close-up Gendai +" reported on the results of the Nago mayoral election on Sunday, in which Taketoyo Toguchi, a newcomer who promised to focus on improving the local economy, defeated the incumbent mayor who pledged to block the Futenma relocation plan. But although Toguchi was able to secure more votes, an exit poll conducted by NHK on Sunday showed that 75% of voters oppose the Futenma relocation plan. The program said that Nago citizens have mixed feelings about the relocation issue, adding that many who voted for Toguchi did so based on the notion that no matter how much they oppose the plan, the government will move forward with it anyway. According to the program, the results of the election in Nago will have a major impact on the upcoming Okinawa gubernatorial election and could become a major turning point for Okinawa and the base issues. The program said the voters' decision is the result of many years of anguish, struggle, and fatigue for the people of Okinawa, adding that all Japanese need to face the fact that Okinawans have been forced to make choices on national issues.

- [Henoko reclamation work to start in June following victory of gov't-backed candidate](#)

[in Nago election](#) (Yomiuri)

- [Nago mayoral election defeat to force Okinawa governor to rethink political strategy](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Japan mulling restart of subsidies for U.S. Forces realignment](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Komeito's support cemented gov't-backed candidate's victory in Nago election](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Votes from Komeito supporters decisive in Toguchi victory in Nago mayoral election, analysis of Asahi exit poll](#) (Asahi)
- [Editorial: Nago election results reflect bitter division over base issue](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Editorial: Gov't should move forward with Henoko relocation](#) (Sankei)
- [Editorial: Nago mayoral election results not necessarily mean citizens' approval for Futenma relocation](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

Former PM Hatoyama expresses opposition to Futenma relocation plan in Washington

NHK reported on its website that former Prime Minister Hatoyama visited Washington on Monday for the first time since he stepped down from the premiership in 2010. He met with Senator Hirono, who belongs to the Senate Armed Services Committee. According to the network, Hatoyama expressed regret over the victory of a newcomer backed by the LDP and Komeito in the Nago mayoral election and voiced his opposition to the existing Futenma relocation plan by saying that it is not the only solution. Senator Hirono reportedly responded by saying that although it is important to reduce the burden on Okinawa, the issue of the relocation site is basically the Japanese government's problem. On North Korea, Hatoyama reportedly said that strengthening sanctions will not convince North Korea to give up on possessing nuclear weapons, and conditions for holding dialogue should be presented, such as the U.S. and South Korea stopping joint military training in exchange for North Korea's suspension of its nuclear and missile development. The network said Hatoyama also exchanged views with a group of scientists prior to his meeting with Senator Hirono, during which he expressed concern about the Trump administration's new Nuclear Posture Review. He also told reporters: "The Japanese government should seek a world without nuclear weapons."

- [Gov't stepping up efforts to ensure safety of Japanese visitors to Olympics](#) (Yomiuri)
- [SDF conducts 2 missions to protect U.S. military hardware](#) (Jiji Press)

INTERNATIONAL

- [Japan, ROK, U.S. partnership at peril with visit of DPRK high-ranking official](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Survey of newspaper editorials on North-South Korea rapprochement before the Olympics](#) (Mainichi)

ECONOMY

- [New Keidanren chief: Power of personalities can lead business](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on Feb. 4-5, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Abe explains uncompromising stance on inserting 'explicit SDF mention' in Article 9](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Gist of interpellations at Lower House Budget Committee, Feb. 5](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Nukaga set to announce his resignation as faction leader](#) (Mainichi)
- [Kishida's presence weakened amid Abe's boldness in Diet interpellations](#) (Yomiuri)

EDUCATION

- [More of Japan's junior high schools include English in entrance exams](#) (The Japan Times)

SOCIETY

- [Health ministry warns hotels not to turn away LGBT customers](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)

OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS

Ban briefly imposed on drinking by Ronald Reagan sailors

Ryukyu Shimpo reported today that USS Ronald Reagan sailors were banned from drinking alcohol on Sunday Feb. 4, but that the ban was lifted on the afternoon of Feb. 5 following a town hall

meeting in which crew members were told to review their behavior while off duty. The paper speculated that the ban was invoked in response to a problem involving intoxicated personnel.

