
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Wednesday, April 4, 2018

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HEADLINES

Noon news

NHK, NTV, and TV Asahi led with reports that at least three people were injured after a woman opened fire at the headquarters of YouTube in California on Monday. TBS and Fuji TV led with reports that five CV-22 Ospreys were unloaded from a ship in Yokohama this morning, saying that the aircraft are expected to be officially deployed at Yokota AB by this summer and that local residents are voicing concern.

INTERNATIONAL

- [Abe asks Moon to visit Japan before inter-Korean summit in April](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Editorial: IOC president's excessive political activities](#) (Sankei)
- [Former PM and Tokyo Olympic head Mori asks IOC to remember North Korean abductions of Japanese nationals](#) (The Japan Times)
- [New Russian envoy to Japan vows to build "genuine relationship of trust"](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)

ECONOMY

- [Editorial: China's retaliatory tariffs against US feared to intensify trade friction](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Japan ruling parties agree on 6,000-yen casino entry fee](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Monex offers to take over hacked cryptocurrency exchange Coincheck](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan aims revamped TPP at reducing reliance on U.S.: former high-level diplomat](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Opinion poll & results of Nikkei survey of 100 major companies](#) (Nikkei Sangyo)
- [Less than 60% of Japanese companies say they will "expand overseas operations," JETRO survey](#) (Nikkei)

SECURITY

Five Ospreys unloaded from ship in Yokohama

All networks reported at noon that five CV-22 Ospreys were unloaded from a ship at Yokohama's North Dock this morning, saying that the CV-22s are expected to be moved to Yokota AB later this week. NHK said although the U.S. military was planning to deploy the aircraft at Yokota AB in October 2018 or later, it was disclosed on Tuesday that the deployment will take place ahead of schedule and that the five CV-22s will arrive in Yokota later this week. Fuji TV said a total of ten Ospreys will be deployed at Yokota over the next few years. The networks showed the five Ospreys being unloaded from a ship in Yokohama this morning. NHK said this is the first time for Ospreys to be deployed at a U.S. base located outside of Okinawa, and they are expected to fly to Yokota soon. NHK quoted Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga as telling reporters this morning: "As the security environment surrounding Japan is becoming more severe, this will enhance the deterrence and response capability of the U.S.-Japan alliance. From the viewpoint of the U.S. commitment to the Asia-Pacific region and the establishment of an immediate response system, this will be conducive to Japan's defense and regional stability." According to the network, Suga also stressed that the government will take into consideration flight safety and the operation of Ospreys in Japan, and work closely with the U.S. to minimize the impact on local communities.

- [Citizens' group wonders if Ospreys' arrival at Yokohama in preparation for Yokota deployment](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)
- [Joint venture formed for Tokyo Olympic security operations](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Cybersecurity strategy calls for collaboration by industry, government, academia](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Major Okinawan hotel operator to leave "All-Okinawa Council"](#) (Asahi)
- [Science Council survey shows only 30% of universities have guidelines on military research](#) (Tokyo Shimbun, Evening edition)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on April 3, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Hosono of Party of Hope, CDPJ reject new party plan](#) (Jiji Press)

OPINION POLLS

- [Young age groups are "moving away from Abe," Yomiuri poll](#) (Yomiuri)

EDUCATION

- [Editorial: University entrance exam reform gives rise to problems with English testing](#) (Nikkei)

SOCIETY

International drug smugglers targeting Japan

NHK's "Close-up Gendai +" reported on a surge in the smuggling of stimulant drugs into Japan, saying that the annual amount of confiscated stimulants in 2017 exceeded 1,000 kg for the second

year in a row. According to the program, the street value of stimulant drugs in Japan is the highest in the world, and international crime organizations and Japanese crime syndicates are working together to smuggle them into Japan. Lately the volume of stimulants smuggled into Japan from Taiwan is increasing and the smugglers' methods are becoming more and more sophisticated.

- [Police bust Chinese national for illegally opening cryptocurrency account](#) (Sankei)
 - [Gov't says no concrete plans to scrap political neutrality clause in Broadcast Law](#) (Mainichi)
 - [Rapid rise in 'children's cafes' offering free or cheap food: survey](#) (The Mainichi)
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