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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Monday, June 11, 2018

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

NHK and TV Asahi gave top play to reports on preparatory meetings for the U.S.-DPRK summit in Singapore. Fuji TV led with a report that a U.S. military F-15 crashed in waters off Naha this morning, saying that the pilot was rescued by the SDF and is being treated in the hospital. The network showed Okinawa Governor Onaga telling reporters in response to the incident: "The situation in Okinawa is such that everyone is paralyzed and thinks it's normal for an F-15 to crash in this way." NTV and TBS gave top play to reports that a 75-year-old driver was arrested after her car plowed into a group of children, injuring six of them, in Fukui this morning.

## INTERNATIONAL

### North Korea reportedly proposed second summit in Pyongyang

NTV and TV Asahi reported at noon that according to a report by South Korean paper JoongAng Ilbo today, North Korea asked President Trump to visit Pyongyang next month in a letter addressed to the President from Chairman Kim Jong Un. The South Korean daily reportedly said the U.S. and North Korea have agreed on the need to hold an additional summit, according to a Singaporean source. NTV said that the South Korean report claimed that President Trump and Kim Jong Un may reach a comprehensive agreement on rapprochement and denuclearization at tomorrow's summit and discuss the details at a subsequent meeting.

### Local experts discuss U.S.-North Korea summit

On NHK's "Nichiyo Toron" Sunday debate show, six Japanese scholars exchanged views on the upcoming Singapore summit between President Trump and DPRK leader Kim Jong Un, with most of them projecting that no firm agreement is likely to be reached on complete, verifiable, and irreversible denuclearization (CVID) other than a verbal commitment from Kim to relinquish his nuclear programs in a phased manner. Keio University Professor Watanabe said the President may

settle for a pledge by Kim to immediately halt nuclear and missile tests and suspend the operation of related facilities as a first step toward CVID, adding that the two sides may agree to open liaison offices in their respective capitals. Ryukoku University Professor Li said the two leaders may not be able to agree on the scope, speed, and method of denuclearization as Kim appears determined not to relinquish his nation's existing nuclear weapons. Waseda University political scientist Nakabayashi voiced concern about what she referred to as the President's conciliatory line, wondering if the U.S. leader, cognizant of the paramount difficulties in realizing swift denuclearization, may be tempted to issue a declaration ending the Korean War to tout a historic diplomatic achievement. Several experts noted that such a declaration would prompt China and South Korea to ease the economic pressure on Pyongyang.

- [Gist of Japan-U.S. joint press conference](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Abe leaning toward dialogue with North Korea following the U.S.'s lead](#) (Asahi)
- [Ruling party leaders hail Trump's pledge to raise abduction issue at summit with DPRK](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Editorial: Abduction issue should be resolved at Japan-DPRK summit by leveraging on Japan-U.S. partnership](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: Converting Japan-U.S. summit outcomes into full resolution of abduction issue](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan takes lead in G7 Summit discussions on North Korea issues](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Abe, 4 other G-7 leaders reaffirm cooperation over North Korea](#) (The Japan News)
- [Cartoon: Brushing back Kim Jong Un](#) (Asahi)
- [Japan protests over Russian undersea fibers linking disputed isles](#) (Kyodo News)
- [German Chancellor Merkel to visit Japan "at an early date" before G20 Summit in 2019](#) (Nikkei)
- [Internal Affairs Minister Noda to visit China in July](#) (Sankei)
- [Expert: Japan's economic support is trump card for resolving abduction issue](#) (Yomiuri)
- [China indicts Japanese man for allegedly spying](#) (The Japan Times)

#### **OPINION POLLS**

- [Americans more optimistic than Japanese about U.S.-N. Korea summit, Genron poll](#) (Kyodo News)

#### **ECONOMY**

- [Additional U.S. auto tariffs could trim Japan's GDP by 0.1%](#) (Sankei)
- [U.S. demands Japan reduce its plutonium stockpiles](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Editorial: Can Japan-France cooperation help open new vistas for fast N-reactors?](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan, Canada vow to promote WTO, TPP against U.S. trade policy](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Editorial: Japan's ability to block protective trade being put to the test](#) (Nikkei)
- [Editorial: Casino bill is a bad gamble, no matter how you look at it](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Ruling coalition holds back on casino bill ahead of Niigata gubernatorial](#)

[election](#) (The Japan Times)

## **POLITICS**

- [Prime minister's schedule on June 7–8, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on June 8, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [LDP's Ishiba indirectly raps Abe over cronyism allegations](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Currency diplomat Asakawa tapped as top finance bureaucrat](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Thousands rally against Abe gov't amid cronyism scandals](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Ruling coalition-backed candidate wins Niigata gubernatorial election](#) (Kyodo News)

## **SOCIETY**

### **Oedo – Part 2: Craftsmen and merchants drove Edo's economic growth**

Sunday's NHK Special" aired the second part of its series on Tokyo when it was known as Edo, saying that residents enjoyed a luxurious lifestyle and the economic growth rate of Edo in the mid-Edo period was the second highest in the world despite Japan's policy of seclusion. The program said samurai supported the economy of Edo during the first part of the period, adding that after they lost their power, the economy was supported by craftsmen and merchants. Even after a major famine, merchants formed a safety-net system and kept rice in warehouses to support the poor. An expert said that although it had been believed that Japan's modernization was a result of the influence of foreign nations after the Meiji restoration, the city was already being modernized by Edo's merchants and craftsmen.

- [Prevent "tourism's destruction of the country" – Learn from the chaos that has befallen Kyoto and Mt. Fuji](#) (Chuokoron)

## **SECURITY**

### **Defense Minister Onodera comments on F-15 crash**

All networks reported on the crash of a U.S. military F-15 fighter in waters off Naha this morning. NHK said the U.S. Air Force in Okinawa released a statement saying that the aircraft crashed during regular exercises and that a committee will conduct an investigation and release its findings. According to the network, the vice governor of Okinawa was briefed over the phone by Brig. Gen. Paul Rock on the incident, adding that the vice governor called for the suspension of F-15 flights until safety is confirmed.

NHK and NTV quoted Defense Minister Onodera as telling reporters: "Since incidents involving U.S. military aircraft have been occurring repeatedly, we will call for ensuring flight safety." TBS, Fuji-TV, and TV Asahi quoted him as saying: "We once again asked the U.S. side to provide information, ensure safety, and take preventive measures."

- [U.S. F-15 fighter jet crashes into sea off Okinawa, pilot rescued](#) (Kyodo News)
- [DM Onodera nixes defense budget increase to 2% of GDP](#) (Sankei)
- [DM Onodera says no change in plan to procure F-35A fighters](#) (Sankei)

- [MSDF to open maritime operations center in Yokosuka in 2020](#) (Yomiuri, Yokohama Edition)

<b>OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS</b>
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### **Outgoing commander stresses importance of Marines' presence in Okinawa**

Saturday morning's Ryukyu Shimpo and Okinawa Times took up a press conference on Friday by departing Okinawa Area Coordinator Nicholson, during which he underscored that the Marines in the island prefecture will continue to play a key role in regional security even if North Korea's denuclearization becomes a reality as a result of the Singapore summit between President Trump and Kim Jong Un. The general, who plans to leave his post in August, reportedly said: "Even if the threat dissipates on the Korean Peninsula, we will continue to train and respond as needed." Okinawa Consul General Ehrendreich, who sat in on the press conference, said it is still premature to project what effects, if any, the U.S.-DPRK summit will have on the U.S. bases in the southernmost prefecture. Speaking on the Futenma replacement facility to be built off Camp Schwab, Lt. Gen. Nicholson noted although aircraft using the FRF will mainly fly over the sea, they may sometimes use land routes, such as when traveling to and from the Northern Training Area. He expressed hope for joint use of military facilities by the U.S. military and the SDF at such installations as Camp Kinser. Lt. Gen. Nicholson noted that the local media has played up misconduct by U.S. troops and urged the participating journalists to report on times when "U.S. personnel make contributions to local residents by behaving heroically."