



Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, August 21, 2018

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HEADLINES

Noon news

Most networks led with reports on Typhoon Soulik, which is approaching the Amami Islands and southern Kyushu. Fuji TV gave top play to a report on the final game of the National High School Baseball Championship at Koshien Stadium to be held this afternoon.

INTERNATIONAL

President Trump says he will “most likely” meet with Kim again

NHK reported this morning that President Trump told Reuters on Monday that he is willing to hold a second meeting with Kim Jong Un. According to the network, the President stressed in the interview that he developed a good relationship with Chairman Kim during the Singapore summit, saying: "I like him. He likes me. There's no ballistic missile going up, there's a lot of silence." The network said that although the President did not indicate a specific date, he indicated he will "most likely" meet with Kim again. The network, claiming that negotiations over denuclearization are running into difficulties, opined that the President's remarks are apparently aimed at dispelling concern that not much progress has been made on denuclearization by stressing that North Korea's military provocations have stopped and showing his willingness to hold a second summit with Kim. All other networks aired similar reports.

- [FM Kono advocates “international solidarity levy”](#) (Nikkei)
- [Tokyo governor proposes using Senkaku fund for satellite surveillance of sea area](#) (Sankei)
- [Japanese, Chinese ruling parties to hold exchange meeting in Japan in October](#) (Nikkei)

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- [Foreign Ministry readying for extrabusy 2019](#) (Yomiuri)

ECONOMY

- [New statistical method changes the lineup of foreign investors in Japan](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan to ease visa rules for startup bosses](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [India care workers to be trained for Japan / Govt to build local base to educate staff](#) (The Japan News)
- [Communications Ministry to integrally develop 5G and optical fiber network](#) (Nikkei)
- [Int'l catch documentation scheme eyed for Pacific bluefin tuna](#) (Kyodo News)
- [22 companies attend briefing session on integrated resorts in Yokohama](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)

POLITICS

LDP presidential race to be held on Sept. 20

All networks reported at noon that the LDP officially decided today to hold its presidential election on Sept. 20, with the official campaign beginning on Sept. 7. The networks said as former LDP Secretary General Ishiba has already announced his candidacy and Prime Minister Abe is planning to seek a third term, the leadership race is likely to be a face-off between the two of them.

- [Prime minister's schedule on Aug. 20, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Komeito leader Yamaguchi seen extending his tenure further](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Diet reform emerging as issue in LDP presidential race](#) (Mainichi)
- [CCS Suga meets with Ainu](#) (Mainichi)
- [Main opposition party holds only 10% of Lower House seats](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: Daylight saving time](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

SCIENCE

- [Japan changes tack, plans to adopt G7 numerical targets in plastic resources reduction strategy](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan gov't panel begins discussions to slash plastic waste](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan plans satellites to monitor space junk](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

SOCIETY

- [Okinawa marines' version of Da Pump's 'U.S.A.' goes viral](#) (The Japan Times)
- [N. Korean defectors file human rights suit against Pyongyang in Tokyo court](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Japan's moms least satisfied with their work-life balance](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

SECURITY

- [Gist of Japan-India defense ministerial, Aug. 20](#) (Sankei)
- [Editorial: Do not forget cost-effectiveness in improving defense capabilities](#) (The Japan News)
- [Okinawa finishes drafting report on hearing for withdrawal of Henoko landfill permit](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [Henoko relocation issues cast shadow on Okinawa's tourism](#) (Yomiuri)

OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS

Sakima coordinates policies with Komeito ahead of Okinawa election

Okinawa Times wrote that former Ginowan Mayor Sakima and the Okinawa chapter of the Komeito party reached a policy agreement on Monday ahead of the Okinawa gubernatorial election on Sept. 30. According to the paper, the five-point agreement focuses on efforts to 1) improve social welfare and develop human resources; 2) promote tourism for economic development; 3) make Okinawa a peaceful and affluent region that plays a role as a gateway to Asia; 4) seek revision of the U.S.-Japan Status of Forces Agreement; and 5) seek to end MCAS Futenma operations and reduce the base-hosting burden by moving up the Marines' relocation to outside of Okinawa or Japan. The paper wrote that although the agreement mentions ending Futenma operations and reducing the base-hosting burden, it does not refer to the FRF construction at Henoko. The paper noted that the Komeito local chapter did not cooperate with the LDP in the previous gubernatorial election in 2014 because of its opposition to the Henoko plan, but the chief of the local chapter said on Monday: "Many projects have been stalled under the current prefectural government over the past four years. Administrative decisions should not be made based on the base issues alone. We have come up with the five points through consultations with the party headquarters." Sakima was quoted as saying: "We share the same goal of creating a safe environment for residents in the vicinity of the Futenma base."

- [Major Okinawa company opts for independent voting in gubernatorial election](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
 - [Suga disputes opposition candidate's claim that Henoko is main issue for Okinawa election](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
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