

## Section 4 Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan

Realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan is extremely important in mitigating the impact on local communities, such as those in Okinawa, while maintaining the deterrence capabilities of the U.S. Forces. The Ministry of Defense

(MOD) will advance the U.S. Forces realignment and other initiatives while making continuous efforts to gain the understanding and cooperation of local communities accommodating USFJ facilities and areas.

### 1 Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan

#### 1 Significance of the Presence of U.S. Forces in Japan

For the Japan-U.S. Alliance, based on the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, to adequately function as a deterrence that contributes to Japan's defense as well as peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, it is necessary to secure the presence of the U.S. military in Japan, and to maintain a posture in Japan and the surrounding areas in peacetime that enables the U.S. Forces in Japan to respond swiftly and expeditiously to emergencies.

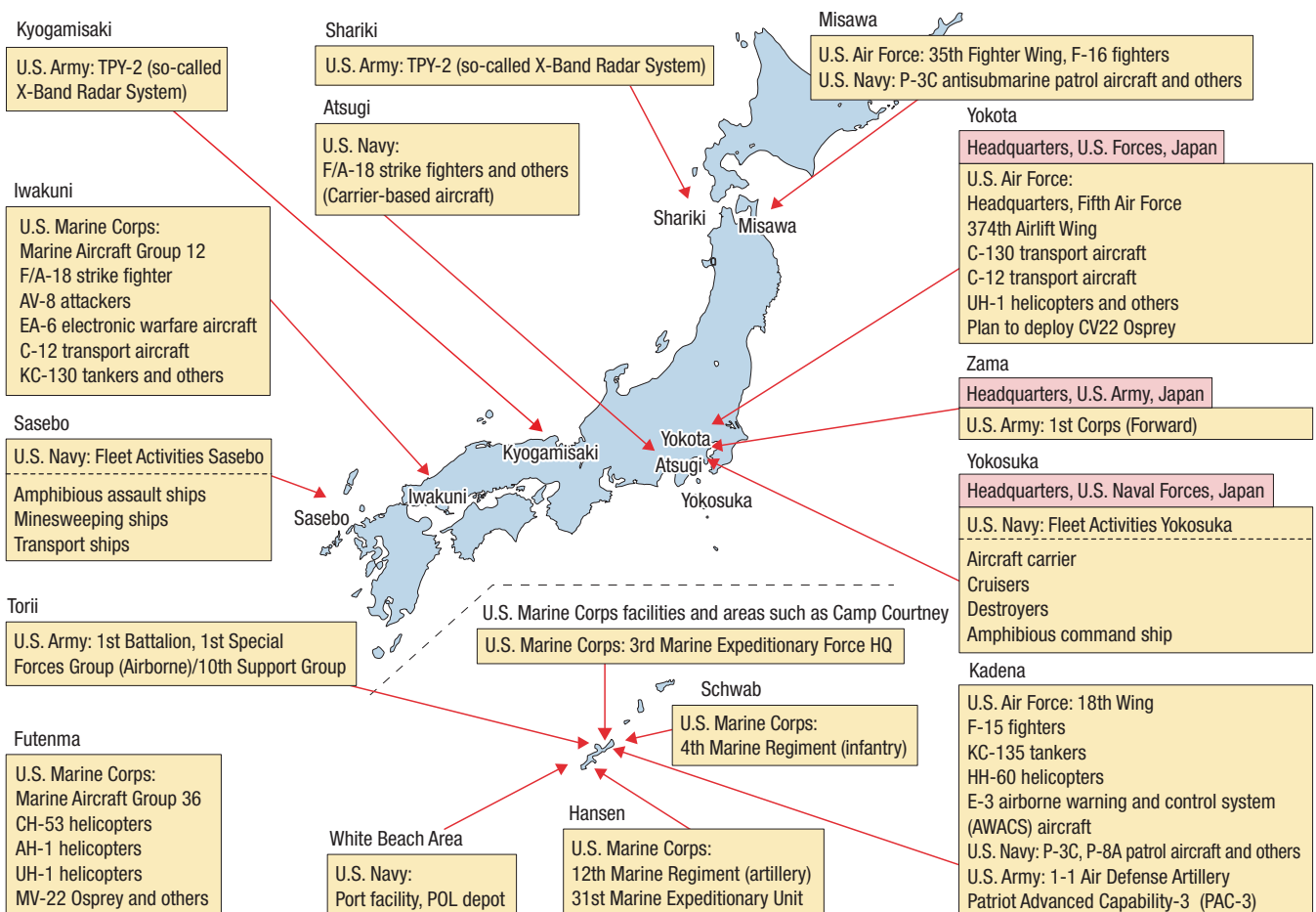
For this purpose, based on the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, Japan allows the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan, which is a core part of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements.

See Fig. II-3-4-1 (Deployment Map of the U.S. Forces in Japan)

As mentioned in Part II, Chapter 3, Section 1-1, the U.S. Forces in Japan serve as deterrence against aggression towards Japan. Further, the realization of a stable U.S. military presence is necessary for a swift Japan-U.S. joint response based on Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty in the event of an armed attack on Japan. Additionally, the actions of the U.S. Forces in Japan in the defense of Japan will be assisted by the timely reinforcement of other U.S. Forces, and the U.S. Forces in Japan will serve as the basis of such support.

In order for the U.S. Forces in Japan to carry out the abovementioned role, it is necessary that all the services of the U.S. Forces, including those in Japan, are functionally integrated. For instance, the U.S. Forces hold a primarily offensive power as a "spear" when responding to armed aggression to Japan in cooperation with the SDF. When

Fig. II-3-4-1 Deployment Map of the U.S. Forces in Japan



the U.S. Forces function as an offensive power, it can be expected that the U.S. Navy, Air Force, and Marines stationed in Japan work in an integrated manner to fully exert their functions.

In addition, while Article 5 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty stipulates the obligation of the United States to defend Japan, Article 6 allows for the use by the United States of facilities and areas in Japan for maintaining the security of Japan and international peace and security in the Far East, and overall Japan-U.S. obligations are kept in balance.

**See** Part II, Chapter 3, Section 1-1 (Maintenance of Japan's Peace and Security)

## 2 Measures to Ensure the Smooth Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan

The Status of Forces Agreement<sup>1</sup> (SOFA) stipulates matters pertaining to USFJ facilities and areas and the status of the U.S. Forces in Japan, including provisions of facilities and areas for use by the U.S. Forces (USFJ facilities and areas), and satisfying the labor requirements of the U.S. Forces in Japan.

### (1) Provision of USFJ Facilities and Areas

Japan provides USFJ facilities and areas for the U.S. Forces under the provisions of the SOFA, in accordance with agreements reached through the Joint Committee between the governments of Japan and the United States.

The Government of Japan has entered into agreements and concluded lease contracts with owners of private and public lands on which these facilities and areas exist in order to ensure the stable use of USFJ facilities and areas. However, should the Government be unable to obtain the approval of landowners, it will acquire title under the Act on Special Measures for USFJ Land Release<sup>2</sup>, while compensating the landowners for any loss they may have suffered in the process<sup>3</sup>.

### (2) Satisfying Labor Requirements of the USFJ

The USFJ require manpower (labor) to maintain its forces, and the SOFA stipulates that the requirements of the USFJ shall be satisfied with the assistance of the Government of Japan.

As of the end of FY2014, approximately 25,200 USFJ local employees (hereinafter referred to as the “employees”) work at USFJ facilities and areas throughout Japan, working as office workers at headquarters, engineers at maintenance/supply facilities, members of security guards and fire

departments on base, and sales staff at welfare/recreational facilities. They perform functions essential for the smooth operations of the USFJ, and support its activities.

The Government of Japan hires these employees in accordance with the provisions of the SOFA. The MOD supports the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan by performing administrative work for personnel management, payment of wages, health care, and welfare, etc.

## 3 Host Nation Support (HNS)

HNS plays an important role to ensure the smooth and effective implementation of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements. Due to soaring prices and wages in Japan since the mid-1970s, and changes in the international economy, the Government of Japan began to bear labor costs such as welfare costs in FY1978. Then in FY1979, Japan began to bear the Facilities Improvement Program (FIP) respectively.

Furthermore, as labor costs soared due to changes in economic conditions that affected both countries, the employment stability of the employees was adversely influenced, and there was even concern that it would affect the activities of the U.S. Forces in Japan. Therefore in 1987 the governments of Japan and the United States agreed on a special measure in Article 24 of the SOFA (the Special Measures Agreement)<sup>4</sup> as a provisional measure for an exception to the cost principle in the SOFA.

Based on this agreement, the Government of Japan started to bear labor costs of eight categories such as the adjustment allowance (currently replaced by the regional allowance). As the Special Measures Agreement (SMA) was revised later on, the costs borne by the Government of Japan expanded to cover labor costs for base pay, etc., and utilities costs from FY1991. The financial responsibility of the Japanese Government was further expanded to cover training relocation costs from FY1996.

Japan has been reviewing HNS with careful consideration to its own difficult financial situation. The amount of Japan's HNS budget peaked in FY1999 (annual expenditure base), and has since been declining.

According to the comprehensive review conducted in 2010, the Japanese and U.S. Governments agreed that the overall expense borne by Japan to support the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Japan during the period in which the SMA is in effect (for five years from FY2011 to FY2015), was determined to be maintained at the same level as FY 2010 (approximately 188.1 billion yen).

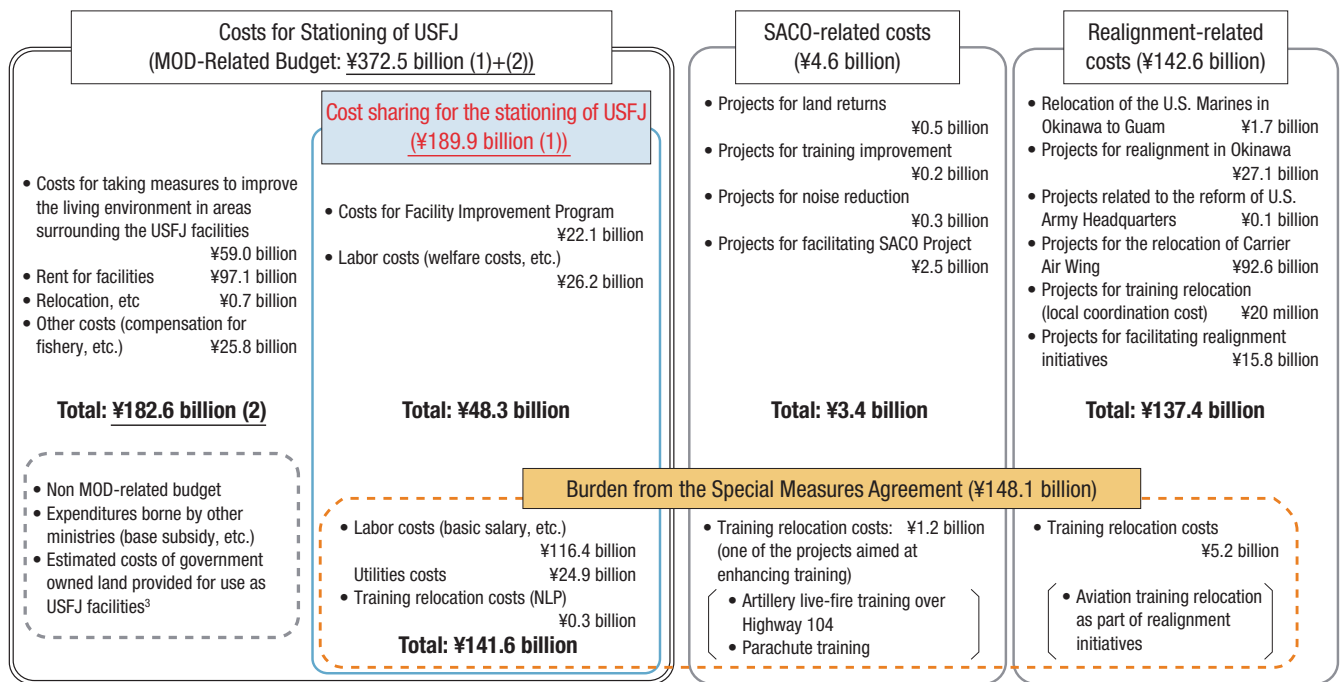
1 The official title is the Agreement Under Article VI of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between Japan and the United States of America, Regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces in Japan.

2 The official title is the Act on Special Measures for USFJ Land Release, Incidental to the Agreement Under Article VI of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between Japan and the United States of America, Regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces in Japan.

3 The term “title” means a legal cause that justifies a certain act.

4 The official title is the Agreement between Japan and the United States of America concerning Special Measures relating to Article XXIV of the Agreement under Article VI of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security between Japan and the United States of America, Regarding Facilities and Areas and the Status of United States Armed Forces in Japan.

Fig. II-3-4-2 U.S. Forces Japan-related Costs (Budget for FY2015)



Notes: 1. Training relocation costs under the Special Measures Agreement extend either into the cost sharing for the stationing of USFJ or the SACO-related costs and the realignment-related costs.  
 2. The SACO-related costs refer to the cost for implementing the contents of the SACO Final Report to reduce the impact on people in Okinawa, while the realignment-related costs refers to the cost relating to a step to contribute to reducing the impact on local communities as part of the realignment initiatives. Since the cost-sharing for the stationing of USFJ is Japan's voluntary effort to bear some costs in light of the importance of ensuring the smooth and effective implementation of the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements, its nature is different from the SACO-related costs and the realignment-related costs, and is categorized separately.  
 3. The costs related to the stationing of USFJ include the MOD-related budget, other ministry-related budgets (base subsidy, etc.: ¥38.8 billion, FY2014 Budget) and the estimated costs of government-owned land provided for use as USFJ facilities (¥166.5 billion, FY2014 Estimated Costs).  
 4. Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

#### 4 Contents of the Special Measures Agreement (SMA)

The key points of the SMA that took effect in April 2011 are as follows:

- (1) Effective period: Five years
- (2) Cost sharing: Japan shall bear all or part of labor costs, utilities costs, and the costs incurred in training relocation. With regard to training relocation costs, on top of the additional costs incurred on domestic training relocations, costs incurred in training relocation to areas under the administration of the U.S. government, such as Guam, have also been added.

- Operational Guidelines (specified in the Exchange of Notes concerning the SMA)

**Labor costs:** The upper limit of the number of workers to be funded by Japan will be reduced from 23,055 to 22,625<sup>5</sup>. The adjustment will be phased in over the new SMA period.

**Utilities costs:** The upper limit for utilities costs is set at 24.9 billion yen for each fiscal year. At the same time, the share of costs to be borne by Japan is reduced from the current 76% (approximate) to 72% (approximate). The

adjustment will be phased in over the new SMA period.  
 (3) Cost-saving initiatives: It is clearly stipulated that the United States shall make further efforts to reduce these expenditures<sup>6</sup>.

See Reference 26 (Outline of Cost Sharing of the Stationing of the USFJ)

#### 5 Costs Associated with the U.S. Forces Stationed in Japan

In addition to the costs of stationing the U.S. Forces in Japan, the various costs associated with the U.S. Forces in Japan include costs for implementing the stipulations of the Special Action Committee on Okinawa (SACO) Final Report for mitigating the impact on the people of Okinawa, as well as costs for implementing measures that will contribute to mitigating the impact on local communities associated with the initiatives for the realignment of the U.S. Armed Forces.

See Part II, Chapter 3, Section 4-3-1 (Initiatives for Realignment, Consolidation, and Reduction of USFJ Facilities and Areas in Okinawa)

See Fig. II-3-4-2 (U.S. Forces Japan-related Costs (Budget for FY 2015))

5 The Security Consultative Committee Document issued on June 21, 2011: "The Ministers shared the view to continue to exert maximum effort to maintain stable employment of the employees of the U.S. Armed Forces in Japan while reducing labor costs."  
 6 Any amount of reduction in the labor costs and the utilities costs resulting from the measures described above will be added to the current level of FIP funding.

## 6 USFJ Facilities and Areas and the Local Communities

For USFJ facilities and areas to fully exert their capabilities, it is vital to gain cooperation and understanding from the local communities. Meanwhile, the social conditions in the surrounding areas have changed significantly, including for example, through their urbanization over the past several decades. In light of such changes, it is necessary to reduce the impact of the facilities and areas as much as possible in order to gain acceptance and support from the public in a

## 2 Progress of the Realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan

Fig. II-3-4-3 shows the progress of the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan, as set forth in “the United States-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation of May 2006” (Roadmap) described in Part II, Chapter 3, Section 3-1.

As to the USFJ realignment, in the meantime, the governments of Japan and the United States have conducted full-fledged bilateral discussions concerning the plan for the realignment, in view of factors including the following:

- 1) The necessity of implementing measures to promptly and steadily enable visible mitigation of the impact on Okinawa;
- 2) The necessity of coordinating the realignment package and strategic rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region, which was set out in the U.S. Defense Strategic Guidance released in January 2012; and
- 3) The fact that a reduction in the cost associated with the relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps to Guam has been demanded by the U.S. Congress.

The achievements thereof have been announced as part of the “2+2” Joint Statements and through other means.

**See** Fig. II-3-4-3 (Progress of the Realignment of Force Structure of USFJ and the SDF Described in “Japan-U.S. Roadmap for Realignment Implementation”)

### 1 Achievements in the “2+2” Joint Statement (April 27, 2012)

This “2+2” Joint Statement stated that, in light of important progress made in regard to the plan for USFJ realignment since the “2+2” Joint Statement in June 2011, it had been decided to adjust the plans outlined in the 2006 Roadmap.

Originally, the 2006 Roadmap stated that, among the III Marine Expeditionary Force (III MEF) stationed in Okinawa, the main focus of the relocation to Guam would be the command elements, but the U.S. decided to alter the composition of the units. As a result, the U.S. government decided to continue to retain the U.S. Forces in Okinawa, and deploy Marine Air-Ground Task Forces (MAGTF)—consisting of command, ground, aviation and logistic support elements—in Japan, Guam, and Hawaii, as well as in Australia as a rotational unit. This reflects the U.S. review of the composition of the units of the U.S. Marine Corps following the evolving security environment

true sense as well as to allow them to perform to the best of their capabilities. Our national land is narrow with limited plains and there are many cases where USFJ facilities and areas are located close to urban and business areas. In such areas, factors including the existence of those facilities and areas, and the takeoffs and landings of the U.S. Forces aircraft, have considerable impact on the residents’ living environment and local development. It is therefore necessary to make efforts to mitigate the impact with the realities of each area in mind.

in the Asia-Pacific region in recent years. As a result, the Governments of Japan and the United States decided to delink both the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps personnel from Okinawa to Guam and resulting land returns south of Kadena Air Base from the progress on the Futenma Replacement Facility (FRF).

**See** Reference 20 (Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee (April 27, 2012))

### 2 Achievements in the “2+2” Joint Statement (October 3, 2013)

The Joint Statement of the “2+2” in October 2013 cited the achievements in bilateral consultations on the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan since the release of the Joint Statement of the “2+2” Meeting in April 2012. Japan and the United States renewed their strong determination to complete the relocation of MCAS Futenma to Camp Schwab, and agreed to continue to consult on other possible measures while implementing the previous agreements as early as possible and steadily from the perspective of mitigating the impact on Okinawa.

**See** Reference 22 (Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee (October 3, 2013))

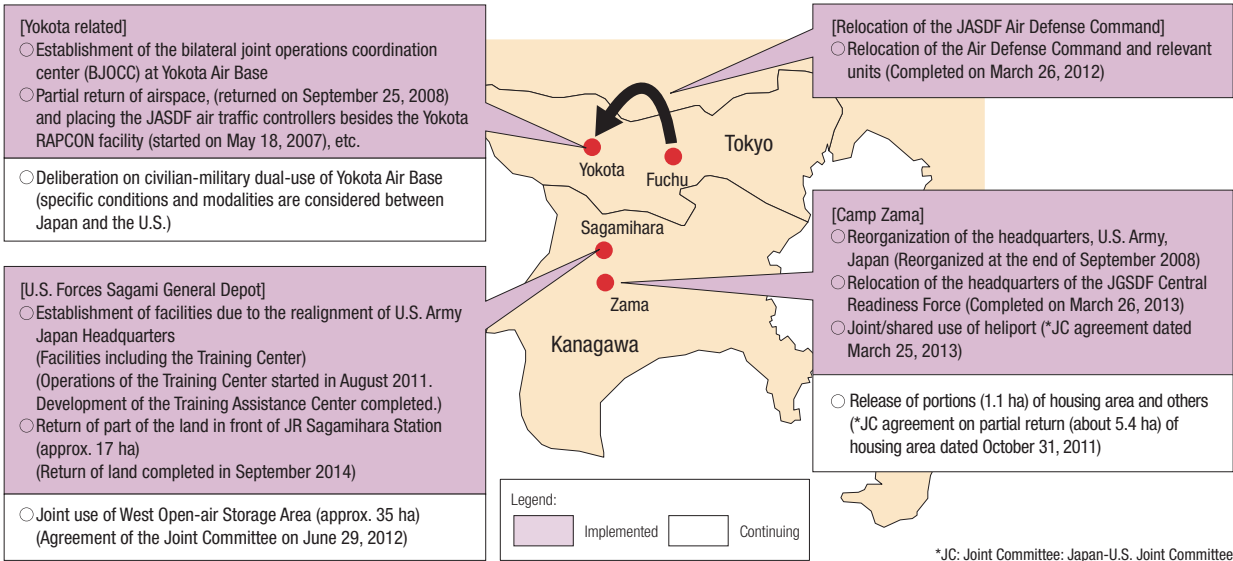
### 3 Achievements in the “2+2” Joint Statement (April 27, 2015)

The Joint Statement of the “2+2” Meeting in April 2015 cited the achievements in bilateral consultations on the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan since the release of the Joint Statement of the “2+2” Meeting in October 2013. The Ministers reaffirmed the two governments’ continued commitment to implement the existing arrangements on the USFJ realignment as soon as possible, while ensuring operational capability, including training capability, throughout the process. The Ministers underscored their commitment to maintaining a robust and flexible force posture that enhances deterrence by strengthening the capacity to respond effectively to future challenges and threat, while also mitigating the impact of US Forces on local communities. The following are sections pertaining to the

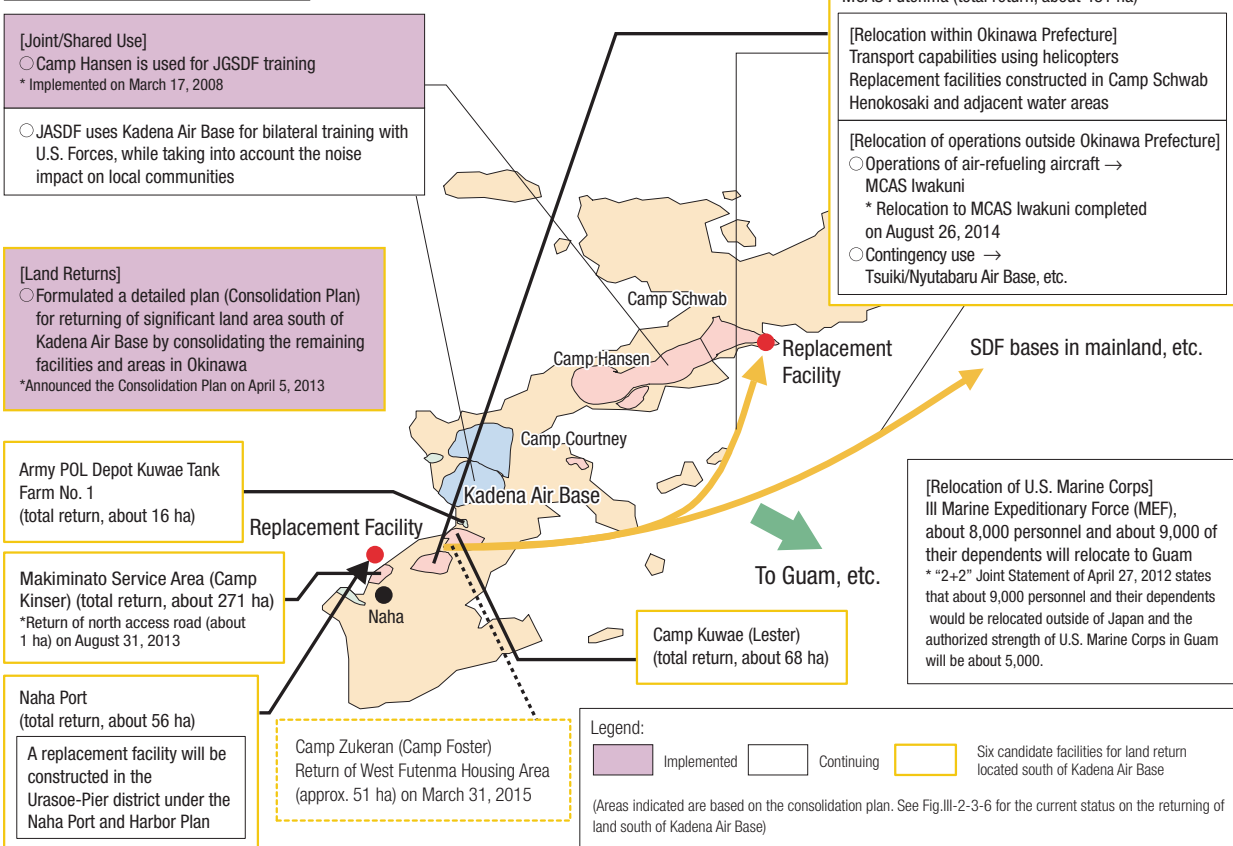


Fig. II-3-4-3 Progress of the Realignment of Force Structure of USFJ and the SDF Described in "Japan-U.S. Roadmap for Realignment Implementation"

1. Realignment in the Kanto Area




2. Realignment in Okinawa



**3. Relocation of Aircraft, etc.**

The relocation of flight training activities from **Kadena, Misawa and Iwakuni** to ASDF bases, **Chitose, Misawa, Hyakuri, Komatsu, Tsuiki and Nyutabaru**, as well as to Guam.  
 \*The relocation to Guam, etc. was agreed upon at the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee in January 2011.

TPY-2 Rader: deployment of so-called "X-band Radar System")



Relocation of carrier-based aircraft squadrons to Iwakuni



Deployment of a TPY-2 radar (Deployment completed in December 2014)

Legend:

- Implemented
- Continuing

Relocation of MSDF E/O/UP-3 squadrons and other units from Iwakuni to Atsugi ("2+2" Joint Statement in 2013 confirmed the continued deployment of these units in Iwakuni Air Base)

Relocation of the KC-130 squadron to Iwakuni (Relocation completed in August 2014)



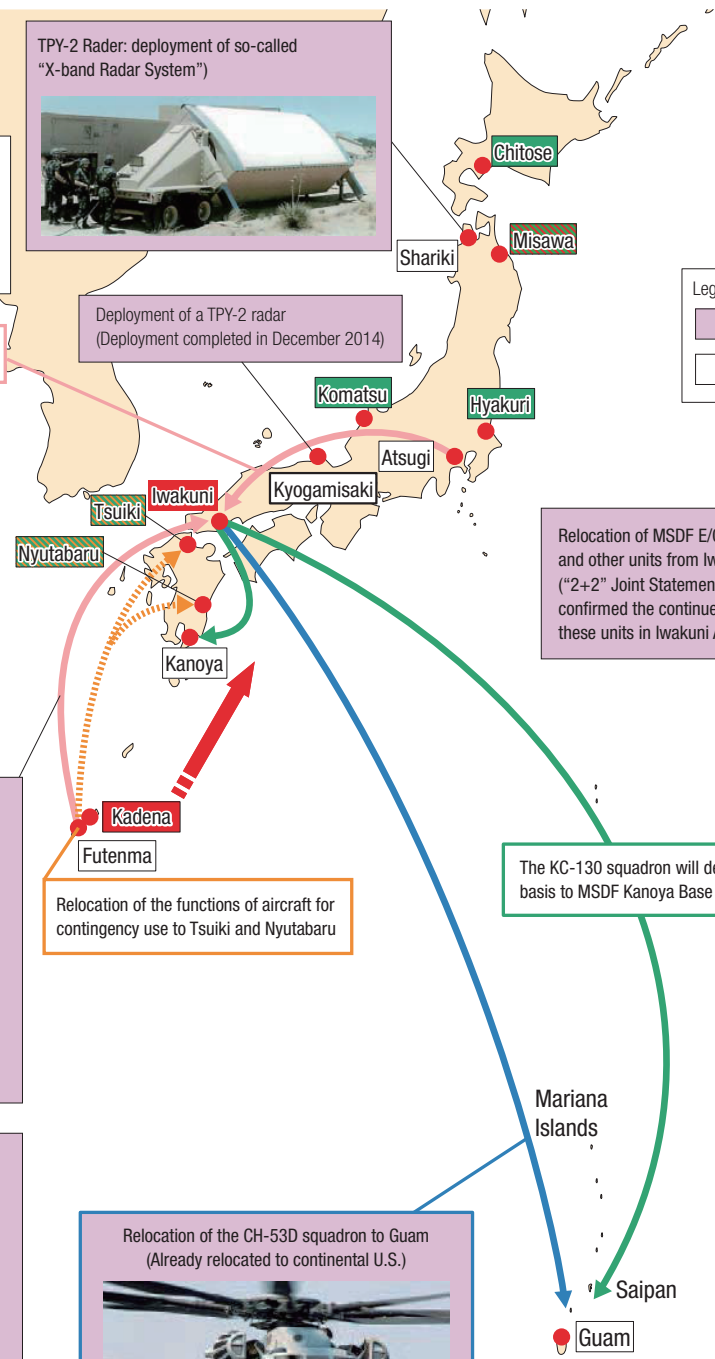
Relocation of the functions of aircraft for contingency use to Tsuiki and Nyutabaru

The KC-130 squadron will deploy on a rotational basis to MSDF Kanoya Base and Guam

Part of future civilian aviation facilities were established within MCAS Iwakuni (Civil Airport opened 2012)



Relocation of the CH-53D squadron to Guam (Already relocated to continental U.S.)



realignment of USFJ in this Joint Statement. The Ministers:

- Replacement and Return of MCAS Futenma
  - Welcomed the transfer of KC-130 squadrons from MCAS Futenma to MCAS Iwakuni and reconfirmed the commitment to the continued relocation of aviation training, including to locations outside Okinawa Prefecture, through efforts such as the development of training areas and facilities.
  - Reconfirmed that the plan to construct the FRF in the Camp Schwab Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution that addresses operational, political, financial, and strategic issues as the only way to avoid the continued use of MCAS Futenma.
  - Reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of Japan and the United States to this plan and emphasized their strong determination to complete this plan and achieve the long-desired return of MCAS Futenma to Japan.
  - The United States welcomed the steady and continuing progress of the FRF construction projects.
- Return of Land Areas South of Kadena Air Base
  - Reaffirmed the significance of land returns south of Kadena Air Base based on the 2006 “Roadmap” and the April 2013 Consolidation Plan and stated once again the determination of Japan and the United States to

continually work on the implementation of the plan, and anticipated the update of the plan by the spring of 2016.

- Emphasized the on-time return of the West Futenma Housing Area within Camp Zukeran on March 31, 2015. This is the most important of all land returns to Japan based on the consolidation plan.
- Guam
  - Confirmed that the two governments are steadily implementing the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps personnel from Okinawa to locations outside Japan, including Guam, based on the revised Guam International Agreement.
- Initiatives for Protecting the Environment
  - Reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing cooperation for protecting the environment.
  - Confirmed the significance of making further efforts in environmental matters.
  - Welcomed the progress of a supplementary Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Stewardship and confirmed their intention to continually negotiate documents of this agreement as expeditiously as possible.

**See** Reference 23 (Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee (April 27, 2015))

### 3 Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Okinawa

In comparison to areas such as the U.S. mainland, Hawaii, and Guam, Okinawa is located closer to East Asia. Its location is extremely important from the perspective of security, being roughly in the center of the Southwestern Islands and close to Japan's sea lanes. Thus, the stationing of the U.S. Forces in Okinawa—including the U.S. Marine Corps, which is in charge of first response for a variety of contingencies and is capable of high mobility and rapid response—with the above-mentioned geographical characteristics, further ensures the effectiveness of the Japan-U.S. Alliance, strengthens deterrence, and contributes greatly not only to the security of Japan but also to the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

On the other hand, Okinawa has many USFJ facilities and areas such as airbases, exercise fields, logistics facilities. As of January 2015, approximately 74% of USFJ facilities and areas (for exclusive use) are concentrated in Okinawa Prefecture, occupying approximately 10% of the land area of the prefecture and 18% of the main island of Okinawa. Therefore, it is necessary to make utmost efforts to mitigate the impact on Okinawa, while also considering the above-mentioned security standpoints.

**See** Fig. II-3-4-4 (The Geopolitical Positioning of Okinawa and the Significance of the U.S. Marine Corps Stationed in Okinawa)

#### 1 Initiatives for Realignment, Consolidation, and Reduction of USFJ Facilities and Areas in Okinawa

When Okinawa was returned to Japan in 1972, the Government of Japan provided 83 facilities and areas covering approximately 278 km<sup>2</sup> for exclusive use by the U.S. Forces under the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. However, their concentration in Okinawa has led to strong calls for their realignment, consolidation and reduction on the grounds that they seriously affect the lives of people in Okinawa Prefecture.

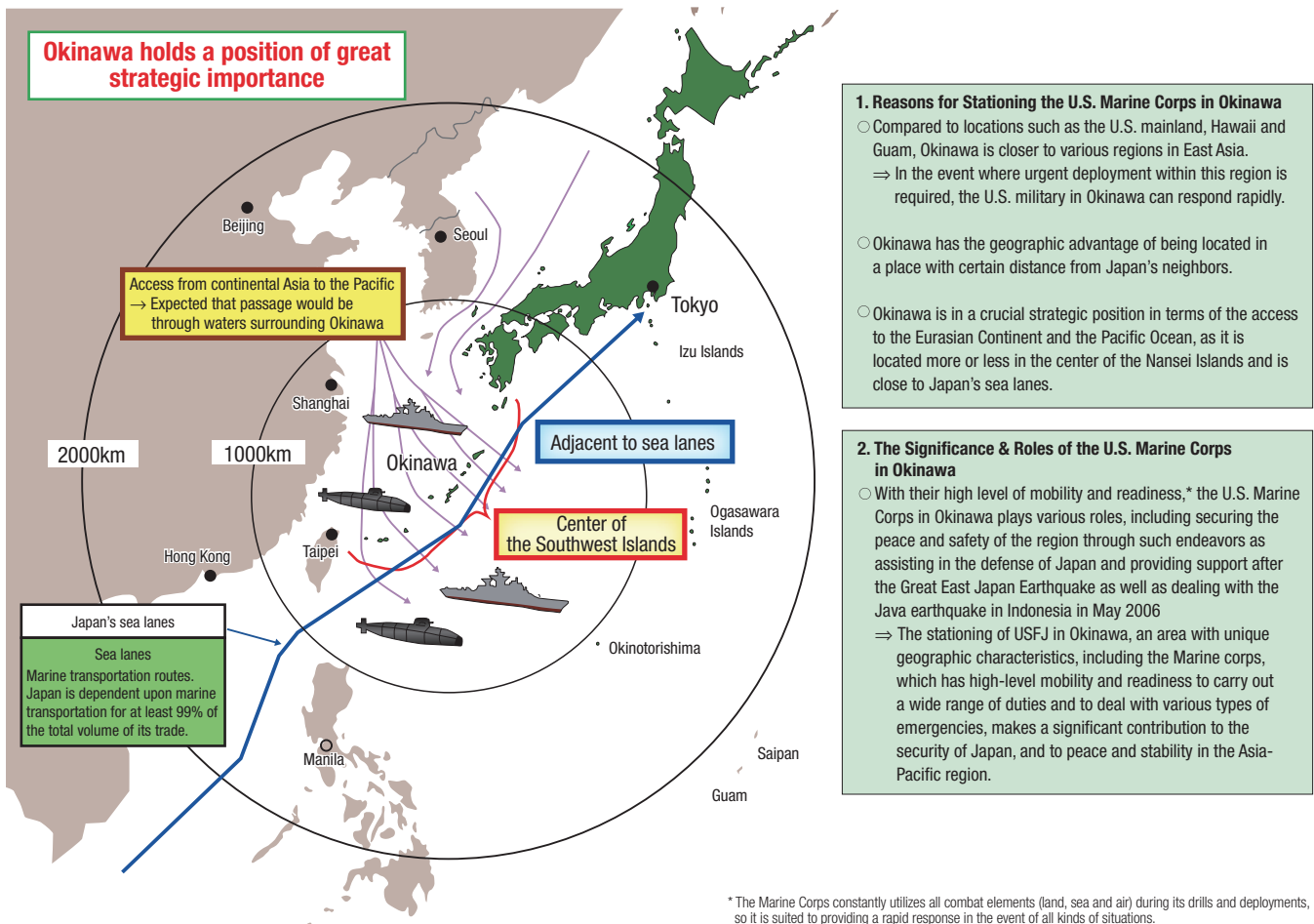
Both countries have continued their initiatives to realign, consolidate, and reduce USFJ facilities and areas, and, in relation to the so-called 23 issues, it was agreed in 1990 that both sides would proceed with the required adjustments and procedures for the return of land. Most recently, approximately 55 ha out of 162 ha of Camp Hansen (part of a slope at the East China sea side) was returned on June 30, 2014. Moreover, regarding the so-called Three Okinawa Issues such as the return of Naha Port<sup>7</sup>, it was agreed in 1995 that initiatives would be made to resolve these issues.

**See** Reference 27 (Outline of 23 Issues)

Subsequently, in response to an unfortunate incident that occurred in 1995, as well as the refusal of the then Governor of Okinawa to sign land lease renewal documents

<sup>7</sup> The return of Naha Port, the return of Yomitan Auxiliary Airfield, and the relocation of artillery live fire training over Highway 104.

Fig. II-3-4-4 The Geopolitical Positioning of Okinawa and the Significance of the U.S. Marine Corps Stationed in Okinawa



under the Act on Special Measures for USFJ Land Release, the Government of Japan decided to devote even greater initiatives towards realignment, consolidation, and reduction, believing that the impact should be shared by the whole nation. In order to hold consultations on issues related to USFJ facilities and areas in Okinawa, the Government of Japan established the Okinawa Action Council between the central government and Okinawa Prefecture, and the Special Action Committee on Okinawa (SACO) between Japan and the United States, and the so-called SACO Final Report was compiled in 1996.

## 2 SACO Final Report and Progress

The SACO Final Report stipulates the return of land, the adjustment of training and operational procedures, the implementation of noise abatement initiatives, and the improvement of operational procedures regarding the Status of Forces Agreement, and also refers to the related facilities and areas covered. The land to be returned based on the SACO Final Report represents approximately 21% (about 50 km<sup>2</sup>) of USFJ facilities and areas in Okinawa at that time, exceeding the amount of land returned during the period between the reversion of Okinawa and

the implementation of the SACO Final Report, which is roughly 43 km<sup>2</sup>.

See Fig. II-3-4-5 (Facilities and Areas Related to the SACO Final Report); II-3-4-6 (Changes in Number and Area of the USFJ Facilities and Areas (Exclusive Use) in Okinawa); Reference 28 (The SACO Final Report); Reference 29 (State of Progress of the SACO Final Report)

## 3 History and Progress of the U.S. Forces Realignment in Okinawa

As for initiatives relating to realignment of the U.S. Forces based on the Roadmap, measures have been taken to mitigate the impact on the local communities in Okinawa Prefecture while maintaining deterrence capabilities.

### (1) Relocation and Return of MCAS Futenma

The Government of Japan believes that it is imperative not to allow MCAS Futenma to remain indefinitely at its current location, which is in the vicinity of houses and schools in the center of Ginowan City, Okinawa Prefecture. This is a fundamental idea shared between the Government of Japan and the people of Okinawa.

As for the relocation of MCAS Futenma, the Government of Japan has not changed its stance that the current plan to construct the FRF in the Camp Schwab



Fig. II-3-4-5

Facilities and Areas Related to the SACO Final Report

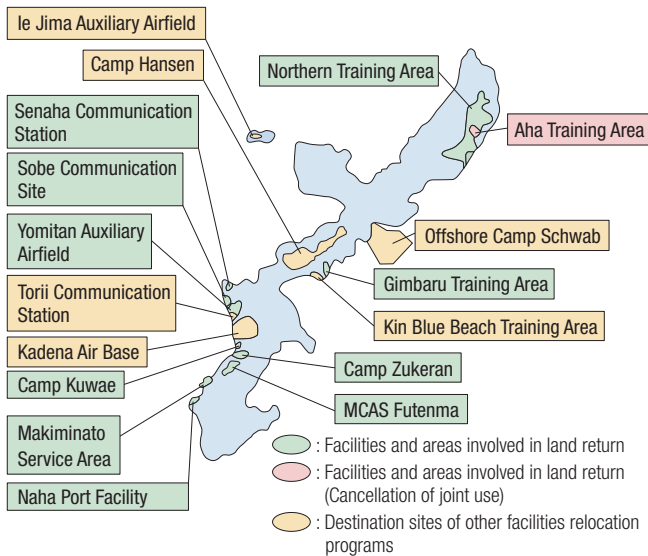
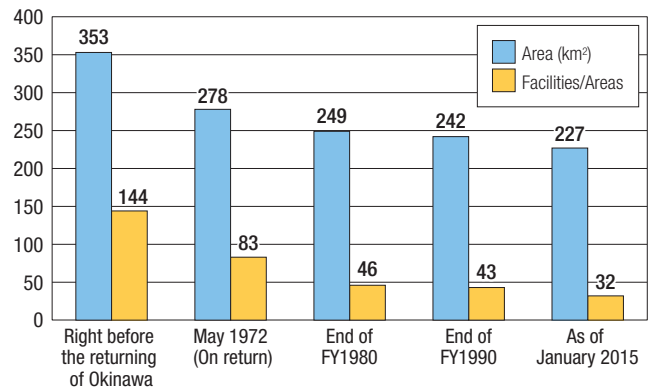


Fig. II-3-4-6

Changes in Number and Area of the USFJ Facilities and Areas (Exclusive Use) in Okinawa



Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution to avoid the continued use of MCAS Futenma.

Japan plans to make further efforts to achieve the replacement and return of MCAS Futenma as early as possible and to mitigate the impact on Okinawa in a speedy manner. The return of MCAS Futenma is expected to eliminate danger in the area and to contribute to the further growth of Okinawa, including Ginowan City, through the reuse of the area (approximately 481 ha with a land area 100 times larger than Tokyo Dome).

**a. Relocation of MCAS Futenma and Mitigation of the Impact on Okinawa**

The relocation of MCAS Futenma holds more significance than merely moving the facility from one location to another. Rather, it also contributes greatly to mitigating the impact on Okinawa. As such, the Government will work as one to implement this initiative.

**(a) Distribution of Functions Offered by MCAS Futenma**

MCAS Futenma fulfills the following functions relating to the aviation capabilities of the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Okinawa:

- Operation of the Osprey and other aircraft
- Operation of air refueling aircraft
- Accepting a large number of transient aircraft in cases of emergency

Of these three functions, only “operation of the Osprey and other aircraft” will be relocated to Camp Schwab. All 15 KC-130 air refueling aircraft were relocated to MCAS Iwakuni (in Yamaguchi Prefecture) in August 2014. This marked the completion of a task that has remained unresolved for 18 years since the SACO Final Report in 1996, enabling a vast majority of fixed-wing aircraft located in MCAS Futenma to be moved outside Okinawa Prefecture. This move also led to the relocation of approximately 870 USFJ personnel, civilian employees, and dependents. The function of providing a base for accepting a large number

of external aircraft in cases of emergency will also be transferred to mainland Japan.

**(b) Land-fill Area**

The area required for the land reclamation to build the FRF is less than one-third of MCAS Futenma and the new facility will be equipped with significantly shorter runways.

**(c) Flight Routes**

Two runways will be constructed in a V-shape, which enables the flight path for both takeoff and landing to be located over the sea, in line with the requests of the local community. In MCAS Futenma, flight paths used daily for training and other purposes are located over residential areas, whereas flight paths in the FRF will be changed to over the sea, thereby reducing noise and risks. For example, there will be zero households requiring such insulation around the FRF, while more than 10,000 households are located in areas requiring housing noise insulation near MCAS Futenma. This means that the noise levels experienced by all households will comply with the environment criteria applied to exclusive housing areas. In the case that an aircraft encounters any contingency, safety on the ground can be ensured by diverting the aircraft offshore.

**b. The Necessity of Relocating the Futenma Replacement Facility within Okinawa Prefecture**

The U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa consists of air, ground, logistics, and command elements. The interaction of those elements in highly mobile and responsive operations of the U.S. Marine Corps is indispensable, so it has been determined that the FRF needs to be located within Okinawa Prefecture so that rotary-wing aircraft stationed at MCAS Futenma will be located near the elements with which they train, operate, or otherwise work on a regular basis.

**c. Background Concerning the Futenma Replacement Facility**

Considering the occurrence of the U.S. Forces helicopter crash in Ginowan City in August 2004, bilateral discussions on realignment have been made toward realizing the

relocation and return of MCAS Futenma at the earliest possible date in order to resolve the unease of the residents living in the vicinity.

In the SCC document compiled in October 2005, the initiative to “locate the FRF in an ‘L’-shaped configuration that combines the shoreline areas of Camp Schwab and adjacent water areas of Oura Bay” was approved. Then, based on negotiation and agreement with the local municipalities including Nago City, it was decided to stipulate in the Roadmap that the FRF be located in a configuration that “combines Henokosaki and adjacent water areas of Oura and Henoko Bays.” In regard to construction of this replacement facility, “a Memorandum of Basic Understanding” was exchanged between the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture and then Minister of State for Defense in May 2006.

After the change of government in September 2009, the Exploratory Committee for Okinawa Base Issues was established. After reviews conducted by the Committee, both Governments, at the “2+2” Meeting held in May 2010, confirmed the intention to locate the FRF in the Camp Schwab Henokosaki area and the adjacent waters, and also agreed to take concrete measures to mitigate the impact on Okinawa.

Subsequently, at the “2+2” Meeting held in June 2011, it was decided that the runway would take a “V” shape, and the Ministers confirmed their commitment to complete the relocation project at the earliest possible date after 2014 in order to avoid the indefinite use of MCAS Futenma and to remove the risks as early as possible.

During the deliberation process which led to these conclusions, first of all, it was determined that, from a security perspective, the deterrence of the U.S. Forces, including that of the U.S. Marine Corps stationed in Okinawa that is crucially located for the security of Japan, cannot be lessened while there remains instability and uncertainty in the East Asian security environment. Furthermore, concern was expressed that the functions of the U.S. Marine Corps would be weakened if the helicopter units stationed at MCAS Futenma were to be detached from the other Marine units stationed in Okinawa and moved abroad or out of the prefecture. Therefore, it was concluded that the FRF had to be within Okinawa Prefecture.

At the “2+2” Meetings in October 2013 and April 2015, which followed the “2+2” Meeting of April 2012, the Governments of Japan and the United States also confirmed that the plan to construct the FRF at Camp Schwab Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution that avoids the continued use of MCAS Futenma.

See Fig. II-3-4-7 (Background for the Futenma Replacement Facility)

See Reference 20 (Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee (April 27, 2012)); Reference 22 (Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee (October 3, 2013)); Reference 30 (Estimated Timelines for the Return of Facilities and Areas South of Kadena)

#### d. Completion of Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures

After the MOD sent the environmental impact assessment scoping document in 2007 to the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture and other parties, the MOD worked on revising its document based on the opinions provided by the Governor. Finally, the MOD completed the environmental impact assessment procedures by sending the revised assessment document to related parties including the governor in December 2012, while making the assessment document publicly viewable. Throughout these procedures, the MOD received a total of 1,561 opinions from the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture on six occasions, made all the required revisions, and reflected them in the content of the environmental assessment. In this way, the MOD had taken steps to comply with relevant laws, ask opinions and ideas from Okinawa Prefecture over a sufficient period of time, and reflect them in the assessment.

#### e. Promotion of the Futenma Replacement Facility Construction Project.

In relation to this project, the land-fill request on public waters was submitted in March 2013 and was approved by the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture in December 2013. In the meantime, the Governor sent a total of 260 questions to the Okinawa Defense Bureau on four occasions and the MOD responded appropriately to these questions and spent sufficient time working on the procedures. Based on the approval from the Governor, the offshore boring survey started on August 14, 2014 and the project has been steadily underway for the land-fill work and the bank reinforcement. This project is composed of land-fill work on public waters and the installation of an air base and other facilities. The notification of the start of construction for the latter was submitted to Okinawa Prefecture on June 30, 2014 and the work was kicked off on July 1, 2014.

#### (2) Force Reductions and Relocation to Guam

In conjunction with the realignment of the U.S. Marine Corps in the Asia-Pacific region, the “2+2” Meeting in June 2011 and other agreements prescribe that approximately 8,000 personnel of the III MEF and approximately 9,000 dependents will be relocated from Okinawa to Guam at the earliest possible date after 2014.

Regarding the costs of the relocation, the two sides reached an agreement that, of the estimated \$10.27 billion (in U.S. fiscal year 2008 dollars) cost of the facilities and infrastructure development costs, Japan would provide \$6.09 billion, including \$2.8 billion in direct cash contribution, while the U.S. would fund the remaining \$4.18 billion. In February 2009, the Japanese Government and the U.S. Government signed “the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America Concerning the Implementation of the Relocation of the III MEF Personnel and Their Dependents from Okinawa to Guam” (the Guam International Agreement). The Agreement legally guarantees and

Fig. II-3-4-7 Background for the Futenma Replacement Facility

Month & Year	Background
April 1996	Then Prime Minister Hashimoto and then U.S. Ambassador Mondale held a meeting, and the full return of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma (MCAS Futenma) was announced. SACO Interim Report. → The airfield will be returned within five to seven years, following the completion of an adequate replacement facility.
December 1996	SACO Final Report → A maritime facility will be constructed off the east coast of the main island of Okinawa (one that can be dismantled).
November 1999	Then Governor of Okinawa Inamine stated that he had chosen the Henoko coast region of Nago City as a candidate for the facility relocation on condition that it would be for joint military-civilian use
December 1999	Then Mayor of Nago City Kishimoto expressed that the city would accept the FRF "Government Policy on Relocation of MCAS Futenma" (Cabinet decision) → Construction in the Nago City Henoko coastal region in the water area of Camp Schwab
July 2002	"Basic Agreement Regarding the Use of Replacement Facilities" concluded between the Director General of Defense Agency and the Governor of Okinawa. "Basic Plan for Replacement Facilities for MCAS Futenma" was prepared. → Scale, construction methods, and specific construction site decided.
November 2003	Then Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld visited Okinawa.
April 2004	The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure started (abolished in 2007).
August 2004	A U.S. Forces helicopter crashed into a university campus in Ginowan City, Okinawa.
October 2005	"2+2" Joint Statement → Agreement on a new plan (an L shape plan connecting the coastal area of Camp Schwab with the adjacent water area of Oura bay)
April 2006	"Basic Agreement Regarding the Construction of the Futenma Replacement Facility" concluded between the Director General of the Defense Agency, the Mayor of Nago, and the village mayor of Ginoza. → Agreement was reached by creating flight paths avoiding overflight of the surrounding region (the V shape plan).
May 2006	"2+2" Joint Statement → Final adjustments made for the "U.S.-Japan Roadmap for Realignment Implementation," V shape plan approved "Basic Confirmation Regarding the Realignment of U.S. Military Forces in Okinawa" concluded between the Director General of the Defense Agency and the Governor of Okinawa. "GOJ Efforts for USFJ Force Structure Realignment and Others" (Cabinet decision) → The cabinet decision of December 1999 was abolished.
August 2006	Establishment of "the Council on Measures for Relocation of MCAS Futenma"
August 2007	The EIA scoping document was sent to the governor, municipal mayors etc. of Okinawa.
April 2009	Draft Environment Impact Statement was sent to the governor and municipal mayors of Okinawa.
September 2009	Conclusion of a three-party coalition government agreement between the Democratic Party of Japan, the Social Democratic Party, and the People's New Party. → Agreement on reviewing the status of the U.S. Forces realignment and U.S. Forces bases in Japan.
November 2009	Establishment of the Ministerial-Level Working Group on the Replacement Facility for Futenma Air Station. Japan-U.S. summit meeting → Agreement on resolving the relocation of Futenma Air Station expeditiously through the working group.
December 2009	Ministerial Committee on Basic Policies convened, Exploratory Committee for the Okinawa Bases Issue was established.
May 2010	"2+2" Joint Statement → Confirmed the intention to locate the Futenma Replacement Facility at the Camp Schwab Henokosaki and adjacent water areas Cabinet approval of "immediate actions by the Government of Japan on items decided by the Japan-United States Security Consultative Committee on May 28th, 2010"
August 2010	Futenma Replacement Facility Bilateral Experts Study Group Report
June 2011	"2+2" Joint Statement → Confirming the commitment that a replacement plan should be completed as early as possible after 2014, while deciding that the shape of the runway in the replaced facility should be V-shaped.
December 2011–January 2012	The Environmental Impact Statement report was sent to the governor of Okinawa.
February 2012	The Japan-U.S. Joint Statement was announced on the realignment of the U.S. forces stationed in Japan. → Official discussion was initiated to delink two issues—the movement of Marines to Guam and resulting land returns South of Kadena—from progress on the FRF.
April 2012	"2+2" Joint Statement → The current plan to relocate the air base from Futenma to Henoko was reconfirmed to be the only viable solution.
December 2012	Revised Environment Impact Statement was sent to the governor and municipal mayors of Okinawa.
March 2013	Application for approval of public water body reclamation was submitted to the governor of Okinawa.
April 2013	Release of "the consolidation plan of USFJ facilities and areas in Okinawa" → Return of facilities and areas to be completed in or after Fiscal Year 2022
October 2013	"2+2" Joint Statement → Recognition was reaffirmed that the plan to construct the Futenma Replacement Facility in Henoko is the only solution that avoids continued use of MCAS Futenma
December 2013	Governor of Okinawa approved reclamation of the public water body related to the Futenma Replacement Facility construction project
July 2014	Started the construction of replacement facilities
October 2014	Joint press release by Japan and the United States → Reaffirmed that the plan to construct the Futenma Replacement Facility in Henoko is the only solution to avoid the continued use of MCAS Futenma
April 2015	"2+2" Joint Statement → Reconfirmed that the plan to construct the Futenma Replacement Facility at the Camp-Schwab Henokosaki area and adjacent waters is the only solution that addresses operational, political, financial, and strategic concerns and avoids the continued use of MCAS Futenma

ensures actions taken by Japan and the United States, such as Japan's long-term funding for projects to which Japan provides direct cash contributions (so-called Mamizu projects). As part of the measures based on this Agreement, the Japanese government has provided cash contributions to the U.S. Government in relation to the Mamizu projects since FY2009<sup>8</sup>.

Subsequently, in the "2+2" Joint Statement of April 2012, the unit composition and the number of personnel to be relocated to Guam were revised. More specifically, with the revision, Marine Air-Ground Task Forces (MAGTF) are to be stationed and deployed in Guam, approximately 9,000 personnel are to be relocated to locations outside of Japan, the authorized strength of the U.S. Marine Corps forces in Guam is to be around 5,000 personnel and the end-state for the presence of the U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa is to be consistent with the levels envisioned in the Roadmap.

In this Joint Statement, the preliminary cost estimate by the U.S. Government for the relocation is \$8.6 billion (in U.S. fiscal year 2012 dollars). With regard to Japan's financial commitment, it was reaffirmed that it was to be the direct cash contribution of up to \$2.8 billion (in U.S. fiscal year 2008 dollars) as stipulated in Article 1 of the Guam International Agreement. It was also confirmed that Japan's equity investment and loans for family housing projects and infrastructure projects would not be utilized. Moreover, it was stipulated that any funds that had already been transferred to the U.S. Government under the Guam International Agreement would be counted as part of the Japanese contribution. Furthermore, as a new initiative, a portion of the direct cash contribution of \$ 2.8 billion mentioned above would be used to develop training areas in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands as shared use facilities for Japan and the U.S. In addition, it was agreed that the remaining costs and any additional costs would be borne by the U.S., and that the two governments were to complete a bilateral cost breakdown.

At the "2+2" Meeting in October 2013, the Ministers confirmed that the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps personnel from Okinawa contributes to sustaining the forward presence of the U.S. Forces and promoting the development of Guam as the strategic hub, while also mitigating the impact on Okinawa. On that occasion, a Protocol amending the Guam International Agreement, which forms the basis for the bilateral cooperation necessary to achieve these goals of the relocation, was signed. The amendment, which is in line with the "2+2" Joint Statement of 2012, confirmed the delinking of the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps units from Okinawa to Guam from progress on the FRF, and added provisions concerning the development of training areas in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands and the shared use of these training areas by the U.S. Forces and the SDF. The limit on Japanese cash contributions remains unchanged at \$2.8 billion (in U.S. fiscal year 2008 dollars). Both countries also completed the process of creating a detailed breakdown of required costs.

Under the relocation plan described in the 2012 "2+2" Joint Statement, U.S. Marine Corps units are to begin to relocate from Okinawa to Guam in the first half of the 2020s. The plan is considered to promote the implementation of the consolidation plan on returning the land areas south of Kadena Air Base published in April 2013.

Furthermore, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015<sup>9</sup> was stipulated in December 2014, which lifted the restriction on the use of funds by the U.S. Congress. The Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), conducted based on the revision of operations due to the plan adjustment, is to be completed in 2015, subsequently enabling full-scale relocation work in Guam. As for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Joint Military Training Environmental Impact Statement (CJMT-EIS), the draft was released in April 2015, and it is planned to be completed in 2016.

**See** Reference 31 (Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America Concerning the Implementation of the Relocation of III Marine Expeditionary Force Personnel and Their Dependents from Okinawa to Guam); Reference 32 (Protocol amending the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America Concerning the Implementation of the Relocation of III Marine Expeditionary Force Personnel and Their Dependents from Okinawa to Guam)

### (3) Return of Land Areas South of Kadena Air Base

At the SCC Joint Statement in April 2012, it was decided to delink the progress on the FRF from both the relocation of the III MEF personnel from Okinawa to Guam, and resulting land returns south of Kadena. In addition, with regard to the land to be returned, it was agreed to conduct consultations focusing on three stages, namely 1) land eligible for immediate return; 2) land eligible for return once the relocation of functions is completed; and 3) land eligible for return after the relocation abroad. The return of all these types of land will enable the return of approximately 70% of USFJ facilities located in densely populated areas in the central and southern parts of the main island of Okinawa.

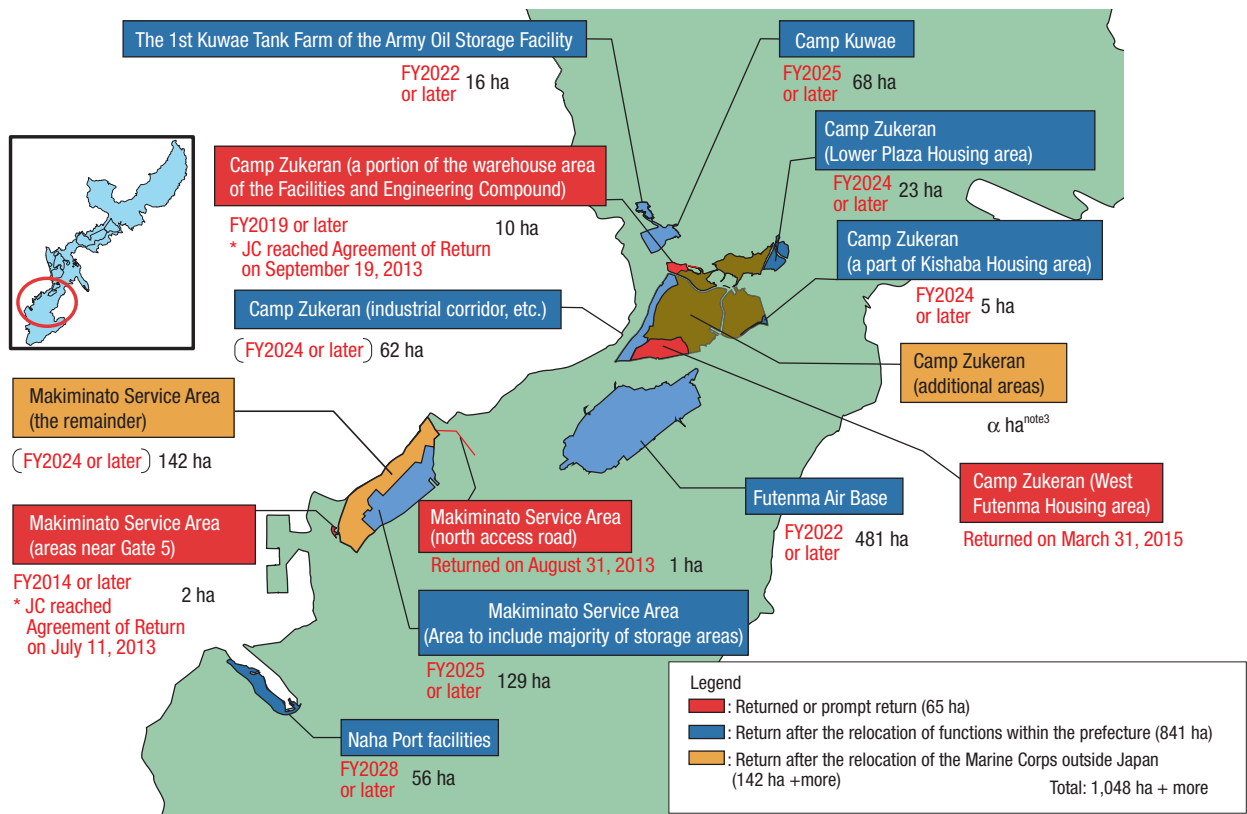
Since the change of administration at the end of 2012, Japan and the United States have continued consultation under the basic policy of the Abe administration to dedicate all its strength to mitigate the impact of the U.S. Forces on Okinawa communities. Japan strongly requested an early return of lands south of Kadena, including Makiminato Service Area (Camp Kinser). As a result of bilateral

<sup>8</sup> As for Japan's Mamizu projects, Japan provided cash contributions of approximately 109.4 billion yen to the U.S. side by using the budgets from FY2009 to FY2014.

<sup>9</sup> The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 repealed a provision that imposed the restriction on the use of funds provided by the U.S. and Japanese governments for the Guam Relocation project, which had been included in the acts since the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012, and states that the total costs for the Guam relocation project may not exceed \$8.725 billion.



Fig. II-3-4-8 Return of Land Areas South of Kadena Air Base



Notes: 1. The times and years are based on the best case scenario concerning the return of specific facilities/areas after the completion of necessary measures and procedures to be taken by the Governments of Japan and the United States. The periods may become delayed due to such factors as the progress of the preparation for relocation in Okinawa by the Government of Japan and the U.S. Government's efforts for relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps to outside Japan. Furthermore, the times and fiscal years in parentheses do not include the time necessary for relocation of the Marine Corps from Japan because, though the conditions for returning the areas include its relocation to outside of Japan, the plan for the relocation is yet to be decided. Consequently, the times of return of these areas may be changed depending on the progress of the relocation of the Marine Corps from Japan.  
 2. The area of each area is an approximate figure and may be slightly modified based on the results of future surveys, etc.  
 3. Studies will be made in the process of developing a master plan to determine the feasibility of additional land returns.  
 \*JC: Japan-U.S. Joint Committee

coordination, both countries announced the consolidation plan in April 2013, which stipulated the return schedule, including the specific years of return.

In the consolidation plan, both sides confirmed that they will implement the plan as early as possible. The Government of Japan needs to continue to work with all its strength so that lands south of Kadena would be returned at the earliest possible date. Furthermore, following the announcement of the consolidation plan, the consultations have been held since April 2013, involving Ginowan City, Ginowan City Military Land Owners Association, Okinawa Prefecture, Okinawa Defense Bureau, and Okinawa General Bureau<sup>10</sup>, and the MOD has also been providing necessary cooperation. Efforts have been made to enable the early return of land areas, including the land areas that are to be returned as soon as required procedures are completed (shown in red in Fig. II-3-4-8), since the announcement of the consolidation plan in April 2013, creating a path for the return of all four eligible land areas. This allowed the return of the north entrance of Makiminato Service Area (approximately 1 ha) in August 2013 and West Futenma

Housing Area within Camp Zukeran, approximately 51 ha, at the end of March 2015.

The Government of Japan will take every opportunity to hold consultations with the United States for the prompt development by the United States of a master plan for the return of land in the remaining areas, and support its development. So far, the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee has agreed on master plans for the Torii Communication Station which would be the relocation point of U.S. Army warehouses located in Camp Kinser, and Chibana Area of Kadena Ammunition Storage Area. All-out initiatives are being continuously made to steadily implement the consolidation plan and mitigate the impact on Okinawa as early as possible, and also to realize the respective returns of land in the shortest possible time for more visible mitigation of the impact on Okinawa.

See Fig. II-3-4-8 (Return of Land Areas South of Kadena Air Base); Reference 30 (Estimated Timelines for the Return of Facilities and Areas South of Kadena)

<sup>10</sup> In addition to the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Okinawa Office) and the Cabinet Office also participate in the consultations as observers.

## 4 Osprey Deployment by the U.S. Forces in Japan

### (1) MV-22 Osprey Deployment in Okinawa

The Osprey is an aircraft that combines the vertical takeoff/landing and hovering functions of rotary-wing aircraft on one hand and the speed and range of fixed-wing aircraft on the other. As the primary air unit of the U.S. Marine Corps, the MV-22 Osprey that have been developed for the U.S. Marine Corps play an important role in engaging in a broad range of activities, including transportation of personnel and goods.

The U.S. Marine Corps is in the process of replacing aged rotary-wing airplanes (CH-46) with MV-22s, which have superior basic performance. In September 2013, all the 24 CH-46s deployed at MCAS Futenma were replaced by MV-22s.

The MV-22 is a highly capable aircraft compared with the CH-46; it can fly faster, can carry more payload, and has a longer range. Its deployment to Okinawa will strengthen the deterrence of the U.S. Forces in Japan as a whole and greatly contribute to the peace and stability of the region.

### (2) CV-22 Osprey Deployment to Yokota Air Base

On May 11, 2015 (same day U.S. time), the United States notified Japan of its plan to deploy CV-22 Osprey aircraft to Yokota Air Base starting in the latter half of 2017, followed by the announcement of this plan by the U.S. Department of Defense on May 12 (May 11 U.S. time). The United States plans to deploy the first three aircraft in the latter half of 2017 and complete the deployment of a total of 10 aircraft by 2021.

The CV-22 aircraft deployed to Yokota Air Base handles tasks for transporting personnel and supplies for Special Operation Forces of the U.S. Forces to deal with crises and emergencies in the Asia-Pacific region, including humanitarian assistance and natural disasters. The CV-22 and the MV-22 are two different models, but both models offer the same propulsion system and have a fundamentally similar structure.

As Japan faces increasingly tougher security environments, the deployment of high-performance CV-22 as part of the rebalancing strategy and enhancement of readiness posture of the United States will enhance the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance and contribute to the stability of the Asia-Pacific region.

The Government of Japan will continue to respond to local communities in a sincere manner in order to obtain their understanding and cooperation.

### (3) Safety of the Osprey

After the crash of an MV-22 in Morocco in April 2012 and the crash of a CV-22 in Florida in June 2012, concerns about its safety have grown among Japanese people. In response, the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States agreed to refrain from any flight operation in Japan until the results of the accident investigation

are provided and the safety of flight operation was reconfirmed. Additionally, in order to confirm its safety, a Japanese analysis and assessment team was set up to validate the contents of the accident investigations of the U.S. government, based on Japan's own viewpoints and knowledge. The team examined the investigation results and confirmed that these accidents were caused largely by human factors and that there were no safety problems with the aircraft itself.

Furthermore, in relation to the flight operations of the MV-22, the two governments confirmed that measures would be taken to address these human factors in light of the lessons learned from the accidents and agreed to implement specific measures to ensure the safety of MV-22 operations in Japan through the Japan-U.S. Joint Committee and other occasions.

Based on the above results, considering that the safety of MV-22 operations in Japan is fully confirmed, flight operations of the MV-22 Osprey resumed in Japan.

The Government of Japan has confirmed, from information obtained from the United States, that the CV-22 and the MV-22 offer the same propulsion system and have a basically similar structure and that the United States will ensure complete safety in operating the CV-22 in Japan as in the case of the MV-22. Based on this, Japan believes that the safety of the CV-22 in Japan will be ensured just like that of the MV-22.

Furthermore, in order to ensure that full consideration is given to local residents and that the Joint Committee agreement is properly implemented for flight operations of the MV-22 and the CV-22, the Government of Japan has been continuously engaging with the U.S. side through various opportunities, including the Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meetings.

See Fig. II-3-4-9 (Chronology of Osprey Deployment by the U.S. Forces)

### (4) Usability of Osprey Deployed by the U.S. Forces in Case of Disaster

In the aftermath of the devastating typhoon that hit the central Philippines in November 2013, 14 MV-22 aircraft, deployed in Okinawa, were dispatched for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities to support "Operation Damayan." The MV-22s were deployed promptly to affected areas that were difficult to access, and they transported several hundred isolated victims and about six tons of relief materials in a day. In April 2014, the MV-22, deployed in Okinawa, was dispatched for rescue activities in the wake of an accidental sinking of a passenger ship off the coast of Jindo in the Republic of Korea.

Furthermore, in response to the large earthquake that hit Nepal in April 2015, four MV-22 aircraft, deployed in Okinawa, were dispatched to the country to transport personnel and supplies.

In contrast, the MV-22 was used in Japan to conduct training for transporting victims to an MSDF escort vessel and other locations on such occasions as "Wakayama Prefecture Tsunami Disaster Readiness Practical Training" (October

Fig. II-3-4-9 Chronology of Osprey Deployment by the U.S. Forces

June 6, 2011	Provided information to relevant local governments and other organizations on the announcement made by the U.S. Department of Defense to replace the CH-46 deployed at MCAS Futenma with the MV-22 in the latter half of 2012.
June 13–26	Provided safety/noise information that GOJ had obtained so far to relevant local governments and other organizations.
June 24	Received a letter with 29 questions from the Okinawa Governor and others.
September 1	The first written response was handed to the Okinawa Governor and others by Administrative Vice-Minister.
September 2–13	Provided an explanation on the first written response to relevant local governments and other organizations.
December 20	The second written response was handed to the Okinawa Governor by chief of the Okinawa Defense Bureau.
December 20–January 17, 2012	Provided an explanation on the second written response above to relevant local governments and other organizations.
April 12	A prompt report on the accident involving an MV-22 in Morocco was provided to relevant local governments and other organizations.
June 13–	Provided an explanation on the results of the Environment Review, MV-22 pamphlet, and the content of the third response to the questions to Okinawa Prefecture, relevant local governments and other organizations.
June 14	A prompt report on the accident involving a CV-22 in Florida was provided to relevant local governments and other organizations.
June 26–	Provided an explanation on the information provided from the U.S. side regarding the accidents in Morocco and Florida to relevant local governments and other organizations.
June 29–	Provided an explanation on the content of the Host Nation Notification and the press release to relevant local governments and other organizations.
July 20	Provided information from the U.S. side stating that the MV-22 would be offloaded on MCAS Iwakuni on July 23 to relevant local governments and other organizations.
August 1–September 18	Received four questionnaires regarding the Environment Review etc., from the Okinawa Governor and others.
August 28–	Provided an explanation on the “Analysis and Evaluation Report on the MV-22 Accident in Morocco” to relevant local governments and other organizations.
September 11–	Provided an explanation on the “Analysis and Evaluation Report on the CV-22 Accident in Florida” to relevant local governments and other organizations.
September 14–	Q&A session on Osprey deployment with members of the Iwakuni City Council full member committee.
September 19–	Provided an explanation on the report “MV-22 Osprey deployment in Okinawa” to relevant local governments and other organizations.
September 21	Provided Yamaguchi Prefecture and Iwakuni City with the information that function check flights, etc. were commenced at MCAS Iwakuni.
September 27-28	Provided information on the contents of the responses to the questionnaires from Okinawa Prefecture and others received from August 1 to September 18 to Okinawa Prefecture, other relevant local governments and other organizations.
November 2	In the nationwide prefectural governors meeting hosted by the Government, the Minister of Defense explained the initial training plan with the MV-22 Osprey, and the Prime Minister and the Minister of Defense asked for the governors' cooperation in relocating the training to outside Okinawa.
December 10	The MOD received another letter of questions from the Governor of Okinawa in response to the answers to his initial questions which the MOD submitted to him in September.
December 12–14	The MOD provided explanations to Okinawa Prefecture and relevant local governments in Okinawa regarding the content of the second set of answers the MOD prepared, since some of these answers did not satisfactorily address the letter of questions from the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture on environmental review.
December 25	Received a letter requesting information on the flight operation of the MV-22 etc. from the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture.
January 28, 2013	The Okinawa Citizens' Council, the Okinawa Prefectural Assembly, and other organizations sent a statement to the Prime Minister.
April 30	The MOD provided explanation to the relevant local governments and other organizations regarding the U.S. explanation on the deployment of the MV-22 squadron (unloaded at MCAS Iwakuni in summer 2013).
July 1	Announcement of plans to unload the MV-22 squadron to MCAS Iwakuni in the final week of July
September 25	Relocation to MCAS Futenma was completed.
May 12, 2015	The U.S. Department of Defense provided related municipalities and organizations with information related to the announcement of the deployment of the CV-22 Osprey at Yokota Air Base starting in the latter half of 2017.

2014) and “Michinoku ALERT 2014” (November 2014), a disaster relief exercise by the GSDF Tohoku Headquarters.

Like the MV-22, the CV-22 can conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities, including search and rescue missions, both immediately and over a large range, in the case of a large-scale disaster. As such, it is expected that the superior capabilities of the Osprey deployed by the U.S. Forces can be showcased in a variety of operations in the future as well.

## 5 Consultation Structure for Mitigating the Impact on Okinawa

Today, a number of USFJ facilities and areas still remain in Okinawa because of the U.S. occupation of Okinawa and the slower returning progress of USFJ facilities and areas compared to other areas of Japan even after the occupation ended. In order to mitigate the concentrated impact on Okinawa, the Government of Japan has been implementing initiatives toward the realization of the SACO Final Report and the Roadmap. The MOD is committed to further mitigating the impact on Okinawa through the Okinawa Policy Council, its subcommittee and other means<sup>11</sup>, while listening to the opinions of the local residents.

At the Okinawa Policy Council Meeting on December 17, 2013, the Governor of Okinawa presented several requests, including cessation of the operation of MCAS Futenma within five years and its early return, the re-deployment of about 12 MV-22 Osprey aircraft to bases outside of Okinawa, and the total return of Makiminato Service Area within seven years.

The Japanese government as a whole is addressing the mitigation of the impact on Okinawa by establishing the Council for Promoting the Mitigation of the Impact of MCAS Futenma on Okinawa, consisting of the Chief Cabinet Secretary, the Minister of State for Okinawa, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Defense, the Governor of Okinawa and the Mayor of Ginowan. The MOD also created the Committee for Promoting the Mitigation of the Impact of Bases on Okinawa headed by the State Minister of Defense on January 22, 2014 to continually work on the reduction of the impact on Okinawa.

In addition to discussions based on this framework, Japan has advanced discussions with the United States to mitigate the impact on Okinawa. Both countries shared

the view to continue efforts to relocate aviation training, including that of MV-22s, to locations outside Okinawa Prefecture and Japan and to continue and enhance initiatives to accelerate the process of returning land areas south of Kadena (particularly Makiminato Service Area), enabling the two countries to announce these matters through a joint press release on October 20, 2014.

The Japanese Government has continually been working on Japan-U.S. joint exercises using the MV-22 and cooperating with local communities to allow the use of Saga Airport by the U.S. Marine Corps in order to develop the training infrastructure and locations for the MV-22.

In addition, efforts are underway to realize the return of Makiminato Service Area. To accelerate this process, Japan has helped the U.S. Forces to develop a master plan related to the return of this area.

**See** Part II, Chapter 3, Section 4-6 (Measures to Mitigate the Impacts of USFJ Facilities and Areas)

## 6 Initiatives for the Use of Lands Previously Provided for Use by the Stationed Forces

For the return of lands in Okinawa provided for use by the USFJ (hereinafter, “USFJ Land”), the “Act on Special Measures Concerning Promotion of Effective and Appropriate Use of the Lands in Okinawa Prefecture Previously Provided for Use by the Stationed Forces” stipulates various measures concerning the USFJ Land agreed to be returned. Mainly, the MOD: (1) conducts mediation in relation to access for surveys, etc. to be implemented by prefectural governments and local municipalities on the USFJ Land which are agreed to be returned; (2) conducts measures applying to all the returned lands to remove impediments for use such as soil contamination and unexploded ordnance, not only those caused by the activities of the stationed forces, before handing over the land to the owners of former USFJ Land; and (3) provides financial benefits to alleviate the impact on the owners of the returned lands and to promote use of the land.

The MOD will continue its initiatives to promote the effective and appropriate use of returned lands by coordinating and cooperating with related ministries, the prefectural government and local municipalities.

<sup>11</sup> On March 19, 2013 a subcommittee was established under the Okinawa Policy Council in order to address issues concerning mitigation of the impact relating to U.S. bases and Okinawa development measures



## 4 Stationing of the U.S. Forces in Regions Other than Okinawa

In regions other than Okinawa, the MOD is implementing measures to secure the stable presence of the U.S. Forces by maintaining its deterrence abilities and trying to mitigate the impact on local communities.

### 1 Realignment of USFJ Facilities and Areas in Kanagawa Prefecture

Due to the strong desire from local public bodies and other organizations, the return of six facilities and areas (including Kami Seya Communication Station in Yokohama City), as well as the construction of approximately 700 housing units for the U.S. Forces families in the Yokohama area of the "Ikego Housing Area and Navy Annex" were agreed in October 2004 by the Joint Committee. Subsequently, both countries held consultations regarding the review of the number of housing units to be constructed and the return of part of the land in the Zushi area currently used by the US Forces Japan as "Ikego Housing Area and Navy Annex." As a result, the Joint Committee in September 2010 agreed that the number of housing units to be constructed would be around 400 as an interim measure to facilitate the relocation of the Negishi Housing Area and that ongoing discussions regarding the return of part of the land in the abovementioned Zushi area would be held. As a stopgap measure until the land is returned, the Joint Committee added that use of the land would be shared with Zushi City, once the requirements are fulfilled.

Up to now, three facilities and areas (Fukaya Communication Site, Koshiba POL Depot, and Tomioka Storage Area) have been returned and part of the land in the Zushi area of the Ikego Housing Area has been designated for shared use. The Joint Committee in April 2014 also set the goal of returning the Kami Seya Communication Station at the end of June 2015. In addition, the Joint Committee agreed to change the number of housing units to be constructed in the Yokohama area of the Ikego Housing Area from approximately 400 to 171.

See Fig. II-3-4-10 (Facilities and Areas Related to the Reorganization of the USFJ Facilities and Areas in Kanagawa Prefecture)

### 2 Current Situation Regarding the Realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan as Stipulated in the Roadmap

#### (1) Improvement of U.S. Army Japan Command and Control Capability

To have enhanced mobility and readiness as well as to enable joint missions, the headquarters of U.S. Army Japan (USARJ) at Camp Zama (in Kanagawa Prefecture) was reorganized into the headquarters of the USARJ&I Corps (Forward) in December 2007 and the reorganization took place at the end of September 2008.

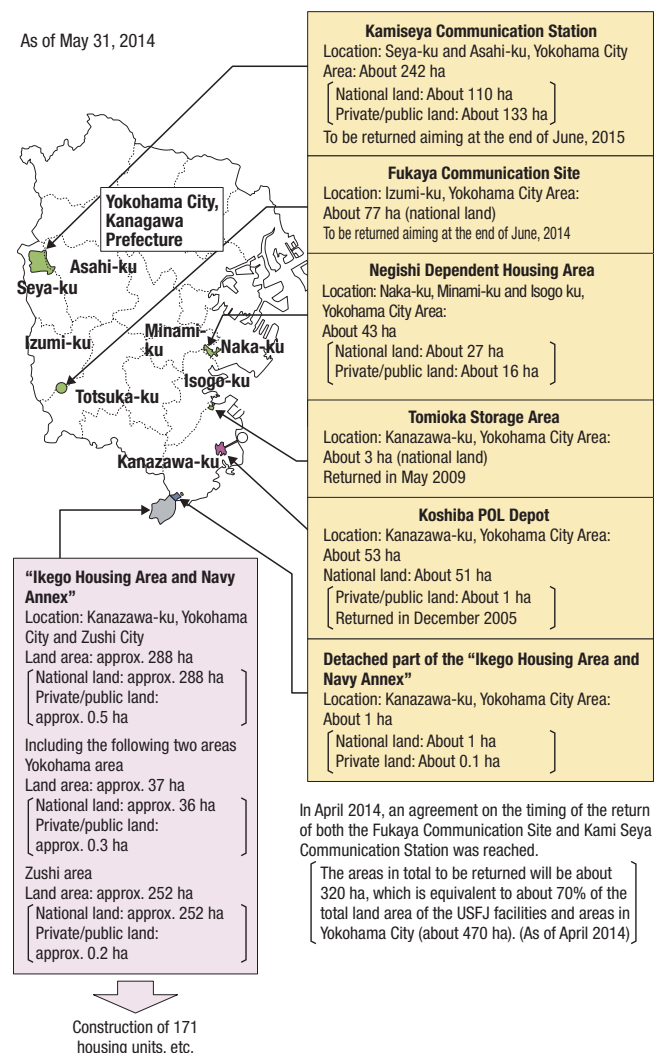
With the aim of strengthening coordination with the reorganized USARJ headquarters so as to enable rapid

responses to various contingencies, the JGSDF Central Readiness Force Headquarters, which unilaterally controls JGSDF mobile operation units and specialized units, was relocated from JGSDF Camp Asaka (in Saitama Prefecture) to Camp Zama, where the headquarters of U.S. Army Japan (USARJ) are located, at the end of FY2012. In accordance with the transformation of USARJ headquarters, a mission command training center and other support facilities were constructed within the U.S. Forces Sagami General Depot (SGD, in Kanagawa Prefecture) using U.S. funding. In addition, measures will be implemented for more effective and efficient use of Camp Zama and the SGD, including partial release of facilities and areas. The partial release of land (approximately 17 ha) at SGD was approved by the Joint Committee in June 2008, while the partial release of land (approximately 5.4 ha) at Camp Zama, and the shared use of a portion of land at SGD (approximately 35 ha) with Sagami City were approved in October 2011 and June 2012, respectively, by the Joint Committee.

Of all these land areas, a portion of land at SGD

Fig. II-3-4-10

Facilities and Areas Related to the Reorganization of the USFJ Facilities and Areas in Kanagawa Prefecture



In April 2014, an agreement on the timing of the return of both the Fukaya Communication Site and Kami Seya Communication Station was reached.

[ The areas in total to be returned will be about 320 ha, which is equivalent to about 70% of the total land area of the USFJ facilities and areas in Yokohama City (about 470 ha). (As of April 2014) ]

(approximately 17 ha) was released on September 30, 2014. This marks the first release of land of USFJ facilities and areas in mainland Japan based on the Roadmap.

## (2) Yokota Air Base and Airspace

### a. Establishment of the Bilateral Joint Operations Coordination Center (BJOCC)

Enhancement of coordination between the headquarters of both countries, combined with the transition to joint operational posture, is highly important to ensure a response of flexibility and readiness of the SDF and the U.S. Forces. The headquarters of the U.S. Forces in Japan located at Yokota Air Base, and Tokyo plays an important role in the various mechanisms under the Guidelines. Therefore, along with the relocation of ASDF Air Defense Command HQ as mentioned below, the BJOCC<sup>12</sup> was established at Yokota Air Base and commenced operations at the end of FY2011.

**See** Part II, Chapter 3, Section 2 (Overview of the Revision of the Guidelines)

### b. Relocation of ASDF Air Defense Command HQ

In the case of air defense and BMD, only a short time is available for response. Therefore, it is important for the SDF and the U.S. Forces to immediately share the necessary information. Thus, at the end of FY2011, the ASDF Air Defense Command HQ and its relevant units were relocated to Yokota Air Base where the U.S. 5th Air Force Headquarters is located. This arrangement and the establishment of the above-mentioned BJOCC have made it possible to enhance coordination between the headquarters of the SDF and the U.S. Forces, including the sharing of information concerning air defense and BMD.

### c. Yokota Airspace

To facilitate the operations of civilian airplanes in Yokota airspace, where the U.S. Forces conduct radar approach control, measures have been taken since 2006 to temporarily transfer the responsibility for air traffic control of portions of Yokota airspace to the Japanese authorities, to deploy ASDF officers at the Yokota Radar Approach Control (Yokota RAPCON), and to reduce the airspace by about 40% (i.e. the release of air traffic control from USFJ).

### d. Civilian-Military Dual Use of Yokota Air Base

At the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting held in 2003, it was agreed that the joint civilian-military use of Yokota Air Base would be studied, and a Liaison Conference was then established as a working panel attended by relevant government ministries and agencies and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. The governments of Japan and the United States are conducting a study on the specific conditions and modalities, with the understanding that both countries will not compromise the military operations and safety of Yokota Air Base.

## (3) Deployment of U.S. Aircraft Carrier to Yokosuka Naval Base

The presence of the U.S. Pacific Fleet plays an important role in ensuring maritime security in the Asia-Pacific region as well as regional peace and stability. The U.S. aircraft carrier provides the core capability of the Fleet.

The aircraft carrier USS George Washington, which has been forward deployed in Yokosuka (Kanagawa Prefecture) until May 2015, will proceed to the United States for fuel exchange, and in its place, the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier<sup>13</sup> USS Ronald Reagan will be forward deployed.

The U.S. Navy affirms that it will continue to ensure that all of its nuclear-powered vessels (including USS George Washington) adhere to the relevant safety policies. For example, the nuclear reactor will normally be shut down while the aircraft carrier is anchored, and repairing and refueling will not be carried out in Japan. The Government of Japan intends to continue taking all possible measures to ensure safety.

## (4) Measures relating to Atsugi Air Facility and MCAS Iwakuni

### a. Relocation of Carrier-Based Aircraft

Atsugi Air Facility (in Kanagawa Prefecture) is currently used as a base for carrier-based aircraft. Since Atsugi Air Facility is located at the center of an urban district, the noise of carrier jets taking off and landing in particular has been a problem for a long time. It is necessary to resolve such problems as soon as possible in order to stably maintain the operations of aircraft carriers.

On the other hand, after the completion of the runway relocation project<sup>14</sup> at MCAS Iwakuni (the relocation of the runway approximately 1,000 meters offshore), safe aircraft operations would become possible with less impact on the living environment of the surrounding communities.

Taking these factors into consideration, CVW-5 squadrons are to be relocated from Atsugi Air Facility to MCAS Iwakuni. In order to mitigate impacts of the increased operations at MCAS Iwakuni due to the projected relocation, related measures will be taken, including: (1) conducting the relocation after the runway is moved offshore, (2) relocation of MSDF EP-3, etc. from MCAS Iwakuni to Atsugi Air Facility, (3) deployment of KC-130 (to be relocated from MCAS Futenma to MCAS Iwakuni) on a regular rotational basis to MSDF Kanoya Base (in Kagoshima Prefecture) and Guam for training and operations, and (4) relocation of U.S. Marine Corps CH-53D helicopters from MCAS Iwakuni to Guam.

Due to these measures, the area requiring residential noise-abatement work (so-called first category area) will

<sup>12</sup> The BJOCC functions to contribute to providing a joint response for Japan's defense. To that end, it works to enhance information sharing, close coordination, and interoperability between the Japanese and U.S. headquarters.

<sup>13</sup> Nuclear-powered aircraft carriers do not need to replenish their fuel and they are able to maintain the high speeds necessary for the operation of aircraft, giving them excellent combat and operational capabilities.

<sup>14</sup> A project to relocate the runway of MCAS Iwakuni by approximately 1,000 meters to the east (offshore), in response to the requests from Iwakuni City, etc. The new runway commenced its operations in May 2010. The project was completed at the end of FY2010

decrease from approximately 1,600 ha to 500 ha.

Subsequently, at the “2+2” held in October 2013, it was acknowledged that the relocation of CVW-5 from Atsugi Air Facility to MCAS Iwakuni should be completed by around 2017. In addition, with regard to the relocation of MSDF EP-3, etc. to Atsugi Air Facility as stated in (2) above, upon the request of local public entities in the vicinity of MCAS Iwakuni, it was affirmed that, as a result of Japan-U.S. deliberation including defense posture review, MSDF EP-3, etc. would remain at MCAS Iwakuni.

With regard to the regular deployment of KC-130 on a rotational basis to MSDF Kanoya Base and Guam as stated in (3) above, consultations are being held between Japan and the United States pertaining to training and operations at MSDF Kanoya Base.

In addition, concerning the relocation of U.S. Marine Corps CH-53D helicopters from MCAS Iwakuni to Guam as stated in (4) above, Japan and the United States confirmed that based on the Roadmap, etc. the unit, which has been temporarily dispatched to the Middle East from MCAS Iwakuni, will be relocated to the mainland of the United States without returning to MCAS Iwakuni and then relocated to Guam.

In order to construct family housing and sports facilities, etc. required for the relocation of carrier-based aircraft to MCAS Iwakuni, site development work is currently being undertaken in the Atagoyama area.

#### b. Field-Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP)

The 2006 Roadmap prescribes that a bilateral framework to conduct a study on a permanent FCLP facility is to be established with the goal of selecting a permanent site at the earliest possible date. At the “2+2” Meeting of June 2011, it was confirmed that the Government of Japan will explain to local authorities that Mageshima is considered to be the candidate site for a new SDF facility. This SDF facility would be used to support operations in response to a variety of situations including large-scale disasters as well as regular exercises and other activities, including use by the U.S. Forces as a permanent site for FCLP. In addition, the 2005 SCC document confirmed that the U.S. Forces will continue to conduct FCLP at Iwo-To in accordance with existing temporary arrangements until a permanent FCLP training facility is identified.

#### c. Resumption of Civil Aviation Operations at MCAS Iwakuni

Considering that the local public entities, etc., including Yamaguchi Prefecture and Iwakuni City, had been working together to request the resumption of civil aviation operations, it was agreed in 2005 that civil aviation operations of four round trips per day would be allowed as long as such operations do not compromise U.S. military operational requirements.

It was then agreed in the Roadmap that “portions of the future civilian air facility will be accommodated at MCAS

Iwakuni.” Based on this agreement, Iwakuni Kintaikyo Airport was opened in 2012, resuming regular flights of civil aviation aircraft after 48 years.

#### (5) Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD)

Japan and the United States are set to continue close coordination on BMD as the two countries improve their respective BMD capabilities. In June 2006, an AN/TPY-2 radar (so-called “X-Band Radar”) system was deployed to the U.S. Shariki Communication Site<sup>15</sup>. Also in October 2006, U.S. Army Patriot PAC-3 units (Patriot Advanced Capability) were deployed to Kadena Air Base and Kadena Ammunition Storage Area.

At the Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting in February 2013, both sides agreed on the necessity of the additional deployment of TPY-2 radar in Japan to further enhance BMD capabilities and completed the deployment to the U.S. Kyogamisaki Communication Site (in Kyoto Prefecture) in December 2014.

Moreover, at the Japan-U.S. Defense Ministerial Meeting in April 2014, the U.S. Secretary of Defense stated that the United States would deploy additional Aegis ships with BMD capabilities to Japan. The U.S. notified Japan in October 2014 that the country would deploy additional Aegis ships with BMD capabilities to Yokosuka Naval Base in August 2015 and July 2017 and replace an Aegis ship already deployed to Yokosuka Naval Base with one that has BMD capabilities.

See Part III, Chapter 1, Section 1-3 (Response to Ballistic Missile Attacks)



Parliamentary Vice-Minister Harada delivering a congratulatory speech at the unit launch of the U.S. Kyogamisaki Communication Site

#### (6) Training Relocation

Based on the decision that U.S. aircraft from three USFJ facilities—Kadena, Misawa (in Aomori Prefecture) and MCAS Iwakuni—would participate for the time being in bilateral training with ASDF at ASDF facilities, training

<sup>15</sup> The radar was deployed to ASDF Shariki Sub Base (in Aomori Prefecture) in June 2006, but was thereafter transferred to the neighboring U.S. Shariki Communication Site.



relocation has been underway since 2007<sup>16</sup>. The MOD has been improving its infrastructure, as required, for the training relocation.

In addition to assisting USFJ, the MOD and the SDF are conducting efforts to ensure the safety and security of the local community, such as the establishment of a liaison office, facilitated communication with related government agencies, and response to requirements from the local community. These efforts have been contributing to successful training relocation.

In January 2011, at the Joint Committee, based on the “2+2” Joint Statement in 2010, both governments agreed to include Guam as a new training relocation site and to expand the scale of training. Moreover, at the Joint Committee in October 2011, they agreed on details for training sites. After that, training was relocated to Guam

and other locations for the first time, leading to a series of training conducted at relocation sites.

Furthermore, in March 2014, both governments agreed to add air-to-ground training using the Misawa Air-to-Ground Range through the Joint Committee. The addition of air-to-ground training contributes to enhancing interoperability between the two countries, and also to relocating part of air-to-ground training originally conducted at Tori Shima Range, etc. with U.S. Forces aircraft flying to Kadena Air Base. Thus, this training relocation will help noise abatement around Kadena Air Base, thereby contributing to the mitigation of the impact of U.S. Forces training activities in Okinawa. This agreement resulted in air-to-ground training using the Misawa Air-to-Ground Range in June 2014.

## 5 Initiatives for Smooth Implementation of the Realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan

In order to smoothly implement the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan based on the Roadmap, the “Act on Special Measures on Smooth Implementation of the Realignment of United States Forces in Japan (USFJ Realignment Special Measures Act)” was enacted in August 2007. Realignment grants, Special Subsidy Rates for Public Projects, etc. and other systems were established based on the law.

During a period of time before and after the implementation of realignment (10 years in principle), realignment grants<sup>17</sup> will be awarded to help cover the expenses of projects<sup>18</sup> which contribute to increasing the convenience of the lives of residents of local municipalities affected by the realignment<sup>19</sup>, and to stimulate local

industries. To this end, they will be awarded in accordance with progress made in the steps of U.S. Forces realignment, after the Defense Minister designates the specified defense facilities and neighboring municipalities affected by realignment. As of April 2015, 16 defense facilities in 41 municipalities are eligible to receive the grant.

In addition, under U.S. Forces realignment, some USFJ facilities and areas will be returned, and the U.S. Marine Corps in Okinawa will be relocated to Guam. Since this may affect the employment of USFJ local employees, the Government of Japan will take measures to include education and skills training, which is to help retain their employment.

<sup>16</sup> USFJ aircraft conduct bilateral exercises at JASDF facilities in order to improve interoperability and reduce the impact of training activities on the areas surrounding USFJ air bases.

<sup>17</sup> Approximately 13 billion yen in the FY2015 budget

<sup>18</sup> Under the Realignment Special Measures Act, changes in the composition of units of those naval vessels that conduct operations integrally with US air wings subject to realignment (replacement of the aircraft carrier at Yokosuka Naval Base with a nuclear aircraft carrier) will be treated in the same way as the realignment of the U.S. Forces in Japan.

<sup>19</sup> The scope of specific projects includes 14 projects identified by Article 2 of the enforcement ordinance of the Act on Special Measures on Smooth Implementation of the Realignment of United States Forces in Japan, including education, sports, and cultural projects.



## 6 Measures to Mitigate the Impacts of USFJ Facilities and Areas

### 1 Initiatives to Conserve the Environments around USFJ Facilities and Areas

At the “2+2” meeting in September 2000, based on the recognition that environmental conservation is important, the governments of both nations agreed to make it a common objective to ensure the health and safety of residents in the vicinity of USFJ facilities and areas, U.S. Forces personnel, their families and other such parties, and made the “Joint Statement of Environmental Principles<sup>20</sup>.” To follow up on this announcement, Japan-U.S. consultation has been enhanced. Specifically, the MOD has been working with relevant ministries and agencies to enhance cooperation for regular reviews of the Japan Environmental Governing Standards (JEGS)<sup>21</sup>, exchange information on the environment, and deal with environmental pollution.

Additionally, at the “2+2” meeting in May 2010, from the perspective of shared responsibility for environmental conservation, Japan and the United States instructed their staffs to discuss the possibility of taking a “Green Alliance” approach for the U.S. Forces facilities and areas in Japan, and the adoption of renewable energy for U.S. bases under development in Japan as one of the elements of HNS was reviewed, along with other issues. The result was reflected in the comprehensive review of HNS as described in Part II, Chapter 3, Section 4-1-3.

In December 2013, the governments of both Japan and the U.S. announced the “Joint Announcement on a Framework Regarding Environmental Stewardship at U.S. Armed Forces Facilities and Areas in Japan.” The governments engaged in discussions aimed at the creation of a framework for increased initiatives in managing the environment associated with USFJ facilities and areas, and announced in October 2014 that both parties reached a substantial agreement that would supplement the SOFA through a joint press release. This supplemental agreement is part of a more comprehensive framework for recognizing the significance of environmental protection and fulfills the bilateral goal defined by the press release in December 2013. Both countries expect to compile a series of related technical documents in the future to complete this entire framework.

See Part II, Chapter 3, Section 4-1-3 (Host Nation Support (HNS))

As for the implementation of the FRF project, it was determined to take maximum environmental conservation measures in order to avoid or mitigate impacts on the environment as much as possible. Such measures include consideration and implementation of measures to improve environmental conditions to make them suitable for sea turtles to come onto land and lay eggs, the transplanting of corals and seaweeds, periodic checking for the habitats of dugongs using aircraft and underwater recording devices, and the use of rubble<sup>22</sup> for land-fill material, which is produced regardless of the project; it was also determined to engage in other enhanced initiatives such as follow-up surveys. In order to implement these measures, an environmental monitoring committee was established to ask for advice and guidance by specialists and experts, as was considered when approval was given by the Governor of Okinawa Prefecture for the reclamation. In addition, where necessary, environmental conservation measures will be improved and the range of surveys will be expanded to make sure all possible measures will be taken.

### 2 Other Measures

Japan is engaged in measures for the improvement of the living environment in regions surrounding USFJ facilities and areas. It also provides municipalities with base grants<sup>23</sup> which have alternate features in terms of municipal tax on real estate.

See Part III, Chapter 4, Section 1-4 (Measures to Promote Harmony between Defense Facilities and Surrounding Areas)

Moreover, in the vicinities of USFJ facilities and areas, incidents and accidents caused by U.S. Forces personnel and others have affected local areas and their residents, so the Government of Japan has requested USFJ to take effective measures for the prevention of recurrence, such as educating military personnel and others, and enforcing strict discipline among them. The Government of Japan is cooperating with USFJ in these preventive measures; at the same time it has taken measures for prompt and appropriate compensation for the damage caused by the incidents and accidents.

The U.S. side has put in place its guidelines for off-duty action (liberty policy), including measures such as

20 Consisting of four items; (1) environmental governing standards, (2) information sharing and access, (3) response to environmental contamination, and (4) environmental consultation.

21 JEGS is an environmental standard compiled by USFJ in order to ensure that USFJ activities and installations protect the natural environment of people and health, and stipulates the handling of environmental pollutants and storage methods within the facilities and areas.

22 Byproduct created in producing broken stones at quarries

23 Furnished by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

nighttime alcohol restrictions and curfews applying to U.S. Forces personnel ranked below a certain level. Because ceaseless initiatives by the people involved is important for the prevention of incidents and accidents involving U.S. Forces personnel, the MOD will continue efforts to prevent incidents and accidents involving U.S. Forces personnel based on feedback from the communities and institutions involved.