

NAPSNet Daily Report Tuesday, December 14, 2004

Recommended Citation

"NAPSNet Daily Report Tuesday, December 14, 2004", NAPSNet Daily Report, December 14, 2004, <https://nautilus.org/napsnet/napsnet-daily-report/napsnet-daily-report-tuesday-december-14-2004/>

NAPSNet Daily Report Tuesday, December 14, 2004

NAPSNet Daily Report Tuesday, December 14, 2004

I. United States

- 1. [DPRK on Nuclear Talks](#)
- 2. [US on DPRK Nuclear Issue](#)
- 3. [ROK on DPRK Nuclear Talks](#)
- 4. [Japan on DPRK Nuclear Talks](#)
- 5. [US - DPRK Relations](#)
- 6. [Bush on Carter Trip to DPRK](#)
- 7. [ROK on DPRK Stability](#)
- 8. [DPRK on ROK Nuclear Issue](#)
- 9. [Sino - DPRK Economic Cooperation](#)
- 10. [Inter - Korean Relations](#)
- 11. [DPRK - Irish Relations](#)
- 12. [DPRK Human Rights](#)
- 13. [Japan on DPRK Abductees, Sanctions](#)
- 14. [DPRK on Abductee Issue](#)
- 15. [US on DPRK Sanctions](#)
- 16. [Japanese - DPRK Relations](#)
- 17. [DPRK Food Aid](#)
- 18. [Japan - DPRK Military Relations](#)
- 19. [Japan - US Missile Defense Plans](#)
- 20. [ROK Pastor Abduction](#)
- 21. [Jenkins Case](#)
- 22. [ROK Spy Satellite](#)

23. [ROK Defense Plans](#)
24. [ROK Military](#)
25. [Sino - Japanese Gas Field Dispute](#)
26. [Sino - Russian Military Cooperation](#)
27. [Taiwan Elections](#)
28. [PRC on Cross Strait Relations](#)
29. [US on Cross Strait Relations](#)
30. [Vanuatu and Cross Strait Relations](#)
31. [PRC Domestic Dissent](#)

II. Japan

- 32. [Japan Servicemen's Involvement in Constitutional Revision](#)
- 33. [Japan Constitutional Revision](#)
- 34. [Japan Offensive Missile Development](#)
- 35. [Japan on UNSC Bid](#)
- 36. [Japan Revisionist Textbook](#)
- 37. [Japan Anti-terror Operation in Indian Ocean](#)
- 38. [Japan Yasukuni Shrine Issue](#)
- 39. [ROK on Yasukuni Issue](#)
- 40. [Japan - PRC Territorial Dispute](#)
- 41. [Japan's Police on Terrorism](#)

III. CanKor

- 42. [Korean Peninsula Peace Forum](#)
- 43. [Canadians travel to DPRK](#)
- 44. [Pyongyang-based Food Aid Liaison Unit at the WFP-DPRK](#)

[Preceding NAPSNet Report](#)

I. United States

1. DPRK on Nuclear Talks

Reuters ("RETURN TO NUCLEAR TALKS TRICKY, N.KOREA DAILY SAYS", 2004-12-14) reported that the DPRK will find it difficult to return to nuclear talks if the US keeps insisting that Pyongyang renounce peaceful as well as military atomic activities, the DPRK's main newspaper said on Tuesday. The editorial in Rodong Sinmun followed a statement on Monday from the DPRK Foreign Ministry that said Pyongyang was seriously reconsidering its role in the talks.

[\(return to top\)](#)

2. US on DPRK Nuclear Issue

The Associated Press ("AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC DRIVE COMES UP SHORT", None) reported that Bush administration persistence in using diplomacy to solve a nuclear weapons crisis with the DPRK is coming up short as the insular regime bobs and weaves away from resuming negotiations. The

faltering effort is having a divisive effect on US relations with the ROK and Japan, which have blamed US inflexibility for the DPRK's refusal to halt its atomic weapons program.

[\(return to top\)](#) Donga Ilbo ("MODERATES IN THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT ARE ALSO DOUBTFUL OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PYONGYANG", 2004-12-14) reported that it was reported that even moderates in the US State Department, who have been stressing dialogue and negotiation with the DPRK within the US administration, have recently doubted the chances for a successful negotiation with Pyongyang. High profile diplomatic sources in Washington said, "The US showed sincerity in the contact with Pyongyang held in New York at the end and beginning of November and December, respectively, but they did not turn out productive as the North Korean representative unilaterally blamed the US." [\(return to top\)](#)

3. ROK on DPRK Nuclear Talks

Yonhap ("SEOUL SEES NO CHANGE IN U.S. POSITION ON N.K. NUKES: OFFICIAL", 2004-12-14) reported that the ROK does not see any major changes to the US position on dealing with the DPRK nuclear weapons issue, National Security Adviser Kwon Chin-ho said Tuesday. "We do not think the United States put forth a more flexible position (in dealing with the North)," Kwon told reporters just before attending a presidential office meeting on the government's personnel affairs management policy.

[\(return to top\)](#)

4. Japan on DPRK Nuclear Talks

Kyodo News ("JAPAN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH U.S. ON N. KOREA: HOSODA", 2004-12-14) reported that Japan is maintaining close contact with the US and would take US concerns into account if Tokyo imposed economic sanctions on the DPRK, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said Tuesday. "There surely is the six-way talks and we have been closely exchanging information (with the United States) on our overall policies on North Korea," Hosoda said at a news conference.

[\(return to top\)](#)

5. US - DPRK Relations

Korea Times ("KIM JONG-IL CAN TRANSFORM NORTH KOREA, KELLY SAYS", 2004-12-14) reported that a senior US official said on Monday that DPRK leader Kim Jong-il is a "rational" leader who would be able to transform the DPRK once he resolves the nuclear standoff with the international community. US Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly said Kim's leadership is one that is unique and rational. Kelly, who heads the US effort to deal with the DPRK nuclear crisis, dismissed the speculation the DPRK will collapse anytime soon.

[\(return to top\)](#)

6. Bush on Carter Trip to DPRK

Korea Times ("BUSH SNUBS CARTER'S PROPOSAL", 2004-12-14) reported that former US president Jimmy Carter has offered to visit the DPRK to help resolve the current nuclear crisis over Pyongyang's atomic weapons program, but President George W. Bush is giving no response in a virtual rejection to the suggestion.

[\(return to top\)](#)

7. ROK on DPRK Stability

Donga Ilbo ("NORTH KOREA IS A CROUCHING HEDGEHOG", 2004-12-14) reported that "It is like a crouching hedgehog," said Lee Kyo-deok, head of the DPRK research team at the Korea Institute for National Unification (KINU) about the DPRK in 2004. In February 2004, the DPRK held a national convention of ideology workers, the first of its kind in about 30 years. Since then, the DPRK has been striving to continue its march of hardship, fighting against factors at home and abroad that might destabilize its regime.

[\(return to top\)](#)

8. DPRK on ROK Nuclear Issue

KCNA ("NORTH KOREA DEMANDS SIX-WAY PARTIES DISCUSS SOUTH NUCLEAR ISSUE", 2004-12-14) reported that the very perfunctory inspection of the secret nuclear activities of the ROK by the IAEA and the massive off-stage operation of the ROK authorities during its session were geared to the US stand to hush up the case of the secret nuclear experiments in the ROK.

[\(return to top\)](#)

9. Sino - DPRK Economic Cooperation

Xinhua ("CHINESE, DPRK OFFICIALS VOW TO EXPAND TRADE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION", 2004-12-14) reported that senior trade officials of the PRC and the DPRK held trade talks here on Monday. PRC Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai told his DPRK counterpart, Rim Gyong Man, that the two countries enjoy traditional friendship and the exchanges of high-level visits promoted bilateral ties and trade, which still has great potential.

[\(return to top\)](#)

10. Inter - Korean Relations

Yonhap News ("NORTH KOREA INVITES SOUTH KOREAN MINISTER TO BORDER TOWN", 2004-12-14) reported that the DPRK sent an invitation Tuesday to the ROK's unification minister, asking for his attendance at this week's ceremony marking the completion of a pilot industrial park in the DPRK's border town of Kaesong. It is the first time that Chung Dong-young will be able to cross the tense inter-Korean border since he took charge of inter-Korean affairs in July.

[\(return to top\)](#)

11. DPRK - Irish Relations

Yonhap ("IRELAND CONFIRMS OCTOBER VISIT BY NORTH KOREAN OFFICIALS", 2004-12-14) reported that a DPRK delegation came to Ireland in October to observe the Irish economic boom, an Irish researcher who witnessed the visit said Tuesday. Four people from the DPRK's Foreign Ministry and the DPRK embassy in Britain visited the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), a nongovernmental, nonprofit think-tank in Dublin, seeking information on how the country achieved an annual personal income of 30,000 US dollars, the ESRI researcher said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

12. DPRK Human Rights

Financial Times ("ANOTHER WAY TO ENGAGE PYONGYANG", 2004-12-14) reported that while the vital strategic dangers of the DPRK nuclear program must remain the focal point of US policy, even the best-case scenario - in which Mr Kim engages in serious negotiations - would be a protracted exercise. There is an opportunity, however, to pursue a more effective approach: providing humanitarian assistance while working to persuade Pyongyang to negotiate seriously and, most importantly, following through on implementing an agreement to reverse its proliferation policies.

[\(return to top\)](#)

13. Japan on DPRK Abductees, Sanctions

The New York Times ("JAPAN THREATENS TO PUNISH NORTH KOREA OVER ABDUCTEE'S REMAINS", 2004-12-14) reported that Japanese leaders are threatening economic penalties on the DPRK, driven by widespread anger after the DPRK tried last week to pass off a box of mixed human bones as the remains of a woman who was kidnapped from Japan years ago as a teenager. "If we give North Korea one more chance and it fails to respond by the deadlines, we need to strongly urge the government to immediately exercise economic sanctions on North Korea," Shinzo Abe, acting secretary general of the governing Liberal Democratic Party, said Sunday.

[\(return to top\)](#) Agence France Presse ("JAPANESE URGE SANCTIONS ON NORTH KOREA: POLL", 2004-12-14) reported that nearly three-quarters of Japanese polled over the weekend urged economic sanctions on the DPRK as support for Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's cabinet slipped, a poll said. Some 74 percent said the government should impose economic sanctions on the DPRK depending on its response in negotiations over the abduction of Japanese nationals in the 1970s and 80s, the Yomiuri Shimbun said. [\(return to top\)](#)

14. DPRK on Abductee Issue

Kyodo News ("N. KOREA BLASTS JAPAN FOR SAYING ASHES NOT YOKOTA'S", 2004-12-14) reported that a spokesman for the DPRK's Foreign Ministry issued a statement Tuesday blasting Japan for saying ashes brought to Japan from the DPRK were not those of Japanese abductee Megumi Yokota as claimed by Pyongyang, the Korean Central News Agency said. The spokesman said the result of Japan's analysis of the ashes is based on a political plot.

[\(return to top\)](#)

15. US on DPRK Sanctions

Kyodo News ("US ARMITAGE URGES NO JAPAN SANCTIONS ON N KOREA", 2004-12-14) reported that US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage urged Japan on Monday to avoid imposing economic sanctions on the DPRK at this time to pressure it into resolving the abduction issue, Kyodo News reported, citing a Japanese state minister visiting Washington.

[\(return to top\)](#)

16. Japanese - DPRK Relations

Asahi Shimbun ("MACHIMURA MIGHT GO TO PYONGYANG", 2004-12-14) reported that the government is considering sending Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura to the DPRK to press for tangible proof on the fate of 10 Japanese believed abducted, sources said over the weekend. The trip could be made in February, the sources said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

17. DPRK Food Aid

Agence France Presse ("WFP CHIEF HOPES JAPAN FOOD AID TO NKOREA WILL GO AHEAD DESPITE FREEZE", 2004-12-14) reported that the chief of the World Food Program (WFP) Tuesday urged Japan to go ahead with the delivery of 125,000 tons of food aid pledged to the DPRK, despite a temporary freeze. Japan said Monday it would not ship further food aid -- endangering the second half of a promised 250,000-ton package -- because the DPRK sent the wrong ashes to prove the deaths of Japanese people it kidnapped.

[\(return to top\)](#)

18. Japan - DPRK Military Relations

Asahi Shimbun ("PLAN: SDF ALONE WILL FIGHT N. KOREA AGENTS", 2004-12-14) reported that Japan's new defense outline was based partly on a hasty agreement with the US that says Japanese troops alone will battle invading DPRK agents here if a military crisis erupts on the Korean Peninsula. The scenario, part of a joint operation plan code-named "5055," puts the number of DPRK agents "in the hundreds," government sources said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

19. Japan - US Missile Defense Plans

Xinhua News ("JAPAN, US TO SIGN EXCHANGE OF NOTES ON MISSILE DEFENSE COOPERATION", 2004-12-14) reported that Japan and the US will sign an exchange of notes that covers issues regarding bilateral technological cooperation on the missile defense system, Japanese Defense Agency Director General Yoshinori Ono said Tuesday. Japan plans to deploy the missile defense system in fiscal 2007.

[\(return to top\)](#)

20. ROK Pastor Abduction

Donga Ilbo ("NORTH KOREAN SPIES AND ETHNIC KOREANS LED THE ABDUCTION OF PASTOR KIM TO NORTH KOREA IN 2000", 2004-12-14) reported that the prosecution and the National Intelligence Service have found clues that nine people, including three spies from the DPRK's State Safety and Security Agency, and six Ethnic Koreans were involved systematically in the abduction incident of ROK pastor Kim Dong-shik, which took place in Yanji, PRC, in January 2000, and are investigating the case.

[\(return to top\)](#) Chosun Ilbo ("ETHNIC KOREAN 'MOLE' HELPED N.K. SPIES ABDUCT PASTOR IN CHINA", 2004-12-14) reported that the ethnic Korean-Chinese man who facilitated the abduction of

ROK pastor Kim Dong-shik by DPRK agents in 2000 was himself an operative within the DPRK's State Safety and Security Agency. Kim was kidnapped while engaging in missionary activities in Yanji, PRC, that spilled over into assisting asylum-seekers from the famine-plagued state make a new life. [\(return to top\)](#)

21. Jenkins Case

The Associated Press ("U.S. ARMY DESERTER WELCOMED IN JAPAN", 2004-12-14) reported that villagers on the remote Japanese isle of Sado have warmly welcomed US Army deserter Charles Jenkins since he arrived with his Japanese wife and their two DPRK-born daughters a week ago, his wife said Tuesday. Jenkins moved to Sado to begin a new life in his wife's hometown last week after he finished serving a monthlong sentence in military prison for abandoning his Army post and defecting to the DPRK in 1965.

[\(return to top\)](#)

22. ROK Spy Satellite

Choson Ilbo ("SOUTH KOREA TO START OPERATING INDIGENOUS SATELLITE CAMERA IN 2005", 2004-12-14) reported that by the end of 2005, a domestically-produced satellite camera that can accurately identify the movement of even a single vehicle on the ground in the DPRK, or anywhere over the whole Korean Peninsula, is to be introduced and put into operation. This camera is scheduled to be loaded onto the Arirang 2 satellite and launched into space orbit 685 km above the earth in November 2005.

[\(return to top\)](#)

23. ROK Defense Plans

Yonhap ("S. KOREA TO PHASE OUT ANTI-AIR DEFENSE FACILITIES IN SEOUL", 2004-12-14) reported that the ROK military said Tuesday that it will halve the number of air defense facilities positioned on the rooftops of high-rise buildings in Seoul. Currently, various types of anti-air guns and Vulcan cannons are deployed on 41 buildings in Seoul, which is 50 kilometers away from the tense border with the DPRK, the office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

24. ROK Military

Yonhap ("SOUTH KOREA TO INTRODUCE EIGHT MORE MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT", 2004-1-14) reported that the ROK military, seeking to bolster its surveillance of the DPRK, will spend US\$636 million to import, upgrade and deploy eight US-made maritime patrol aircraft, an official said Tuesday. The military will procure P-3B patrol aircraft made by Lockheed Martin Co. and renovate them into upgraded P-3C models, said Maj. Gen. Won Jang-hwan, a top procurement officer in the Defense Ministry.

[\(return to top\)](#)

25. Sino - Japanese Gas Field Dispute

Kyodo News ("REPORTS: JAPAN TO EXPLORE DISPUTED AREA OF EAST CHINA SEA", 2004-1-

-14) reported that Japan plans to explore natural gas fields in a disputed area of the East China Sea that rival the PRC has also been surveying, Japanese media said Tuesday, amid growing tensions between the two countries. Tokyo has earmarked about 23 billion yen in its budget for the fiscal year starting April 1 for research, test drilling and construction of a ship to survey the sea bed, the mass-circulation Yomiuri newspaper said on its Web site.

[\(return to top\)](#)

26. Sino - Russian Military Cooperation

Los Angeles Times ("BEIJING, MOSCOW PLAN JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE", 2004-12-14) reported that the PRC and Russia will hold their first joint military exercise next year, Beijing announced. The exercises are to be held on PRC territory, the official New China News Service said. But there was no word on exactly when they would take place or what forces would be involved. Russian Defense Minister Sergei B. Ivanov is visiting Beijing this week and is expected to discuss expanding Russia's multibillion-dollar annual arms sales to the PRC.

[\(return to top\)](#)

27. Taiwan Elections

The Associated Press ("CHEN RESIGNS AS TAIWAN PARTY CHAIRMAN", 2004-12-14) reported that Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian took the blame for a legislative election defeat and resigned as the leader of his party Tuesday, a move that could help ease political feuding that has caused severe gridlock in parliament. Chen's Democratic Progressive Party and its allies were stunned when an opposition alliance — which was disorganized and beset with squabbling — won last weekend's legislative election, taking 114 of the 225 seats.

[\(return to top\)](#)

28. PRC on Cross Strait Relations

Reuters ("CHINA QUIETLY REHABILITATES ONCE REVILED ENEMY", 2004-12-14) reported that the issue of Taiwan and a campaign by its president, Chen Shui-bian, to assert sovereignty have prompted Beijing to turn to the Communists' late mortal enemy, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek. The PRC has been quietly rehabilitating Chiang as part of a campaign to boost its claim of sovereignty over the self-governed island and stymie attempts by Taiwan's increasingly assertive leaders to push for formal nationhood.

[\(return to top\)](#)

29. US on Cross Strait Relations

The Associated Press ("WASHINGTON PRAISES TAIWAN'S LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, DECLINES TO SPECULATE ON FUTURE OF U.S. ARMS DEAL", 2004-12-14) reported that a US official praised Taiwan's weekend legislative elections, saying the vote showed the strength and vitality of the island's democracy. But the official, US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher, declined to comment about whether the opposition alliance that won Saturday's vote would use its slim 114-225 seat majority to continue blocking a proposal to buy a massive package of weapons from America.

[\(return to top\)](#)

30. Vanuatu and Cross Strait Relations

The Associated Press ("CHINA SAYS VANUATU'S NEW GOVERNMENT HAS REVOKED AGREEMENTS WITH TAIWAN", 2004-12-14) reported that the PRC claimed victory Tuesday in the latest round of its battle with rival Taiwan for relations with Vanuatu, announcing that the Pacific island nation's new government had revoked all agreements with Taipei. Vanuatu's parliament on Friday dismissed Prime Minister Serge Vohor amid allegations of corruption a month after he signed a deal recognizing Taiwan over Beijing's strong objections.

[\(return to top\)](#) The New York Times ("CHINA DETAINS 3 WHO CRITICIZED GOVERNMENT", 2004-12-14) reported that the PRC police on Monday afternoon detained three leading intellectuals who have been critical of the government, apparently stepping up a campaign to silence public dissent. Yu Jie and Liu Xiaobo, literary figures, and Zhang Zuhua, a political theorist, were detained in raids at their homes, relatives and friends said. Mr. Yu's relatives were handed a warrant that said he was suspected of "participating in activities harmful to the state," said his wife, Liu Min. [\(return to top\)](#)

31. PRC Domestic Dissent

Washington Post ("CHINESE POLICE ARREST, THEN RELEASE 3 DISSIDENT WRITERS", 2004-1-14) reported that PRC police detained three prominent dissident writers Monday and released them the next morning after a night of questioning, in an apparent attempt to reassert authority over liberal intellectuals who have been increasingly outspoken in their criticism of the governing Communist Party, friends and family said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

II. Japan

32. Japan Servicemen's Involvement in Constitutional Revision

The Japan Times ("GSDF OFFICER INVOLVED IN LDP'S DRAFT FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION", 2004-12-05) reported that a senior officer in the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) has compiled a draft plan for revising the Japanese Constitution to authorize the existence of a "military force" and enable the nation to engage in collective defense. The officer submitted the plan in October to Gen Nakatani, a former Defense Agency chief who currently heads a Liberal Democratic Party committee tasked with drafting the party's proposal for a constitutional amendment.

[\(return to top\)](#) The Japan Times ("SDF OFFICER'S DRAFT TO ALTER CONSTITUTION SAID APOLITICAL", 2004-12-07) reported that a constitutional amendment drafted by a senior Self-Defense Forces (SDF) officer is a private proposal and does not violate laws on the political activities of SDF members, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said. Hosoda said he did not see a big problem with the act itself, although he added that the government would closely examine the draft to see if it involves any serious problem. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi likewise played down the significance of the officer's draft. "I don't think it is a bad thing to ask opinions of an expert," he told reporters. [\(return to top\)](#)

33. Japan Constitutional Revision

The Japan Times ("INTERNAL FLAK KEEPS LDP'S CONSTITUTION REVISIONS ON ICE", 2004-1-08) reported that the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) abandoned plans to outline its proposals for constitutional revisions in January after a draft of the outline drew fierce criticism from its own members. The draft calls for a "military force for self-defense" and for allowing a female member of the Imperial family to ascend the throne. But it has drawn fire from the party's House of Councilors members because it also calls for the role of the Upper House caucus to be diminished.

[\(return to top\)](#)

34. Japan Offensive Missile Development

The Japan Times ("JAPAN MULLING OFFENSIVE MISSILE CAPABILITY", 2004-12-04) reported that the Japanese government wants to research long-range precision missile technology, according to a draft outline of the midterm defense buildup plan for fiscal 2005-2009. Because missiles of this kind can be used to attack overseas targets, including ballistic missile sites, the controversial proposal may be seen as a prelude to a shift in Japan's defense-oriented policy.

[\(return to top\)](#) The Asahi Shimbun ("TOKYO SNUFFS PLAN TO STUDY LONG-RANGE MISSILES AFTER NEW KOMEITO BALKS", 2004-12-09) reported that the Japanese government is scrapping its plans to research technologies for long-range, precision-guided missiles, due to opposition from within the ruling coalition. New Komeito, junior partner in the alliance with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, was incensed that the missile-research project was floated so hastily, according to party officials. [\(return to top\)](#)

35. Japan on UNSC Bid

Kyodo ("JAPAN, U.S. FAIL TO SET U.N. TALKS", 2004-12-07) reported that Japan and the US cannot agree on prospects for starting high working-level bilateral talks on UN reforms due to technical and political reasons on the US side. The US has told Japan it is premature to begin substantial discussions on the matter at this stage.

[\(return to top\)](#)

36. Japan Revisionist Textbook

Kyodo ("REVISIONIST TEXT AUTHOR TO JOIN SAITAMA EDUCATION BOARD", 2004-12-07) reported that the Saitama Prefectural Government will nominate to its board of education one of the authors of a controversial history textbook criticized for having a nationalist bias. Shiro Takahashi, a Meisei University professor and former deputy chairman of the Japanese Society for History Textbook Reform, has agreed to take up the post at the request of Saitama Gov. Kiyoshi Ueda.

[\(return to top\)](#)

37. Japan Anti-terror Operation in Indian Ocean

The Japan Times ("ANTITERROR MISSION COSTS 36 BILLION YEN", 2004-12-08) reported that the Japanese government said it spent about 36 billion yen between December 2001 and last September on the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) mission to the Indian Ocean to assist US-led antiterrorism

operations. Maritime SDF vessels provided about 383,000 kiloliters of fuel to US, British and other countries' naval ships and helicopters involved in military operations in and around Afghanistan from the start of the operations through the end of November. The amount of fuel is worth about 14.7 billion yen, the government said.

[\(return to top\)](#)

38. Japan Yasukuni Shrine Issue

The Japan Times ("KANZAKI TELLS KOIZUMI TO TAKE YASUKUNI PROTESTS SERIOUSLY", 2004-12-09) reported that Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi should take seriously the protests by Chinese leaders over his repeated visits to Yasukuni Shrine and deal with the issue accordingly, New Komeito leader Takenori Kanzaki said. He said Tokyo-Beijing ties are being obstructed by Koizumi's visits to the Shinto shrine, which honors the nation's war dead as well as convicted war criminals and is seen by Asian neighbors as a symbol of Japan's past militarism.

[\(return to top\)](#)

39. ROK on Yasukuni Issue

The Asahi Shimbun ("S. KOREANS TRY YASUKUNI RESOLUTION", 2004-12-08) reported that seventy-nine South Korean lawmakers submitted a resolution to parliament requesting that Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi suspend his visits to Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo. The lawmakers also asked that the Japanese government withdraw the enshrinement of Korean war dead, who were mobilized for the war against their will. Lawmakers said it is the first resolution of its kind submitted to the South Korean parliament.

[\(return to top\)](#)

40. Japan - PRC Territorial Dispute

The Japan Times ("TOKYO LODGES COMPLAINT OVER CHINA SHIP IN EEZ", 2004-12-09) reported that Tokyo has lodged a protest with Beijing against unannounced research activities being carried out by a Chinese ship in Japan's exclusive economic zone (EEZ) around Okinotorishima Island, the nation's southernmost territory. China has claimed the small island 1,740 km south of the mainland is merely a rock, rather than a significant piece of territory worthy of putting an EEZ around. According to Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda, this is the 21st time a Chinese ship has conducted research within Japan's EEZ this year without following the "necessary" procedures.

[\(return to top\)](#)

41. Japan's Police on Terrorism

The Japan Times ("NPA REPORT LISTS THE USUAL SUSPECTS: ISLAMIC TERRORISTS, AUM, PYONGYANG", 2004-12-09) reported that international terrorist organizations run by Islamic extremists are expected to continue carrying out attacks worldwide, and the possibility of Japan becoming a target cannot be ruled out, the National Police Agency reckoned in an annual report on security. The report also says the NPA will tighten security to counter North Korean agents and continue investigating the abductions of Japanese by North Korea in the late 1970s and 1980s.

[\(return to top\)](#)

III. CanKor

42. Korean Peninsula Peace Forum

CanKor #189 ("CANADA-KOREA ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE", 2004-12-10) A Korean Peninsula Peace Forum, hosted by the Eastern Canada Chapter of South Korea's Presidential Advisory Council on Democratic and Peaceful Unification took place in Toronto on 19 November 2004. <http://www.cankor.ca>

[\(return to top\)](#)

43. Canadians travel to DPRK

CanKor # 189 ("CANADA-KOREA ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE", 2004-12-10) This week's CanKor FOCUS presents reports of members of a Canadian delegation recently returned from the DPRK. Two of these are by first-time visitors Susan Cox and Graham Ashford. The third is a reflection on observed changes by veteran traveler and former DPRK resident, CanKor Senior Editor Erich Weingartner. <http://www.cankor.ca>

[\(return to top\)](#)

44. Pyongyang-based Food Aid Liaison Unit at the WFP-DPRK

CanKor # 189 ("CANADA-KOREA ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE", 2004-12-10) The CanKor BULLETIN reproduces a job vacancy notice for the position of head of the Pyongyang-based Food Aid Liaison Unit at the WFP-DPRK.

[\(return to top\)](#)

View this online at: <https://nautilus.org/napsnet/napsnet-daily-report/napsnet-daily-report-tuesday-december-14-2004/>

Nautilus Institute

608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email:

nautilus@nautilus.org