

Contact Us:

inquiry-ak@se.mofa.go.jp

(907) 562-8424

<http://www.anchorage.us.emb-japan.go.jp/>

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Prime Minister's Cabinet News



Prime Minister Abe Addresses the United Nations General Assembly

On September 20, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe delivered a speech to the 72nd United Nations General Assembly in New York City. Prime Minister Abe stated the UN member nations must unite and fully implement the Security Council resolutions to put an end to North Korea's provocations.

New York Times Op-Ed by Prime Minister Abe

On September 17, the New York Times published an op-ed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe titled "Solidarity Against the North Korean Threat". Prime Minister Abe reiterated points from his United Nations General Assembly address, stating that the US's role is more important than ever.

Japan Maritime Self Defense Force visits Anchorage



On September 27, the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Training Squadron visited the Port of Anchorage as part of their 2017 Overseas Training Cruise. Rear Admiral Koji Manabe, Commander of the Training Squadron, says the purpose of the cruise is to "develop seamanship of the newly commissioned officers, to cultivate their minds as the future leaders, and also to promote mutual understanding and goodwill with the countries we visit".

Anchorage is the last stop of the cruise in the United States. The Training Squadron will visit ports in Vladivostok, Russia, and Pyeongyang, South Korea before returning to Japan next month.

For more informations on the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Training Squadron's visit, [please visit our office's website.](#)

Cultural Notes: Health and Sports Day



Health and Sports Day (*Taiku no hi*) is a national holiday celebrated annually in Japan on the second Monday of October. The holiday

commemorates the opening of the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, which were held from October 10 to 24. The Summer Olympics were held in October that year to avoid the rainy season in Japan. Meteorologists predicted mid-October would be the best month to host the Olympics, and fortunately the weather was ideal for outdoor sports. The 2020 Summer Olympics will be the first time Tokyo has hosted the Olympics since 1964.

Health & Sports Day also exists to promote a healthy, active lifestyle. Most schools and communities celebrate with a sports festival including activities inspired by the Olympics.

2018 JET Application now open!

The 2018 Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program is now available online. Since the JET Program was founded in 1987,

over 60,000 participants have gone to Japan to work in schools, boards of education, and government offices. Applicants must apply online AND submit a copy of the application and documents by mail to the Embassy of Japan in Washington DC. The deadline for submitting the application online is **November 9**. Documents must be mailed to the Embassy by **November 18**.

The Consular Office of Japan will be hosting JET information sessions throughout October. [Please visit our website for dates, times, and locations.](#)

For more information about the program and the application process, please visit the [JET Program USA website.](#)

[Apply Now](#)

Interview: Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Officers



Officer Trainee Shinichi Asano (left) and Officer Trainee Yusuke Uchida aboard the JS Kashima

For this issue of the newsletter, we interviewed two newly commissioned officers who recently graduated from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Officer Candidate School. Officer Trainee Shinichi Asano from Kyoto has served in the JMSDF for 5 years. Officer Trainee Yusuke Uchida from Tokyo has served in the JMSDF for a year and a half. We asked them about a typical day on the overseas training cruise and the most rewarding aspect of serving in the JMSDF.

[Read Full Interview](#)

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