

Readout of the U.S.-Republic of Korea-Japan
Defense Trilateral Talks Video-Teleconference

The Republic of Korea (ROK), the United States, and Japan held a senior-level video-teleconference today to share information among the three countries regarding their assessments of and responses to North Korea's February 7 missile launch.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs David B. Shear, ROK Deputy Minister for Defense Policy Yoo Jeh-seung, and Japan Director General for Defense Policy Satoshi Maeda represented their respective countries.

The three officials strongly condemned North Korea's actions. They agreed that the missile launch, following closely after North Korea's January 6 nuclear test, is a clear violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions, and a serious provocation that threatens regional security.

Ambassador Shear reaffirmed that the United States remains steadfast in its defense commitments to the ROK and to Japan.

The officials agreed that the missile launch is unacceptable and decided to continue to share information and cooperate closely on the North Korean nuclear and missile threat.