

## ISOBE, Koichi 磯部 晃一

Lieutenant General (Ret.) Koichi ISOBE retired from active duty in August 2015 after a thirty-five-year career in Japan's Self-Defense Forces, having served in his last two years as Commanding General of the Eastern Army of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF). Prior to this final appointment, he held several other senior positions in Japan's defense institutions, such as Director of J-5, Joint Staff, Commanding General of 7th Armored Division, as well as Vice Chairman of Joint Staff.



Currently Gen. Isobe is a Strategic Consultant, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd, as well as a Distinguished Senior Fellow (Non-resident), Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA and Executive Strategist, NSBT Japan. He also serves as Director for the Japan Association for International Security and as Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Advisor for Yamasakura(YS) Japan-U.S.-Australia Trilateral Command Post Exercise. He is also a lecturer at the Joint Staff College and JGSDF Staff College, teaching joint operations and security strategy. Previously, Gen. Isobe served as a senior fellow at Harvard University Asia Center (2017-2019) as well as Asia Pacific Initiative (2017-2021).

Gen. Isobe graduated from the Japan National Defense Academy with a major in International Relations in 1980, and from the JGSDF Command & General Staff College in 1989. He also obtained a Master of Arts in Military Studies from the U.S. Marine Corps University in 1996, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the U.S. National Defense University in 2003. Gen. Isobe's awards include the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal.

### General Isobe's recent articles and books:

"The Amphibious Operations Brigade -The establishment of the JGSDF brigade and its challenges," *Marine Corps Gazette*, February 2017 Vol.101 No.2

"An Insider's View of the History, Evolution, and Prospects of Japan's Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade," U.S.-Japan Alliance Conference -Meeting the Challenge of Amphibious Operations-, *The Rand Corporation* 2018

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/conf\\_proceedings/CF387.html?utm\\_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm\\_medium=NPA:2057:5025:Sep%2027,%202018%209:36:23%20AM%20PDT&utm\\_campaign=NPA:2057:5025:Sep%2027,%202018%209:36:23%20AM%20PDT](https://www.rand.org/pubs/conf_proceedings/CF387.html?utm_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm_medium=NPA:2057:5025:Sep%2027,%202018%209:36:23%20AM%20PDT&utm_campaign=NPA:2057:5025:Sep%2027,%202018%209:36:23%20AM%20PDT)

"The New National Defense Program Guidelines: Aligning U.S. and Japanese Defense Strategies for the Third Post-Cold War Era," *Sasakawa Peace Foundation U.S.A.*, 2019

<https://spfusa.org/publications/ndpgbook/>

"USMC Force Design 2030: An Opportunity for a New Deterrence Strategy in Japan," September 28, 2021, *Sasakawa Peace Foundation U.S.A.*

<https://spfusa.org/publications/usmc-force-design-2030-an-opportunity-for-a-new-deterrence-strategy-in-japan/>

Japan Society's Talk with General David Petraeus on "The Changing Geopolitical Landscape in Asia: U.S.-Japan Alliance Today," January 14, 2019 at New York

CSIS JAPAN'S DEFENSE PRIORITIES

“Exploring New Horizons: Japan's Defense Priorities,” March 23, 2023

<https://www.csis.org/events/exploring-new-horizons-japans-defense-priorities>

**He is the author of :**

*On the Frontlines of Operation Tomodachi: Japan-US Coordination During Crisis*, Translation Edited by James L. Schoff, Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA, 2024 (This book is a full English translation version of 『トモダチ作戦の最前線, Tomodachi-sakusen no Saizensen』 ),

『米国防大学に学ぶ国家安全保障戦略入門』 “*Beikokuboudaigaku ni Manabu Kokka-anzenhoshou-senryaku Nyumon: The U.S. National Defense University's National Security Strategy Primer*,” Namikishobo, September 2023,

『トモダチ作戦の最前線 福島原発事故に見る日米同盟連携の教訓』 “*Tomodachi-sakusen no Saizensen: Fukushima-Gempatsujiko ni miru Nichibei-doumei Renkei no Kyoukun* (Operation Tomodachi: Process and Recommendations – The U.S.-Japan Alliance after Fukushima Nuclear Accident-,” Sairyu-sha, August 2019, which was awarded the INOKI Masamichi Special Prize, Japan Society for Defense Studies, in November 2019,

He is a co-author of “*Fukushima-Gempatsujiko 10 nen Kenshoiinkai -MinkanJikochou-Saishuhoukokusho* (Fukushima Nuclear Accident 10th Year Investigation Committee- Private-sector Accident Investigation Committee's Final Report,” Discover Twenty-one, 2021, as well as “*Taiwan yuuji no sinario: Nihon no anzenhoshou wo kenshousuru* (Taiwan Contingency Scenario: Investigate the National Security of Japan,” Minerva-Shobo, 2022.

Gen. Isobe's website : <https://isobekoichi.com/> and his X (Twitter) : @Isobe\_koichi

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