

PUBLIC
SECURITY
INTELLIGENCE
AGENCY

PSIA



Protecting the People
with the Power of
Intelligence



2023.03

公安調査庁 2023-2024



photo courtesy of PIXTA

Protecting the People with the Power of Intelligence

Intelligence is an indispensable foundation for the entire process of government policy implementation, from formulation and adoption of policies to their execution.

In particular, it is essential that the full capabilities of the government are focused on collecting and analyzing information concerning threats to national survival as well as the lives, physical safety, and assets of the people.

As a core member of Japan's intelligence community, the Public Security Intelligence Agency's mission is to ensure public security, and it contributes to the promotion of important government policies, such as those for crisis management, diplomacy, and security, by investigating organizations that could engage in violent subversive activities, analyzing information collected through the process, and providing it to the relevant organizations, including the Office of the Prime Minister.

The Public Security Intelligence Agency serves to protect the security of the nation and the people with the power of intelligence.

URATA Hirokazu, Director-General of the Public Security Intelligence Agency

CONTENTS

Protecting the People with the Power of Intelligence in a Turbulent World	03
What we do: Protecting the Security of Japan	05
What is PSIA?	09
Resources Disseminated Publicly by PSIA	13

Protecting the People with the Power of Intelligence in a Turbulent World

Economic Security, an Increasingly Important International Issue

Recently, the confrontation between the US and China has intensified in a variety of areas, including politics, economy, diplomacy and security, due to the US concern about the expansion of China's influence through investment and economic support based on its "Belt and Road Initiative" and the strengthening of its military power through the acquisition of advanced technologies under its "military-civil fusion" strategy.

In response to US policy toward Taiwan, China has moved to impose sanctions on US companies based on its Anti-Foreign Sanctions Law. Meanwhile, the US has significantly increased restrictions on exports to China to prevent military use, including severe restrictions on the export of specific advanced semiconductor products.

Moves to block corporate acquisitions by China due to security concerns over Chinese acquisition of foreign technology have also been observed in Europe, including a decision not to allow Chinese companies to acquire European companies with high technological capabilities.

These indicate that how issues surrounding economic security have dramatically increased in importance among the international community.

Increasing Threats in Cyberspace

The activities of malicious actors in cyberspace pose a serious threat to the sustainable development of society and economy as well as to the safety and security of peoples' lives.

Furthermore, we have seen nations strengthening their cyber warfare capabilities to achieve political and military objectives, such as espionage and the destruction of critical infrastructure, meaning that the threat of cyberattacks has become more serious from the standpoint of national security as well.

The activities of malicious actors in cyberspace include not only cyberattacks but the spread of disinformation as well. There is growing alarm that disinformation, which uses social anxiety to influence perception, decision-making, and behavior, not only has the potential to cause further confusion, but that the spread of disinformation online during elections stands as a threat to the foundations of democracy, particularly in Europe and the US.

Moves of Neighboring Countries

North Korea continues to develop nuclear weapons and missiles despite sanctions imposed by the international community based on the UN Security Council resolutions and recently has launched ballistic missiles at an unprecedented frequency, including passing over Japan, posing a serious threat to Japan and the region. In addition, the abductions of Japanese citizens remain an unresolved issue, and the immediate return of all Japanese abductees is an issue of the utmost importance for the government of Japan.

China and Russia are highly alarmed by expanding cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region between Japan and the US as well as other Western nations and have conducted military exercises as well as aircraft flights and ship voyages in the area around Japan that raise concerns about threats to Japanese national security.



Chinese military exercises conducted around Taiwan (ballistic missile launch drill)
(Photo:Xinhua / Afla)



Russian military exercises conducted in the Northern Territories ("Vostok-2022")
(Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation website <<https://mil.ru>>)

On October 4, 2022, North Korea launched a ballistic missile over the Pacific Ocean, setting off J-Alert for the first time in 5 years
(Photo:Korea News Service / Kyodo News Images)

International Terrorism

As for recent international terrorism, terrorist attacks associated with organizations such as ISIL (also called "the Islamic State") and "Al-Qaeda" have continued around the world.

Particularly in Afghanistan, where the "Taliban" holds real power, there are indications that the "Taliban" has created an environment that allows "Al-Qaeda" to operate freely, while the ISIL-affiliated "Khorasan Province" is suspected of carrying out a series of terrorist attacks and possibly improving its capacity to conduct international terrorism, leading to concerns of terrorist attacks originating from Afghanistan. The doctrines and claims of international terrorist organizations have also spread in cyberspace, and terrorist attacks in the real world by those influenced by extremist ideas require caution as well.

Japan is positioned as a target of terrorism by ISIL and other organizations and there have been cases of terrorism involving Japanese victims overseas, requiring continued vigilance based on an understanding of the threat of international terrorism.



A bombed mosque in Peshawar, northwestern Pakistan (Photo:Reuters / Afla)

Moves of domestic organizations

In Japan, there are a number of organizations that affect public security, such as Aum Shinrikyo, which carried out terrorist attacks including the sarin gas attacks on the subway in Tokyo (at present, Aum Shinrikyo operates centered around the following groups: "Aleph" and the "group led by Yamada," which operates at a certain distance from "Aleph" [these two groups are referred to as the mainstream group], and "Hikari-no-Wa" [the Joyu group]), radical leftist groups and right-wing groups.

Radical leftist groups have called for the "overthrow" of the government to create a communist society through a violent revolution by holding protests against important policies in such fields as defense and nuclear energy, and right-wing groups have protested in response to Russian invasion of Ukraine, and territorial and historical issues with neighboring nations, with alarming trends including their illegal activities being observed.



Altar confirmed by an on-site inspection in Yashio Oze facility (mainstream group)



Right-wing group criticizing China



Middle Core Faction of the Revolutionary Communist League calling for "overthrow" of the Kishida administration

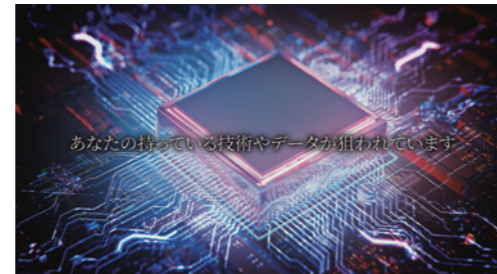
What we do: Protecting the Security of Japan

Preventing Technology Leaks

Economic security has become an important issue for Japan with so many companies, universities, and research institutes possessing advanced technologies. The impact of technology and data leaks would not only affect the predominance of Japanese companies but national security as well, making preventing such leaks most important. The government has also shown increased concerns about acquisition by foreign capitals of real estate that is important for national security.

As a member of the intelligence community, the PSIA cooperates with other relevant agencies in counterintelligence efforts. It also collects and analyzes information on the trends regarding WMD-related materials, moves of concern targeting advanced technologies and data owned by Japanese companies, and real estate acquisition efforts by foreign capitals around sensitive facilities, among others, and provides it to the Prime Minister's Office and other relevant organs.

The PSIA also disseminates information on preventing technology and data leaks by creating and publishing awareness-raising videos and leaflets, giving lectures to Japanese economic organizations, private companies, and universities, and has established a contact point for communication and consultation for economic security as part of its efforts toward cooperation between the private and public sectors.



Awareness-raising video (Available on PSIA website)



Economic security symposium (June, 2022)



Online lecture at a university

Promoting Investigation on Cybersecurity

"Cybersecurity 2022," the latest annual plan based on the Japanese government's "Cybersecurity Strategy" (cabinet decision, September 2021), states the role of the PSIA that "in order to promote investigations related to cyberspace from the standpoint of economic security, such as preventing technology leaks, the PSIA promotes initiatives such as strengthening systems of collecting and analyzing HUMINT information and providing it as appropriate to relevant agencies and organizations to contribute to cyber-intelligence countermeasures."

The PSIA is strengthening investigation and collecting information on cybersecurity in response to the growing threat of cyberattacks. The PSIA works on investigations related to activities in cyberspace involved or sponsored by neighboring countries, collects and analyzes information to identify the actual threat actors conducting cyberattacks and clarify cyberattack incidents that have occurred, then provides relevant intelligence to the relevant agencies in a timely and appropriate manner, thus contributing to government policy. The PSIA also creates leaflets on cybersecurity, conducts public awareness-raising campaigns aimed at citizens, and conducts roundtables and lectures for economic organizations and companies.

Counter Terrorism Measures for Large-Scale International Events

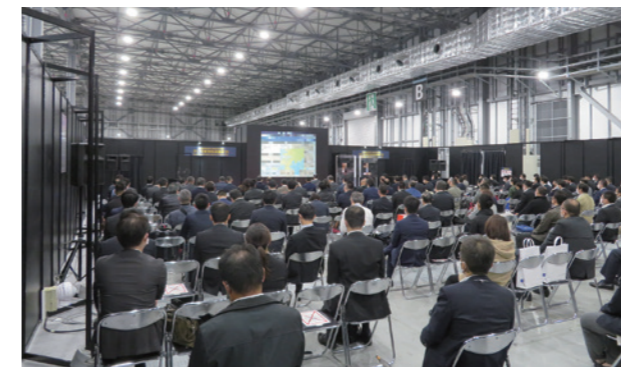
The relevant ministries and agencies must work together on measures to prevent terrorism based on the "Strategy to Make Japan the Safest Country in the World," which sets forth the government's basic policy for public security measures.

As Japan prepares to host the G7 Hiroshima Summit in 2023 and the World Expo (Osaka, Kansai) in 2025, the PSIA is using the experience and lessons learned through past large-scale international events to further strengthen cooperation with relevant organizations in Japan and abroad; bolster collection and analysis on trends of international terrorist organizations, persons and organizations suspected of being involved in international terrorist organizations and their threatening activities, and potential threats toward facilities that may be the target of terrorism; and improve systems for providing information to Japanese people traveling or residing abroad.

The PSIA is also promoting and strengthening its efforts as a core member of the intelligence community by actively providing information and analysis results obtained in the course of these investigations to the Counter-Terrorism Unit-Japan (CTU-J) and the Counter-Terrorism and -Intelligence Information and Data Exchange Center (CTI-INDEX).

Efforts to Protect Important Information

As part of its initiatives toward collaboration between the public and private sectors, the PSIA disseminates information and conducts awareness-raising activities on information theft by nations of concern, the state of international terrorism, and the reality of threats to cyberspace through briefings and various exhibitions for private Japanese companies and economic organizations.



Seminar at an exhibition



Booth at an exhibition

What we do: Protecting the Security of Japan

Surveillance Disposition on Aum Shinrikyo

Aum Shinrikyo: Organization that committed a string of heinous crimes, including sarin gas attacks in Matsumoto and on the Tokyo subway system

Aum Shinrikyo was founded by Chizuo Matsumoto, also known as Shoko Asahara, in 1984 (at the time of its foundation, the organization conducted activities under the name of "Aum-Shinsen-no-Kai"). The organization expanded its organizational strength to realize "utopia" led by Asahara. Around 1989, the organization murdered a lawyer and others who encouraged the Tokyo Metropolitan Government to revoke the organization's license as a religious entity, based on a self-righteous and dangerous theory preached by Asahara, stating that even murder was acceptable in order to "practice the truth."



Altar confirmed by an on-site inspection in Sapporo Shiroishi facility (mainstream group)

In addition, Asahara believed it necessary for the organization to gain political influence to achieve its "utopia" and, together with senior members of the organization, ran for the House of Representatives in 1990. None were successful, and as a result, Asahara came to believe that the only way was to destroy the existing national system by force, and began arming the organization, such as through the development of chemical weapons. The organization began carrying out indiscriminate mass murder, first with the Matsumoto Sarin Gas Attack in June 1994, then the Tokyo Subway Sarin Attack in March 1995, which had a grave and serious impact on the public security of Japan.

Aum Shinrikyo maintains its dangerous nature even today, a quarter century after the sarin gas attacks in Matsumoto and on the Tokyo subway system, placing Asahara as a figure of absolute devotion and remaining under his influence and continues activities centered on "Aleph" and the "group led by Yamada," which maintains a certain distance from "Aleph" (herein both groups together are referred to as the mainstream group) and "Hikari-no-Wa" (the Joyu group), with about 1,650 members in Japan and even members in Russia.

Surveillance disposition on the group: relieving people's fears and anxieties

The PSIA has conducted surveillance disposition on Aum Shinrikyo since 2000 under the Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder (Act on the Control of Organizations) (by receiving reports on the current status of the organization and its activities and on-site inspections of organization facilities, among others.) (The 7th renewal of the period of surveillance disposition on the group was decided in January 2021.) In 2022, the PSIA mobilized a total of more than 450 of its officers and conducted on-site inspections at a total of 33 facilities in 15 prefectures. In 2022, the PSIA provided a total of 40 items of information to 5 prefectures and 15 municipalities that requested the reports and the results of the on-site inspections of the group and hosted a total of 18 meetings to exchange opinions with local residents and help relieve their fears and anxieties, explaining the current status of the group and implementation of on-site inspections.



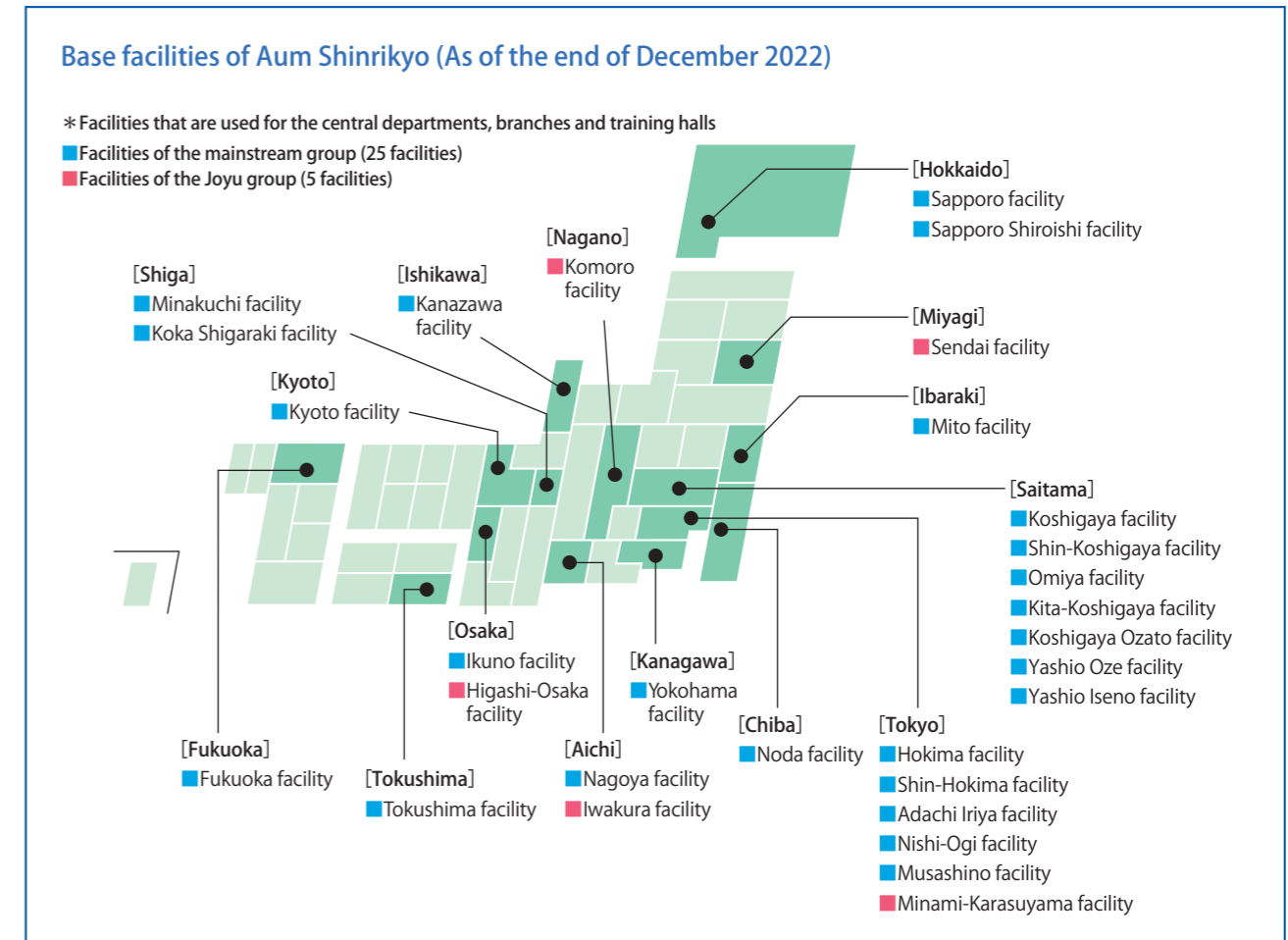
On-site inspection at a facility

Request for Recurrence Prevention Disposition

After May 2021, "Aleph" failed to report on its current status and activities and did not respond to the PSIA's corrective guidance. Because of this, the Director-General of the PSIA requested the Public Security Examination Commission on October 25, 2021 to take a recurrence prevention disposition on the grounds that the organization failed to report required matters, for the first time since the enactment of the Act on the Control of Organizations. (On November 19, 2021, the request was withdrawn after "Aleph" submitted reports.)

Since "Aleph" continued to fail to report some of the matters that should have been reported, the Director-General of the PSIA requested again the Public Security Examination Commission to take the recurrence prevention disposition on January 30, 2023.

The PSIA will continue working to ensure public security, and relieve and alleviate the anxieties of local residents by implementing regulatory measures based on the said law.

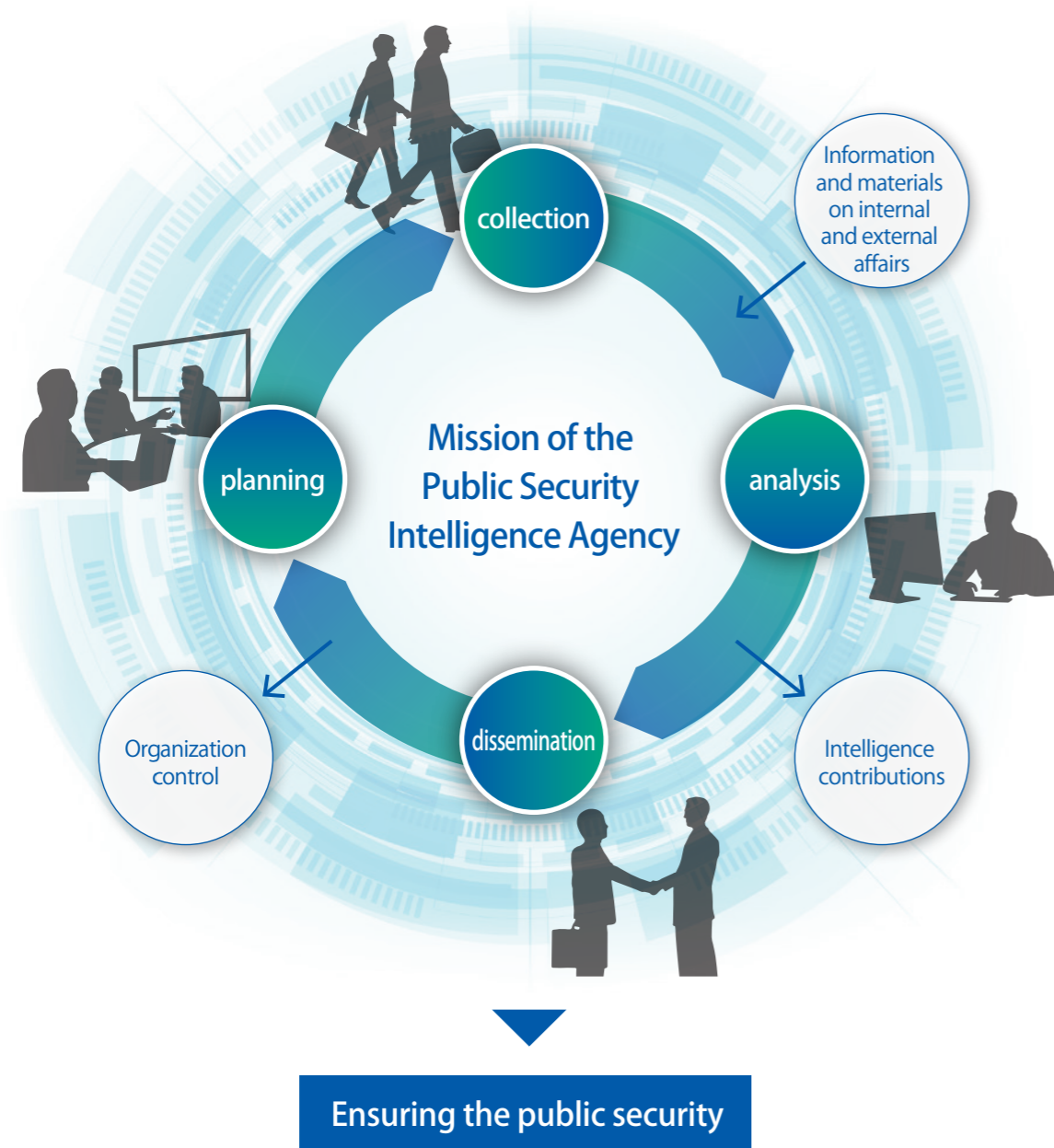


What is PSIA? Overview

Intelligence Flow

It is the responsibility of the PSIA to ensure the public security of Japan under the Subversive Activities Prevention Act and the Act on the Control of Organizations, and to do this, the PSIA collects and analyzes information relating to both domestic and international trends, including the situation related to economic security, the trend of international terrorism, the situations of foreign countries including neighboring countries such as North Korea, China, and Russia, and the activities of various domestic organizations. The PSIA contributes to various policies of the government through the provision of obtained intelligence to the relevant government agencies in a timely and appropriate manner.

The PSIA also contributes to ensure the public security, including the peaceful day-to-day lives of the people by conducting surveillance disposition on Aum Shinrikyo in an appropriate and strict manner and clarifying the actual state of the organization's activities.



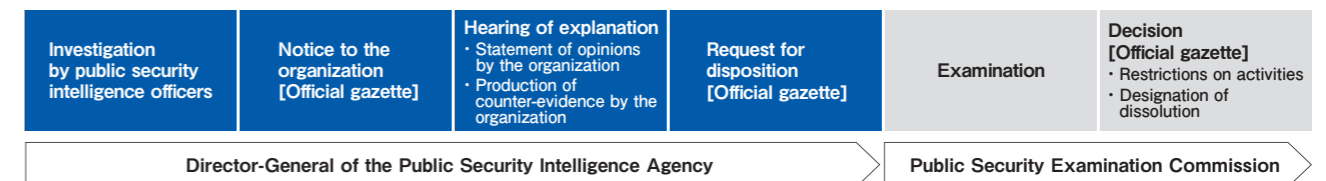
Organization Control

Based on the Subversive Activities Prevention Act, the PSIA conducts investigations on organizations that seek to achieve political objectives through violence, and when the PSIA finds that an organization should be subject to controls, it requests the Public Security Examination Commission, which is responsible for examining and making decisions regarding the control of such organizations, to designate that the activities of the organization be restricted, or that it be dissolved.

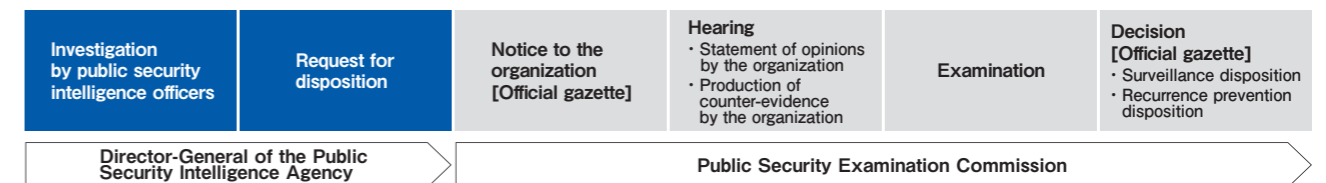
In addition, under the Act on the Control of Organizations, the PSIA investigates organizations that committed indiscriminate mass murder in the past and, when deemed necessary, requests the Public Security Examination Commission to take a surveillance disposition or a recurrence prevention disposition.

The PSIA has been working to shed light on the status of the activities of Aum Shinrikyo, an organization that has been under surveillance disposition since February 2000, by receiving mandatory reports on the current status of the organization and its activities as well as entering the organization's facilities and inspecting them as needed. The period of surveillance disposition was renewed for the seventh time on January 6, 2021, based on the request by the Director-General of the PSIA.

Subversive Activities Prevention Act



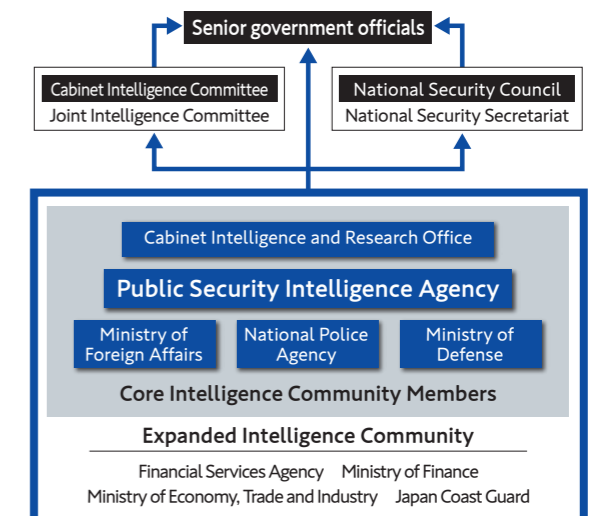
Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder



Intelligence Contributions

As a core member of the intelligence community made up of Japan's intelligence organizations, the PSIA provides the Cabinet Intelligence Committee established under the Cabinet and the Joint Intelligence Committee, as well as relevant organizations including the Office of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet Secretariat with intelligence required for policy-making of the government on a daily basis.

In addition, the PSIA responds to requests for intelligence from the National Security Council and the National Security Secretariat which supports the Council.



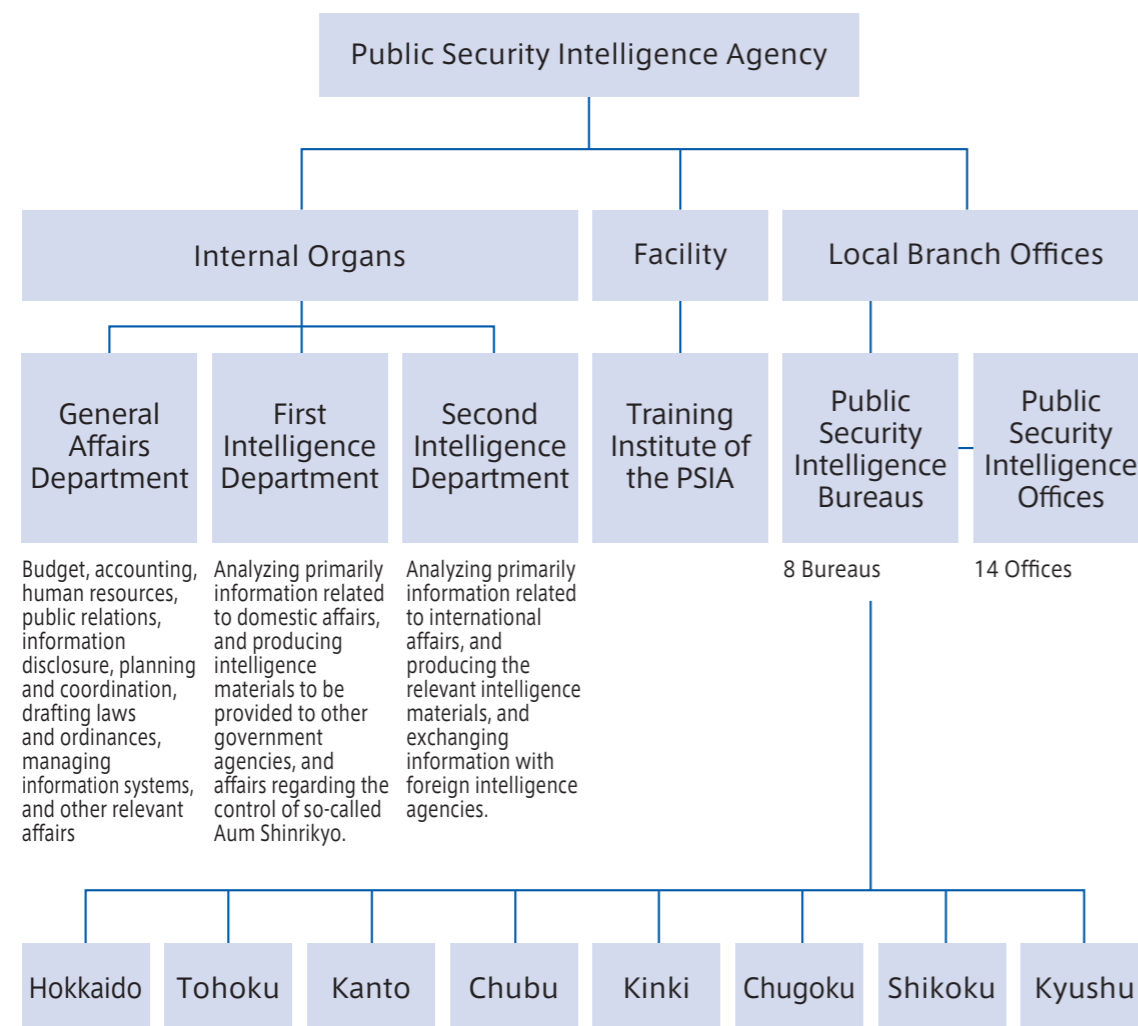
What is PSIA? History, Organization and Network

History

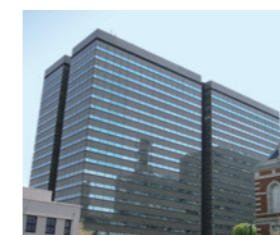
The PSIA is an administrative body established on July 21, 1952, when the Subversive Activities Prevention Act came into force to conduct investigations and request for dispositions aimed controlling subversive organizations in an integrated manner as stipulated in the act. In addition, the Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder came into force on December 27, 1999. This act gave the PSIA additional duties to conduct investigations, request for dispositions, and take control measures with respect to organizations that have committed indiscriminate mass murder.

Organization

The PSIA is composed of its internal organs, facility, and local branch offices. The internal organs comprise the following three departments: the General Affairs Department, the First Intelligence Department, and the Second Intelligence Department. The PSIA has the Training Institute of the Public Security Intelligence Agency as its facility, and the Public Security Intelligence Bureaus and the Public Security Intelligence Offices comprising the local branch offices across Japan.



Locations of Headquarters, Training Institute, Bureaus and Offices



1 PSIA (Headquarters)
(Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)



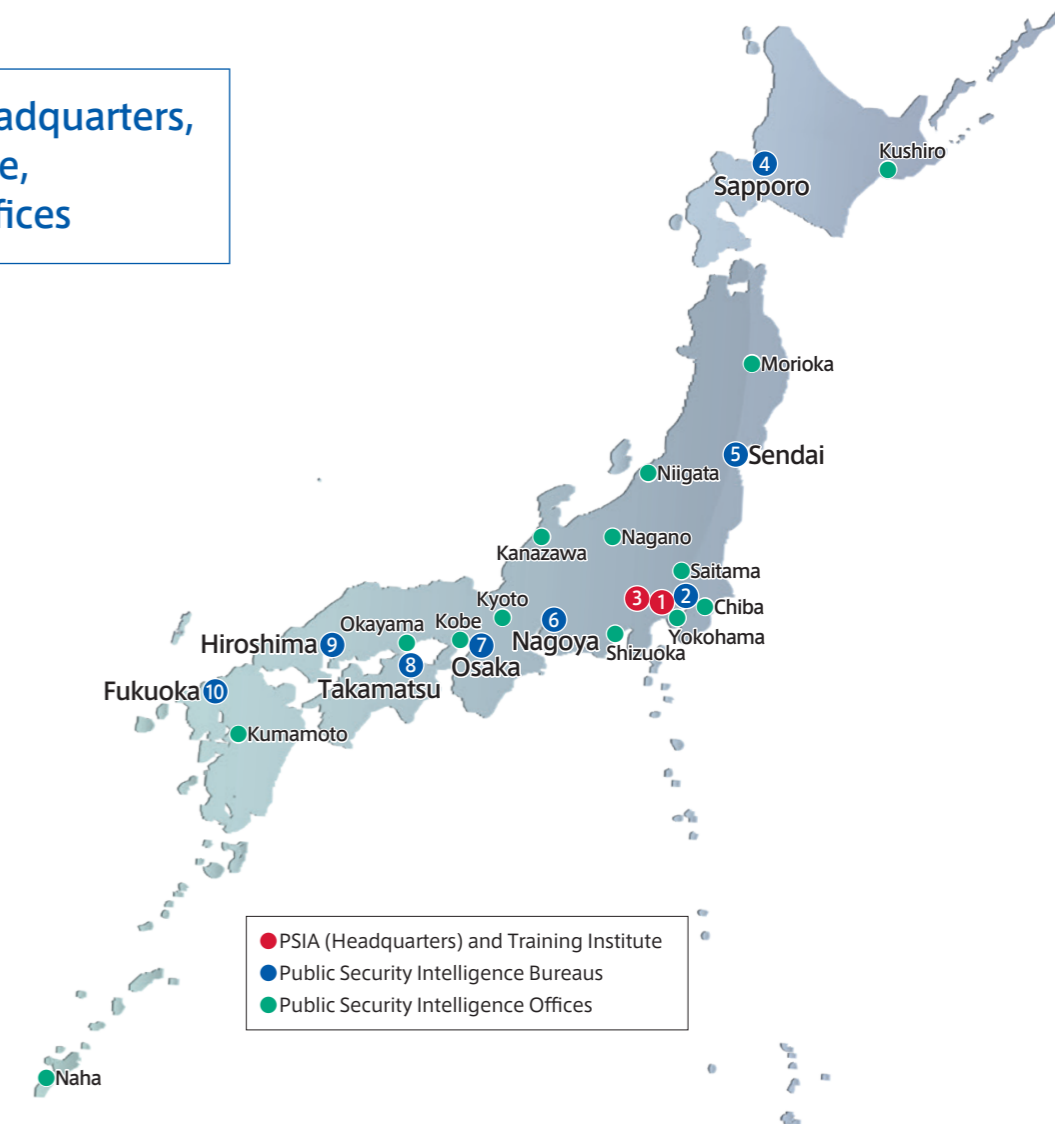
2 Kanto Public Security Intelligence Bureau
(Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)



3 Training Institute of the PSIA
(Akishima, Tokyo)



7 Kinki Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Osaka)



4 Hokkaido Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Sapporo)



5 Tohoku Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Sendai)



6 Chubu Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Nagoya)



8 Shikoku Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Takamatsu)



9 Chugoku Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Hiroshima)



10 Kyushu Public Security Intelligence Bureau (Fukuoka)

Resources Disseminated Publicly by PSIA

Strengthening Efforts to Give Alerts for Japanese Traveling Overseas

Cases have taken place frequently where Japanese nationals have come to harm in terrorist incidents overseas, as shown in the coordinated terrorist bomb attacks in Sri Lanka in April 2019, in which a Japanese was killed (over 750 were dead or injured). The majority of these Japanese victims were the result of being collateral damage in terrorist attacks on soft targets such as sightseeing spots and public transportations.

In order to provide information on international terrorism to the public, the PSIA distributes the "Handbook of International Terrorism," which compiles information of trends in terrorism worldwide, posts it on its website, and gives lectures to private companies and economic organizations, alerting Japanese nationals traveling overseas.

State in recent years of Japanese harmed overseas			
Year of incident	Country of incident	Description	Japanese harmed
Jan. 2013	Algeria	Attack on oil plant	10 killed
Jan.-Feb. 2015	Syria	Japanese detained and killed	two killed
Mar. 2015	Tunisia	Attack on a museum	three killed three injured
Sept. 2015	Philippines	Attack on resort facilities	one injured
Oct. 2015	Bangladesh	Shoot dead	one killed
Mar. 2016	Belgium	Successive terrorist bombings	two injured
July 2016	Bangladesh	Attack on a restaurant	seven killed one injured
May 2017	Afghanistan	Bombing attack in front of German embassy	two injured
April 2019	Sri Lanka	Coordinated bombing attacks at a church and hotel	one killed four injured

Various Publications

Every year, the PSIA issues "Review and Prospects of Internal and External Situations," an annual report on domestic and international situations related to the public security, as well as the "Handbook of International Terrorism," which compiles information on global terrorism trends, the "Overview of Threats in Cyberspace," which compiles the current state of cyberattacks both in Japan and abroad, and "Ensuring Economic Security," which compiles points of concern for economic security. Published documents are available on the PSIA website; however, those who wish to receive them in booklet form or who wish to have a lecture on the contents of these leaflets (including those in charge at companies and universities) are asked to contact the Public Relations Coordination Office of the PSIA (See next page for contact information).



"Review and Prospects of Internal and External Situations" (January 2023)



"Handbook of International Terrorism 2022"



"Overview of Threats in Cyberspace 2022"



"Ensuring Economic Security 2022"

PSIA Website and Official SNS Accounts

The website of the PSIA posts related laws and regulations under the PSIA's jurisdiction, its history and tasks, and shows situations at home and abroad in each of the following categories: "Trends Surrounding Economic Security," "Special Feature of Aum Shinrikyo," and "Situations occurring tied to terrorism and relevant affairs in the world." It also notifies recruitment information and event information of job fairs for new recruits, which are conducted nationwide. We hope you will visit our website.

The PSIA's official Twitter account and YouTube channel contain information about the PSIA's measures and initiatives, and are used to distribute information that the PSIA wants to announce. We hope you will view this information, together with the information available on the PSIA's website.

Official Twitter account
@MOJ_PSIA

Official Twitter account (for recruiting)
@PSIA_recruit

Official YouTube channel
PSIAchannel

Contact Information Phone (main)
03-3592-5711

Contact Point for Communication and Consultation for Economic Security
E-mail: **psia-es@i.moj.go.jp**



PSIA website
(<https://www.moj.go.jp/psia/>)

PSIA



Central Government Bldg. No.6
1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0013

Video Production and Distribution

The PSIA produces videos on the issue of "Aum Shinrikyo," "International Terrorism Situation," and "Economic Security," and releases them on its website and social media.

Videos are also broadcast on large screens nationwide or distributed as YouTube in-stream advertisements as needed to call attention to economic security situations requiring heed or to prevent the series of incidents involving Aum Shinrikyo from fading from the public memory.



Broadcasting a video on the issue of "Aum Shinrikyo" (Osaka City, Osaka)



Broadcasting a video on the "Economic Security" (Adachi City, Tokyo)