QUAD-PLUS Dialogue

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Geostrategic Challenges: Intelligence Cooperation
OSINT Operation Based on Business-Based Security Cooperation

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Security is still the most important problem for countries. Especially in the Indo-Pacific region, China, as a "Rising Power" is challenging the international order led by the U.S. It is occurring in the trend of anti-globalism in the international society. The new U.S. new president Donald Trump will not wrap the desire of the U.S. in idealistic rhetoric. The Trump administration will try to maximize U.S. national interest directly.

And the administration will use diplomatic/security problems as bargaining chips when it tries to make an economic deal with China. The security situation in the region is getting complicated. We cannot see the future clearly anymore. Moreover, innovation of IT technology accelerates not only the change of operations, but also the change of people's common sense.

I am pessimistic about solving security problems with China by discussion. We have already understood Chinese insistence, and China will not change it. China does not have an idea to play a game with us under the same rule, because China believes that the present rule is not fair to China, and China has a right to change it.

On the other hand, Japan cannot accept the violent challenge to the international order. I believe the U.S., Australia, and India share the idea. We need to prevent China from taking aggressive action by showing our forces.

But deterrence always has limitations, because China will try to neutralize our effort. China is developing its economy and building up its military forces. Above all, deterrence cannot solve a problem fundamentally. China will keep being not satisfied with the rule.

I propose an idea of "Networked Bilateral Security Cooperation Based on Business." And OSINT (Open Source Intelligence) cooperation is the most promising way to develop the regional economy by creating a large market and build up intelligence capability. OSINT cooperation must involve Southeast Asian countries.
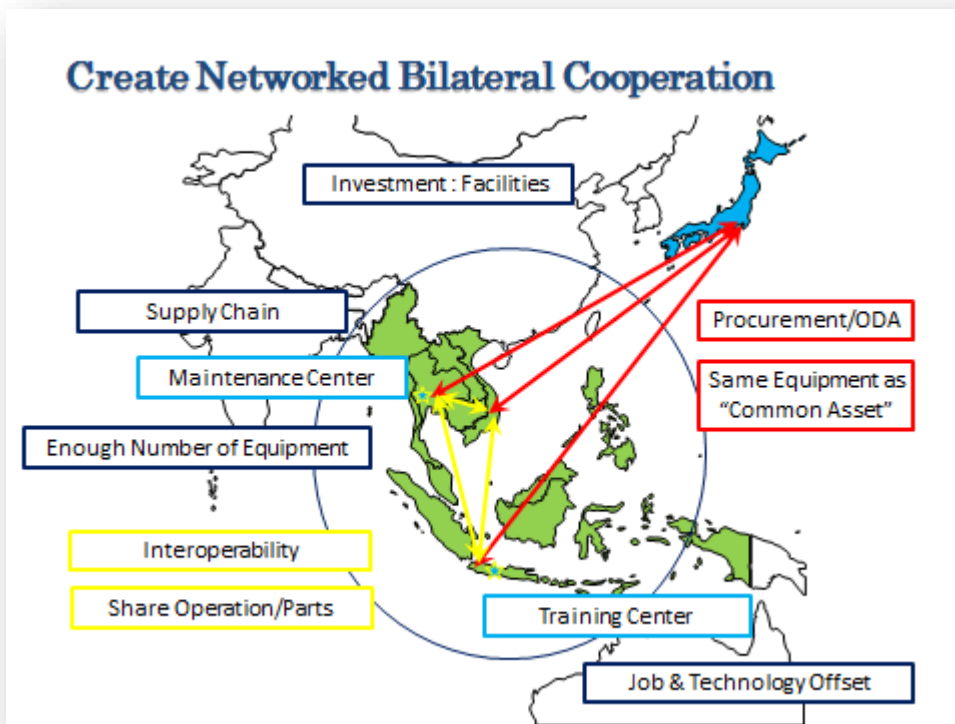
1 Why "based on business"?

 (1) "National Survival" is the premise of all activities of a nation, and is the fundamental problem.

 (2) The purpose of national security is the "survival of the nation." "Survival of the nation" includes "people's wealthy and happy life."

 (3) Security must be pursued by investing every domestic resource including business.

 (4) The violent challenge by potential hegemons to the international order led by the U.S. causes instability of the international society.

 (5) The condition which allows potential hegemons to give a violent challenge is the slowdown of world economic development. When the U.S. and other major West European countries are paying their attention to domestic instability caused by economic disparity, they tend to estimate the intention of a potential hegemon optimistically.

 (6) The reason why a rising power challenges the international order is that the nation cannot be satisfied by the present international rules. Rising powers recognize that they cannot develop their economy enough because of the unjust and unfair international order and rules.

 (7) The factor which causes instability at the level of the international system is economic problems. And the dissatisfaction of a rising power is caused by economic factors, too.

 (8) The origin of "power" is economy. Economic power itself has influence. And a military buildup also needs economic development.

 (9) We cannot expect to solve problems by discussion with a rising power which is not satisfied with the present rules. It does not have an idea to play a game with other countries under the present rules.

 (10) Countries have no other choice without deterrence against a rising power if it challenges the international order by violent measures.

 (11) But the deterrence always has limitation, because the rising power is developing its economy which is the origin of "power."

 (12) We need to ease the dissatisfaction of the rising power. The fundamental problem which causes the dissatisfaction is the lack of economic development.

2 Why "Southeast Asian countries"?

(1) The Southeast Asian region is important geostrategically. The South China Sea connects the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean, and South East Asian countries surround it.

(2) We need new large-scale markets for world economic development, and the Southeast Asian region is the most promising area to be the market.

(3) But a country in Southeast Asia does not have large enough market by itself.   Therefore, we need to integrate markets in the region.

(4) A large market makes the Southeast Asian region an influential actor in the Asia-Pacific region. As a result of the market integration, Southeast Asia will be the third actor in addition to the U.S. and China. The security structure will be changed.

(5) Japan is good at economic activity, and then it can provide infrastructures by Official Development Assistance (ODA).   A large market provides private companies the incentive to invest in this region.   The investment will include technology offset.

(6) Southeast Asian countries must play leading roles in this project.

3　How to create a large market?

(1) We do not have to use the framework of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).   Countries which are interested in the business will join the project.

(2) It is not a multilateral framework, but is a "networked bilateral business cooperation."

(3) If some Southeast Asian countries procure the same product, then there is a large market of this product. Southeast Asian countries must decide which product will be introduced.

(4) Private companies have incentive to invest into the Southeast Asia region, if there are large markets in this region.

(5) For example, 5 countries decide to introduce 2 aircraft each, and then there is a 10 aircraft market there.

(6) Private companies will have intention to build a maintenance center and supply chain in this region. Those kinds of facilities and know-how can be used by Southeast Asian countries.

(7) The region needs layers of business networks, because facilities like a maintenance center cannot be built in each country. The region needs to introduce many kinds of products for sharing the benefits from the facilities.

Create Networked Bilateral Cooperation

- Investment : Facilities
- Supply Chain
- Maintenance Center
- Enough Number of Equipment
- Interoperability
- Share Operation/Parts
- Procurement/ODA
- Same Equipment as "Common Asset"
- Training Center
- Job & Technology Offset

4 OSINT cooperation as a business

IT infrastructure and information-sharing system

- Generally, IT infrastructures in Southeast Asian countries are not strong enough. Southeast Asian countries can apply Japanese ODA for building IT infrastructure.
- IT infrastructure includes huge server facilities, super computers, and (OS) operating systems on the terminals.
- Southeast Asian countries can get the technology and know-how concerning big data management and cloud computing, and can use them for their future businesses.

Open Source Intelligence – OSINT can be sold by Southeast Asian countries by using the IT network/OS.
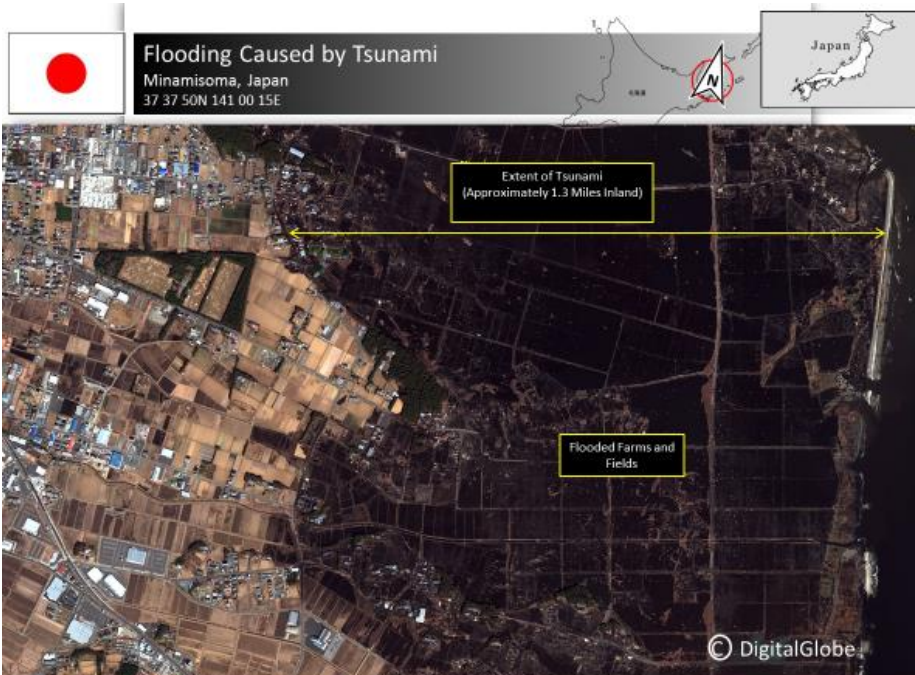
Item 2：IT Infrastructure/OSINT Operation

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OSINT Operation Can be Used for Every Kind of Government Operation

Can Share Information/Data with other Countries – Open Source

Network, Server, Super Computer, Big Data Management, Cloud Computing, etc.

- OSINT includes the procurement of information of concern to governments. Private companies around the world are interested in those kinds of information as well.
- Countries can share the information of disaster in real time, too.

Flooding Caused by Tsunami
Minamisoma, Japan
37 37 50N 141 00 15E

Japan

Extent of Tsunami
(Approximately 1.3 Miles Inland)

Flooded Farms and Fields

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- Satellite images can be purchased at a low price, if some countries share the images.

- Southeast Asian countries can detect an earthquake, a tsunami, and other disasters early, if they can use sensors equipped on satellite.

Item 2： IT Infrastructure/OSINT Operation

Realize MDA - Maritime Domain Awareness

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- We can understand all of the movement of merchant ships which has displacement of more than 500 tons by Satellite AIS (automatic identification system).
- Southeast Asian countries can sell the information of replenishment at ports for their business, and it will help MDA operation.
- SATSAR, satellite carrying synthetic aperture radar, can detect the figure and course/speed of ships. We can detect the operation of military ships and fishing boats which are not equipped with AIS, if we use AIS as a filter.

5   What might an OSINT "business model" look like?

Countries which join the program can share open source information concerning military operations, terrorism, crime, instability of society, transportation, smuggling, piracy, weapons procurement, and any other security issues. Countries can display all information on the OS based on map. If more than 95% of information include geographical information, most all of the information can be pinned on map. It will show the regional trend and the distribution of issues.

Countries can make any kind of graph, chart, and table of the data. Visualized information will help countries to shorten time for making decision. And countries can share the same information naturally.

The purpose of this program is creating a practical large market in Southeast Asian region. Some businesses will make contribution to security in this region.

Japan has some interesting technologies related to IT business like gamification. Private companies in Japan, U.S., Australia, and India can provide user friendly OS which makes Asian people whose native languages are not English to understand the meaning of information easily.

More than 90% of intelligence comes from open source information. OSINT cooperation will provide us with a strong base of the security cooperation if we can use open source information effectively.