

## Japan May Send Troops to Korea

The Chosun Ilbo is reporting that Japan is considering sending troops to Korea to rescue Japanese citizens living there in case of war. (

[http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html\\_dir/2010/12/13/2010121300401.html](http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/12/13/2010121300401.html) ).

“Japanese Prime Minister Naoto Kan raised hackles in Korea on Saturday by saying Tokyo will consider dispatching troops there to rescue Japanese citizens in case of an emergency. Kan told reporters his government will consult on the matter with the South Korean government and revise Japanese laws to allow the country's Self-Defense Force to engage in such rescue operations.

The daily Tokyo Shimbun reported on Sunday that the Japanese government already sounded out to the Korean government the possibility of dispatching SDF transport aircraft and vessels to Seoul, Incheon and Busan to rescue around 28,000 Japanese citizens residing in Korea”

Please read the entire article for more information.

**Analysis.** Somebody in the Japanese government was thinking behind on this one. Japan may well choose to help the United States and South Korea in case of war with the North. This will be especially true if North Korea attacks American bases on Japanese soil. But the mere fact that Japan is even suggesting that it might land troops on Korean soil will be resisted by the South and played up as a propaganda nightmare by the North to convince its people that the South is ready to invade.

We can be sure of a couple of things. Koreans generally like Americans especially on the east coast of North Korea. Tell the people of Hungnam the Marines are coming back and you can walk shore. Tell them the Japanese are landing and they will fight you with pitchforks. Whatever help the Japanese choose to offer in case of war should best be kept out of sight and, therefore, out of mind.