



KOBAYASHI, Takuo

Captain, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force

Capt. Kobayashi is from Yokosuka, Japan. He graduated from the National Defense Academy in 2000, earning a Bachelor of Science and Engineering. He subsequently entered the JMSDF Officer Candidate School to learn basic skills as a naval officer in 2000.

Operationally, he has served as a surface warfare officer, including operation officer for the Escort Division and the Escort Flotilla. As a weapons officer, he deployed to the Gulf of Aden for anti-piracy operations from 2012 to 2013. As an operation officer for the Escort Flotilla One, he planned and conducted the first deployment of JS Izumo, which is the largest helicopter carrier of JMSDF, to the South China Sea and Indian Ocean, including participating in MALABAR, which is an exercise held by Japan, India and the U.S. in 2018.

Ashore, his assignments include as a planning officer for the future surface force posture of the Plans and Projects Division (N5) in the Maritime Staff Office, Tokyo. From 2018 to 2019, he served the Chief of Maritime Staff, as an executive assistant.

He commanded JS Sazanami (DD-113) from 2017 to 2018 and made a deployment to the South China Sea with U.S. Navy Ronald Reagan Strike Group.

Capt. Kobayashi earned a Master of Public Affairs in Kyoto University.

