|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | CovertAction Magazine  Exposing Covert Action Since 1978 | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | https://mcusercontent.com/290d7f9f719af49a4fc45a1b5/images/65056c05-cf0d-0be7-6997-d218a270c825.jpg  [Biden Administration Tramples on Japan’s Post-World War II Pacifist Constitution By Pushing Country’s Rearmament](https://CovertActionMagazine.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=290d7f9f719af49a4fc45a1b5&id=20e492e989&e=a23df9108f) By Sara Flounders on Jan 09, 2023 06:46 pm  **Main target is China in dangerously provocative policy that faces no visible domestic opposition in the U.S.**  On December 16, Japan’s Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced a new defense strategy that doubled Japan’s military spending by 2027. Japan further agreed to acquire offensive weapons and reshape its military command structure for its expanded armed forces.  On December 23, the draft budget was approved by Kishida’s cabinet.  Japan’s dangerous military expansion should set off international alarm bells. This major escalation is taking place based on intense U.S. imperialist pressure. It is the next step in the “Pivot to Asia,” aimed at threatening and surrounding China and attempting to reassert U.S. dominance in the Asia Pacific.  The movements opposing endless U.S. wars must begin to prepare material and draw mass attention to this ominous threat.  The plan to double military spending will add $315 billion to Japan’s defense budget over the next five years and make Japan’s military the world’s third largest, after the U.S. and China. Defense spending will escalate to 2% of gross domestic product, equal to the goal the U.S. sets for its NATO allies. Japan’s economy is the world’s third largest.  The Japanese government plans to buy up to 500 Lockheed Martin Tomahawk missiles and Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles (JASSM), procure more naval vessels and fighter aircraft, increase cyber-warfare capabilities, manufacture its own hypersonic guided missiles and produce its own advanced fighter jets, along with other weapons. The plan shifts from relying solely on missile defense to also embracing “counter strike” capabilities. […] | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In Peace and Solidarity, Chris Agee Executive Editor CovertAction Magazine | | |