



February 27, 2008

The Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Research on Collision between MSDF DDG ATAGO and a fish boat SEITOKU MARU -Commencement of search operation by the Research Vessel NATSUSHIMA-

The Research Vessel NATSUSHIMA, operated by the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC; Mr. Yasuhiro Kato, President), had departed from private quay of Yokosuka Headquarter and commenced the search operation on the collision between MSDF DDG ATAGO and a fish boat SEITOKU MARU right after its arrival at the research area at 16:36 on February 27, 2008. This operation was commissioned by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) at the request of the Ministry of Defense.

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