

Topic V: Activities of the Imperial Guard Headquarters

(1) Duties of the Imperial Guard Headquarters

The Imperial Guard Headquarters attached to the National Police Agency guards the Imperial Majesty and the Retired Emperor as well as members of the Imperial Family, the Imperial Palace and Akasaka Palace.

(2) Response to the Ceremonies Related to the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor

Based on the Act on Special Exceptions to the Imperial Household Code on the Deposition of Emperor, His Majesty the Emperor (ex-emperor) retired on April 30, 2019, and ceremonies were held as His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince (now His Majesty the Emperor) immediately succeeded to the throne May 1, 2019. In order to ensure all safety and security measures to protect such ceremonies, the Imperial Guard Headquarters established a “Defense Commission for Retirement of the Emperor and the Immediate Succession of His Imperial Highness the Crown Prince” chaired by the head of the Imperial Guard Headquarters in October 2018, deploying a collective force of protection and security.

April 30th -	Ceremony of the Abdication of His Majesty the Emperor -
May 1st -	Ceremony for Inheriting the Imperial Regalia and Seals / First Audience after the Accession to the Throne -
May 4th -	Public Visit to the Throne -
October 22nd -	Ceremony of the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor -
October 22nd, 29th, 29th and 31st -	Court Banquets after the Ceremony of the Enthronement -
November 10th -	Imperial Procession by motorcar after the Ceremony of the Enthronement -
November 14th to 15th -	Daijo Shrine Ceremony -
November 16th and 18th -	Grand Feast Ceremony -
November 21st to December 8th -	Public Visit to Daijo Shrine -

① Public Visit to the Throne

In the eastern garden of a palace belonging to the Imperial Palace, a Public Visit to the Throne was held, and approximately 140,000 visitors came to the palace. The Imperial Guard Headquarters has established a necessary framework for protection and security while strengthening collaboration with relevant organizations, and has taken all possible means to prevent illegal cases and crowd accidents.

② Ceremony of the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor and Imperial Procession by motorcar after the Ceremony of the Enthronement

As many dignitaries from Japan and abroad attend the Ceremony of the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor, Imperial Palace guards conducted security tasks such as organizing and guiding the Imperial Palace, and also served as Emon^{Note} at the ceremony.

On the procession, Emon ride in the open car or the nearest side car of His and Her Majesty the Emperor and Empress to ensure their safety.



Escort by side cars in the procession

③ Daijo Festival

Along with the establishment of the Daijo Palace as venue to the Daijo Festival in the Imperial Eastern Garden, security systems were improved to prevent loss due to illegal cases or fire.

Imperial palace guards also served as Emon at the Ceremony of Daijo Shrine, which is the central ceremony of the Daijo Festival.

④ Public Visit to Daijo Shrine

After the Ceremony of Daijo Shrine, the shrine was opened to the public, and approximately 790,000 entrants (including the number of public entrants to Inui Street of the Autumn Imperial Palace) visited in 18 days. The Imperial Guard Headquarters made every effort to prevent illegal

Note: Persons engaged in security of the Imperial Palace gates cases and crowd accidents.