

# Japan urges U.S. to ground Ospreys



Japan has asked the U.S. military to suspend all non-emergency V-22 Osprey flights over its territory, after one of the jets operated by the U.S. Air Force was involved in a fatal crash

**Nov 29: U.S. Osprey crashes off Yakushima Island, killing at least one of eight crew members**

**V-22 OSPREY:** Tiltrotor aircraft combines vertical lift of helicopter with speed and range of fixed-wing airplane

## Engines

Wingtip-mounted nacelles turn through 90°. Cross-connected transmissions allow either engine to power both rotors if one engine fails

## In-flight refuelling probe

## Crew

Three, in high-visibility cockpit with night vision displays

**Wings:** Fold for compact storage aboard ship

**Capacity:** 24 troops or 9,000kg of internal cargo, three times payload of helicopter

## Loading ramp

Troops exit from rear of cargo bay, away from 80 knot rotor downdraft

## Rotors

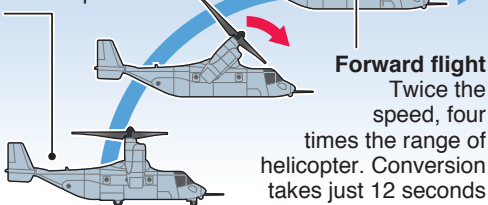
11.6m diameter, rotate in opposite directions so tail rotor not required for stability as on helicopter

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| <b>First flight</b>        | 1989    |
| <b>Length</b>              | 17.5m   |
| <b>Width (with rotors)</b> | 25.8m   |
| <b>Maximum speed</b>       |         |
| Forward flight             | 565km/h |
| Vertical flight            | 185km/h |
| <b>Range (24 troops)</b>   | 1,100km |
| <b>Altitude</b>            | 7,925m  |

**Osprey has suffered string of fatal crashes over years**

## Vertical flight

Can take off, land and hover like a helicopter



## Forward flight

Twice the speed, four times the range of helicopter. Conversion takes just 12 seconds