29 September 2014: Japan – Mount Ontake Volcano



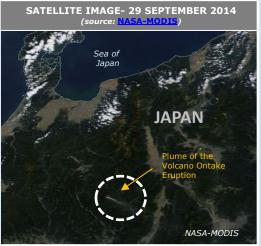


SITUATION

- On 27 September at 11.52 (local time) the Mount Ontake, located approx. 200 km west of Tokyo, erupted spewing ash and gas and blanketing the surrounding area. About 250 people were initially trapped on the slopes, but most made their way down by 27 September night.
- As of 29 September, the Japanese FDMA reports ten people dead, 26 in cardiopulmonary arrest and 69 injured, while local media report search and rescue operations to have been suspended due to the emission of toxic gases and ash from Mt. Ontake volcano.
- As of 28 September (<u>JMA</u>), Mt. Ontake is on Volcanic Alert Level 3 out of 5 («Do not approach the volcano»). The eruption and the volcanic seismicity continue, as of 29 September.
- The municipalities of Otaki-mura and Kiso-machi in Nagano Prefecture and those of Takayama and Gero in Gifu Prefecture, located near the volcano have to be on alert/vigilant.

Background information: Mount Ontake (also known as Mount Kiso Ontake) is a strato-volcano situated at the borders of Kiso and Ōtaki (Nagano Prefecture) and Gero (Gifu Prefecturea). It is the second highest Japanese volcano (3 067 m) and it is a popular hiking site. Its last major eruption was in 1979; no people were killed during that eruption.

Sources: JMA (<u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>, <u>4</u>, <u>5</u>, <u>6</u>), <u>FDMA</u>, <u>UNOCHA</u>, Media (<u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>, <u>4</u>)



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