

12/02/93

REMARKS

NAGOYA CONSULATE OPENING CEREMONY

IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE IN NAGOYA, THE HEARTLAND OF JAPANESE INDUSTRY, TO HELP CELEBRATE THE RE-OPENING OF OUR CONSULATE HERE.

WE ARE ESPECIALLY HONORED TO BE JOINED THIS AFTERNOON BY: VICE GOVERNOR OKUNO OF AICHI PREFECTURE, MR. KANO, THE DIRECTOR OF THE GIFU PREFECTURE INTERNATIONAL CENTER, DIRECTOR-GENERAL HARADA OF MIE PREFECTURE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, AND DEPUTY MAYOR HIRAIWA OF NAGOYA.

TODAY'S CEREMONY IS THE CULMINATION OF YEARS OF EFFORTS TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND THE PRESENCE OF THE UNITED STATE GOVERNMENT IN NAGOYA.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE WORKED HARD FOR THIS DAY -- PEOPLE IN OUR EMBASSY IN TOKYO, IN THE JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND, OF COURSE, MANY PEOPLE RIGHT HERE IN THIS COMMUNITY AND SURROUNDING REGION. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR EFFORTS.

ALTHOUGH OUR ORIGINAL CONSULATE IN NAGOYA CLOSED IN 1971 DUE TO BUDGET CUTS, THE AMERICAN CENTER HAS MAINTAINED A CONTINUOUS PRESENCE HERE -- SUPPORTING OUR IMPORTANT CULTURAL, ARTISTIC AND EDUCATIONAL TIES TO THIS REGION.

IN 1986, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RE-OPENED A ONE-PERSON OFFICE IN NAGOYA -- WHICH, IN 1991, WAS SUPPLEMENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

IT HAS BECOME MORE AND MORE CLEAR TO US THAT IT IS NOT ENOUGH FOR THE UNITED STATES SIMPLY TO HAVE AN EMBASSY IN TOKYO. JAPAN IS A COUNTRY RICH IN DIVERSITY. FROM OUR LOCATION IN TOKYO, IT IS SOMETIMES DIFFICULT TO SEE AND APPRECIATE THE UNIQUE AND SPECIAL REGIONAL QUALITIES OF JAPAN. YOU KNOW THAT BETTER THAN ANYONE.

MOREOVER, WE CAN'T DO IT ALL FROM TOKYO. WE HAVE TO BE OUT IN THE DIFFERENT REGIONS AND COMMUNITIES OF JAPAN -- TALKING AND WORKING WITH CIVIC AND BUSINESS LEADERS THROUGHOUT THIS GREAT COUNTRY.

OUR PRESENCE IN NAGOYA REFLECTS THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S OWN COMMITMENT TO DECENTRALIZATION -- TO PUTTING OUR PEOPLE AND RESOURCES WHERE THE ACTION IS.

THUS, OUR CONSULATE IN NAGOYA ADDS TO OUR EXISTING CONSULATES IN OSAKA, FUKUOKA, SAPPORO AND NAHA.

LIKEWISE, OUR U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY HAS AMERICAN CENTERS LOCATED THROUGHOUT JAPAN. IN ADDITION TO THE ONE HERE IN NAGOYA, WE HAVE CENTERS LOCATED IN TOKYO, OSAKA, KYOTO, FUKUOKA, AND SAPPORO.

I KNOW THERE IS ALSO GROWING INTEREST IN JAPAN ABOUT EMPOWERING REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH MORE AUTONOMY TO RESPOND TO THEIR OWN SPECIAL NEEDS.

IN OPENING OUR CONSULATE HERE, WE ARE RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AICHI, MIE, AND GIFU PREFECTURES.

OUR UPGRADED PRESENCE HERE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF NAGOYA, THIS COUNTRY'S THIRD LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREA AND THE CENTER OF JAPAN'S AUTOMOTIVE, AEROSPACE, MACHINE TOOL AND CERAMICS INDUSTRIES.

THE RE-OPENING OF OUR CONSULATE REFLECTS THE SOLID COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN. IN PARTICULAR, OUR RENEWED AND ENLARGED PRESENCE HERE DEMONSTRATES OUR STRONG INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC SUCCESS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.

ONE OF THE MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES OF OUR NEW CONSULATE WILL BE TO HELP AMERICAN BUSINESSES SUCCEED IN THE MARKET:

- WE HOPE THAT AMERICAN COMPANIES WILL BE ABLE TO GAIN INCREASED ACCESS TO YOUR INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY NETWORKS.

- WE HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR BUILDERS AND SUPPLIERS TO COMPETE FOR WORK ON MAJOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROJECTS.

- AND WE HOPE THAT JAPANESE CONSUMERS WILL HAVE MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO PURCHASE WELL-DESIGNED, HIGH-QUALITY AMERICAN PRODUCTS AT REASONABLE PRICES.

IN ADDITION TO THESE ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS, OUR CONSULATE HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REPORT BACK TO OUR EMBASSY IN TOKYO AND TO OUR POLICY MAKERS IN WASHINGTON ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS VITAL REGION.

DURING MY VISIT TODAY AND TOMORROW, I WILL BE MEETING WITH BOTH AMERICAN AND JAPANESE BUSINESS LEADERS IN THE REGION, INCLUDING THE TOYODAS. I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS.

MY WIFE, JOAN, IS ALSO HERE. SHE IS OFF THIS AFTERNOON EXPLORING THE WONDERFUL CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC TREASURES OF YOUR CITY AND REGION.

TOMORROW AFTERNOON, BOTH JOAN AND I WILL MEET WITH THE PARENTS OF YOSHI HATTORI. WE WISH TO EXTEND OUR CONDOLENCES TO THEM. AND WE WISH TO THANK THIS REMARKABLE COUPLE FOR THEIR STATESMANSHIP AND THEIR DIGNIFIED EFFORT TO BRING MEANING TO THEIR SON'S TRAGIC DEATH. THEY HAVE HELPED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TAKE ACTION TO REDUCE THE VIOLENCE OF GUNS IN OUR SOCIETY.

THE HATTORIS DESERVE THE THANKS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THE DECENCY AND THOUGHTFULNESS OF THEIR MESSAGE TO MY NATION. THEIR SON IS GONE. BUT THE MESSAGE OF THE SENSELESS ACT WHICH TOOK HIS LIFE HELPED SPUR OUR NATION TO ENACT THIS REFORM.

IN CLOSING, I WISH TO RECOGNIZE THE HARD WORK OF OUR CONSULATE'S PRINCIPAL OFFICER FRANK STANLEY, THE COMMERCIAL CONSUL TODD THURWACHTER AND THE AMERICAN CENTER DIRECTOR MICHAEL GREENWALD.

THEY ARE TOP-NOTCH CAREER OFFICERS. I KNOW THEY LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO HELP FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THIS REGION AND THE UNITED STATES.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US THIS AFTERNOON.



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