

U.S.-JAPAN DIET MEMBERS' LEAGUE

DECEMBER 9, 1993

• MR. NAKAYAMA . . . MR. ISHII . . . CHAIRWOMAN DOI . . . CHAIRMAN HARA . . .
MEMBERS OF THE DIET.

• THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY IN HOSTING
THIS WELCOME RECEPTION FOR ME.

• I AM HONORED TO BE IN JAPAN AS THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR AND TO
HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

• I APPRECIATE YOUR GROUP'S LONG-STANDING SUPPORT FOR STRONG,
POSITIVE TIES WITH MY COUNTRY. YOUR EFFORTS ARE NEEDED: THE CONTINUED
SUCCESS OF THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP REQUIRES, AND DESERVES, CLOSE
ATTENTION FROM THE TOP LEVELS OF POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN BOTH OF OUR
COUNTRIES.

• AS PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS SAID, "THERE IS NO MORE IMPORTANT
BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IN THE WORLD THAN THAT WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND JAPAN." THIS IS ONE OF THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS
STORIES OF THE PAST HALF CENTURY. WE OWE A GREAT DEAL TO THE PEOPLE AND
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN FOR THE TREMENDOUS SUCCESS OF THIS RELATIONSHIP.

• OUR TWO NATIONS NOW SHARE A FUNDAMENTAL INTERDEPENDENCE, AND OUR
DESTINIES HAVE BECOME INSEPARABLE.

• DESPITE THE BARRIERS OF GEOGRAPHY, CULTURE AND LANGUAGE, OUR TWO
NATIONS HAVE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON:

- WE ARE FREE AND OPEN SOCIETIES;

- WE HAVE DEMOCRATICALLY-ELECTED GOVERNMENTS;

- WE ARE PROSPEROUS, MARKET-ORIENTED ECONOMIES; AND

- WE ARE COMMITTED TO INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO SECURE A PEACEFUL WORLD.

- IN NEITHER OF OUR COUNTRIES IS THERE ANY SERIOUS QUESTION OR PARTISAN DISAGREEMENT ABOUT THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE AND SOLIDITY OF OUR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONSHIP. BOTH OF US UNDERSTAND THE MUTUAL BENEFITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT ARE INVOLVED.

- DURING MY TIME HERE AS AMBASSADOR, I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF JAPAN TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONSHIP AND PROMOTE COOPERATION ACROSS THE SPECTRUM OF BILATERAL, REGIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES.

- RIGHT NOW, OF COURSE, THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN FACE THE CHALLENGE OF RESOLVING SOME DIFFICULT ECONOMIC ISSUES. I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT OUR TWO NATIONS OUR DISCUSS THESE ISSUES WITH MUTUAL RESPECT AND DIGNITY.

- INEVITABLY, OUR TWO NATIONS WILL HAVE SOME DIFFERENCES. WE ARE SOVEREIGN NATIONS, AND EACH OF US HAS OUR OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS. SOMETIMES THERE WILL BE TENSIONS AND DISAGREEMENTS, AND WE DO NO GOOD BY IGNORING THEM. BUT WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO RESOLVE THESE DISAGREEMENTS — AND TO RISE ABOVE THEM WHEN OUR COMMON INTERESTS TAKE PRIORITY, AS THEY MOST OFTEN WILL.

- IF THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN CAN WORK TOGETHER, THEN PRACTICALLY EVERY PROBLEM IN THE WORLD WILL GET BETTER OR, AT LEAST, BECOME MUCH EASIER TO HANDLE. BUT IF OUR RELATIONSHIP DETERIORATES, THEN EVERY ONE OF THESE PROBLEMS WILL GET WORSE OR BECOME THAT MUCH HARDER, EVEN IMPOSSIBLE, TO SOLVE.

- IF WE HOPE TO BUILD A NEW WORLD, WITH A REAL PROMISE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND PROSPERITY, THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN WILL DEPEND ON EACH OTHER'S BEST EFFORTS.

- WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY TO OURSELVES, BUT TO THE WORLD, TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP CONTINUES TO THRIVE.

- I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME.

THANK YOU.



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