

SPEECH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE STUDIES
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THANK YOU, GENERAL MUROMOTO, FOR THAT VERY GRACIOUS INTRODUCTION. I AM DELIGHTED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS SUCH A DISTINGUISHED CLASS FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEFENSE STUDIES.

MANY OF YOU IN THIS ROOM WILL ONE DAY BE CHARGED WITH THE SOLEMN RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING CRITICAL DECISIONS TO PROTECT THE SECURITY OF YOUR NATION. AT THIS IMPORTANT TIME IN YOUR CAREERS, I CONSIDER IT A RARE OPPORTUNITY AS AMBASSADOR TO BE ABLE TO OFFER YOU MY OWN THOUGHTS ON THE FUTURE COURSE OF OUR SECURITY PARTNERSHIP.

I AM REMINDED THAT MY AUDIENCE TODAY IS NOT ONLY JAPANESE. COLONEL RIDER, COMMANDER BOSTER AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL SMITH — YOUR AMERICAN CLASSMATES — ARE PERSONAL EXAMPLES OF THE CLOSENESS OF OUR TWO MILITARIES. THEY ARE GAINING UNIQUE EXPERTISE AND INSIGHT WHICH WILL HELP ADVANCE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS.

I WAS ASKED TO SPEAK THIS AFTERNOON ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY PARTNERSHIP.

THE ENDURING STRENGTH OF OUR ALLIANCE PROVIDES ESSENTIAL CONTINUITY DURING A TIME OF MOMENTOUS CHANGE IN THE WORLD.

IT HAS BEEN LESS THAN THREE YEARS SINCE THE SOVIET UNION CEASED TO EXIST — AND, WITH IT, THE BIPOLAR WORLD OF THE COLD WAR. THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS.

INCREASINGLY, HOWEVER, WE MUST TURN OUR ATTENTION TO A WHOLE ARRAY OF NEW INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGES. THESE INCLUDE:

- CONTROLLING ARMS PROLIFERATION,
- BUILDING REGIONAL STABILITY,
- PREVENTING ETHNIC AND NATIONALIST CONFLICT, AND

- PROMOTING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

ASIA OCCUPIES A UNIQUE PLACE IN THIS EMERGING NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER. ON THE ONE HAND, IT IS TODAY POSSIBLY THE MOST STABLE REGION IN THE WORLD. THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT MILITARY CONFLICTS, AND MOST OF THE COUNTRIES HERE ARE EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY AT AN UNPRECEDENTED PACE.

AND, YET, THE NORTH KOREAN CRISIS HAS CAST A PALL ON THE SECURITY OUTLOOK NOT JUST IN NORTHEAST ASIA, BUT THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE REGION. IT REMINDS ALL OF US OF THE CONTINUING POTENTIAL FOR INSTABILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC.

NORTH KOREA'S REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO MEANINGFUL INTERNATIONAL INSPECTION OF ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES HAS LED TO A DANGEROUS IMPASSE. THE UNITED STATES AND THE REST OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAVE SHOWN GREAT PATIENCE AND RESTRAINT IN DEALING WITH THE NORTH KOREAN REGIME.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, CHINA AND OTHERS THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS TO DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE.

NORTH KOREA IS THE MOST PROMINENT AND IMMEDIATE THREAT IN THE REGION. WE MUST ALSO BE AWARE OF OTHER POTENTIAL THREATS. THERE IS MUCH TROUBLESOME "HISTORY" IN THIS REGION — AND A LINGERING LEGACY OF TENSION AND CONFLICT POSES ITS OWN RISKS TO REGIONAL SECURITY.

BUT, FOR ALMOST FIFTY YEARS, ONE RELATIONSHIP IN THIS REGION HAS REMAINED CONSTANT AND STRONG. THIS IS THE SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

OUR ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN IS THE FOUNDATION OF STABILITY THROUGHOUT THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION. EVERY COUNTRY HERE — WITH THE EXCEPTION OF NORTH KOREA — HAS SAID THAT THEY WANT US TO STAY. AND THAT IS WHAT WE INTEND TO DO.

IN TWO WEEKS, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BILL PERRY WILL BE HERE TO MEET WITH YOUR TOP LEADERS. HIS VISIT WILL FOLLOW UP A HISTORIC MEETING IN TOKYO LAST MONTH

WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HATA, DEFENSE MINISTER AICHI, SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER, AND UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WISNER.

IT WAS THE FIRST SESSION SINCE THE COLD WAR OF THE SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "TWO-PLUS-TWO." AS SOMEONE WHO WAS IN THE ROOM, I CAN TELL YOU THAT THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WAS INFORMED BY A TRUE SPIRIT OF TRUST AND COOPERATION.

IN WORD AND DEED, AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO THIS SPECIAL ALLIANCE REMAINS FIRM. THE CHANGED SITUATION IN EUROPE HAS ALLOWED US TO REDUCE OUR FORCE LEVELS THERE. BUT THE SECURITY ENVIRONMENT IN ASIA IS DIFFERENT.

WE PLAN TO MAINTAIN AMERICAN MILITARY CAPABILITIES IN THE PACIFIC AT CURRENT LEVELS. WE WILL ADJUST OUR FORCES ONLY TO MATCH CHANGES IN THE REGIONAL SECURITY SITUATION.

THE PROCESS OF REGIONAL COOPERATION IN ASIA REMAINS MUCH LESS ADVANCED THAN IN EUROPE. THERE IS NO EUROPEAN UNION . . . NO NATO . . . NO CSCE, REFLECTING THE COMPLEX HISTORY OF THIS REGION WITH ITS ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

WE ARE BEGINNING TO BUILD SUCH INSTITUTIONS THROUGH APEC, THE ASEAN POST-MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AND THE NORTHEAST ASIA SECURITY DIALOGUE. BUT THIS PROCESS WILL TAKE TIME. FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, THE AMERICAN PRESENCE — BASED ON THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY — WILL REMAIN FUNDAMENTAL TO THE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF THE REGION.

THE COOPERATION PROVIDED BY JAPAN AND OUR OTHER ALLIES IN THE REGION— ESPECIALLY IN THE FORM OF HOST NATION SUPPORT — IS ESSENTIAL FOR CONTINUING AMERICA'S FORWARD-DEPLOYED STRATEGY. JAPAN'S GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE HELPED DEMONSTRATE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC THAT OUR ALLIANCE IS TRULY AN EQUAL PARTNERSHIP.

THE CURRENT SPECIAL MEASURES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN EXPIRES IN MARCH OF 1996. WE LOOK FORWARD TO BEGINNING DISCUSSIONS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT TO FORGE A NEW AGREEMENT THAT WILL ENABLE OUR ALLIANCE TO FLOURISH INTO THE 21ST CENTURY.

ONE OF THE GREAT VIRTUES OF OUR ALLIANCE HAS ALWAYS BEEN ITS ADAPTABILITY. THE FACT THAT IT IS AS RELEVANT TODAY AS IT WAS IN THE MIDST OF THE COLD WAR SHOWS THE DEEP INTERDEPENDENCE OF AMERICAN AND JAPANESE NATIONAL INTERESTS.

TODAY, NEW OPPORTUNITIES EXIST TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN OUR ALLIANCE.

FOR EXAMPLE, WE HOPE TO CONCLUDE IN THE NOT-TOO-DISTANT FUTURE A BILATERAL ACQUISITION AND CROSS SERVICING AGREEMENT. THIS WOULD GREATLY SIMPLIFY THE EXCHANGE OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES BETWEEN OUR MILITARIES; ALLOW FOR GREATER DAY-TO-DAY COOPERATION; AND, IN THE LONG RUN, ENHANCE OUR JOINT CAPACITY TO DEFEND JAPAN THROUGH GREATER "INTEROPERABILITY" BETWEEN OUR FORCES.

MILITARY TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION IS ANOTHER AREA WITH GREAT POTENTIAL FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT. AS DEFENSE BUDGETS IN BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN ARE SQUEEZED, IT MAKES GOOD SENSE FOR US TO SHARE THE HIGH COSTS OF DEVELOPING NEW DEFENSE TECHNOLOGIES. ONE EXAMPLE IS "THEATER MISSILE DEFENSE" (OR TMD) — WHERE OUR TWO COUNTRIES COULD WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE DEFENSE SYSTEM AGAINST THE THREAT OF MISSILES.

MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO WELCOMED JAPAN'S HISTORIC STEPS TOWARD A GREATER ROLE IN THE MAINTENANCE OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY. YOU HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE PROUD OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PEACE THAT YOU MADE IN CAMBODIA AND ARE NOW MAKING IN MOZAMBIQUE.

INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING OFFERS AN ENTIRELY NEW FIELD FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR FORCES. THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO WORK WITH YOU IN FUTURE OPERATIONS. WE ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN JAPAN OCCUPIES A PERMANENT SEAT ON THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL.

IN EACH OF THESE AREAS, WE ARE SEEKING TO ADAPT OUR SECURITY PARTNERSHIP SO WE ARE FULLY PREPARED TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES AND RESPOND TO CHANGING CONDITIONS.

AS YOU KNOW, THE DIPLOMATIC AND SECURITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES IS ONE OF THE GREAT SUCCESS STORIES OF THE LATTER HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

I BELIEVE THE ENDURING STRENGTH OF OUR JOINT SECURITY EFFORTS GIVES US GOOD CAUSE TO BE OPTIMISTIC AND POSITIVE ABOUT WHERE JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES ARE HEADED. MY HOPE IS THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER IN THIS SAME SPIRIT AS WE BUILD AN EVEN STRONGER, MORE DURABLE ALLIANCE BETWEEN OUR TWO GREAT NATIONS.



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