

U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY RELATIONS
THE RATIONALE FOR POST-COLD WAR ENGAGEMENT
SEPTEMBER 29, 1995

THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME HERE TONIGHT. IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE PART OF THIS DISTINGUISHED GATHERING, AND I THANK AMBASSADOR CLARK AND AMBASSADOR IMAI FOR THE INVITATION.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A FEW REMARKS ABOUT THE CRUCIAL US-JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP AND THEN PERHAPS WE CAN HAVE A DISCUSSION. BUT, BEFORE I DO, I WANT TO MENTION HOW PLEASED I AM TO SEE SO MANY OLD FRIENDS HERE FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF MIRV'S, SLBM'S, SLCM'S, MARV'S, CRUISES, CEP'S, COUNTING RULES, SS 9'S, 18'S, AND ALL OF THE WONDERFUL ARCANIA THAT DOMINATED OUR LIVES FOR ALL OF THOSE YEARS. I THOUGHT IT WAS BEHIND US AND I WOULD NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN. BUT HERE YOU ARE, AND, HAVING BEEN REARED BY A MINISTER WHO PREACHED ABOUT ETERNAL LIFE, IT IS REASSURING TO SEE IT IN PRACTICE.

I AM SURE NO ONE HERE DOUBTS THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF THE U.S.-JAPAN ALLIANCE. IN A RECENT SPEECH IN TOKYO, JOE NYE COMMENTED ON THE RESULTS OF THE YEAR LONG REVIEW OF OUR SECURITY RELATIONSHIP BY U.S. AND JAPANESE AUTHORITIES:

"WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE JAPANESE WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE FOUNDATION OF OUR ALLIANCE IS FIRM. IT IS BUILT FIRST AND FOREMOST ON ENDURING NATIONAL INTERESTS, WHICH TRANSCEND THE HISTORIC ORIGINS OF OUR PARTNERSHIP. WE SHARE COMPELLING INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC THAT DEMAND OUR CLOSE COOPERATION: MAINTAINING PEACE AND STABILITY, PREVENTING REGIONAL CONFLICTS, GUARANTEEING OPEN AND SECURE SEA LANES, AND PROMOTING DEMOCRATIZATION, HUMAN RIGHTS AND MARKET-ORIENTED ECONOMIES."

"WE HAVE REAFFIRMED THAT OURS IS A PARTNERSHIP DRAWING TOGETHER THE RESOURCES AND RESOLVE OF TWO POWERFUL DEMOCRACIES, THE WORLD'S TWO LARGEST ECONOMIES, IN A COMMON MISSION WITH COMMON GOALS. WE

PROVIDE A BULWARK AGAINST POTENTIAL THREATS, REASSURING OUR ALLIES AND DEFENDING OUR INTERESTS. OUR PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES THE ESSENTIAL STRUCTURE THAT UNDERPINS PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE REGION."

YESTERDAY IN NEW YORK, AT A REAL 2 PLUS 2 MEETING, OUR TWO NATIONS REAFFIRMED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RELATIONSHIP, AGREED ON A FIVE YEAR EXTENSION OF THE CRUCIAL SPECIAL MEASURES AGREEMENT WHICH PROVIDES THE SUPPORT AND RULES FOR THE PRESENCE OF OUR AMERICAN FORCES HERE, AND AGREED THAT THE SUMMIT MEETING TO BE HELD IN TOKYO THIS FALL WILL REAFFIRM THESE PRINCIPLES AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS.

WHILE OUR TRADE RELATIONS HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT, OVER THESE PAST TWO YEARS WE HAVE MADE VERY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

DURING THESE LAST TWO YEARS THE U.S. AND JAPAN HAVE REACHED 16 SEPARATE TRADE AGREEMENTS.

THE RANGE AND SCOPE OF THESE UNDERSTANDINGS IS TRULY REMARKABLE -- INCLUDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS - MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY - INSURANCE - GLASS - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY - FINANCIAL SERVICES - INVESTMENT POLICIES - AND FINALLY THE AUTO AGREEMENT.

IN ADDITION, WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENTS ON APPLES, CELLULAR PHONES, AND CONSTRUCTION WHILE AVOIDING SERIOUS DISPUTES AFFECTING AIR FREIGHT SERVICES AND THE REGISTRATION OF SOFTWARE.

IF WE SHOW THE SAME DETERMINATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE AGREEMENTS THAT WAS DEMONSTRATED IN REACHING THEM -- AND I KNOW WE WILL -- WE WILL HAVE ACHIEVED THE FRAMEWORK GOAL OF A HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT AND A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE ACCESS AND SALES OF FOREIGN COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS INTO THE JAPANESE MARKET.

OUR NATIONS HAVE TAKEN THESE IMPORTANT STEPS BECAUSE WE ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO A STRONG U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP AND TO A STRONG AND GROWING WORLD ECONOMY.

BY LATE L996, WE ESTIMATE THAT THE CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT WILL BE AT OR BELOW 2% OF JAPAN'S GDP, WHICH FULFILLS THEIR COMMITMENT TO BRING ABOUT A "HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT" REDUCTION OF THAT IMBALANCE. EXPORTS ARE RISING, NEW ACCESS TO JAPANESE MARKETS IS HELPING, ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE WE MUST CONTINUE TO SEEK FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT.

WHILE THIS PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE TRADE SECTOR, THE STRENGTH AND INTENSITY OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WAS SHOWN IN THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY AREAS AS WELL.

WE HAVE REAFFIRMED AND STRENGTHENED OUR SECURITY ALLIANCE. AS I HAVE MENTIONED, WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENTS ON CONTINUED HOST NATION SUPPORT FOR OUR ARMED FORCES, ON ACQUISITION AND CROSS SERVICING ARRANGEMENTS, AND ON FORCE CONSOLIDATION AND RESTRUCTURING ON OKINAWA. AND IN COOPERATION WITH SOUTH KOREA, WE HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH NORTH KOREA TO MOVE AWAY FROM NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

WE ARE COOPERATING ON A SPECTACULAR RANGE OF EFFORTS IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, THE ENVIRONMENT, NARCOTICS, ANTI TERRORISM, SCIENCE, AND DEVELOPMENT -- THE SO-CALLED COMMON AGENDA.

WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS ON STUDENT EXCHANGES.

WE ARE COOPERATING CLOSELY UNDER JAPAN'S LEADERSHIP TO PREPARE FOR WHAT WILL BE THE 3RD APEC LEADERS CONFERENCE IN OSAKA AND A BILATERAL PRESIDENTIAL-PRIME MINISTERIAL SUMMIT IN TOKYO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING.

WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AN INTENSIVE SERIES OF EVENTS COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE WAR - THE LAST AT PEARL HARBOR THIS LAST WEEK -- ALL OF THEM ENDING ON A POSITIVE FORWARD-LOOKING COOPERATIVE NOTE.

FINALLY, WE ARE COOPERATING ON A BROAD RANGE OF POLITICAL EFFORTS IN THE UN AND IN OTHER FORA AROUND THE WORLD.

MIKE MANSFIELD LIKED TO SAY THAT THE U.S.-JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP IS THE MOST IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD -- BAR NONE. THE LEADERS OF BOTH NATIONS ARE SHOWING THAT WE BELIEVE THIS -- AND THAT IS GOOD NEWS FOR EVERYONE.

WHILE I BELIEVE THIS ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE IMPORTANT PROGRESS WE ARE MAKING, IT MUST ALSO BE SAID THAT THIS RELATIONSHIP REQUIRES A GREAT DEAL OF SENSITIVE ATTENTION. THE APPALLING RAPE OF A 12 YEAR OLD GIRL BY THREE AMERICAN MARINES SHOULD REMIND US OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT CAN OCCUR DESPITE THE BROAD AGREEMENT ABOUT THE INDISPENSABILITY OF OUR RELATIONSHIP AT THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENTAL LEVELS. ALTHOUGH DISTINCTLY IN THE MINORITY, VOICES ARE BEING HEARD TO TERMINATE OR DRAMATICALLY ALTER OUR RELATIONSHIP. THE TENSIONS BETWEEN THOSE PRACTICES ESSENTIAL FOR THE DISCHARGE OF OUR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE SECURITY TREATY, AND THE SENSITIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES WHERE OUR ARMED FORCES MUST OPERATE, CONTINUE TO DEMAND OUR CLOSEST ATTENTION.

WHILE WE HAVE MADE IMPORTANT PROGRESS ON THE TRADE FRONT, THE ENORMOUS TRADE DEFICITS REMAIN STUBBORNLY HIGH.

ANOTHER CONCERN INTRUDING ON ALL OF THIS, ARE THE BUDGETARY DEMANDS THAT WOULD DRASTICALLY REDUCE OUR NATION'S CAPACITY TO PROPERLY HANDLE THE BROAD RANGE OF DIPLOMATIC RESPONSIBILITIES IN JAPAN, AND, FOR THAT MATTER, AROUND THE WORLD. WE HAVE JUST CLOSED OUR ONLY USIS OFFICE IN THE MAGNIFICENT CULTURAL CENTER IN KYOTO. WE NARROWLY AVOIDED THE CLOSURE OF OUR SAPPORO CONSULATE, ALTHOUGH THE HOKKAIDO ECONOMY IS LARGER THAN AUSTRALIA'S.(?) FURTHER PROPOSED DRACONIAN CUTS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER BUDGETS COULD HAVE A PROFOUNDLY ADVERSE IMPACT ON OUR CAPACITY TO MAINTAIN THE LEVEL OF EFFORT THIS CRUCIAL ASSIGNMENT REQUIRES. THERE IS A NO-NOTHING QUALITY TO SOME OF THESE PROPOSALS AND IN SOME OF THE STATEMENTS EMANATING FROM WASHINGTON THAT SHOULD CONCERN ALL AMERICANS.

PRESIDENT BUSH, WHO WAS IN JAPAN RECENTLY , WARNED OF A RETURN TO AMERICAN ISOLATIONISM. HIS WORDS SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. DESPITE THE CONCERNS THAT I HAVE JUST EXPRESSED, I WANT TO SAY TO OUR JAPANESE FRIENDS HERE TODAY, THAT THERE IS A DEEP AND BROAD BI-PARTISAN AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO THE IMPORTANCE OF JAPAN THAT WILL DRIVE OUR POLICIES TOWARD JAPAN FOR YEARS TO COME.



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