

AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF NAGOYA &
AMERICA-JAPAN SOCIETY

LUNCHEON

March 22, 1996

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR INVITING ME TODAY. MY SPECIAL THANKS TO CARL MALZ, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF NAGOYA, AND CHAIRMAN HIDEO KAMIO OF THE NAGOYA AMERICA/JAPAN SOCIETY, FOR ARRANGING THIS EVENT, AND FOR ALL THAT YOU DO ON BEHALF OF U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS.

THIS IS MY FIRST TRIP BACK TO NAGOYA IN SOME TIME -- I JUST DON'T GET THE CHANCE OFTEN ENOUGH. HOWEVER, MY WIFE, JOAN, HAS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THE REGION, ESPECIALLY ITS ARTS AND CULTURE. JOAN HAS COME HERE SO OFTEN THAT SOME OF OUR JAPANESE FRIENDS TELL HER SHE SPEAKS ENGLISH WITH A NAGOYA ACCENT.

THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE, I RE-OPENED THE NAGOYA CONSULATE. I FEEL THAT IT HAS BEEN A GOOD INVESTMENT FOR MY GOVERNMENT, AND I HOPE YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY. THIS REGION HAS AN ECONOMY AS LARGE AS KOREA'S, AND U.S. INTERESTS ARE MANY -- INCLUDING OUR INTEREST IN YOUR PRESENCE HERE. PLEASE KEEP OUR PRINCIPAL OFFICER, FRANK STANLEY, AND COMMERCIAL CONSUL HENRY RICHMOND, ADVISED AS TO HOW SUCCESSFUL WE ARE IN SERVING THOSE INTERESTS.

PRESIDENT CLINTON WILL ARRIVE IN JAPAN IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. HE AND PRIME HASHIMOTO WILL REAFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY ALLIANCE -- AN ALLIANCE WE SHARE WITH AN UNWAVERING FRIEND, WHO IS DEVOTED TO PROMOTING PEACE AND PROSPERITY AS WE ARE.

OF COURSE, OUR LEADERS WILL ALSO WORK ON OUR IMPORTANT ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS, WHICH ARE ON A POSITIVE TRACK BUT WITH PLENTY OF ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO IN PREPARATION FOR OUR LEADERS' DISCUSSIONS.

IT'S WITH THAT IN MIND THAT I GLADLY ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION TO GET TOGETHER WITH YOU AGAIN. I ENJOYED HEARING WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY WHEN WE MET

IN TOKYO LAST FALL. WHAT YOU ARE THINKING AND DOING IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE YOU ARE DOING IT IN THE INDUSTRIAL HEARTLAND OF JAPAN -- AND I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM MORE OF YOU TODAY

FIVE YEARS AND 100 MEMBERS SINCE ITS ORIGINS, THE ABCN HAS BECOME NOT ONLY THE VOICE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS HERE IN CENTRAL JAPAN, BUT I HEAR IT'S THE THIRD LARGEST AMERICAN BUSINESS ORGANIZATION IN THE COUNTRY.

I APPLAUD THE LEADERSHIP OF PEOPLE LIKE CARL MALZ AND AL MISE, WHO CARRIED THE TORCH FOR SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE. FOR OUR PART, I HOPE YOU HAVE SEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS A STRONG PARTNER IN YOUR EFFORTS TO DO BUSINESS HERE.

I ALSO APPLAUD ABCN'S EFFORTS IN WORKING WITH CHAIRMAN KAMIO AND THE AMERICA-JAPAN SOCIETY HERE IN NAGOYA, AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS BEEN BRINGING TOGETHER JAPANESE AND AMERICANS FOR THE PAST FIFTY YEARS. GRASS ROOTS ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THIS ARE IMPORTANT BECAUSE, AS JOAN NOTED LAST NOVEMBER AT THE SOCIETY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, YOU ARE THE PEOPLE WITH THE INTEREST AND DESIRE TO KEEP THE RELATIONSHIP STRONG. YOUR CREATIVITY, DILIGENCE, AND GOODWILL ARE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS. I SALUTE YOU.

BEFORE TAKING YOUR QUESTIONS, I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE PRESENCE OF THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE IN NAGOYA, KEN CROCKETT. AS YOU KNOW, THE WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE IS ONE OF THE FEW STATE OFFICES LOCATED OUTSIDE OF TOKYO AND A MAJOR REASON FOR THAT IS, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, SENATOR ROCKEFELLER'S STRONG TIES TO THE REGION. WELCOME.

THANK YOU. I WOULD BE GLAD TO ANSWER SOME OF YOUR QUESTIONS NOW, OR HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.



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