

(JAN.5,1995 LATEST VERSION/USIS)

**U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS: TOWARD GREATER MUTUAL  
UNDERSTANDING  
(SEATTLE SPEECH, JANUARY 13, 1994)**

**THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO BE HERE  
TONIGHT TO SPEAK ABOUT MY FAVORITE TOPIC: THE  
NEED TO GREATLY STRENGTHEN MUTUAL  
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNITED  
STATES.**

**LET ME EXPLAIN WHY I AM SO COMMITTED TO THIS  
CAUSE. ONE OF THE GREAT SUCCESS STORIES IN  
MODERN POLITICAL HISTORY IS THE STORY OF HOW  
OUR TWO NATIONS, WHO FOUGHT EACH OTHER IN SOME  
OF THE MOST BITTER FIGHTING IN WORLD HISTORY,  
NOW HAVE SHAPED AN ENDURING ALLIANCE. TODAY,  
WE ARE PARTNERS IN DEFENDING THE PEACE AND  
SECURITY OF THE REGION; IN SUPPORTING  
DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IN  
ASIA AND ELSEWHERE; IN STEMMING THE  
PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION;  
IN PRESERVING THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT; IN  
IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR CITIZENS; IN  
ADDRESSING OVER-POPULATION; AND IN ADVANCING  
THE FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE.**

*1/6/95 3:30pm  
After Mochizuki  
changes.*

HOW DID WE SUCCEED IN BUILDING THE COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP THAT WE HAVE TODAY? WE DID IT BY DEVELOPING THE HUMAN COMPONENT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. AS THE U.S. OCCUPATION WAS COMING TO A CLOSE, AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND ACADEMICS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PACIFIC HAD THE FORESIGHT TO PUT IN PLACE A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN THE HUMAN TIES UNDERPINNING THE U.S. - JAPAN RELATIONSHIP.

SINCE THOSE DAYS, OUR RELATIONSHIP HAS GROWN. TODAY, WE ARE MORE INTERDEPENDENT THAN EVER. SOME MIGHT ARGUE THAT THIS MEANS THAT WE NO LONGER NEED TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, BUT I DISAGREE. IN FACT, PRECISELY BECAUSE OF OUR INTERDEPENDENCE, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS ALL THE MORE URGENT THAT WE STRIVE TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. ((AS YOU KNOW, PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRIME MINISTER MURAYAMA MET THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON D.C. AND OUR GOVERNMENTS AGREED TO JOINTLY DEVELOP INITIATIVES TO MEET THIS GOAL.))

WITH THE END OF THE POSTWAR ORDER, I SENSE SOME UNCERTAINTY ON BOTH SIDES AS TO WHAT WE MEAN TO EACH OTHER AND WHERE WE ARE GOING. WE NEED TO ADDRESS THIS HEAD ON, BY MAKING AMERICA

MORE UNDERSTANDABLE TO JAPAN, AND JAPAN MORE ACCESSIBLE TO AMERICANS. TO DO SO, WE NEED TO TEND TO THE HUMAN SIDE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP ONCE AGAIN AND IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT I WANT TO TALK ABOUT U.S.-JAPAN EDUCATIONAL TIES TONIGHT.

SEATTLE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ARE IDEAL FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS DISCUSSION -- WASHINGTON HAS DEEP TIES WITH THE ASIAN-PACIFIC REGION AND WITH JAPAN IN PARTICULAR AND IN MANY WAYS LEADS THE NATION WHEN IT COMES TO OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPAN. IT IS NO ACCIDENT THAT SEATTLE HOSTED THE HISTORIC FIRST MEETING OF APEC LEADERS.

WASHINGTON IS ONE OF ONLY A FEW STATES RUNNING A NET TRADE SURPLUS WITH JAPAN. OUR LARGEST EXPORTER TO JAPAN, BOEING, AND MANY OTHER BUSINESSES HERE HAVE A STRONG COMMERCIAL CONNECTION WITH JAPAN. JAPAN IS THE LARGEST MARKET FOR WASHINGTON LOGS AND LUMBER, SEAFOOD, AND A HOST OF OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THIS MONTH, WASHINGTON STATE MADE HISTORY IN OUR AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH JAPAN. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, AMERICAN APPLES -- WASHINGTON APPLES -- ARE ON THE SHELVES IN STORES IN JAPAN.

IT TOOK TWENTY-FOUR YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS TO GET THESE APPLES IN, BUT WE DID IT AND IT WILL MEAN FUTURE SALES OF UP TO \$100 MILLION A YEAR.

BUT IT IS NOT JUST ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT THAT WASHINGTON STANDS OUT. SOME OF THE BEST EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIP IN THE NATION ON JAPAN IS TO BE FOUND HERE AND I AM PLEASED TO SEE MANY OF OUR NATION'S TOP EXPERTS IN THE AUDIENCE. KEN PYLE, THE CHAIR OF THE JAPAN-U.S. FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION; DON HELLMANN; DAN HENDERSON, WHO HAS PUT TOGETHER ONE OF AMERICA'S FOREMOST CENTERS FOR THE STUDY OF JAPANESE LAW; GRIFFITH WAY, WHO MAY HAVE THE RECORD TONIGHT FOR LENGTH OF SERVICE ON U.S.-JAPAN AFFAIRS; JIM DOANE, THE PRESIDENT OF THIS JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY; AND SUSAN MOCHIZUKI, WHO HAS DONE A WONDERFUL JOB IN PUTTING THIS PROGRAM TOGETHER TONIGHT. AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT MORE OF YOU ARE HERE TONIGHT.

THIS STATE IS AT THE FOREFRONT WHEN IT COMES TO PREPARING OUR YOUTH FOR THE PACIFIC CENTURY. WASHINGTON HAS SOME OF THE BEST JAPANESE LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTRY. THERE ARE MORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS STUDYING JAPANESE HERE THAN IN ANY OTHER STATE OUTSIDE

OF HAWAII. YOU HAVE JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES AVAILABLE IN OVER 200 WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOLS, REACHING THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS. AND THERE ARE MORE ENROLLED IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL. ALL OF THIS IS GREAT NEWS, AND I HOPE THAT OTHER STATES AROUND THE NATION WILL TAKE THEIR CUE FROM WASHINGTON AND EXPAND THEIR JAPANESE LANGUAGE PROGRAMS.

THOUGH TONIGHT I WANT TO CONCENTRATE ON OUR EDUCATIONAL TIES WITH JAPAN, THIS CONCERN IS PART OF A MORE BROADLY RECOGNIZED NEED WITHIN THE ASIA-PACIFIC COMMUNITY TO INCREASE UNDERSTANDING AMONG US. HERE AGAIN, THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IS IN THE LEAD. AT LAST NOVEMBER'S APEC SUMMIT IN JAKARTA, THE 17 MEMBER COUNTRIES AGREED TO LAUNCH AN APEC EDUCATION FOUNDATION TO SERVE AS AN UMBRELLA FOR A HOST OF REGIONAL EDUCATION INITIATIVES. THESE INCLUDE GOVERNMENT-DIRECTED INITIATIVES, BUT ALSO ACADEMIC ONES LIKE THE APEC STUDY CENTERS WHICH WILL ENCOURAGE ADVANCED RESEARCH BY REGIONAL SCHOLARS. DON HELLMANN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON IS SPEARHEADING THIS EFFORT ON THE U.S. SIDE AND HE HAS BEEN NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE APEC STUDY CENTER CONSORTIUM. OF THE 12

INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING BELONGING TO THIS CONSORTIUM, TWO ARE FROM WASHINGTON -- THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON AND WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY.

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LET'S START OUT WITH SOME GOOD NEWS. U.S. COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ATTRACT MORE ASIAN-PACIFIC STUDENTS BY FAR THAN ANY OTHER NATION -- IN FACT THERE ARE OVER 250,000 ASIAN-PACIFIC STUDENTS IN THE U.S. THIS YEAR. ABOUT 47,000 OF THEM ARE FROM JAPAN. THEY COME HERE TO LEARN BUT THEY ALSO HELP TEACH US ABOUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR CULTURE.

UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE ONLY ABOUT 6,000 AMERICAN STUDENTS STUDYING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND ONLY ABOUT 1,700 AMERICANS STUDYING IN JAPAN. RECENTLY THE NUMBER GOING TO JAPAN HAS BEEN SHRINKING. I BELIEVE THIS IS AN UNHEALTHY IMBALANCE. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP REQUIRES A MUCH LARGER AND BROADER PRESENCE OF U.S. STUDENTS IN JAPAN.

IF, AS I BELIEVE, THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP IS THE MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE ON



EARTH, SURELY WE NEED TO UNDERPIN IT WITH THE DEEPENING HUMAN RELATIONSHIP THAT FLOWS FROM EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL, AND OTHER EXPERIENCES THAT LEAD TO A BROADER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR TWO VERY DIFFERENT CULTURES.

I AM CONVINCED THAT THE BEST WAY FOR US TO DO THIS AND AT THE SAME TIME TO READY THE NEXT GENERATION FOR THE PACIFIC CENTURY IS BY GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE JAPAN FIRST HAND.

THE EXAMPLES OF THE JAPAN EXPERTS HERE THIS EVENING PROVE THE VALUE OF THESE EARLY LEARNING EXPERIENCES. DAN HENDERSON AND GRIFFITH WAY, BOTH CAME TO JAPAN AS YOUNG MEN DURING THE OCCUPATION; KEN PYLE FIRST WENT TO JAPAN ON A FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP IN THE EARLY SIXTIES. SUSAN MOCHIZUKI STUDIED IN JAPAN UNDER GRANTS FROM THE ROCKEFELLERS AND THE SUMITOMO CORPORATION. AND JIM DOANE WAS ONCE A STUDENT AT JAPAN'S PRESTIGIOUS WASEDA UNIVERSITY. AND I AM SURE THAT MANY MORE OF YOU IN THIS AUDIENCE WOULD SUPPORT MY CASE.

IN FACT, NOTHING IN THE PAST FIFTY YEARS HAS BEEN MORE VITAL TO THE LASTING SUCCESS OF OUR

PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPAN THAN THE COMMITMENT OF INDIVIDUALS LIKE THESE.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN ALSO HAS BEGUN TO REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING MORE YOUNG AMERICANS OVER TO JAPAN:

-- THE MURAYAMA GOVERNMENT RECENTLY PROPOSED A 33.5 PERCENT INCREASE IN ITS FISCAL YEAR 1995 BUDGET FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES;

-- JAPAN'S MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ALSO IS HELPING TO FUND A MAJOR NEW INITIATIVE TO ESTABLISH JUNIOR YEAR ABROAD PROGRAMS AT JAPANESE NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES. UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON STUDENTS ARE GETTING MINISTRY SUPPORT TO ATTEND THE RECENTLY STARTED PROGRAM AT KYUSHU UNIVERSITY;

-- THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM IN JAPAN, FUNDED LARGELY BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND WITH GENEROUS INPUT FROM JAPANESE FULBRIGHT ALUMNI, PROVIDES GRANTS FOR AMERICAN STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS;

-- AND ABOUT 2000 YOUNG AMERICANS EACH YEAR STILL GO TO JAPAN UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF



## **JAPAN'S "JET" PROGRAM TO TEACH ENGLISH IN JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOLS.**

**I WANT TO TAKE A MINUTE TO TALK ABOUT THE TREMENDOUS SUCCESS OF THE "JET" PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM IS ONLY EIGHT YEARS OLD, YET THROUGH IT, OVER TEN THOUSAND YOUNG AMERICANS, AS WELL AS YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GO OVER TO JAPAN TO TEACH, IN EVERY JAPANESE PREFECTURE. MANY STUDENTS NOW ENROLLED IN JAPAN-RELATED GRADUATE PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT AMERICA -- INCLUDING THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON -- ARE FORMER "JET" PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.**

**ALTHOUGH WE APPLAUD THESE EFFORTS, THERE ARE ALSO SOME VERY SERIOUS IMPEDIMENTS IN JAPAN TO INCREASING THE PRESENCE OF U.S. STUDENTS AND FACULTY IN JAPAN. TO OVERCOME THESE IMPEDIMENTS WILL REQUIRE SOME BASIC REGULATORY CHANGES IN JAPAN.**

**A RECENT JOINT STUDY BY U.S. AND JAPANESE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS FROM WIDELY-RESPECTED ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING THE U.S.-JAPAN FOUNDATION, THE ASIA FOUNDATION, THE JAPAN CENTER FOR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP, THE FULBRIGHT**

COMMISSION AND OTHERS IDENTIFIED MANY SERIOUS IMPEDIMENTS TO INCREASING THE NUMBER OF U.S. STUDENTS, LECTURERS AND OTHERS IN JAPAN -- RESTRICTIONS THAT ARE NOT FOUND IN THE U.S.

FOR EXAMPLE:

(1) NO AMERICAN STUDENT -- OR OTHER FOREIGN STUDENT, FOR THAT MATTER, RECEIVES A VISA TO STUDY IN JAPAN WITHOUT A PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUARANTEE FROM A JAPANESE SPONSOR;

(2) VIRTUALLY ALL OF OUR NON-PROFIT EXCHANGE ORGANIZATIONS ARE UNABLE TO RECEIVE JAPANESE TAX EXEMPT STATUS DESPITE YEARS OF FRUSTRATING EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY. BECAUSE OF THIS BUREAUCRATIC IMPEDIMENT, CONTRIBUTIONS TO THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE;

(3) WITHOUT SOLID LEGAL STATUS IN JAPAN, THESE SAME ORGANIZATIONS CANNOT SERVE AS FINANCIAL GUARANTORS FOR PROSPECTIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS AND FACE NUMEROUS VISA DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH STAFF AND PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS;

(4) OUR STUDENTS ATTENDING U.S. BRANCH CAMPUSES IN JAPAN OR AT WELL-ESTABLISHED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE STANFORD JAPAN CENTER IN KYOTO CANNOT RECEIVE THE STANDARD STUDENT VISA. THE WORK OF STUDENTS ATTENDING THESE SCHOOLS IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN AND THE STUDENTS ARE NOT ACCORDED STANDARD BENEFITS, LIKE RAIL PASSES, AVAILABLE TO OTHER STUDENTS.

(5) ALTHOUGH THIS IS BEGINNING TO CHANGE, JAPAN'S NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES HAVE VERY FEW PROGRAMS IN PLACE THAT ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF AMERICAN STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS AND AS A RESULT, THERE ARE VERY FEW AMERICANS ENROLLED IN JAPAN'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOLS.

(6) WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS TEACHING AT JAPANESE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, THE NUMBERS ARE EVEN MORE STARK. JAPAN'S 98 NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES EMPLOY ABOUT 37,000 FACULTY MEMBERS, ALMOST ALL OF WHOM HAVE FULL TIME STATUS. YET, WE HAVE HEARD OF FEWER THAN TEN AMERICAN PROFESSORS WITH SUCH PERMANENT STATUS. EVEN THE NUMBER OF NON-PERMANENT ENGLISH TEACHERS ON ONE YEAR

CONTRACTS IS LOW AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES. THE FIGURES ARE ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER FOR AMERICANS TEACHING AT JAPAN'S PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

(7) SYMPTOMATIC OF JAPAN'S OUT-OF-DATE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES IS THE TREATMENT OF SAM SHEPHERD, A FORMER MEMBER OF THIS SOCIETY, WHO LAST YEAR WENT OVER TO JAPAN TO HEAD THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM THERE. AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF WRANGLING, HE STILL WAS ACCORDED ONLY A SINGLE ENTRY, ONE YEAR VISA AS A "BUSINESS MANAGER, INVESTOR."

WE ARE URGING THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED TO FIND WAYS TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS. IT HAS BEEN SLOW AND FRUSTRATING BUT WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE PROGRESS.

FOR OUR PART, WE TOO NEED TO DO MORE IF WE ARE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF YOUNG AMERICANS GOING TO JAPAN -- LIKE LANGUAGE TRAINING, BETTER EDUCATIONAL FOCUS ON JAPAN, AND MORE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS. OUR GOVERNMENT RECENTLY INITIATED A NATIONAL SECURITY

EDUCATION PROGRAM TO OFFER GRANTS TO AMERICAN STUDENTS OF JAPANESE, AND MANY OTHER PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS HAVE LONGSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW AMERICAN STUDENTS TO GET TO JAPAN.

WE NEED MORE SUCH IDEAS AND GREATER COMMITMENT FROM THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY, FROM AMERICAN FOUNDATIONS, AND FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS LIKE YOU WHO ARE HERE TONIGHT.

I THINK THIS IS AN AREA THAT PRESENTS TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN. ABOVE ALL, WE MUST AVOID TURNING OUR EFFORT TO BUILD MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING INTO ANOTHER POINT OF CONTENTION BETWEEN US. THIS IS NOT AN AREA FOR U.S.-JAPAN CONFRONTATION; IT IS AN AREA FOR COOPERATION.

THERE ARE A LOT OF POSSIBILITIES. RECENTLY, A TOP DIETMEMBER SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD SET A GOAL OF SENDING A GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM WASHINGTON AND EVERY OTHER STATE IN THE UNION TO ATTEND A JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOL FOR A YEAR, AND WE COULD RECEIVE THE SAME NUMBER FROM

EACH OF JAPAN'S 47 PREFECTURES. THE STUDENT INTEREST IS THERE. I THINK WE CAN MUSTER GOVERNMENT SUPPORT ON BOTH SIDES. HE ESTIMATED THAT WE MIGHT GET UP TO 5000 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THIS WAY.

THERE HAS BEEN GOOD NEWS RECENTLY FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.. I WAS JUST THERE FOR THE SUMMIT BETWEEN PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRIME MINISTER MURAYAMA. AT THIS MEETING WE TALKED OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE AND WE AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER TO COME UP WITH SOME CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN STUDENTS IN JAPAN. WE EXPECT THESE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES TO BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE PRESIDENT'S STATE VISIT TO JAPAN NEXT NOVEMBER.

IN CLOSING, LET ME JUST SAY THIS: THE PACIFIC CENTURY IS UPON US AND THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP IS AT ITS CORE. I AM CONVINCED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS GREAT COUNTRY, MORE THAN ANY OTHER OF OUR BILATERAL TIES, WILL SHAPE OUR NATION'S FUTURE AND THE FUTURE OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND THE WORLD. I WANT OUR YOUTH, BOTH AMERICAN AND JAPANESE, TO SUCCEED TOGETHER IN THIS NEW ERA. I KNOW THAT THEY CAN.



BUT WE MUST DO OUR PART BY GIVING THEM THE CHANCE, EARLY ON, TO EXPERIENCE EACH OTHER'S CULTURE AND TO COME TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. I AM COMMITTED TO THIS, OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE COMMITTED TO THIS, AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT YOU TOO WILL SUPPORT US IN MEETING THIS GOAL.

THANK YOU.

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YOU KNOW I HAVE JUST COME FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.,  
WHERE PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRIME MINISTER MURAYAMA  
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TO JAPAN UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN'S "JET" PROGRAM TO  
TEACH ENGLISH IN JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOLS.

I WANT TO TAKE A MINUTE TO TALK ABOUT THE  
TREMENDOUS SUCCESS OF THE "JET" PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM IS  
ONLY EIGHT YEARS OLD, YET THROUGH IT, OVER TEN THOUSAND  
YOUNG AMERICANS, AS WELL AS YOUNG PEOPLE FROM MANY  
OTHER COUNTRIES, HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GO OVER TO JAPAN TO  
TEACH IN EVERY JAPANESE PREFECTURE. MANY STUDENTS NOW  
ENROLLED IN JAPAN-RELATED GRADUATE PROGRAMS  
THROUGHOUT AMERICA -- INCLUDING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WASHINGTON, AS I FOUND OUT EARLIER TODAY -- ARE FORMER  
"JET" PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.

I THINK THE "JET" PROGRAM IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT  
CONTRIBUTIONS OVER THE LAST DECADE TO STRENGTHENING OUR  
TIES WITH JAPAN ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL, AND I HOPE TO SEE  
MORE SUCH INNOVATIONS IN THE COMING YEARS.

I'VE GIVEN YOU SOME OF THE GOOD NEWS. NOW I WANT TO  
POINT OUT SOME AREAS IN WHICH WE WILL NEED TO SEE PROGRESS  
IF WE ARE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF U.S. STUDENTS AND  
FACULTY IN JAPAN.

A RECENT JOINT STUDY BY U.S. AND JAPANESE EDUCATIONAL LEADERS FROM WIDELY-RESPECTED ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING THE ASIA FOUNDATION, THE JAPAN CENTER FOR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP, THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION AND OTHERS IDENTIFIED MANY SERIOUS REGULATORY IMPEDIMENTS TO INCREASING THE NUMBER OF U.S. STUDENTS, LECTURERS AND OTHERS IN JAPAN -- RESTRICTIONS THAT ARE NOT FOUND IN THE U.S.

FOR EXAMPLE:

(1) REGULATIONS ARE SUCH THAT NO AMERICAN STUDENT -- OR OTHER FOREIGN STUDENT, FOR THAT MATTER, CAN RECEIVE A VISA TO STUDY IN JAPAN WITHOUT A PERSONAL FINANCIAL GUARANTEE FROM A JAPANESE SPONSOR. THIS MEANS THAT EVEN A STUDENT'S PARENTS BACK HOME CANNOT PROVIDE THIS GUARANTEE;

(2) DESPITE YEARS OF FRUSTRATING EFFORTS, VIRTUALLY ALL OF OUR NON-PROFIT EXCHANGE ORGANIZATIONS ARE FOUND INELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE JAPANESE TAX EXEMPT STATUS. BECAUSE OF THIS BUREAUCRATIC IMPEDIMENT, CONTRIBUTIONS TO THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE, SEVERELY LIMITING THEIR ABILITY TO SURVIVE FINANCIALLY;

(3) WITHOUT SOLID LEGAL STATUS IN JAPAN, THESE SAME ORGANIZATIONS CANNOT SERVE AS FINANCIAL GUARANTORS FOR PROSPECTIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS AND FACE NUMEROUS VISA DIFFICULTIES FOR BOTH STAFF AND PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS;

(4) OUR STUDENTS ATTENDING U.S. BRANCH CAMPUSES IN JAPAN OR AT WELL-ESTABLISHED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE STANFORD JAPAN CENTER IN KYOTO CANNOT RECEIVE THE STANDARD STUDENT VISA. THE WORK OF STUDENTS ATTENDING THESE SCHOOLS IS NOT RECOGNIZED BY OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN AND THE STUDENTS ARE NOT ACCORDED STANDARD BENEFITS, LIKE RAIL PASSES, AVAILABLE TO OTHER STUDENTS;

(5) ALTHOUGH THIS IS BEGINNING TO CHANGE, JAPAN'S NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES HAVE VERY FEW PROGRAMS IN PLACE THAT ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF AMERICAN STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS AND AS A RESULT, THERE ARE VERY FEW AMERICANS ENROLLED IN JAPAN'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS SCHOOLS;

(6) WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE FIGURES FOR AMERICANS TEACHING AT JAPANESE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, THE NUMBERS ARE EVEN MORE STARK. JAPAN'S 98 NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES EMPLOY ABOUT 37,000 FACULTY MEMBERS, ALMOST ALL OF WHOM HAVE FULL TIME STATUS. YET, WE HAVE HEARD OF FEWER THAN TEN AMERICAN PROFESSORS WITH SUCH PERMANENT STATUS. EVEN THE NUMBER OF NON-PERMANENT ENGLISH

TEACHERS ON ONE YEAR CONTRACTS IS LOW AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES. THE FIGURES ARE ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER FOR AMERICANS TEACHING AT JAPAN'S PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

(7) SYMPTOMATIC OF JAPAN'S OUT-OF-DATE REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES IS THE TREATMENT OF SAM SHEPHERD, A FORMER MEMBER OF THIS SOCIETY WHOM MANY OF YOU KNOW, WHO LAST YEAR WENT OVER TO JAPAN TO HEAD THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM THERE. AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS OF WRANGLING, HE STILL WAS ACCORDED ONLY A ONE YEAR VISA AS A "BUSINESS MANAGER, INVESTOR."

WE ARE URGING THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND THE OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED TO FIND WAYS TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS. IT HAS BEEN SLOW AND FRUSTRATING BUT WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE PROGRESS.

FOR OUR PART, WE TOO NEED TO DO MORE IF WE ARE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF YOUNG AMERICANS GOING TO JAPAN -- LIKE LANGUAGE TRAINING, BETTER EDUCATIONAL FOCUS ON JAPAN, AND MORE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS. OUR GOVERNMENT RECENTLY INITIATED A NATIONAL SECURITY EDUCATION PROGRAM TO OFFER GRANTS TO AMERICAN STUDENTS OF JAPANESE, AND MANY OTHER PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS HAVE LONGSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW AMERICAN STUDENTS TO GET TO JAPAN.



WE NEED MORE SUCH IDEAS AND GREATER COMMITMENT FROM THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY, FROM AMERICAN FOUNDATIONS, AND FROM INTERESTED CITIZENS LIKE YOU WHO ARE HERE TONIGHT.

EDUCATION IS AN AREA THAT PRESENTS TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND JAPAN. WE MUST AVOID TURNING OUR EFFORT TO BUILD MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING INTO ANOTHER POINT OF CONTENTION BETWEEN US. THIS IS NOT AN AREA FOR U.S.-JAPAN CONFRONTATION; IT IS AN AREA FOR COOPERATION.

THERE ARE A LOT OF POSSIBILITIES. RECENTLY, A TOP DIET MEMBER SUGGESTED THAT WE SHOULD SET A GOAL OF SENDING A GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM WASHINGTON AND EVERY OTHER STATE IN THE UNION TO ATTEND A JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOL FOR A YEAR, AND WE COULD RECEIVE THE SAME NUMBER FROM EACH OF JAPAN'S 47 PREFECTURES. THE STUDENT INTEREST IS THERE. I THINK WE CAN MUSTER GOVERNMENT SUPPORT ON BOTH SIDES. HE ESTIMATED THAT WE MIGHT GET UP TO 5000 STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THIS WAY.

AND AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, THERE HAS BEEN GOOD NEWS RECENTLY FROM WASHINGTON, D.C.

IN CLOSING, LET ME JUST SAY THIS: THE PACIFIC CENTURY IS UPON US AND THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP IS AT ITS CORE. I AM CONVINCED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS GREAT COUNTRY, MORE THAN ANY OTHER OF OUR BILATERAL TIES, WILL SHAPE OUR NATION'S FUTURE AND THE FUTURE OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND THE WORLD. I WANT OUR YOUTH, BOTH AMERICAN AND JAPANESE, TO SUCCEED TOGETHER IN THIS NEW ERA. I KNOW THAT THEY CAN. BUT WE MUST DO OUR PART BY GIVING THEM THE CHANCE, EARLY ON, TO EXPERIENCE EACH OTHER'S CULTURE AND TO COME TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER. I AM COMMITTED TO THIS, OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE COMMITTED TO THIS, AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT YOU TOO WILL SUPPORT US IN MEETING THIS GOAL.

THANK YOU.



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