



## News Release

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*For more information:*

Christa Desrets

[cdesrets@spfusa.org](mailto:cdesrets@spfusa.org)

(202) 296-6694 ext. 118

### **Padres game to bring together service members with Japanese counterparts**

*Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana partnering with Japan-US Military Program for event*

SAN DIEGO — American service members will come together with visiting Japanese forces on Tuesday, June 14 at a special event celebrating U.S.-Japan camaraderie at San Diego's Petco Park. For the second consecutive year, the [Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana](#) is partnering with the [Japan-US Military Program \(JUMP\)](#) to bring together those who have served in Japan.

This year's event, held concurrently with the Padres vs. Marlins game, will be particularly special with visiting Japanese forces from a three-ship training squadron with the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Forces who will be in San Diego for a port call. The event will begin with introductions at 6:25 p.m. at the T-Mobile Home Run Deck in right field, followed by welcome remarks and a ceremonial start to the event with a kanpai toast. An on-field ball cap exchange will take place at home plate just before the 7:10 p.m. game. Throughout the course of the game, those in attendance will enjoy baseball and the company of others who have served in Japan.

JUMP is pleased to welcome distinguished guests to the program including Rear Admiral Markham K. Rich, Commander, Navy Region Southwest; Hidetoshi Iwasaki, Rear Admiral, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force; The Hon. Hidehisa Horinouchi, Consul General, Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles; Dave Tuites, President, Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana; and Lieutenant Colonel James Kendall, USMC (ret.), Director of the JUMP Program and a Fellow at Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA.

#### **About JUMP**

The Japan U.S. Military Program (JUMP) connects past and present service members, families, and government civilians who have served in Japan. Through social networks and events, JUMP builds relationships and provides opportunities for service members to engage with each other. JUMP provides a powerful foundation for sustaining the solid alliance between the U.S. and Japan. JUMP is a collaborative venture of Sasakawa USA, the Embassy of Japan in the United States, and the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

#### **About The Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana**

Formed in 1996, The Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana promotes goodwill and advances business, civic, educational, and cultural interchange and understanding between the people of Japan, San Diego, and Tijuana.

#### **About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA**

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent, American, non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchanges and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.