



SASAKAWA USA
Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

News Release

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, May 2, 2018

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U.S.–Japan Alliance: Deepening Ties During Challenging Times

*Sasakawa USA Opens its Fifth Annual Security Forum
Amidst Positive Regional Summit Diplomacy*

Washington, D.C. – Today, Sasakawa USA opens its Fifth Annual Security Forum with a high-profile roster of speakers and invited guests to discuss critical international security topics affecting the U.S.-Japan alliance and other global security issues. This year's forum, *The U.S.-Japan Alliance: Deepening Ties while Confronting New Challenges*, closely follows last week's South Korea–North Korea Summit meeting and ahead of an anticipated face-to-face meeting between U.S. President Donald J. Trump and North Korea's Supreme Leader Kim Jung-un.

Sasakawa USA CEO James Zumwalt set the stage for this year's Security Forum: "Since the Sasakawa USA security forum last year, North Korean missile and nuclear tests, and its threatening and bellicose rhetoric, have created an unsettling and challenging security environment for the United States and our closest allies in the Asia Pacific region. Then, in February 2018, diplomacy replaced the coarse language and multiple summits are now being scheduled to address decades-old security agreements and policies. The strength and resilience of the U.S.–Japan alliance has undoubtedly contributed to this dramatic shift. We look forward to a robust discussion of what will happen next during the 2018 Sasakawa USA Annual Security Forum."

The conference features leading policy and military experts discussing topics ranging from North Korea's diplomatic strategy in 2018; Japan's increased security role in Asia; the U.S. National Defense Strategy; Japan's Nuclear Security Policy; Defense Industrial Cooperation; and Cybersecurity. Current and former senior policy, diplomatic, and military officials will participate including:

- Japanese Ambassador – Shinsuke Sugiyama
- Former Deputy Secretary of Defense – Robert Work
- Former Director of National Intelligence and Sasakawa USA Chairman – Dennis Blair

Speakers and Participants

- Amb. James Zumwalt, CEO, Sasakawa USA
- Amb. Shinsuke Sugiyama, Ambassador of Japan to the United States
- Katrina Manson, U.S. Foreign Policy and Defense Correspondent, *Financial Times*
- Sue Mi Terry, Senior Fellow, Korea Chair, CSIS
- Wataru Sawamura, Washington D.C. Bureau Chief, *Asahi Shimbun*
- Amb. David Shear, former Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs, DoD
- Adm. Dennis Blair (Ret.), Chairman and Distinguished Senior Fellow, Sasakawa USA
- Gen. In-Bum Chun, ROKA (Ret.)

- Tsuneo Watanabe, Senior Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation Tokyo
- Yuki Tatsumi, Director, Japan Program, Stimson Center
- Andrew Oros, Professor of Political Science and International Studies, Washington College
- Sheila A. Smith, Senior Fellow for Japan Studies, Council on Foreign Relations
- Adm. Tomohisa Takei, Distinguished International Fellow, Naval War College
- Robert Work, former Deputy Secretary of Defense, DoD
- Richard Edwards, EVP, Lockheed Martin International
- Kongdan Oh, Senior Asia Specialist, Institute for Defense Analyses
- Hideaki Watanabe, former Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency (ATLA) Commissioner, MOD
- Sayuri Romei, Associate Fellow, Sasakawa USA
- Masakatsu Ota, Senior Feature Writer/Editorial Writer, Kyodo News
- Elaine Bunn, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Missile Defense Policy, DoD
- Amb. Kazutoshi Aikawa, Deputy Chief of Mission, Japanese Embassy to the U.S.
- Michael J. Green, Senior Vice President for Asia and Japan Chair, CSIS
- James A. Lewis, Senior Vice President, CSIS
- Jim Mitre, Principal Director, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy & Force Development, DoD
- Sugio Takahashi, Chief, Policy Simulation Division, National Institute for Defense Studies
- Hideshi Tokuchi, Distinguished Non-Resident Fellow, Sasakawa USA
- Bud Roth, Non-Resident Fellow, Sasakawa USA
- Megan Stifel, Cybersecurity Policy Director, Public Knowledge
- Richard Ledgett, former Deputy Director, NSA
- Maj. Michael Klipstein, Research Scientist and Chief of Outreach, Army Cyber Institute
- Nobuo Tanaka, President, Sasakawa Peace Foundation Tokyo

The event will be live-streamed in English and Japanese, beginning at 9 a.m., on the Sasakawa USA website.

Follow [@SasakawaUSA](#) for updates throughout the day, using the hashtag #USJapanSecurity.

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 exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public.

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