



News Release

For Immediate Release

October 12, 2021

For inquiries:

Izumi Swarts

Associate Communications Manager

iswarts@spfusa.org

(202) 296-6694 ext. 108

Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano Joins Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA Board of Directors

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (Sasakawa USA) is pleased to announce that Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano has joined the Sasakawa USA Board of Directors.



Admiral Kawano was the 5th Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces from 2014 to 2019. From 2012 to 2014, he served as Chief of Staff of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force. He previously served as the Commander in Chief of the Self Defense Fleet, Fleet Escort Force, Mine Warfare Force, Escort Flotilla 3, and Escort Division 3. Ashore, Admiral Kawano previously was the Vice Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, and the Director General of Operations and Plans Department Maritime Staff Office (MSO). His earlier career as a surface warfare officer includes assignments aboard JS Haruna and JS Shirane, and as the Commanding Officer of JS Oyodo.

Admiral Kawano was awarded the Legion of Merit in 2012 and 2019 for his contributions to strengthening the U.S.-Japan alliance.

Admiral Kawano received his master's in International Relations from Tsukuba University, and his bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering from the National Defense Academy. He is also a graduate of the Command and Staff Course at the U.S. Naval War College.

With the support of Admiral Kawano, Sasakawa USA will continue to play a critical role in strengthening the U.S.-Japan diplomatic and security alliance.

For inquiries, please contact Associate Communications Manager, Ms. Izumi Swarts, at iswarts@spfusa.org.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

Sasakawa USA is a non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to deepening the understanding of and strengthening the relationship between the United States and Japan for the benefit of a free and open international community. Its activities primarily focus on security and diplomacy, through exchanges, dialogue, analysis, publications, and networking.

###



Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano was the 5th Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces.

A graduate of the National Defense Academy with a bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering, Admiral Kawano was commissioned as a surface warfare officer in 1979. He earned a master's in International Relations from Tsukuba University in 1990. He is also a graduate of the Command and Staff Course at the U.S. Naval War College.

Admiral Kawano's career as a surface warfare officer includes assignments aboard JS Haruna and JS Shirane, and as the Commanding Officer of JS Oyodo from August 1992 to August 1993.

His fleet command assignments include Commander, Escort Division 3; Commander, Escort Flotilla 3; Commander, Mine Warfare Force; Commander Fleet Escort Force; and Commander in Chief, Self-Defense Fleet, prior to assuming his previous post as Chief of Staff, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force on July 26, 2012.

Some of the most notable responsibilities he has held ashore are Director General, Administration Department MSO; Director General, Operations and Plans Department MSO; and Vice Chief of Staff, Joint Staff.

Admiral Kawano served as the 5th Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, from October 2014 until his retirement in April 2019.