



**NEXT
Alliance
Initiative
Conference:
Spring 2023
US-Japan Command Relationships
for New Challenges**

Conference / Workshop Overview

This NEXT Alliance Conference (NAC) is one of two offsite “retreats” convened each year by Sasakawa USA focused on a priority issue area for the NEXT Alliance Initiative. The Spring 2023 NAC (to be held in Tokyo, Japan) will **explore possibly useful adjustments to future US-Japan command and control (C2) relationships**, given three evolving trends: 1) a shifting regional military balance that makes integration of allied forces more vital to sustaining deterrence or repelling any attack; 2) a combination of technological advances and operational needs that are driving toward more integrated and combined force concepts; and 3) Japan efforts to expand its defense capabilities and improve military “jointness,” such as beginning to develop a counterstrike capability and introducing a permanent joint headquarters for the Self-Defense Forces (SDF).

The **objective of this Track 1.5 conference is to foster substantive bilateral expert dialogue on complex issues surrounding alliance security cooperation and future C2 needs**. Our goal is to provide useful background information and ideas that can support what we expect will be an official bilateral discussion on this topic at some point, aimed at aligning bilateral arrangements with national reforms and changing defense needs. Future C2 adjustments might also help with timely decision making on defense policy and deployment issues, as Japanese territory (and US bases therein) become more closely associated with the defense of Japan and regional security at greater standoff distances. The NAC will also feature multiple professional networking opportunities. It will be an invitation only and not-for-attribution dialogue event. Sasakawa USA will prepare a not-for-attribution summary of the discussion, highlighting key themes and observations.

Planned Itinerary Outline: March 9 thru March 13, 2023

- Thur. March 9 – US delegation arrives in Tokyo (hotel check-in); informal welcome reception
- Fri. March 10 – Morning GOJ briefings (incl lunch); free afternoon; dinner/speaker
- Sat. March 11 – Morning/afternoon workshop sessions; free evening (optional dinner arranged)
- Sun. March 12 – Morning wkshp session; Recommendation/Wrap-up session; lunch
- Mon. March 13 – Media Briefing (for designated participants); Yokota site visit (optional)
- Tues. March 14 – Most of the US delegation returns home

A session-by-session outline follows, along with information about expected participants. Questions and comments can be directed to Jim Schoff, Sr. Director at Sasakawa USA and leader of the US-Japan NEXT Alliance Initiative. jschoff@spfusa.org

March 9 (Thursday): US delegation arrival

US Delegation Hotel: Hotel Okura, Tokyo
2 Chome-10-4 Toranomom, Minato City, Tokyo 105-0001, Japan
Tel: +81 3-3582-0111

6:30pm–8:00pm Optional/informal welcome reception, Hotel Okura (*Business Casual*)
Le METEOR Room, 41st Floor (*NB: drinks & appetizers, not a full dinner*)

March 10 (Friday): Background Briefings

All morning/lunch briefings to be held at Sasakawa Peace Foundation Building, 10th FI
1-15-16 Toranomom, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8524

Business attire for briefings (consecutive interpreting provided for 3rd briefing)

US Group at Okura meet in lobby at 9am to walk over to SPF offices.

09:30am-10:30am JST GOJ briefing on National Defense Strategy (and Information and Cybersecurity)

Mr. UEDA Kouji Defense Councilor for Cyber Security and Information Technology Management, Ministry of Defense and Mr. IJIMA Hidetoshi, Director, Defense Policy Division, Ministry of Defense

10:45am-11:45am JST GOJ briefing on National Security Strategy (and Cybersecurity)

Mr. OKANO Masataka, Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary, NSS

Noon-1:15pm JST GOJ briefing on Japan's Defense Buildup Plan

(over bento lunch) Mr. ITO Shinya, Director, Defense Planning and Programming Division, Ministry of Defense and Mr. IJIMA Hidetoshi, Director, Defense Policy Division, Ministry of Defense

Afternoon open for personal meetings

6:00pm – 9:00pm JST “Kick-Off” Dinner, Keynote Speaker, Amb Kenichiro SASAE, President, JIIA (*confirmed*) Hotel Okura, La Lune, 41st FI
Topic: “Challenge for Japan and US Alliance”

Business or business casual attire for dinner

March 11 (Saturday): Workshop Sessions (1-3) (at Hotel Okura, Tokyo)

Business casual attire is fine for workshop days

8:00am-9:00am JST Buffet breakfast in workshop meeting room (AKEBONO, 1st FI)

9:00am-9:10am JST Welcome and Opening Remarks

Satohiro Akimoto, President, and Jim Schoff, Sr. Director, Sasakawa USA

9:10am-9:25am JST US Embassy Remarks
Raymond F. Greene, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy

Introduced by: Jim Schoff (Sasakawa USA)

9:25am-10:55am JST Workshop Session 1: “The C2 Structure We Have”
Opening commentators: Lt. Gen. Larry Nicholson, USMC (retired)
Lt. Gen. ARAKI Junichi, JASDF (retired)

Moderator: Jim Schoff (Sasakawa USA)

11:05am-12:30pm JST Session 2: “Models of Alliance C2”
Opening commentators: US: Scott Swift, Admiral USN (retired)
Japan: TAKEI Tomohisa, Admiral JMSDF (retired)

Moderator: Chris Johnstone (CSIS)

12:30pm-1:30pm JST Workshop lunch w/ guest speaker (General ORIKI Ryoichi,
GSDf, Retired) “Reflections on Operation Tomodachi”

Introduced by: Satohiro Akimoto (Sasakawa USA)

1:30pm: Group Photo (in Akebono II, the lunch room)

1:45pm – 3:00pm JST Workshop Session 3: “Political, Legal & Institutional
Considerations”
Japan: TAKAMIZAWA Nobushige, Visiting Professor,
University of Tokyo
US: John Bradford, Exec Dir, Yokosuka Council on
Asia-Pacific Studies (YCAPS)

Moderator: Jim Schoff (Sasakawa USA)

3:00pm – 6:00pm JST Free Time

6:30pm – 8:30pm JST Offsite dinner (*optional: notify organizer if you want to attend*)
*Meet at [Shunju Tsugihagi \(Hibiya\)](#) restaurant at 18:30 or in hotel lobby at 18:00
1-chome-1-1 Yurakucho Chiyoda City Tokyo-to, B1*

March 12 (Sunday): Workshop Sessions (4-5)

8:00am-9:00am JST Buffet breakfast available in workshop room (AKEBONO, 1st Fl)

9:00am-10:30am JST Workshop Session 4: “C2 Needs for the Future”
US: Lt. Gen. Chip Gregson, USMC (retired)
Japan: Lt. Gen. ISOBE Koichi, JGSDf (Ret.)

Moderator: Chris Johnstone (CSIS)

10:45am-12:15pm JST Workshop Session 5: Review/recommendation session

Moderator: Jim Schoff (Sasakawa USA)

12:15pm-1:15pm JST Workshop concluding lunch (optional/no speaker)

March 13 (Monday): Media Briefing and Site Visit (optional)

10:00am-11:30am JST_ Briefing (with simul interpretation) for local media with Satohiro Akimoto, Jim Schoff, Chris Johnstone, Scott Swift, Koichi ISOBE, Nobukatsu KANEHARA, and Nobushige TAKAMIZAWA, Tsuneo WATANABE

*Held at Sasakawa Peace Foundation offices featuring subset of bilateral delegation
Only the designated briefers need to attend (business attire)*

~2:15pm-4:00pm: Site Visit to Yokota Air Base for briefings with USFJ and review of alliance BMD cooperation (transportation provided, details TBD)

Participants need to be registered for this activity. Departure by bus from Okura Hotel expected around 1300, return to Tokyo around 1800. Business attire.

Expected Workshop Participants

Japan Delegation

1. ARAKI Junichi, Lt. Gen. ASDF (Ret) former Commander, Air Training Command
2. BANSHO Koichiro, JGSDF (Ret.), fmr Commander of Western Japan Army
3. FUKUDA Junichi, Sr. Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
4. ISHII Masafumi, Adjunct Professor, Gakushuin University
5. ISOBE Koichi, JGSDF (Ret.), fmr Commander of Eastern Japan Army
6. KAMIYA Mataka, Professor, National Defense Academy
7. KANEHARA Nobukatsu, Professor, Doshisha University
8. KAWAKAMI Yasuhiro, Sr. Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
9. KOTANI Tetsuo, Sr. Fellow, Japan Institute of International Affairs
10. MATSUBARA Mihoko, Chief Cybersecurity Strategist, NTT Corporation
11. OHARA Bonji, Sr. Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
12. ORIKI Ryoichi, 3rd Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Self-Defense Forces (*lunch speaker*)
13. SASAE Kenichiro, President, Japan Institute of International Affairs (*dinner speaker*)
14. TAKAHASHI Sugio, Head, Defense Policy Div, Nat'l Inst for Defense Studies
15. TAKAMIZAWA Nobushige, Visiting Professor, University of Tokyo
16. TAKEI Tomohisa, JMSDF (Ret.), former Chief of Staff of MSDF
17. WATANABE Tsuneo, Sr. Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Japanese Government (expected to participate in workshop sessions)

18. MAEDA Shuji, Director, Japan-US Security Treaty Div, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*invited*)

19. IJIMA Hidetoshi, Director, Defense Policy Division, Ministry of Defense
20. MATSUO Tomohiko, Director, Japan-US Cooperation Division, Ministry of Defense
21. COL MUSHA Toshikatsu, Director, Defense Plans and Programs Division, Joint Staff Office
22. Captain SASE Tomoyuki, Director J51, Joint Staff Office
23. COL YUSHITA Kentaro, Japan-US Cooperation Division, Ministry of Defense

US Delegation

1. Satoshi Akimoto, Chairman & President, Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA
2. Jim Schoff, Sr. Director, Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA
3. John Bradford, Exec Dir, Yokosuka Council on Asia-Pacific Studies (YCAPS)
4. Wallace "Chip" Gregson, Distinguished Sr. Fellow, Sasakawa USA
5. Jerry Martinez, CEO, The TRAVTAY Group LLC
6. Larry Nicholson, Distinguished Sr. Fellow, Sasakawa USA
7. Christopher Johnstone, Japan Chair, CSIS
8. Mary Beth Morgan, Office of Secretary of Defense Chair, Nat'l Defense Univ
9. John Schaus, Senior Fellow, International Security Program, CSIS
10. Daniel C. Sneider, Lecturer, Stanford University
11. Scott Swift, Admiral, USN (Ret)
12. Kurt Tong, Managing Partner, The Asia Group

US Government (expected to participate in workshop sessions)

12. Raymond F. Greene, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy Tokyo
13. J. Keegan de Lancie, Political Military Officer, US Embassy Tokyo
14. COL Jim Cheney, Army Attaché, US Embassy Tokyo
15. Captain Winton Smith, Defense and Navy Attaché, US Embassy Tokyo
16. Hannah Fodale, Country Director, Japan, Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, OSD
17. BGen James B. Wellons, Deputy Commander, USFJ
18. COL Christopher S. Martin, Director, J5 Strategy, Plans & Policy, USFJ
19. Lt. Col. Marcus A. Morgan, Chief, Government Relations, J54, USFJ
20. Lt. Col. Jesse Skates, Plans Branch Chief, USFJ

Observers

1. IDE Sazuki, Japan-US Cooperation Division, Ministry of Defense
2. Erim Gulum, Program Assistant, Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA
3. Captain James Kyle, Mansfield Fellow, currently at Ministry of Defense
4. LEE Shinae, Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
5. MATSU Takuma, Research Fellow, Sasakawa Peace Foundation
6. WATABE Yayoi, Assistant, Sasakawa Peace Foundation