

(Provisional Translation)

Minister of Defense

5-1 Ichigayahonmura-cho
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-8801, Japan

April 13, 2015

The Honorable Ash Carter
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000
The United States of America

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the productive discussions we had at the Defense Ministerial Talk on April 8. We met for the first time in person, and while we exchanged our frank views on various challenges concerning the security environment in the ever-changing Asia Pacific region, we were able to reaffirm the strong bond of trust that lies between Japan and the U.S.

As I will be visiting the U.S. late this month, I look forward to further building upon the discussions we have had in Tokyo on either April 28 or 27 at Pentagon. Since my trip to the U.S. is a good opportunity to deepen my understanding of U.S. Forces' operation and equipment, I would appreciate if you could make arrangements to visit U.S. installations, military officials, etc.

I look forward to seeing you again soon and working closely together to further deepen our alliance and friendship.

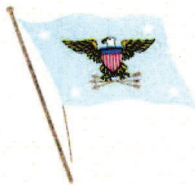
Sincerely yours,

//s//

Gen NAKATANI
Minister of Defense



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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

APR 24 2015

His Excellency Gen Nakatani
Minister of Defense
Ministry of Defense
Japan
Tokyo

Dear Mr. Minister,

Gen

Thank you for your warm hospitality in Tokyo during my first trip to the Asia-Pacific as the Secretary of Defense. I appreciated the opportunity to discuss the comprehensive nature of our defense cooperation, particularly our candid and warm conversation over a wonderful dinner. We are going to be great partners in this era of the U.S.-Japan alliance.

The revision of the Guidelines for U.S.-Japan Defense Cooperation is a historic moment for our alliance, opening new opportunities for security and defense cooperation. Thank you for your continued support of the bilateral realignment of U.S. Forces in Japan, including the Futenma Replacement Facility.

I look forward to hosting you and Minister Kishida for the 2+2 Meeting later this month, as is President Obama for Prime Minister Abe's State visit.

Sincerely,

ASD

*Look forward to working with
you. See you soon!*