

October , 2007

Dear

Forgive me for my sudden letter and questions. My name is Tsuyoshi Saito. I served as a member of the Japanese House of Councilors, the Upper House of the Japanese Diet, from 1995 till 2005. Please refer to my attached profile for further details. You have already started out on the road toward becoming the next President of the United States of America. I hope that you will be able to maintain your health as you work toward a successful end to your campaign.

People all around the world are paying particular attention to who is elected as the next U.S. President. Your country is a superpower whose presence, words and actions cannot be dismissed when other countries in the world come to discuss matters of policy. I am also well aware that there is an even closer connection between Japan and your country. Moreover, I think that both countries should continue to maintain and build on this strong relationship of trust, while engaging in frank exchanges of opinions.

Therefore, on the occasion of your running for President of the United States, I would like to ask for your opinion regarding one of the issues that exists between our two countries. This is the Japan-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement based on the Japan-US Security Treaty. Until now, when incidents, accidents and environmental issues involving US forces based in Japan have occurred, both governments coped with them by applying this agreement, but I believe that it is necessary to thoroughly revise the Japan-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement. Not only I but also some political parties, a group of governors whose prefectures are host to U.S. military bases, and some labor unions, etc have been suggesting that the agreement needs to be revised.

I would like to ask you how you would deal with this issue, if you were elected to the Presidency of the United States. In addition I would be delighted to hear your thoughts on the relationship between U.S. and Asian countries, and between the U.S. and Japan. I am intending to make the results of this enquiry public by releasing them to the news media of both countries.

I know you are very busy, but I would appreciate it if you could you give me your

answers by November 17 2007.

Yours Sincerely

Tsuyoshi Saito

Former Member of the House of Councilors for the Democratic Party of Japan