

21 April 2008

Grave Issues needing Solution between the U.S. and Japan

Please allow my repeated writings to you since last year. In beginning this letter, I would first like to appreciate your hard and tireless efforts and I wish that your fatigue already had gone away.

I am Tsuyoshi Saito, a former member of the House of Councilors in Japan. The House is deemed equivalent to U.S. Senate. Last year, when I knew that you became a candidate for the primary election of your party to select a Party's nominee for the election of 44th President of the United States of America, I decided and sent you my questionnaires in October and December, as copies enclosed herein. The first one is containing my questionnaire asking for your opinions about the U.S.-Japan agreement on the Status of U.S. Armed Forces stationing in Japan under the Mutual Cooperation and the Security Treaty between our two countries. The second letter is a reminder asking for your prompt replies to my questionnaire. I so far have not yet received your answers. Probably, it was because you had no time to write them as, I suppose, my letters were delivered to you during the busiest period in your election campaigns, especially at the time when you were making trips here and there, with sacrifice of even your sleeps. If it was so, please accept my apology for having sent you the letters in such bad timings.

Now, in Japan, day-to-day status of your severe competitions in the primary election is reported actively by our mass media. Our people are eagerly watching TVs, reading newspapers and hearing radio news for its reports with very big concerns everyday. It is not only in Japan, but also all over the world. All people in the world are also watching the progress of the election. It is because the top leader of your country is so vastly involved and related to their life at present and in future with his/her great influential power in the world.

In your case, to my regret, though you have declined from the race, I believe that you intend to continue and strengthen your activities for contributing to the interest of your country and for keeping the peace of the world, based on your firm political beliefs.

In this connection, therefore, I strongly hope that I can hear your opinions or comments how the relationship between Japan and the U.S. should be here-on-after, and how the Mutual Cooperation and Security Treaty and the Status Agreement of U.S. Forces stationing in Japan should be. The Treaty and Agreement were concluded more than fifty years ago. Your answers on the enclosed questionnaire are very much needed by me for considering the mutual relationship of our two countries.

When you send me your answers, if you add your any comments on your own experience of the primary election and your view on the prospect of the presidential election in the coming November, I will be

very delighted to know of them. I think it's important to exchange our view mutually, in which I trust that building up of the good relationship between our two countries will become possible.

I hope that you and your family members will always be healthful and prosperous.

I thank you for your cooperation and am anxiously looking forward to get your reply soon.

Yours Very Sincerely,

Tsuyoshi Saito
Former Member of the House of Councilors
and now a member of Democratic Party of Japan