

KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America) Inbound program for Former Prisoner of War (POW) Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the "KAKEHASHI Project" of Japan's Friendship Ties Program, 3 participants from the U.S. visited Japan from October 8 to October 13, 2018 to participate in the program aimed at promoting their understanding of Japan. Through the observations and interactions with Japanese people, the participants enjoyed a wide range of opportunities to improve their understanding of Japan.

[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]

United States of America: 3 participants

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo (All), Okayama (1 participant), Nagasaki and Fukuoka (1 participant), Hyogo and Shiga (1 participant)

2. Program Schedule

[Arrival]		
[Courtesy Call] Mr. Kiyoto Tsuji, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs		
[Observation] Common Wealth War Cemetery		
[Courtesy Call] U.S. Embassy		
[Observation] Senso-ji Temple		
[Interaction] Temple University		
1) Okayama	2) Nagasaki, Fukuoka	3) Hyogo, Shiga
Move to Okayama from	Move to Nagasaki from	Move to Hyogo from
Tokyo	Tokyo	Tokyo
[Interaction] Okayama	[Observation] Ground	[Observation] Ex-Osaka
University	Zero of the Atomic	#18 camp
[Observation] Okayama	Bombing, Nagasaki	[Observation] Ex-
City Museum	Atomic Bomb Museum	Kawasaki Steel
		Company
[Observation] Korakuen,	Move to Fukuoka from	Move to Shiga from
Okayama castle	Nagasaki	Hyogo
Move to Tokyo from	[Observation] Ex-	[Observation] Ex-Osaka
Okayama	Fukuoka #23 camp	#25 camp
	Move to Tokyo from	[Observation] Hikone
	Fukuoka	castle
		Move to Tokyo from
		Shiga
[Departure]		
	[Courtesy Call] Mr. Kiyoto [Observation] Common W [Courtesy Call] U.S. Emba [Observation] Senso-ji Ter [Interaction] Temple University (Interaction] Okayama University [Observation] Okayama City Museum [Observation] Korakuen, Okayama castle Move to Tokyo from Okayama	[Courtesy Call] Mr. Kiyoto Tsuji, Parliamentary Vice-Nobservation] Common Wealth War Cemetery [Courtesy Call] U.S. Embassy [Observation] Senso-ji Temple [Interaction] Temple University 1) Okayama Move to Okayama from Tokyo [Interaction] Okayama University [Observation] Okayama City Museum [Observation] Korakuen, Okayama castle Move to Tokyo from Okayama Move to Fukuoka from Nagasaki [Observation] Ex- Fukuoka #23 camp Move to Tokyo from Fukuoka

3. Program Photos



10/9 [Observation] Common Wealth War Cemetery



10/10 [Interaction] Temple University



10/11 [Interaction] Okayama University



10/12 [Observation] Okayama castle



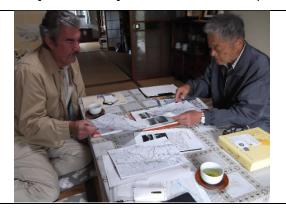
10/11 [Observation] Ground Zero of the Atomic Bombing



10/12 [Observation] Ex-Fukuoka #23 camp



10/11 [Observation] Ex-Kawasaki Steel Company



10/12 [Observation] Ex-Osaka #25 camp

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

- ◆Everyone has been so kind from the Temple university students to the U.S. Ambassador, high ranking military, the Department of Foreign Affairs person. The Temple students who listened and asked questions were so respectful of our parents. Thanks be to all. I grew in respect and appreciation of the Japanese people as I watched them in life. Speaking with the college students in Okayama was really wonderful. They had never heard from a person the experiences of POW. Many promised to carry forth the telling of history.
- ◆I sincerely hope that this program continues and offers more descendants the opportunities that I have had. It has been interesting, very enlightening, and informative. I have a better understandings of what my fathers experienced, especially the positive interactions with the local people. I am grateful for the opportunity to visit Japan, and the site of my father's incarceration. I find it difficult to explain how important that portion of the trip was to me. I learned more about the suffering of those injured by the atomic bombs, and sincerely hope that they are never used again.
- ◆The site visits to Wakihama and Maibara were most impressive. In both cases, there was little of nothing left of the camps, so we spoke with local residents who helped us reconstruct the camp location.