



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

Oct. 8 (Mon)	[Arrival]		
Oct. 9 (Tue)	[Courtesy Call] Mr. Kiyoto Tsuji, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs [Observation] Common Wealth War Cemetery		
Oct. 10 (Wed)	[Courtesy Call] U.S. Embassy [Observation] Senso-ji Temple [Interaction] Temple University		
Oct. 11 (Thu)	1) Okayama	2) Nagasaki, Fukuoka	3) Hyogo, Shiga
	Move to Okayama from Tokyo [Interaction] Okayama University [Observation] Okayama City Museum	Move to Nagasaki from Tokyo [Observation] Ground Zero of the Atomic Bombing, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum	Move to Hyogo from Tokyo [Observation] Ex-Osaka #18 camp [Observation] Ex-Kawasaki Steel Company
Oct. 12 (Fri)	[Observation] Korakuen, Okayama castle Move to Tokyo from Okayama	Move to Fukuoka from Nagasaki [Observation] Ex-Fukuoka #23 camp Move to Tokyo from Fukuoka	Move to Shiga from Hyogo [Observation] Ex-Osaka #25 camp [Observation] Hikone castle Move to Tokyo from Shiga
Oct. 13 (Sat)	[Departure]		

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 understanding 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 Wakihamma 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.