



KAKEHASHI Project (United States of America)

Inbound program for Family Members of Former Prisoners of War (POWs)

Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under the “KAKEHASHI Project” of Japan’s Friendship Ties Program, 4 family members of former Prisoners of War (POWs) from the U.S. visited Japan from September 1 to September 6, 2019 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: 4 participants

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo (All), Kanagawa (All), Fukuoka (2 participants), Miyagi (1 participant), Kyoto (1 participant)

2. Program Schedule

9/1(Sun)	【Arrival】		
9/2(Mon)	【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Tsuji Kiyoto, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs 【Observation】 Common Wealth War Cemetery 【Observation】 Former Site of Mitsubishi Heavy Industry Shipyard		
9/3(Tue)	【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Joseph M. Young, Chargé d' Affaires ad interim, US Embassy in Tokyo 【Exchange】 POW Research Network Japan 【Courtesy Call】 Mr. Fujisaki Ichiro, President, The America-Japan Society, Inc.		
9/4(Wed)	1. Fukuoka	2. Miyagi	3. Kyoto
	Move to Fukuoka from Tokyo 【Observation】 Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine 【Observation】 The Kyushu National Museum	Move to Miyagi from Tokyo 【Observation】 Hosokura Metal Mining Company and Mine Park 【Observation】 The Remains of Sendai Castle (Aoba Castle)	Move to Kyoto from Tokyo 【Observation & Exchange】 Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University
9/5(Thu)	【Observation】 Former Coal Mine Site, Former Camp, District 17	【Observation】 Zuiganji Temple Move to Tokyo from Miyagi	【Observation】 Tofukuji Temple 【Observation】 Ryozen-Kannon Temple

	【Observation & Exchange】 Omuta Coal Industry and Science Museum Move to Tokyo from Fukuoka		【Observation】 Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum Move to Tokyo from Kyoto
9/6(Fri)	【Observation】 Sensoji Temple 【Departure】		

3. Program Photos

All (Tokyo, Kanagawa)



9/2 **【 Courtesy Call 】** Mr. Tsuji Kiyoto, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

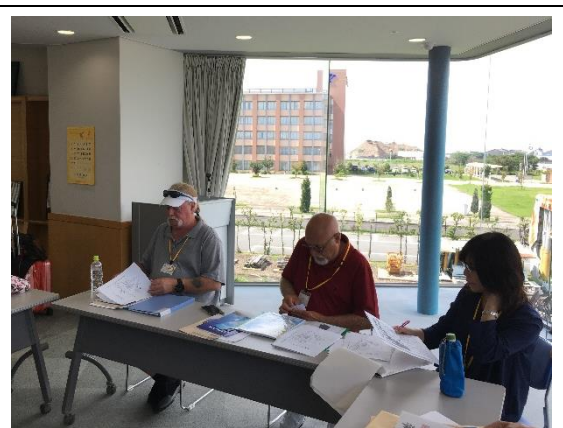


9/2 **【Observation】** Common Wealth War Cemetery

Fukuoka



9/5 **【Observation】** Former Coal Mine Site



9/5 **【Observation & Exchange】** Omuta Coal Industry and Science Museum

Miyagi



9/4 【Observation】 Hosokura Metal Mining Company and Mine Park



9/5 【Observation】 Zuiganji Temple

Kyoto



9/4 【 Observation & Exchange 】 Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University



9/5 【Observation】 Ryozen-Kannon Temple

4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

◆ Meeting with ministers was very informative. They are very positive people. It is very important to continue this program. I am extremely satisfied with all parties involved in this program. There was never a disappointment with the people put there to look after us. Thank you very much.

◆ I believe that our schools need more involvement with the past, future and present of Japan. We need to continue these trips to Japan.

◆ Our visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with Mr. Tsuji, Kiyoto was very much appreciated. He made the impression on me that he cares about the future relationship with USA. He made me feel proud of my father. I am grateful to him. Our luncheon with Mr. Funakoshi,

Takehiro, Deputy Director-General, North American Affairs, inspired me to learn more about the Japanese government and to commit to introducing our younger generation to the program. The food was also delicious. Our visit to the US Embassy was outstanding. Every single staff member and military service member I met made me feel welcomed and sincerely wanted me to tell them about my father's experience. Thank you. I leave your country with a heart filled with gratitude. Also, a very great honor it was to meet Former Ambassador Fujisaki, Ichiro. Without him, we could not have this program. He is awesome.

◆ As a teacher, I would have loved to have visited a school. Everything I did left me with a significant impression. The highlight for me were visiting the US Embassy and Sendai. Receiving my dad's POW record was so unexpected and so meaningful.