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外務大匠挨拶

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TRANSLATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Address of Foreign Minister Aichi at the Signing Ceremony

(Draft)

June 17, 1971

I would like to say a few words on the occasion of the signing of the Agreement between Japan and the United States of America on the Ryukyu Islands and the Daito Islands.

Since the issuance of the historic Joint Communique between Prime Minister Sato and President Nixon in November 1969, steady efforts over a year and a half by the negotiators of the two Governments to draft the reversion agreement have culminated in final agreement being reached between Secretary Rogers and myself in Paris on June 9th. On that occasion, I promised Secretary Rogers that I would be meeting with him again over television. It gives me great pleasure to fulfil this promise by taking part in the unprecedented simultaneous signing of this agreement through the relay satellite. I am confident that this event will respond to the fervent wish of the one million inhabitants of Okinawa and of the entire Japanese people and that it will place the relations of friendship and amity between Japan and the United States of America on a firm and lasting foundation. It is my earnest hope that the present agreement will come into effect at the earliest possible date and thus pave the way for the return of Okinawa to the motherland.

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TRANSLATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Address by Foreign Minister Aichi
After Signing of Related Documents (Draft)

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June 17, 1971.

The signing of all the documents relating to the reversion of Okinawa has just been completed.

I would like to take this occasion to express my heartfelt appreciation to Ambassador Meyer for his untiring endeavors in the negotiations on reversion since his assumption of office two years ago and to Minister Sneider, as well as to Under Secretary Johnson and other officials concerned in Washington for all their efforts in bringing these negotiations to a successful conclusion.