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(August 19, 1969)

Draft Joint Communique

- 1. The Prime Minister and the President had a broad exchange of views on Japan-U.S. relations as well as on the respective positions of the two countries in the present international situation. The President expressed the deep interest of his Government and his own in Asia and stated his belief that Japan and the United States should cooperate in contributing to the peace and prosperity of the region. The Prime Minister, appreciating the view of the President, made it clear that Japan would make further active contributions befitting her capabilities to the peace and prosperity of Asia.
- 2. The Prime Minister and the President exchanged frank views on the recent international situation, with particular attention to developments in the Far East. The Prime Minister expressed his recognition that, in the light of the present situation, the presence of U.S. forces in the Far East constituted a mainstay for the stability of the

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area. The President, while emphasizing that the countries in the area were expected to make their wwn efforts for the stability of Asia, assured that the United States would continue to honor her treaty commitments in the Far East.

3. The Prime Minister and the President noted the continuing tension over the Korean peninsula. Minister highly appreciated the peace-keeping efforts of the United Nations in the area and stated that the security of the Republic of Korea was essential to Japan's own security. The Prime Minister and the President shared the hope that Communist China would adopt a positive and constructive attitude toward cooperation with the peace-loving nations of the world in regard to such matters as arms control and disarmament, and to reflect this attitude in its relations with its neighbors. President, however, recalled that Communist China had so far refused to join with the United States in a mutual . renunciation of the threat or use of force in the Taiwan area, and referred to the treaty commitment of his country

to the Republic of China. The Prime Minister expressed his full understanding of the position of the United States and stated that the Japanese Government also centinued to view the situation in the Taiwan area with close attention and concern. The President described the earnest efforts made by the United States for a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem, and reviewed the prespects for an honorable peace in that area. The Prime Winister expressed his earnest hope for a substantial progress towards that end. He further stated that Japan was exploring what role she could play in bringing about stability and reconstruction in the Indo-China area.

4. In the light of their evaluation of the situation and the prospects in the Far East, the Prime Minister and the President highly valued the role played by the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security in maintaining the peace and security of the Far East, including Japan, and mutually affirmed the intention of the two Governments to maintain firmly the Treaty on the basis of mutual

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trust and the common evaluation of the international situation. They further agreed that the two Governments should maintain closer and constant contact with each other on matters affecting the peace and security of the Far East, and on the implementation of the Treaty of Mutual Gooperation and Security.

5. The Prime Minister emphasized his view that the time has come for the two Governments to respond to the strong desire of the people of Japan proper and Okinawa to have the administrative rights over Okinawa returned to Japan on the basis of the fraendly relations between Japan and the United States and thereby to restore Okinawa to its normal status. The President expressed due appreciation of the Brime Minister's view. The Prime Minister and the President also recognized the vital role played by U.S. forces in Okinawa in the present situation in the Far East. As a result of their discussion, it was agreed that the mutual security interests of Japan and the United States could be accommodated within arrangements for the return of the administrative rights over Okinawa

They therefore agreed that the two Governments would enter immediately into consultations regarding specific arrangements for the early reversion of Okinawa without detriment to the security of the Far East, They further agreed to expedite the including Japan. consultations with a view to accomplishing the reversion /reaching agreement on these specific arrangements for reversion by 1972. In this connection, the Prime Minister made clear the intention of his Government to assume gradually the responsibility for the immediate defense of Okinawa as part of Japan's defense efforts for her own territories. The Prime Minister and the President also agreed that the United States would retain under the terms of the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security such facilities and areas in Okinawa as required in the mutual security of both countries.

6. The Prime Minister and the President agreed that, upon reversion, the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security and its related arrangements would apply to Okinawa without any additional arrangement /without modification of those arrangements. In this connection,

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the Prime Minister affirmed the recognition of his Government that the security of Japan could not be adequately maintained without international peace and security in the Far East and, therefore, the security of countries in the Far East was a matter of serious concern for Japan. The Prime Minister was of the view that, in the light of such recognition on the part of the Japanese Government, the return of the administrative rights over Okinawa to Japan in the manner agreed above should be compatible with effective discharge of the international obligations assumed by the United States for the defense of countries in the Far East, including Japan. The President replied that he shared the Prime Minister's view.

The Prime Minister / further described in detail the particular sentiment of the Japanese people against nuclear weapons and the policy of the Japanese Government reflecting such sentiment. The President / expressed his understanding of the position of the Japanese Government and assured the Prime Minister of the intention of the U.S. Government to ensure the reversion of Okinawa to be carried out in a manner consistent with the policy of the Japanese Government as described by the Prime Minister.

8. The Prime Minister and the President agreed that with respect to financial questions which could arise in connection with the return of the administrative rights over Okinawa to Japan, a mutually satisfactory solution should be found by the time of the reversion.

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9. The Prime Minister and the President, highly valuing the past achievements of the Advisory Committee to the High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands, exchanged views on measures to be taken for the preparation for the reversion of Okinawa. As a result of their discussion, in view. of the magnitude and complexity of the problems relating to reversion, they recognized the need for close local cooperation between the two Governments on preparatory measures necessary for successful reversion in all fields of the administration, while further promoting the welfare and interests of the Ryukyuan people. To this end, it was agreed to establish in Naha, in place of the Advisory Committee, a Mixed Preparatory Commission for the purpose of mutual consultation and coordination on measures relating to the preparation for the reversion and of submitting, when necessary, recommendations to the two Governments.

The membership of the Mixed Commission would be, on the Japanese side, a Governmental Representative of Ambassadorial rank, and on the United States side, the High Commissioner of the Ryukyu Islands, both assisted by appropriate staff, while the Chief Executive of the Government of the Ryukyu Islands would be expected to The Japan-United States Consultaparticipate as Advisor. tive Committee in Tokyo will receive reports from the Commission on the progress of its work as appropriate. It was also agreed that the Government of the Ryukyu Islands be enabled under the guidance of the Commission to receive assistance and cooperation with regard to the implementation of measures for the preparation of reversion from Japanese Government representatives in Okinawa. The Prime Minister and the President expressed their conviction that a mutually satisfactory solution to the question of the return of the administrative rights over Okinawa to Japan, which was the last of the major post-war issues pending between the two countries, would be to strengthen further the Japan-U.S. relations based on friendship and mutual trust and would also make a major contribution to the peace and security of the Far East.

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