



Inaugural U.S.-Japan Military Dialogue



General (ret.) Gary L. North (L), Ambassador Tsuneo Nishida, General (ret.) T. Michael Moseley, General (ret.) Kiyofumi Iwata and General (ret.) Shigeru Iwasaki

The EastWest Institute brought together retired four-star generals and admirals from Japan and the United States for the inaugural “U.S.-Japan Military Dialogue” from September 25 to 26, 2017 in Honolulu, Hawaii. The dialogue provided a high-level platform for both sides to collaboratively address issues of critical concern at a time of increased uncertainty in the Asia-Pacific region.

“The U.S.-Japanese alliance has long been a pillar of the United States’ Asia-Pacific strategy, and the countries maintain a close bilateral military relationship. However, recent developments on the Korean peninsula and the uncertainty of U.S. foreign policy under the Trump administration have engendered concern about the resiliency of the alliance. Given the current security environment and political landscape, neither side can afford to be complacent. The two partners as well as the whole region have much to gain from innovative policy ideas that strengthen U.S.-Japan bilateral ties and policy coordination,” said General (ret.) T. Michael Moseley, head of the U.S. delegation.

During the dialogue, delegates delved into a wide range of security issues within the U.S.-Japan relationship, the feasibility of further confidence building measures, as well as other regional and global security issues, particularly the strategic intentions of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. These in-depth exchanges, in addition to separate meetings with senior Japanese diplomats and regional military officials, will serve as a platform for generating innovative solutions to strengthen bilateral cooperation. The outcomes of the dialogue will be used to formulate concrete policy recommendations for the governments in Washington and Tokyo, and will be shared among regional military commands. EWI plans to hold the dialogue biannually going forward.

Delegates and Activities



Clockwise from top: Group photo in front of the Aloha Conference Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; General (ret.) Kiyofumi Iwata (L) and General (ret.) T. Michael Moseley meet with Pacific Air Chiefs; Ambassador Tsuneo Nishida (L), General (ret.) Kiyofumi Iwata, General (ret.) Shigeru Iwasaki, Vice Admiral (ret.) Yoji Koda and Mr. Tetsuo Kotani; Mr. Darcy Anderson (L), Mr. James Creighton, General (ret.) Walter L. Sharp, Admiral (ret.) Patrick M. Walsh, General (ret.) Gary L. North and General (ret.) T. Michael Moseley

JAPANESE DELEGATES

General (ret.) **Shigeru Iwasaki**
Former Chief of Staff, Joint Staff Council,
Japan Self-Defense Forces

General (ret.) **Kiyofumi Iwata**
Former Chief of Staff,
Japan Ground Self-Defense Force

Vice Admiral (ret.) **Yoji Koda**
Former Commander in Chief,
Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force

THE JAPAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DELEGATE

Mr. **Tetsuo Kotani**
Senior Fellow

U.S. DELEGATES

General (ret.) **Gary L. North**
Former Commander,
United States Pacific Air Forces

General (ret.) **Walter L. Sharp**
Former Commander,
United Nations Command

Admiral (ret.) **Patrick M. Walsh**
Former Commander,
United States Pacific Fleet

EASTWEST INSTITUTE DELEGATES

General (ret.) **T. Michael Moseley**
Former Chief of Staff,
United States Air Force

Ambassador **Tsuneo Nishida**
Former Permanent Representative of Japan to the UN

Mr. **Darcy Anderson**
Vice Chairman, Hillwood Management

Colonel (ret.) **James Creighton**
Distinguished Fellow, EastWest Institute