



From Japan to the Northwest

News From the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle



Our monthly newsletter, "From Japan to the Northwest," is intended to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the Consulate's activities.

You can find [past issues of the newsletter here](#).



Credit: Nishikawa Town, Yamagata Prefecture via the Japan National Tourism Organization

Welcome to the February 2025 edition of From Japan to the Northwest!

In this edition, we cover the first official meeting between Prime Minister Ishiba and President Trump, a courtesy call from the current President of the United Nations General Assembly, and a recap of the reception we held to celebrate Emperor Naruhito's birthday.

We will continue a **once-a-month publication schedule** to bring you the most important news from Japan and our region. Please be sure to **follow us on social media by clicking the icons below** for more frequent updates on local Japan-related events and the Consulate's activities.



1. Prime Minister Ishiba meets with President Trump

Visit to the United States



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On February 6, 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba visited Washington, D.C., United States.

The following day, on February 7, Prime Minister Ishiba [held a summit meeting with the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United States of America](#), followed by a Japan-U.S. leaders' working lunch. This was followed by [a joint press conference](#), a [visit to Arlington National Cemetery](#), and a courtesy call from the Honorable Scott Bessent, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of America. The events of the summit meeting are summarized below.

At the beginning of the event, Prime Minister Ishiba emphasized the importance of the U.S. for Japan's diplomacy and security and expressed a desire to strengthen the Japan-U.S. Alliance under President Trump's leadership, aiming for a free and open Indo-Pacific. Both leaders agreed on addressing security challenges and elevating their alliance. They pledged to enhance deterrence capabilities and reaffirmed the U.S.'s commitment to Japan's defense, including the Senkaku Islands. They also agreed on advancing economic ties, with Japan aiming to invest one trillion dollars in the U.S. in the near future, developing and enhancing cooperation in technology and energy security.

Regarding regional issues, they aligned on concerns over China's aggressive actions and the situation in North Korea, committing to cooperation on denuclearization and

resolving abduction issues. They agreed to strengthen coordination with other like-minded countries and affirmed their close partnership to further develop Japan-U.S. relations. At the end of the meeting, Prime Minister Ishiba invited President Trump to visit Japan soon.

2. United Nations Courtesy Call

Courtesy call on Prime Minister Ishiba from H.E. Mr. Philemon YANG, President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On January 31, commencing at 6:00 p.m. for approximately 15 minutes, Prime Minister ISHIBA Shigeru, received a courtesy call by H.E. Mr. Philemon YANG, President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, who was visiting Japan upon the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. The overview of the meeting is as follows:

At the outset, Prime Minister ISHIBA welcomed President YANG's visit to Japan, and stated that it was important for the UN General Assembly to play a greater role in the severe international environment as represented by the situation in Ukraine. In response, the President of the UN General Assembly Mr. YANG expressed his appreciation for the invitation by the Government of Japan and for Japan's contribution to the United Nations.

Mr. YANG stated the importance of implementing the outcome document of the Summit of the Future. In response, Prime Minister ISHIBA commended President

YANG's leadership in adopting the outcome document of the Summit of the Future. Mr. YANG also stated that many countries acknowledge the need for the UN Security Council reform. Both sides also exchanged views on sustainable development in Africa, including TICAD 9 to be held in Yokohama in August this year.

3. G7 Leaders' Meeting

G7 Leaders' Video Conference



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

On February 24, 2025, Prime Minister Ishiba attended the G7 Leaders' Video Conference at the Prime Minister's Official Residence.

4. Japanese Satellite Launch

Comment by Prime Minister Ishiba on the Successful Launch of MICHIBIKI No. 6 aboard the 5th H3 Launch Vehicle



Credit: Prime Minister's Office of Japan

Today, the 5th H3 Launch Vehicle was successfully launched from the Tanegashima Space Center, deploying MICHIBIKI No. 6, Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZS-6), into its target orbit.

The Government is committed to making full use of the Quasi-Zenith Satellite System, including MICHIBIKI No. 6, and taking all necessary steps to ensure easy access to positioning information services for even more users.

ISHIBA Shigeru
Prime Minister of Japan
February 2, 2025

5. Consulate News & Activities

Emperor's Birthday Reception



Credit: Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

On February 20, Consul General and Mrs. Iyori hosted a reception to celebrate the birthday of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito. The event was held at the historic Nippon Kan Theatre located in the Japantown section of Seattle's International District.

Governor Bob Ferguson and King County Executive Dow Constantine gave remarks at the event, followed by a toast by Rear Admiral Mark Sucato, Commander of Navy Region Northwest. Attendees were treated to sake tasting by the Hyogo Business & Cultural Center, Japanese green tea by the Sugimoto Tea Company, and imported Japanese foods by Nichirei Foods USA. Thank you to all involved for making this year's event special.

Decoration Conferment Ceremony for Mr. Allen Mamoru Nakamoto, Former Commander of the Nisei Veterans Committee, Inc.



Credit: Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

On February 5, 2025, a conferment ceremony and reception were held at the Official Residence to congratulate Mr. Allen Mamoru Nakamoto, former Commander of the Nisei Veterans Committee, Inc., on his receipt of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays. Mr. Nakamoto's family, friends, colleagues, and many others were in attendance.

Thank you for reading this issue of "From Japan to the Northwest." That's all for this month's newsletter. Until next month!

Sincerely,
Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

View [past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here.](#)

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