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Office of the White House Press Secretary (Tokyo, Japan)

THE WHITE HOUSE

TEXT OF A TOAST BY THE PRESIDENT TO BE DELIVERED AT A LUNCHEON GIVEN BY PRIME MINISTER TANAKA

Mr. Prime Minister, Excellencies, Gentlemen:

I have been pleased, Mr. Prime Minister, to have the opportunity to meet with you again this morning. Your kind and gracious hospitality is typical of the reception accorded me by the Japanese Government and people.

I am particularly pleased that through this continuing fruitful dialogue between our two Governments we can further develop and reaffirm our basic ties of friendship and common purpose.

As I was preparing for this trip and for my meetings with you, I was repeatedly struck by the great number of issues that your Government and mine can and should discuss with each other. Our interests and our policies touch each other in nearly every area of world affairs.

As we pursue the cause of peace we can act in harmony within the overall framework of common interests on a whole range of issues.

-- The challenge of creating a stable structure for world prosperity makes it imperative for our great nations to work closely together to this end.

-- Thus, we must discuss and coordinate our economic policies in an ear of energy shortages and potential international monetary crises.

-- We must find new and better ways to deal with mankind's needs in the universal search for the food we need.

-- We need to find ways to help those nations that need help if they are not to fall hopelessly behind.

In contemplating these problems, it is good to know that we can discuss them in a spirit of mutual understanding of each other's purposes and policies. It is a sign that we have achieved a solid and durable relationship..

Mr. Prime Minister, let us join in a toast honoring the spirit of friendship and collaboration that has characterized the meeting we have held today and will, I am confident, characterize the future relationship between our two peoples and Governments.

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