

HOWARD L. BERMAN, CALIFORNIA  
CHAIRMAN

GARY L. ACKERMAN, NEW YORK  
ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA, AMERICAN SAMOA  
DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY  
BRAD SHERMAN, CALIFORNIA  
ROBERT WEXLER, FLORIDA  
ELIOT L. ENGEL, NEW YORK  
BILL DELAHUNT, MASSACHUSETTS  
GREGORY W. MEEKS, NEW YORK  
DIANE E. WATSON, CALIFORNIA  
RUSS CARNAHAN, MISSOURI  
ALBIO SIRES, NEW JERSEY  
GERALD E. CONNOLLY, VIRGINIA  
MICHAEL E. McMAHON, NEW YORK  
JOHN S. TANNER, TENNESSEE  
GENE GREEN, TEXAS  
LYNN WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA  
SHEILA JACKSON LEE, TEXAS  
BARBARA LEE, CALIFORNIA  
SHELLEY BERKLEY, NEVADA  
JOSEPH CROWLEY, NEW YORK  
MIKE ROSS, ARKANSAS  
BRAD MILLER, NORTH CAROLINA  
DAVID SCOTT, GEORGIA  
JIM COSTA, CALIFORNIA  
KEITH ELLISON, MINNESOTA  
GABRIELLE GIFFORDS, ARIZONA  
RON KLEIN, FLORIDA

RICHARD J. KESSLER  
STAFF DIRECTOR

DOUGLAS J. CAMPBELL  
DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR

DAVID S. ABRAMOWITZ  
CHIEF COUNSEL

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, FLORIDA  
RANKING REPUBLICAN MEMBER

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, NEW JERSEY  
DAN BURTON, INDIANA  
ELTON GALLEGLY, CALIFORNIA  
DANA ROHRBACHER, CALIFORNIA  
DONALD A. MANZULLO, ILLINOIS  
EDWARD R. ROYCE, CALIFORNIA  
RON PAUL, TEXAS  
JEFF FLAKE, ARIZONA  
MIKE PENCE, INDIANA  
JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA  
JOHN BOOZMAN, ARKANSAS  
J. GRESHAM BARRETT, SOUTH CAROLINA  
CONNIE MACK, FLORIDA  
JEFF FORTENBERRY, NEBRASKA  
MICHAEL T. MCCAUL, TEXAS  
TED POE, TEXAS  
BOB INGLIS, SOUTH CAROLINA  
GUS M. BILIRAKIS, FLORIDA

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS  
**CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20515**

TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5021  
[HTTP://WWW.FOREIGNAFFAIRS.HOUSE.GOV/](http://www.foreignaffairs.house.gov/)

YLEEM D.S. POBLETE  
REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR

MARK C. GAGE  
REPUBLICAN SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR

DOUGLAS C. ANDERSON  
REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

1/21/2010

P R E S S                      R E L E A S E

**Eni F. H. Faleomavaega**  
**Chairman**

**The Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Dr. Lisa Williams (202) 225-8577

Washington, D.C.

**FALEOMAVAEGA MEETS JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER TO  
DISCUSS US-JAPAN RELATIONS, BASE ISSUES**

The Chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, Rep. Eni Faleomavaega, along with Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Rep. Joseph Cao (R-LA), visited Japan last week to hold discussions on U.S.-Japan relations with some of the country's key leaders. The Members visited Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama at his residence and held talks with Cabinet Minister Mizuho Fukushima, who serves as Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food Safety, Social Affairs and Gender Equality, as well as with Rep. Tomoko Abe, a member of the Social Democratic Party, the second largest party in the ruling coalition. In addition, the group met Koichi Takemasa, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Much of the discussion in the meetings focused on alliance relations, including the planned relocation of a significant portion of American troops on Okinawa's main island to a new base on that island, as well as to Guam. Faleomavaega and Cao also visited Hiroshima to view ground zero of the 1945 nuclear bombing of the city and the adjacent Peace Museum.

“Prime Minister Hatoyama's government represents the first significant change in Japanese politics since the early 1990s. Our two countries share a close economic, political and security relationship, and 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of the U.S.-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security, which has helped provide stability throughout the Asia Pacific region. Despite certain disagreements about basing issues, I believe that the bilateral relationship remains vibrant and strong. My visit to Hiroshima, meanwhile, reaffirmed my commitment to helping realize the ultimate goal of the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT): a world finally free of the scourge of nuclear weapons,” Faleomavaega said.

“In 2006, the United States and Japan agreed on a ‘roadmap’ to strengthen the bilateral alliance. In the aftermath of last year's electoral victory by the Democratic Party of Japan, the new Hatoyama Administration called for changes in the agreement regarding the planned relocation of the Futenma Marine Air Station, currently in Ginowan, Okinawa, to a less densely populated location on the main island. The move from Futenma was to be the first part of a planned realignment of U.S. forces in Asia, designed in part to reduce the footprint of U.S. forces on Okinawa by redeploying U.S. Marines to new facilities in Guam,” Faleomavaega added.

“The goal has been to start construction on Guam by 2010 and to complete the relocation of 8,000 marines and their 9,000 dependents from Okinawa to Guam by 2014. On February 17, 2009, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton visited Tokyo to reaffirm the plan with the previous Liberal Democratic Party-led government by signing the bilateral ‘Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Japan Concerning the Implementation of the Relocation of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Personnel and Their Dependents from Okinawa to Guam.’ That agreement stipulated that of the estimated \$10.3 billion cost of the facilities and infrastructure development for the relocation to Guam, Japan would provide \$6.09 billion, including up to \$2.8 billion in direct cash contributions (in FY2008 dollars). The United States committed to fund \$3.2 billion plus about \$1 billion for road construction. The relocation to Guam has important economic, social and environmental implications for Guam, as well as for those from the region seeking jobs created by the construction, operation and maintenance of the planned facilities.”

“Last week, in a meeting held in Hawaii between Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and the new Japanese Government's Foreign Minister, Katsuya Okada, the two sides agreed to shelve the Futenma issue until May and start talks on deepening the bilateral alliance. On January 19, 2010, the day marking the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Security Treaty, the Japanese and U.S. governments released a joint statement proclaiming that ‘the U.S.-Japan Alliance plays an indispensable role in

ensuring the security and prosperity of both the United States and Japan, as well as regional peace and stability. The Alliance is rooted in our shared values, democratic ideals, respect for human rights, rule of law and common interests. The Alliance has served as the foundation of our security and prosperity for the past half century and the Ministers are committed to ensuring that it continues to be effective in meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century.’ The joint statement also notes that the two countries ‘endorse ongoing efforts to maintain our deterrent capabilities in a changing strategic landscape, including appropriate stationing of U.S. forces, while reducing the impact of bases on local communities, including Okinawa.’”

“On the same day, Prime Minister Hatoyama issued an additional statement noting that, ‘The U.S.-Japan security arrangements continue to be indispensable not only for the defense of Japan alone, but also for the peace and prosperity of the entire Asia-Pacific region. Under a security environment in which there still exist uncertainty and unpredictability, the presence of the U.S. Forces based on the Treaty will continue to function as a public good by creating a strong sense of security to the countries in the region.’”

“As Chairman of the Subcommittee with jurisdiction over U.S.-Japan relations, I will be following developments affecting the bilateral relationship closely, including basing issues affecting Okinawa and Guam, and will hold an oversight hearing on these matters in the near future,” Faleomavaega concluded.

-- End --