Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

日本プログレッシブ議員連盟 PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS JAPAN

April 1, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr. President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

His Excellency Fumio Kishida Prime Minister of Japan Sōri Daijin Kantei 2-3-1 Nagatachō Chiyoda City, Tokyo 100-0014

Dear President Joseph Biden and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida:

We, the undersigned elected representatives of the people of Japan and the United States, encourage both governments to consider clarifying that they do not support the first use of nuclear weapons at any time or under any circumstances.

As you know, a no-first-use policy for U.S. nuclear weapons is already the de-facto policy of the U.S.-Japan alliance. U.S. and Japanese officials have not identified any scenario in which the first use of U.S. nuclear weapons would be necessary or desirable.

A no-first-use policy would not weaken the U.S. ability to protect Japan and itself from a nuclear attack. That protection is based on the promise of U.S. nuclear retaliation, not on the ability to strike first. In fact, a no-first-use policy would increase protection against a nuclear attack by reducing doubt, miscalculation, and the possibility of an accidental nuclear launch.

A U.S. declaration stating that it would never start a nuclear war, supported by Japan, would breathe new life into international efforts to reduce and eventually eliminate the danger of nuclear war. This is especially important at a time when tensions between the nuclear-weapons-possessing states, especially between the United States and China, are increasing.

Though the U.S. has recently completed its Nuclear Posture Review, it is never too late to commit to a no-first-use policy. Making this sensible change to U.S. nuclear weapons policy enjoys overwhelming support, both in our respective legislatures as well as among the citizens we represent.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Congress of the United States Washington. DC 20515

日本プログレッシブ議員連盟 PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS JAPAN

米「核兵器先制不使用」宣言を支持する日米プログレッシブ議員連盟共同書簡

ジョセフ・バイデン大統領 殿 岸田 文雄 内閣総理大臣 殿

私たちは、日米両国の国民の代表として、両国政府に対し、いかなる時も、いかなる状況下においても、核兵器の先制使用に反対すると宣言するよう要請致します。

核の先制不使用は、すでに日米同盟の事実上の政策となっています。実際、これまで両国政府は、米国の核兵器の先制使用が必要となる、あるいは、望まれる具体的なシナリオを示してきませんでした。

そもそも核攻撃に対する防衛は、米国の核の先制使用能力ではなく核の報復能力の保証に基づいており、先制不使用宣言によって米国の日米両国への防衛能力が低下することはありません。 むしろ、核の先制不使用宣言は、不信や誤認、偶発的核発射の可能性を低下させ、核攻撃に対する防衛力を高めることになります。

日本の支持の下、米国から核戦争を始めることは決してないとする核の先制不使用宣言は、核戦争の危険性を低減させ、最終的にはその危険性を完全に根絶するための国際的な努力に新風を吹き込むことになるでしょう。これは、核保有国間、とりわけ米中間の緊張が高まっている今だからこそ特に重要な取り組みです。

米国政府は先般、「核態勢の見直し(NPR)」を終えましたが、核の先制不使用の宣言は今からでも遅くはありません。米国の核兵器についてのこの賢明な政策変更は、日米両国の私たち国会議員、および、私たちが代表する市民から圧倒的な支持を得ています。

真摯かつ公正にご検討いただきますようここに要請致します。

2022年4月1日

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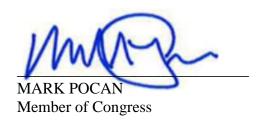
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PETER WELCH Member of Congress 米山 第一

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苦賀道也

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