

FOUO

March 06, 2006

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld

SUBJECT: Something to Remember about the Japanese Minister of Defense

I want to remember that when the Japanese Minister of Defense was in the Pentagon, we walked to the press briefing and passed a photo of a headline about the dropping of the atomic bombs.

In the course of the discussion, the Japanese Defense Minister asked if I knew which carrier was going to replace the Kitty Hawk in Japan. I told him the U.S.S. John F. Kennedy. He smiled and said, "That would be better than the U.S.S. Truman."

(President Truman, of course, was the President who authorized the dropping of the atomic bomb.) He had a nice sense of humor.

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